

# 118 W. Joppa Rd.

The bungalow is a well recognized early 20th century American building type. This house and the one next to it are among those which prove that Towson had its share of this type and as a pair they contribute greatly to the collection of 19th century and early 20th century styles to be found in this particular neighborhood.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1407

MAG1-0314075704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bungalow

AND/OR COMMON

(Foster Bungalow)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

118 W. Joppa Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Howard Foster

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

118 W. Joppa Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. New Courts Building

Liber #:

Folio #:

See Attachment

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson 21204

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-1407

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>Spring, 1978</u>

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Bungalows were as fashionable in Towson in the first decades of this century as elsewhere in the U.S. and numbers 118 and 114 W. Joppa Rd. are good examples of the form.

#118 appears to be nearly square in shape being two bays wide in both width and depth. It is two stories in height and although the gable-end roof is not as exaggerated as most bungaloids it does have the oversized dormer so common to the type. In this instance the dormer is shed roofed and contains two 1/1 sash windows. Most bungalows, be they hipped roofed or gable-ended, incorporate the roofline of the always present front porch into the roofline of the mainblock. The end appearance is much like a saltbox or eat-slide roof. In #118 the designer has elected to give the porch a separate roof which is tapered or hipped to correspond to the centrally located dormer. The south facade is further centralized by the fact that the porch contains three evenly spaced doric columns.

The building is covered with c. 1950's asbestos shingles, however, it is presumed that it once had square wooden shingles like its neighbor. They may well have been brown thus completing the identity this bungalow shares with that in the attached 1912 advertisement for "a study in brown."

This is a frame structure and it is resting on a graded 2'-1' foundation made of rock faced formstone. The piers supporting the front porch are the same.

Although the fenestration is regular in placement the windows themselves vary in type. Each gable contains louvered vents and the end windows of the building have 1/1 sash that appear quite modern. The dormer windows are 1/1 and the main entrance, located in the east bay of the south facade has a single pane glass door. Next to it in the west bay, however, are a pair of tall eight paned casement windows that vent the living area. Each end of the cellar is vented by two symmetrically placed 2/2 casements.

The north facade of the house contains a single story shed roofed kitchen addition which appears to be an enclosed porch resting on piers made from the same rock faced formstone.

The only chimney visible is an exterior flue-chimney located on the North end of the east facade.

It is clear from a study of the 19th century houses in Towson that porches were an important design feature in the days before air-conditioning. This particular porch is a good example. It, along with the dormer are the main characteristics of the sheet facade. A good deal of design went into the porch which one must pass through in order to enter the house. The rock facing with green lattice trim at the base of the porch make for a neat appearance and the short but well proportioned doric columns with capitals are actually somewhat elegant. There is a solid banister for privacy. Another decorative feature which seems common is the light or "sky" blue porch ceiling which some believe simulates the color of the sky in summer. It is at least a cool color for this important hot weather living area.

Like its neighbor, and many other bungalows, this house has a first floor plan which devotes nearly half its space to a laterally partitioned living room. The rest is equally divided between a kitchen and dining area. The dining room occupies the north-east corner and has a pantry attached to the north wall. The living room occupies the southern half of the first floor and the stairs to the second story occupy its eastern wall. Its landing is with square newell and is

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

quite close to the main entrance.

The upper story has space enough for two bedrooms and a bathroom. The latter is equipped with its original fixtures including a claw foot tub and toilet with porcelain handle.

Mrs. Howard Foster-

Mrs. Foster lives in the house which her husband had built in the 1920's. According to Mrs. Foster:

- Her husband's father, Milton Foster, lived in the clapboard house with gingerbread porch at #3 Baltimore Ave.
- Her husband hired "one of the Debaugh brothers" to build their house "fifty years ago or more."
- Her house is a couple of years older than #114, which was built by "a man named Wells." These two houses plus "Dichelman's" (#110) are all from the same period.
- She does not remember selecting any particular design. She is certain that neither her house or #114 are pre-fabs.
- Her neighborhood doesn't exist anymore. She is the oldest member with the other older residents having already sold to the Catholic Church or to "newcomers." She wants to stay here "until the end" but feels that her neighborhood has lost its continuity. It is clear that by this she is referring to the people.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-1407

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 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 checked="" 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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The bungalow is a well recognized early 20th century American building type. This house and the one next to it are among those which prove that Towson had its share of this type and as a pair they contribute greatly to the collection of 19th century and early 20th century styles to be found in this particular neighborhood.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

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

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## TITLE SEARCH for BUNGALOW # 118 JOPPA RD.

Liber 1074, Folio 428 September 16, 1939

Grantor: Bettie C. Foster

Grantee: Milton H. Foster, Jr. & wife

"Beginning...first at a point on the Joppa or Old Court Road distant 150' Easterly from east side of Baltimore Ave. as laid down on the Plat of "Ware's Addition to Towsontown"...West 65' to north side of Joppa Road...north...West 40' to place of beginning."

Liber 837, Folio 404 November 20, 1929

Grantor: Milton H. Foster & Bettie C.

Grantee: Milton H. Foster, Jr.

