

Easement

WI-8
Poplar Hill Mansion
Salisbury
Private museum

c. 1795

Poplar Hill Mansion is the oldest documented structure to remain in the City of Salisbury. Its location outside the city proper at that time aided significantly to its survival by escaping destruction during the ruinous town fires of 1860 and 1886. Estimations on the age of Poplar Hill have ranged between the late eighteenth century to the early nineteenth century. As it turns out, both arguments have some validity.

Construction of Poplar Hill was begun around 1795-96 by Major Levin Handy, who is identified in a 1795 deed for 357 acres of "Pemberton's Good Will" as "of Somerset County but formerly of Rhode Island." The house Major Handy financed on his newly acquired plantation was an ambitious structure that outdistanced most buildings in this region for its day in size and attention to refined detail. While architectural traditions distinctive to Rhode Island may have influenced his design decisions, a new house erected in nearby Snow Hill around 1792-93 most likely had an impact on Levin Handy's Salisbury residence. Now known as Chanceford, the bold gable-front brick house was the high-style residence of James Rownd Morris, Clerk of Worcester County Court prior to his death in the mid 1790s.

While the two houses bear distinct architectural differences, there are similar aspects that offer compelling evidence that the Morris house influenced, in part, the design of Poplar Hill. In particular, the pedimented gable ends of Poplar Hill repeat the same heirarchy of window placement established on the gable-front wall of Chanceford. At Poplar Hill, large twelve-over-twelve sash windows light the first and second floors, while the gable end pediments are pierced by two tiers of windows. The main attic space is lighted by large multi-pane sash windows, while an upper attic is distinguished by a round or bull's eye window. This same heirarchy of

window design was established at Chanceford several years before Poplar Hill was begun.

However, Levin Handy thought enough of James Rownd Morris's house only to emulate it in part since he designed the structure with a grand center passage and flanking parlors and dining room rather than employing the gable-front, transverse hall plan found in the Snow Hill house. The broad five-bay front of Poplar Hill, like Chanceford, follows a strict bilateral symmetry critical to the Federal style that was favored during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Levin Handy's architectural ambitions quite likely exceeded his ability to finance them. On September 15, 1803 a writ of fieri facias issued by the State of Maryland empowered Levin Pollitt, Sheriff of Worcester County, to sell Levin Handy's Salisbury plantation in order to satisfy outstanding debts. Shortly thereafter, Levin Handy died after contracting pleurisy. He suffered for many years with stomach problems known as the gout.

At the time of his death, Levin Handy's house had not been completed. The unfinished nature of the house is documented by a short article in the *Salisbury Advertiser*, written in 1897, on the occasion of Isabella Huston Humphreys' death. Isabella Humphreys was the daughter of Dr. John Huston, the next long-term owner of Poplar Hill. The 1897 newspaper article stated, "Mrs. Humphreys was the daughter of the late Dr. John Huston, who purchased in 1800 (actually 1805) Poplar Hill, then incomplete. Dr. Huston completed the property and made it the family home for over 50 years."

The incomplete nature of Levin Handy's house at the time of his death is documented also by the house itself. Hand-made wrought iron nails common to the eighteenth century are found in the roof framing and the interior is finished with a mixture of late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century woodwork. Some of the differences in woodwork are as subtle as slight

variations in the molding profile that frames the outside door and window openings contrasted with the molding profile that frames the interior doors. An ogee (S-curved) backband molding is found on the exterior window and door frames, whereas the interior doors and closets have what is known as a quirked ogee molding that was generally used in the early nineteenth century. Normally, when a house was built the door and window moldings in the same room did not differ in the least.

To what degree the house was “incomplete” is difficult to determine, but the delicacy and finely carved nature of the interior woodwork suggests that much of it was executed during the ownership of John Huston, which stretched from his purchase in 1805 to his death in 1828. The high level of intricate Federal or neoclassical woodwork is unsurpassed for a house on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. The first floor plan follows a traditional room disposition favored during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries with a broad center stair passage extending the full depth of the house. The passage is divided visually in two with a front entrance hall separated from the rear stairhall by an intricately carved segmental arch. On the east (right) side of the passage is a large rectangular space historically used for dining, while the west (left) half of the first floor is divided into two nearly equal sized rooms, probably a formal parlor in front and a private parlor or first floor chamber in back. Each of these rooms is finished in an elaborate fashion with individual interpretations of Federal design.

Following Dr. Huston’s death in 1828, the property remained in family hands under the ownership of his wife, Sarah Huston, until the mid nineteenth century. During Dr. Huston’s ownership the plantation, including 357 acres, comprised a large tract bounded on the west by Division Street and on the southeast by what was described in the early 1800s as a “new road

which leads from the town of Salisbury towards Mitchell's Bridge." Beginning in the late 1840s and early 1850s, under Sarah Huston's direction, Poplar Hill was partially subdivided. New houses, designed in late Federal and Greek Revival taste, started to appear along major roads. The partitioning or subdivision of the Poplar Hill plantation continued at a moderate rate during the years leading up to the Civil War, but by the late 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s a building boom was underway in Salisbury's first large suburb aptly labeled "Newtown." Construction and additional subdivision in Newtown did not subside until the second quarter of the twentieth century. In more recent times, Poplar Hill was the residence George W. D. Waller, who occupied the house between 1897 and World War II. During the 1950s the property was owned by Ward A. and Dorothy Garber. Most recently the property has been owned and maintained by the City of Salisbury as a house museum, and it is open on by appointment.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Poplar Hill Mansion

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-8

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Rural Agrarian Intensification
1680-1815

4. Resource Type(s): Single family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-8

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Poplar Hill Mansion

2. Location

street & number 117 Elizabeth 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 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 City of Salisbury

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

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1970 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

7. Description

Survey No. WI-8

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.

Poplar Hill Mansion is located at 117 Elizabeth Street in the Newtown Historic District in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, five-bay, center hall frame house faces south with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Begun around 1795-96 and finished over the course of the following ten years, the two-story, center hall frame dwelling is supported on a high English bond brick foundation with an excavated cellar. The exterior is clad with a uniform layer of beaded weatherboards. The steeply pitched roof is covered with slate. Attached to the back of the main block is a single-story kitchen wing raised on a high brick foundation.

The south (main) elevation is a symmetrical five-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking twelve-over-twelve sash windows. The six-panel front door is framed by a neoclassical surround incorporating fluted pilasters that rise to pediment which surrounds an arched fanlight of radiating web-patterned muntins. The cornice of the pediment is enriched with small modillion blocks and as well as bed and crown moldings. The flanking windows are framed by narrow ovolo backband surrounds and each window features a bull-nose sill. The windows have louvered shutters to each side. The second floor is highlighted by a center Palladian or Venetian window. Characteristically divided into three sections, the center panel is a round headed window opening filled with a multi-paned upper sash of delicately curved muntins. The flanking panels, framed by fluted pilasters and trimmed with delicate modillion block cornices, are filled with narrow four-over-four sash windows. The adjacent bays are marked by twelve-over-twelve sash windows hung with louvered shutters. Each of the window openings has a bull-nosed window sill. Trimming the base of the roof is a modillion block cornice. Piercing the roofline are a pair of narrow brick chimney stacks topped with corbeled caps.

