

WI-14  
Humphrey Humphreys House  
Salisbury  
Private

1856

The Humphrey Humphreys house, documented by an inscribed board to 1856, stands prominently along Broad Street in the center of Salisbury. Designed in the Greek Revival style popular during the mid nineteenth century, the three-story center hall, double-pile frame dwelling boasts well-preserved exterior and interior surfaces that indicate few alterations have been made to the house over the course of nearly one-hundred and fifty years. The five-bay south elevation is symmetrically arranged with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The windows and front door are accented with molded cornices. The double-leaf front door is distinguished further by sidelights and a multi-pane transom. Surviving on each sidelight is a corresponding louvered shutter. Stretching across the first floor is an original Greek Revival porch featuring square paneled posts that support a flat roof trimmed with a mid nineteenth century neoclassical entablature. Highlighting the corners of the house are paneled pilasters that rise to the top of the second story, where the siding shifts from plain weatherboards to flush board sheathing. Characteristic of a small collection of mid nineteenth century Greek Revival dwellings in Salisbury is the low third floor which is pierced by small rectangular windows. The top of the wall is finished with a bold cornice that repeats the style of the porch cornice. The Humphreys house is the earliest known expression in Salisbury of this distinctive Greek Revival form.

Inside, the house retains all of its mid nineteenth century woodwork, which includes Greek Revival mantels, bold ogee backband surrounds, and plaster ceiling

medallions in the first floor hall and parlors. Surviving on several doors are original locks stamped, "Russell & Erwin Manufacturing Company." The front parlor fireplaces are fitted with iron stove inserts probably dating from the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. The southeast parlor stove, labeled the "Windsor," was made by the S. B. Sexton Stove and Manufacturing Company of Baltimore, while the stove in the west parlor, identified as "Golden Sun," was assembled by J. Spear and Company of Philadelphia.

The double-pile house is extended to the rear by a two-story dining room and kitchen wing that dates from the same period as the main block. The kitchen is particularly noteworthy with its vertical board wall and large cooking fireplace. Fixed in the northeast corner is a winder stair. Now incorporated as part of the rear wing is a formerly detached domestic outbuilding, and behind the house is a nineteenth-century smokehouse.

Humphrey Humphreys (1799-1882), one of Salisbury's leading capitalists and business leaders during the third quarter of the 19th century, financed construction of this house in 1856. He resided here with his wife, Elizabeth Parsons (1816-1878) and their children Theodore, Eugene Randolph (died at a young age), Lafayette, and Eugene W. Humphreys. Humphrey Humphreys is listed in the 1850 U. S. Census for Somerset County as a lumber merchant. Two years earlier, he had purchased what was known as the "Bailey Mills" with his brother Cathell Humphreys. In April 1852 he acquired a prominent city lot from Robert H. and Maria Ellegood for \$1,000. The property,

located on the east side of "Dividing Street," was located in Worcester County. Within four years of buying the Broad Street parcel, he financed construction of this well-crafted Greek Revival house, presumably with lumber and some of the decorative parts dressed at his nearby mill. (The date of construction is documented by a scratched inscription found on the back of a board on the porch.) By the time of the 1860 U. S. Census Humphrey Humphreys is identified as a "miller" with real estate valued at \$29,000 and personal property established at \$14,000.

Listed in the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas is a description of his multi-faceted business at the time:

*H. HUMPHREYS, Manufacturer of, and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Dressed Flooring, surfaced Boards, House-framing, Box-boards, Oak Lumber suitable for Vessel Material, Gum, Walnut, Oak, and Cherry Hubs, Balusters, Newel Posts, Fence Pickets, Post Caps, Flower Vases, Broom Handles, Spinning Wheels, Pumps. Turning of all Kinds and Styles of Wood and Iron a Specialty. Wool carded from July 1st to October 31st. Also Manufacturer of Flour, Meal and Feed Stuff. Wicomico Falls Mills, No. 2, Mill Street, Salisbury. Md.*

In addition to his part interest in the mills at the Wicomico River falls, Humphrey Humphreys was a principal partner in the long-term Salisbury business known as Humphreys & Tilghman, which operated along the Wicomico River at the Main Street bridge. The partnership of Humphrey Humphreys, his brother Cathell Humphreys, and William B. Tilghman was established in 1863. The firm imported essential products such as agricultural fertilizer, including South American guano, as well as yellow pine lumber and coal.

Following Humphrey Humphreys death in 1882, his large estate was divided between his sons and grandchildren. Dr. Eugene Humphreys resided in the Greek Revival house and operated a medical practice in the front parlor. Following the devastating 1886 town fire, Dr. Humphreys was asked to open his large residence for traveling businessmen. A short article written two years following the fire stated,

*Dr. Humphreys, whose large residence narrowly escaped our great fire a year and a half ago, was shortly after that event persuaded to open his house for the purpose of supplying the necessary accommodations to travelling (sic) businessmen, our two hotels having been burned. His public spirited enterprise was greatly appreciated by our merchants and "Park Hall" became the headquarters of much of the best commercial travellers. (sic) Finding the business unremunerative, however, in the absence of a bar, which is a house of this kind was entirely out of the question, he decided to discontinue his efforts. His doors were closely to the public on Wednesday last, and the house is being renovated and refurbished preparatory to private occupancy as formerly.*

A long-time fixture at the front gate of the Humphreys house were several cannons, which in his 1882 will were bequeathed to his three sons, Lafayette, Eugene, and Randolph. One cannon survives and is now located on the front lawn of the Wicomico County Courthouse. It was given to the city by Mary Elizabeth Humphreys, who retained ownership of the Broad Street house until the late 1960s. She sold the property to John W. T. Webb and K. King Burnett, who sensitively adapted the house as law offices.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Humphrey Humphreys House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-14

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
  
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
  
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition  
1815-1870
  
4. Resource Type(s): Single family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-14  
Magi No.  
DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Humphrey Humphreys House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 115 Broad Street  not for publication

city, town Salisbury  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name K. King Burnett

street & number 115 Broad Street telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 107, P. 752  
liber 1260

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 390

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1972  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Humphrey Humphreys house is located at 115 Broad Street in the center of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The three-story, center hall/double-pile, Greek Revival frame house faces south with the low pitched hip roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Dated by an inscribed board to 1856, the three-story, five-bay by two-bay frame house is supported on a low, continuous brick foundation. The exterior is clad with plain weatherboard siding up to the level of the third floor where the walls are covered with flush weatherboards. The corners of the main block are trimmed with wide paneled pilasters. The main block is covered by a low pitched hip roof sheathed in tin. Attached to the back of the rectangular main block is a two-story dining room/kitchen wing that now incorporates a former, semi-detached outbuilding. Standing behind the service wing is a gable roofed smokehouse that dates to the mid 19th century as well.

