

WI-61
L. W. Gunby House
Salisbury
Private

1888

Salisbury hardware merchant L. W. Gunby financed construction of this elaborately detailed Queen Anne dwelling following the construction of his new three-and-a-half story storefront located in the heart of Main Street's commercial district. The *Salisbury Advertiser* announced on June 2, 1888 that

Work has begun this week on a new building on Camden Ave. for Mr. L. W. Gunby. The building will be somewhat after the style of Jno. White's new one now in the course of erection on Division street, and will when completed cost between three and four thousand dollars. The work will not be by contract, but under the direct supervision of Mr. Gunby himself. Mr. Lankford is doing the brick work.

As reflected in this house as well as the hardware store, Mr. Gunby preferred intricately crafted Victorian designs filled with a variety of layered architectural decoration. The Camden Avenue residence was executed with steeply pitched gable roofs, several of which are enriched with incised woodwork executed in a stylized floral motif. The south gable incorporates a third floor balcony. Hallmarks of the Queen Anne style include the overall asymmetrical design and the multifaceted layers of architectural woodwork. The incised floral panels within three gable fronts contrast with the paneled frieze that encircles the main block. Another decorative feature is the shed roofed dormer that has triangular panels worked into each side.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-61

Name L. W. Gunby House
Continuation Sheet

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7. Description

Inventory No. WI-61

Condition

excellent	deteriorated
good	ruins
<u>x</u> fair	altered

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

The L. W. Gunby house stands at 507 Camden Avenue at the northern end of the Camden Historic District in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The large two-and-a-half story frame dwelling faces west with the main gable roof oriented on a north/south axis. The house has been converted into apartments.

Built in 1888, the two-and-a-half story, asymmetrical Victorian dwelling is supported on a raised brick foundation and the exterior is clad with a combination of wood shingles and decorative fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched gable roofs are covered with brown asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story rear wing.

The west (main) facade is an asymmetrical five-bay elevation with a projecting center pavilion topped by a steeply pitched gable roof. A second, much larger gable tops the northern two bays, while a shed roofed dormer marks the roof on the south side of the center pavilion. The first floor of the five-bay facade is sheltered by a single-story square columned porch that projects forward across the center three bays. The center entrance has a been replaced with a fully glazed door, and single-pane sash windows are located to each side. Fixed atop the porch is a square baluster railing the provides a deck accessed through second floor doors on each side of the center pavilion. Single-pane sash windows fill the other three bays. The top of the wall surface under the cornice is finished in decorative woodwork as a paneled frieze. Filling the center gable is a decorated tympanum enriched with incised woodwork in stylized floral designs. The tympanum is recessed within the gable end. The larger adjacent gable is treated in a similar fashion with a combination of the stylized floral forms fixed in the upper gable and the lower section sheathed with fishscale shingles. A paired window pierces the center of the gable front and a secondary, more modern window has been cut through the lower left (north) corner. The shed roofed dormer on the south side of the roof has a paired set of single-pane sash windows. A flared surround flanks the dormer windows.

The north side of the main block is dominated by a pair of two-story pavilions topped by pointed gables. The northwest pavilion has a five-sided exterior sheathed with a combination of decorative rectangular panels and fishscale shingles. Each face of the bay is pierced by a single-pane sash window. The top of the pavilion has decorative corner brackets enriched with center pendant drops. The gable end of the roof is covered with fishscale shingles around a single-pane sash attic window. The northeast pavilion is a square sided structure with tripartite single-pane sash windows on the north face and e single-pane sash windows on each side. The top of the pavilion is capped by a steeply pitched gable roof pierced by a single

(Continued)

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window framed by fishscale shingles. Rising between the pavilions to pierce the roof is an interior brick stack finished with a decorative cap.

The south side of the main block is dominated by two-story pavilions as well. The southwest pavilion has squared sides, and tripartite windows mark the south wall. The top of pavilion features a third floor balcony incorporated within the gable front roof. The roof is supported by turned posts, and the gable front is finished with decorative, incised woodwork.

The east (rear) wall is largely covered by the two-story service wing, which is finished in a plain fashion in contrast to the main block.

The interior was not seen.

