

WI-575
Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
Salisbury
Private

c. 1915

The Sanborn Insurance maps establish a narrow date range during which this Poplar Avenue rowhouse block was erected. The map issued in 1911 indicates the lot was unimproved, whereas the two-story, three-unit brick rowhouse was present by the time the 1916 map was published. Solidly crafted with a pressed brick front and common bond side walls, the two-story, six-bay structure is accented with segmental brick arches over the door and window openings as well as a pressed metal cornice that decorates the top of the front parapet and a Tuscan columned porch shelters the first story.

The rowhouse architectural form is not common in Salisbury, but a handful were erected in various sections during the early twentieth century as a practical solution to the housing shortage at the time. Well crafted with brick bearing walls, decorative arches, and a generous shared porch, the rowhouse block economized on space in the tightly developed Newtown neighborhood where relatively constant construction had taken place since the late 1870s.

Construction of the two-story, three-unit rowhouse block occurred during the ownership of Gertrude M. Wooten and Annie Layfield, sisters and tenants in common, who acquired the property through the 1892 will of their grandfather, Joseph R. Collins. He bequeathed his house and lot on William Street to his daughter Laura A. Parsons, and after her decease, to her three daughters, Gertrude M. Wooten, Annie Layfield, and Maria J. Parsons. The rowhouse block remained in Wooten family tenure until the mid 1980s.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-575

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block

2. Location

street and number 329-333 Poplar Hill Avenue not for publication
 city, town Salisbury vicinity
 county Wicomico

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

name Thomas Robinson, et al.

street and number P. O. Box 442 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 1275 folio 212
 city, town Salisbury tax map 107 tax parcel 713 tax ID number 5-025850

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	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-575

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 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 Poplar Hill Avenue rowhouse block is located at 329-333 Poplar Hill Avenue south of the East William Street intersection in the Newtown Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, six-bay brick rowhouse block faces west. Resting on a raised common bond brick foundation, the three-unit rowhouse block dates around 1915. The brick structure is painted white.

The west (main) elevation is a six-bay façade of pressed stretcher bond brick with narrow mortar joints. The first story is defined by a Tuscan columned, hip roofed porch that shelters the individual entrances. The series of doors and windows are spanned by segmental, three-course rowlock arches. The doors are partially glazed, and the window openings are fitted with nine-over-one sash. The third bay from the north corner is a wider opening than the rest with a nine-over-one sash window flanked by vertical three-over-one sash. The second floor is lighted by a series of nine-over-one sash windows topped by three-course, segmental rowlock arches. Beltcourses stretch across the wall surface coincidental with the second floor window sill and lintel levels. Piercing the upper wall surface are decorative metal vents. The front wall is capped by a decorative, classically derived metal cornice.

The north and south side walls are laid in common bond and rise to plain parapets capped with terra cotta caps. The north and south walls have three-light cellar windows and nine-over-one first and second floor windows. The openings are spanned by segmental rowlock arches. The window fenestration is asymmetrical. Rising through the end walls are interior side brick stove stacks finished with corbelled caps.

The east (rear) wall of the main block is largely covered by a series of three, two-story, two-bay by one room service wings of common bond wall construction. The side walls rise to plain parapets.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-575

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

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

The Sanborn Insurance maps establish a narrow date range during which this Poplar Hill Avenue rowhouse block was erected. The map issued in 1911 indicates the lot was unimproved, whereas the two-story, three-unit brick rowhouse was present by the time the 1916 map was published. Solidly crafted with a pressed brick front and common bond side walls, the two-story, six-bay structure is accented with segmental brick arches over the door and window openings as well as a pressed metal cornice that decorates the top of the front parapet and a Tuscan columned porch that shelters the first story.

The rowhouse architectural form is not common in Salisbury, but several blocks were erected during the early twentieth century as a practical solution to the housing shortage at the time. Well crafted with brick bearing walls, decorated arches, and generous shared porch, the rowhouse block economized on space in the tightly developed Newtown neighborhood where relatively non-stop construction had occurred since the late 1870s.

