

BA-2072

John R. Wilhelm House (Site)  
near Pikesville  
public (restricted)

ca. 1896

The John R. Wilhelm House is a fine example of turn of the century domestic vernacular architecture which borrows its formal characteristics from several high style sources, among them: Queen Anne, Shingle, and Classical Revival. The frame 2½ story house is characterized by a broad hip roof with dormers and jerkin-heads, a porch with turned columns, and double-hung sash windows with green shutters.

The house was one of the first in the sparsely built Baltimore suburb of Mellinee, adjoining the Western Maryland Railway.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John R. Wilhelm House (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Hood and Cedar Avenues (S. side)

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

 VICINITY OF Pikesville

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore 21208

**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 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 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**

Maryland State Dept. of Transportation

NAME State Highway Administration (Office of Real Estate)  
Telephone #: (301) 383-4145

STREET &amp; NUMBER

501 St. Paul Place

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21202**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Baltimore County Court House

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. In Circuit Court, Docket 12, Folio #: 79  
Condemnation Case 2185recorded 2 August 1978  
Liber #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE  
Maryland**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-2072

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The John R. Wilhelm House is located on a level site near the junction of Hood and Cedar Avenues (south side), ca. 150' SW of the Western Maryland Railway in the sparsely built addition of Mellinee, ca. 1.2 miles south of Pikesville, in Baltimore County, Maryland.

The house consists of a frame, 2½-story rectangular block set on a coursed stone foundation with a hip roof, a basement, and two modestly-sized chimneys, one central, the other inside the SW facade. The SE and NW sides of the roof are characterized by single hip dormers each with two single 4/4 double-hung sash windows, while the NE and SW sides assume a jerkin-head form. The block is four bays wide and two bays deep, yet with the exception of the SE facade and the upper floors of the NE, or principal facade, windows are irregularly disposed. They are given a unified appearance in that all are of similar type, 4/4 double-hung sash, framed in louvered green shutters. The NE facade is pierced by three windows on the first floor, four on the second, and two on the third; the SW facade, by one on the first, two on the second, and two on the third; and the SE and NW, each by two on the first and two on the second. Both outside doors, one on the right side of the NE facade, the other on the left side of the SE facade, are framed in simple architraves.

Ancillary parts include a porch along the NE and SE facades, and an addition adjoining the SW facade. The porch is supported by thirteen, for the most part regularly spaced, turned wood columns connected by a wood ballustrade. It is likely that the porch was extended around the SW facade at the time the addition was built. The frame, one-story square addition, dating from the early twentieth century, has a deck roof enclosed by a plain wood ballustrade. Door and window treatment are similar to that of the original section. Links between the two consists of a first story entry which probably had been an outside doorway and, onto the deck, a second story door which formally was a window. A bulkhead cellar entrance adjoins the SE facade, while an oversized wood fire escape tower (a recent addition) leads from the NW roof dormer, the left half of which has been converted to a door framed in its own gable.

Except for the upper floors of the NE facade which are covered with shingles laid in a staggered butt pattern, all walls are sheathed in white novelty siding. The roof is in green shingles.

Also on the property are an ornamental gate and well head canopy which may date from the twentieth century. Although no traces remain, a stable once stood directly behind the house (Tax assessment records, 1896; Bromley, 1898).

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

BA-2072

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 ca, 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John R. Wilhelm House is a fine example of turn of the century domestic vernacular architecture which borrows its formal characteristics from several high style sources. In particular, the L-shaped porch with diminutive turned columns and the combination of shingle siding inside the gable end with novelty siding below derive from the Queen Anne style, while the broad hip roof with dormers and jerkin-heads suggests the Shingle Style. Similarly, the regular massing, the suggestion of a bay system, and the uniform treatment of windows, shutters, columns, and ballustrade relate to the Classical Revival and recall the Federal style tradition.

