

WI-277  
Hobart J. Willing House  
Nanticoke  
Private

1901-02

The Hobart J. Willing house is an extremely well preserved example of turn of the twentieth-century Victorian village architecture. The two-and-a-half story cross-gabled frame house was erected in 1901-02, and its period features remain largely undisturbed. The symmetrical five-bay facade is defined by a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows that are sheltered by a turned post front porch embellished with turned spindles and delicately sawn brackets. Centered on the porch roof is a cross gable covered with fishscale shingles. The main house has a cross gable as well and a pointed arch attic window is framed by a field of fishscale shingles. The peak of the cross gable is embellished with a cross-stick decoration. Typical of many turn of the twentieth century houses, the eaves are extended and the rafter ends are exposed. Piercing the gable ends are tall brick chimney stacks finished with corbeled caps. Complementing the intact exterior finishes are largely intact interior spaces with most of the original woodwork surviving in fine condition. A closed stringer, turned baluster staircase rises in the center hall.

The chain of title research traces the ownership of this lot back to Hobart J. Willing, who purchased a 6 7/8-acre parcel of land along the county road from Emma P. Douglas of Baltimore City. He paid \$400 for the property in 1892. Willing family tradition credits him with financing the construction of the house in 1901-02.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Hobart J. Willing House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-277

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):     Architecture
  
2. Geographic Orientation:        Eastern Shore
  
3. Chronological/Development Period(s):   Industrial-Urban Dominance  
  1870-1930
  
4. Resource Type(s):                Single-family dwelling

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-277

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Hobart J. Willing House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 20460 Nanticoke Road  not for publication

city, town Nanticoke  vicinity of First congressional district

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 3. Classification

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

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

name William R. and Claire S. Potts

street & number 20460 Nanticoke Road telephone no.:

city, town Nanticoke state and zip code Maryland 21840

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 63, P. 91-1  
liber 1288

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 493

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town Salisbury state MD

# 7. Description

Survey No. WI-277

<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 Captain Hobart J. Willing house stands at 20460 Nanticoke Road in the community of Nanticoke, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay, cross-gabled frame dwelling faces east with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dated by family tradition to 1901-02, the two-and-a-half story, center hall, single-pile frame house is supported by an infilled brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay dining room wing, which has been extended since 1992 with a two-story kitchen addition. A frame garage joins the house on the lot.

The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical five facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The front door is partially glazed and topped by a two light transom. The adjacent windows are flanked by louvered shutters. Stretching across the front of the house is a cross-gabled, hip roof porch supported on turned posts and decorated with sawn corner brackets and rows of spindles under the eaves. The center cross gable is covered with fishscale shingles, and the eaves are open with the rafter ends exposed. The second floor is lighted by five evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows and each window retains louvered shutters hung on original hardware. The cross gable is pierced by a pointed arch window, and the peak of the eave features a cross stick decoration. The eaves to the roof are open and the rafter ends are exposed.

The north and south gable ends are largely alike with pairs of two-over-two sash windows flanking the interior end brick chimneys, which are finished with corbelled caps. Small two-over-two sash windows light the attic. The gable ends of the roof are covered with fishscale shingles, and the extended eaves are finished with a decorative bargeboard.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay wing that gives the house a tee shape. The rear wing is extended on the south side by a partially enclosed shed roof porch that served as the former kitchen. The wing is lighted by two-over-two sash windows on the first and second floors, and the eaves to the steeply pitched roof are extended with the rafter ends exposed. The rear wing has been extended with a modern two-story, flat roofed addition that incorporates a new kitchen and a main bedroom suite. The flat roof is trimmed with a rooftop balustrade.