Construction of the two-story, three-unit rowhouse block occurred during the ownership of Gertrude M. Wooten and Annie Layfield, sisters and tenants in common, who acquired the property through the 1892 will of their grandfather, Joseph R. Collins.¹ He bequeathed his house and lot on William Street to his daughter Laura A. Parsons, and after her decease to her three daughters, Gertrude M. Wooten, Annie Layfield, and Maria J. Parsons. The rowhouse block remained in Wooten family ownership until the mid 1980s.²

¹ Wicomico County Will Book, ELW 1/351, written 2 December 1892 and proved 26 December 1895.
² Wicomico County Land Record, AJS 1074/223, 24 July 1986.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-575

Name Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
329-333 Poplar Hill Avenue
Salisbury, Maryland

Chain of title
Map 107, Parcel 713

1275/212

Thomas E. Robinson
Carlene Robinson

to

9/25/1991

Thomas E. Robinson

AJS 1074/223

Winnie N. Wooten, et al. (Richard S. Wooten, Allison Wooton Adams,
Rebecca W. Phippin, trustees of Nathaniel R. Wooten)

to

7/24/1986

Thomas E. Robinson
Carlene Robinson and
W. Wirt Wolfe
Elizabeth D. Wolfe

AJS 947/613

Personal Representative of the Estate of
V. Lynn Wooten

to

6/16/1980

Winnie N. Wooten

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-575

Name Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

JWS 270/366

Gertrude M. Wooten

to

6/5/1945

V. Lynn Wooten, Nathaniel R. Wooten, Alywn H. Wooten and
Rebecca W. Phippin

EAT 70/84

Edna M. Parker
Daniel J. Parsons

to

7/13/1910

Gertrude M. Wooten
Annie Layfield, tenants in common

Will Book
ELW 1/351

Last Will and Testament of Joseph R. Collins

to

12/2/1892
Proved
12/26/1895

Laura A. Parsons
and then to Getrude M. Wooten, Annie Layfield and Maria J. Parsons
the three children of the said Laura A. Parsons

Item Two: I give and devise to my daughter Laura A. Parsons the
house and lot on William Street where I now reside

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-575

Sanborn Insurance Maps, various issues, microfilm at the Nabb Research Center of Delmarva History and Culture.

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

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 7,900 square feet

Acreage of historical setting 7,900 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.

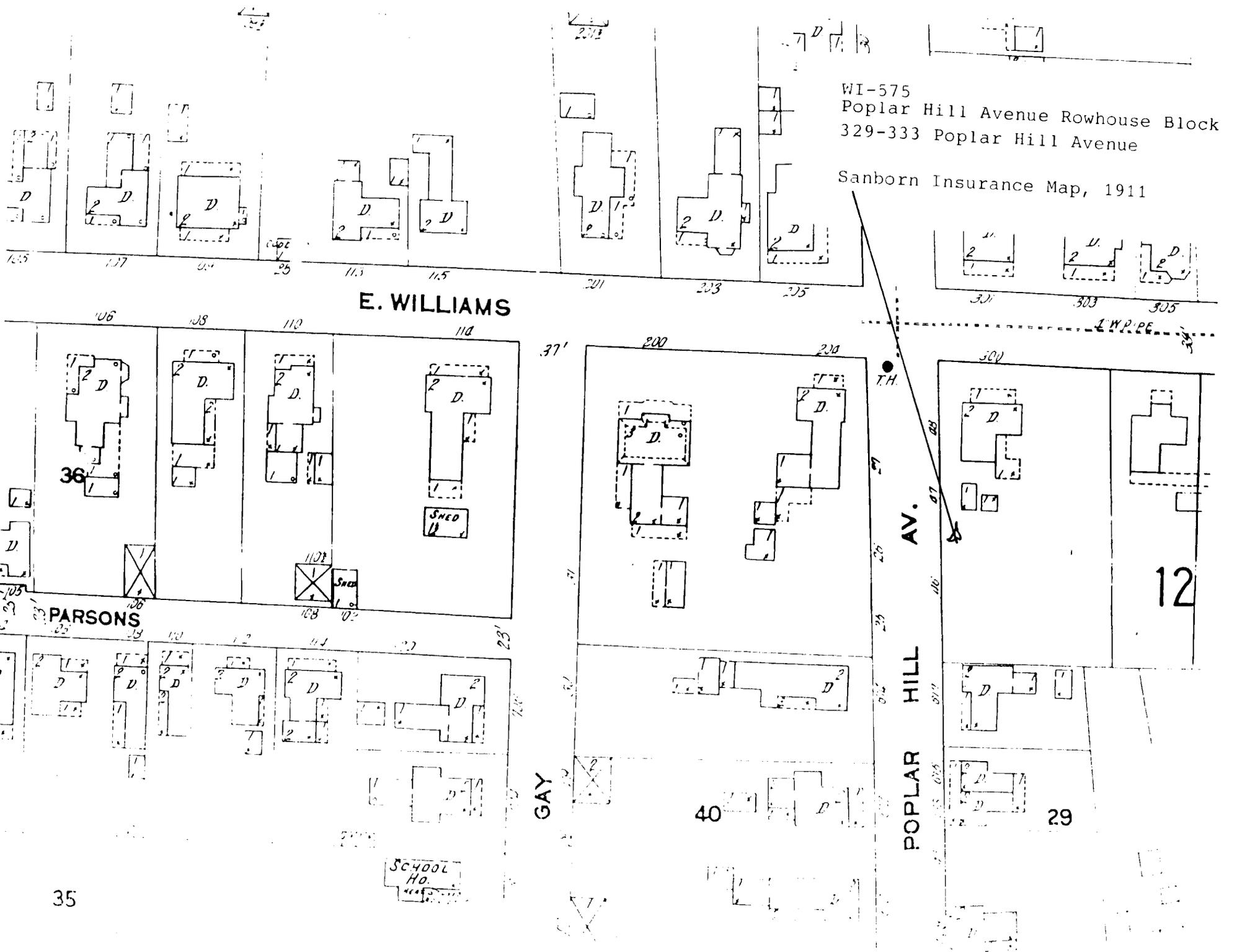
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	7/27/2001
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-575
Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
329-333 Poplar Hill Avenue

