

WI-636  
Wilsie Lowe Owens House  
Salisbury  
Private

c. 1915

Distinctive architectural features date the construction of this East Isabella Street residence to the early twentieth century. Supported on a rock-faced concrete block foundation, the two-story, gable-front frame dwelling is accented with a wide eave defined by elongated modillion blocks grouped in pairs. Similar block cornices are found on other early twentieth-century dwellings such as the Fred P. Adkins house on Park Avenue (See WI-588), which was erected in 1908. Also enhancing the main façade is a front door enriched with a leaded glass panel, and the door is set within a neoclassical surround. The side hall/parlor plan dwelling is also defined by distinctive hip roofed dormers and a bay window on the east side.

Construction of this mid-sized gable front house with Colonial Revival detailing occurred around 1915 during the ownership of Uriah W. Dickerson, who financed the prominent two-story Colonial Revival brick house next door in 1912. (See WI-459) This gable-front dwelling replaced an older house on the same site, which is indicated in outline on the Sanborn Insurance map printed in 1911. By the time the updated map was issued five years later in 1916, the present house has been erected. In 1918 Uriah W. Dickerson and his wife Mary P. Dickerson transferred the house and lot to Wilsie Lowe Owens, the wife of H. Winter Owens, who is listed in the 1907 Salisbury City directory as assistant postmaster. The property remained in the hands of Wilsie Lowe Owens until the early 1960s, and family heirs retained ownership until the early 1970s.



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## 7. Description

Inventory No. WI-636

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

The Wilsie Lowe Owens house stands at 102 East Isabella Street in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, sidehall/parlor plan frame dwelling faces north with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1915, the two-story, three-bay by two-bay frame dwelling is supported on a rusticated concrete block foundation, and the exterior is clad with vinyl siding. The steeply pitched gable-front roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-and-a-half story service wing.

The north (main) façade is a three-bay elevation with a side entrance and a flanking fifteen-over-one sash window to the west (right). The door has a leaded glass panel above the lock rail, and the doorway is framed by a neoclassical surround with plain pilasters and entablature. The adjacent window is trimmed with a slight crown molding across the lintel. Sheltering the first floor is a single story, square post porch featuring a square baluster handrail between posts. The second floor is lighted by three nine-over-one sash windows. The gable end is finished with an enclosed pediment trimmed with a wide eave and paired blocks. Typical of the early twentieth century the paired blocks are elongated. Piercing the gable end is a set of paired six-over-one sash windows.

The east side features a single-story bay window that occupies the northern of the two bays, while nine-over-one sash windows fill the other openings. Each of the window openings has a molded lintel. The east side of the roof is marked by a pair of hip roofed dormers.

The west side, on the other hand, is defined by a series of four nine-over-one sash windows set in close spacing, and an exterior/interior brick stack rises against the gable end. The chimney stack above the level of the roof has been removed. The roof is defined by a pair of hip roofed dormers.

The two-story service wing features some of the same features and is extended by a two-story porch off the southwest corner. Hip roofed dormers light the attic.

The interior was not seen.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-636

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
<b>Construction dates</b>	

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.)

Distinctive architectural features date the construction of this 102 East Isabella Street residence to the early twentieth century. Supported on a rock-faced concrete block foundation, the two-story, gable-front frame dwelling is accented with a wide eave defined by elongated modillion blocks grouped in pairs. Similar blocks cornices are found on other early twentieth century dwellings such as the Fred Adkins house on Park Avenue (See WI-588), which was erected in 1908. Also enhancing the main façade is a front door enriched with a leaded glass panel, and the door is set within a neoclassical surround. The side hall/parlor plan dwelling is also defined by distinctive hip roofed dormers and a bay window on the east side.

Construction of this mid sized gable-front house with Colonial Revival detailing occurred around 1915 during the ownership of Uriah W. Dickerson, who erected the prominent two-story Colonial Revival brick dwelling on the corner of North Division and East Isabella Street in 1912 (See WI-459).<sup>1</sup> This house replaced an older structure on the site, which is shown in an outline drawn for the Sanborn Insurance map printed in 1911.<sup>2</sup> By the time the updated map was issued five years later in 1916, the present house had been erected.<sup>3</sup> In 1918 Uriah W. Dickerson and his wife Mary P. Dickerson transferred the house and lot to Wilsie Lowe Owens, the wife of H. Winter Owens,<sup>4</sup> who is listed in the 1907 Salisbury City directory as assistant postmaster.<sup>5</sup> The property remained in the hands of Wilsie Lowe Owens until the early 1960s,<sup>6</sup> and the family heirs retained ownership until the early 1970s.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Paul Baker Touart, Maryland Historical Trust survey form, WI459, Uriah W. Dickerson house.

