WI-254 c. 1850
Dr. Cathell Humphreys House
Salisbury
Private

Dr. Cathell Humphreys (1797-1866) and his second wife Isabella Huston (1807-1897) financed construction of this prominent three-story, three-bay frame dwelling that stands along North Division Street in the center of the Newtown Historic District. Distinguished as one of a small group of ante-bellum Greek Revival dwellings located in Newtown, the center hall/single-pile house displays many original features characteristic of the mid nineteenth century style. One of the most defining architectural elements is the three-story elevation of the main block, which is capped by a low pitched hip roof. The first and second stories were intended to appear as a uniform whole, clad in horizontal weatherboards and trimmed with paneled pilasters on each corner. The lapped weatherboards rise to the top of the second floor, where there is a break in the wall surface. Above the second floor level, the third floor was intended to read as a wide horizontal frieze with its smooth surface of flush weatherboards. The single story porch also reinforces the overall classical statement with paneled posts rising to a roof accented with a bold dentiled cornice. Furthermore, the entrance is highlighted by neoclassical columns. A slight indication of mid century Italianate influence is the use of large cornice brackets as well as the heavily molded panels of the front door. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing that incorporates a two-story porch on its south side.

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Both Dr. Humphreys and his wife Isabella held prominent positions in Salisbury society during the mid nineteenth century. Trained as a physician, Cathell Humphreys was a significant land owner in Salisbury and he was also a partner in the commercial firm of Humphreys & Tilghman, which included his brother Humphrey and William B. Tilghman. Cathell Humphreys' second wife Isabella Huston, was the daughter of Dr. John Huston, who owned Poplar Hill Mansion during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Isabella Huston Humphreys acquired several parcels of the Poplar Hill Mansion lands in her own name during the late 1840s and 1850s. At the time of the 1850 U. S. Census, Dr. Cathell Humphreys, aged 51, and Isabella Humphreys, aged 42, were listed in the household with seven children, Mary F., aged 24; Lenora, aged 16; Virginia, aged 13; Thomas, aged 11; Sally H., aged 6; Isabella, aged 3; and year old Huston. Cathell Humphreys died in 1866. Isabella remained in their house another 31 years, and her death in 1897 prompted a prominent article in the *Salisbury Advertiser* on July 3. The newspaper stated

> *Mrs. Humphreys was a daughter of the late Dr. John Huston, who purchased in 1800, Poplar Hill, then incomplete. Dr. Huston completed the property and made it the family home for over 50 years.*

In her will, Isabella Humphreys bequeathed "all my bills obligatory, promissory notes, or other evidence of debt of whatsoever kind, together with all houses and land I die possessed of, also all household and kitchen furniture, garden tools, and c." to her

WI-254

daughter Belle Humphrey Jones, who resided on North Division Street with her family until her death in 1920. In the wake of her death the property was sold to Elizabeth L. Herold, who operated a private grade school in the house during her ownership. Mrs. Herold's school was well attended, and many current residents of Salisbury recall classes under her supervision. Following Mrs. Herold, the old Humphreys house was owned by Elijah Stanton and Ellen Corddry Adkins between 1953 and 1970.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Dr. Cathell Humphreys House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-254

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870

4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

Survey No. WI-254

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic: Dr. Cathell Humphreys House

and/or common:

2. Location

street & number: 325 North Division Street ___ not for publication

city, town: Salisbury ___ vicinity of congressional district: First

state: Maryland county: Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name: Peter A. and Frances W. Kosinski

street & number: 325 North Division Street telephone no.:

city, town: Salisbury state and zip code: Maryland 21801

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 107, P. 813 liber 1107

street & number: Wicomico County Courthouse folio 429

city, town: Salisbury state: MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title:

date: ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records:

city, town: state:

7. Description

Survey No. WI-254

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

The Dr. Cathell Humphreys house stands at 325 North Division Street in the center of the Newtown Historic District in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The three-story, three-bay, center hall frame dwelling faces west with a low pitched hip roofed oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1850, the three-story, center hall, single-pile main block is supported on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain weatherboards and flush board siding above the second floor level. Attached to the back of the main house is a two-story service wing.

