

WI-474
John T. Hooper House
Salisbury
Private

c. 1840

One of the oldest structures located in the Camden Historic District is the two-and-a-half story, five-bay frame dwelling historically identified as the John T. Hooper house. Clearly built in several stages, the northern three bays of the two-and-a-half story main block dates around 1840. Served by an exterior brick chimney, the original side hall/parlor dwelling was lighted by nine-over-six sash windows. Within ten to fifteen years a two-story, two-bay addition was attached to the south gable end and a Greek Revival portico was stretched across the new five-bay facade. The series of Greek Doric columns provided a stylish accent to an otherwise plain five-bay facade. The shift in construction between the third and fourth bays is evident in the seamed cornice as well as the slight difference in window dimensions. In addition, there were no nine-over-six sash windows used in the later section.

John T. Hooper (1812-1872) held title to this property with his wife Leah (1821-1899) from 1844 until the year before his death, when the house and lot were conveyed to trustee Thomas Humphreys. The 1844 conveyance described the property as "...being part of the parcel of land called Mill Grove situate and lying in Somerset County aforesaid, on the south side of the Wicomico River and on the west side of the street or road leading from the new bridge to Riders Mill." Designated as "Lot No. 3" the property was transferred to John T. Hooper by William Freeny for \$720, a sum that suggests the original portion of the extant dwelling was standing on the site at the time. William Freeny had acquired the property only five months prior from Doctor William H. and Sarah Ann

Wailes of Worcester County for \$650.

The location description mentions the "new bridge," which refers to the 1838 construction of a span that crossed the eastern prong of the Wicomico River, thereby providing convenient access to the high ground on the south side of the Wicomico for expansion of the town.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the house and lot were owned by E. E. Jackson and later Nellie Jackson Leonard. One of the distinctive late nineteenth-century features of the property is the decorative iron fence that stretches across the front property line. In 1923 the old Hooper house was acquired by Walter J. and Maude P. Dryden, and Dryden family ownership continued until 1973.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-474

Name John T. Hooper House
Continuation Sheet

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7. Description

Inventory No. WI-474

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 John T. Hooper house is located at 324 Camden Avenue at the head of the Camden Historic District, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay frame house faces east with the principal gable roof oriented on north/south axis.

Built in several stages, the oldest section is a two-story, side hall/parlor frame structure dating around 1845. Shortly thereafter, and probably around 1850-60, a two-story, two-bay addition was attached to the south gable end yielding a five-bay center hall house. Centered on the new facade with a three-bay Greek Revival porch. Attached to the back of the 1840s house is a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing, which was enlarged with a two-and-a-half story infill addition around the turn of the twentieth century. The house has been converted into multiple apartments. Standing behind the house is a single-story frame outbuilding that dates to the mid nineteenth century.

The south (main) elevation is an essentially symmetrical five-bay facade with the center three bays converted to entrances. Each of the openings has a replacement front door. The outer bays are filled with six-over-six sash windows framed by narrow beaded edge surrounds. Sheltering the center three bays is a Greek Doric columned portico. The second floor is defined by a series of five six-over-six sash windows. The dimensions of the southern two window openings are slightly larger than the dimensions of the three northern openings indicating a shift in construction. A boxed cornice stretches across the base of the roof and is trimmed with a cove bed molding. Fixed atop the roof are two early twentieth century hip roofed dormers filled with six-over-six sash windows.

The north gable end of the original house is dominated by an exterior brick chimney with a paved shoulder at the second story level. Nine-over-six sash windows flank the stack on the first floor, and each window has a narrow beaded edge surround. The second floor is lighted by a six-over-six sash windows to each side of the stack. The attic is defined by a pair of boarded over windows. Finished the flush gable end is a beaded edge bargeboard.

The south gable end is dominated by an exterior common bond brick stack with corbelled shoulders at the second floor level. Six-over-six sash windows flank the stack on each floor. The gable end is finished with a beaded edge bargeboard.

The west (rear) elevation is covered by a two-and-a-half story service wing, the northern half of which dates to the mid nineteenth century. The southern portion is a turn of the twentieth century infill.

Standing in the backyard is a single-story, gable roofed frame outbuilding supported on brick piers and covered with plywood sheathing. The steeply pitched roof is covered with corrugated tin, and the gable ends are flush.