The interior of the turn of the twentieth century house has retained much of its original Victorian finishes. A closed stringer, turned baluster staircase rises in the center hall. A bold turned newel post along with the series of turned balusters support a molded handrail. The closed stringer is molded as well. Beaded edge door surrounds frame four-panel doors that open into the adjacent rooms. Another staircase, which is enclosed, rises in the northwest corner of the rear wing.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-277

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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**    1901-02                      **Builder/Architect**

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check: Applicable Criteria:     A     B     C     D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Level of Significance:     national     state     local

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

The Hobart J. Willing house is an extremely well preserved example of turn of the twentieth-century Victorian village architecture. The two-and-a-half story cross-gabled frame house was erected in 1901-02, and its period features remain largely undisturbed. The symmetrical five-bay facade is defined by a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows that are sheltered by a turned post front porch embellished with turned spindles and delicately sawn brackets. Centered on the porch roof is a cross gable covered with fishscale shingles. The main house has a cross gable as well and a pointed arch attic window is framed by a field of fishscale shingles. The peak of the cross gable is embellished with a cross-stick decoration. Typical of many turn of the twentieth century houses, the eaves are extended and the rafter ends are exposed. Piercing the gable ends are tall brick chimney stacks finished with corbeled caps. Complementing the intact exterior finishes are largely intact interior spaces with most of the original woodwork surviving in fine condition. A closed stringer, turned baluster staircase rises in the center hall.

Due to its well preserved condition, the house deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies building of high architectural and historical interest. The Hobart J. Willing house contributes to the nineteenth-century character of the village of Nanticoke.

The chain of title research traces the ownership of this lot back to Hobart J. Willing, who purchased a 6 7/8-acre parcel of land along the county road from Emma P. Douglas of Baltimore City. He paid \$400 for the property in 1892.(1) Willing family tradition credits him with financing the construction of the house in 1901-02.

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1 Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 11/380, 6/2/1892, Wicomico County Courthouse.





WI-277  
Hobart J. Willing House  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JWTS 660/98

Gladys E. Willing  
Alberta W. Willing  
Georgia R. Willing

to

10/9/1967

Betty N. Bounds

The above described parcels are a part of the same lands which were devised by the said Hobart J. Willing, JAH 2/196, to Hobart Edgar Willing, Gladys E. Willing, and Georgia R. Willing, the Said Hobart Edgar Willing having died intestate 6/26/1967