The west (main) elevation is a three-bay symmetrical front with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The entrance is distinguished by a six-panel front door. The heavily molded panels in octagonal. Flanking the door are three-light sidelights and a five-pane transom overhead. The entrance bay is also distinguished by pilasters. The adjacent windows have wide board surrounds and molded lintels. Each window is flanked by louvered shutters. Stretching across the first floor is a flat roofed porch supported on square, paneled column posts. A row of bold dentils embellishes the cornice. Fixed between the posts are sections of handrail. The second floor is defined by a three-bay elevation with a center tripartite window and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The center tripartite window includes a center six-over-six sash flanked by narrow two-over-two sidelights. The window opening is framed by a wide surround capped by a molded lintel. The center window does not have shutters although shutter hardware remains. The six-over-six sash windows to each side retain their louvered shutters. The outside corners of the house are trimmed with paneled pilasters, which rise to the top of the second floor level, above which the wall is sheathed with flush shiplap siding. The top floor is defined by samll rectangular four-pane windows. The center window has narrow two-pane sidelights. Evenly spaced across the cornice are bold sawn brackets that are set in pairs on each side of the attic window openings. The edge of the roof is trimmed with a bold cornice.

The south gable end of the house is defined by pairs of six-over-six sash windows on the first and second floors, and like the front windows, each opening is trimmed with a molded lintel and louvered shutters. The third floor, defined by flush board siding, is pierced by a pair of four-pane windows. Rising through the end of the house is a interior brick chimney. The north gable end is similarly detailed with windows on each side of an interior brick chimney.

The east (rear) wall of the front block is largely covered by a two-story service wing that is extended on its south side with a two-story, partially enclosed porch. Attached to the east gable end of the two-story service wing is a shorter two-story, one room pland section that is extended farther by a single-story shed roofed porch.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-254

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B X C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state X local

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

Dr. Cathell Humphreys (1797-1866) and his second wife Isabella Huston (1807-1897) financed construction of this prominent three-story, three-bay frame dwelling that stands along North Division Street in the center of the Newtown Historic District. Distinguished as one of a small group of ante-bellum Greek Revival dwellings located in Newtown, the center hall/single-pile house displays many original features characteristic of the mid nineteenth century style. One of the most defining architectural elements is the three-story elevation of the main house, which is capped by a low pitched hip roof. The first and second stories were intended to appear as a uniform whole, clad in horizontal weatherboards and trimmed with paneled pilasters on each corner and ending at the third floor level. In contrast, the third floor was intended to read as a wide horizontal frieze with its smooth surface of flush weatherboards. The single story porch also reinforces the overall classical statement with paneled posts rising to a roof accented with a bold dentiled cornice. Furthermore, the entrance is highlighted by neoclassical columns. A slight indication of mid century Italianate influence is the use of large cornice brackets as well as the heavily molded panels of the front door. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing that incorporates a two-story porch on its south side.

Both Dr. Humphreys and his wife Isabella held prominent positions in Salisbury during the mid nineteenth century. Trained as a physician, Cathell Humphreys was a significant land owner in Salisbury at mid century and he was also a partner in the commercial firm of Humphreys & Tilghman which included his brother Humphrey and William B. Tilghman.[1] Cathell Humphreys' second wife, Isabella Huston, was the daughter of Dr. John Huston, who owned Poplar Hill Mansion during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Isabella Huston Humphreys acquired several parcels of the Poplar Hill Mansion lands in her own name during the late 1840s and 1850s.[2] At the time of the 1850 U. S. Census, Dr. Cathell Humphreys, aged 51, and Isabella Humphreys, aged 42,

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[1] Richard W. Cooper, *Salisbury in Times Gone By*, Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1991, p. 74.

[2] Somerset County Land Records, WP 2/207, 28 May 1847; WP 4/34, 18 January 1849; WP 6/260, 22 Mach 1851.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-254

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ **Quadrangle scale** _____

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
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
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	**date**	7/9/97
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

PS-2746

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)
Dr. Cathell Humphreys House
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

were listed in the household with seven children, Mary F., aged 24; Lenora, aged 16; Virginia, aged 13; Thomas, aged 11; Sally H., aged 6; Isabella, aged 3; and year old Huston.[3] Cathell Humphreys died in 1866. Isabella remained in their house another 31 years, and her death in 1897 prompted a prominent article in the *Salisbury Advertiser* on July 3. The newspaper stated

