

Senator William P. Jackson House  
Salisbury (Site)  
Private

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The twin towers were a signature element of the Jackson house, and the second floor balcony fixed between them, was an architectural element favored by Jackson Gott. The John Walter Smith house was designed with a second floor balcony as was the Joshua W. Miles house in Princess Anne, probably designed by Gott as well.

William Purnell Jackson was introduced to Jackson Gott through political and business associations, or perhaps during the design and construction of the new Asbury Methodist Episcopal church where W. P. Jackson was a member. The Romanesque stone church, erected after the 1886 Salisbury fire, is the earliest example of Gott's work known for the lower Shore. Shortly after the church commission, Gott was retained by John

Walter Smith for the design of his house in Snow Hill.

No expense was spared in the construction of the Jackson house. As a partner in the mammoth lumber business of E. E. Jackson & Company, William P. Jackson had access to the best materials. Fine woods—mahogany, oak, cherry, and maple—were used liberally throughout the over twenty-room interior.

So impressive were the interiors that a reporter for the *Salisbury Advertiser* was inspired to write in 1892:

*On entering the mansion from Camden avenue you pass up the steps into the porch and on through the massive oak doors landing into the main hall. If your visit to the place is in search of beauty of architecture your senses are at once gratified. The hall-way is seventeen feet wide, thirty-six feet long, and has an open fireplace at the end. On the either side of the entrance there is an alcove finished in oak, arched overhead, the arch being filled in with fret-work. To the right of the hall is the parlor, 16 x 32 feet, wainscoted and finished in mahogany, and with white walls. On the left of the hall is the library, 15 x 22 feet, wainscoted in mahogany, and with white walls. Double doors make it easy to throw these chambers and hall into one great reception room.*

Most of the house was finished on a very high standard. Mrs. Jackson's bedroom suite, located on the north side of the second floor hall, included a sitting room that had access to the second floor balcony. The "parlor chamber" was Mrs. Jackson's bedroom, which had separate dressing rooms and bath, finished in cherry. Across the hall was Mr. Jackson's den, which was identified as his "smoking apartment." The reporter continued to comment on the views from the house and its general interior decoration:

*From the smoking room a beautiful view may be had of the Wicomico river and the field and woods through which it flows. Mr. Hillerman's greenhouses are also in full view as they lie just back of the grounds. The same view may be had from*

*some of the other upper chambers. The third floor is reached by a handsomely grooved cherry staircase. On this floor are bed chambers, trunk room, closets, all elegantly finished. The floors of the building are hand finished and the jambs to the fire places on the first floor are of light Sienna marble; those of the upper floors are of tile. The conservatories are at the south end of the building and are reached by glass doors from the dining room. The windows of the front are circular in shape. Towers at the north and south angles of the mansion rise fifty-four feet. Beyond the north tower, from the side entrance, extends a porte cochere, and passing under this is a driveway, leading from the avenue to the stables back of the grounds.*

*The exterior is painted in bright buff with white trimmings. In the basement are the furnace and pipes for heating and lighting all parts of the house.*

The house was accompanied on the lot by a host of support buildings, including an elaborate stable, dairy, green house, chicken house, and two other small dwellings for staff. William P. Jackson and his second wife, Katherine Smelmerdine, retained ownership of the Camden Avenue estate until the 1930s when the property was subdivided. In 1959, Henry W. Roberts sold the Jackson house to the Catholic congregation of Saint Francis de Sales. The house was used as a rectory for many years until the need for repairs and the expense of maintenance encouraged thoughts of demolition. A campaign to save the house was fought for nearly ten years until a decision was finally made to raze the house. During October 1976 auctioneers sold parts of the house that could be salvaged, and early in November the bulldozers demolished the rest. The Jackson stable, now a residence, and the decorative iron fence along Camden Avenue, survive as reminders of the once grand estate.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: William P. Jackson House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-35

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): House (site)

Survey No. WI-35

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William P Jackson House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Camden Avenue  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 type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" 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 St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church

street & number 514 Camden Avenue 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 liber JWTS 488

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 94

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1970  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

# 7. Description

Survey No. WI-35

<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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Senator William P. Jackson house formerly stood on the southwest corner of the intersection of Camden Avenue and Wicomico Street in the southern residential district known as Camden in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story frame house faced east with the ridge line of the hip roof oriented on a north/south axis. The house was torn down in 1976 after a ten-year battle to save it.

Completed in 1892, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style frame dwelling was built on an asymmetrical plan with a center entrance and flanking twin towers rising on the northeast and southeast corners. Supported on a raised brick foundation, the exterior was clad with a combination of narrow weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched hip roof, as well as the towers and gable roofed wings, were covered with slate.

The east (main) elevation followed a basically symmetrical design with a centered entrance and flanking round towers. The double door entrance was flanked by single-pane sash windows. Curved glass single-pane sash windows pierced each tower. Stretching across the entire first floor front of the house was a Tuscan columned porch distinguished by a classical pediment entrance bay and round sides that wrapped around to the north and south. The porch roof was supported by narrow Tuscan columns supported on a paneled base. Fixed between the columns was a rectangular baluster handrail. On the north side, the porch incorporated a porte cochere.

Centered on the second floor was a curved shed roof balcony supported on paired or tripartite columns. On each side the rounded towers were pierced by curved single pane sash windows. The third floor or attic story was marked by the conical roofs of each tower that flanked a large gable-front pediment of the main block. The base of the tower roofs as well as the center pediment features modillion block cornices. The top of each tower featured a metal finial. The whole attic story was sheathed with wood shingles in contrast to the weatherboard siding of the first and second floors. The attic story was divided into two levels. The first level was marked by a three-sided bay window pierced by single-pane sash windows. The upper level, incorporated within the gable-front pediment, was pierced by a small recessed window within a field of shingled exterior wall surface.

The north side of the main block was a asymmetrical elevation with a large two story gable front pavilion that extended forward from the main hip roofed block. The first floor was partially sheltered by the Tuscan columned porch and porte cochere. Centered on the hip roof was a large dormer topped by a hip roof. The upper attic was illuminated by an eyebrow window. Piercing the roofline of the pavilion was an internal brick chimney.