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1911

E. WILLIAMS

PARSONS

GAY

AV.

POPLAR HILL

35

36

40

SCHOOL Ho.

SNEED

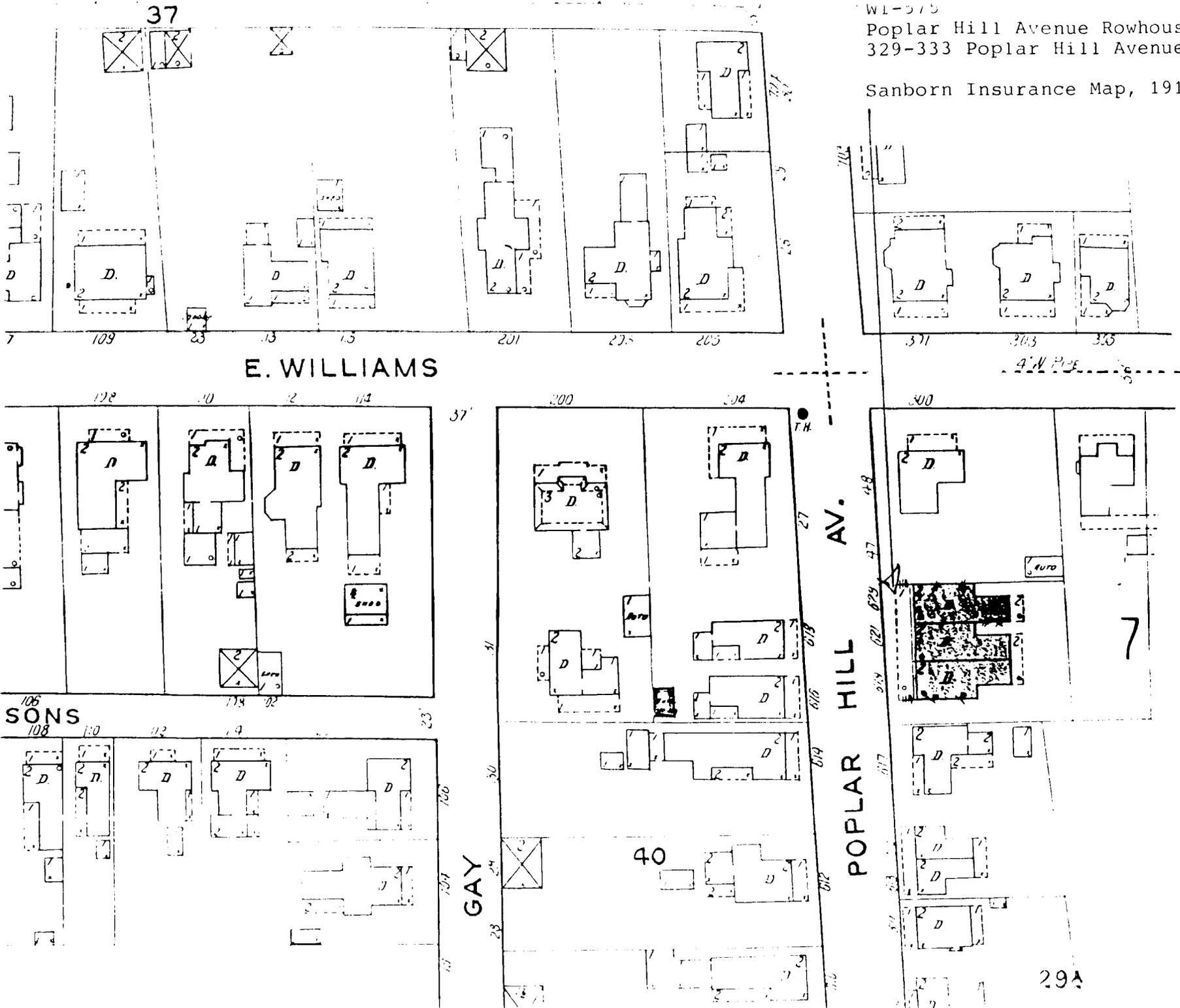
12

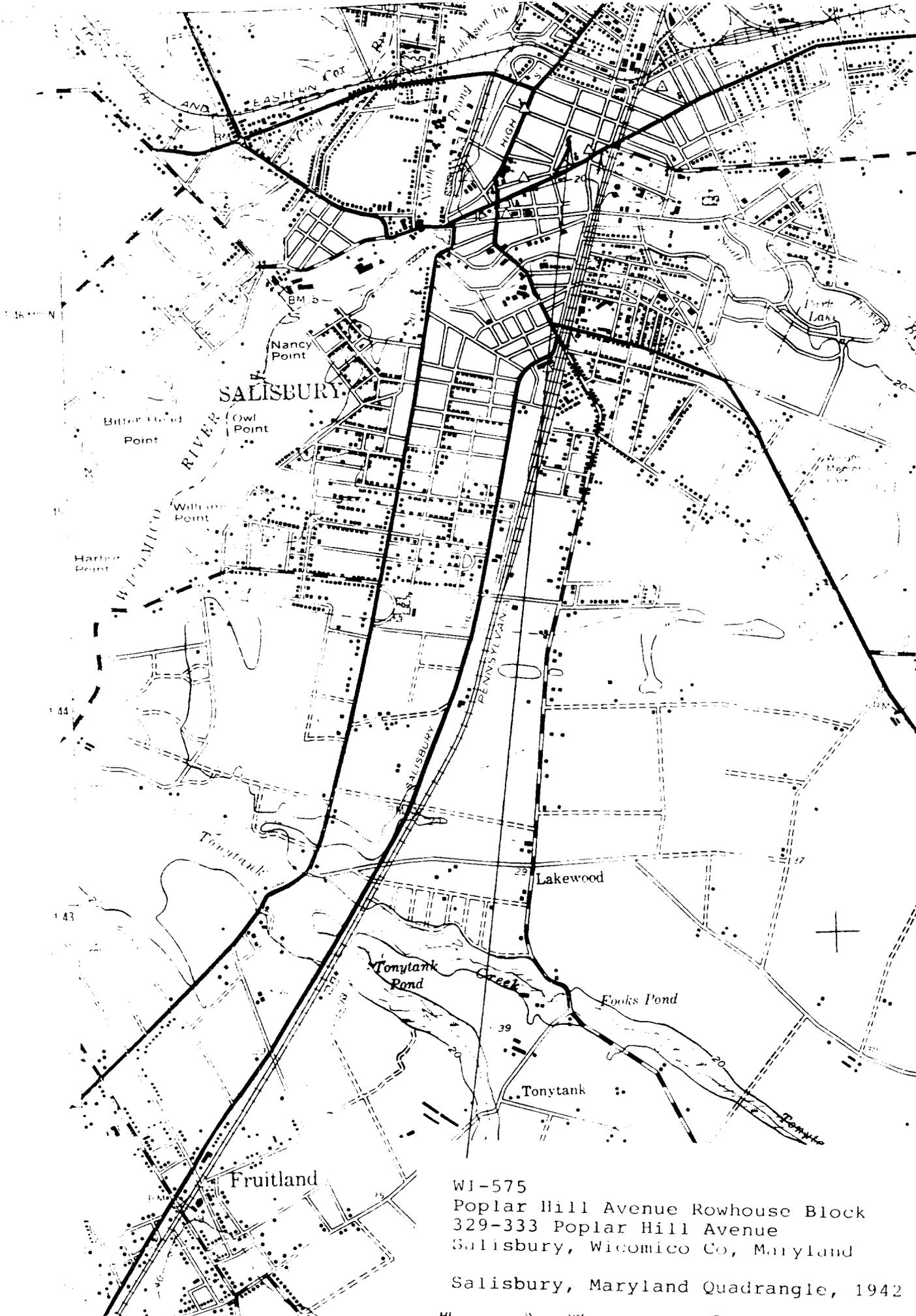
29

W1-575

Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
329-333 Poplar Hill Avenue

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1916





WI-575
Poplar Hill Avenue Rowhouse Block
329-333 Poplar Hill Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico Co, Maryland
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle, 1942



WI-575

POPLAR HILL AVE. LANTANA BLOCK

SALISBURY, WICOMICO CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST CORNER

7/11, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / WND HISTORICAL TRUST

1 or 2



WI-575

Poplar Hill Ave, Rowan Place

Salisbury, Wicomico Co, MD

SOUTHWEST CORNER

7/01, PAUL TOURANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. AND ITS REVERSE TRUST

2 OR 2