WI-481 1906
E. S. Adkins & Company Office
Salisbury
Private

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> *The property destroyed included the mill office, glazing and paint house in which was stored $1,000 worth of glass and $500 worth of sash and doors, large storage sheds of the mill, which were filled with dry lumber, several hundred feet of lumber on the yard and one flat car owned by the B. C. & A. Railway Co., which was loaded with lumber. There were twelve other cars on the siding in the Adkins yard, but they were hauled beyond danger by a special engine sent down from Delmar.*
>
> *All the machinery in the mill is completely ruined on account of the fierce heat, which in some instances completely melted pulleys and pieces of shafting. The engine is also ruined, but the boilers are uninjured.*

Later that month, the newspaper announced that Salisbury builder, Wilson E. Booth had begun work on rebuilding the new planing mill and sash and door factory. In addition to the replacement mill buildings, the E. S. Adkins Company had plans to erect a two-story, 56 x 100 foot warehouse on the opposite side of the street to be connected with the new building by means of a second story bridge. The construction program also included plans for a new company office that would be located on a lot of land leased from the B. C. & A. Railway Company, a location then occupied by a temporary office.

Evidently construction of the new business office did not start until sometime the next year, since its completion was not reported in the newspaper until the summer of 1906. On July 14th the newspaper commented that:

> *The finest lumber office in Salisbury and one of the best constructed in Maryland is now nearly completed. The E. S. Adkins Co.'s new office is near the site of the old one destroyed in the fire several months ago and is more than 40 feet long and 30 feet wide. In its arrangement it will be a model of comfort, convenience and is well ventilated. In the center of the building is a fire proof vault, large enough to hold nearly one-hundred and fifty bushels of wheat. The company can store their papers and valuables here without fear of being destroyed. At the entrance and in front of the vault is a reception room. The main part of the office is at the left of the entrance.*
>
> *There are two small cloak rooms and a telephone room. In the rear of the vault is a large private office with a great open fireplace reminding one of Colonial times. The building is finished in California oak.*
>
> *The exterior is covered almost entirely with best heart shingles, both roof and wall. Mr. Adkins estimates the cost complete to approximate between $4000 and $5000.*

Over the course of the past thirty years, the sprawling early twentieth E. S. Adkins & Company complex has been updated with modern buildings as the business has evolved. The 1906 mill office is the last historic structure on the property.

Designed in the Shingle style popular at the turn of the twentieth century, the squarish frame office is architecturally distinctive with its broad eave supported by large timber brackets. The double-door entrance porch features heavy bracket supports as well. True to the Shingle style, the exterior is completely sheathed with wood shingles, and the exterior elevations are based on symmetrical as well as asymmetrical designs. The interior is finished in an eclectic manner with a combination of board-and-batten and paneled walls and beamed ceilings. Centered in the office structure is the company safe, which is encased in brick.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. W I-481

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic E. S. Adkins & Company Office

other

2. Location

street and number 801 North Salisbury Boulevard not for publication

city, town Salisbury vicinity

county Wicomico

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

name Adkins Company of Salisbury

street and number 801 North Salisbury Boulevard telephone

city, town Salisbury state MD zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court tax map and parcel Map , P.

city, town Salisbury, Maryland liber folio

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District
X **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	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
district	public	agriculture	landscape	1	buildings
x building(s)	x private	commerce/trade	recreation/culture		sites
structure	both	defense	religion		structures
site		x domestic	social		objects
object		education	transportation		
		funerary	work in progress	1	Total
		government	unknown		
		health care	vacant/not in use	**Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory**	
		industry	other:		

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-481

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 E. S. Adkins & Company office is located on the company property at 801 North Salisbury Boulevard in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The story-and-a-half frame office faces north with the roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in 1906, the story-and-a-half squarish main block is supported on a stretcher bond brick foundation and the exterior is sheathed with wood shingles. The medium pitched hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a single-story, one room plan wing, which has been extended on each side with single-story concrete block additions.

The north (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay elevation with a center double-door entrance flanked by paired windows openings. The partially glazed double doors are sheltered by a shed roofed porch supported on heavy triangular-shaped brackets. The rafter ends are exposed and decorated. The adjacent windows consist of large single pane windows topped by multi-pane transoms. Stretching across the base of the hip roof is a wide eave distinguished by a series of heavy brackets. Fixed atop the hip roof is a large hip roofed dormer covered with shingles and pierced by a series of three multi-paned windows.

The east and west sides of the office are defined by an asymmetrical fenestration with large single-pane windows topped by six-pane transom windows. The southeast corner of the main block is defined by a pent roof that shelters a single window opening. Extending to the south is a single-story concrete block addition. The west side has a similar concrete block addition attached to the southwest corner. Hip roofed dormers mark the east and west roof slopes, and each dormer is fitted with a nine-pane window.