(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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1892 **Builder/Architect** George A. Downing, builder  
Jackson C. Gott, architect

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 completion of the William P. Jackson house in October 1892 was applauded and much admired by the residents of Salisbury. Conceived on a scale far removed from most in the region, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne dwelling outdistanced almost every other house erected in Salisbury in attention to fine detail. The architect, Jackson C. Gott of Baltimore, drew the plans and George A. Downing, a contractor from Wilmington, Delaware, implemented construction of the house that was ultimately known as "The Towers." Jackson Gott was familiar with the design of large domestic spaces; only a few years before, in 1889, he had designed the sprawling Queen Anne residence in Snow Hill for John Walter Smith. He was also responsible for the new Asbury M. E. Church in Salisbury, erected in 1887-88. The construction of the granite church was a project also supervised by George A. Downing.

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William Purnell Jackson was introduced to Jackson Gott through political and business associations, or perhaps during the construction of the new Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, begun after the 1886 Salisbury fire. The Romanesque stone church is the earliest example of Gott's work known for the lower Shore. Shortly after the church commission Gott was retained by John Walter Smith for the design of his house in Snow Hill.

No expense was spared in the construction of the Jackson house. As a partner in the mammoth lumber business of E. E. Jackson & Company, William P. Jackson had access to the best of materials. Fine woods—mahogany, oak, cherry, and maple—were used liberally throughout the over twenty-room interior.

So impressive were the interiors that a reporter for the *Salisbury Advertiser* was inspired to write in 1892:

*On entering the mansion from Camden avenue you pass up the steps into the porch and on through massive oak doors landing into the main hall. If your*

(Continued)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A            
 Zone Easting Northing

B            
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant date 3/25/99

street & number P. O. Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: ~~Maryland Historical Trust  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 269-2438~~

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
 DHCP/DHCD  
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
 514-7600

7.1 DESCRIPTION (Continued)  
Senator William P. Jackson House  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland (Site)

The south side of the house was distinguished by a projecting pavilion featuring a rounded front pierced by curved single-pane sash windows. The corresponding curved roof featured a hip roofed dormer illuminated by paired single-pane sash windows. The south side of the front porch wrapped around to meet this rounded front pavilion. The two bays adjacent to the rounded pavilion were enclosed with glass partitions. A hip roofed dormer fitted with a single-pane sash window lighted the attic. Piercing the roofline were internal brick stove chimneys.

## 8.1 SIGNIFICANCE

Senator William P. Jackson House, WI-35  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland (Site)

*visit to the place is in search of beauty of architecture your senses are at once gratified. The hall-way is seventeen feet wide, thirty-six feet long, and has an open fireplace at the end. On the either side of the entrance there is an alcove finished in oak, arched overhead, the arch being filled in with fret-work. To the right of the hall is the parlor, 16 x 32 feet, wainscoted and finished in mahogany, and with white walls. On the left of the hall is the library, 15 x 22 feet, wainscoted in mahogany, and with white walls. Double doors make it easy to throw these chambers and hall into one great reception room.<sup>1</sup>*

Most of the house was finished on a very high standard. Mrs. Jackson's bedroom suite, located on the north side of the second floor hall, included a sitting room that had access to the second floor balcony. The "parlor chamber" was Mrs. Jackson's bedroom, which had separate dressing rooms and bath, finished in cherry. Across the hall was Mr. Jackson's den, which was identified as his "smoking apartment." The reporter continued to comment on the views of the house and its general interior decoration:

*From the smoking room a beautiful view may be had of the Wicomico river and the field and woods through which it flows. Mr. Hillerman's greenhouses are also in full view as they lie just back of the grounds. The same view may be had from some of the other upper chambers. The third floor is reached by a handsomely grooved cherry staircase. On this floor are bed chambers, trunk room, closets, all elegantly finished. The floors of the building are hand finished and the jambs to the fire places on the first floor are of light Sienna marble; those of the upper floors are of tile. The conservatories are at the south end of the building and are reached by glass doors from the dining room. The windows of the front are circular in shape. Towers at the north and south angles of the mansion rise fifty-four feet. Beyond the north tower, from the side entrance, extends a porte cochere, and passing under this is a driveway, leading from the avenue to the stables back of the grounds.*

*The exterior is painted in bright buff with white trimmings. In the basement are the furnace and pipes for heating and lighting all parts of the house.<sup>2</sup>*

The house was accompanied on the lot by a host of support buildings, including an elaborate stable, dairy, green house, chicken house, and two other small dwellings for

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<sup>1</sup> *Salisbury Advertiser*, October 1, 1892.

<sup>2</sup> *Salisbury Advertiser*, October 1, 1892.

## 8.2 SIGNIFICANCE

Senator William P. Jackson House (WI-35)  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland (Site)

staff.<sup>3</sup> William P. Jackson and his second wife, Katherine Smelmerdine, retained ownership of the Camden Avenue estate until the 1930s when the property was subdivided. <sup>4</sup> In 1959, Henry W. Roberts sold the Jackson house to the Catholic congregation of Saint Francis de Sales.<sup>5</sup> The house was used as a rectory for many years until the need for repairs and the expense of maintenance encouraged thoughts of demolition. A campaign to save the house was fought for nearly ten years until a decision was finally made to raze the house. During October 1976 auctioneers sold parts of the house that could be salvaged, and early in November the bulldozers demolished the rest.<sup>6</sup> The Jackson stable, now a residence, and the decorative iron fence along Camden Avenue, survive as reminders of the once grand estate.

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<sup>3</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, Plat by P. S. Shockley, July 7, 1897.

<sup>4</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 174/366, June 21, 1932.

<sup>5</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 488/94, October 3, 1959.

<sup>6</sup> *The Daily Times*, October 26, 1976 and November 3, 1976.

WI-35  
William P. Jackson House  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland (Site)  
Chain of title

JWTS 488/94                      Henry W. Roberts, widower

to

10/3/1959                      Saint Francis de Sales Church at Salisbury

JWTS 479/475                      Ellen Roberts Evans  
Edward V. Evans

to

6/25/1959                      Henry W. Roberts

JWTS 299/7                      Henry W. Roberts  
Ruby F. Roberts

to

3/20/1948                      Ellen Roberts Evans

1. from Salisbury Corporation, 5/22/1942, JWS 241/358, Plat drawn by Roy E. Moore, 5/15/1942, JWS 250/9, Being the same land conveyed unto the Salisbury Corporation by the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> items of a deed from William P. Jackson and Katherine S. Jackson, 6/21/1932, IDT 174/366

WI-35  
William P. Jackson House  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland (Site)  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

IDT 174/366

William P. Jackson  
Katherine S. Jackson

to

6/21/1932

Salisbury Corporation

Second: All that lot or parcel of land situated in the City of Salisbury ....on the west side of and binding upon Wicomico Street, bounded on the north by the William H. Jackson Home Property and on the west by the land described in Item Fourteenth hereof, being the home place of the said William P. Jackson....property conveyed to William P. Jackson by:

1. from William Anna Freeny of Baltimore City, dated 8/5/1891, FMS 7/487. \$600  
-All those two houses and lots of ground lying adjacent to each other in the City of Salisbury, Wicomico County, MD bounded on the north by by what is known as 'Sue's Alley' on the South by Wicomico Street on the East by the 'cemetery' which fronts 57' on Wicomico Street and 56' on Sue's Alley and on the west by the vacant lot of William H. Jackson
2. from William Anna Freeny, dated 10/31/1894, JTT 13/347
3. from William H. Jackson, dated 9/21/1897, JTT 263

*Salisbury Advertiser*, October 1, 1892

....And one of these is the magnificent structure now being completed on Camden avenue for the occupancy of Mr. Wm P. Jackson. Jackson Gott, of Baltimore, is the architect who designed it, and his design has been ably executed by George A. Downing, builder of Wilmington.