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8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-61

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy
x1800-1899	x architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
1900-1999	art	entertainment/ recreation	landscape architecture	religion
2000-	commerce	ethnic heritage	law	science
	communications	exploration/ settlement	literature	social history
	community planning		maritime history	transportation
	conservation		military	other:

Significance dates

Architect

Specific dates 1888

Builder

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Salisbury hardware merchant L. W. Gunby financed construction of this elaborately detailed Queen Anne dwelling following the construction of his new three-and-a-half story storefront located in the center of Main Street's commercial district. The *Salisbury Advertiser* announced on June 2, 1888 that

Work has begun this week on a new building on Camden Ave. for Mr. L. W. Gunby. The building will be somewhat after the style of Jno. White's new one now in the course of erection on Division street, and will when completed cost between three and four thousand dollars. The work will not be by contract, but under the direct supervision of Mr. Gunby himself. Mr. Lankford is doing the brick work.¹

As reflected in this house as well as the hardware store, Mr. Gunby preferred intricately crafted Victorian designs filled with a variety of layered architectural decoration. The Camden Avenue residence was executed with steeply pitched gable roofs, several of which are enriched with incised woodwork executed in a stylized floral motif. The south gable

¹ Salisbury Advertiser, June 2, 1888.

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Number 8 Page 2

incorporates a third floor balcony. Hallmarks of the Queen Anne style include the overall asymmetrical design and the multifaceted layers of architectural woodwork. The incised floral panels within three gable fronts contrasts with the paneled frieze that encircles the main block. Another decorative fixture is the shed roofed dormer that has triangular panels worked in each side.

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-61

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

city or town Westover, 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
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type: Standing Structure

Category: House

Historic Environment: Residential District

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic

Known Design Source:

Salisbury Advertiser, June 2, 1888

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Salisbury Advertiser, June 9, 1888

Sharptown, June 6, 1888

Having occasion recently to travel from Sharptown, near the "Delaware line," to Vienna causway (sic), we saw many improvements that deserve special notice. In the first place the route is considerably shortened by the new road leading out from town, crossing Plum creek in a direct line, instead of winding up by the mill. Nothing special after this until we arrived at Riverton. There we saw many changes and improvements. The liquor business that long infested and contaminated that place has stopped and near the once desecrated "whiskey shop" now stands a beautiful church, an ornament to the town and a credit to the people of the place and the surrounding community. These people are on the ascending scale and the very fact of their locality should inspire them to build up the town and utilize their resources and thereby enhance their business prosperity. They have a superior advantage in their school building being one of the best in the county, outside of Salisbury, and children enough, within traveling distance, to support it.

A steam saw-mill is the chief labor giving improvement and a cannery is in contemplation for this season. Farmers and land owners in this section are beginning to turn their attention more to the cultivation of land, and this wharf, instead of being the centre of a large lumber and cord-wood trade, as it formerly was, is one of the largest, if not THE largest, fruit and berry shipping point on the Nanticoke river. Leaving here we find signs of industry and progress all along the road and at Spring Grove, just below Riverton, there is a vast change. A large cannery, a church, store-house, shoe shop, and several new dwellings, together with the level and admirable *terra firma*, indicate the site of a future town. Here, too, is one of the finest mineral springs in the county. In this locality there are special agricultural advancements. Land, which only a few years ago was thickly set in timber with a dense undergrowth, is now in a good state of cultivation, in spacious fields with thrifty orchards, and handsome and convenient residences. The land is well drained and good crops are grown of corn, wheat, potatoes, fruit, and berries. The people are beginning to realize their natural advantages and that their success is in the utilization of the land and in the propagation of such fruit and vegetables as are best adapted to the soil and climate. These signs of progression are all along down to the causeway. The changes and advancements are indeed commendable, and the general appearance is admirable compared with that of a few years back. These people should have encouragement and should be supplied with better transportation facilities.

WI-61
L. W. Gunby House
507 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 111, Parcel ???