The south (main) elevation is a symmetrical five-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The double-leaf front door is flanked by sidelights and a multi-pane transom, which are enclosed by neoclassical pilasters and molded entablature. Narrow louvered shutters, swinging on cast-iron drop pintles, remain on each sidelight. Piercing the front wall to each side are six-over-six sash windows featuring bold window cornices and louvered shutters. The first floor is sheltered by a flat roofed porch supported on paneled columns trimmed with molded capitals and bases. A mid nineteenth-century cornice encircles the porch, and railings stretch between the posts. The second floor is marked by five evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows accented with bold window cornices and flanked with louvered shutters. The third floor, distinguished by flush weatherboards, is pierced by a series of small rectangular window openings filled with two-pane casement windows and flanked by louvered shutters. The windows openings are trimmed with an ovolo backband surround. Defining the edge of the roof is a wide Greek Revival cornice trimmed with period bed and crown moldings. A pair of squarish brick chimneys rise through the center of the double-pile dwelling.

The east and west sides are largely alike with two symmetrically placed six-over-six sash windows lighting the first and second floors. Like the south wall, the windows on each side have window cornices and louvered shutters. The third floor is lighted by the same rectangular window openings filled with two-pane casements.

The north (rear) wall is largely covered by the two-story, two-room plan service wing. The west side of the kitchen is defined by four six-over-six sash windows on the first floor and two on the second. Each opening is trimmed with a window cornice and hung with louvered shutters. The base of the low pitched gable roof is finished with a boxed cornice. Distinguishing the north gable end of the service wing is an exposed brick firewall of eight-course common bond. Otherwise the wall is a plain weatherboarded surface with the edge of the roof trimmed with a molded bargeboard. The east side of the

(Continued)

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	1856	Builder/Architect	
check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D
and/or			
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> state	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Humphrey Humphreys house, documented by an inscribed board to 1856, stands prominently along Broad Street in the center of Salisbury. Designed in the Greek Revival style popular during the mid nineteenth century, the three-story, center hall frame dwelling boasts well-preserved exterior and interior surfaces that indicate few alterations have been made to the house over the course of nearly one-hundred and fifty years. The five-bay south elevation is symmetrically arranged with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The windows and the front door are accented with a molded cornice. The double-leaf front door is distinguished further by sidelights and a multi-pane transom. Surviving on each sidelight is a corresponding louvered shutter. Stretching across the first floor is an original Greek Revival porch featuring square paneled posts that support a flat roof trimmed with a mid nineteenth century neoclassical entablature. Highlighting the corners of the house are paneled pilasters that rise to the top of the second floor, where the siding shifts from plain weatherboards to flush board sheathing. Characteristic of a small collection of mid nineteenth century Greek Revival dwellings in Salisbury from this period is the low third floor which is pierced by small rectangular windows. The top of the wall is finished with a bold cornice that repeats the style of the porch cornice. The Humphreys house is the earliest known expression in Salisbury of this three-story Greek Revival house form.

Inside, the house retains all of its mid nineteenth century woodwork, which includes Greek Revival mantels, bold ogee backband surrounds, and plaster ceiling medallions in the first floor rooms. Surviving on several doors are original locks stamped, "Russell & Erwin Manufacturing Company." The front parlor fireplaces are fitted with iron stove inserts probably dating from the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. The southeast parlor stove, labeled the "Windsor," was made by the S. B. Sexton Stove and Manufacturing Company of Baltimore, while the stove in the west parlor, identified as the "Golden Sun," was assembled by J. Spear and Company of Philadelphia.

The double-pile house is extended to the rear by a two-story dining room and kitchen wing that dates from the same period. The kitchen is particularly noteworthy with its vertical board wall and large cooking fireplace. Fixed in the northeast corner is a winder stair. Now incorporated as part of the rear wing is a formerly detached domestic outbuilding, and behind the house is an 19th-century smokehouse.

(Continued)



## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

Humphrey Humphreys House, WI-14  
115 Broad Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

service wing is largely covered by a two-story infill that connects the kitchen with a formerly detached domestic outbuilding. The single-story rectangular frame outbuilding is supported on a raised common bond brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with plain weatherboards. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The brick foundation is pierced by large four-pane cellar windows featuring diamond cross-sectioned metal bars. The interior is lighted by six-over-six sash windows, and the openings are flanked by louvered shutters. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice trimmed with mid nineteenth century bed and crown moldings. The gable ends, pierced by single six-over-six sash windows, are finished with flush eaves covered with mid nineteenth century bargeboards.

The smokehouse is a squarish frame structure that was relocated to this site when the property was converted for commercial use. Supported on a low masonry foundation, the exterior is clad with a combination of vertical board-and-batten siding and beaded weatherboards on the gable ends. The steeply pitched roof is covered with wood shingles and the edge of the roof is trimmed with a beaded bargeboard. A door opening is located on the east gable end, and the board door is hung on long strap hinges that swing on driven pintles.

Inside the main block, the floor disposition follows a center passage/double-pile plan on all three floors. The center passage contains the main staircase, which is distinguished by a heavily turned newel post and turned balusters that support a simply molded handrail. The stringer is undecorated. Four-pane! doors fitted with ogee inset moldings are framed by ogee backband surrounds. Ogee molded baseboards trim the perimeter of the room. Centered in the ceiling is a small plaster medallion.