When completed this new home will rival in beauty and grandeur the palatial mansion nestling among "The Oaks" and the lordly habitation owned and occupied by Mr. William H. Jackson, the intention being to remove the partition fence and throw all the land together, thus making a park of the whole.

The building is colonial in style of architecture, built of wood, slate roof, three stories high, and has a basement under the entire house with a depth of 8 feet, and fronts seventy-one feet on Camden avenue, with a rear extending sixty-two feet back.

A porch in circular shape extends around the entire front. On entering the mansion from Camden avenue you pass up the steps into the porch and on through massive oak doors landing into the main hall. If your visit to the place is in search of beauty of architecture your senses are at once gratified. The hall-way is seventeen feet wide, thirty-six feet long, and has an open fireplace at the end. On either side of the entrance there is an alcove finished in oak, arched overhead, the arch being filled in with fret-work. To the right of the hall is the parlor, 16 x 32 feet, wainscoted and finished in mahogany, with white coated walls. On the left of the hall is the library, 15 x 22 feet, wainscoted in mahogany, and with white walls. Double doors make it easy to throw these chambers and the hall into one great reception room. In the centre of the hall, overhead, is a beautiful double arch, at the centre pillar of which, begins the flight of stairs which leads to the rooms above. To reach the stairway from the main entrance you pass under one arch and on ascending you leave the other to your right.

Back of the parlor, on the right, is the breakfast room 14 x 20 feet, finished in oak, corresponding with and on the opposite side of the hall is the dining room, 18 x 30 feet, finished in oak; directly back of the dining room is the butler's pantry, 10 x 12 feet and back of the front hall is the kitchen, 15 x 20 feet, with pantry adjoining 7 x 10 feet. To the right of the kitchen running the entire length, is a two story porch, and back of the kitchen is a one story porch, 8 feet wide and 20 feet long.

The hallway of the second floor is 16 x 17 feet and leads to the second story chambers of the front building. At the end of the hall is Mrs. Jackson's sitting room 16 x 17 feet, which overlooks Camden avenue and opens onto a balcony. Double doors separate it from the hall, and when they are thrown back the unbroken floor space is about doubled. The parlor chamber will be used as Mrs. Jackson's bed room, and back of it is a dressing room and bath, finished in cherry. Chamber over the dining room is finished in maple and will be used for guests, and directly back of this are dressing rooms. ON this floor, and in the southeast corner, is one of the cosiest dens imaginable. It is 16 x 16 feet and will be used by Mr. Jackson as a smoking apartment. It is finished in mahogany, has open fire place with tiled jamb. Immediately adjoining and to the north are the bath and linen closets. From the smoking room a beautiful view may be had of the Wicomico river and the field and woods through which it flows. Mr. Hillerman's greenhouses are also in

full view as they lie just back of the grounds. The same view may be had from some of the other upper chambers. The third floor is reached by a handsomely grooved cherry staircase. On this floor are bed chambers, trunk room, closets, all elegantly finished.

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The exterior is painted in bright buff with white trimmings. In the basement are the furnace and pipes for heating and lighting all parts of the house.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson expect to move in about the middle of October, and when they have become domiciled they will have a home second to few in the state.

and has lived all his mature life. As a boy he attended the Baltimore public schools preparing for entrance to Johns Hopkins University, where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree as a member of the class of 1893. Immediately taking up his legal studies in the Law School of the University of Maryland, he completed the course in two years and graduated with the Bachelor of Laws degree in 1895. After passing the bar examinations and gaining admission to the practice of his profession in Maryland, he opened an office for general legal practice, in which he met with quick recognition and success, soon acquiring an extensive and important clientele. Judge Soper holds membership in the American, Maryland State and Baltimore City Bar Associations and is always ready to lend his influence to any movement for the advancement of his profession.

Mr. Soper had not long been engaged in private practice when he was appointed to the office of assistant state's attorney, serving in that capacity from September 1, 1897, to December, 1899, and from January 1, 1900, to April 15, 1910. He discharged the duties of this important office with such ability and enterprise that on the 1st of January, 1907, he was made assistant United States' attorney and held this post until the 15th day of April, 1910. As president of the board of police commissioners for the city of Baltimore from May 1, 1912, to December 31, 1913, he carried out a thorough and vigorous program in this department of the municipal government. On January 1, 1914, he became chief judge of the supreme bench of Baltimore, where he remained for more than seven years, resigning on the 15th of October, 1921. During this period he presided over the deliberations of the court with a becoming dignity and by the conscientious application of his legal learning and unerring logic to the cases tried before him, was an important factor in the equitable administration of justice under the laws of the city of Baltimore. Indeed, he displayed so thorough a knowledge of the law and such marked judicial ability as chief judge of this court, that in 1923 he was appointed judge of the United States district court. With a future as full of promise as his past has been of achievement, Judge Soper has entered upon the performance of his new duties with the same enthusiasm and high idealism that has characterized all of his work in his private and public life.

In 1907 Mr. Soper was married to Miss Grace W. A. Parker, daughter of J. Summer Parker of Baltimore. There are no children. Judge Soper displayed unusual mental powers in his undergraduate days, by winning the Phi Beta Kappa key for high scholarship and personality. He belongs to the Madison Avenue Methodist Episcopal church. His clubs are the Baltimore, University, City, Baltimore Country, Rolling Road Country, and Merchants Clubs of Baltimore. During the World war he was very active in all the civilian work and rendered especially valuable services as chairman of the War Camp Community Service, which had a very difficult task to perform in this city, which was so close to a number of important camps and military stations. Judge Soper is a golf player, turning to this popular Scotch game for diversion from the cares of his profession and public duties.