Liber 506, Folio 157 August 30, 1918

Grantor: George C. Tracey & wife

Grantee: Milton H & Bettie C. Foster

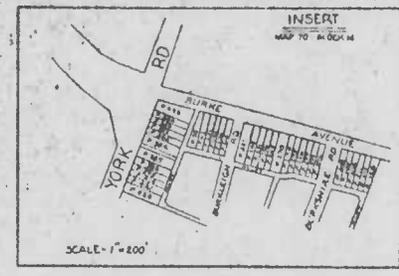
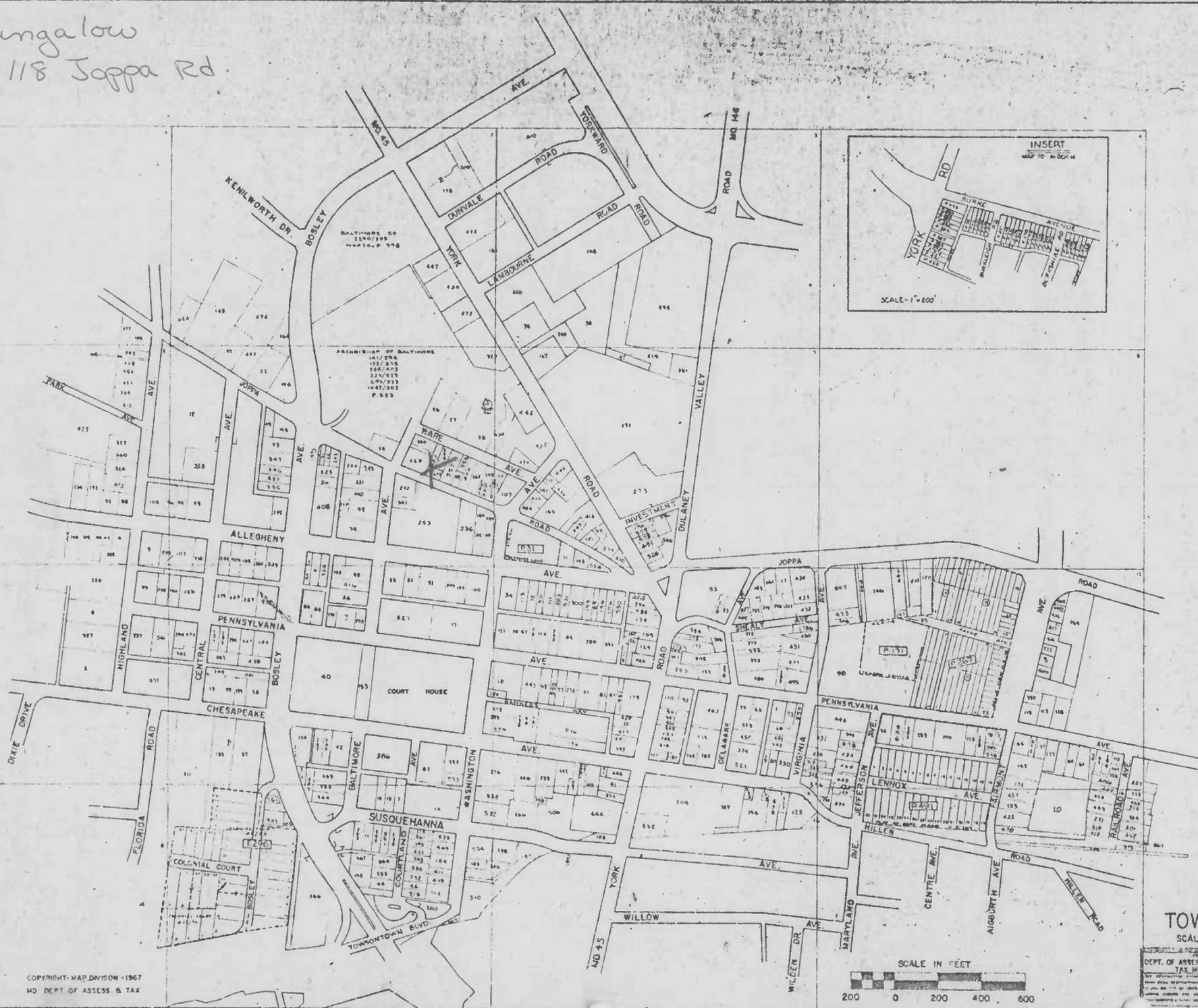
Liber 430, Folio 147 May 18, 1914

Grantor: Catherine Moran et. al.

Grantee: George C. Tracey

Bungalow  
#118 Joppa Rd.

BA-1407



TOWSON  
SCALE 1" = 200'

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENT & TAXATION  
TAX MAP DIVISION

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MD DEPT. OF ASSESS & TAX

MAP NO  
70A



BA-1407

BUNGALOW  
#118 W. Joipa Rd.  
S.W.

W. NIED  
SUM-78



BA-1407

BUNGALOW  
#118 W. Joppa  
S.E.

W. NIELD  
SUM. 78



BA-1407

BUNGALOW  
# 118 W. Joppa Rd.  
N.

W. NIELD  
SUM-78