WI-637 1905
Frank M. Mitchell House
Salisbury
Private

Prominent among the structures that define the south side of East Isabella Street is the Frank M. Mitchell house, a two-and-a-half story, Colonial Revival dwelling enhanced with distinctive period details including four pilasters that evenly divide the three-bay façade. Also characteristic features of the style include the Palladian-inspired three-part second floor window, a prominent series of rooftop gables and dormers as well as the Tuscan columned porch with its curved outside corners. Assembled in yellowish-gray stretcher bond, the brick dwelling is enriched wit brick jack arches over the window openings and a modillion block cornice that encircles the steeply pitched hip roof. Although no longer surviving, a balustrade most likely accented the top edge of the hip roof.

A short article printed in the The Wicomico News on March 23, 1905 documents the start of construction of this well-crafted house. The newspaper announced that

> *Workmen began excavating Wednesday for the new residence of Mr. Frank Mitchell on East Isabella street. The building will be of gray brick, specially made by the Salisbury Brick Company, of which Mr. Mitchell is a stockholder. Mr. Mitchell intends to build a very handsome and convenient residence with all modern conveniences. There will be four rooms on the first floor with a large roomy porch. When the building is completed it will add much to an already beautiful section of Salisbury.*

Listed as a "carpenter" in the 1907 Salisbury city directory, Frank Mitchell had a direct hand in construction, and the family owned Salisbury Brick Company manufactured the

distinctive brick. Within a few years of completion, Frank Mitchell and his wife Ella transferred ownership of the Isabella Street residence to Charles E. Williams, in whose family the property remained until 1936. For thirty years following the 1936 transfer, the house was held by Johan and Virginia T. Langeler.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-637

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic: Frank M. Mitchell House

other: Mitchell-Langeler House

2. Location

street and number: 112 East Isabella Street — __ not for publication

city, town: Salisbury — vicinity

county: Wicomico

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

name: D. Ernest and Dorothy H. Matthews

street and number: 112 East Isabella Street — telephone

city, town: Salisbury — state MD — zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Wicomico County Clerk of Court — liber 696 — folio 227

city, town: Salisbury — tax map 107 — tax parcel — tax ID number 5-014727

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

_____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
_____ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
_____ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
_____ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
_____ Recorded by HABS/HAER
_____ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
_____ Other:_____

6. Classification

Category
__ district
x building(s)
__ structure
__ site
__ object

Ownership
__ public
x private
__ both

Current Function
__ agriculture
__ commerce/trade
__ defense
x domestic
__ education
__ funerary
__ government
__ health care
__ industry
__ landscape
__ recreation/culture
__ religion
__ social
__ transportation
__ work in progress
__ unknown
__ vacant/not in use
__ other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	____	buildings
____	____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
2	____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

_____

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-637

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
x good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

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

The Frank M. Mitchell house, also known as the Mitchell-Langeler house, is a two-and-a-half story, three-bay brick dwelling located at 112 East Isabella Street in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The house faces north with the principal roof orientation oriented on an east/west axis. Supported on a slightly raised foundation with an excavated cellar, the brick dwelling is covered by a steeply pitched hip roof with a flattened top that most likely carried a rooftop balustrade which no longer survives. Joining the house on the lot is a single-story, hip roofed brick garage.

The north (main) façade is a symmetrical three-bay, stretcher bond elevation in yellowish-gray brick with four pilasters defined the wall. The pilasters rise to the top of the second story and are finished with an egg-and-dart capital molding. The symmetrical fenestration is defined by a center entrance and paired nine-over-one sash windows to each side. The window openings are spanned by brick jack arches. The partially glazed front door is framed by leaded glass sidelights and a divided leaded glass transom. The first floor is sheltered by a single-story Tuscan columned porch enriched with a modillion block cornice. Atypically, the outside corners of the porch are rounded. The second story is defined by a center window of Palladian design with a round arched center window and flanking six-over-one sash windows. A round brick arch tops the center panel, and Tuscan colonettes are located to each side. Stretching across the base of the hip roof is a modillion block cornice. Centered above the Palladian style window is a rooftop cross gable pierced by a lunette window fitted with radiating muntins. To each side are gable roofed dormers with pediment fronts and fifteen-over-one sash windows. The sides of each dormer are covered with slate.

