

WI-266 147  
Alfred C. Dykes Building  
Salisbury  
Private

1892

The Alfred C. Dykes building is a distinctive commercial structure located in Salisbury's central business district. The long-time location of Kuhn's Jewelers, this two-story, three-bay building is distinguished by pressed brick front accented with a variety of molded brick and terra cotta ornament. Rope molded stringcourses divide the second floor visually, and molded terra cotta panels highlight the segmental arches as well as the wall spaces between the window openings. The top of the wall is fitted with an original galvanized metal cornice that incorporates the date of construction, "1892." The building stands out on Salisbury's historic Main Street, converted several decades ago to a pedestrian plaza.

The construction date incorporated in the cornice and an explicit entry in the *Salisbury Advertiser*, on April 9, 1892, closely documents the building history of this commercial block. The newspaper announced:

Workman began this week on a building for Mr. A. C. Dykes on the property purchased of J. J. Morris, Esq. adjoining the post office. The building will be of brick, and tin roof, 22 feet front and 68 feet deep, two story with basement. It will be finished for barber shop in front and residence in rear and second floor. The residence portion will contain 7 rooms. The brick work will be done by Mr. A. W. Lankford under contract; the woodwork and general superintendence will be by Mr. T. M. Slemons. Mr. Dykes expects to have the building completed, ready for occupancy, by October 1st.

Alfred C. and Georgia Dykes sold the property seven years later to William J. Staton, who turned around two years later and transferred it to Samuel Q. Johnson in

October 1901. The property remained in Johnson family hands until 1974, when it was purchased by John R. and Ann Kuhn Purnell.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Alfred C. Dykes Building

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-266 147

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture  
Commerce

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance  
1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Commercial Block

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-266 147  
Magi No.  
DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Alfred C. Dykes Building  
and/or common Kuhn's Jewelers

**2. Location**

street & number 107 West Main Street on the Downtown Plaza  not for publication  
city, town Salisbury  vicinity of congressional district First  
state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<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 checked="" 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	<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 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 John R Purnell, et al  
street & number 27013 Edinburgh Court 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 Map 107, Parcel 1044  
liber 817  
street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 132  
city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title  
date  federal  state  county  local  
Jepository for survey records  
city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WI-266 147

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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.

The Alfred C. Dykes building, currently identified as Kuhn's Jewelers, is located at 107 West Main Street on the Downtown Plaza in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay brick commercial block faces south. The building is flanked on the east and west sides by adjacent commercial structures.

Dated to 1892, the two-story rectangular brick commercial building is three bays across and extends deeply into the lot which has access to what is historically referred to as "Bell Alley." The two-story, late nineteenth century commercial building has been extended to the rear by a single-story concrete block addition.

The south (main) elevation is three bays across. The first floor storefront, sheltered by a canvas awning, has been reworked in past few years with a stained wood and glass front that includes an entrance and large display windows. A side entrance in the east bay provides access to a staircase leading to the second floor. The second floor and cornice remain essentially unchanged since the late nineteenth century. The pressed brick facade is pierced by three evenly spaced windows filled with single-pane sash. Stretching across the facade at the height of the second floor window sills is a rope brick molding. The inner edges of the window openings are distinguished by a rounded corner brick, and each opening is topped by a segmental brick arch accented with a molded terra cotta keystone. A molded terra cotta panel is also centered in the wall between each window opening. A second rope molding stretches across the facade at the height of the second floor window arches. Additional molded brick stringcourses accent the top to the second floor wall, which is pierced by three rectangular vents. Fitted atop the front wall is a galvanized metal cornice with a centered cross gable. The three bays of the facade are marked by projecting blocks supported by fluted brackets. The two center blocks, which flank the gable, are fitted with turned finials. The face of the gable is distinguished by the date of construction, "1892," which is embossed in raised numbers along with a gentle scroll that flanks the date.

The interior has been reworked to suit modern store and office spaces.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-266 147

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1892 **Builder/Architect** Contractor, Thomas M. Slemons

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

The Alfred C. Dykes building is a distinctive commercial structure located in Salisbury's central business district. The long-time location of Kuhn's Jewelers, this two-story, three-bay building is distinguished by pressed brick front accented with a variety of molded brick and terra cotta ornament. Rope molded stringcourses divide the second floor visually, and molded terra cotta panels highlight the segmental arches as well as the wall spaces between the window openings. The top of the wall is fitted with an original galvanized metal cornice that incorporates the date of construction, "1892." The building stands out on Salisbury's historic Main Street, converted several decades ago to a pedestrian plaza.