The east and west gable ends are defined by large twelve-over-twelve sash windows on the first and second floors, and each window opening is framed by an ovolo backband surround and a bull-nosed window sill. Louvered shutters hang on each window opening. The gable ends are enclosed within a pediment highlighted by an elaborately executed modillion block cornice. The gable end is sheathed with beaded weatherboards, and the wall is pierced by two tiers of windows. The bottom tier, which lights the main attic, features twelve-over-twelve sash windows and the upper tier boasts an elaborate round or bulls-eye window.

The north (rear) wall is partially covered by the single-story gable roofed kitchen wing that is extended by a shed roofed section to the east. Centered on the back wall is a rear door opening defined by a flush beaded edge panel door and an ovolo molded surround. Twelve-over-twelve sash windows mark the adjacent bays. Centered on the second floor is another Venetian window that repeats the same form as the front window.

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-8

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 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 checked="" 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 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	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Poplar Hill Mansion is the oldest documented structure to remain in the City of Salisbury. Its location outside the city proper aided significantly in its survival by escaping destruction during the ruinous town fires of 1860 and 1886. Estimations on the age of Poplar Hill have ranged between the late 18th century to the early 19th century. As it turns out, both arguments have validity. Construction of Poplar Hill was begun around 1795-96 by Major Levin Handy, who is identified in a 1795 deed for 357 acres of "Pemberton's Good Will" as "of Somerset County but formerly of Rhode Island."¹ The house Major Handy financed on his newly acquired plantation was an ambitious structure that outdistanced most buildings of its day in size and attention to refined detail. While architectural traditions distinctive to Rhode Island may have influenced his design decisions, a new house erected in nearby Snow Hill around 1792-93 more than likely had an impact on Levin Handy's Salisbury residence. Now known as Chanceford, the bold gable-front brick house was the high-style residence of James Rownd Morris, Clerk of Worcester County Court prior to his death in the mid 1790s. Following James Rownd Morris's death, his property was sold to Colonel Levin Handy (1754-1799), a second cousin of Major Handy's. Among friends, Major Handy was known as "Rhode Island Levin" in an effort to distinguish himself from this Eastern Shore relative of the same name. Before his death in 1799, Colonel Levin Handy served as the Clerk of Worcester County Court. It is without doubt that Major Handy visited Snow Hill, the county seat for the land on the east side of Salisbury, and knew of his second cousin's high-style residence.

While the two houses bear distinct architectural differences, there are similar aspects that offer compelling evidence that the Morris house influenced, in part, the design of Poplar Hill. In particular, the pedimented gable ends of Poplar Hill repeat the same hierarchy of window placement established on the gable-front wall of Chanceford. At Poplar Hill, large twelve-over-twelve sash windows light the first and second floors, while the gable end pediments are pierced by two tiers of windows. The main attic space is lighted by large multi-pane sash windows, while an upper attic is distinguished by a round or bull's eye window. The same fenestration pattern was established at Chanceford several years before Poplar Hill was begun.

¹ Worcester County Land Record, R/68, 16 November 1795.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage 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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant date 4/20/98

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

7.1 DESCRIPTION

Poplar Hill Mansion, WI-8

Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

The interior follows a center passage/double-pile plan. The center passage is divided visually in two sections with a front entrance hall separated from the rear stairhall by a segmental arched opening. The inside surface of the front door opening is trimmed by a round arched, ogee-curved backband surround. The center passage, like all of the first floor rooms, is finished in a high order with elaborate baseboard, chair rail, and cornice moldings. The interior door surrounds differ from the exterior window surrounds with a quirked ogee backband. The centrally positioned segmental arched opening is highly decorated with intricately carved moldings. Fluted pilasters rise from molded bases, and the capitals have delicately reeded friezes and intricate crown moldings. The soffit of the arch is finished with a flat panel with a linenfold carved keyblock in the center. A row of beading is centered in the keyblock. The perimeter of the room is finished with a molded baseboard, carved chair rail and cornice moldings. The cornice has a guilloche bed mold.

The staircase is intricately finished as well with ramped handrails and half rails embedded in the adjacent plaster wall. The stringer is embellished with a delicate Federal scroll and comma shaped incised cutout. Three slender stick baluster support the handrail.

The three first floor rooms are finished on a high level with intricately carved mantels, chair rail and cornice moldings. The front parlor is one of the most elaborate first floor spaces. Fluted pilasters flank the firebox and a five-part frieze is topped by a molded and broken mantel shelf. There are rows of intricately executed gougework that stretch across the mantel. Directly adjacent (right) of the mantel is a six-panel door framed by a Federal surround. The cornice is elaborately finished with bold vertical and grill work in the form of a classical frieze.

The other rooms, the dining room on the east of the passage and a rear parlor or first floor chamber in back, are finished in an high fashion with other variations of Federal mantel and gougework patterns that detail the chair rail and cornices. Located behind the dining room is a small rear passage that contains a second staircase, enclosed within a beaded board partition. The rear staircase provides direct access to the largest chamber or perhaps a second floor drawing room.

The attic is one large space with stout rafter stabilized by half dovetail lapped joints secured with wrought nails. There are wrought nails used liberally throughout the attic framing. A second attic is lighted by the round windows in the end of each gable. The flooring has been removed for the most part from this section.

8.1 SIGNIFICANCE

Poplar Hill Mansion, WI-8
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

However, Major Handy thought enough of James Rownd Morris's house only to emulate it in part. In contrast to Chanceford, Poplar Hill was designed with a grand center passage and flanking parlors and dining room rather than employing the gable-front, transverse hall plan found in the Snow Hill house. The broad five-bay front of Poplar Hill, like Chanceford, follows a strict bilateral symmetry critical to the Federal style that was favored during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Levin Handy's architectural ambitions quite likely exceeded his ability to finance them. On September 15, 1803 a writ of fieri facias issued by the State of Maryland empowered Levin Pollitt, Sheriff of Worcester County, to sell Levin Handy's Salisbury plantation in order to satisfy outstanding debts.² Shortly thereafter, Levin Handy died after contracting pleurisy. He suffered for many years with stomach problems known as the gout.³

At the time of his death, Levin Handy's house had not been completed. The unfinished nature of the house is documented by a short article in the *Salisbury Advertiser*, written in 1897, on the occasion of Isabella Huston Humphreys' death. Isabella Humphreys was the daughter of Dr. John Huston, the next long-term owner of Poplar Hill. The 1897 newspaper article stated, "Mrs. Humphreys was the daughter of the late Dr. John Huston, who purchased in 1800 (actually 1805) Poplar Hill, then incomplete. Dr. Huston completed the property and made it the family home for over 50 years."⁴

The incomplete nature of Levin Handy's house at the time of his death is documented also by the house itself. Hand-made wrought iron nails common to the 18th century are found in the roof framing and the interior is finished with a mixture of late 18th and early 19th century woodwork. Some of the differences in woodwork are as subtle as slight variations in the molding profile that frames the outside door and window openings contrasted with the molding profile that frames the interior doors. An ogee (S-curved) backband molding is found on the exterior window and door frames, whereas the interior doors and closets have what is known as a quirked ogee molding that was generally used in the early 19th century. Normally when a house was built the door and window moldings in the same room did not differ in the least.

To what degree the house was "incomplete" is difficult to determine, but the delicacy and finely carved nature of the interior woodwork suggests that much of it was executed during the ownership of John Huston, which stretched from his purchase in 1805 to his death in 1828. The high level of intricate Federal or neoclassical woodwork is unsurpassed for a house on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. The first floor plan follows a traditional room disposition favored during the late 18th and early 19th centuries with a broad center stair passage extending the full

² Worcester County Land Record, W/365, 27 July 1804.