1490/830

The Meridan Company

to

5/10/1996

Graham-Shores, Inc.
P. O. Box 2796, Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Lot No. 1, Survey for Camden Apartments, Inc.
4/14/1930, IDT 161/436

1225/222

The Meridan Company

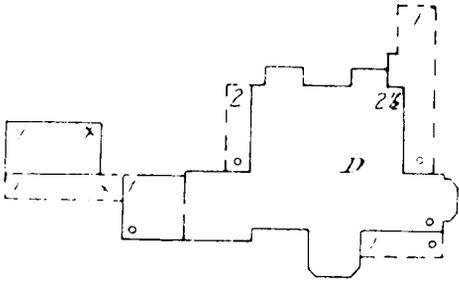
to

7/24/1990

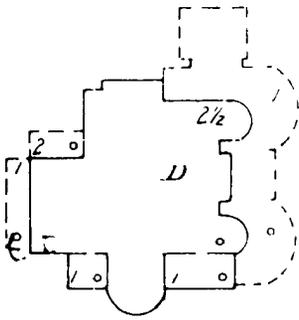
Philip L. Katzung, C. Dale Janney, Trustees for the
Community Development of the State of Maryland

WI-61
L. W. Gunby House

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1899



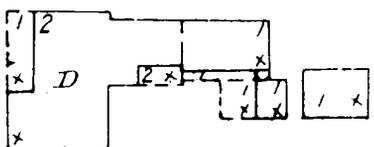
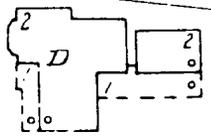
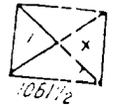
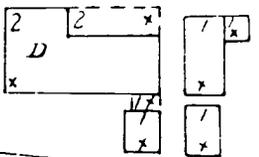
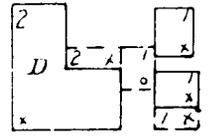
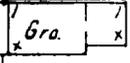
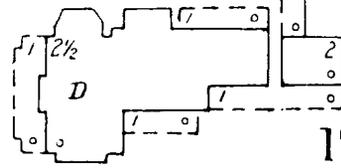
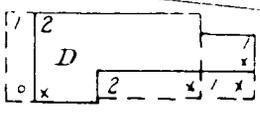
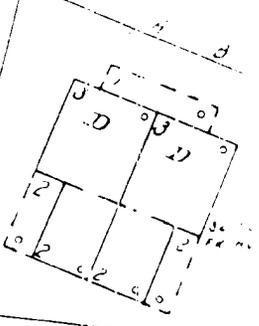
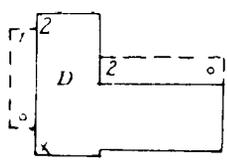
16A

