

WI-509
Dr. Frank Lewis House
Willards
Private

c. 1918

Dr. Frank Lewis occupied this Main Street house for a large portion of the twentieth century, and the four-square dwelling served as his residence as well as the location of his doctor's office. Dating around 1918, the two-and-a-half story, two-bay frame house was built in a style widely accepted across Wicomico County during the first quarter of the twentieth century. A well preserved exterior, including a hip roof with kicked eaves and a modillion block cornice, are some of the exterior details that distinguish this house from many others built around the same time. Dr. Lewis's office was housed in a single story hip roofed structure that stands off the northeast corner of the four-square dwelling.

Dr. Frank Lewis's residency of this Main Street house and lot stretched from August 1931 until his death in 1992. Construction of the four-square house, however, dates from the ownership of Margie M. Davis, who held title to the lot between 1916 and 1929.

Name Dr. Frank Lewis House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

7. Description

Condition

| | | |
|----------|-----------|--------------|
| | excellent | deteriorated |
| <u>x</u> | 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 Dr. Frank Lewis house is located at 7411 Main Street in the center of Willards, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, two-bay, four-square frame house faces west with a hip roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1918, the two-and-a-half story frame house is supported by a partially excavated cellar with an exterior sheathing of plain weatherboards. The walls of the main block rise to a steeply pitched hip roof with kicked eaves, and the roof retains a wood shingle covering. Attached to the northeast corner of the main block is a 1930s doctor's office and a mid twentieth century rear wing stretches to the back.

The west (main) facade is a two-bay front with a glazed front door. The glass panels have beveled edges. Framing the front door is flanked by beveled glass sidelights. Located to left (north) is a single-pane sash window, and the first story is sheltered by a single-story porch supported by tapered paneled posts. Stretching between the post is a rectangular baluster handrail. Accenting the entrance bay is a shallow gable pediment. The second story is lighted by single-pane sash windows, and the base of the hip roof is finished with a block cornice. The west slope of the roof is defined by a pair of hip roof dormers fitted with six-over-one sash windows. The dormers, like the main roof, have flared eaves. Attached to the ridge of the house is a twisted metal lightning rod system, and the vertical metal rods retain white milkglass balls.

The north side of the main block is four-bays across, and the first story is sheltered by the tapered post porch. Located off the northwest corner of the house is an exposed section of an interior brick stack. A glazed side door opens onto the porch, and the side entrance bay is marked by a shallow pediment cross gable. The first and second floors are lighted by single pane sash windows. Fixed atop the hip roof is a hip roof dormer fitted with paired six-over-one sash windows.

Attached to the east (rear) wall of the main block is a two-story hip roofed service wing lighted on the first and second floors with single-pane sash windows. The rear wing, like the main block, is covered by a hip roof and the eave is accented with a block cornice. A mid twentieth-century single-story addition extends from the back of the early twentieth-century service wing.

Located off the northeast corner of the house is a single-story, hip roofed doctor's office that dates to the early 1930s.

Name Dr. Frank Lewis House

Continuation SheetNumber 8 Page 1**8. Significance**

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

Significance dates**Architect****Specific dates****Builder**

Evaluation for:

National Register

 Maryland RegisterX 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.)

Dr. Frank Lewis occupied this Main Street house for much of the twentieth century, and the four-square style dwelling served as his residence as well as the location of his doctor's office. Dating around 1918, the two-and-a-half story, two-bay frame house was built in a style widely accepted across Wicomico County during the first quarter of the twentieth century. A well-preserved exterior, including a hipped roof with kicked eaves and a modillion block cornice, are some of the details that distinguish this house from many others built around the same time. Dr. Lewis's office was housed in a single story hip roofed structure that stands off the northeast corner of the main block.

Dr. Frank Lewis's residency of this Main Street house and lot stretched from August 1931 until his death in 1992.¹ Construction of the four-square dwelling, however, dates from the ownership of Margie M. Davis, who held title to the lot between 1916 and 1929.²

¹ Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 170/297, 29 August 1931; 1728/330, 21 January 2000.

² Wicomico County Land Records, JWD 1/241, 1 December 1916; and JCK 158/171, 21 March 1929.

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-509

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name Whaleyville, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary established for property coincides with the metes and bounds of the current lot.

11. Form Prepared by

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------|----------|--------------|
| name/title | Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian | | | |
| organization | Private Consultant | | | |
| street & number | P. O. Box 5 | date | 10/26/00 | |
| city or town | Westover, Maryland | 21871 | phone | 410-651-1094 |

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-509
Dr. Frank Lewis House
7411 Main Street
Willards, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 600, Parcel 416

1728/330

Frank Lewis and Jack Lewis, Attorneys-in-Fact for
Ella P. Lewis

to

1/21/2000

Jamal Hamad

Power of Attorney, MSB 1673/843, the said Frank R. Lewis
having died on or about 9/29/1992

a. from William M. Thompson and Olive M. Thompson,
8/29/1931, IDT 170/297

b. from Gladys D. Campbell, 7/20/1962, JWTS 547/270

IDT 170/297

William M. Thompson
Olive M. Thompson

to

8/29/1931

Frank R. Lewis
Ella P. Lewis

IDT 166/297

Charles T. Clayton, trustee et al.