³ Isaac W. K. Handy, *Annals and Memorials of the Handys and Their Kindred*, William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor: Michigan, 1992, p. 96-97.

⁴ *Salisbury Advertiser*, 3 July 1897.

8.2 SIGNIFICANCE

Poplar Hill Mansion

Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

depth of the house. The passage is divided visually in two with a front entrance hall separated from the rear stairhall by an intricately carved segmental arch. On the east (right) side of the passage is a large rectangular space historically used for dining, while the west (left) half of the first floor is divided into two nearly equal sized rooms, probably a formal parlor in front and a private parlor or first floor chamber in back. Each of these rooms is finished in an elaborate fashion with individual interpretations of Federal design.

Following Dr. Huston's death in 1828, the property remained in family hands under the ownership of his wife, Sarah Huston, until the mid 19th century. During Dr. Huston's ownership the plantation, including 357 acres, comprised a large tract bounded on the west by Division Street and on the southeast by what was described in the early 19th century as a "new road which leads from the town of Salisbury towards Mitchell's Bridge."⁵ Beginning in the late 1840s and early 1850s, under Sarah Huston's direction, Poplar Hill was partially subdivided. New houses, designed in late Federal and Greek Revival taste, started to appear along major roads. The partitioning or subdivision of the Poplar Hill plantation continued at a moderate rate during the years leading up to the Civil War, but by the late 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s a building boom was underway in Salisbury's first large suburb aptly labeled "Newtown." Construction and additional subdivision in Newtown did not subside until the second quarter of the 20th century.

⁵ Worcester County Land Record, X/323, 27 July 1805.

WI-8
Poplar Hill Mansion
117 Elizabeth Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

Wicomico County
Land Record
553/281

Virginia T. Owens

to

12/30/1962

Dorothy S. Garber

approximately 148.59 feet along street and 244 feet deep

Wicomico County
Land Record
JWTS 309/558

Fred P. Adkins

to

4/18/1949

Ward A. Garber and Dorothy his wife

Wicomico County
Land Record
JWTS 301/305

Salisbury Scottish Rite Holding Corporation

to

7/8/1948

Fred P. Adkins

Lot #2 of Poplar Hill laid out in 1897

Wicomico County
Land Record
JWTS 271/417

Caroline C. Waller, widow and children of
George W. D. Waller

to

8/1/1945

Salisbury Scottish Rite Holding Corporation

Deed of Partition
Wicomico County
Land Record
JTT 21/315

Heirs of George Waller (Jonathan and wife, James and
and wife, and George W. D. Waller and R. Lee and wife

to

11/8/1897

George W. D. Waller

Lot No. 2 of Poplar Hill

Wicomico County
Land Record
SPT 4/485

Samuel A. Graham, trustee appointed by the court
to take the place of the deceased Huston Humphreys,
trustee of Elizabeth Robertson

to

4/18/1882

George Waller

Chancery Record
SPT 3/86

Elizabeth W. Robertson

to

12/12/1877

Huston Humphreys, trustee

tract of land lying in Salisbury called "Poplar Hill"
where she now dwells

Plat included Lot No. 2 sold to George Waller for \$1,820.

Worcester Land Record
JAP 1/327

William W. Handy & Sally his wife

to

4/18/1857

Elizabeth W. Robertson

\$3,500 "Pemberton's Good Will" 25 ½ acres

being the same land which the said William purchased of the commissioners to sell the real estate of Mrs. Sarah Huston late of Worcester County...together with the Mansion house and all other buildings and appurtenances

Worcester Land Record
X/323

Peter Dashiell

to

7/27/1805

John Huston

L. 1000 "Pemberton's Good Will"

Worcester Land Record
W/643

Nelly Handy

to

1/12/1805

Peter Dashiell

\$300 "Pemberton's Good Will"

all that part of said tract of said land lying to the southeast of the county road which divides the County of Somerset from that of the County of Worcester and bounded on the southeast by a new road which leads from the town of Salisbury towards Mitchell's Bridge on toward the plantation now owned by George Parsons together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, woods, ways, etc.

Worcester Land Record
W/365

Levin Pollitt, Esq. Sheriff of Worcester County

to

7/27/1804

Peter Dashiell

Witnesseth whereas on the 9/15/1803 a certain writ of the State of Maryland of Fieri Facias did issue forth out of the general court for the Eastern Shore to said Sheriff of Worcester County

Judgement of the same Court recovered against a certain Levin Handy late of Worcester County Gentleman as well the sum of \$762.99 and further the sum of L150 as the quantity of six hundred and ninety-nine pounds of Tobacco

Worcester Land Record
R/68

John Winder of Northampton County

to

11/16/1795

Levin Handy, late of the State of Rhode Island but now in the county of Somerset

L 131.6.0 "Pemberton's Good Will" 357 acres

Worcester Land Record
Q/89

James Round Morris and Leah Morris, Levin Handy and Nancy Handy, Ephraim Wilson and June Wilson

to

2/13/1795

Levin Handy of Somerset but formerly of Rhode Island

L5 "Pemberton's Good Will"
all that part of a tract of land called 'Pemberton's Good Will' that by running the lines of the resurvey thereof.... lies to the eastward of the road that leads from Salisbury to Broad Creek

<u>Deceased Names</u>	<u>Will Proved</u>	<u>Executor or Adm. Names</u>
John D. Huston	27 April 1827	Sarah Huston
<u>Date of Bonds</u>	<u>Suritier Names</u>	<u>Inventory Filed</u>
Feb. 23, 1828	Sarah Huston	17 May 1828
	Wm. H. Hondy	
	Isabelle Dashiell	

<u>Sales</u>	<u>Desparate Debts</u>	<u>Desparate Debts</u>	<u>Acc'ts Processed</u>
Black	17 May 1828	17 Oct. 1829	17 Oct. 1829

Inventory Feb. 26, 1828

1 Dozen Winsor Chairs		18.00
1 Ditto Bar Yellow Ditto		10.00
Northumberland Dining Tables		30.00
1 Pr. Gilt looking Glasses		20.00
14 Pictures		10.00
Mohogany Case & Bottles		6.00
3 Glass Candlesticks		4.00
2 Ditto Lamps		11.00
1 Pair Large Brass Andirons		8.00
Shovel & Tongs		2.00
2 Small Neo Chairs		.75
Large Kiservminster Carpet		45.00
Small Ditto	Ditto	15.00
Domestic	Ditto	12.00
5 Flauer Pots & Dishes		1.50
Sideboard		10.00
Mahogany Dining Table		8.00
Ditto	Ditto Ditto	6.00
Desk		10.00

Mahogany Table (injured)	1.00
Walnut Stand	.75
6 Winsor Chairs Black X Arms	3.50
12 Green Ditto	5.00
1 Pine Table	1.00
Knife Box	.50
9 Knives & Forks Black	.75
3/4 Doz. & 4 Forks Ultute	1.00
6 Pictures	1.50
5 Queen Ulano Dishes	1.25
Ditto Plates	.30
20 Ditto Tea & Soup Ditto	.60
2 Salad Dishes	.25
1 Tureure & Salad Stand	.40
6 Cake Plates	.75
2 Pickle Dishes	.10
13 Silver Tea Spoons	7.25
6 Silver Ladle Spoons	12.00
1 Silver Ladle	10.00
1 Cream Cup	5.00
1 Small Silver Ladle	1.50
Sugar Tongs	.75
Liverpool Goffee Pot	1.00
Dozen China Cups & Saucers	.75
27 China Cups & Saucers	2.00
4 Waiters	3.00
11 Crystal Glasses	2.00
Costars	1.00
4 Tumblers	.12