The southeast parlor features a projecting chimney breast accented with a Greek Revival wood mantel that features plain pilasters, a plain frieze and a thick board shelf trimmed with a cavetto bed molding. An iron stove insert is labeled "Windsor" and carries the manufacturer's name, "S. B. Sexton Stove & Mfg. Co., Baltimore, MD" The chimney breast has beaded plaster corners that rise to a plastered ogee profile cornice. A plaster medallion is fixed in the center of the ceiling. Ogee backband surrounds frame the window openings, which have a horizontal panel below the sill. The floors are refinished yellow pine. Located on the west side of the chimney breast is a closet that has been adapted a chase for ductwork and wiring. The four-panel door is framed by an ogee molded surround. The iron box lock on the hall door is original to the house, and the iron and brass keeper is stamped, "Russell & Erwin Manufacturing Co."

The west parlor, now used as a conference room, is finished in a slightly higher fashion than the east parlor. A larger plaster medallion is centered on the ceiling, and a late nineteenth century gas lamp fixture remains in place. The projecting chimney breast features a slate mantel with gold line decoration. The iron stove insert is identified as "Golden Sun" and it was manufactured by "J. Spear & Co." of Philadelphia. It was called the "Anti Clinker Hot Base 13." Adjacent to the chimney

(Continued)

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

Humphrey Humphreys House, WI-14  
115 Broad Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

breast is a four-panel door that opens into a closet. This door opening formerly led to the back parlor but was converted to a closet when the house was adapted as a commercial law office. The perimeter of the room is trimmed with a plastered ogee profile cornice. The hall door retains its original box lock that is stamped "Russell & Erwin Manufacturing Co."

The second floor is divided into four rooms; two on each side of the center passage. The woodwork remains consistent with four-panel doors framed by ogee backband surrounds. Greek Revival mantels survive in several rooms, except for the northwest bedroom which was reworked with a Colonial appearance.

The rear dining room and kitchen wing retains most of its mid nineteenth century woodwork as well. The dining room features a Greek Revival mantel along with a built-in cupboard to the west (left). The cupboard door panels have ogee panel moldings and original hardware. The kitchen is located behind the dining room and fixed between the two spaces is a narrow single run staircase. A door opening has been cut through the exterior wall to access the room that added between the kitchen and former outbuilding.

The former kitchen, now an office, retains horizontal board wainscoting and a vertical beaded board finish across the fireplace wall. Fixed in the northeast corner is the former winder staircase, and a small closet is located below. The large cooking fireplace retains some of its cooking apparatus and implements. The northwest corner of the room is filled with a two-door cupboard.

The interior of the former outbuilding has been modified to include peripheral storage and work spaces for the law office. The cellar is excavated and the space is divided into two rooms. Partitions have been relocated to serve the commercial purpose. Although few elements of the interior remain, it appears the structure served as a dairy and pantry adjacent to the kitchen.

Standing off the northwest corner of the kitchen wing is a single story frame smokehouse that was relocated from directly behind the house to its present site when the parking lot was created for the law office. Sheathed with board and batten siding, the gable-front frame smokehouse is covered with a wood shingle roof. The gable ends are sheathed with beaded weatherboards. The door opening pierces the east wall and a board door is hung on long strap hinges.

SIGNIFICANCE, WI-14  
 Humphrey Humphreys House  
 115 Broad Street  
 Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

Humphrey Humphreys (1799-1882), one of Salisbury's leading capitalists and business leaders during the third quarter of the 19th century, financed construction of this house in 1856. He resided here with his wife, Elizabeth Parsons (1816-1878) and their children Theodore, Eugene Randolph (died at a young age), Lafayette, and Eugene W. Humphreys. Humphrey Humphreys is listed in the 1850 U. S. Census for Somerset County as a lumber merchant.<sup>1</sup> Two years earlier, he had purchased what was known as the "Bailey Mills" with his brother Cathell Humphreys.<sup>2</sup> In April 1852 he acquired a prominent city lot from Robert H. and Maria Ellegood for \$1,000.<sup>3</sup> The property, located on the east side of "Dividing Street," was located in Worcester County. Within four years of buying the Broad Street parcel, he financed construction of this well-crafted Greek Revival house, presumably with lumber and some of the decorative parts dressed at his nearby mill. (The date of construction is documented by a scratched inscription found on the back of a board on the porch.) By the time of the 1860 U. S. Census Humphrey Humphreys is identified as a "miller" with real estate valued at \$29,000 and personal property established at \$14,000.<sup>4</sup>

Listed in the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas is a description of his multi-faceted business at the time:

H. HUMPHREYS, Manufacturer of, and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Dressed Flooring, surfaced Boards, House-framing, Box-boards, Oak Lumber suitable for Vessel Material, Gum, Walnut, Oak, and Cherry Hubs, Balusters, Newel Posts, Fence Pickets, Post Caps, Flower Vases, Broom Handles, Spinning Wheels, Pumps. Turning of all Kinds and Styles of Wood and Iron a Specialty. Wool carded from July 1st to October 31st. Also Manufacturer of Flour, Meal and Feed Stuff. Wicomico Falls Mills, No. 2, Mill Street, Salisbury. Md.<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Seventh Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Somerset County, transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden.

<sup>2</sup> Somerset County Land Record, WP 4/36, 18 December 1848.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester County Land Record, 4/660, 26 April 1852.

<sup>4</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, Population Schedule for Worcester County, transcribed by John C. Barnes.

<sup>5</sup> John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Commission, 1976, p. 18.

SIGNIFICANCE, WI-14  
 Humphrey Humphreys House  
 115 Broad Street  
 Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

In addition to his part interest in the mills at the Wicomico River falls, Humphrey Humphreys was a principal partner in the long-term Salisbury business known as Humphreys & Tilghman, which operated along the Wicomico River at the Main Street bridge. The partnership of Humphrey Humphreys, his brother Cathell Humphreys, and William B. Tilghman was established in 1863. The firm imported essential products such as agricultural fertilizer, including South American guano, as well as yellow pine lumber and coal.