The property was once part of Lot 3 (37 A.) in Howardville, which in 1882 was a new Baltimore suburb adjoining the Western Maryland Railway. In 1884, Lot 3 was purchased by Mary A. Rhodes, et al. Shortly thereafter, the parcel was replatted, creating the new suburb of Mellinee. Mary's husband, Charles C. Rhodes (1850-1921), an attorney, served as manager for the project. The house may have been built anytime between 1884 and 1896, when it first is listed in the tax assessment records. But of the three property owners for this period, Rhodes seems least likely to have built it, at least for himself; his residence is shown elsewhere on the plat of Mellinee. Since Elizabeth S. Black owned the property for only five years, it is unlikely that she would have made such substantial improvements, unless hers was a speculative venture. The builder is likely John R. Wilhelm. His family lived in the house for twenty-two years.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

BA-2072

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

See continuation sheet.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ca, 1.25 A.

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24 000  
Quadrangle Name: Baltimore West  
UTM References: 18, 351830, 4357550

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Lots No. 3,4,5,6,7 in section F, Plat of Mellinee (See Plat)

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE		Richard D. Meyer/Historic Sites Surveyor	
ORGANIZATION	Maryland Historical Trust	DATE	1980
STREET & NUMBER	21 State Circle	TELEPHONE	(301) 269-2438
CITY OR TOWN	Annapolis	STATE	Maryland 21401

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

BA-2072  
John R. Wilhelm House

9.

Baltimore County Land Records.

Bromley, Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. 1898  
and 1915.

Hopkins, Atlas of Baltimore Maryland and Environs.  
II. 1877.

Plat of Howardville, 1882 (Land Records Office,  
Baltimore Co.) JWS No. 1, part 1-123.

Plat of Mellinee, n.d. (Land Records Office, Balti-  
more Co.) JWS No. 1, part 1-103.

Rhodes, Charles C., file, Maryland Historical  
Society.

State Highway Administration, plat # 28759.

-----, R/W file # 54780.

Tax Assessment Records of Baltimore County, District  
Three, 1876 and 1896 (Records Management Office,  
Baltimore Co.)

BA-2072  
John R. Wilhelm House

Chain of Title

Murray Van Martindale Davies to Elizabeth Van Martindale  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  interest

2 July 1956 GLB 2968/553

Hazel A. Merritt to Mary V. Martindale, and at death to  
Elizabeth Van Martindale and Murray Van Martindale

7 August 1941 CHK 1171/331

Mary V. Martindale to Hazel A. Merritt

7 August 1941 CHK 1171/330

Mary A. Wilhelm, R. Mason Wilhelm, and Frank O. Wilhelm  
to Mary V. Martindale

7 September 1918 WPC 506/284

Elizabeth S. Black and William Sumpter Black to John R.  
Wilhelm

8 June 1896 LMB 210/527

John R. Wilhelm to Mary A. Wilhelm, with remainder to  
sons R. Mason Wilhelm and Frank O. Wilhelm  
will

23 November 1893

Mary A. Rhodes and Charles C. Rhodes to Elizabeth S. Black

11 September 1891 JWS 188/217

Charles F. Diggs and Camilla M. Diggs to Mary A. Rhodes

18 April 1884 WMI 140/571

Solomon King and wife to Charles F. Diggs

29 June 1883 WMI 135/466

Receivers of Howard Land Co. to Solomon King

27 June 1883 WMI 135/464

BA-2072

OVERSIZE DRAWINGS FOR WILHELM HOUSE ARE FOUND IN DRAWER 5,  
HORIZONTAL MAP CASES, MHT LIBRARY.