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HON. WILLIAM PURNELL JACKSON.

Hon. William Purnell Jackson, whose life history is inseparably interwoven with the progressive records of Salisbury and of the state of Maryland, is leaving his impress upon the financial, manufacturing and political annals of the commonwealth. He was born January 11, 1868, in the city which is still his home, and is a representative of a family that for a number of generations has figured prominently in shaping the destinies of Maryland. He is a nephew of the late Governor E. E. Jackson, and his father was the Hon. William Humphreys Jackson, largely the builder and promoter of Salisbury, mentioned at length on another page of this work.

Having acquired his preliminary education in the public schools of Wicomico county, William Purnell Jackson afterward attended the Wilmington Conference Academy and his vacation periods were largely spent in acquainting himself with the various details of his father's diversified business interests. In 1887 he became a partner in the firm of E. E. Jackson & Company, one of the largest enterprises operating in connection with the lumber industry on the Eastern Shore. When the Jackson Brothers Company was organized in 1893 he became its secretary and treasurer and after serving in this executive capacity for a period of twenty-two years was chosen to the presidency. He was formerly secretary and

treasurer of the Jackson Lumber Company of Alabama, another large concern which was founded by his father and uncle. Nor has he confined his attention alone to the lumber industry. He is now the president of the Salisbury National Bank, also of the Jackson & Gutman Company, extensive shirt manufacturers, and is identified with still other local interests, while his lumber holdings in North Carolina are large. He seems to have inherited his father's business ability and his own powers have been developed through the exercise of effort. He readily recognizes the opportunities of any business situation and has the ability to coordinate seemingly diverse interests into a unified and harmonious whole.

Mr. Jackson has been married twice. On the 12th of February, 1890, in Havre de Grace, Maryland, he wedded Miss Sallie McCombs, daughter of A. P. McCombs, the president of the First National Bank of Havre de Grace. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson became the parents of two children, a son and a daughter. The latter, Belle McCombs, is the wife of Clarence Schoble and the mother of two children, Belle Jackson and Jackson Schoble; William Newton Jackson wedded Miss Florence Rue, daughter of Levi Rue, the president of the Philadelphia National Bank of Philadelphia. Their children are three in number, Florence Rue, William Newton Jackson, Jr., and William Purnell Jackson (II). Hon. William P. Jackson was married to Miss Katherine Shelmerdine, in Philadelphia, on the 25th of April, 1900. Her father, George C. Shelmerdine, who was for many years the cashier of the Union Traction Company of Philadelphia, retired from business in 1917. By his second marriage Mr. Jackson also has two children: William H. (II), who wedded Miss Nellie Rider of Salisbury; and Elizabeth S., who became the wife of Frank G. Tripp of Boston.

Like his honored father, William P. Jackson has figured quite prominently in connection with the political history of Maryland. He has represented his state on the Republican national committee since June, 1908, and at the convention of 1924 was unanimously reelected. In 1912 he was appointed by the governor to fill out the unexpired term of the late Isidor Rayner as a member of the United States senate and made a most creditable record in that high office. He is president of the board of directors of the Peninsula General Hospital and he is an official in the Methodist Episcopal church of Salisbury. He has membership in the Maryland Club, the Union League Club of Philadelphia and in the Manufacturers Club. His interests and activities are comprehensive in scope and he possesses that force of character which enables him wisely to direct his efforts until he obtains his objective. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, belonging to the Knights Templar Commandery and to the Mystic Shrine, and he is also a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Loyal Order of Moose. He is likewise connected with the National Lumber Association and the North Carolina Lumber Association.

#### WILLIAM HETTLEMAN.

William Hettleman is a patent solicitor who is also engaged in general law practice. He has displayed ability in that unique branch of the profession, which demands considerable mechanical and scientific knowledge as well as familiarity with the principles of law, and thus he is winning success in the line in which he specializes as well as in the general work of the courts. He is a native of Russia, his parents being Kalman and Hannah Hettleman, who left Russia to come to the New World, making their way direct to Baltimore, where the father engaged in business successfully for a number of years, but is now living retired. He and his wife still make their home in Baltimore, where they have reared their family of six children, four of whom are living.

After attending the public schools and spending two years, from 1910 until 1912, in a preparatory school of Baltimore, William Hettleman entered the Baltimore City College, in which he continued his education until 1915. In that year he matriculated in Harvard University and was graduated cum laude in 1918, the Bachelor of Arts degree being at that time conferred upon him by America's oldest and most famous university.

The country having become engaged in war with Germany, Mr. Hettleman then entered the Officers Training School, being appointed by President Lowe of Harvard to attend the Central Training School, in which he remained from August, 1918, until November, 1920, winning the rank of first lieutenant. He then returned to his student duties in Harvard University, entering the Law School and winning the

Deed  
 William P. Jackson  
 From  
 William H. Jackson  
 and wife.

This deed made this twenty first day of September in the year, eighteen hundred and ninety seven by William H. Jackson and Jennie Jackson, his wife of the first part, and William P. Jackson, of the second part, witnesses:

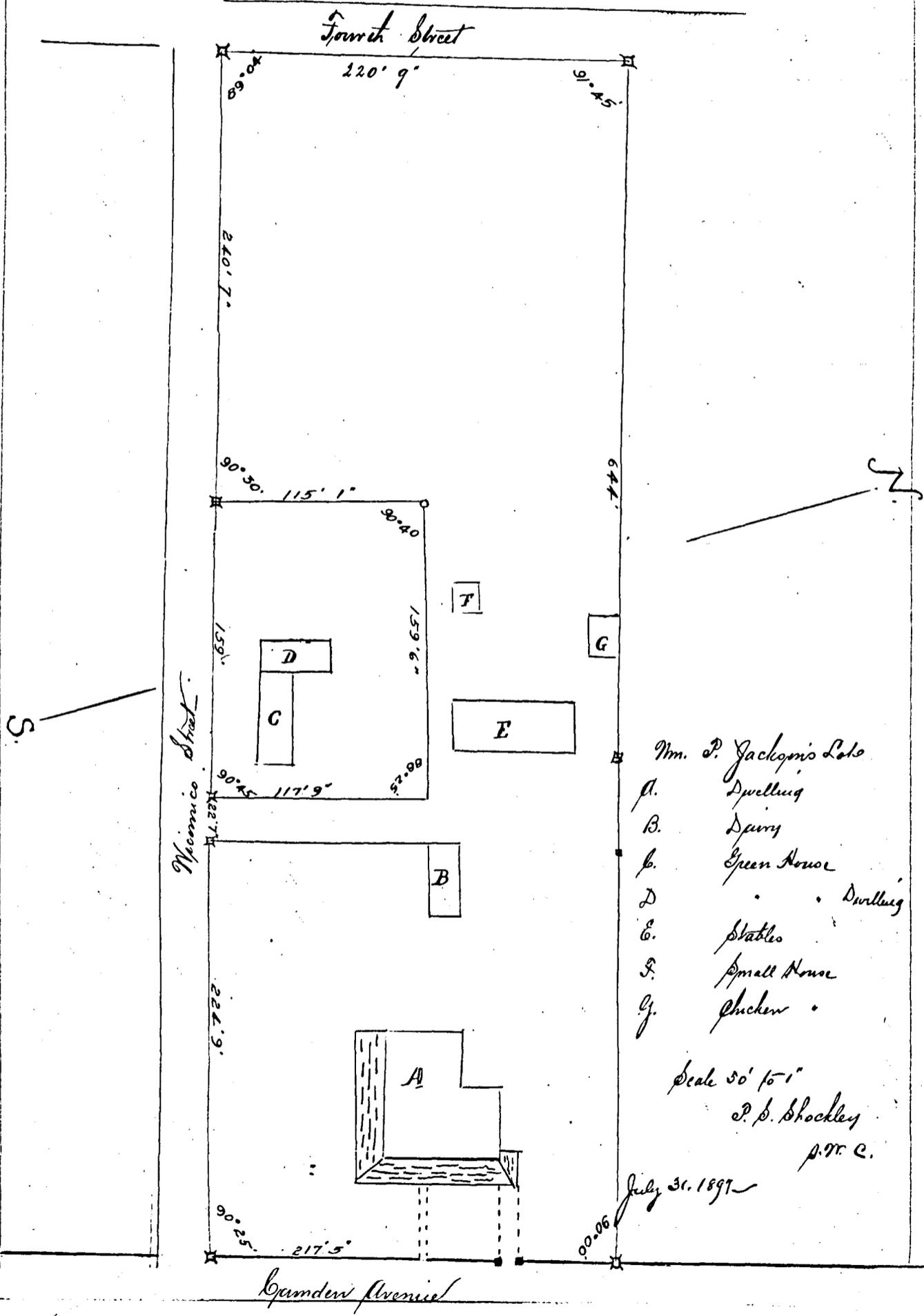
Whereas the said William P. Jackson is the owner of certain lots or parcels of land on the West side of Granden Avenue in the town of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland and described as follows: Beginning for the same at a stone or Belgian block planted in the ground about two feet and nine inches South of the yard fence at the corner of Granden Avenue and Wicomico Street thence running by and with said Granden Avenue North  $15^{\circ} 5'$  East 217 feet 5 inches to a marked on the stone base of the yard fence, and on the opposite of which is a marked Belgian block planted in the ground, thence North  $74^{\circ} 55'$  West 644 feet to a stone on the East side of Fourth Street thence with said East side of Fourth Street South  $15^{\circ} 55'$  West 220 feet 9 inches to a stone on the North side of Wicomico Street, thence by and with said Street South  $75^{\circ}$  East 240 feet 7 inches to a stone at the corner of a lot known as "Green House lot" thence by and with said lot North  $15^{\circ} 30'$  East 118 feet 1 inch to a piece driven in a peach tree stump thence with said "Green House lot" and fence South  $76^{\circ}$  East 159 feet 9 inches to what was formerly called second street thence with said Street South  $15^{\circ} 50'$  West 117 feet 9 inches to a stone on the said Wicomico Street, thence by and with said Street South  $75^{\circ}$  East 247 feet 4 inches to the place of the beginning containing two and eight fourth acres more or less: being the same land that has been conveyed to the said William P. Jackson by divers deed from divers parties, including also land bought of the said William H. Jackson for which said land the said William P. Jackson has received no deed. the said parties of the first part having agreed to execute these presents for the purpose of conveying a good and valid title to said land, the said parties to this deed being also desirous of establishing a divisional line between their respective properties which lie contiguous

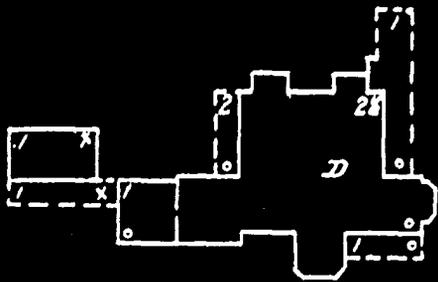
Now therefore in consideration of the premises and the sum of One dollar and other good valuable and sufficient consideration, the said William H. Jackson and Jennie Jackson his wife, do grant and convey unto the said William P. Jackson, all of the property lying within the metes and bounds as above described formed by the said parties of the first part and lying Southward of and bounded by the following divisional line: Beginning for the same at a marked Belgian block set up at the base of the yard fence on Granden Avenue 217 feet 5 inches distant from the corner of the yard fence at the intersection of Wicomico Street and Granden Avenue, thence North  $74^{\circ} 55'$  West 644 feet to a stone on the East side of Fourth Street set up at a point 220 feet 9 inches distant from said Wicomico Street, the said divisional line being the second course in the foregoing description of the said William P. Jackson's land.

For a further description see surveyors plat filed herewith  
 As witness the hands and seals of the parties of the first part the day and year first above written

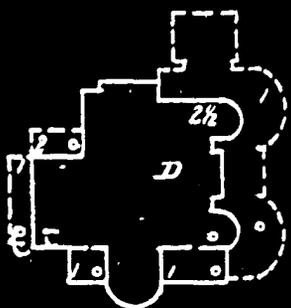
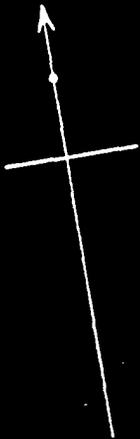
Deed  
 Charles Springton  
 W. H. Jackson  
 Jennie H. Jackson

State of Maryland, Wicomico County, to wit:  
 Shereby certify that on the Twenty first day of September eighteen hundred and ninety seven before me the undersigned Justice of the Peace of the said State in and for Wicomico County of and for said personally appeared William W. Jackson and Jennie Jackson, his wife and each acknowledged the foregoing deed to be their respective acts.  
 Charles Springston, J.P.