> *Mrs. Humphreys was a daughter of the late Dr. John Huston, who purchased in 1800, Poplar Hill, then incomplete. Dr. Huston completed the property and made it the family home for over 50 years.*[4]

In her will, Isabella Humphreys bequeathed "all my bills obligatory, promissory notes, or other evidence of debt of whatsoever kind, together with all houses and land I die possessed of, also all household and kitchen furniture, garden tools, and c."[5] to her daughter Belle Humphrey Jones, who resided on North Division Street with her family until her death in 1920.[6] In the wake of her death the property was sold to Elizabeth L. Herold, who operated a private grade school in the house during her ownership.[7] Mrs. Herold's school was well attended, and many current residents of Salisbury recall classes under her supervision. Following Mrs. Herold, the old Humphreys house was owned by Elijah Stanton and Ellen Corddry Adkins between 1953 and 1970.[8]

The property is listed under *Category A*, which identifies buildings that must be retained due to their architectural and historical character.

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[3] Seventh Census of the United States, Somerset County, Population Schedule, transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden.

[4] *Salisbury Advertiser*, 3 July 1897.

[5] Wicomico County Register of Wills, ELW 1/399, Proved 6 July 1897.

[6] Wicomico County Register of Wills, JWD 1/333.

[7] Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 121/481, 23 February 1921.

[8] Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 352/319, 10 December 1953.

WI-254
Dr. Cathell Humphreys House
(Mrs. Herold's School)
325 North Division Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 107, Parcel 813

1107/429	James A. Lloyd Babette A. Lloyd
	to
6/12/1987	Peter A. Kosinski Frances W. Kosinski
AS 951/638	Anna L. Emond
	to
11/29/1980	James A. Lloyd
	$59,000.
JWTS 704/288	Elijah Stanton Adkins Ellen Corddry Adkins
	to
1/9/1970	Robert G. Emond Anna L. Emond

JWTS 500/408	Charles A. Blizzard IV Sara N. Blizzard
	to
4/4/1960	Elijah Stanton Adkins Ellen Corddry Adkins
500/406	Elijah Stanton Adkins Ellen Corddry Adkins
	to
4/4/1960	Charles A. Blizzard IV Sara N. Blizzard
JWTS 352/319	Elizabeth L. Herold, widow
	to
12/10/1953	Elijah Stanton Adkins, single
JCK 121/481	Jay Williams, executor
	to
2/23/1921	Elizabeth L. Herold
	Whereas by the Last, Will, and Testament of Belle H. Jones, deceased, 4/6/1920, JWD 1/333, Jay Williams was constituted and appointed

executor of the said Belle H. Jones

"I, Belle H. Jones, widow of Purnell E. Jones...

Item 9 I constitute and appoint attorney Jay Williams to be the executor...that my said executor convert into cash my property as soon as convenient...I hereby authorize and empower my said executor to sell my house and lot on North Division Street in this city

ELW 1/399

Last Will and Testament of Isabella Humphreys widow of Doctor Cathell Humphreys

to

Proved
7/6/1897

Belle H. Jones, executrix

Item Second: After the payment of all my just debts and liabilities, I give and devise unto my daughter Belle H. Jones all my bills obligatory, promissory notes, or other evidences of debt of whatsoever kind, together with all houses and land I die possessed of, also all household and kitchen furniture, garden tools, and c.

Worcester County
Land Record
EDM 6/500

Sarah Huston

to

11/17/1854

Isabella Humphreys (wife of Dr. Cathell Humphreys)

$250.00 "Pemberton's Good Will"

and being part of the ground laid off by said Sarah in town lots and more particularly described as follows to wit: Beginning at a post set up on the south side of Isabella Street at the end of the first line of John Holloway's lot sold him by said Sarah

2/3 acre and including lots number 15 and 18 on the plat of lots laid off by said Sarah

Somerset County
Land Record
WP 6/260

John H. Handy, Somerset

to

3/22/1851

Isabella Humphreys, Consort of Doctor Cathell Humphreys

$ 33.33 1/3 8 acres

Somerset County
Land Record
WP 4/34

Sarah Huston, Sally F. Huston, Worcester County

to

1/18/1849

Isabella Humphreys, Somerset County, consort of Dr. Cathell Humphreys

$166.66 2/3 "Pemberton's Good Will"