Following Humphrey Humphreys death in 1882, his large estate was divided between his sons and grandchildren.<sup>6</sup> Dr. Eugene Humphreys resided in the Greek Revival house and operated a medical practice in the front parlor. Following the devastating 1886 town fire, Dr. Humphreys was asked to open his large residence for traveling businessmen. A short article written two years following the fire stated,

*Dr. Humphreys, whose large residence narrowly escaped our great fire a year and a half ago, was shortly after that event persuaded to open his house for the purpose of supplying the necessary accommodations to travelling (sic) businessmen, our two hotels having been burned. His public spirited enterprise was greatly appreciated by our merchants and "Park Hall" became the headquarters of much of the best commercial travellers. (sic) Finding the business unremunerative, however, in the absence of a bar, which is a house of this kind was entirely out of the question, he decided to discontinue his efforts. His doors were closely to the public on Wednesday last, and the house is being renovated and refurbished preparatory to private occupancy as formerly.<sup>7</sup>*

A long-time fixture at the front gate of the Humphreys house were several cannons, which in his 1882 will were bequeathed to his three sons, Lafayette, Eugene, and Randolph. One cannon survives and is now located on the front lawn of the Wicomico County Courthouse. It was given to the city by Mary Elizabeth Humphreys, who retained ownership of the Broad Street house until the late 1960s. She sold the property to John W. T. Webb and K. King Burnett, who sensitively adapted the house as law offices.

---

<sup>6</sup> Wicomico County Register of Wills, ELW 1/37, Probated 13 March 1882.

<sup>7</sup> *Advertiser Salisbury*, 7 April 1888.

WI-14  
Humphrey Humphreys House  
115 Broad Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 107, Parcel 752

1260/390 K. King Burnett, First National Bank of Maryland,  
Margaret D. J. Webb, Personal representative of  
John W. T. Webb

to

7/29/1991 K. King Burnett  
Excepting so much of the aforesaid property devised by  
Humphrey Humphreys unto Asbury M. E. Church, 4/10/1924  
JCK 134/138

JWTS 675/477 Mary Elizabeth Humphreys

to

8/19/1968 John W. T. Webb  
K. King Burnett, Partners trading as Webnet

being a part of the land of which Humphrey Humphreys died  
seized and possessed, and described as "my dwelling house and  
lot as it is presently enclosed" in Item Second dated 5/15/1880  
ELW 1/37

Wicomico County  
Will Book  
ELW 1/37

Written  
5/15/1880  
Proved  
3/13/1882

Last Will and Testament of Humphrey Humphreys (1799-1882)

First, I give and devise to my grandson Gordon Humphreys the  
house and lot in Salisbury where my son Eugene lives and which  
adjoins my residence; two houses and lots on East Camden  
Street bought of Noah Rider and Harry Game in Salisbury; all  
my interest in the "Hooper Farm" bought of Thomas  
Humphreys, trustee to sell the real estate of Jno T. Hooper; all  
my interest in the Toadvine wharf in Salisbury; bought of E. S.  
Toadvine, trustee

Humphrey Humphreys House  
115 Broad Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Second, I devise and bequeath unto my grandchildren, children of my son Eugene, Lucy, Randolph Parsons, Theodore F. and Eugene D. Humphreys, the office now occupied by my son, Eugene, and the privilege of putting it on the dwelling house lot at the southwest corner, east of the sycamore tree, fronting on Broad Street, and six feet around it, the horse, cart, and carriage now in the possession of my son Eugene shall have the use and profits of the same during his life free from any rent or account.

Fifth, I devise and bequeath to my son Randolph Humphreys and my grandson Gordon H. Toadvine as tenants in common in fee, all that property known as "The Bailey Mills," consisting of saw, grist, carding and planing mills, together with all the land buildings, rights, waterways, privileges, appurtenances, and improvements, thereto belonging including all the tools necessary to operating said mills....I also give and bequeath to my son Randolph and my grandson Gordon H. Toadvine the following named material on hand at the time of my death, to wit, all the gum, oak, maple, poplar, hicory (sic), ash, walnut, and cherry lumber and wood, and all other hard woods, in the rough, or finished up either in, or around the planing mill, not including the pine, oak, and gum lumber and timber at the saw mill, or in the river; I further devise my son Randolph and my grandson Gordon H. Toadvine all my interest in that property on the south side of Main Street in Salisbury, consisting of storehouse, wharf, and granary occupied by Humphreys & Tilghman and dwelling lot

Twelfth, I give and bequeath to my three sons, Lafayette, Eugene, and Randolph and my grandson Gordon H. Toadvine cannon which lies at my front gate and if either dies the survivors shall hold it and so on until the last survivor shall possess it absolutely.

WI-14  
Humphrey Humphreys House  
115 Broad Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 3

Worcester County  
Land Record  
WP 4/660

Robert H. Ellegood and Maria Ellegood

to

4/26/1852

Humphrey Humphreys

\$1,000 All that lot of ground lying and being situate in the town of Salisbury in Worcester county aforesaid and immediately on the street or county road dividing Somerset and Worcester counties and at the intersection of said street or road with the street or road leading from the said Dividing street by the Presbyterian Church to Derickson's Cross roads and also lying immediately between the said two streets and the lot of ground which the said Humphrey purchased of Annis Williams

## THE PARSONS FAMILY

85. Nancy Ann<sup>7</sup> PARSONS (George Jr., 36). Born, circa 1815, in Worcester Co MD. Died, after 1870, in Somerset Co MD. Census: 1850, in Dublin Dist., Somerset Co MD. Census: 1870, in Dublin Dist., Somerset Co MD.

She married James B. ROSS, 27 Nov 1843, in Somerset Co MD. Born, 1816, in Somerset Co MD. Census: 1850, in Dublin Dist., Somerset Co MD. Census: 1870, in Dublin Dist., Somerset Co MD. Occupation: farmer. Children:

- i. Rose P. Born, 1844, in Somerset Co MD. She married Joseph J. WHEATLEY, 26 Oct 1865, in Somerset Co MD.
- ii. Joshua. Born, 1846, in Somerset Co MD.
- iii. Sarah. Born, 1849, in Somerset Co MD.
- iv. Mary Elizabeth. Born, 1851, in Somerset Co MD. Died, Aug 1925, in Somerset Co MD. She married James Henry MARTIN, 15 Feb 1871, in Somerset Co MD.
- v. George. Born, 1853, in Somerset Co MD.

86. Elizabeth<sup>7</sup> PARSONS (Elijah, 37). Born, 20 Feb 1816, in Worcester Co MD. Died, 10 Sep 1878, in Wicomico Co MD. Burial in Parsons Cem., Salisbury MD.