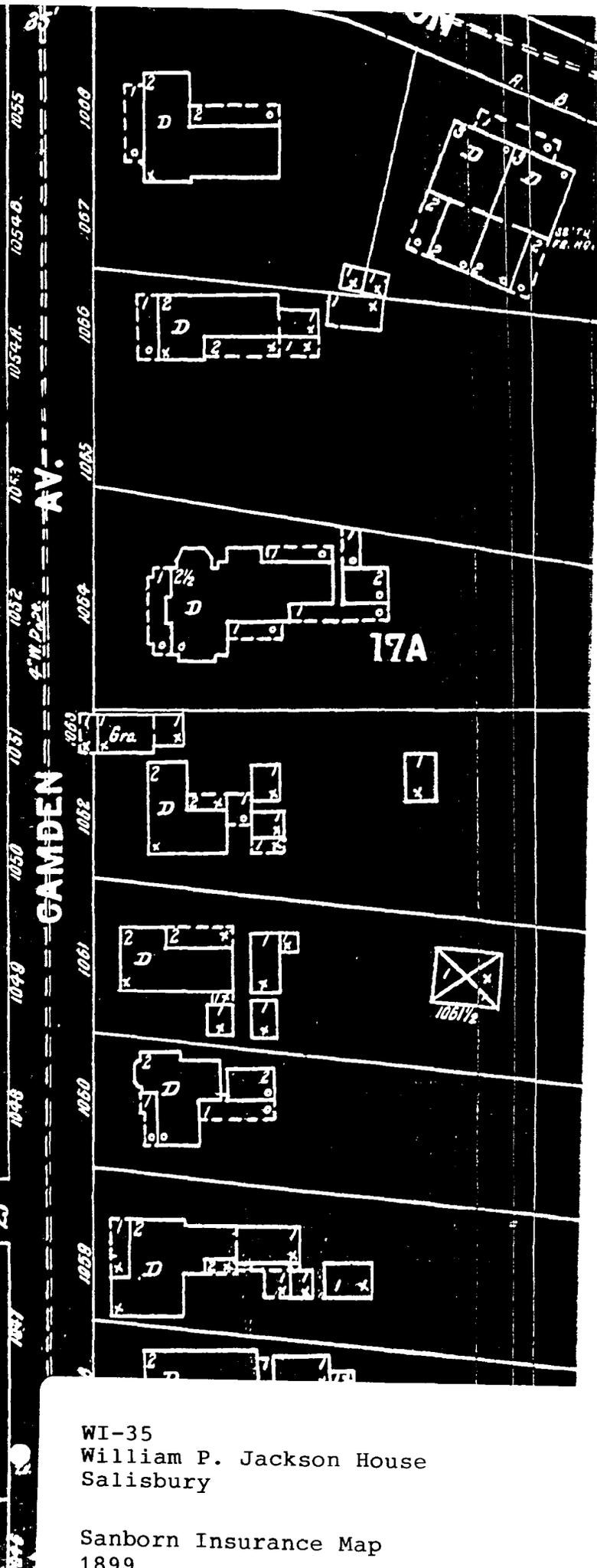
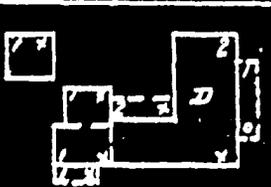




16A



16B



WI-35  
 William P. Jackson House  
 Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map  
 1899

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

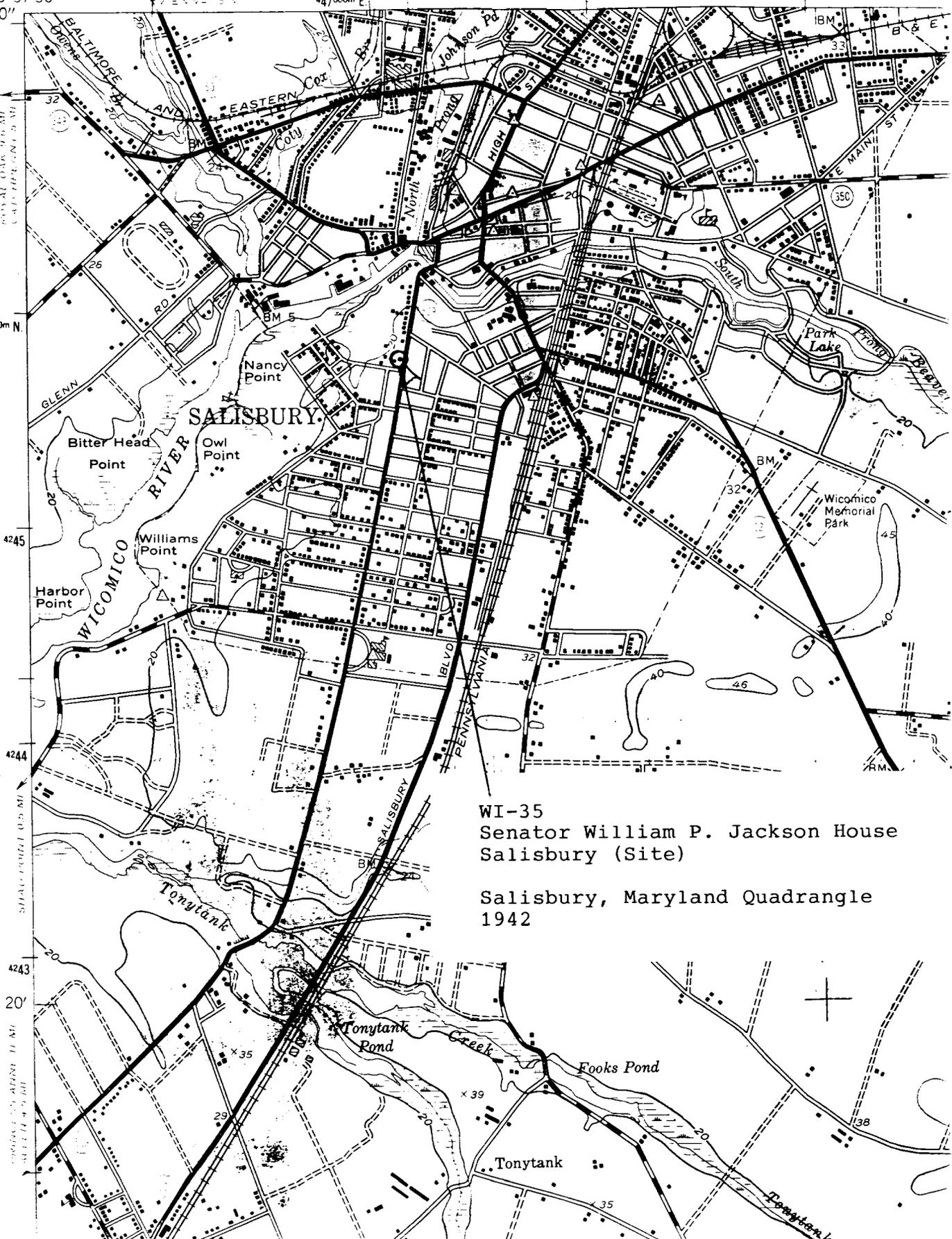
5860 LNW  
(HEBRON)