The east side of the house is defined by two bays with nine-over-one sash windows on each floor. The windows are topped by jack arches. Attached to the southeast corner is a single-story sun-room that is marked by large glass panes above a brick foundation. Rising through the edge of the hip roof is an interior brick stack. The west side elevation, on the other hand, is a three-bay asymmetrical façade defined by nine-over-one sash windows as well as smaller openings. Two brick stacks rise through the west slope of the hip roof.

The south (rear) wall is largely covered by a two-story enclosed porch. Fixed atop the roof are three gable roofed dormers filled with fifteen-over-one sash windows.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-637

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	__ agriculture	__ economics	__ health/medicine	__ performing arts
__ 1700-1799	__ archeology	__ education	__ industry	__ philosophy
__ 1800-1899	x architecture	__ engineering	__ invention	__ politics/government
x 1900-1999	__ art	__ entertainment/ recreation	__ landscape architecture	__ religion
__ 2000-	__ commerce		__ law	__ science
	__ communications	__ ethnic heritage	__ literature	__ social history
	__ community planning	__ exploration/ settlement	__ maritime history	__ transportation
	__ conservation		__ military	__ other:

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates 1905

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ____x____not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Prominent among the structures that define the south side of East Isabella Street is the Frank M. Mitchell house, a two-and-a-half story, Colonial Revival dwelling enhanced with distinctive period details including four pilasters that evenly divide the three-bay façade. Most distinctive are the Palladian-inspired, three-part second floor window, a prominent series of rooftop gables and dormers as well as the Tuscan columned porch with its curved outside corners. Assembled in a yellowish-gray stretcher bond, the brick dwelling is enriched with brick jack arches over the window openings and a modillion block cornice that encircles the steeply pitched hip roof. Although no longer surviving, a balustrade most likely accented the top of the hip roof.

A short article in printed in *The Wicomico News* on March 23, 1905 documents the start of construction of this well-crafted house. The newspaper announced that

> *Workmen began excavating Wednesday for the new residence of Mr. Frank Mitchell on East Isabella street. The building will be of gray brick, specially made by the Salisbury Brick Company, of which Mr. Mitchell is a stockholder. Mr. Mitchell intends to build a very handsome and convenient residence with all modern conveniences. There will be four rooms on the first floor with a large roomy porch. When the building is completed it will add much to an already beautiful section of Salisbury.*[1]

[1] *The Wicomico News*, 23 March 1905.

Listed as a "carpenter in the 1907 Salisbury city directory, Frank Mitchell had a direct hand in construction, and the family owned Salisbury Brick Company manufactured the distinctive brick. Within a few years of completion, Frank Mitchell and his wife Ella transferred ownership of the Isabella Street residence to Charles E. Williams,[2] in whose family the property remained until 1936.[3] For thirty years following, the house was held by Johan and Virginia T. Langeler.[4]

[2] Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 68/25, 19 November 1909.
[3] Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 196/218, 29 May 1936.
[4] Wicomico County Land Record, 696/227, 18 June 1969.

Frank H. Mitchell House
112 East Isabella Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland

Map 107, Parcel

696/227	Johan Langeler and Virginia T. Langeler
	to
6/18/1969	D. Ernest Matthews and Dorothy H. Matthews
IDT 196/218	Charles Edward Williams
	to
5/29/1936	Johan Langeler "Long Alley" southern boundary...being land of which the said Charles E. Williams, late of Wicomico County, died testate, Item 2(a) of will devised property to Charles Edward Williams, 12/10/1927, MNN 1/480
EAT 68/25	Francis M. Mitchell and Ella L. Mitchell
	to
11/19/1909	Charles E. Williams the grantee assumed the payments of a mortgage from said grantors to Daniel J. Whealton for $3,500. dated 6/1/1906, EAT 51/108

JTT 27/500	Charles F. Holland
	to
2/26/1900	Francis M. Mitchell $800

Wicomico News, May 23, 1905

Workmen began excavating Wednesday for the new residence of Mr. Frank Mitchell on East Isabella street. The building will be of gray brick, specially made by the Salisbury Brick Company, of which Mr. Mitchell is a stockholder. Mr. Mitchell intends to build a very handsome and convenient residence with all modern improvements. There will be four rooms on the first floor with a large roomy porch. When the building is completed it will add much to an already beautiful section of Salisbury.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-637