12 Cut Wine Glasses	2.00
Large Toddy Glass	1.00
2 Cormmore Decanters	.50
Glass sugar dish & Goblette	.75
Glass Tea Canister	.12
2 Glass Pitchers	2.00
2 China Cups	1.00
4 Glass & 1 China Salt Set	2.00
Lott Bottles & Brandy	1.50
Brass andirons, shovels & tongs	5.00
4 Brass candlesticks & snuffers	2.00
5 Liverpool pitchers	1.00
3 Stone Pitchers	.50
Bellous	.25
4 China Cake Plates	.40
16 Liverpool Dishes	6.50
53 Ditto Plates	5.00
2 Ditto Salad Dishes	1.50
1 Sauce dish	.25
6 Liverpool bowls	1.00
2 China Bowls	2.00
3 Tea Pots	.50
Set of China	15.00
2 Cream Pots	.25
1 China Canister	.30
1½ Doz. Cup Plates	.60
Carpet & Heath	5.00
Double Mirror	.25
Lott Old Brasses	.50
12 Old Flag Chairs	1.50

1 Desk	5.00
Looking Glass	2.00
Clock	10.00
Brass Andirons Shovels and Tongs	3.00
Shaving Apparatus	1.00
Carpet & Rug	1.50
4 Hair Brushes	1.25
Lott Sundries	.30
2 Maps	2.00
Medicine, Furniture & Equipment	20.00
Sheep Shears & Nippers	25.00
12 Walking Cains	1.00
Writing Desk	1.00
Spy Glass injured	2.00
14½ pair sheets	40.00
4 pair ? Counterpanes	30.00
6 Pair Blankets	15.00
2 Pair White Merseilles Quilts	16.00
6 Common Quilts	12.00
3 Yards Bathing Cloth	1.00
2 Quilts ?	3.00
2 Stuff Quilts	2.00
40 Yards Fringe	5.00
9 Table Cloths	13.50
14 Towels & 3 Tea Cloths	3.70
15 Pillow Cases	3.50
2 Suits Cotton Bed Curtains	6.00

1 Suit Window Curtains	10.00
3 Trunks & 1 Chest	4.00
3 Straw Baskets	.20
Sattin Dressing Box	2.00
Sattin Vest Pattern	1.25
3 Pictures	.40
Looking Glass	5.00
2 Pitchers Bowls & Wash Stand	3.00
Horse Whip	.15
Dressing Glass	1.00
2 Toyllette Tables	2.00
Bureau	1.50
Small Looking Glass & Table	.75
Pair Andirons	.50
Books in Library	20.00
Muslin Luster	.50
Bed 15 cts. No. 1 59 ler	8.85
20 cts. No. 2 74 ler	14.80
15 cts. No. 3 65 ler	9.75
15 cts. No. 4 56 ler	8.40
18 cts. No. 5 66 ler	11.88
15 cts. No. 6 54 ler	8.10
15 cts. No. 7 50 ler	7.50
Bedstead Mat & Bord	
No. 1	3.00
No. 2	1.50
No. 3	2.00
No. 4 —	5.00
No. 5	2.00
No. 6	2.00
No. 7	2.00

Mattrass & cott frame	6.00
2 Chair cushions	.50
Loom Warping bars & box	3.00
Saddle & bridle	2.50
2 Old Chests	.50
4 Weavers, slays & Cotton Cards	1.50
Swiftr	.25
2 pair winding blades	.50
Cut reels	1.00
2 Linnen Wheels	3.00
Wooden Wheels	.25
Bed chair	1.00
Lott old chairs	.50
5 Chamber Pots	1.50
Easey stool	1.00
Spun wollen yarns	4.00
Side Saddle	1.00
Dried Fruit	2.00
2 Hickles	.50
Old Carriage Harness	.50
Wearing Apparels	20.00
Earthen Jars	2.00
Waffle Irons	1.50
Lott Andirons	5.00
Steelyarn	1.50
Brass Kettle & Refrigerator	5.00
Denijohn & 3 storie rugs	2.00
Tin Kitchen	1.50
Lott tin	.50
Coffee Mill	.50

Brandy & Barrel	8.00
Barrells of contents	1.00
Lott Pork (injured)	4.00
Buter & Reg.	.50
Hogs lard	9.00
Candles & Tallow	.80
7 old casks	1.00
Soap	2.50
Scales & Weights	1.00
Meal Ghrist & Sifters	1.00
6 tow bags	.73
Taylons Sheers & ? Stand	.30
Drawers	.25
Table old barrels	.50
Irish Potatoes	1.50
Salt Barrels	1.00
Grain Chest	1.00
Dye Tup	.25
Pine Table	.25
Lott Wooden Ware	3.50
Half bushel measure	.50
3 Tables	3.00
Pewter & Tin Ware	1.50
3 ? Irons	.75
Flesh form & Spit	.40
Skillet & Stand	.25
Hard ware	20.00
Morter & Howls	1.00
Iron andirons	.75
Iron spoons	.12

Lott old Iron	5.00
Cross cut saw	4.00
Wheat sive	1.00
Rye & Cask	2.00
Wheat & Barrels	4.00
Grain Chest	1.00
Orchard grass	.25
3 Scythes & Cradles	5.00
Ploughs	5.00
4 Harrous	4.00
2 Cultivators & Corn Covert	1.50
Lott old ploughs	.50
3 pr. Iron + races harvester	1.50
4 muzzles & bolts	.60
Sulkey Wheels	2.00
5 Lamb skins	.60
Patent cutting box	10.00
Rye straw	4.00
Yoke old steers	15.00
Ditto young Ditto	20.00
4 caves	26.00
1 heifer & calf	6.00
Coobbett boar	5.00
2 saws & six pigs	10.00
3 thogs	9.00
14 Shoats	18.00
Dark brown horse 13 yrs. old	30.00
Dark bay horse 13 ditto	60.00
Light brown horse 8 ditto	60.00
14 ewes & lambs	18.00

Gig & Harness		175.00
Sulky & Harness		75.00
Horse cart		6.00
old (?) cart		2.00
? cart & yokes		10.00
5 grubbing hoes		2.00
5 wheeling ditto		1.25
4 spades & 2 pitch forks		2.00
2 broad axes		4.50
2 old axes		.50
2 iron wedges		.75
2 wodden rakes		.25
wheat ?		5.00
Corn cradles		.50
Lott old iron		.25
4 baskets		.40
Grind stone		1.00
642 bushels corn at 37		240.75
Chicken Coop		1.50
20 stacks fodder		60.00
6 bushels wheat grain		20.00
2 ditto rye ditto		6.00
1400 lbs bacon		110.00
Negro Levin	aged 34 yrs	175.00
Sam	23 yrs	250.00
Noah	18 yrs	200.00
John	14	5.00
Paul	60	1.00
Shadrock	50	100.00
Anthony	9	125.00

Negro Perry aged	12 yrs	150.00
Paul	4 yrs	50.00
Alfred	1 yr	15.00
Penny & child	21 yrs	200.00
Silvy	40 yrs	20.00
Milly	40 yrs	40.00
Maria	14 yrs	150.00
Roselta	5 yrs	50.00
Laurod (?)	6 yrs	50.00
Charlotte	6 yrs	50.00
Cash on hand		110.00
2 Iron rakes		.75
1 Hammer and screw driver		<u>.62½</u>
		\$3,621.44

Mrs. Russell had five children. Of these two only are deceased: Mary, who died in 1796 at ten years of age, and Thomas Handy at the age of twenty-eight. Ann Brown [another daughter] has been twice married and still lives, a widow, in North Providence, Rhode Island. Charles Handy and William Henry are retired merchants in the city of New York.