Due to the distinctive architecture features of this building is qualifies for listing in *Category A*, which identifies buildings that must be retained due to their architectural and/or historical significance.

The construction date incorporated in the cornice and a explicit entry in the *Salisbury Advertiser*, on April 9, 1892, closely documents the building history of this commercial block. The newspaper announced:

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Alfred C. and Georgia Dykes sold the property seven years later to William J. Staton (2), who turned around two years later and transferred it to Samuel Q. Johnson in October 1901.(3) The property remained in Johnson family hands until 1974, when it was purchased by John R. and Ann Kuhn Purnell.(4)



8.1 SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)  
Alfred C. Dykes Building, WI-~~266~~ 147  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

Footnotes

- (1) *Salisbury Advertiser*, April 9, 1892 (Wicomico County Free Library)
- (2) Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 27/56, 1 September 1899 (Wicomico County Courthouse)
- (3) Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 32/49, 14 October 1901 (Wicomico County Courthouse)
- (4) Wicomico County Land Record, 817/132, 26 February 1974 (Wicomico County Courthouse)

WI-266 147

Alfred C. Dykes Building (Kuhn's Jewelers)

107 West Main Street (Downtown Plaza)

Salisbury, Maryland

Chain of title

817/132

Samuel Quinton Johnson, Jr.

to

2/26/1974

John R. Purnell

Ann Kuhn Purnell

the said Samuel Q. Johnson having since departed this life, testate and by Item Three of his Last Will and Testament 2/13/1917, JWD 1/215, devised property unto Nettie B. Johnson and unto Samuel Q. Johnson, Jr. and Robert White Johnson

JTT 32/49

William J. Staton, and wife Martha

Alfred C. Dykes

to

10/14/1901

Samuel Q. Johnson

Whereas the said Alfred C. Dykes has heretofore sold the property hereinafter described to said William J. Staton by deed dated 9/17/1899, JTT 27/56

WI-266 117

Page 2

Alfred C. Dykes Building (Kuhn's Jewelers)  
107 West Main Street (Downtown Plaza)  
Salisbury, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

JTT 27/56

Alfred C. Dykes  
Georgia Dykes

to

9/1/1899

William J. Staton

\$3,500 22 ½' on said street and running back an even width  
with east wall of the house on said lot in a straight  
line to the south side of 'Bell Alley' as established

JTT 9/288

Annie T. Morris, & husband Jeremiah J. Morris

to

10/17/1892

Alfred C. Dykes

\$1,400 beginning for the outlines at the South West corner  
of the brick building on said lot and running thence  
By and with the South and front wall of the said  
building 22 ½ feet to the South East corner of said  
thence by and with the East wall and in a direct line  
to the land of John Tracy 174 feet, thence by and  
with the said Tracy's land to the Protestant Episcopal  
Church lot 33 feet, etc.

WI-266 147

Page 3

Alfred C. Dykes Building (Kuhn's Jewelers)  
107 West Main Street (Downtown Plaza)  
Salisbury, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

SPT 5/342

Henrietta Byrd

to

3/ /1883

Annie T. Morris

\$4,726.64 "John Rider Lot"

SPT 5/341

Samuel A. Graham, Trustee

to

1/31/1883

Henrietta Byrd

Decree of Circuit Court 1/19/1874, Annie T. Byrd vs.  
William S. Parsons, et al. No. 159 Chancery

Somerset County  
Land Record  
GH 8/74-76

John Austin  
Jane C. Austin

to

7/10/1835

Jehu Parsons



# HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper, clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

## PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: KUEN JEWELERS  
Address of property Street: 107 WEST MAIN STREET  
City: SALISBURY County: WICOMICO State: MD Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of historic district in which property is located: \_\_\_\_\_

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:  
(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
(use reverse side if necessary)

Date of construction (if known): 1892  Original site  Moved Date of alterations (if known): 1928 - 1930

### 4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name: JUSTIN S. PIVANICH, PRES., PIVANICH REALTY  
Street: 107 WEST MAIN STREET  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number (during day) Area Code: 301-724-2232

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7-1-82

### For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and  contributes  does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure  appears  does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.8) and  will likely  will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which  appears  does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.8).  will likely  will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and  appears  does not appear to contribute to the character of a district.