"in and near to the town of Salisbury in Somerset County, Maryland, formerly owned and possessed by Dr. John Huston, bound the east by the County road leading from Salisbury to Laurel, Del. on the south and west by estate or mill property purchased by C. & H. Humphrey's from Josiah Bayley on the north by the lands of Thomas Layfield and Benjamin Gordy the said lot of ground being situated immediately opposite Mrs. Sarah Huston's dwelling house

Somerset County
Land Record
WP 2/207

Robert D. Handy, Somerset

to

5/28/1847

Isabella Humphreys, of Somerset County

$ 33.33 1/3 "Pemberton's Good Will"

situated on the west side of the County road dividing Worcester from Somerset County and leading from Salisbury to Middle Neck Bridge late the property of Dr. John Huston and immediately opposite the dwelling house of Mrs. Sarah Huston and near Bayly's Mills and containing by estimation about eight acres being bounded on the south by Bayly's Mill Grove, on the west by the the (sic) lands belonging to said mills, now the property of Dr. Cathell Humphreys and Humphrey Humphreys and on the north by the lands of Thomas Layfield and Benjamin H. Gordy

Somerset County
Will Book
JP 4/107

Last Will and Testament of General Thomas Humphreys

2nd Item Estate to be equally divided between children
1. Cathell Humphreys
2. Humphrey Humphreys

Written
7/15/1820
Proved
1/5/1826

3. George Washington Humphreys
4. Mary Anne Humphreys
5. Leah Murray Humphreys
6. Elizabeth McBride Humphreys

As I have given my son Cathell Humphreys a liberal education which has cost me a large sum of money I therefore will that he pay unto the rest of my children one thousand dollars out of his part of my estate as above willed

1850 United States Census (Seventh Census of the United States)

Cathell Humphreys, 51, physician (1797-1866) married first Leah Walker (died 1841) married second Isabella Huston
Isabella Humphreys, 42 (1807-1897)
Mary F. Humphreys, 24
Lenora Humphreys, 16
Virginia Humphreys, 13
Thomas Humphreys, 11 (1839-1897)
Sally H. Humphreys, 6 (1844-1862)
Isabella Humphreys, 3
Huston Humphreys, 1 (1848-1881)

1860 United States Census (Eighth Census of the United States)

Cathell Humphreys, 59, physician, Value of Real Estate, $ 25,000, Personal Property, $ 7,500
Isabella Humphreys, 46
Francis Humphreys, 28, female
Lenora Humphreys, 26, female
Virginia Humphreys, 24, female
Thomas Humphreys, 20, male
Sarah Humphreys, 15, female
Belle Humphreys, 13, female
Huston Humphreys, 11, male

Miscellaneous deeds associated with Cathell Humphreys

Somerset County
Land Record
WP 4/36 Josiah Bayley, Jr. Dorchester County

to

12/18/1848 Cathell Humphreys
Humphrey Humhreys

Whereas on the 28th day of July 1845 Josiah Bayley of Dorchester County did sell and execute his bond to convey to Cathell Humphreys and Humphrey Humphreys his mills near to and adjoining the Town of Salisbury

SALISBURY

WICOMICO CO.

Dists. Nos 95 & 8

WI-254
Dr. Cathell Humphreys House
Salisbury

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson
Atlas 1877

AND S. [illegible]
Gents' furnishing Goods, &c. No. 47 Main St.
ILLIS AND SON, Wholesale and Retail
lers in Groceries, Provisions, Notions, Gilling-
e, Wood and Willow-ware, Fishing Tackle,
on and Manilla Rope, Corn-meal, &c. No. 70
Street.
AYMAN, Dealer in Groceries, Tobacco,
ons and General Merchandise. No. 69 Main
t.

Editors.

HL MALONE, Editor of the "Salisbury
ertis
EI itor and Publisher of the "Eastern
rem.

Fruit Dealer.

CATHELL, Dealer in, and Grower of Small
its. Salisbury, Md.

Hotel.

TRACY, Proprietor of the "Peninsula Ho-
" also of the "Atlantic Hotel," "Ocean City."

sale and Retail Dealer in Dressed Flooring, [illegible]
faced Boards, House-framing, Box-boards, Oak
Lumber suitable for Vessel Material, Gum, Wal-
nut, Oak and Cherry Hubs, Balusters, Newel Posts,
Fence Pickets, Post Caps, Flower Vases, Broom
Handles, Spinning Wheels, Pumps. Turning of
all Kinds and Styles of Wood and Iron a Specialty.
Wool carded from July 1st to October 31st. Also
Manufacturer of Flour, Meal and Feed Stuff. Wi-
comico Falls Mills, No. 2 Mill Street, Salisbury, Md.