<sup>2</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911, microfilm at the Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.

<sup>3</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map, 1916, microfilm at the Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.

<sup>4</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 109/458, 21 November 1918.

<sup>5</sup> Salisbury City Directory, 1907, printed in transcription by Family Tree Bookshop, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>6</sup> Wicomico County Will Book, JAH 10/459, 22 June 1961.

<sup>7</sup> Wicomico County Will Book, JWTS 803/94, 11 October 1973.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-636

Name H. Winter Owens House

### Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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Wilsie Lowe Owens House  
102 East Isabella Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 107, Parcel 675

1384/878 Lawrence M. Callahan  
Katherine A. Callahan

to

3/25/1994 Elizabeth Anne Sur

AJS 1047/435 Christopher L. Barnes  
Ann Marie A. Barnes

to

9/30/1985 Lawrence M. Callahan  
Katherine A. Callahan

AJS 918/587 Maurice D. Barber  
Joyce M. Barber

to

4/19/1979 Christopher L. Barnes  
Ann Marie A. Barnes

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

Inventory No. WI-636

Name H. Winter Owens House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

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JWTS 803/94

Elizabeth O. Leedom

to

10/11/1973

Maurice D. Barber

725/514

C. Gregory Truitt, et al.

to

1/21/1971

Elizabeth O. Leedom

Will Book  
JAH 10/459

Last Will and Testament of  
Wilsie Lowe Owens

to

6/22/1961

Elizabeth O. Leedom  
part interest

JCK 109/458

Uriah W. Dickerson

to

11/26/1918

Wilsie Lowe Owens  
\$6,000

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

Inventory No. WI-636

Name H. Winter Owens House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 3

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EAT 53/507

Gordon Hooper

to

3/21/1907

Uriah W. Dickerson  
\$5,000 and assumption of a mortgage

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. WI-636

Sanborn Insurance Maps, various issues.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 5,688 square feet

Acreage of historical setting 5,688 square feet

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

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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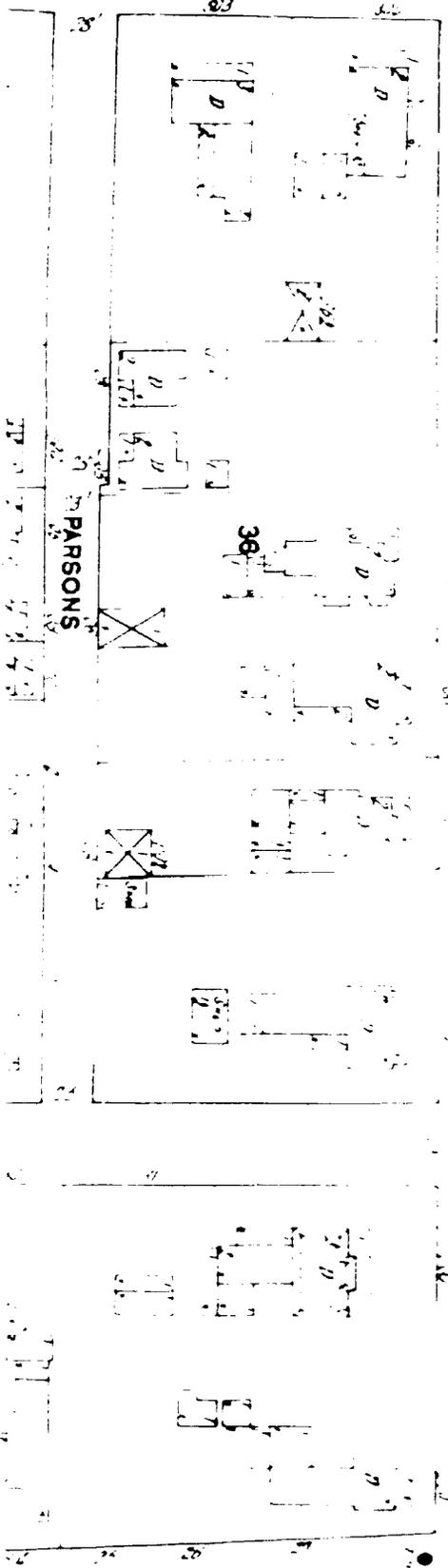
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	10/10/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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