The Wicomico News, 23 May 1905.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	13,031 square feet		
Acreage of historical setting	13,031 square feet		
Quadrangle name	Salisbury, Maryland	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

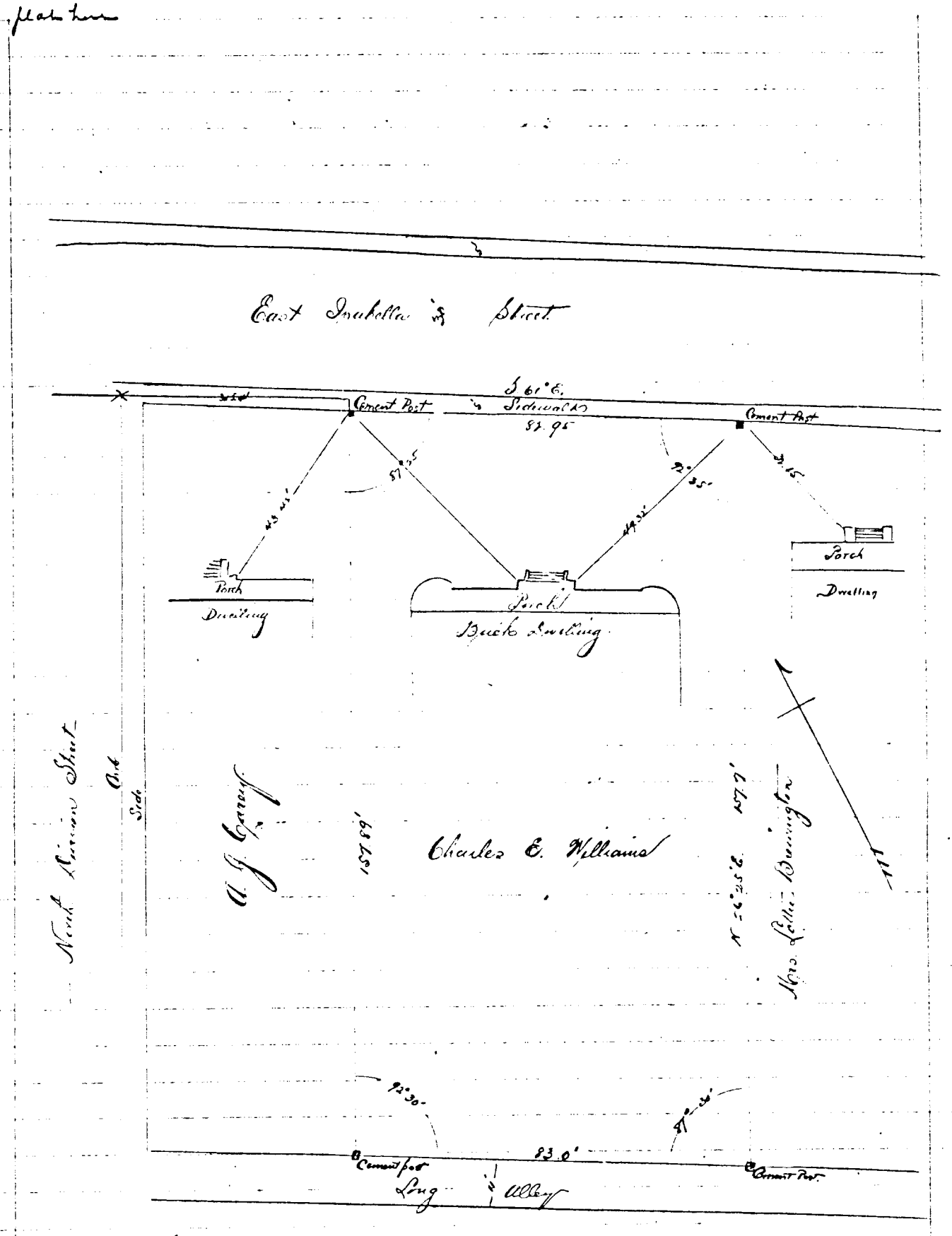
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	10/25/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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.