Extending from the south side of the main block is a single-story frame wing that is flanked by the single story concrete blocks additions. A large interior brick stack rises against the end of the main office, and a single flue brick chimney pierces the south gable end of the rear wing.

The interior survives with its essential 1906 plan intact, although some of the original wall finishes have been covered. Vertical board-and-batten oak paneling is used liberally as are sections of paneled wall. The ceilings in the center of the office have encased beams. A dog-leg staircase rises on the west side of the office, and provides access to a finished second floor. The second floor rooms, however, were finished during the mid twentieth century.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-481

Name E. S. Adkins & Company Office

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-481

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
X1900-1999	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:

Significance dates 1906 **Architect**

Specific dates **Builder** W. E. Booth

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

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[1] *The Wicomico News*, August 4, 1904.

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[2] *The Wicomico News*, August 25, 1904.

[3] *The Wicomico News*, July 14, 1906.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-481

Name E. S. Adkins & Company Office

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

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-481

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

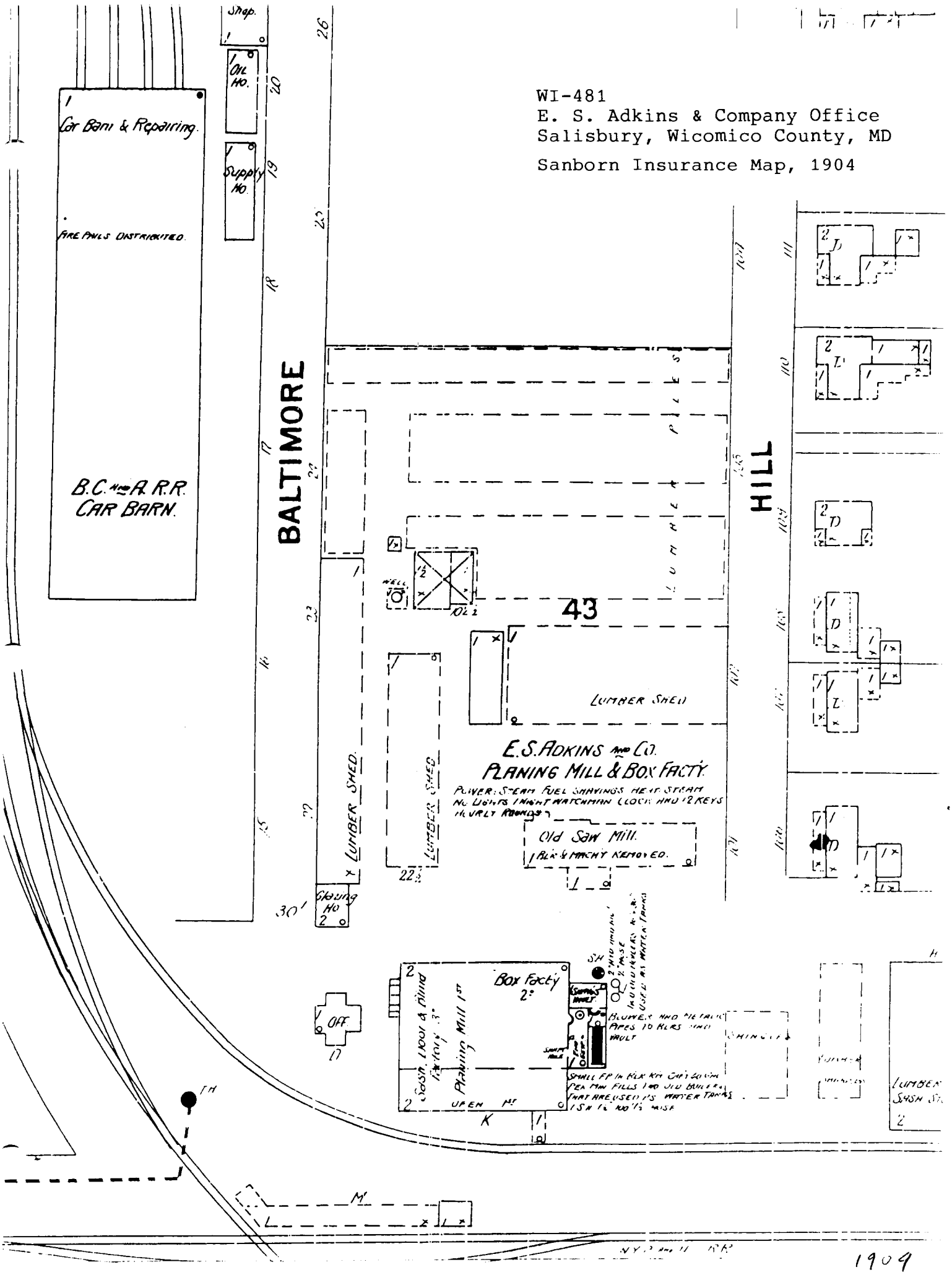
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
organization	Private Consultant
street & number	P. O. Box 5
city or town	Westover, Maryland 21871

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.