1.9.7.7. Major Levin Handy (1764-1804)

Merchant: Salisbury, Somerset Co., Md.

NAME	CHILDREN	
	BORN	DIED
1. Ann Russell 2. Joseph	1st Marriage Apr. 29, 1785	May 3, 1832 Aug. 17, 1787
	2nd Marriage Oct. 28, 1795	Aug. 15, 1847
3. Maria	Sept. 23, 1798	Apr. 8, 1865
4. Ellen	Dec. 4, 1800	
5. Jane		

Major Levin Handy was the seventh child in a family of thirteen. He was the son of Capt. Charles Handy of Newport, Rhode Island, by his first wife, Ann Brown, who was herself also the seventh child of her parents, John and Jane (Lucas) Brown of that city. The date of his birth as recorded by his father in the old family Bible is November 30, 1764. It is also there stated that he was baptized December 24, 1764. He was born and educated in Newport, and remained there until after his marriage in 1784, when he migrated to Salisbury on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and located there as a merchant. He was a man of intelligence, of fine business talents, and of social and agreeable manners. He blended, also, a cheerful disposition with great decision of character, and though much beloved by children and servants, neither dared nor wished to disobey him.

Until the failure of his health, Maj. Handy attended perseveringly to business. After this, he purchased a farm in the vicinity of Salisbury and erected thereupon a stately and commodious mansion, which for many years was one of the chief ornaments of the neighborhood. On May 18, 1797, he petitioned the "Honorable Judges of Worcester Court that the road leading from the town of Salisbury to Mitchell's Bridge, and running through the cultivated and uncultivated parts of his plantation may be turned." This property was subsequently bought by Dr. Houston and is the same on which that gentleman lived and died.

For several years before his death, he was a great sufferer from a gouty affliction of the stomach. At times his pains were exceedingly violent and ac-

ISAAC W. K. HANDY

ANNALS AND MEMORIALS OF THE HANDYS
AND THEIR KINDRED, Wm L. CLEMENTS LIBRARY,
ANN ARBOR: MICHIGAN 1992 p. 96-97

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panied with spasms. In his last illness he was unable to occupy a recumbent position, until at length he was prostrated by an attack of pleurisy of which he died in the winter of 1804.

The fall before Maj. Handy's decease, he was urgently solicited by numerous friends to permit his name to come before the people as a candidate for the Assembly. He was prevailed upon to consent, and the election took place whilst he was at home sick and wholly unable to prosecute the customary routine of electioneering. After the election he endeavored to make his way to Annapolis by land, but growing worse, he succeeded only in getting as far as Easton, in Talbot County, where he was obliged to stop and send for his wife. They returned to Salisbury and after a long illness he died at home, surrounded by friends, having never occupied the seat to which he had been called. His loss was greatly deplored in the community, especially by the Masonic fraternity of which he was an ardent member, and by the poor to whom he had been a constant friend. He had long been a communicant in the Episcopal Church and was regarded as a consistent and devout Christian. It is well remembered that he strove to bring up his children in the fear and love of God.

In person, Maj. Handy measured about five feet six or seven inches. His hair was light and his eyes a bright blue. He was remarkable for his genteel address and for the style and texture of his apparel. He always wore short clothes with knee and shoe buckles, according to the fashion of the day. In a miniature painting lately in possession of Mrs. McDaniel, and much defaced, he is represented with brown silk coat, ruffled shirt, and white cravat.

Maj. Handy's first wife was Ann Russell of Providence, Rhode Island, to whom he was married about the year 1784. This lady was a daughter of Joseph Russell, brother to Maj. Thomas Russell, father of Charles Handy Russell, Esq., of New York City. He subsequently married Nelly Hitch, daughter of Joshua Hitch, and aunt to the late Dr. William Hitch of Baltimore. This lady was also first cousin to Polly Hitch, the second wife of Col. Levin Handy of the "Ferry." The fruits of the two marriages were four daughters and one son, viz: Ann Russell, a daughter by his first wife, became Mrs. Simpson, and is now deceased. Maria (Mrs. Merriweather), the oldest of the three daughters by his second wife, died in 1847. Nelly and Jane (Mrs. McDaniel and Mrs. Austin) still survive, the first residing in Salisbury and the latter in Georgetown, D.C.

Among his friends, Maj. Handy was familiarly called "Rhode Island Levin" to distinguish him from Col. Levin Handy of the Ferry. He held a commission from the governor as an officer of the militia, hence the military title. One of the streets in Newport still bears his name, "Levin Street," having been so named nearly a century ago by his father, Capt. Charles Handy, who owned a large property in that vicinity.

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Easement

WI-8

Form 10-300
(July 1959)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Maryland
 COUNTY: Wicomico
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME
 COMMON: Poplar Hill Mansion
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Pemberton's Good Will

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: 117 Elizabeth Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Salisbury
 STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Wicomico CODE: 045

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Antique Shop	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Dorothy S. Garber
 STREET AND NUMBER: 117 Elizabeth Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Salisbury STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Wicomico County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Salisbury STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey and Maryland Historical
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 1971 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic American Buildings Survey
 STREET AND NUMBER: Library of Congress
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

STATE: MARYLAND
COUNTY: WICOMICO
ENTRY NUMBER: _____

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Poplar Hill Mansion is the only early building with architectural merit to survive the devastating fires which swept throughout the city in 1860 and again in 1886. Its architectural features were outstanding for Salisbury in the early periods of the city and are now all that remains -- the only building of its kind in the city.

Poplar Hill Mansion is a frame, double-pile structure, built on a high brick basement. Its exterior walls are covered with pine clapboards painted white with 6" exposure to the weather and a 3/8" bead on each board.

The south facade consists of a five-bay surface with the central unit of the first story carrying the entrance door with fanlight and pediment (a recent replacement), and the second story having a Palladian-style window with fluted pilasters and an architrave above each side window of the Palladian. The trim of which is similar to the main cornice. All other windows have 12/12 sash louvered shutters. The main cornice consists of a course of dentils, a quarter-round mold, a course of shaped modillions, a fascia and a large double-ogee-crown molding.

Both gables form pediments and have a pair of windows at attic level and a bulls-eye window at the apex of the pediment. The walls beneath the pediments vary as to window fenestration, with symmetrical spacing on the west and assymetrical arrangement on the east. The central chimneys are assymetrical, the east chimney standing north of the ridge of the roof, the west centered on the ridge.

The north facade is only three bays long and has a Palladian-style window at the level of the interior stair landing in the center of the wall. Beneath the north window is the north door and a porch with Chinese trellis balustrade. On the east side of the north facade is a small one-story kitchen wing which is reputed to replace a colonade and detached kitchen.