75°37'30"  
38°22'30"

447000m E

35'

4246000m N



WI-35  
Senator William P. Jackson House  
Salisbury (Site)

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

VERTICAL SCALE 1:25,000  
HORIZONTAL SCALE 1:25,000

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Senator Jackson House

AND/OR COMMON

The Jackson Mansion (The Towers)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

514 Camden Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Salisbury

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

CODE

24

COUNTY

Wicomico

CODE

045

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

X RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES, RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

X BEING CONSIDERED

YES, UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

X OTHER: Rectory

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church

STREET & NUMBER

Riverside Drive and Wicomico Street

CITY, TOWN

Salisbury

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Wicomico County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

N. Division Street

CITY, TOWN

Salisbury

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

WI-35

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Senator Jackson House, located at 514 Camden Avenue in Salisbury, Maryland, is a large Queen Anne style residence built c. 1890. The eastern (front) facade is three and one-half stories, but side elevations (north and south) give the appearance of only two and one-half stories. Their high, steeply pitched roofs have dormers with jerkinheads. The front facade, though characteristic of the Queen Anne style in its massing and proportions, is symmetrical. A three-story central block with a gable is flanked by two circular towers having conical roofs.

A front porch with a balustrade extends across the first floor and forms a porte-cochere to the north. It wraps around the end towers and continues back to the two and one-half story wings on both sides of the house. The end of the southern wing is semi-circular, and there is a dormer in the conical roof. The rectangular northern one has two windows in its gable.

At the entrance, the porch has a large central pediment of low pitch. Over the pediment is a small porch with a pent roof which extends out of the lower portion of the third-floor bay window. All of the porches have slender Victorian columns resting on high bases.

The Jackson House has been painted white. The first two stories are sheathed with narrow clapboards which are bevelled and made of 5/8" number one white pine. All surfaces at the third floor level (towers, gable ends, etc.) have been shingled. Cornices are plain except for those on the two eastern towers and the central block where there are small modillions. Slate for the roof came from Port Deposit, Maryland.

To the west (rear) of the Jackson House is a two and one-half story wing. Neither the fenestration nor the design of the gable matches that of the wing to the north. Attached to the southern face of this rear wing is a circular two-story tower with a polygonal roof.

On the interior, the hardware is silver plated and fireplaces are tiled. The flooring of the first floor has four layers: a subfloor, flat boards of number one pine, a finish floor of heart-rift pine, and an oak floor installed in about 1930.

To the rear of the house, there are stables. These were built c. 1915 and are similar to the original ones which burned.

# SIGNIFICANCE

WI-35

ID		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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Senator Jackson House is significant in the areas of architecture and politics. Built by William P. Jackson about 1893, the house attests to an elegance and an elaborate life style in days of yesteryear.

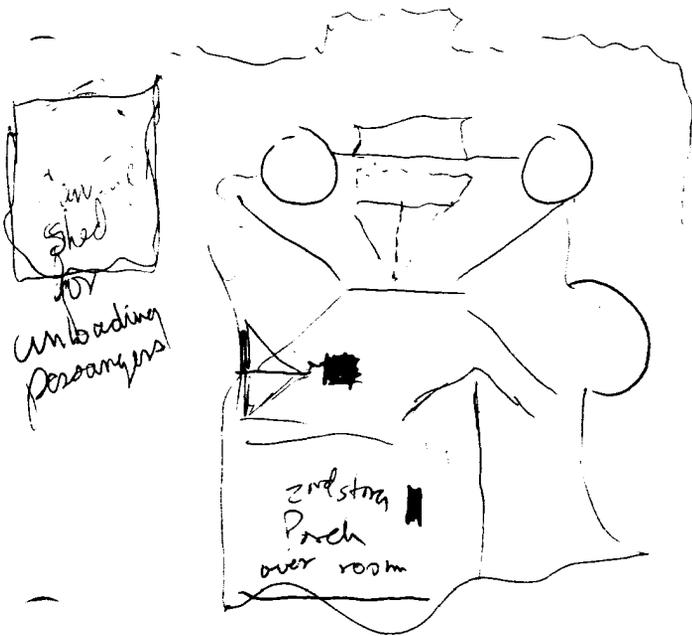
William P. Jackson was appointed United States Senator from Maryland to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Isidor Raynor. He took his seat in the Senate in December 1912. During his term in office, distinguished guests entertained at the house included Governor Goldsborough and Thomas R. Marshall, Vice President of the United States during Woodrow Wilson's two terms. Senator Jackson was defeated by Blair, his Democratic opponent, in a popularly held election in 1914.

Popularly referred to as "The Towers" when the Jackson family inhabited it, the interior of the house today displays evidence of that highly skilled craftsmanship available many decades ago. There are four floors on the ground floor, superimposed upon one another. When the house was first built, a sub-floor was laid, followed by a flatboard number one pine floor. Upon these were laid a finished floor of number one heart-rift pine which would wear better as the grain and rings were vertical or turned on edge. In about 1930, a one-half inch to three-fourths inch oak floor was added. Two inch by twelve inch on twenty four inch center joists made the structure especially sturdy. The bevelled siding is five eighths inch number one white pine. The roof is constructed of slate brought in from Port Deposit, Maryland. Silver plated hardware, tiled fireplaces and the splendid paneling are among the highlights of the Senator Jackson House.

The house today is owned by the St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church and used as their Rectory.



Senator Jackson House - "The Oaks"  
 514 Camden Ave, Salisbury



Shingle style

essentially a large  
 hipped roof structure  
 with towers, dormers,  
 gables, bay window -

covered with clapboard  
 + shingle above 2nd story -

plain cornice except on towers which have  
 modillions

Porch on 3 sides - one above entrance  
 + one off the 'L' -

slate roof -

brick foundation painted white

Courage shed (35A)

8/9/74 Anne Clay  
 "The Oaks" was actually the home built by  
 Governor Elisha E. Jackson in the area of Isabella St. <sup>6/70</sup> where The Oaks  
 subdivision is now. It was torn down some years ago.  
 This house was Senator Jackson's home on Camden Ave.

