

WI-426
Old Asbury M. E. Church Parsonage
Salisbury
Private

c. 1890

Concurrent with the construction of the new Asbury church in 1887-88 was the financing of a new parsonage across the street. The Asbury church parsonage, erected around 1890, is characteristic of late nineteenth-century domestic design with its asymmetrical elevations defined by projecting towers or gabled pavilions. One of the most distinctive architectural elements is the front porch with its spindle brackets and gallery that enriches the turned posts. Small corner brackets also mark the lower corners of the extended eaves that encircle the patterned slate roof. Currently covered with asbestos siding, the house was probably sheathed originally with a mixture of fishscale shingles and horizontal weatherboards. Colored glass was used throughout the house in the upper sash of most windows.

The Asbury congregation owned this North Division Street property since November 1849 when it was acquired from Noah and Elizabeth Rider, however the deed indicates that it was already known at that time as the "parsonage lot." For \$800 Noah and Elizabeth Rider conveyed part of "Pemberton's Good Will" to the "Stewards of the M. E. Church in and for Salisbury Circuit," which included Benjamin J. Jones, Samuel B. D. Jones, Josephus Humphreys, Hugh Jackson, Noah Rider and William Harris." The property remained in the hands of the Methodist Episcopal Church, known as Asbury after 1872, until the mid 1960s.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Old Asbury M. E. Parsonage

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-426

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): Former Parsonage

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

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Asbury Methodist Episcopal Parsonage

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 302 North Division Street not for publication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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Allen North Smith

street & number 302 North Division 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. 955
liber 945

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 760

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-426

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 former Asbury M. E. parsonage is located at 302 North Division Street across the street from the former Asbury M. E. Church. The two-and-a-half story, tee-shaped frame dwelling faces east with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1890, the two-and-a-half story, tee-shaped frame dwelling rests on a raised brick foundation with a partial cellar. The exterior is clad with asbestos shingles, and the steeply pitched roof is covered with slate. Attached to northeast corner of the house is a three-story octagonal tower. A two-story service wing extends to the rear.

The east (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a centrally located entrance flanked on the north by the three-story octagonal tower. The entrance bay, sheltered by a shed roofed porch, is flanked on the south by a two-bay section of front wall that is topped by a cross gable. The front door has been replaced, but a 1970 photograph of the dwelling shows a double-door entrance. The first floor window openings are filled with double-hung sash that have colored glass perimeter panes in the upper sash. Each window is flanked by louvered shutters. Sheltering the first floor is a shed roof porch supported on turned posts and enriched with spindle eave decoration. The porch posts have a wagon-wheel type bracket and a turned spindle handrail. The second floor of the main block is lighted by three windows with colored glass perimeter panes in the upper sash. Piercing the cross gable is a tripartite window with small colored glass panes. The eave of the cross gable is extended, and the lower corners have small bracket supports. The octagonal tower is lighted on three floors by single-pane sash windows with the upper sash enriched with colored glass perimeter panes. The tower roof has an extended eave with exposed rafter ends. Rising off-center through the roof is a brick chimney stack finished with a corbelled caps.

The south side of the house is defined by a two-story projecting pavilion. Paired windows light the first and second floors. Each upper sash window has colored glass perimeter panes. The extended eave of the gable roof has bracket supports in the lower corners.

On the north side of the house there is a two-story, five-sided bay window. Single pane sash windows light the bay, and each upper sash has colored glass perimeter panes. The gable roof has extended eaves with brackets supports under the lower corners. An round arched colored glass window pierces the gable end.

The two-story, two-bay service wing has an interior end brick stove chimney. The north wall is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration with a diamond window piercing the first floor. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story shed roofed addition.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-426

eriod	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"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

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.

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¹ Somerset County Land Record, WP 5/204, November 2, 1849.

² Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 654/460, August 28, 1967.