The floor plan consists of a central stairhall, divided by an elliptical arch, and two rooms on either side of the hall. The west rooms, parlor and dining room, are nearly equal in size, being approximately sixteen feet, six inches by fifteen feet, six inches. The drawing room on the east side

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Wicomico	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

WI-8

(Number all entries)

Poplar Hill Mansion

#7 DESCRIPTION continued

is approximately eighteen feet wide by twenty-six feet six inches long. The northeast room is only eight feet three inches wide and eighteen feet long. It does not have a fireplace, but does contain an auxiliary staircase to the second story.

Beneath the chairrail in the hall, is a wainscot of two horizontal boards; high above is wallpaper depicting a landscape scene. The chairrail consists of a molded cap above a fascia divided into equal areas of flutes and blocks. A course of carved interlocking strapwork circles, curiously missing on the north side of the arch, are the chief ornament of the interior cornice. Fluted pilasters support the elliptical arch, which has cove and rope moldings. The underside of the arch is composed of recessed panels.

The staircase is located North of the arch. Its soffit is paneled and the ogee-shaped step-ends have pierce-work consisting of an ogee curve and a crescent. There are three square balusters on each step; the lower step and rail terminate in the form of a volute, the central baluster being iron. A half-rail with pilasters beneath ascends on the inside wall.

The most noteworthy woodwork in the house is in the parlor, (southwest room). Its mantel has fluted pilasters, two bands of reeded decoration and rope molding. The chairrail has a series of flutes and rosettes. Fluted pilasters beneath the chairrail flank the windows and doors. The cornice has a fascia of flutes with holes beneath each flute and a series of flute carvings placed alternately, horizontal and vertical, which is similar to work in the Read House, New Castle, Delaware.

Each of the first-story rooms has pilasters beneath the chairrail. The roomside of the hall doors have raised panels whereas the hall side have recessed panels. Window and door trim is the same throughout the house, each is composed of three pieces, the molding between windows and doors differing as to the degree of the ogee curve. All doors have cast-butt hinges; some with closing mechanisms, and brass locks.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Wicomico	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Number all entries)

#7 DESCRIPTION continued

The dining room door is distinguished by dentil molding on the mantel piece and a cornice whereas the drawing room has a variety of molding similar to the other rooms on the mantel piece and a fluted motif in chair rail and cornice.

Two walls in the small northeast room have beaded boards, one horizontal and one vertical. The other walls are plastered.

The second story has the same floor plan as the first, but the carved detail of the first story trim is lacking. Each of the rooms has a mantel, chairrail and cornice, (except the cornice in the northwest room). The master bedroom, above the drawing room has a glazed cabinet on the west side of the fireplace. A lavatory is located in the west closet between the two west rooms, and a full bath is located in the northeast room.

The staircase continues to the unfinished attic. The rafters, two feet on center, measure five by eight inches at their bases and taper toward the top where they are mortised, tenoned and pegged. The tie beams are half dove-tailed and nailed.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Early Nineteenth Century

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Local history</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Poplar Hill Mansion is the only early dwelling of architectural significance to have survived the devastating fires of 1860 and 1886 in Salisbury.

Poplar Hill Mansion is reputed to have been built by Major Levin Handy in 1795. Handy was listed as a Captain in Revolutionary War records and as Lieutenant Colonel of the Salisbury militia in 1790. He owned the land for only four years before his death in 1799. In 1805 it was sold to Dr. John Huston who lived there until his death in 1827. Dr. Huston paid only \$300 for the land in 1805 which seems very little for such a large and important house, which at that time would have been nearly new. It seems more likely that Dr. Huston may have built the house after 1805 for the reason that the style of its woodwork resembles that of the period of the 1810 home of George Read in New Castle, Delaware.

Its purchase is being considered by the City of Salisbury with the Wicomico County government for use as a place for public meetings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorder:
 Michael Bourne, Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis,
 Maryland, August 1971.

Sources:
 "Delmarva Living." The Salisbury Times. (March 22, 1970).
 SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	38°	22'	17"	75°	35'	43"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: August 26, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
 94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Orlando Ridout IV</u> Orlando Ridout IV</p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u> for Maryland</p> <p>Date <u>August 26, 1971</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</u></p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date _____</p>

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Wicomico	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Poplar Hill Mansion

#9. REFERENCES continued

Earle, Swepson. Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore. Baltimore:
n.p., 1916.

Forman, Henry Chandler. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of
Maryland. Easton, Maryland: the author, 1934.

Interviews with: Mrs. George Burnett, Salisbury, Maryland.
Dr. R. L. McFarlin, Salisbury, Maryland
Mr. George Strott, Salisbury, Maryland
Mr. David Grier, Salisbury, Maryland

Wicomico County Land Records. Wicomico County Courthouse,
Salisbury, Maryland.

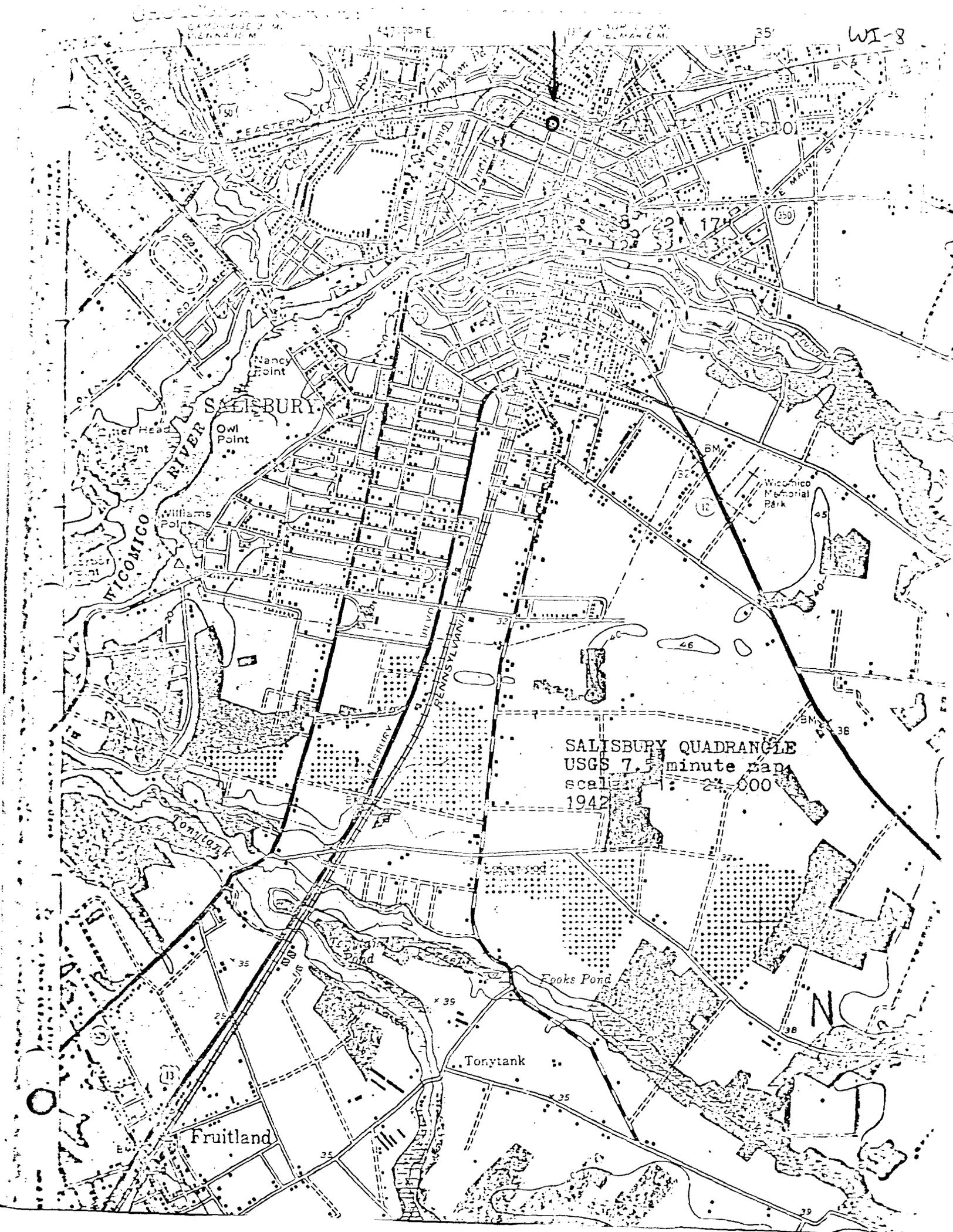
Wicomico County Probate Records. Wicomico County Courthouse,
Salisbury, Maryland.

