

WI-362
Old School Baptist Church
Salisbury
Public worship

1913

The Old School Baptist Church is located on the south side of US Route 50 in the heart of Salisbury. Construction of the single-story Colonial Revival brick building was announced in a short article that appeared in the June 19, 1913 issue of *The Wicomico News*. The newspaper stated,

The new brick edifice on East Church street for the Old School Baptists is under roof and carpenters are pushing work on the interior. When completed this will be a very pretty church. Shortly after completion, the church will entertain the Association, and a large number of prominent Baptist Elders and visitors will be present.

Designed with the gable end facing Church Street, the rectangular building is highlighted by wooden cornices that form pediments on the front and rear. Brick quoins accent the corners of the building and round arched openings are filled with colored glass windows. Fixed in the northwest corner of the church is a marble datestone that documents an earlier structure erected in 1820 as well as this recording this building's construction in 1913. City maps printed in 1877 and 1888 indicate that the former church was a single story structure that was oriented to face what is now known as Baptist Street. The church is joined on this city lot by a nineteenth and twentieth century cemetery. The church lot extended to the edge of Humphrey's Lake.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Old School Baptist Church

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-362

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):
Architecture
Religion

 2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

 3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930

 4. Resource Type(s): Church
-

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-362
Magi No.
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old School Baptist Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication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 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" 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 Trustees of the Old School Baptist Church

street & number _____ 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

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio

city, town Salisbury _____ state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. WI-362

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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 Old School Baptist Church is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Baptist Street and East Church Street in the center of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The single-story brick church faces north with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis. The church is situated on a high knoll with steep slopes on the south and west sides.

Built in 1913, the single-story, seven-course common bond brick church is supported on a raised brick foundation with a fully excavated cellar, and the medium pitched gable roof is covered with slate shingles. Located on the south and east sides of the church is a 19th and 20th century cemetery.

The north (main) elevation is a symmetrical facade with a center entrance incorporated in a single story gable-front vestibule, which is flanked by single story shed additions. Fixed in the northwest corner of the church is a marble datestone inscribed, "O. S. Baptist Church, Erected 1820, Rebuilt 1913." The double-door entrance is topped by a round arched colored glass transom. The arched opening is accented with brick pilasters that have molded concrete capitals and bases. There is a marble door sill, and the round arch features a concrete keystone. The gable end is enclosed in the form of a classical pediment and the tympanum is pierced by a lunette window. Located to each side are shed roofed sections marked by pairs of rectangular colored glass windows. Each window opening is fitted with a stone sill and a soldier course arch. The corners of the shed sections are defined in brick quoins. Piercing the upper wall surface of the main church is another lunette window. The main body of the church has corners defined by brick quoins as well.

The east and west sides of the church are largely alike. Cellar windows pierce the foundation wall, and a series of three round arched windows filled with colored glass pierce the sanctuary walls. The arches consist of three-tiers of rowlocks, and each window is fitted with a stone sill. Rising through the east side of the roof is a single-flue brick stove chimney. The base of the roof is enclosed with a boxed cornice.

The south (rear) wall is defined by a projecting apse that is covered by a medium pitched gable roof. Narrow colored glass windows pierce the side walls, and the openings are spanned by jack arches. The base of the apse roof is finished with a boxed cornice, which blends in as a continuation of the main roof cornice that wraps around the back of the building. On the southwest corner a rear door opening is spanned by a jack arch. Directly adjacent to the rear door is a shed roof protection to a cellar entrance.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-362

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 checked="" 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 1913 **Builder/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 Old School Baptist Church is located on the south side of US Route 50 in the heart of Salisbury. Construction of the single-story Colonial Revival brick building was announced in a short article that appeared in the June 19, 1913 issue of *The Wicomico News*. The newspaper stated,

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Designed with the gable end facing Church Street, the rectangular building is highlighted by wooden cornices that form pediments on the front and rear. Brick quoins accent the corners of the building and round arched openings are filled with colored glass windows. Fixed in the northwest corner of the church is a marble datestone that documents an earlier structure erected in 1820 as well as this recording this building's construction in 1913. City maps printed in 1877² and 1888³ indicate that the former church was a single story structure that was oriented to face what is now known as Baptist Street. The church is joined on this city lot by a nineteenth and twentieth century cemetery. The church lot extended to the edge of Humphrey's Lake.

The Old School Baptist Church is an important building in the city streetscape of Salisbury, and it deserves listing in Category A, which identifies buildings of high architectural and historical merit.

¹ *The Wicomico News*, June 19, 1913.

² John L. Graham, *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, pp. 18-19.

³ Sanborn Insurance Map, Salisbury, 1888, Maryland State Archives.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-362

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 5/18/98

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

WI-362
Old School Baptist Church
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

The Wicomico News, June 19, 1913

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W. H. MALONE, Editor of the "Salisbury Crisis" and Publisher of the "Eastern Review."
FRUIT DEALER.
CATHELL, Dealer in, and Grower of Small Fruits. Salisbury, Md.
HOTEL.
TRACY, Proprietor of the "Peninsula Hotel," also of the "Atlantic Hotel," "Oceana City."