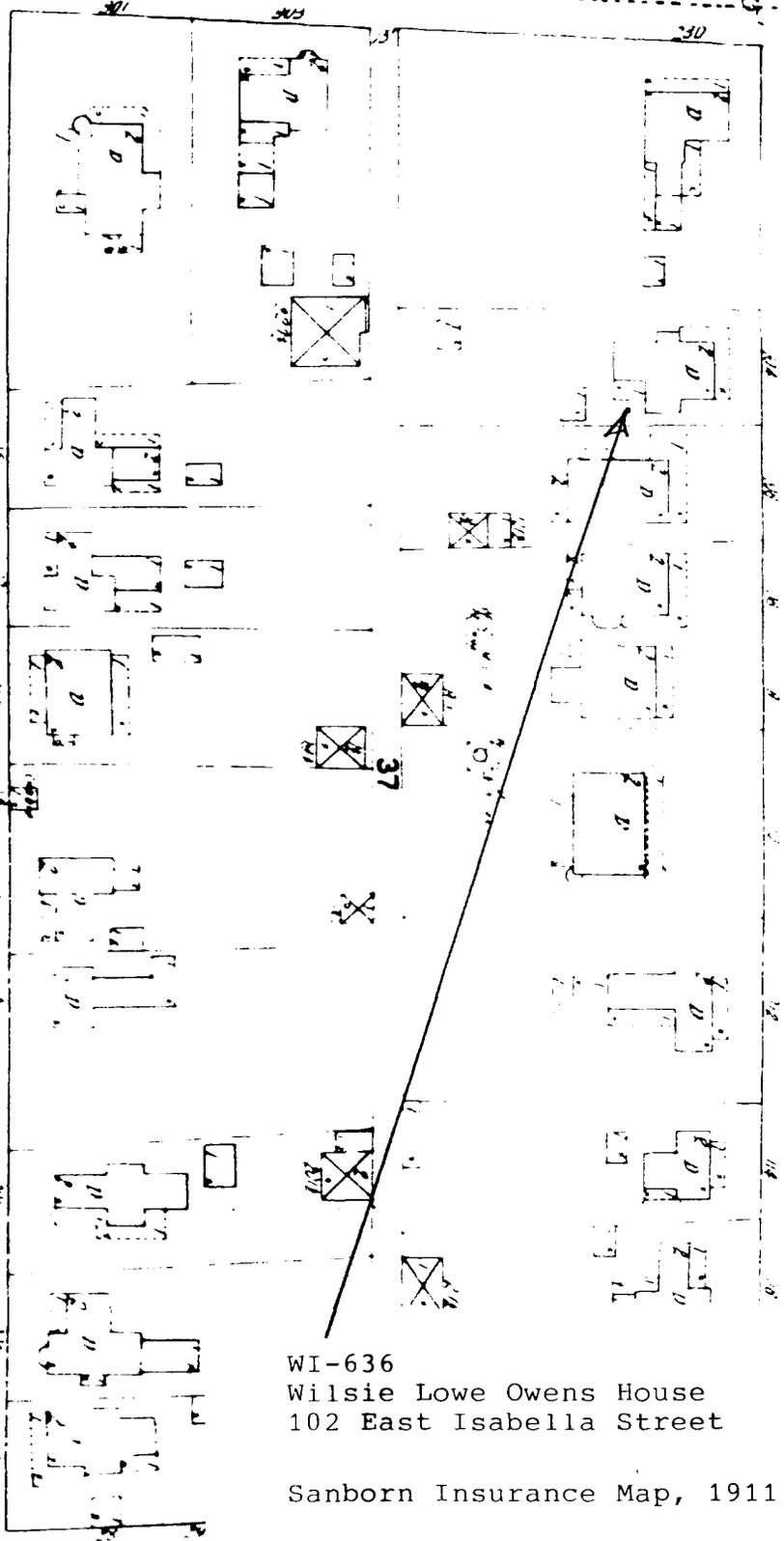
N. DIVISION



PARSONS

36

E. WILLIAMS



37

E. ISABELLA

WI-636  
 Wilsie Lowe Owens House  
 102 East Isabella Street

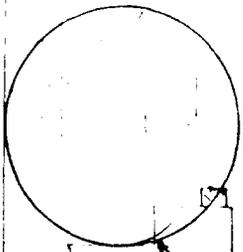
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911

HILL AV.