JTT 11/380

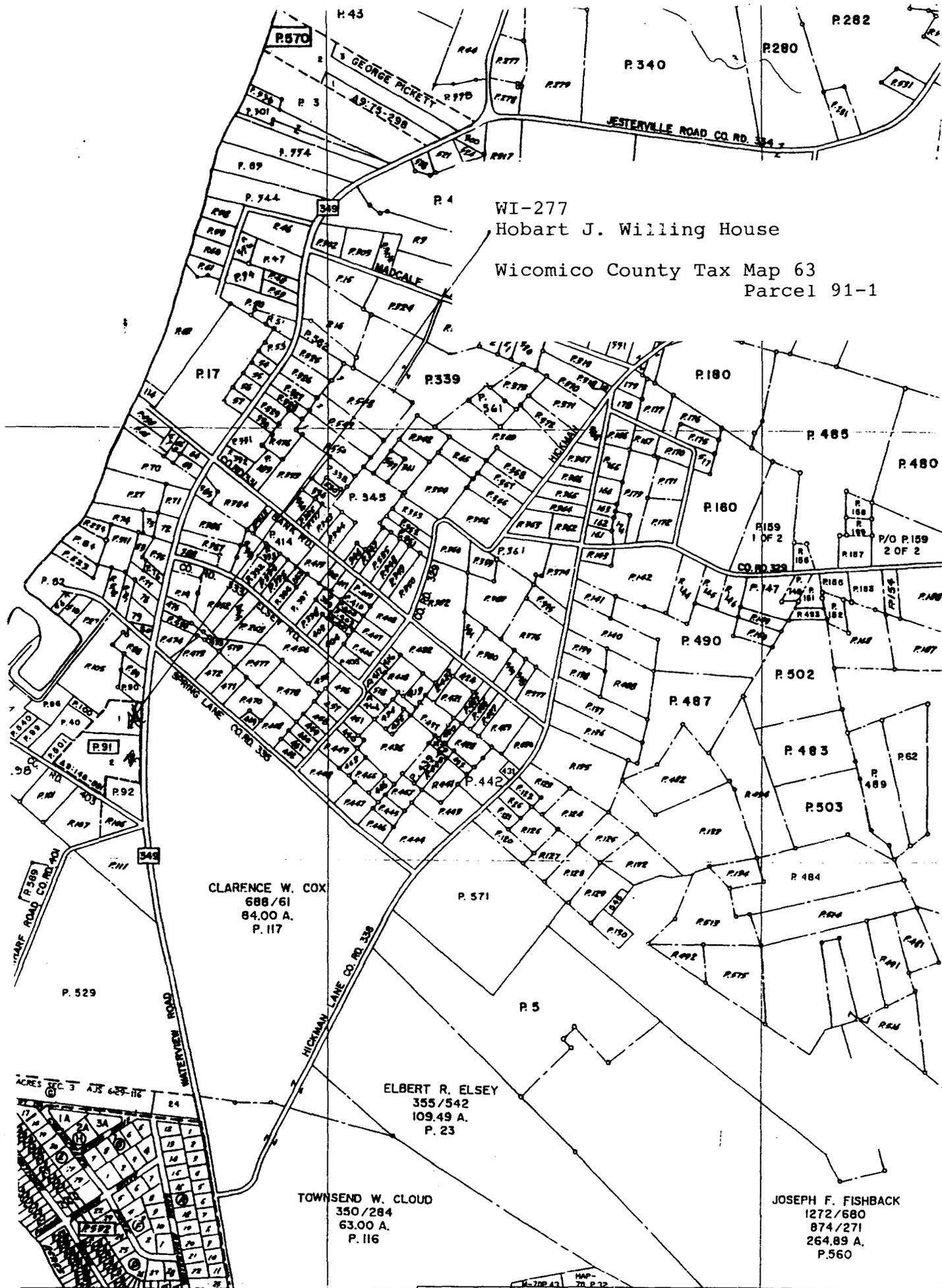
Emma P. Douglas, Baltimore City

to

6/2/1892

Hobart J. Willing

\$400 6 7/8 acres



WI-277  
 Hobart J. Willing House  
 Wicomico County Tax Map 63  
 Parcel 91-1

CLARENCE W. COX  
 688/61  
 84.00 A.  
 P. 117

ELBERT R. ELSEY  
 355/542  
 109.49 A.  
 P. 23

TOWNSEND W. CLOUD  
 350/284  
 63.00 A.  
 P. 116

JOSEPH F. FISHBACK  
 1272/680  
 874/271  
 264.89 A.  
 P.560

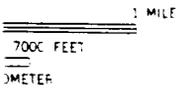
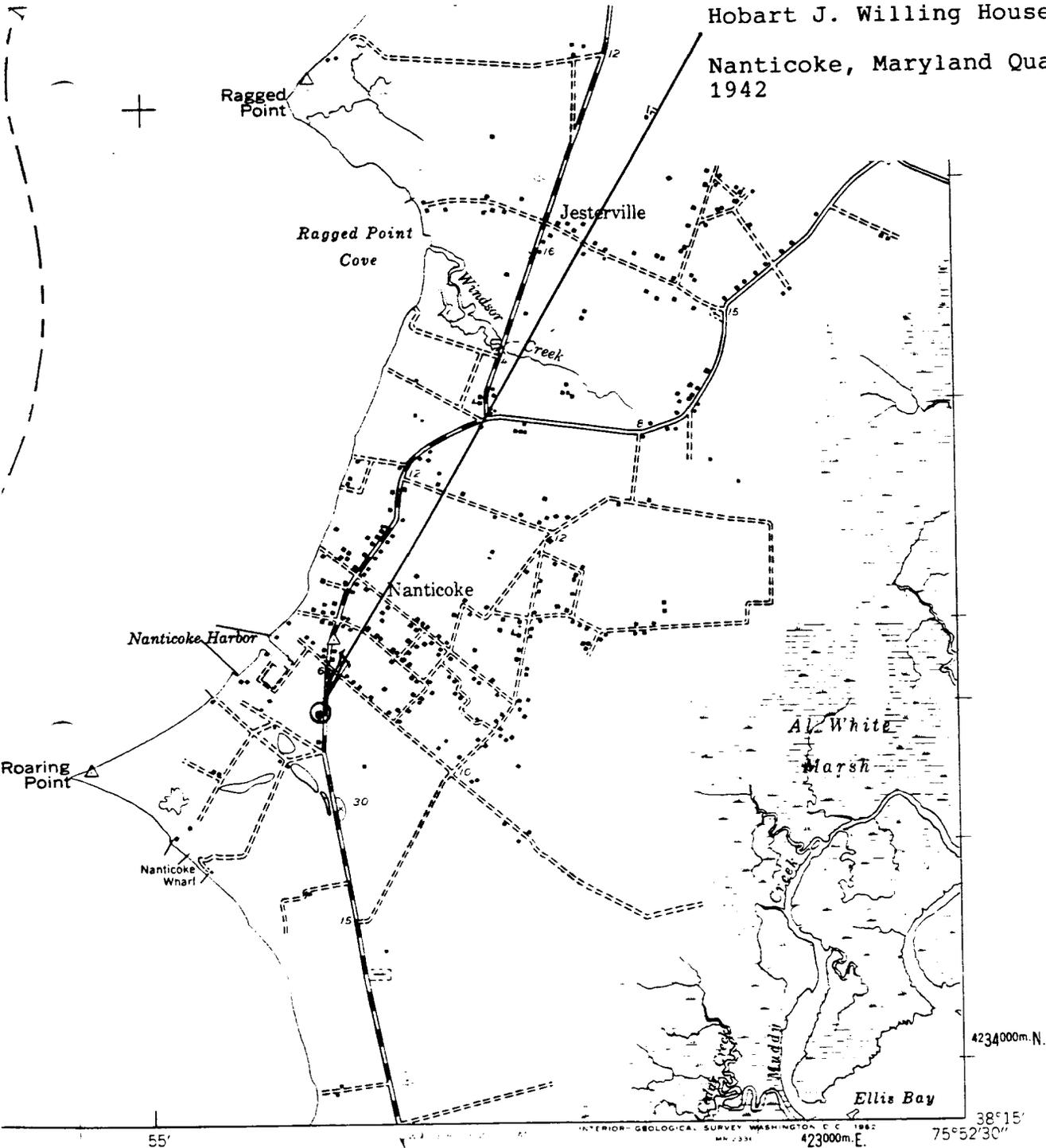
WATERVIEW ROAD  
 CO. RD. 401

HICKMAN LINE CO. RD. 336

JESTERVILLE ROAD CO. RD. 344

ACRES SEC. 3 AFS 627-116

WI-277  
 Hobart J. Willing House  
 Nanticoke, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1942



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Medium duty	Light duty
Unimproved dirt	
State Route	



NANTICOKE, MD.  
 SW/4 NANTICOKE 15' QUADRANGLE  
 N3815—W7552.5/7.5

1942

QUEST



WI-277

CRONIN HOBART WILSON HOUSE  
NANTUCKET, WILSON COUNTY, N.H.  
6/96, PAUL TOURS, PHOTOGRAPHER  
NORTHEAST SOCIETY  
1966 (PAUL HISTORICAL TRUST)



11-551

CATHERINE HORNER WILSON HOUSE

NANTUCKET, NICKERSON CO., MASSACHUSETTS

EAST ELEVATION

6/96, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTODUPLICATION

1000 NANTUCKET ST., NANTUCKET, MA 01905