

WI-591

Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
Salisbury  
Private

1894

The Dr. Samuel A. Graham house stands on the east side of North Division Street, and its asymmetrical design as well as its combination shingle and weatherboard exterior contrasts with the Colonial Revival dwelling to the south and an earlier Greek Revival/Italianate house to the north. Unusual as well is the first floor porch that is accented with a hip roofed dormer. The ell-shaped main block is extended on several sides with single-story bay windows. Joining the house on the corner lot is a contemporaneous single-story garage that is sheathed with weatherboards and fishscale shingles as well.

The Victorian Shingle-style dwelling was erected for Dr. Samuel A. Graham and his wife Alpine in 1894. The announcement of the pending construction project was printed in *The Salisbury Advertiser* in March 1894 with an anticipated spring starting date. The paper stated that

*Dr. Samuel A. Graham is having drafts made for a residence to be erected on the lot lately purchased of Randolph Humphreys, Esq., situated between the Episcopal rectory and the residence of Mrs. Isabella Humphreys, on Division street. The directions given the architect are to prepare plans and specifications for a square building, with front porch and large square reception hall in the centre of the building, with the entrance from the front, in the rear will be the stairway to second floor; on the south front will be the dining room and north front the library; back of the library, the parlor, back of the dining room and separated from it by back hall and china closet, will be the kitchen. The elevations are not yet prepared but will be colonial in style of architecture, void of projecting eaves (sic) and the front part of the roof extending down to form covering for front porch. The front porch will be arched between pillars. The plan contemplates water through the house and basement heating; either steam or hot water. The work will be undertaken as soon as spring opens.*

Before construction, an older ell-shaped dwelling on the lot was either moved or torn down. The Grahams retained ownership until 1900 when the corner house and lot were transferred to Louis W. Morris, in whose family the property remained until 1920 when it was acquired by Ralph H. Grier. The Griers modified the floor plan by consolidating the northern two rooms into a single space, which is served by the exterior brick stack. The exterior of the stack still carries a capital letter "G." The Griers tenure in the North Division Street residence lasted until the mid 1950s.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-591

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Dr. Samuel A. Graham House

other Ralph H. Grier House

## 2. Location

street and number 321 North Division Street      not for publication

city, town Salisbury      vicinity

county Wicomico

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

name Randall and Linda L. Brannock

street and number 321 North Division Street telephone 410-749-7263

city, town Salisbury state Maryland zip code 21801

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Courthouse liber 1391 folio 356

city, town Salisbury tax map 107 tax parcel 812 tax ID number 5-013550

## 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	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>2</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>    </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>    </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>2</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				<u>    </u>	

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## 7. Description

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

The Dr. Samuel A. Graham house is located at 321 North Division Street in the center of the Newtown Historic District. The two story Victorian house faces west with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis. Supported on a raised brick foundation, the frame structure is sheathed with a combination of plain weatherboards and fishscale shingles. Joining the house on the corner lot is a single-story garage built around the same time as the house.

Dating to 1894, the ell-shaped main block is supported on a raised brick foundation with an excavated cellar. The weatherboard and shingle covered walls rise to steeply pitched gable roofs covered in slate. Attached to the front of the ell-shaped main block is a single-story hip roofed porch and to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical façade with the main entrance sheltered by the single-story hip roof porch. The nine-panel front door is topped by a large two-pane transom. Directly north of the front door is a projecting bay window covered with fishscale shingles and pierced by a large two-over-two sash window. The porch roof is supported by paired replacement colonettes that rise atop tall brick plinths. Fixed atop the porch roof is a hip roofed dormer featuring a multi-pane window. The projecting two-story pavilion of the main block is defined on the first floor by a projecting bay window pierced by a pair of two-over-two sash windows. The bay is sheathed with fishscale shingles. The second story of the pavilion is marked by a two two-over-two sash windows, and the upper gable is pierced by a paired set of two-over-two sash windows. Trimming the edge of the roof is a slightly extended eave with returns at the base.

The south side of the main block is three bays deep with a large gabled pediment dominating the elevation. Two-over-two sash windows light the first floor, which is defined by plain weatherboards. The second story, enclosed with a gable end pediment form, is lighted by two-over-two sash windows within a field of fishscale shingles. The attic is illuminated by a single two-over-two sash window. Rising through the southeast corner of the main block is a tall brick chimney.