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7-1-82  
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

is hereby certified a historic structure  
 does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register

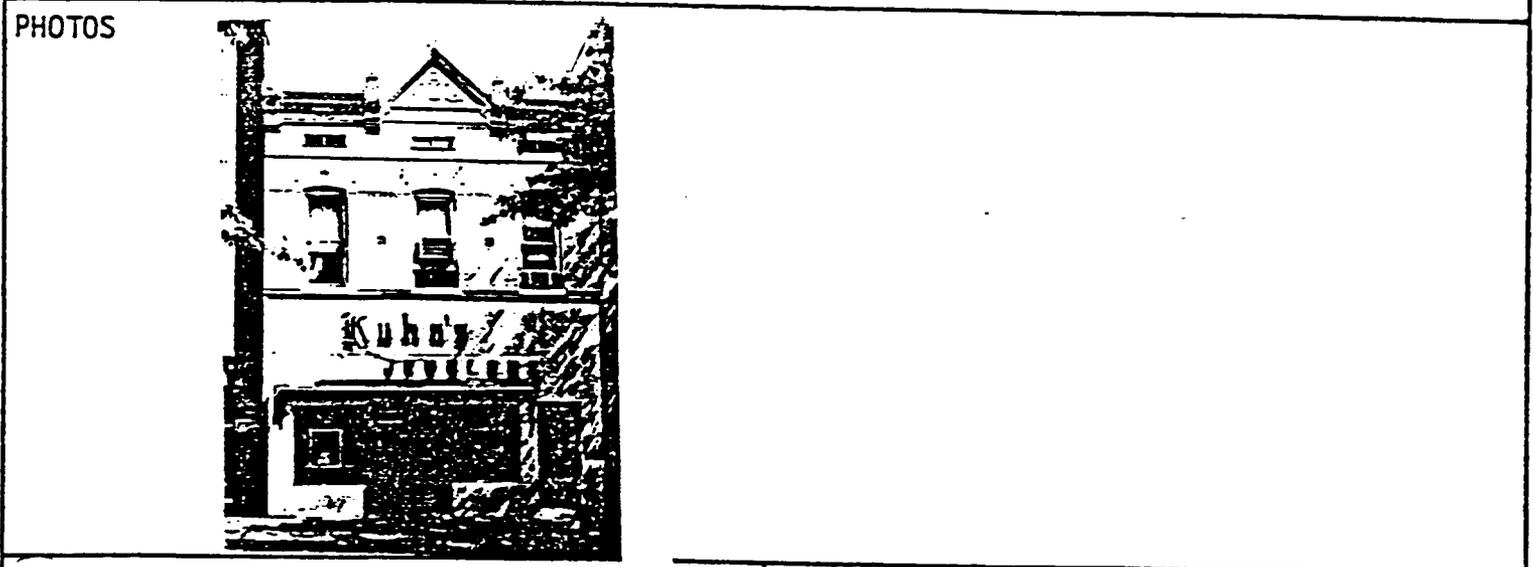


# DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY

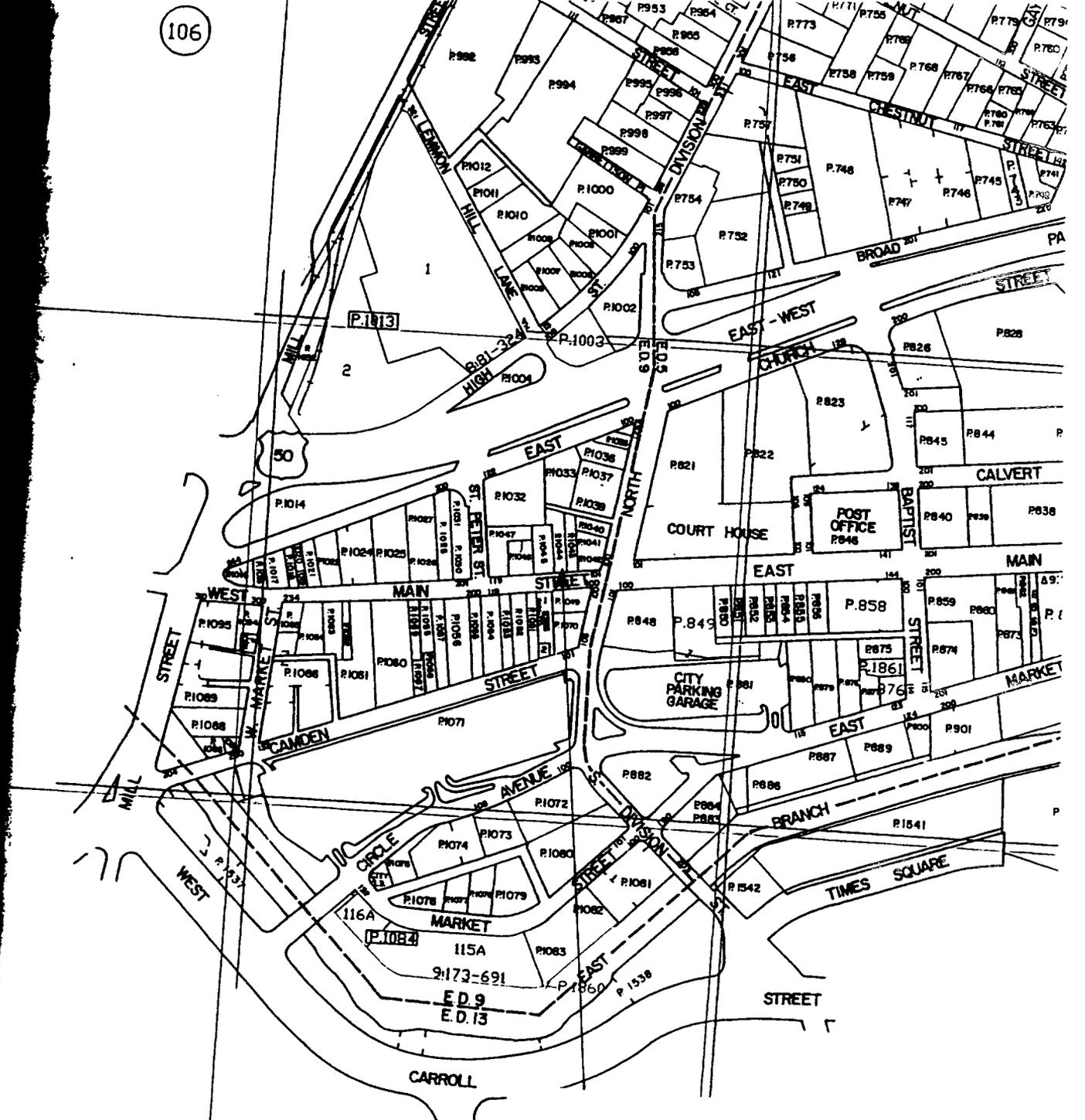
WI-147

<b>IDENTIFICATION</b>  Street address 107 W. Main Street Map & parcel Present owner John R. Purnell address Present use Kuhn's Jewelers Original owner Original use	<b>BASE DATA</b>  Historic name Date/Period 1892 Style Victorian Gothic Height (stories) 2 Present zoning CBD Land area (s.f.) Building area (s.f.) Assessed value (land + imp.)
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**ARCHITECTURAL AND SITE DESCRIPTION**  
 This building is typical of the Victorian Gothic commercial buildings built along Main Street in the years following soon after Salisbury's fire of 1886; rectangular in plan, with its first floor designed for display and its upper floor and attic for offices and apartments. Its ground floor facade was altered in the 1950's: facing brick was removed and replaced with white tile which encloses a primary entrance, placed between two small display windows and