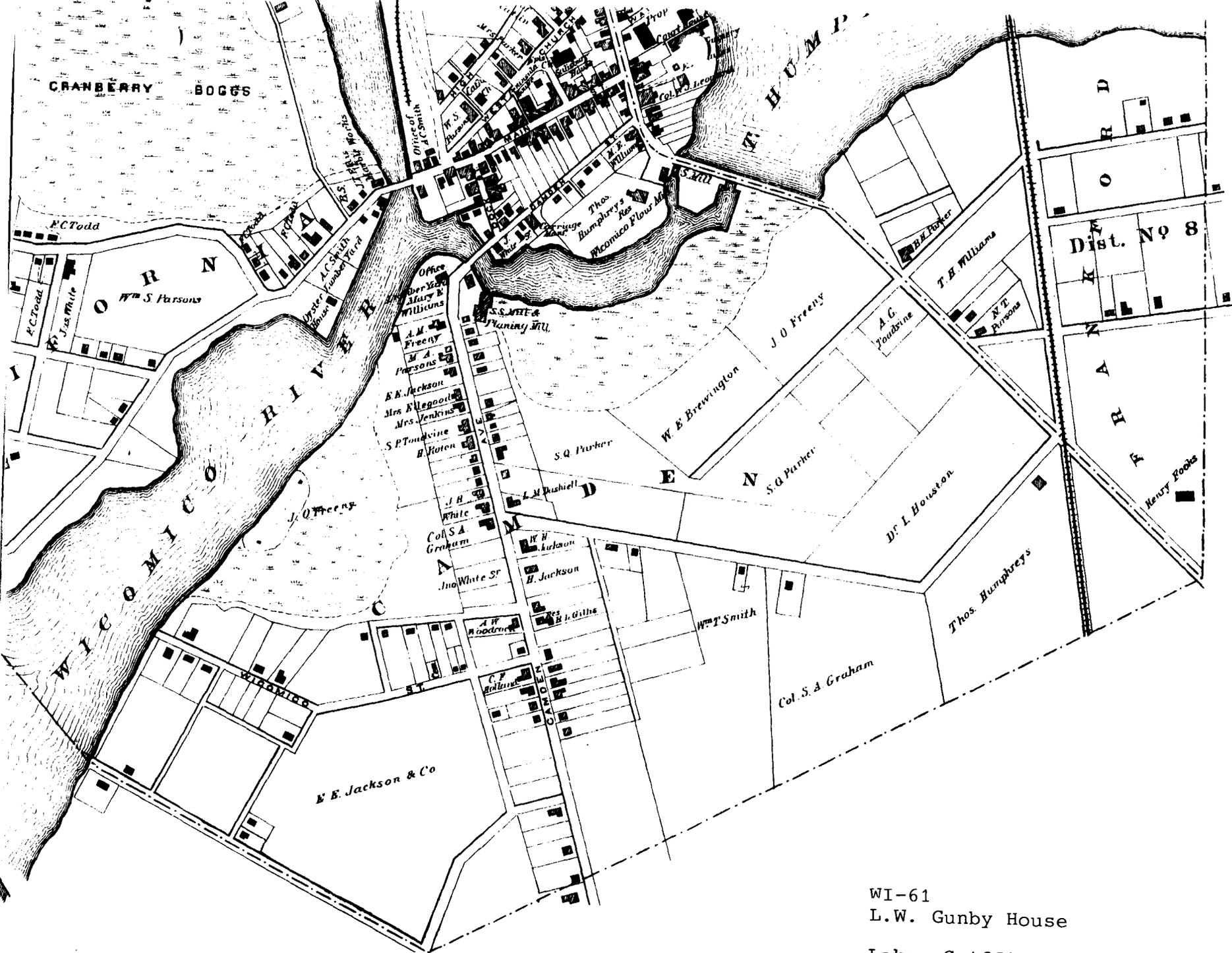


17A

35'
1055
1054
1053
1052
1051
1050
1049
1048
25'

