
7. Description

Inventory No. WI-593

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

The Florence Phelps Lowe house stands at 104 Elizabeth Street in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, Queen Anne frame dwelling faces north with the principal roof oriented on a north/south axis. Supported on a raised brick foundation with a partially excavated cellar, the house is sheathed with a combination of plain weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. Standing in the backyard is a single-story, one-bay frame garage.

Built around 1901, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame house was designed with asymmetrical elevations, however the floor plan is based on a traditional side hall/parlor plan. The north (main) façade is an uneven wall surface with a projecting three-sided bay pavilion that fronts a larger gable front. The bay window is pierced by single-pane sash windows on the first and second stories, and each opening is flanked by louvered shutters. A diamond paned window pierces an enclosed gable end pediment atop the three-sided bay. Large rectangular modillion blocks embellish the soffit of the gable end pediment. West of the bay window is a wraparound porch that features a rounded outside corner, and a rectangular baluster handrail. The porch shelters a partially glazed front door featuring applied decorative moldings and a two-pane transom. The second floor is lighted by a single-pane sash window that pierces the wall above the front door. The gable end of the main block is pierced by a pair of small attic windows within a field of fishscale shingles. Piercing the roofline is a narrow brick stack.

The west side of the house is an asymmetrical elevation with a projecting two-story, gable roofed section defined by three windows on the first floor and two on the second. Each window opening is flanked by louvered shutters. Distinguishing the inside corner of the main block and projecting gable roofed section are small colored glass windows that light the stairwell and second floor hall. A multi-paned window pierces the gable end of the enclosed gable within a field of fishscale shingles.

The east side of the main block is distinguished by a two-story bay pavilion topped by an enclosed gable end enhanced by large brackets under the soffit. Fishscale shingles cover the gable end, which is pierced by a two-over-two sash window.

The south (rear) wall is marked by a single-story shed roofed porch supported on chamfered brackets with decorative corner brackets. A small porch is located on the southeast corner of the house and a former door into the dining room has been blocked up.

The interior retains most of its turn of the twentieth century woodwork including a turned baluster oak staircase, bulls-eye block surrounds, and shallow profile four-panel doors. A slate mantel is located in the dining room. The kitchen retains a rear service stair.

The single-story frame garage has a gable roof and vertical board sheathing. The single garage bay pierces the west wall.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-593

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Historically identified as the Florence Phelps Lowe house, or more commonly the Mary Springer Lowe house, this two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling was erected around 1901 on a lot that was formerly part of the Alexander Toadvine property to the south. In March 1901 Ellen L. C. Toadvine sold a lot on Elizabeth Street to Florence Lowe Owens and Mary Springer Lowe for \$400 with payment issued by their mother Florence Lowe, who was identified as their guardian in the transfer.¹ The Queen Anne dwelling was erected soon after by Florence Lowe for herself and her two young daughters.

The house has survived the past century with few changes. True to the popular late nineteenth century style, the floor plan follows an asymmetrical plan based on a side hall/parlor tradition. A variety of plain weatherboards and fishscale shingles cover the uneven wall surfaces that mark each side. The interior boasts much of its original woodwork including an oak, turned baluster staircase, a slate mantel in the dining room as well as bulls-eye block surrounds that frame four-panel doors. A few colored glass windows enhance the house as well.

Mrs. Florence Lowe is listed at 104 Elizabeth Street in the 1907 Salisbury City directory along with daughters Florence W. Lowe, a schoolteacher, and Mary Springer Lowe, a bookkeeper, who worked for the L. W. Gunby Company.² Mary Springer Lowe acquired the interest of her sister Florence in 1919,³ and she retained ownership until her death. The property passed then back to her sister "Wilsie" Lowe Owens. The house and lot remained in family ownership until 1968.⁴

¹ Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 32/46, 4 March 1901.

² 1907 Salisbury, Maryland City Directory, transcribed and published by the Family Tree Bookshop, 1998, p. 33.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 109/597, 1 January 1919.

⁴ Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 680/100, 31 October 1968.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-593

Name Florence Phelps Lowe House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Florence Phelps Lowe House
104 Elizabeth Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

Map 104, Parcel 632

894/7 Roger Neill Carey
Nancy Temperly Carey

to

3/1/1978 Roger Neill Carey
Nancy Temperly Carey

AJS 880/152 Keith Edward Smith
Karen Anne Smith

to

7/21/1977 Roger Neill Carey
Nancy Jean Temperly

JWTS 764/478 William J. Athes, Jr.

to

6/20/1972 Keith Edward Smith

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-593

Name Florence Phelps Lowe House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

JWTS 760/93 Alfred A. Wohlgemuth
Evelyn V. Wohlgemuth

to

4/28/1972 William J. Ahtes, Jr.