covered with an aluminum awning, and a secondary entrance to the upper floors on the east side of the building. The upper facade is three bays wide and is unmodified. The windows are topped with segmental arches, their springing lines connected by a decorative string-course. A horizontal brick cable-moulding divides the second-floor windows from the three decorative metal attic vents above. At the top of building is a pressed metal cornice with four finials. The two central finials frame a small gable which extends to a peak topped with an acroterion. Unlike many of its neighbors, 107 W. Main Street maintains much of its original character and is therefore a valuable component of the Main Street building ensemble.

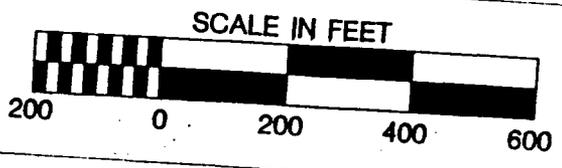


<b>CLASSIFICATION</b> A	DATE OF SURVEY 6-1981  SURVEY COMPLETED BY Kennedy Smith
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WI-266 147  
 Alfred C. Dykes Building  
 107 West Main Street  
 Wicomico County Tax Map 107  
 Parcel 1044

MAPS ARE PROTECTED BY COPYRIGHT. THEY MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN ANY FORM INCLUDING ELECTRONIC SUCH AS: DIGITIZING, SCANNING, AND IMAGE PROCESSING ANY SYSTEM NOW KNOWN OR TO BE INVENTED WITHOUT WRITING FROM THE PROPERTY MAP DIVISION.