WI-426
Old Asbury M. E. Church Parsonage
302 North Division Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 107, Parcel 955

945/760 Allen North Smith
 Mary Jeanne Smith

to

8/1/1980 Allen North Smith

AJS 827/454 Everett James Wilcox
 Pamela H. Wilcox

to

9/3/1974 Allen North Smith

JWTS 794/474 Richard H. Smith, Jr.
 Janet T. Smith

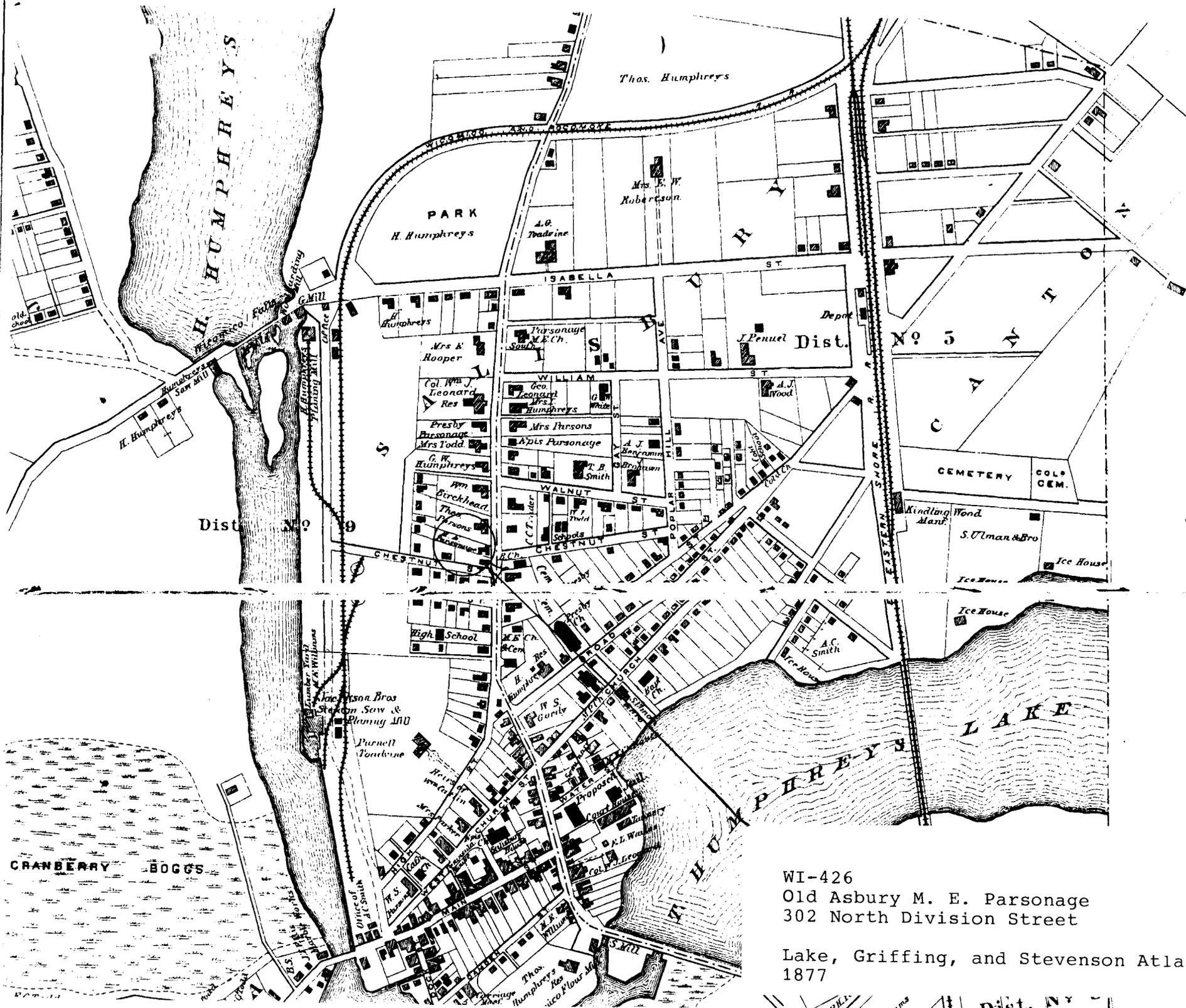
to

6/28/1973 Everett James Wilcox

772/38 Dermott A. O'Neill
 Patricia C. O'Neill

to

9/15/1972 Richard H. Smith, Jr.