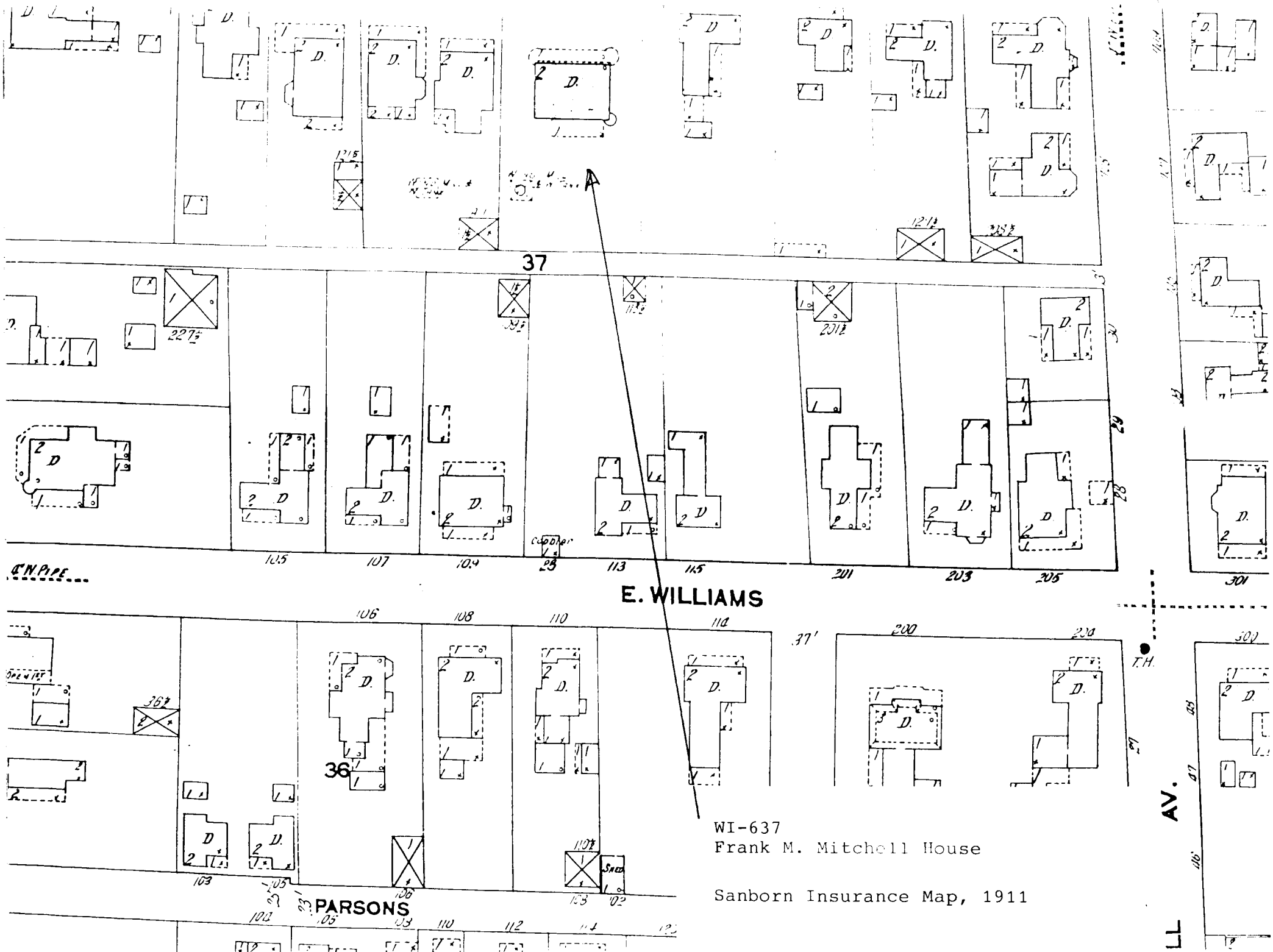
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