Wilson, Everett B. Maryland's Colonial Mansions. Cranberry,
New Jersey: A.S. Barnes Company, 1965.

Worcester County Land Records. Worcester County Courthouse,
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Works Progress Administration. Maryland A Guide to the Old
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SALISBURY QUADRANGLE
 USGS 7.5 minute map
 scale 1:24,000
 1942

SALISBURY

WICOMICO RIVER

Nancy Point

Owl Point

Williams Point

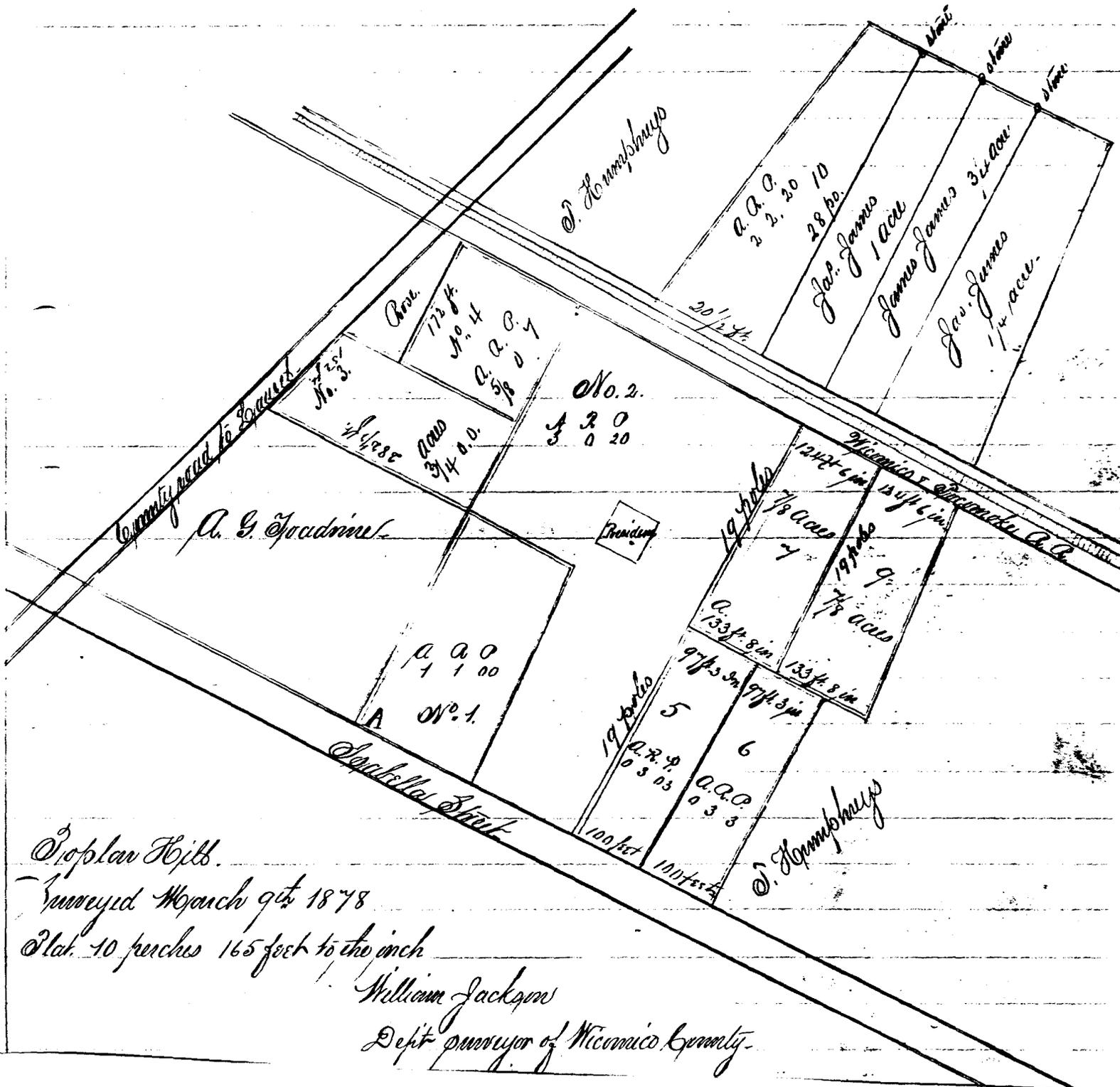
Wicomico Memorial Park

Fooks Pond

Tonytank

Fruitland

NC



Poplar Hills.

Surveyed March 9th 1878

Plat 10 perches 165 feet to the inch

William Jackson

Deft. surveyor of Micanaw County.