JWTS 709/104 Vaughn E. Wilmer
Frances H. Wilmer

to

5/28/1970 Alfred A. Wohlgemuth
Evelyn V. Wohlgemuth

JWTS 680/100 Jean Owens Truitt, et al. (Gerald B. Truitt, Elizabeth Owens Leedom)

to

10/31/1968 Vaughn E. Wilmer
Frances A. Wilmer

JAH 10/459 Last Will and Testament of Wilsie Lowe Owens

to

6/22/1961 Jean Owens Truitt
Elizabeth Owens Leedom

**Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. WI-593

Name Florence Phelps Lowe House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

Last Will and Testament of Mary Springer Lowe

to

3/24/1950

Wilsie Lowe Owens
(the interest of Florence W. Lowe having been acquired by Mary Springer Lowe
on January 1, 1919, JCK 109/597

JTT 32/46

Ellen L. C. Toadvine

to

3/4/1901

Florence Lowe Owens
Mary Springer Lowe

\$400 paid by Florence Lowe guardian of Florence W. Lowe and Mary
Springer Lowe

JTT 9/338

Alexander G. Toadvine

to

8/9/1892

Ellen L. C. Toadvine

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-593

Personal phone conversation with Elizabeth Owens Leedom, 7 June 2001.

Personal Interview with Nancy Carey, 15 May 2001

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 6,696 square feet

Acreage of historical setting 6,696 square feet

Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart		
organization	Private Consultant	date	5/15//2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

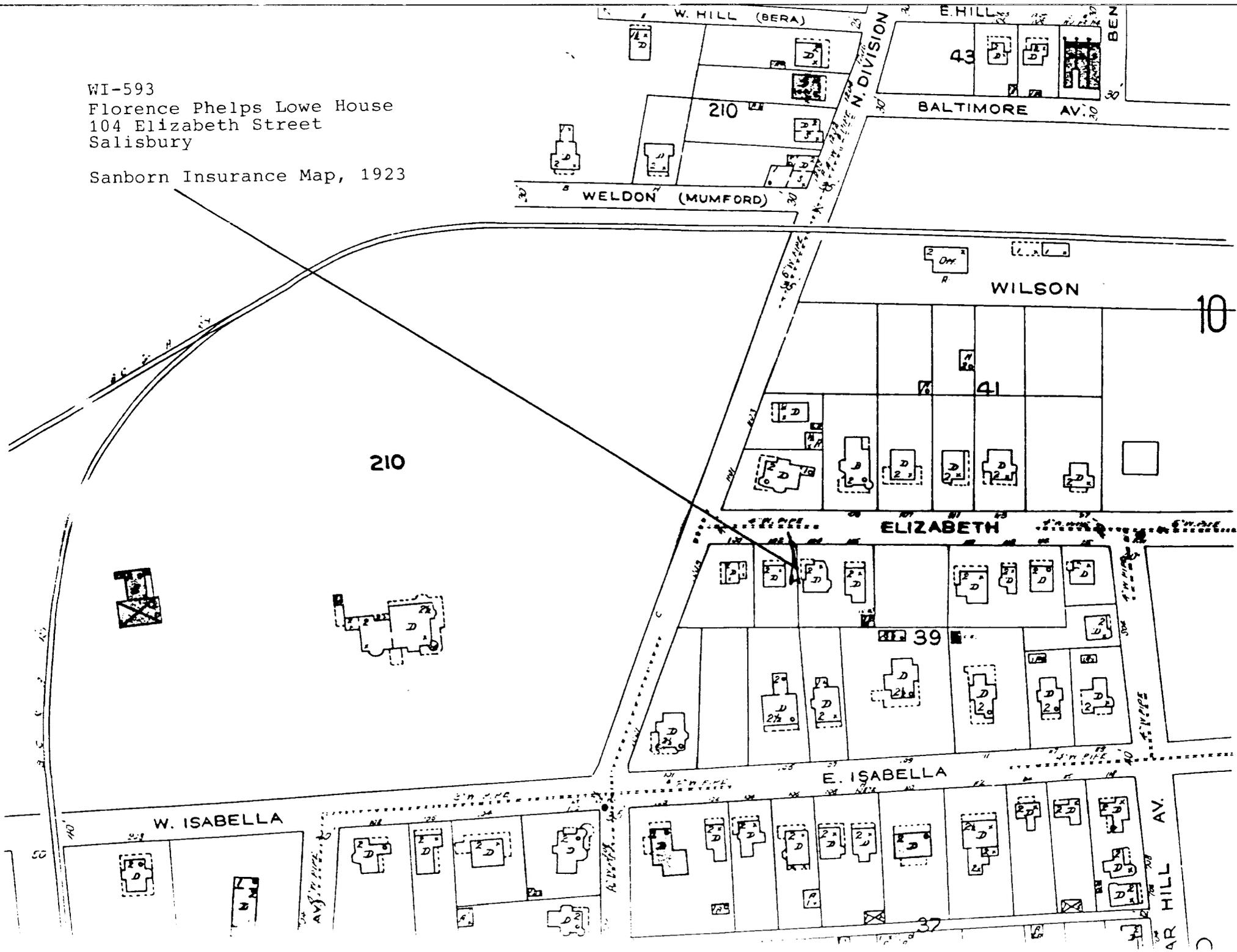
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