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8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy
x1800-1899	x architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
1900-1999	art	entertainment/ recreation	landscape architecture	religion
2000-	commerce	ethnic heritage	law	science
	communications	exploration/ settlement	literature	social history
	community planning		maritime history	transportation
	conservation		military	other:

Significance dates

Architect

Specific dates

Builder

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

One of the oldest dwellings located in the Camden Historic District is the two-and-a-half story, five-bay frame dwelling historically identified as the John T. Hooper house. Clearly built in several stages, the northern three bays of the two-and-a-half story main block dates around 1840. Served by an exterior brick chimney, the original side hall/parlor dwelling was lighted by nine-over-six sash windows. Within ten to fifteen years a two-story, two-bay addition was attached to the south gable end and a Greek Revival portico was stretched across the new five-bay facade. The series of Greek Doric columns provided a stylish accent to an otherwise plain frame dwelling. The shift in construction between the third and fourth bays is evident in the seamed cornice as well as the slight difference in window dimensions. In addition there were no nine-over-six sash windows used in the later section.

(Continued)

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Name John T. Hooper House

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Number 8 Page 2

John T. Hooper (1812-1872) held title to this property with his wife Leah (1821-1899) from 1844 until the year before John's death,¹ when the house and lot were conveyed to trustee, Thomas Humphreys. The 1844 conveyance described the property as "...being part of the parcel of land called Mill Grove situate and lying in Somerset County aforesaid, on the south side of the Wicomico River and on the west side of the street or road leading from the new bridge to Riders Mill." Designated as "Lot No. 3" the property was transferred to John T. Hooper by William Freeny for \$720, a sum that suggests the original portion of the extant dwelling was standing on the site at the time. William Freeny had acquired the property only five months prior from Doctor William H. and Sarah Ann Wailes of Worcester County for \$650.²

The location description mentions the "new bridge," which refers to the 1838 construction of a span that crossed the eastern prong of the Wicomico River, thereby convenient access to the high land on the south side of the Wicomico for expansion of the town.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the house and lot were owned by E. E. Jackson and later Nellie Jackson Leonard. One of the distinctive late nineteenth-century features of the property is the decorative iron fence that stretches across its front property line. In 1923 the old Hooper house was acquired by Walter J. and Maude P. Dryden,³ and Dryden family ownership continued until 1973.⁴

¹ Somerset County Land Record, BH 318, 5 October 1844, and Wicomico County Land Record, TF, Jr. 3/32, 16 November 1871.

² Somerset County Land Record, BH 318, 25 May 1844.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 130/58, 27 April 1923.

⁴ Wicomico County Land Record, 823/328, 6 June 1974.

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Agricultural/Industrial Transition 1815-1870

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type: Standing Structure

Category: Dwelling

Historic Environment: Residential Neighborhood

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic

Known Design Source:

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-474

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name

Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title

Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization

Private Consultant

street & number

P. O. Box 5

city or town

Westover, 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
410-514-7600

WI-474
John T. Hooper House
324-326 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 111, Parcel 1526

823/330 Peninsula General Hospital

to

6/6/1974 Beatrice C. White
Parcel Three

823/328 W. J. Ahtes & Company

to

6/6/1974 Peninsula General Hospital

JWTS 803/214 Clifford P. Dryden, et al.

to

10/2/1973 W. J. Ahtes & Company

JWTS 740/547 J. Edgar Harvey
Personal Representative of the estate of Maude P. Dryden
and E. Stuart Outten

to

9/3/1971 Clifford P. Dryden et al.
Whereas Maude P. Dryden died on or about 2/16/1970
leaving a last will and testament, 6/14/1966, JAH 11/465,
Item One

WI-474
John T. Hooper House
324-326 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

JCK 130/58 Samuel P. Woodcock

to

4/27/1923 Walter J. Dryden
Maude P. Dryden

JCK 130/48 Nannie R. Jackson

to

3/29/1923 Samuel P. Woodcock

EAT 61/97 Nellie Jackson Leonard
William W. Leonard

to

10/15/1908 Nannie R. Jackson

EAT 43/402 Elihu E. Jackson

to

1/6/1905 Nellie Jackson Leonard

SPT 5/91 Thomas Humphreys

to

8/12/1882 Elihu E. Jackson

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Chain of title continued

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TF, Jr. 3/32

John T. Hooper
Leah Hooper

to

11/16/1871

Thomas Humphreys, trustee
"...a house and lot in the Town of Salisbury, Wicomico
County, situated on Camden Street, on the west side now
occupied by J. H. Tarr & adjoining the lots of Esther
Parsons and Robert H. Ellegood...