WI-266 147

Alfred C. Dykes Building  
107 West Main Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, MD

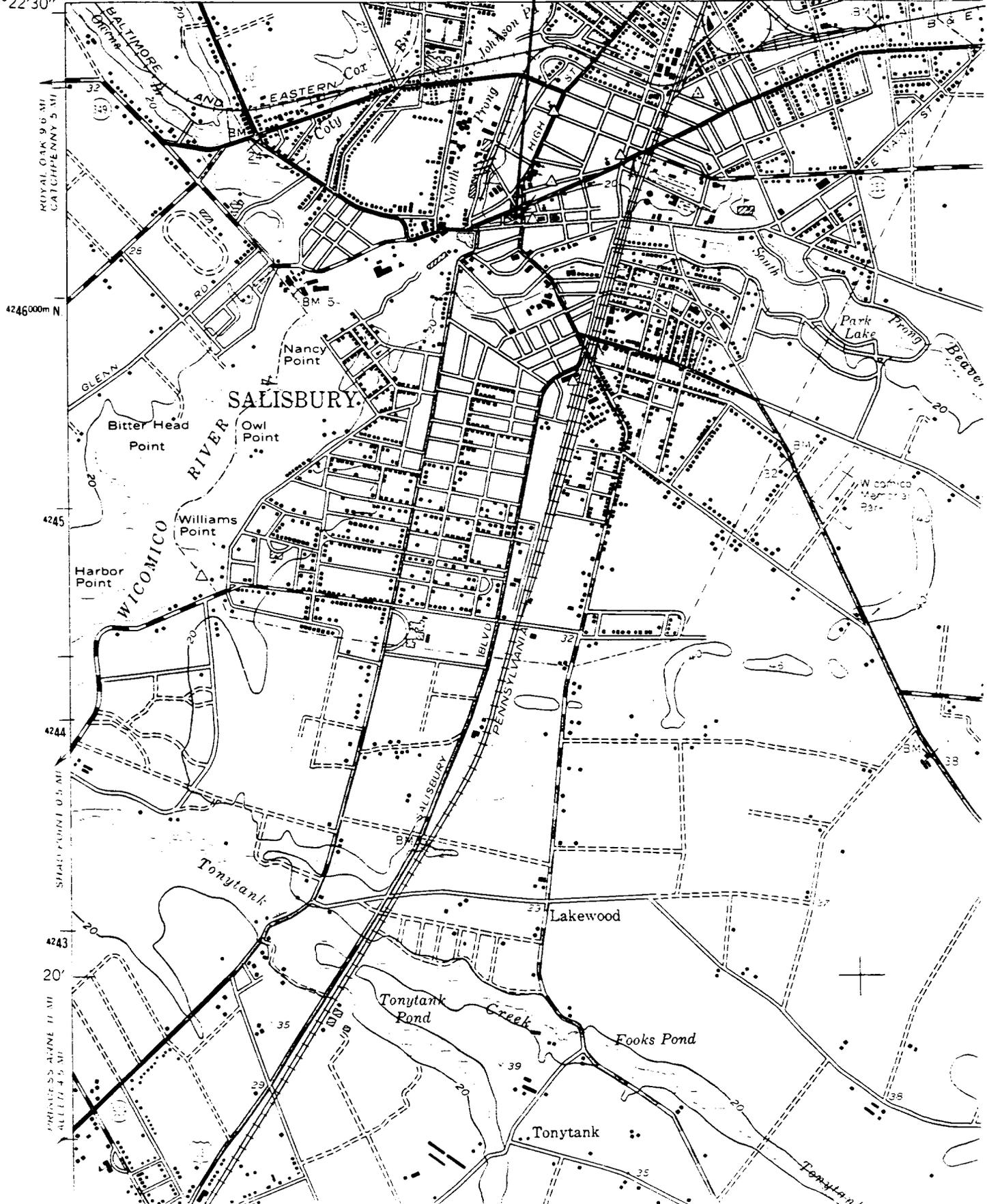
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIO  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

5860 1 NW  
(HEBRON)

75°37'30"  
38°22'30"

CAMP USE 31 1/2  
VIENNA 31 1/2  
447000m E



ROYAL OAK 9 0 0 MI  
CATCHPENNY 5 MI

4246000m N

4245

4244

4243

20'

SPRUE POINT 0.5 MI  
PRINCESS AVENUE 11 MI  
ALLEY 4.5 MI

4242



KUHNS JEWELERS









W/147

Address of ...  
(K... ..)

107 ... Street

... ..

... ..

3/98 ... ..

... ..