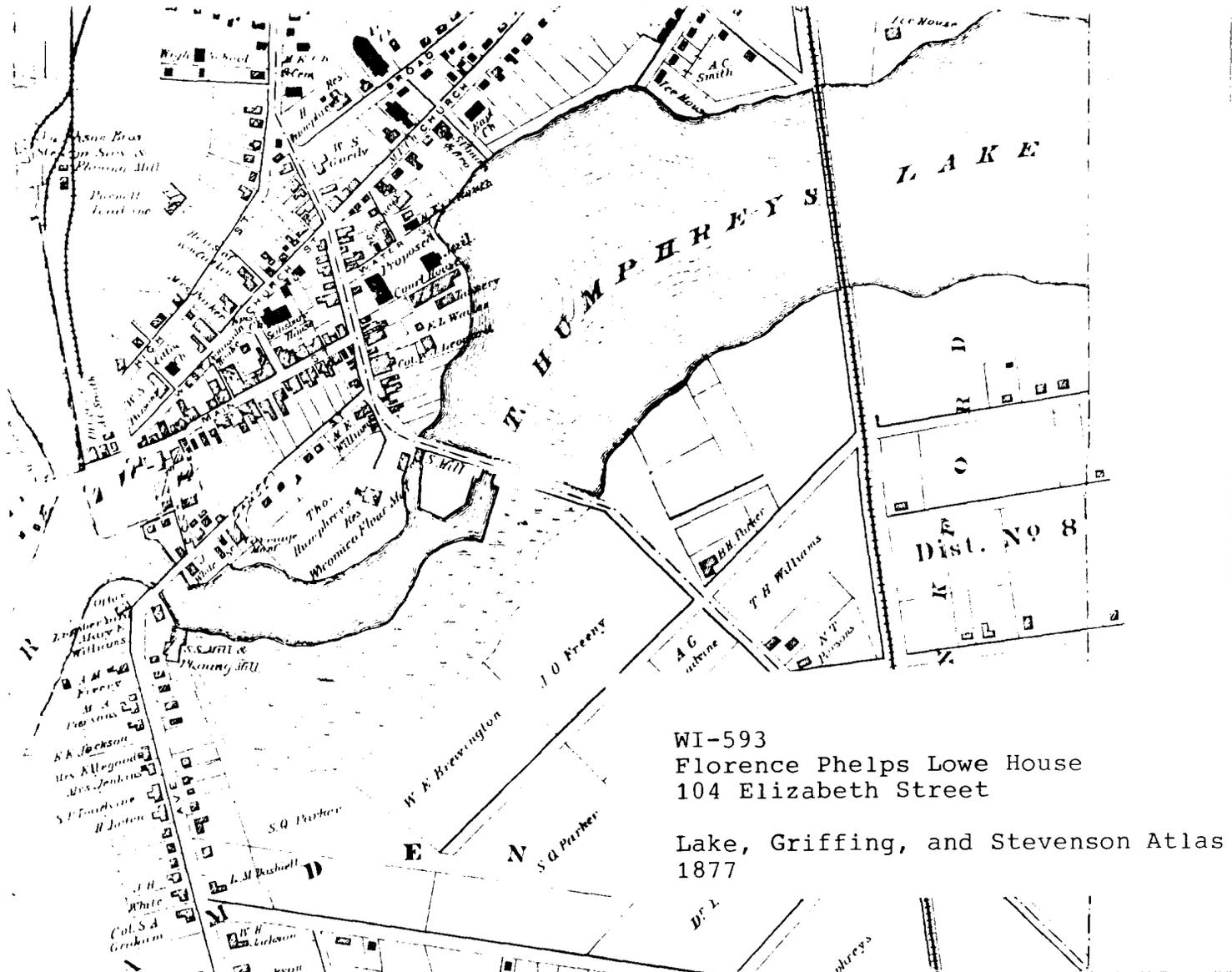
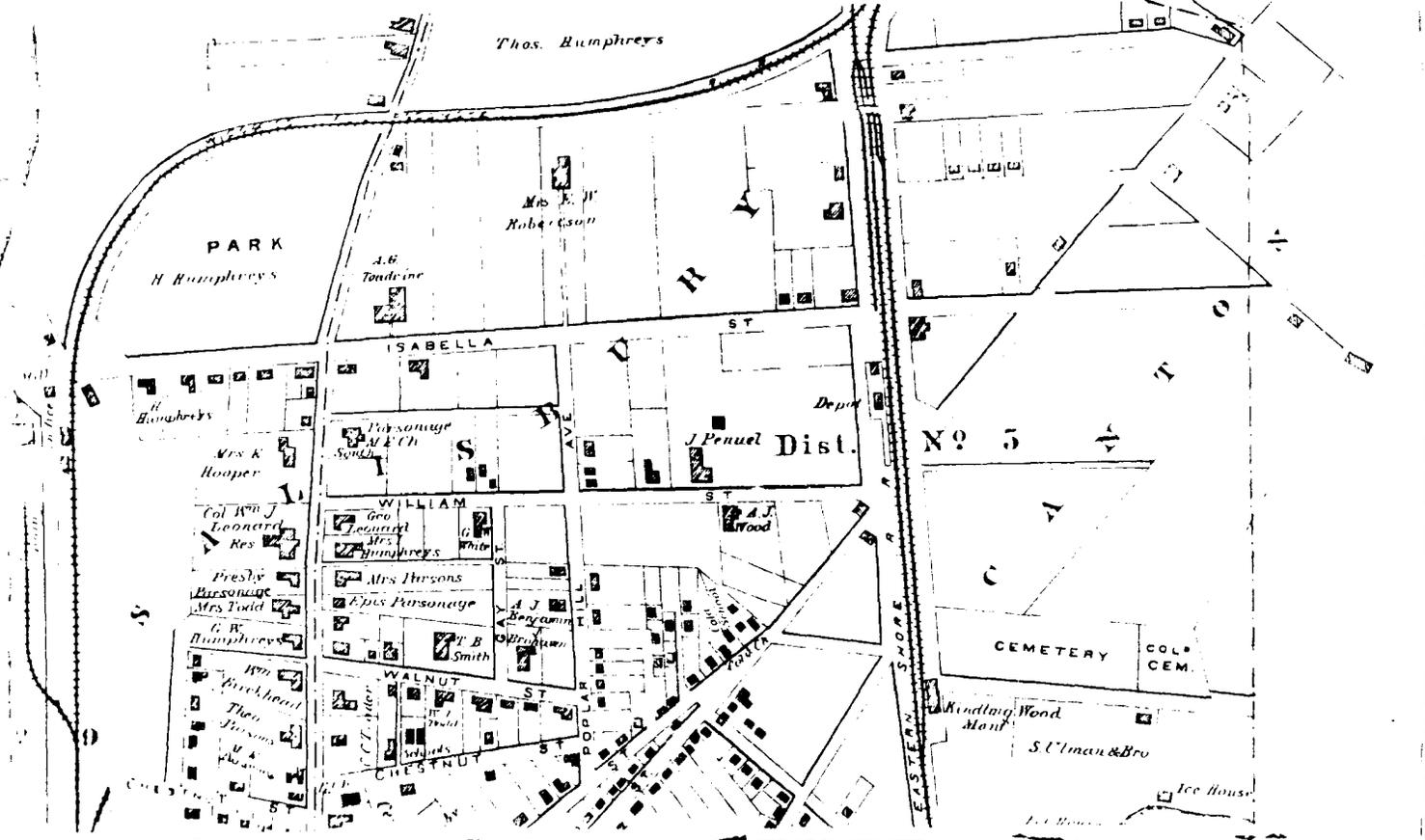
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

WI-593
Florence Phelps Lowe House
104 Elizabeth Street
Salisbury

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1923





WI-593
 Florence Phelps Lowe House
 104 Elizabeth Street

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
 1877



WI-593

Florence Phipps Love House
Springfield, Wilkes Co., N.C.

NOOR ELEVATION

5/01, Paul Tourant, photographer
N.C. / N.C. HISTORICAL TRUST

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