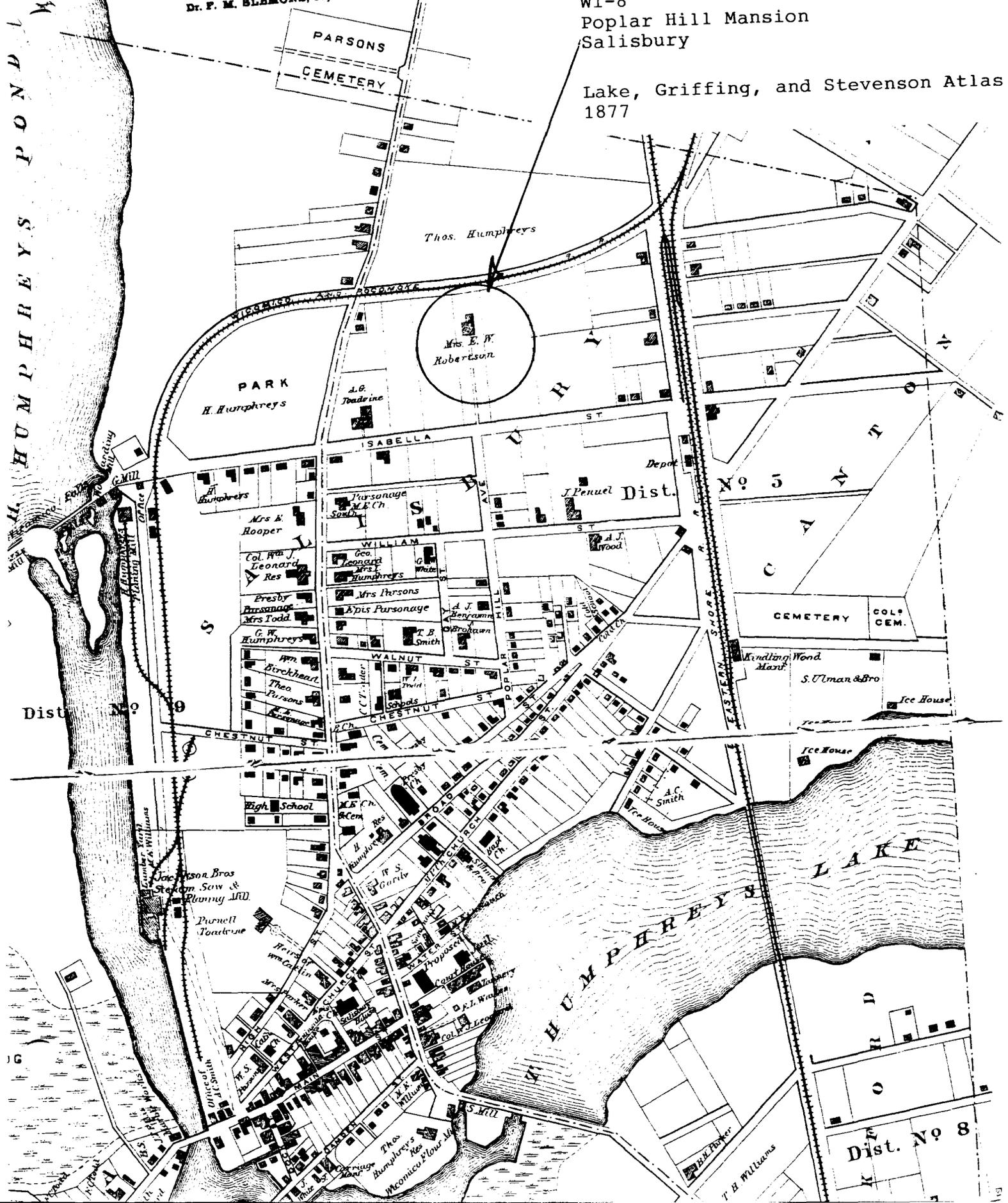
Dealer.
 aler in, and Grower of Small
 otel.
 rictor of the "Peninsula Ho-
 nic Hotel," "Ocean City."

JOHN W. ...
 Saw and Grist Mill 5 miles north
 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.

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

WI-8
 Poplar Hill Mansion
 Salisbury

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
 1877



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

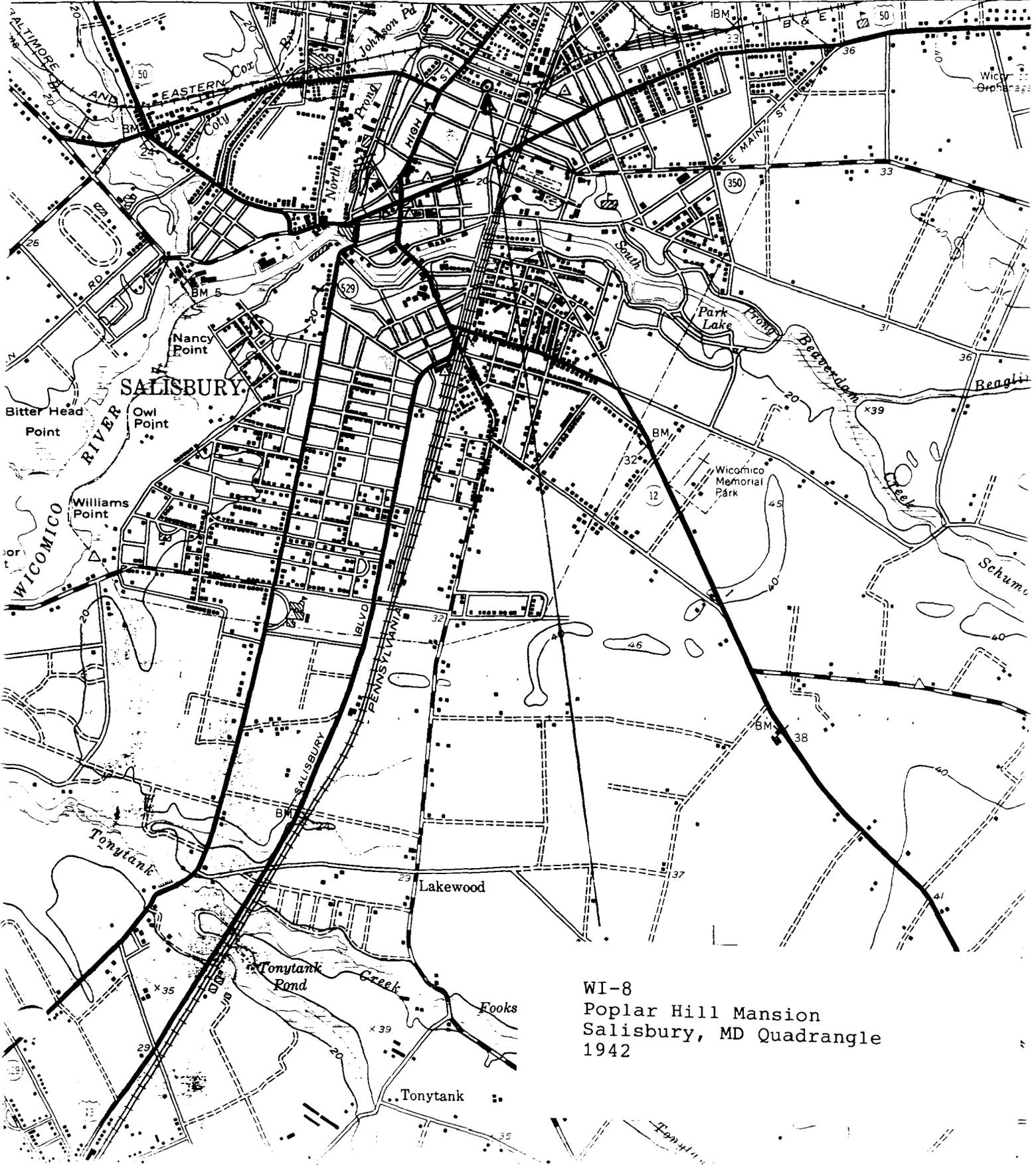
CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.
VIENNA 15 MI.

4700m E.

LAUREL 13 MI.
DELMAR 6 MI.

35'

450



WI-8
Poplar Hill Mansion
Salisbury, MD Quadrangle
1942





Poplar Hill
Wisconsin



page 17



W1-8

Parson - Mason

Spencer

3/98, Tom Toward, Postmaster

441 No. 1st St. - Trust

1 of 10







W1-8

Polish War Memorial
Springfield, Wisconsin Co. No. 2

CENTER ITALY MUSEUM AND GARDENS

4/99, Paul Toussaint, PITTSBURGH

NEW YORK HISTORICAL TRUST

4 OF 10



WI-0

POPULAR (the Mansard)
SOCIETY, WICOMICO, CO., MD.

PRIOR MASTER

4/90 Paul Touart, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEE/MA HIST. TRUST

5 of 10



W1-8

Poplar Hill Mansion

Stanisbury, Wicomico Co., MD.

PANOR MANTEN DETAIL

4199, Pan. Tower, PHTYTRADDER

NEW / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

6 04 10



W1-8

Poplar Hill Mansard
Swissburg, Hancock Co., Md.

CRANICE - PAPER

4/99, Paul Touant, PROTRACTOR

N26 / W17. HISTORICAL TRUST

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