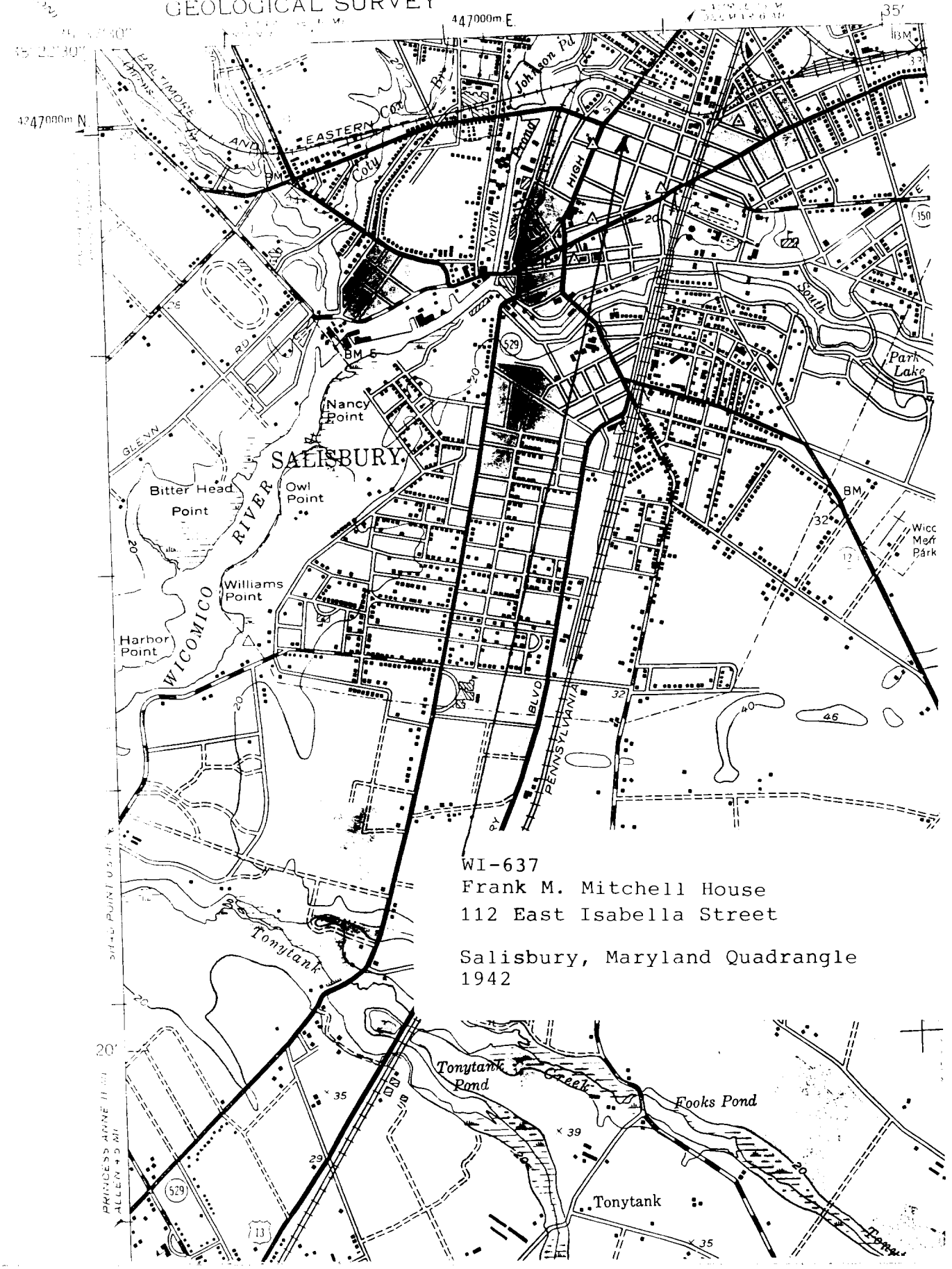
WI-637



P. S. Shockley C.E.
November 4, 1909
Scale 1 in. = 20 ft.


37
E. WILLIAMS
36
PARSONS
AV.
WI-637
Frank M. Mitchell House
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



WI-637
Frank M. Mitchell House
112 East Isabella Street

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

WI-637

FRANK M. MITCHER HOUSE

SALISBURY, WICOMICO CO., MD

NORTH ELEVATION

10/01, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEH / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 OF 1