 Janet T. Smith



WI-426
 Old Asbury M. E. Parsonage
 302 North Division Street

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
 1877

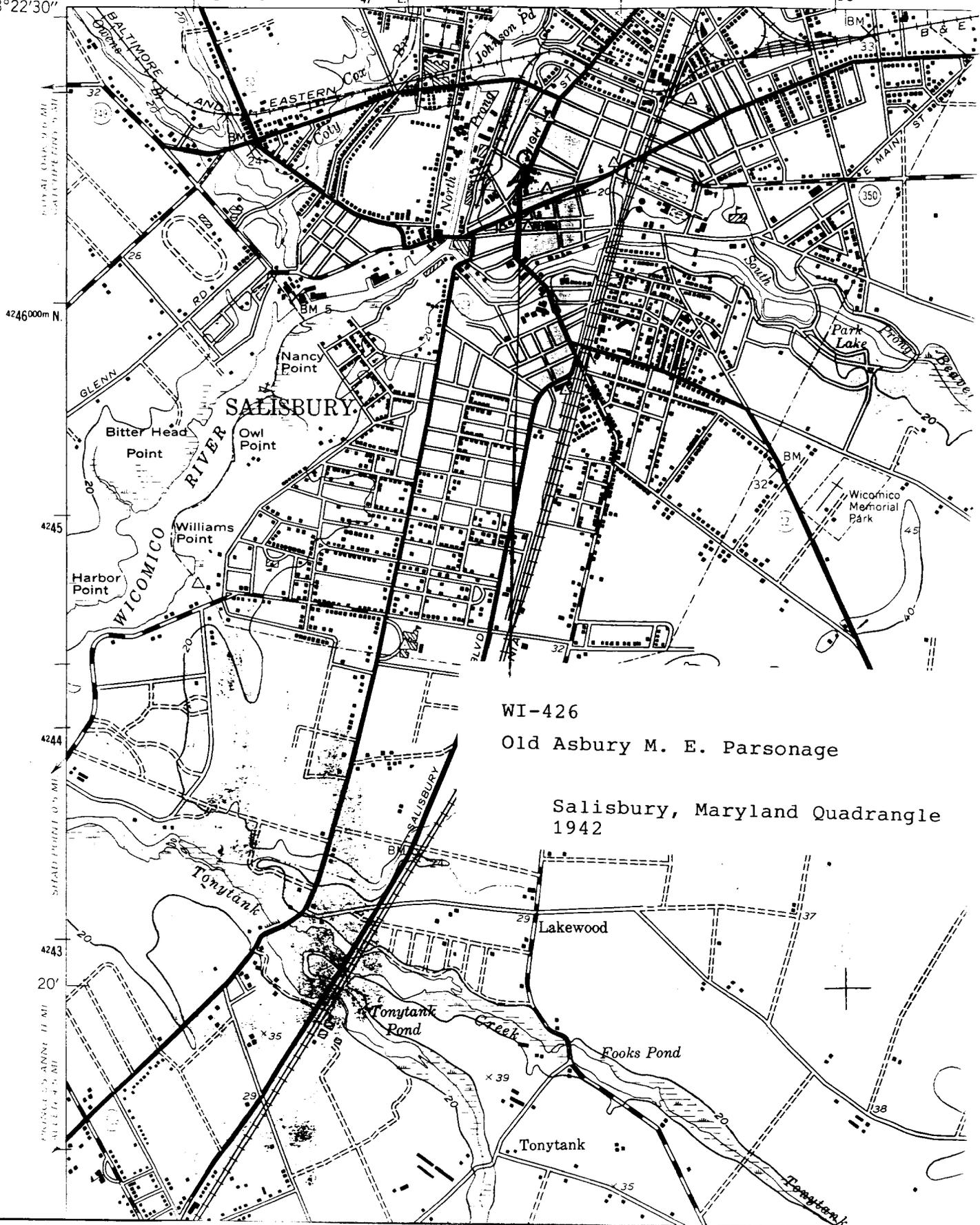
5860 J NW
(HEBRON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

75°37'30"
38°22'30"

447000m E

35'



WI-426

Old Asbury M. E. Parsonage

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

4246000m N

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4244

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