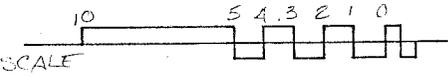
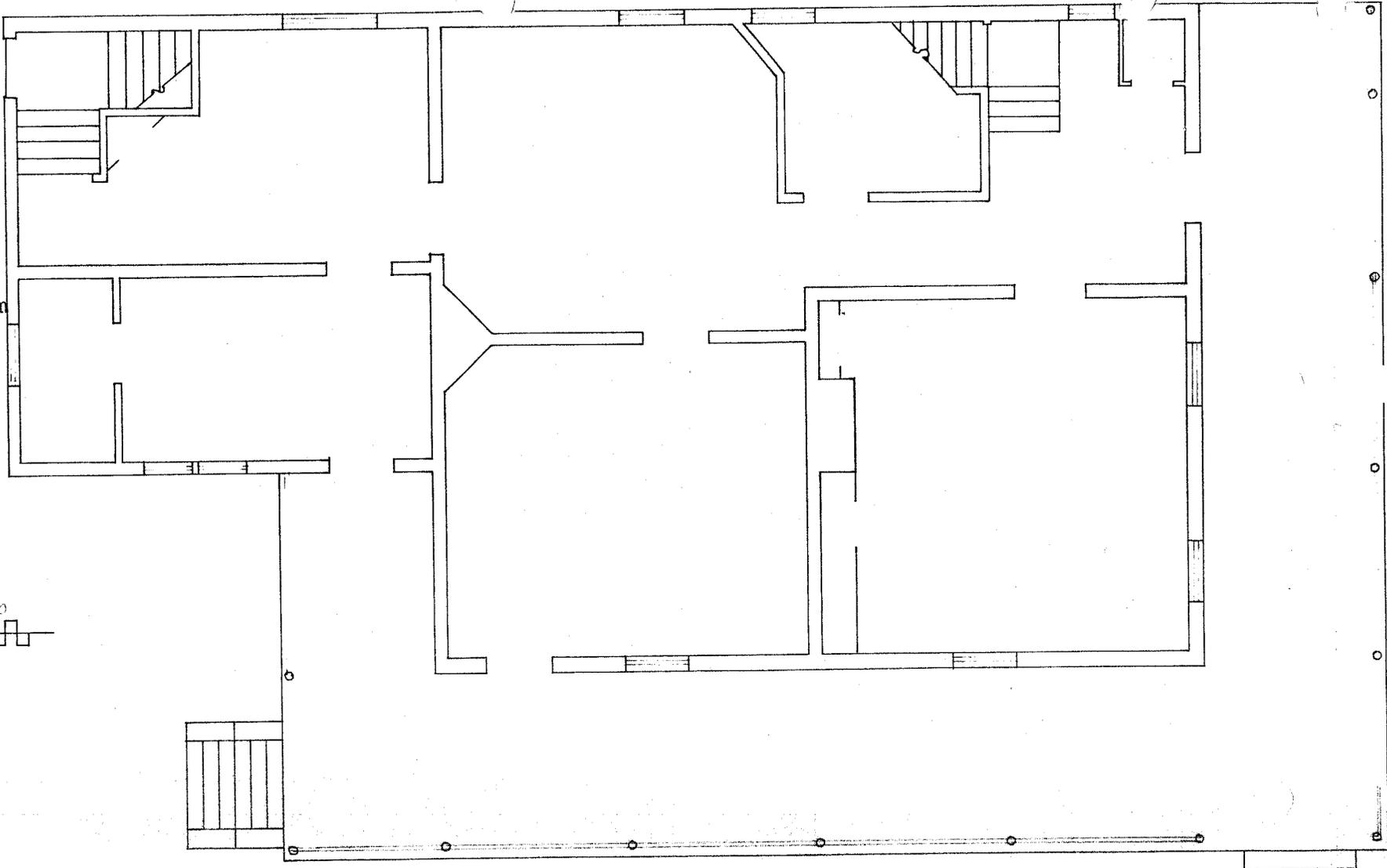
Drawing is floor plan, drawn on mylar film.