Somerset County
Land Record
BH 318

William Freeny

to

10/5/1844

John T. Hooper
\$720 ...being part of the parcel of land called Mill Grove
situate and lying in Somerset County aforesaid, on the
south side of Wicomico River and on the west side of the
street or road leading from the new bridge to Riders Mill

96 perches Lot No. 3

Somerset County
Land Record
BH 318

Doctor William H. Wailes and Sarah Ann Wailes
of Worcester County

to

5/25/1844

William Freeny of Somerset County
\$650 Lot No. 3 of Mill Grove

50 LNW
HEBRON

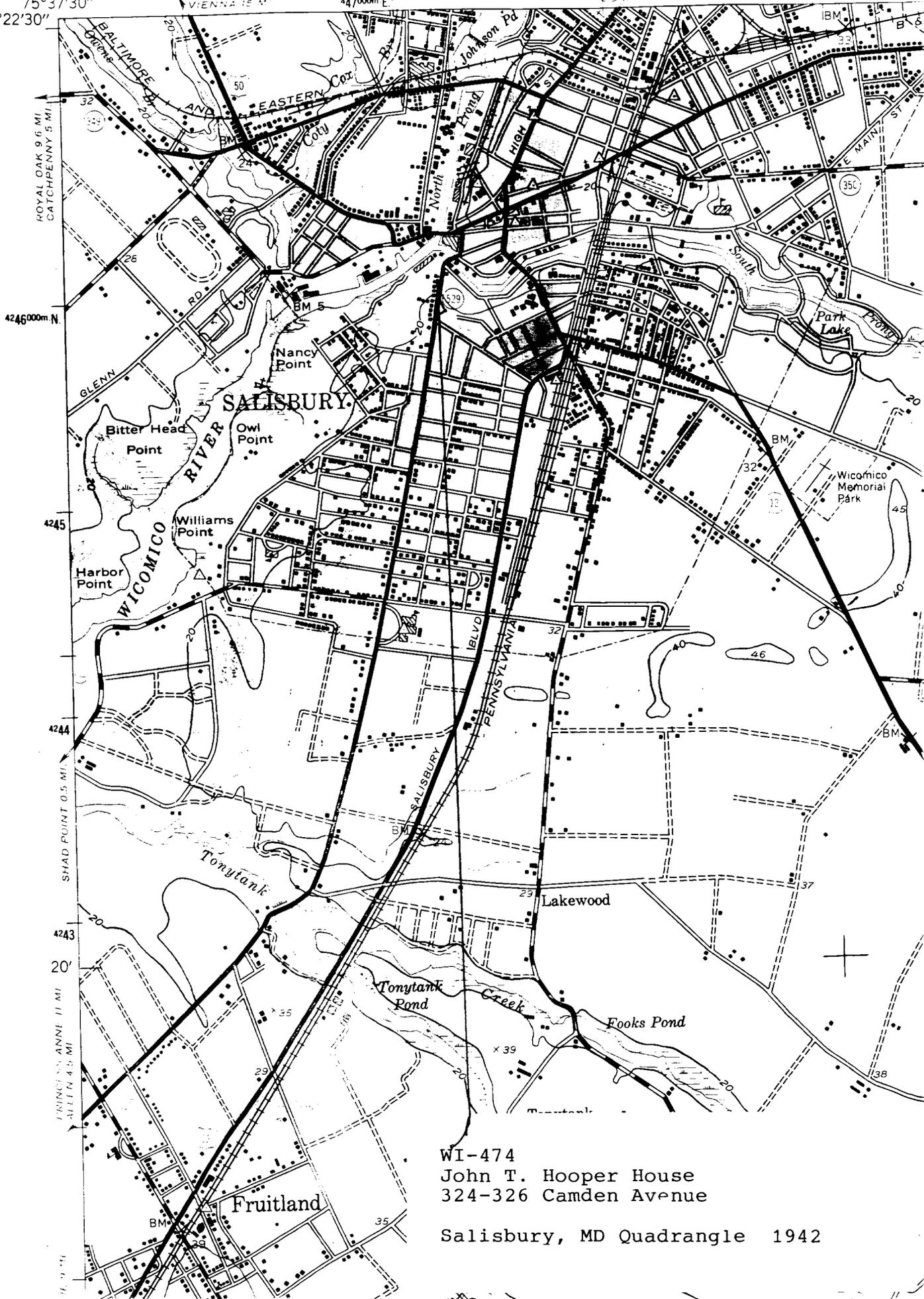
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

75°37'30"
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.
VIENNA 15 MI. 447000m E.

LAUREL 13 MI.
DELMAR 6 MI.

35'



WI-474
 John T. Hooper House
 324-326 Camden Avenue
 Salisbury, MD Quadrangle 1942



W1-474

June 5 Hour - 11:00 -

SPRING, WOOD - 10000, 210

20000, 10000

3/2000, 10000, 10000, 10000

10000, 10000, 10000

1 of 2



W1-474

John T. Harper House

Sausbury, New York

East 1810-11

3/2000, Paint Toward, Pennsylvania -

Her / MS references -

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