"The Oaks", or Gov Jackson House, Salisbury

The Governor Jackson house is ~~is~~ a large <sup>Queen Anne</sup> ~~style~~ style house. Essentially it is a 2<sup>nd</sup> story hipped roof structure with 2 round towers on the street facade ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> dormers + ~~gables~~ <sup>gables</sup> issuing out of the hipped roof in an asymmetrical fashion. The 2-story walls are sheathed with narrow clapboard while the towers and gables have shingle above the 2<sup>nd</sup> story. The entire structure is painted white, thus the difference in texture is not immediately apparent. Beneath the conical roof of the towers is a modillion cornice; that of the rest of the house is very plain.

Across the entire facade is a 1-story porch. On the north end is a <sup>"porte cochere"</sup> covered area to accommodate ~~passengers from being exposed to the elements while going to + from carriage.~~ <sup>the center of the porch is a <sup>with</sup> pedimented gable</sup> under which the steps ascend to the porch. Set back from the porch at 2<sup>nd</sup> story is a small covered gallery, between the round towers + beneath the large gable.

To the rear of the house is a large 'L' with 1-story service areas

Presently used as Rectory for Catholic Church.  
fair condition

MTB 1/17/71

## Stables at 514 Camden Avenue

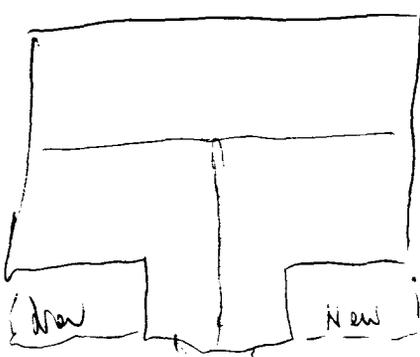
The Stables that housed the horses + equipage of Governor Jackson is ~~is~~ located in the middle of a school yard and used by the Catholic Church as a distribution point for clothing etc.

It is a 1 1/2 story frame structure with ~~the~~ <sup>a 'T'</sup> plan, ~~the~~ Each of its gables is 'clipped' forming a gerkin head roof. To one side of the 'A' roof is a square ~~to~~ spire-like cupola. Beneath it is a small flat headed dormer. 2 small brick flat-roof 'pods' have been reconstructed and the 'T' plan is no longer visible except for the roof. It is in fair condition, though greatly remodelled.

MBS 1/14/71

Wi-35 A

Stables at \$14 Comden Ave -



gerkin head "x" roof -  
frame - slate roof

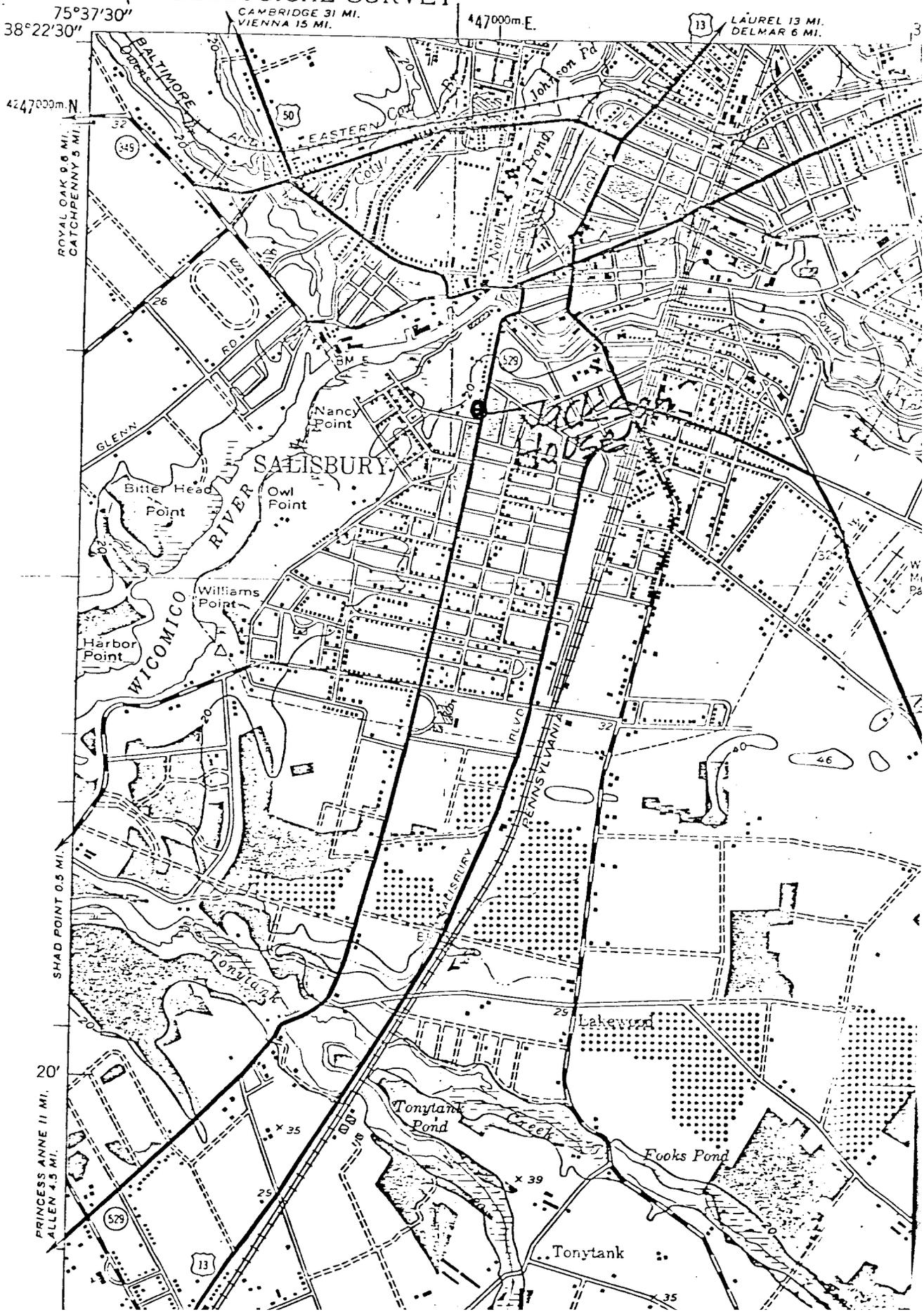
Small-pane window -

Square cupola

MB 6/29<sup>70</sup>

WI. - 35  
Senator Jackson Hse.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Salisbury  
Del.



WI-35



MI-35



Wi-35

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