BA- 2072

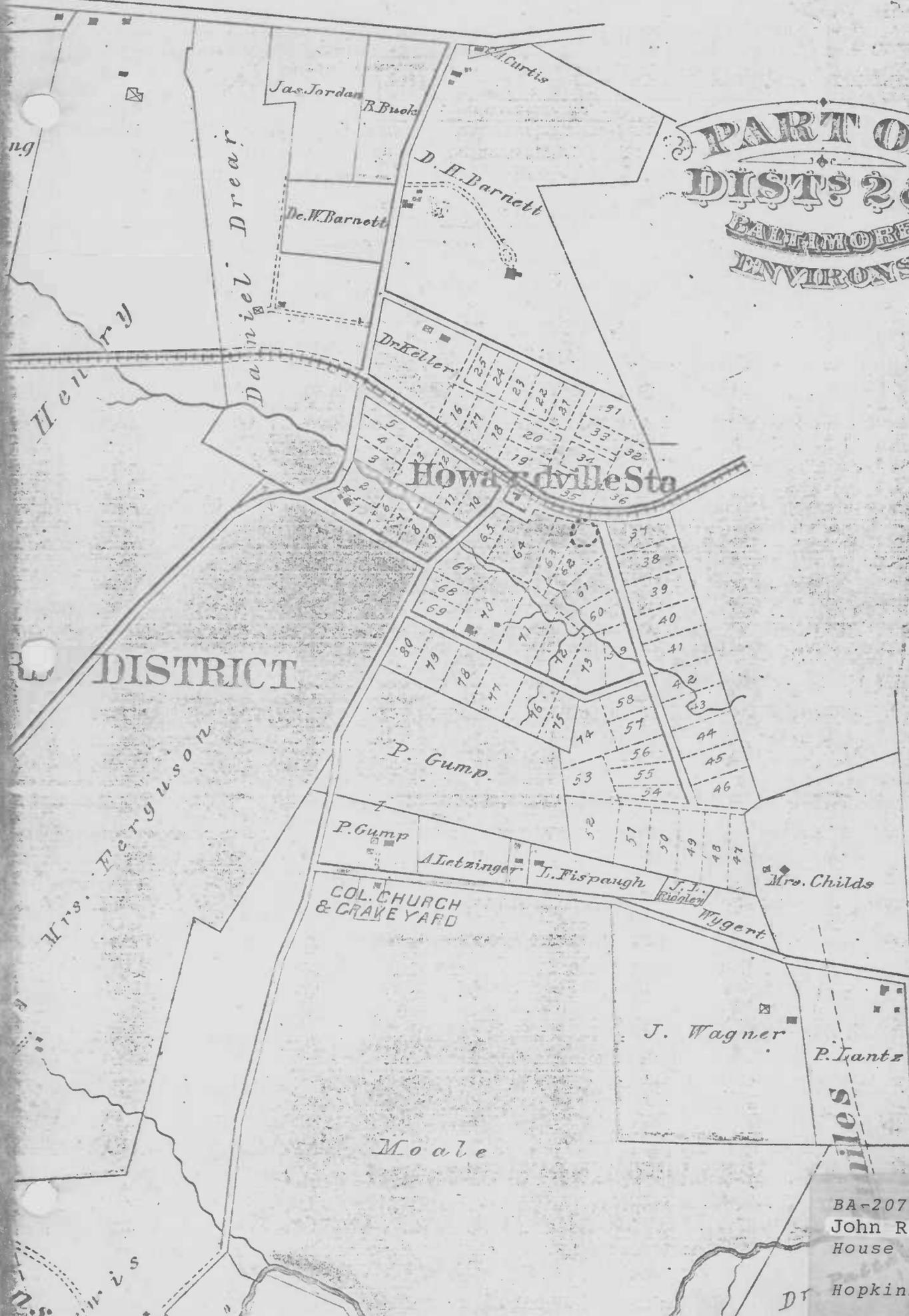
John R. Wilhelm  
HOUSE

M/DOT SURVEY  
JUNE 1980

HNEDEK/MEYER



PART OF  
DISTRICTS 2 & 3  
BALTIMORE  
ENVIRONS.



DISTRICT

PLATE F

BA-2072  
John R. Wilhelm  
House  
Hopkins: 1877

See Plat No. 23381

AVE. (Mac.)

Match Mark

Right of Way Line of  
Through Highway

S-45°-08'-57" W

Prop. Pipe

59785  
(ACQD, B)  
DESC  
HOW

93°-47'-00"

0+00 =  
27+179'

SEE SA  
#45

076

W.M.R.R.