AV.
GARDEN





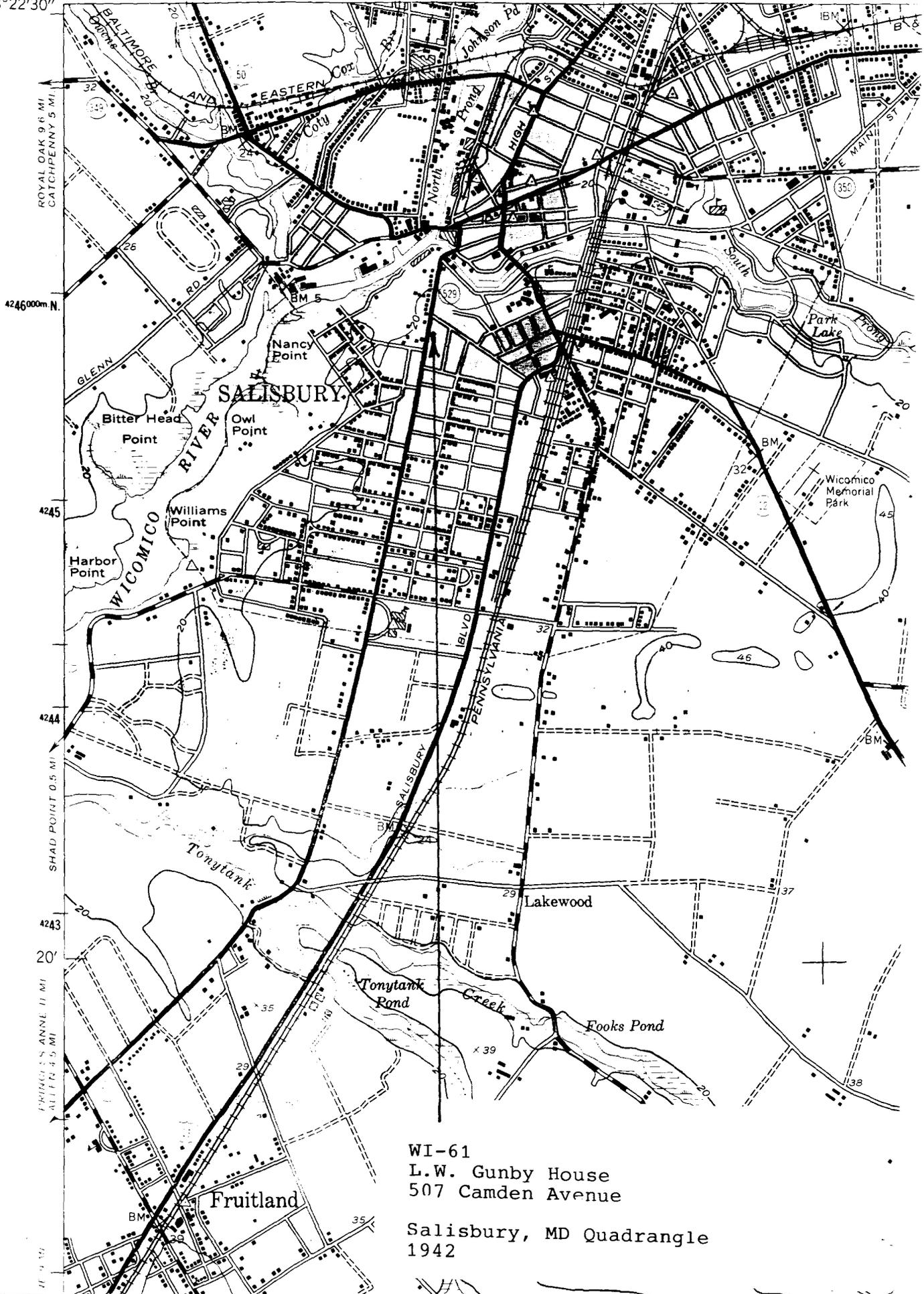
WI-61
L.W. Gunby House

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877

60 LNW
HEBRON

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

75°37'30" CAMBRIDGE 31 MI. VIENNA 15 M. 447000m E. LAUREL 13 M. DELMAP 6 M. 38°22'30" 35'



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L.W. Gunby House
507 Camden Avenue

Salisbury, MD Quadrangle
1942







WI-61

L. W. GUNBY HOUSE
SALISBURY, WICOMICO CO., MD.
WEST ELEVATION

3/2000, PAUL TOWLER, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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WI-61

Late 19th Century

2 1/2 Story Queen Anne Style House
507 Camden Avenue
Salisbury
SALISBURY quad

One of the outstanding Queen Anne style houses of Salisbury stands near the Governor Jackson house on Camden Avenue. Its tall, multi-gabled exterior is brown shingle with grey trim. A one-story porch extends across the street facade, the rear of which forms a deck on the 2nd story. Part of the 2nd story is covered by a pedimented gable issuing out of the main gable of the facade. On the south side are two "piles" of bay windows, the one nearest the street having a 3rd story gallery with high gable. Beneath the main overhang of the roof, in the place of the cornice, is a wide band of panels surrounding the house. In the gables are panels of incised decoration, decorative shingles, and semi-exposed bracing members, in the stick-style.

The building is in fair condition and is used as an apartment building.

MOB 1/14/71

507 Camden Avenue

2 1/2 story Queen Anne style

trim painted gray

paneled cornice

incised and shingle design gables - porches

bracketed gable

porch on facade

Apartments

(notes)
MOB 6/70

507 Camden Avenue, Salisbury

One of the outstanding ^{Queen Anne} ~~single~~ style houses of Salisbury stands near the Governor Jackson house on Camden Avenue. Its tall multi gabled exterior is brown shingle with grey trim. A one-story porch extends across the street facade, the roof of which forms a deck on 2nd story. Part of the 2nd story is covered by a pedimented gable issuing out of the main gable of the facade. On the south side there are two 'piles' of bay windows, the one ~~to~~ nearest the street having a 3rd story gallery with high gable. Beneath the main overhang of the roof, in the place of the cornice, is a wide band of panels surrounding the house. On the gables are panels of incised decoration ~~and~~, decorative shingles, and semi-exposed bracing members, in the ^{stick style} ~~gabled~~.

The building is in fair condition + is used as an apartment building.

MOTB 1/14/71

wi-61

507 Camden Ave.

2^{1/2} story ^{Queen Anne} ~~Shingle~~ style -

trim painted gray

paneled cornice -

incised ^{vs shingle} design - gables -
porches

bracketed gable -

porch on facade -

Apt. 5

MOB 6/70



WI-61

507 Camden Ave., Salisbury.

1974

to lot - 1921