She married Humphrey HUMPHREYS, 3 Jun 1833, in Worcester Co MD. Born, 1799, in Worcester Co MD. Died, 1882, in Wicomico Co MD. Burial in Parsons Cem., Salisbury MD. Census: 1860, in Parsons Dist, Wicomico Co MD. Census: 1870, in Salisbury, Wicomico Co MD. Occupation: lumber merchant. He was called General Humphreys, son of Thomas and Frances McCree Humphreys. Children:

- i. Theodore. Born, 1837, in Worcester Co MD.
- ii. Eugene Randolph. Born, 1843, in Worcester Co MD. Died, 13 Oct 1847, in Wicomico Co MD. Burial in Parsons Cem., Salisbury MD.
- iii. Lafayette. Born, 1844, in Worcester Co MD. He married Lizzie L. WAILES, 24 Dec 1868, in Wicomico Co MD.
- iv. Eugene W. Born, 6 Jun 1848, in Worcester Co MD. Died, 24 Nov 1907, in Wicomico Co MD. Burial in Parsons Cem., Salisbury MD. He married Mary Josephine TARR, 18 Oct 1869, in Wicomico Co MD.

87. Juliet Amanda<sup>7</sup> PARSONS (Jehu, 38). Born, 1 Aug 1815, in Worcester Co MD. Died, 29 Sep 1863, in Wicomico Co MD. Burial in Parsons Cem., Salisbury MD. Her father Jehu left her a farm in Worcester County bought of Thomas Hooper and some lots.

She married Purnell TOADVINE, 3 Sep 1832, in Somerset Co MD. Born, 1 Aug 1808, in Worcester Co MD. Died, 21 May 1878, in Wicomico Co MD. Burial in Parsons Cem., Salisbury MD. Census: 1860, in Salisbury, Somerset Co MD. Census: 1870, in Salisbury, Wicomico Co MD. Occupation: merchant-farmer. He was the son of James and Priscilla Austin Toadvine. Children:

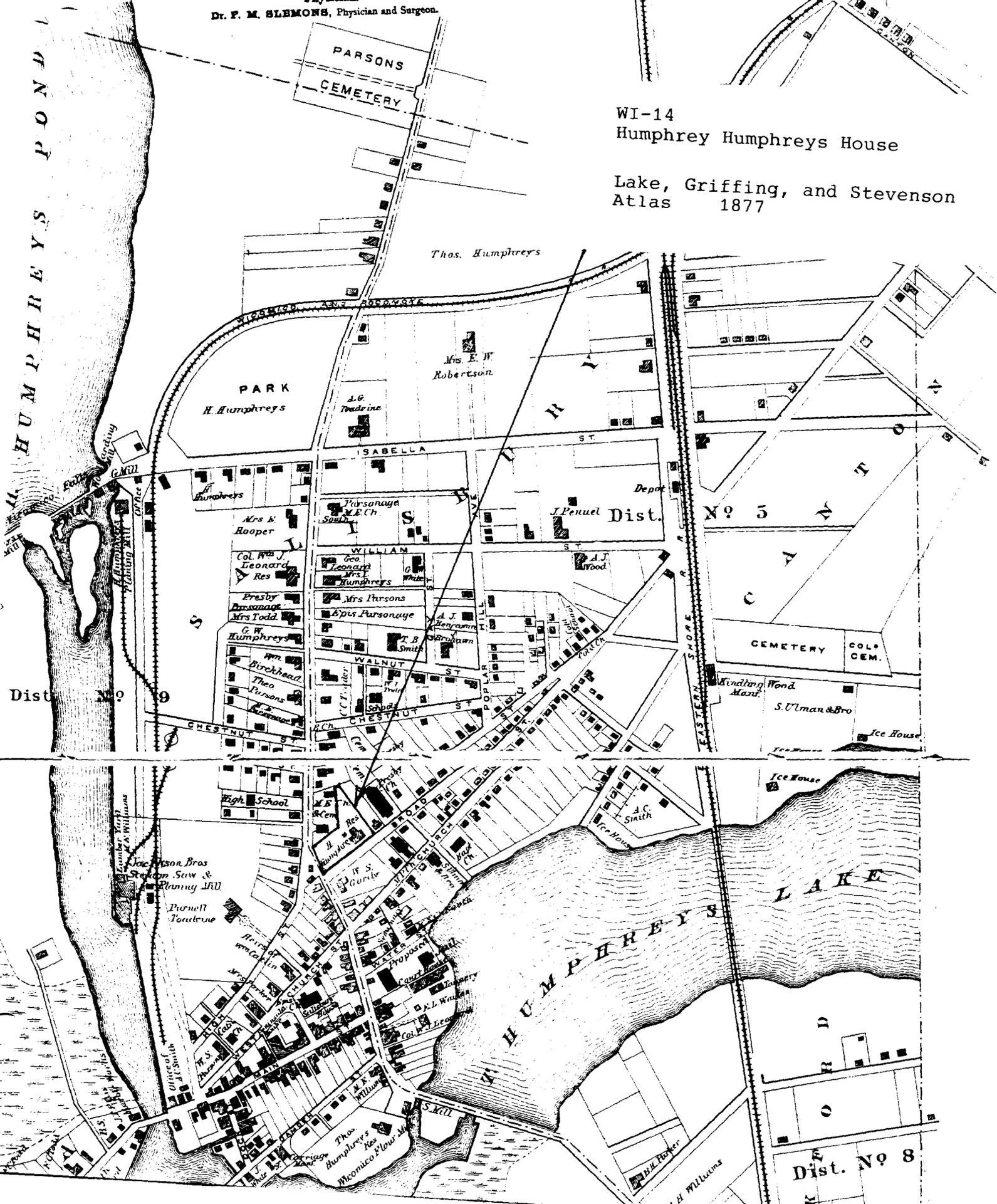
- i. Josephine A. Born, 1840, in Salisbury, Wicomico Co MD. Died, 14 Jan 1883, in Salisbury, Wicomico Co MD.

Dealer.  
 er in, and Grower of Small  
 otel.  
 ictor of the "Peninsula Ho-  
 tic Hotel," "Ocean City."