MARSHDALE

Grove  
Trees

Hood  
R=1179.37

W.M.R.R. Property Line

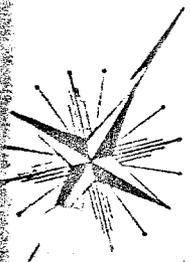
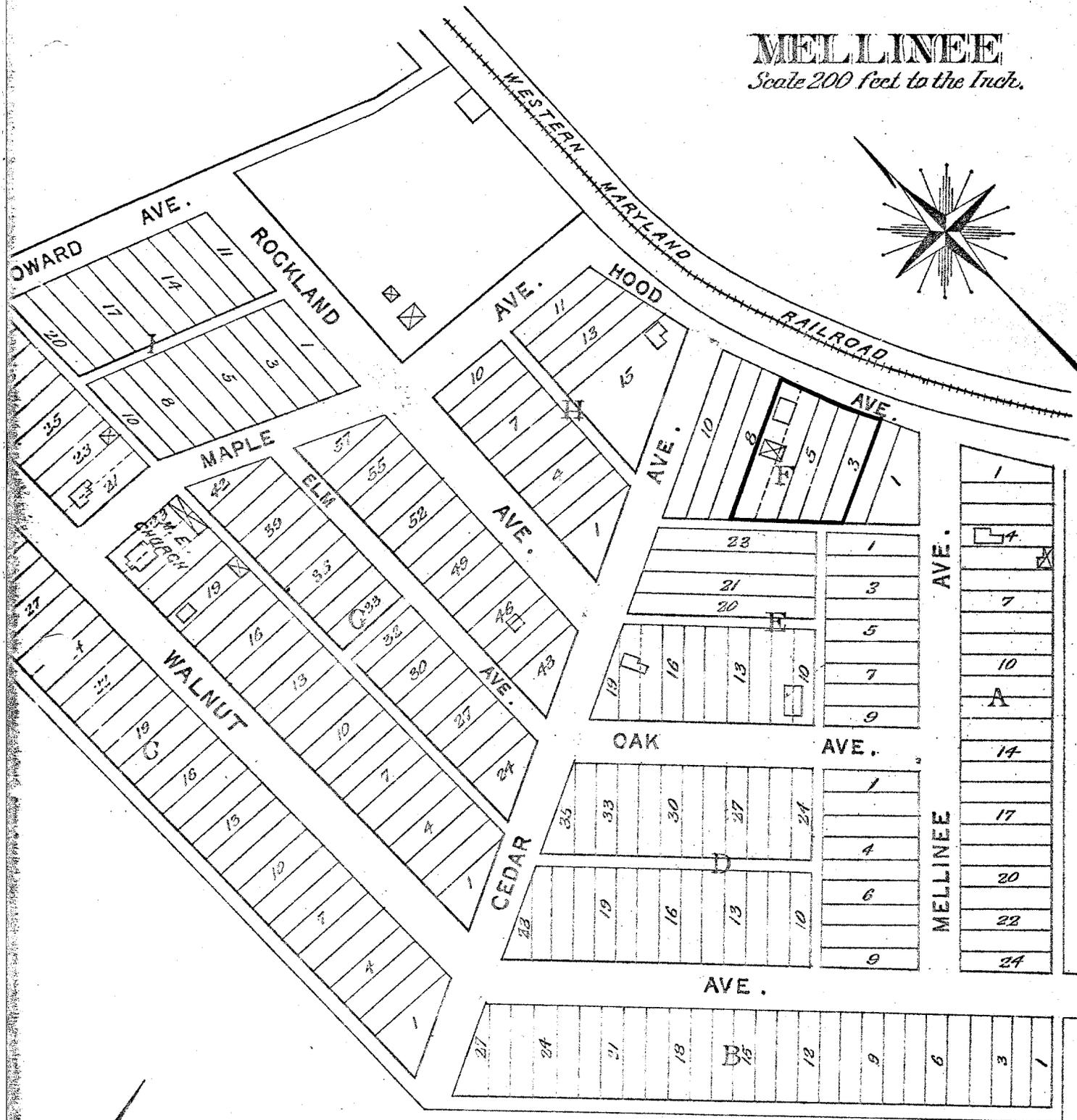
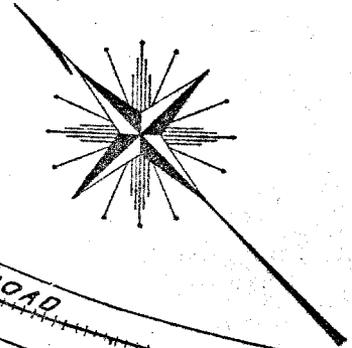
Curve M	BA-2072
$\Delta = 53^\circ-4'$	John R. Wilhelm
$D = 3^\circ-0'$	House
$E = 1909$	
$T = 967.1$	
$L = 1790$	SHA #28759
$E = 230$	