Mills.

GEO. W. LEONARD, Farmer and Proprietor of Saw and Grist Mill. Res. and mill 4½ miles north of Salisbury.

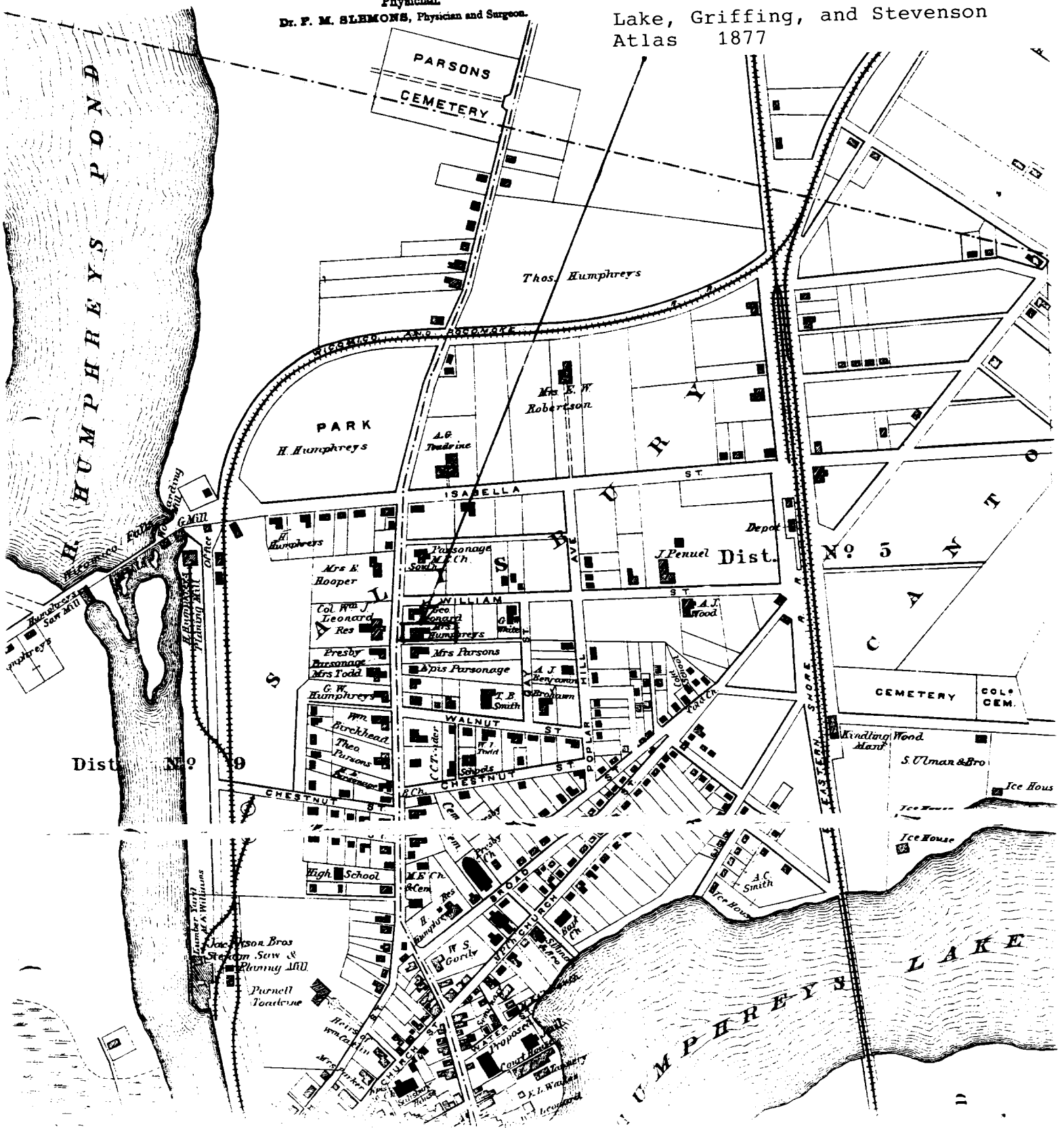
JOHN WILLIAMS, Farmer and Proprietor of Saw and Grist Mill 5 miles north of Salisbury.