to

12/20/1930

William M. Thompson

WI-509
Dr. Frank Lewis House
7411 Main Street
Willards, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

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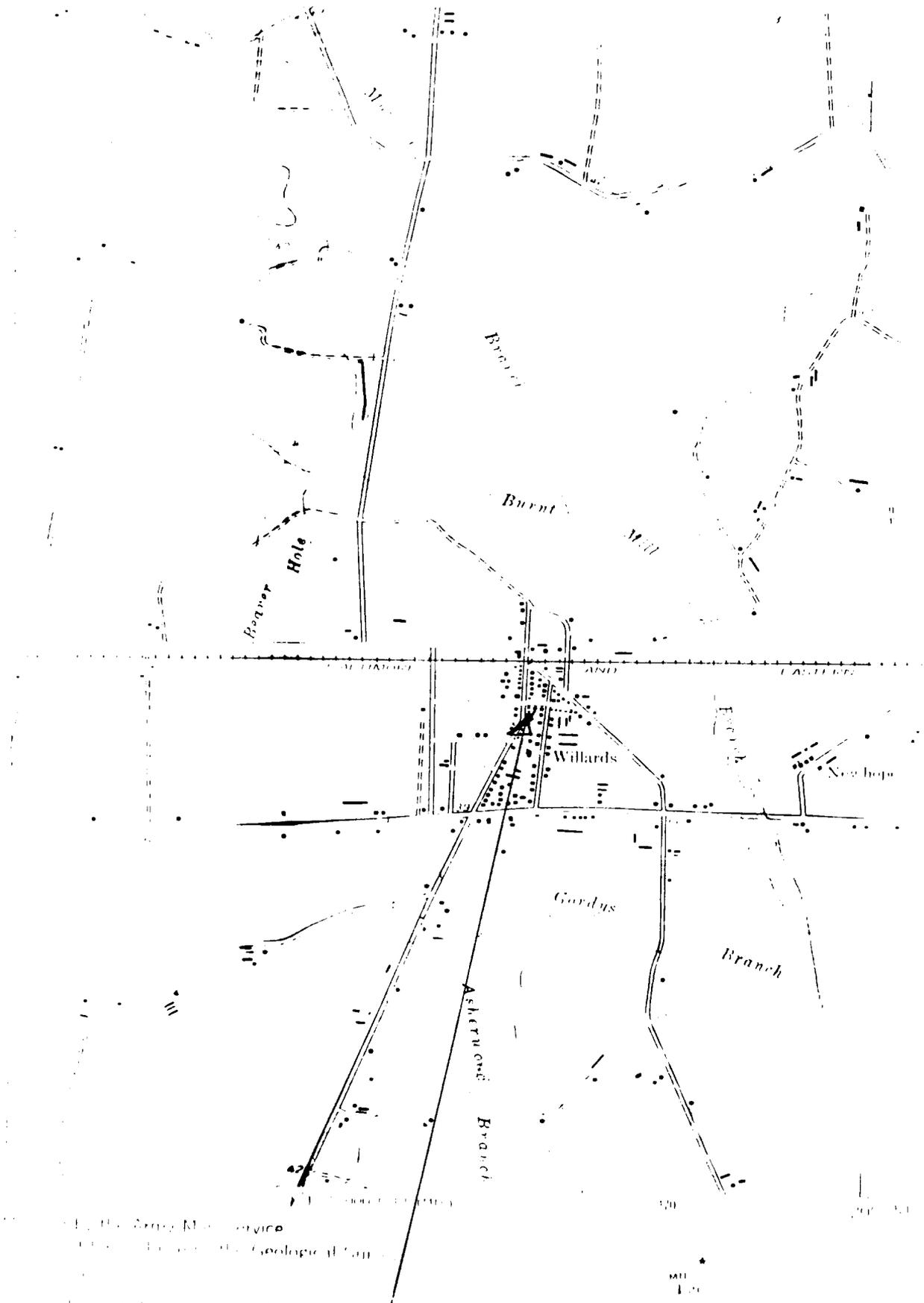
JCK 103/130

George W. Truitt
Elizabeth Truitt

to

4/16/1916

Grover L. Davis
(...and which was devised to Margie M. Davis, now Margie
Davis Runkle, by Grover L. Davis, 12/1/1916, JWD 1/241
and which was conveyed to Otto F. Ling by Margie Davis
Runkle, 3/21/1929, JCK 158/171)



U.S. Army Map Service
 U.S. Geological Survey
 Prepared by the methods of
 the U.S. Army Map Service, 1942
 Prepared from 1925 U.S. Army
 and U.S. Geological Survey
 maps and from a Mercator
 map of 1911.

WI-509
 Dr. Frank Lewis House
 7411 Main Street
 Willards

Whaleyville, Maryland Quadrangle
 1942