Right of Way Line

Line And  
Of Way Line



MELLINEE  
Scale 200 feet to the Inch.



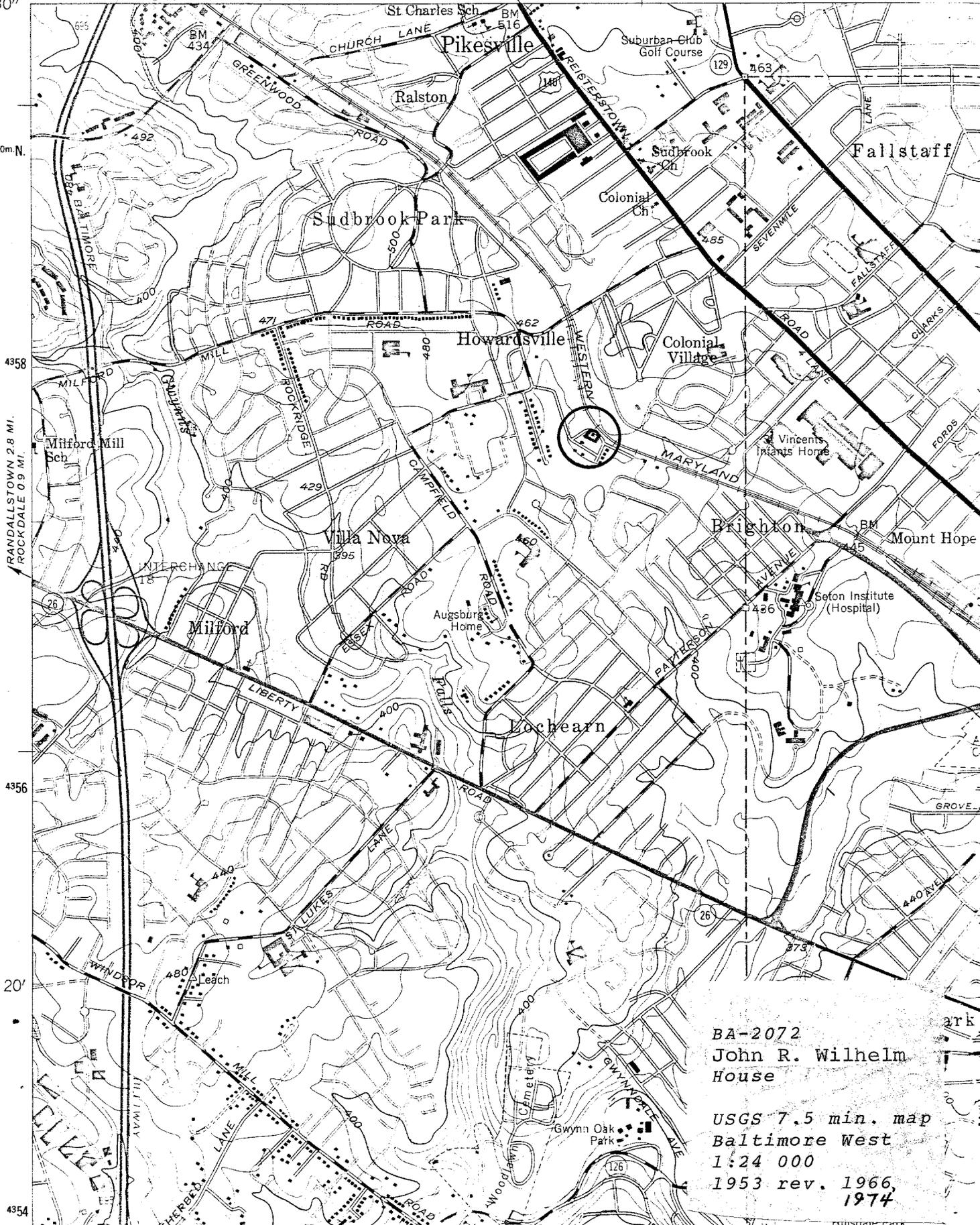
BA-2072  
John R. Wilhelm  
House

Bromley; 1898

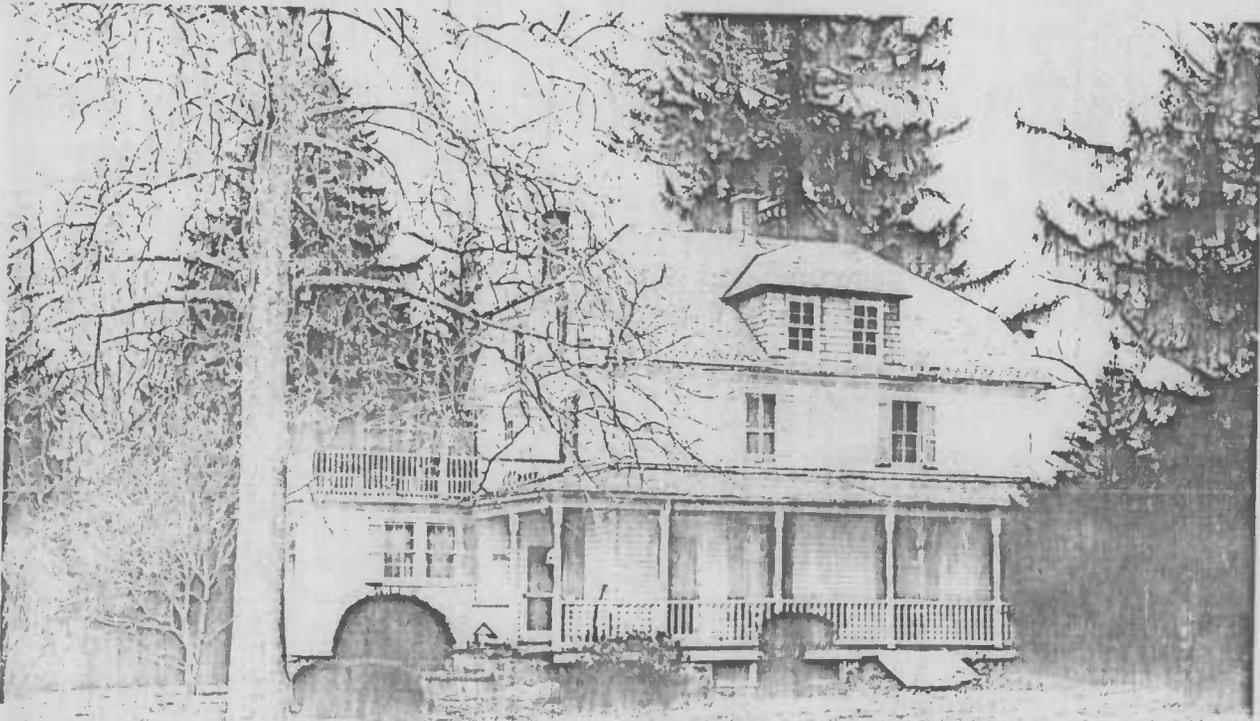
5662 N NE  
(REISTERSTOWN)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

76°45' 39°22'30" INTERCHANGE 20 (U.S. 140) 1 MI. WESTMINSTER 21 MI. REISTERSTOWN 8.8 MI. 352000m E. 42°30' 353



BA-2072  
John R. Wilhelm  
House  
USGS 7.5 min. map  
Baltimore West  
1:24 000  
1953 rev. 1966,  
1974



54780 side of BA-20D

BA-2072



BA-2072