GEO. H. 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.

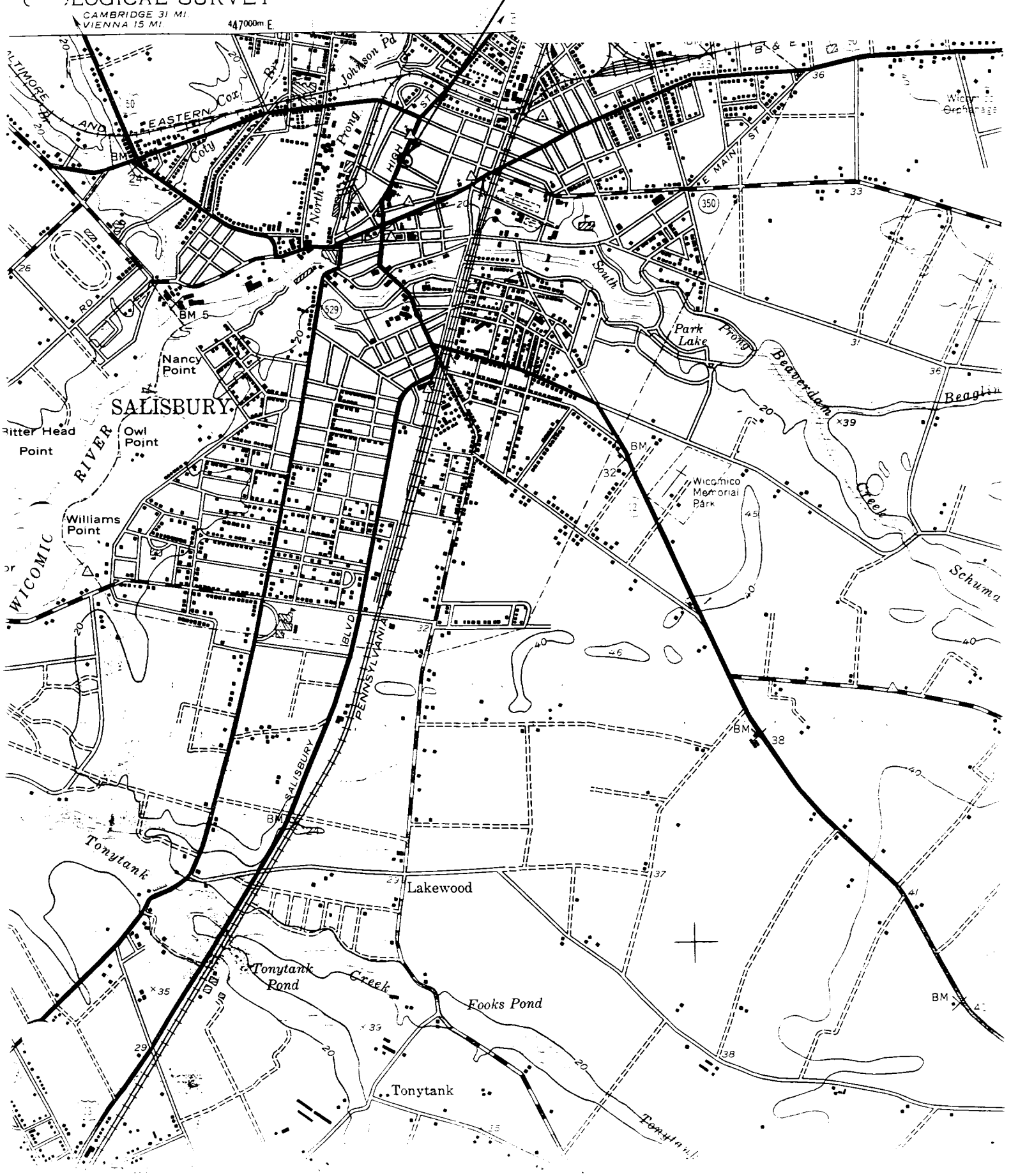
Physician.

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



WI-254
Dr Cathell Humphreys House

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942



WI-254

Dr. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

PARSONS
ONE
WAY

No. 254

Dr [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

WI- 254