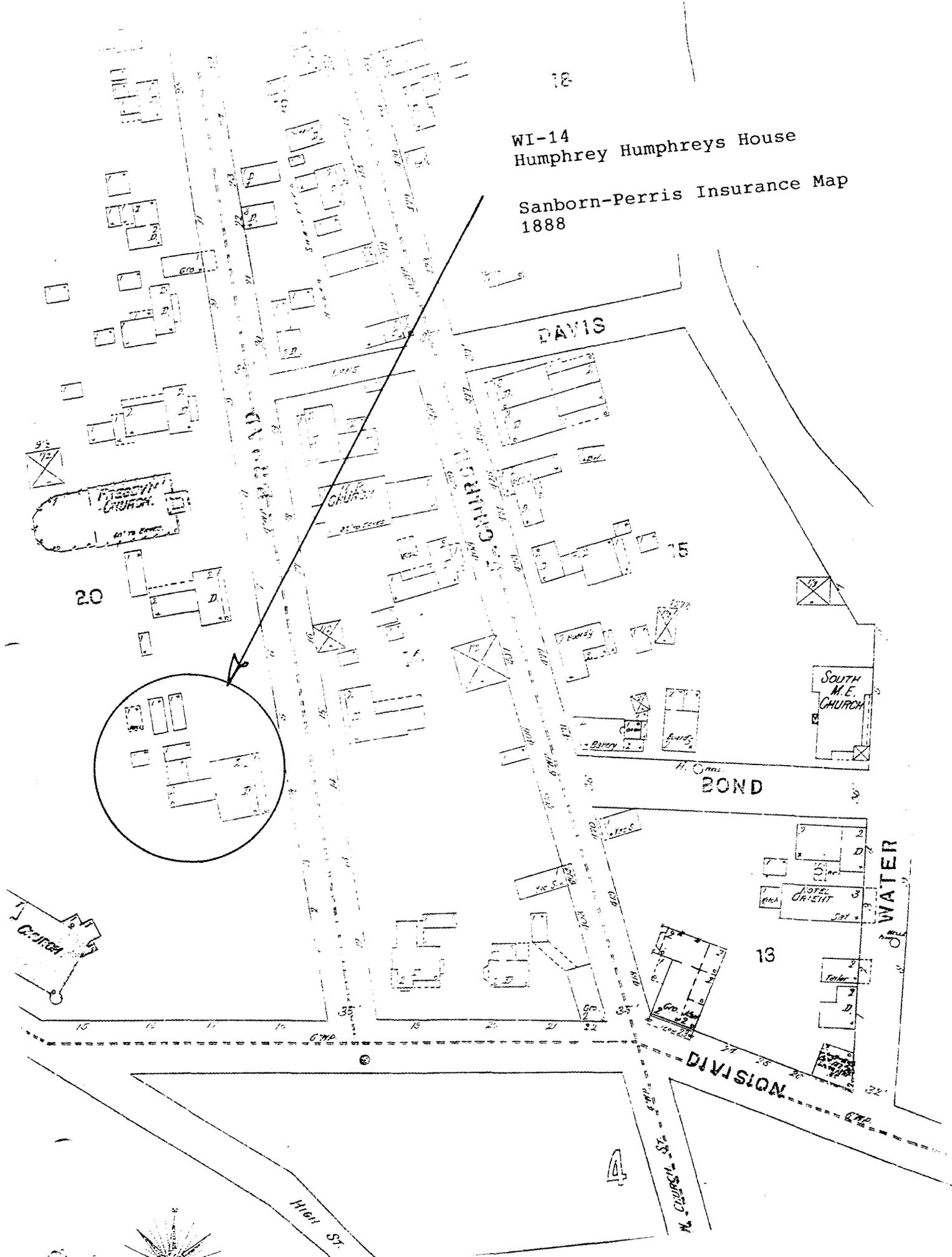
JOHN W. ...  
 Saw and Grist Mill 5 miles north of ...  
**GEO. H. W. RUARK**, Farmer and Proprietor of  
 "Ruark Mills" 3 miles north of Salisbury. Res.  
 Salisbury.  
**M. A. PARBONS**, Proprietor of S. S. Mill, 2  
 miles west of Salisbury on Wicomico River. Also  
 Proprietor of Marine Railway.

Physician.  
**Dr. F. M. SLEMONS**, Physician and Surgeon.

WI-14  
 Humphrey Humphreys House  
 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson  
 Atlas 1877