Editors.

W. H. MALONE, Editor of the "Salisbury Crisis" and Publisher of the "Eastern Review."

Fruit Dealer.

CATHELL, Dealer in, and Grower of Small Fruits. Salisbury, Md.

Hotel.

TRACY, Proprietor of the "Peninsula Hotel," also of the "Atlantic Hotel," "Oceana City."

MILLS.
GEO. W. LEONARD, Farmer and Proprietor of Saw and Grist Mill. Res. and mill 4 1/2 miles north of Salisbury.
JOHN WILLIAMS, Farmer and Proprietor of Saw and Grist Mill 5 miles north of Salisbury.
GEO. H. W. RUARK, Farmer and Proprietor of "Ruark Mills" 3 miles north of Salisbury. Res. Salisbury.
M. A. PARSONS, Proprietor of S. S. Mill, 2 miles west of Salisbury on Wicomico River. Also Proprietor of Marine Railway.

Mills.

Physician.
Dr. F. M. BLEMONS, Physician and Surgeon.

SALISBURY

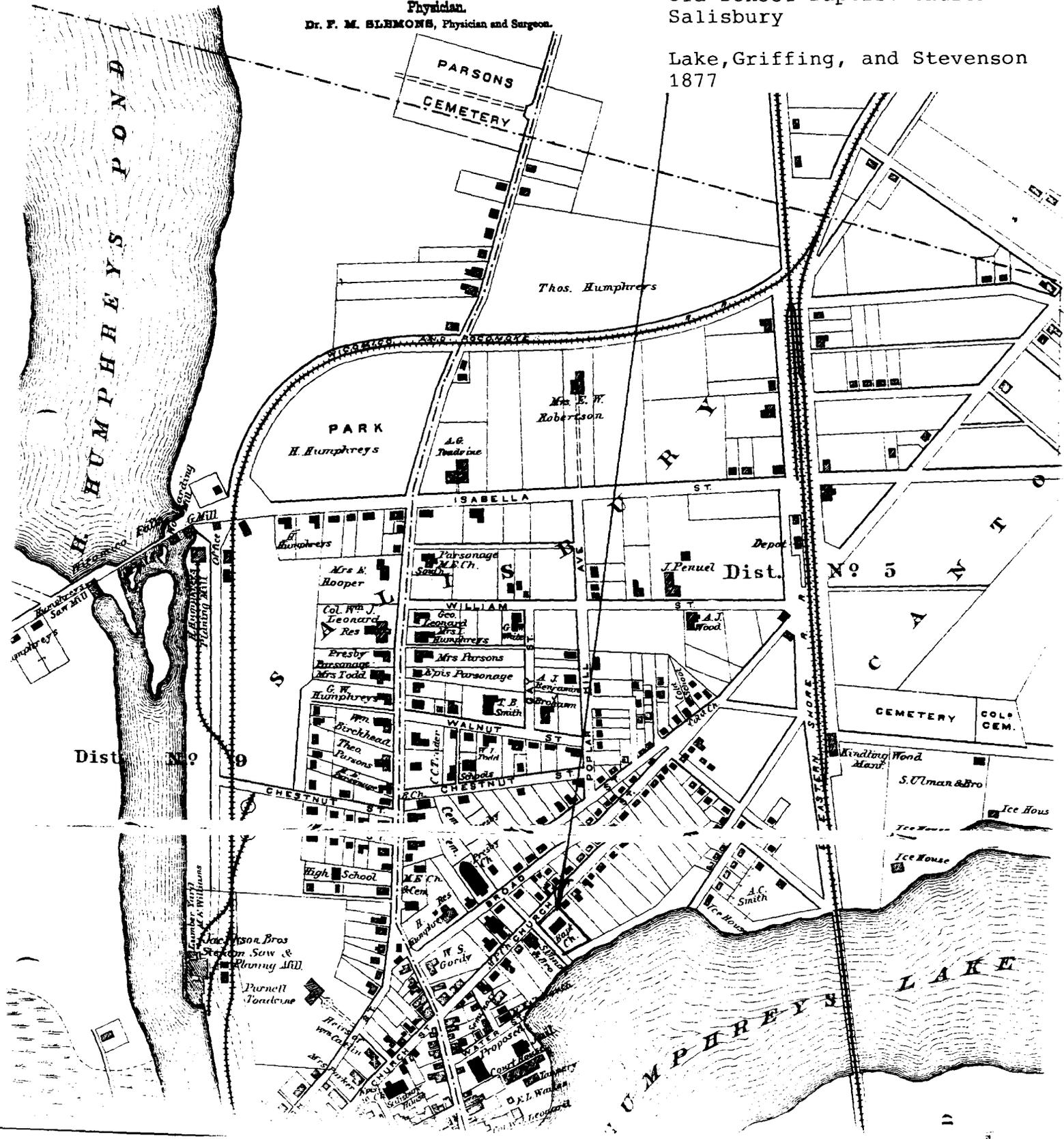
WICOMICO CO.