MO.

E. ISABELLA

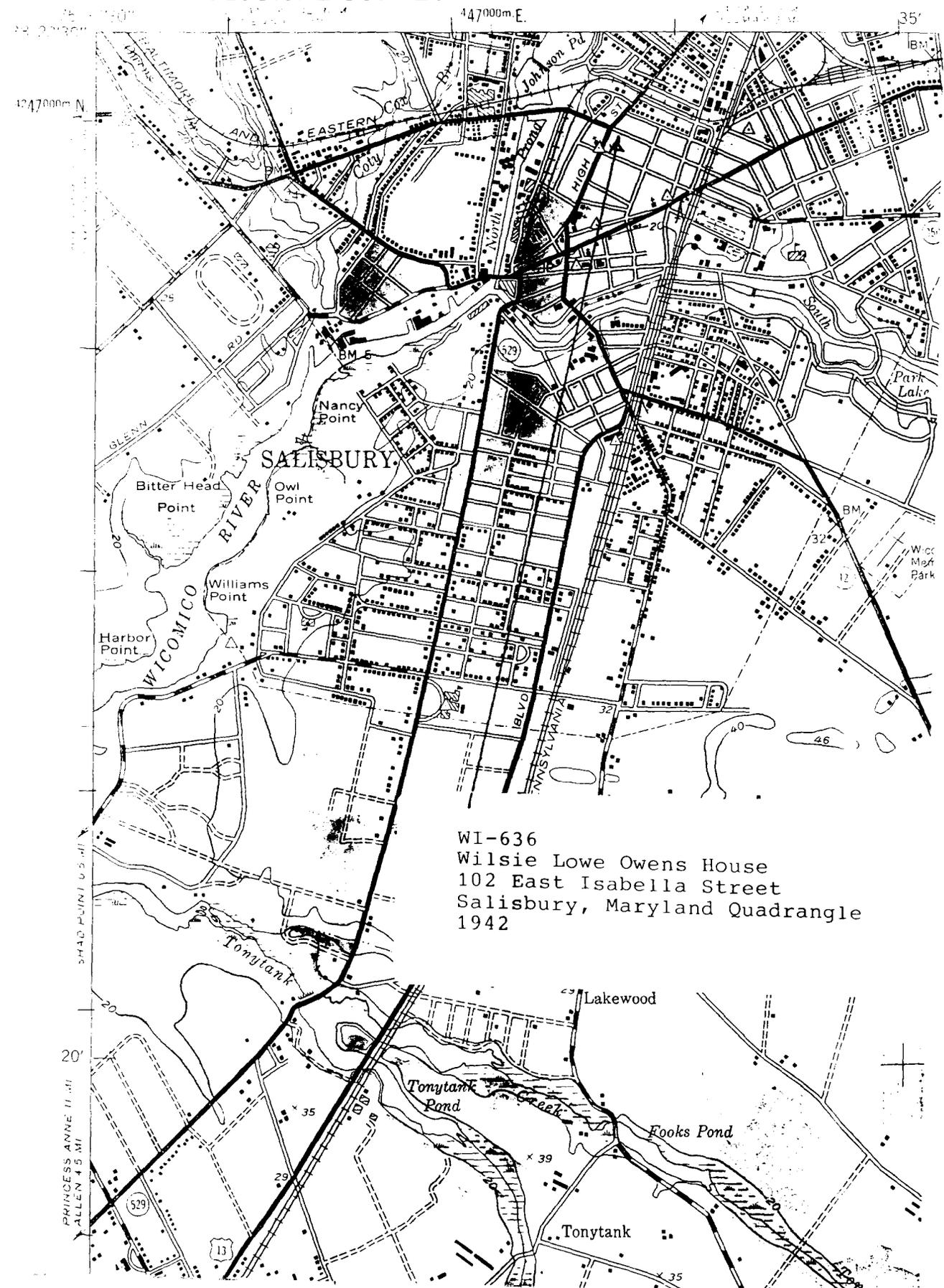
E. WILLIAMS



WI-636  
Wilsie Lowe Owens House  
102 East Isabella Street

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1916

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



WI-636  
Wilsie Lowe Owens House  
102 East Isabella Street  
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

PRINCESS ANNE 11 41  
ALLEN 4.5 MI

20'

529

13





WI-636

WILSIE LOWE QUEENS HOUSE

SALISBURY, WICOMICO CO., MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

10/01, PAUL TORANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

WETA / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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