WI-14  
Humphrey Humphreys House  
Sanborn-Perris Insurance Map  
1888



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

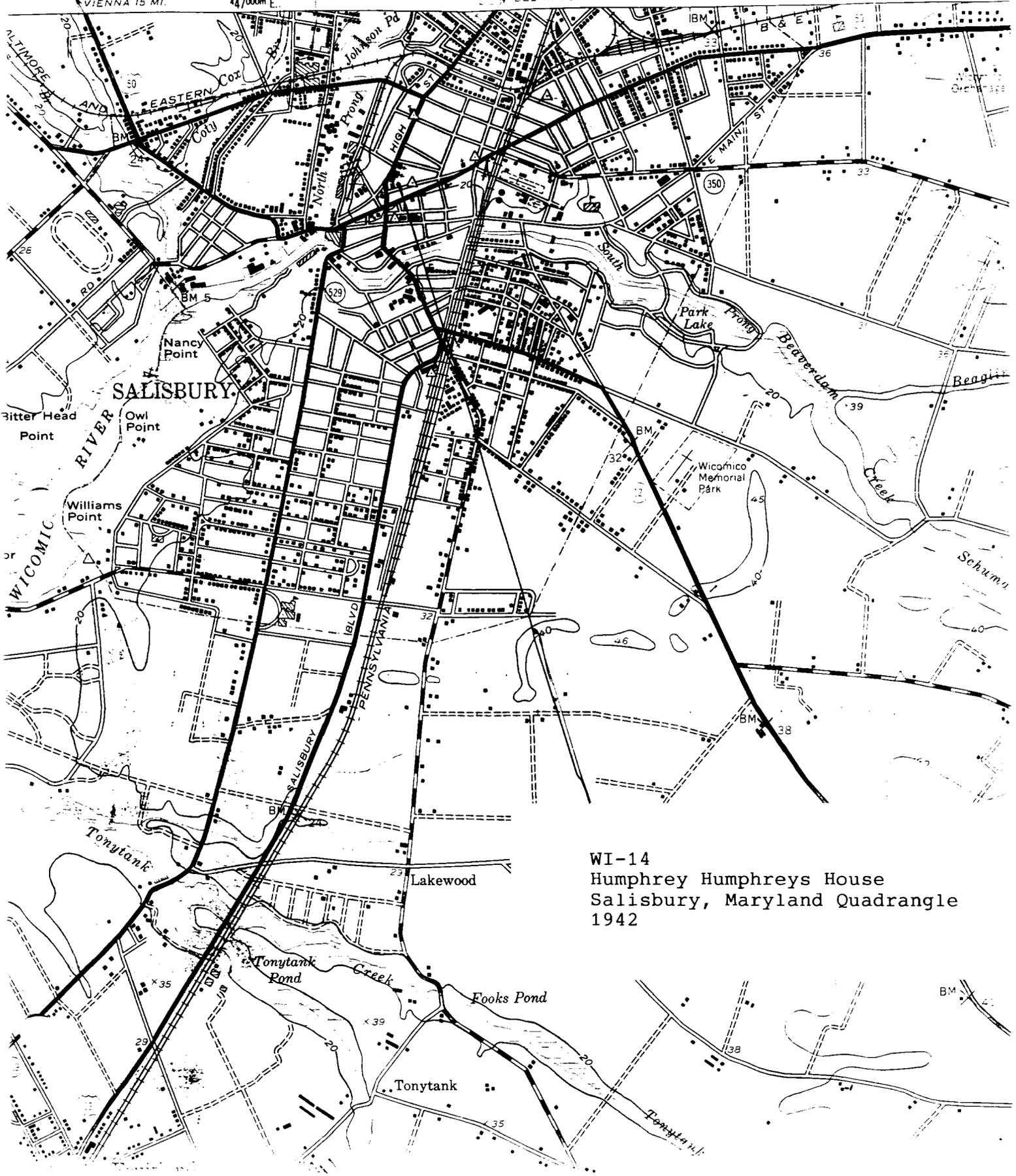
CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.  
VIENNA 15 MI.

47000m E.

LAUREL 13 MI  
DELMAR 6 MI

35'

150



WI-14  
Humphrey Humphreys House  
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

1. STATE <i>Maryland</i> COUNTY <i>W. Comico</i> TOWN <i>Salisbury</i> VICINITY STREET NO. <i>Broad Street</i> <i>115'</i> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <i>dwelling</i> PRESENT OWNER <i>K. King, Burwett et. al.</i> PRESENT USE <i>dwelling</i> WALL CONSTRUCTION <i>frank</i> NO. OF STORIES <i>3</i>	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <i>W1 - 14</i>
	2. NAME <i>Dr. Humphreys House</i> DATE OR PERIOD <i>c. 1850</i> STYLE <del>Greek</del> <i>Greek Revival</i> ARCHITECT BUILDER
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION <div style="text-align: right;">OPEN TO PUBLIC <i>No</i></div> <p><i>Brick foundation</i></p> <p><i>5 bays x 2 bays        3 stories</i></p> <p><i>Center door with transom and sidelights</i></p> <p><i>1 story porch across facade with flat roof and balustrade</i></p> <p><i>six over six windows -- louvered shutters</i></p> <p><i>clapboard on 1 &amp; 2 stories</i></p> <p><i>shiplap in 3rd story</i></p> <p><i>cornices above windows of 1 and 2 stories</i></p> <p><i>2 large brick chimneys in center of very low pitched hipped roof.</i></p> <p><i>2 story wing on rear of house</i></p>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE    Endangered <i>No</i> Interior    Exterior <i>good</i>	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <i>Michael Bourne</i> MD. HISTORICAL TRUST BOX 1704 ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404 DATE OF RECORD <i>Jan, 1970</i>

PHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE  
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTO

Form number (4/1/77)

U.S. Department of the Interior

PART 1

**DRAFT**

APPLICATION FOR EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Type or print with ballpoint pen. READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING. RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO APPROPRIATE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER.

1 Name and mailing address of owner

name Webnet

street 115 Broad Street

city Salisbury state Maryland zipcode 21801

Telephone number (during day) 301-742-3176 Soc. Sec. number 52-6107670

Identification/

2 Name of district as listed in the National Register

Address of property (if different from mailing address)

street \_\_\_\_\_

city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

3 I hereby certify that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Webnet, by King Burnett, partner Sept. 13, 1977

Signature Date

\*large trees.  
 One original  
 Outbuilding in-  
 corporated in  
 addition, second  
 building near  
 base.

4 Property documentation

Briefly describe the general exterior appearance of the structure: include appropriate site features and outbuildings, number of stories, exterior building materials, alterations (with appropriate dates). Federal Style home, clapboard siding with original shutters. Three story in front portion and two story in rear. All original construction except for 1976 addition herein described. Situated on large lot with \*

Briefly describe distinctive interior architectural features or spaces: include hardware, stairways, woodwork, fireplaces, etc. Original random-width heart pine floors, original mantels and woodwork, mahogany bannister 1st. to 3rd. floor, plaster ceiling, moulding in 2 rooms and 1st. floor hall.

List important persons, events, or attributes associated with the property: include architect and builder, if known, past owners, etc. Built in 1856 by General Humphrey Humphreys of Salisbury, Md. General Humphreys was a leading citizen and businessman of the area. The property was owned by the Humphreys family until acquired by applicant.

Location: xoriginal site moved date(s) of construction: 1856

Include recent photographs showing the present condition of the property. Photographs should show all street elevations and distinctive architectural details, either on the interior or exterior. Photographs are not returnable.

For office use only

Local

The property described above is included within the boundaries of a ~~NATIONAL~~ Register historic district and  contributes does not contribute to the character of the district.