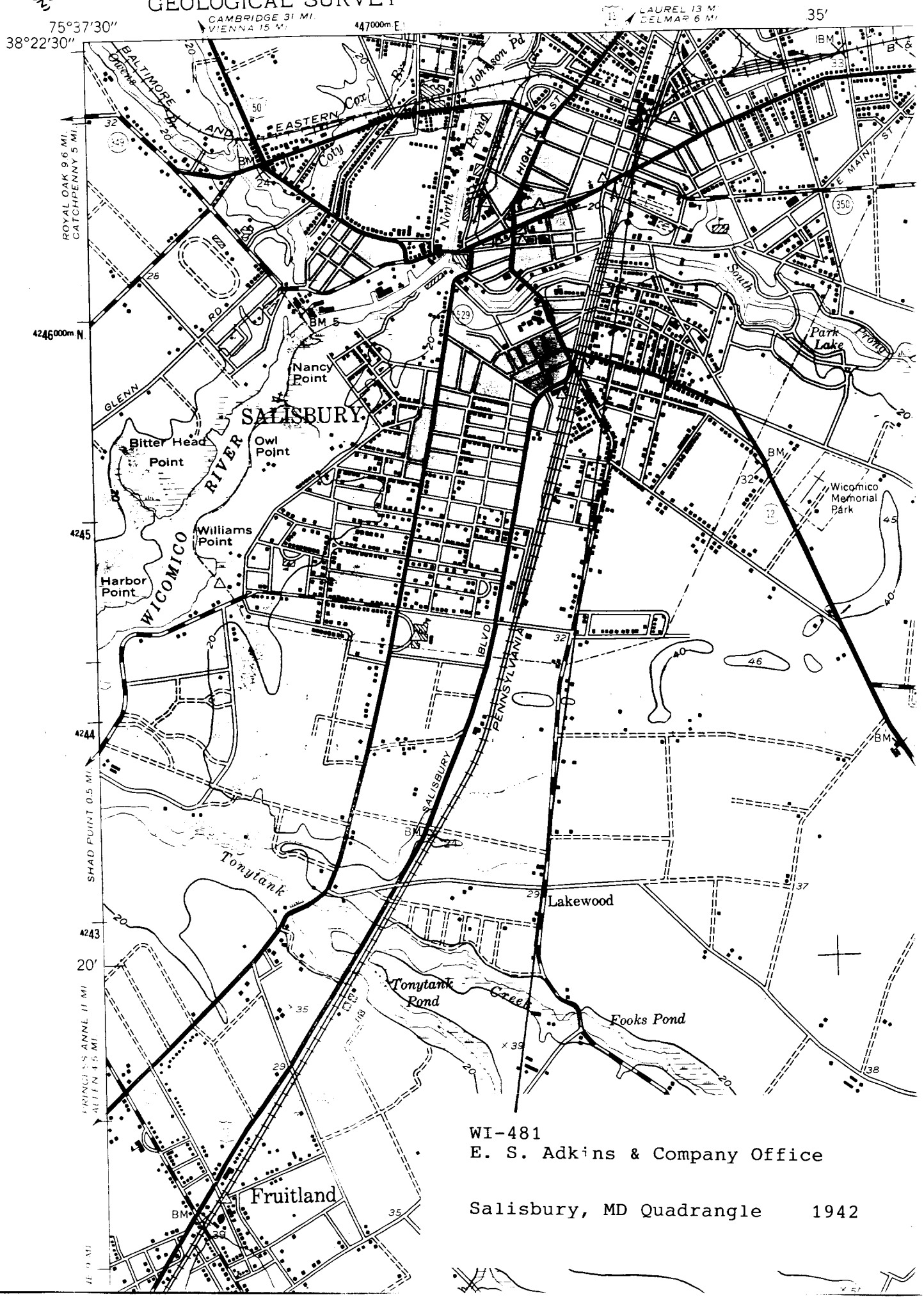
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

WI-481
E. S. Adkins & Company Office
Salisbury, Wicomico County, MD
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1904



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



WI-481
E. S. Adkins & Company Office

Salisbury, MD Quadrangle 1942

[illegible]

W1-481

E. 5 Avenue of [illegible]

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3/2000, [illegible]

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3 of 3