Dist. Nos 95 & 8

WI-362

Old School Baptist Church
 Salisbury

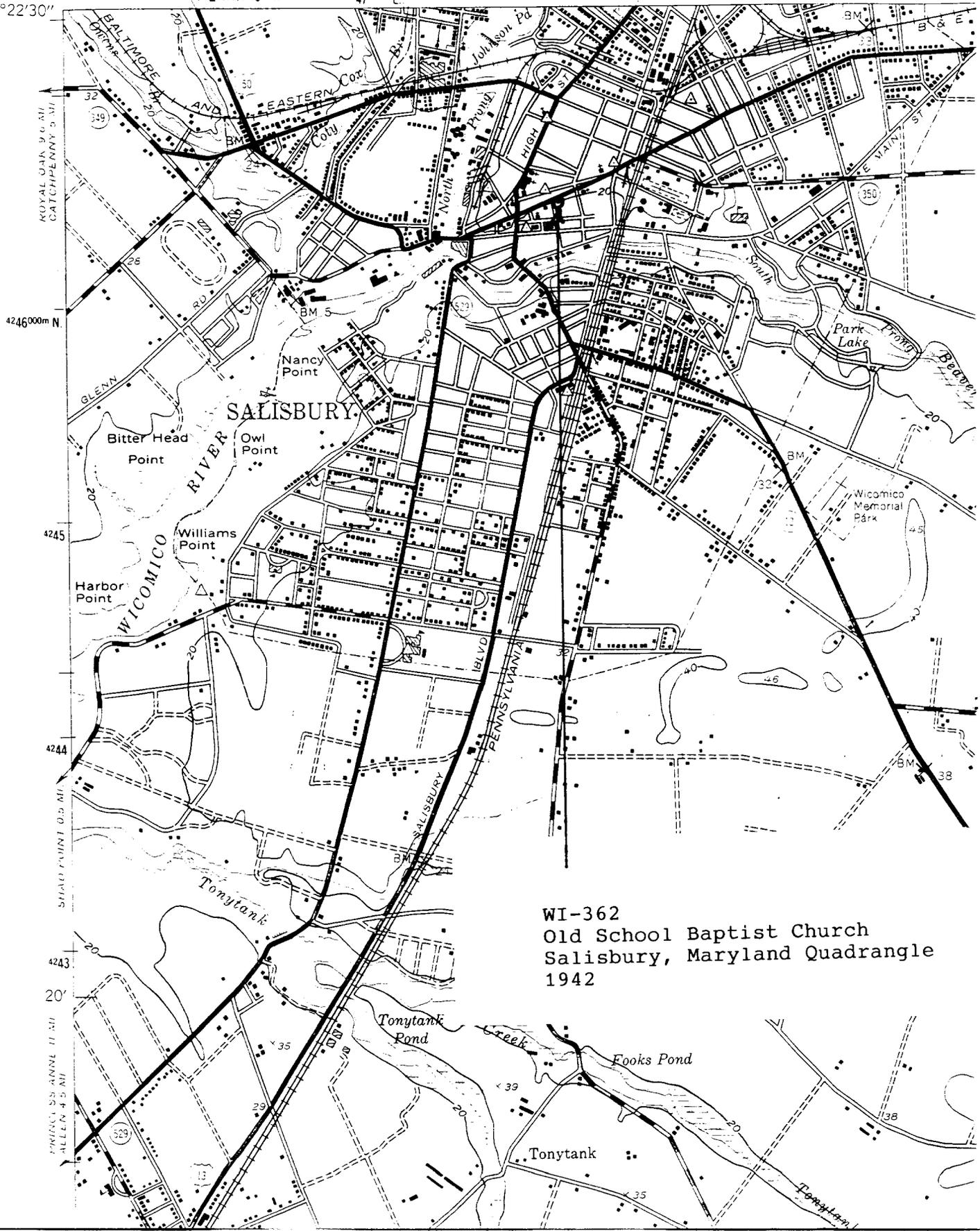
Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson
 1877



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

5890 1 NW
(HEBRON)

75°37'30" 38°22'30" 447000m E 35'



WI-362
Old School Baptist Church
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

ROYAL OAK 9.6 MI
CATCHPENNY 5 MI
4246000m N
4245
4244
4243
20'

PORTAC 55 ANNE 11 MI
ALLEN 4.5 MI



MI-362

Old School PLATIST Church
SALISBURY, WILMINGTON COUNTY, N.C.

North Carolina State Archives

5/99, Paul Thomas, Monticello, Va.

WEC / WIA HISTORICAL TRUST

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WI-362

Old School Baptist Church
Spartanburg, South Carolina

SOUTHEAST CORNER

5/98, Paul Toward, PHOTOGRAPHER

NET FOUND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2 of 3



W1-962

Old Stone Quarry Site -
Jawara, Wisconsin County, 1910
Near elevated

9/98, Paul Towler, Photographer

with photo historical files -

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