John N. Pearce 12/14/77

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Date

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service (36 CFR Part 67) and:

is hereby certified a historic structure.

does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

Keeper of the National Register \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Certified Historic Structure number \_\_\_\_\_

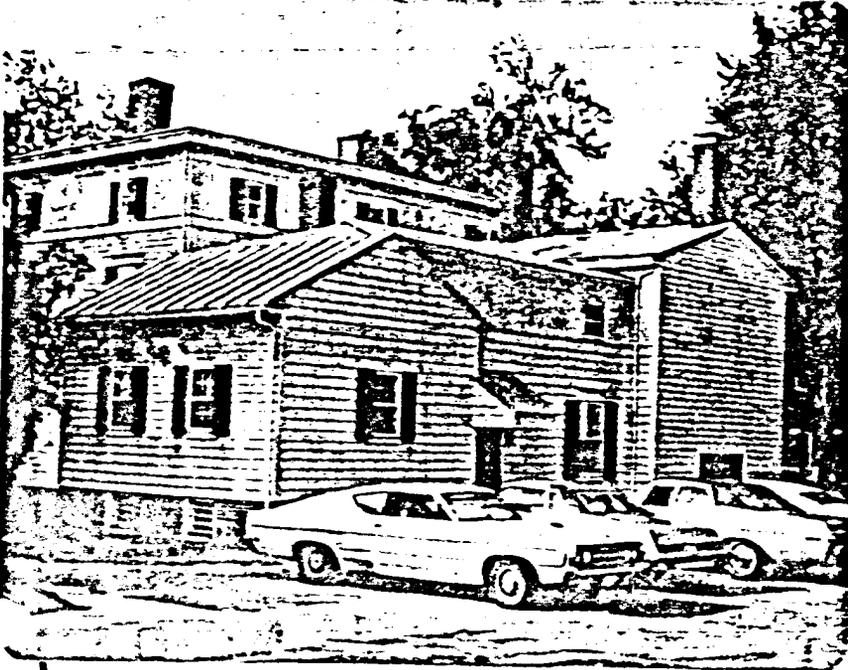
Date listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

# EXTERIOR

WI-14

**INSTRUCTIONS:** (1) Insert recent photographs of the exterior, supplying general and detailed views.  
... (2) Drawings or sketches may be used to show planned alterations.  
**Note:** Indicate on drawings and mark on photographs the areas of proposed work.

## PHOTOGRAPHS & DRAWINGS



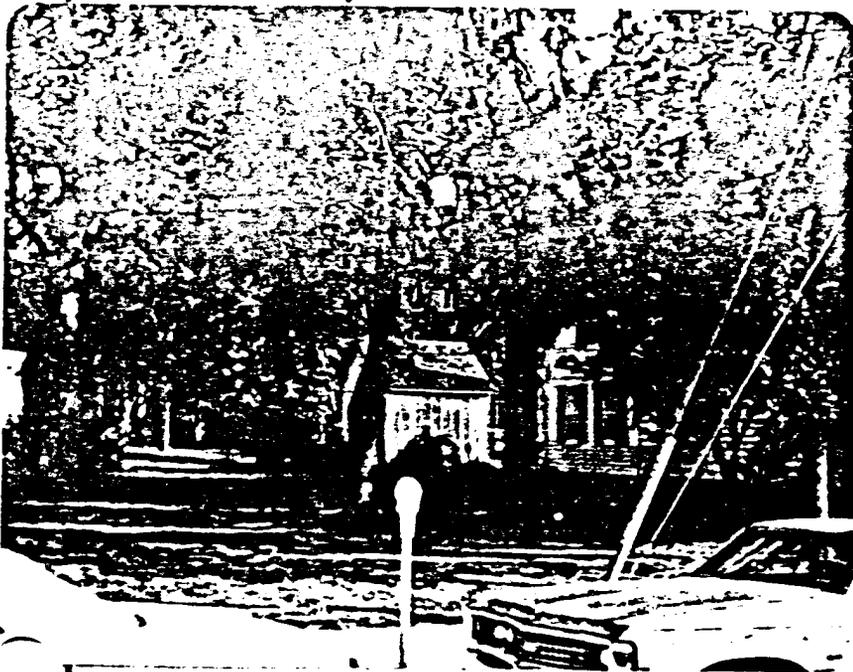
PARKING LOT FOR 20 CARS

Item 1, page 4, also

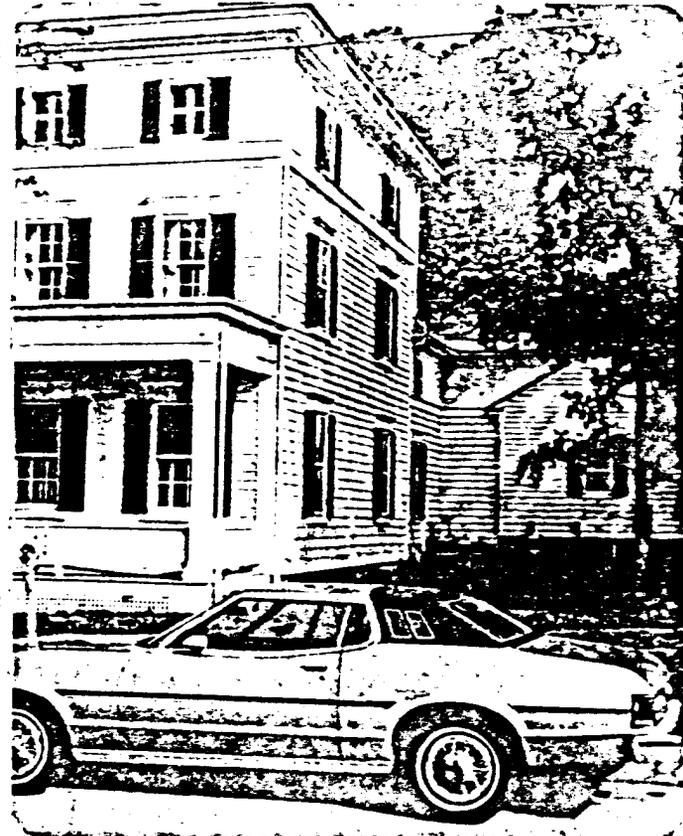
NEW ADDITION

Item 1, page 8

AIR CONDITIONERS , Corner  
of Building, Item 3, page 4



Outbuilding moved to present site to obstruct view of parking lot from street.





Wi-14

14