The north gable end is two-bays deep with a single-story, two-sided bay window marking the northwest corner. The bay window is sheathed with fishscale shingles, and the openings are filled with multi-paned windows. Rising against the exterior wall surface east of the bay window is a brick stack featuring corbelled shoulders as well as a large metal "G" that stands for Grier. The second floor is lighted by two-over-one sash windows, and the attic is pierced by a single two-over-one sash window. Finishing the edge of the roof is an extended eave with returns at the base of the roof.

The east (rear) wall is an asymmetrical elevation with a projecting two-story, two-bay rear wing incorporating a second floor porch. The kitchen is sheathed like the main block with a combination of plain weatherboards and fishscale shingles. Two-over-one sash windows light each story. Attached to the first floor is a square columned porte-cochere covered by a low pitched hip roof. The wall surface adjacent to the kitchen wing is marked by a projecting bay window which is pierced by a pair of two-over-two sash windows. A mid-story eave intersects the roof of the bay window and stretches around the east side.

The interior was not seen.

Standing behind the house is a single-story frame garage sheathed like the house with a combination of plain weatherboards and fishscale shingles. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with slate and the roof extends over the

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**Maryland Inventory of**  
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Name Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
**Continuation Sheet**

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north side to shelter the folding garage doors. The extension of the roof is supported by brackets. The gable ends are defined by enclosed pediments with a sheathing of fishscale shingles.

# 8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" 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
<b>Construction dates</b> 1894	

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.)

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<sup>1</sup> *The Salisbury Advertiser*, March 3, 1894, Wicomico County Free Library.  
<sup>2</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 65/243, 26 August 1909.  
<sup>3</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 118/367, 29 May 1920.  
<sup>4</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 399/120, 11 November 1955.

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Historic Properties Form**

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Name Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
321 North Division Street  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 107, Parcel 812

1391/356 Eleanor L. Stump  
Elaine Leviness MacDougald

to

5/11/1994 Randall P. Brannock  
Linda L. Brannock  
\$99,000

MSB 1122/481 Richard D. LeViness

to

11/20/1986 Eleanor L. Stump  
Elaine Leviness MacDougald

JWTS 539/217 Janice A. Culver

to

10/27/1961 Richard D. LeViness  
Helen W. LeViness

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Name Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
**Continuation Sheet**

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JWTS 539/215 ?? Richard D. LeViness  
Helen W. LeViness

to

10/27/1961 Janice A. Culver

JAH 7/122 Last Will and Testament of Lillian D. Sharpley

to, grandnephew

Dated Richard Dorman LeViness  
9/29/1955  
Proved Item Third-property held at time of death  
4/20/1961

JWTS 399/120 Todd Grier and Joann D. Grier

to

11/11/1955 Lillian D. Sharpley, widow

JWTS 326/338 Juanita M. Jones

to

6/20/1951 Todd Grier and Joann Grier

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JWTS 326/337

R. Hall Grier, Jr. et al., Claire B. Grier, Todd Grier,  
and Joann D. Grier

to

6/20/1951

Juanita M. Jones  
... being part of Lot 20 as laid out and platted in the proceedings  
for the sale of the land of Benjamin Parsons... SPT 1/245

JAH 3/280

Last Will and Testament of Ralph H. Grier

to

Dated  
3/11/1947  
Proved  
2/27/1949

R. Hall Grier, Jr.  
Todd Grier in equal parts

JCK 118/367

May W. Morris, widow, City of Philadelphia  
Louis W. Morris and Isabel Morris

to

5/29/1920

Ralph H. Grier  
"...and which descended to Louis W. Morris as the only child subject to the dower  
rights of said May W. Morris..."

EAT 65/243

Alpine D. Graham

to

8/26/1909

Louis W. Morris



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. WI-591

Land Records of Wicomico County, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.  
Register of Wills, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.  
*Salisbury Advertiser*, March 3, 1894, Wicomico County Free Library.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 13.950 square feet  
Acreage of historical setting 13.950 square feet  
Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland                      Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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## 11. Form Prepared by

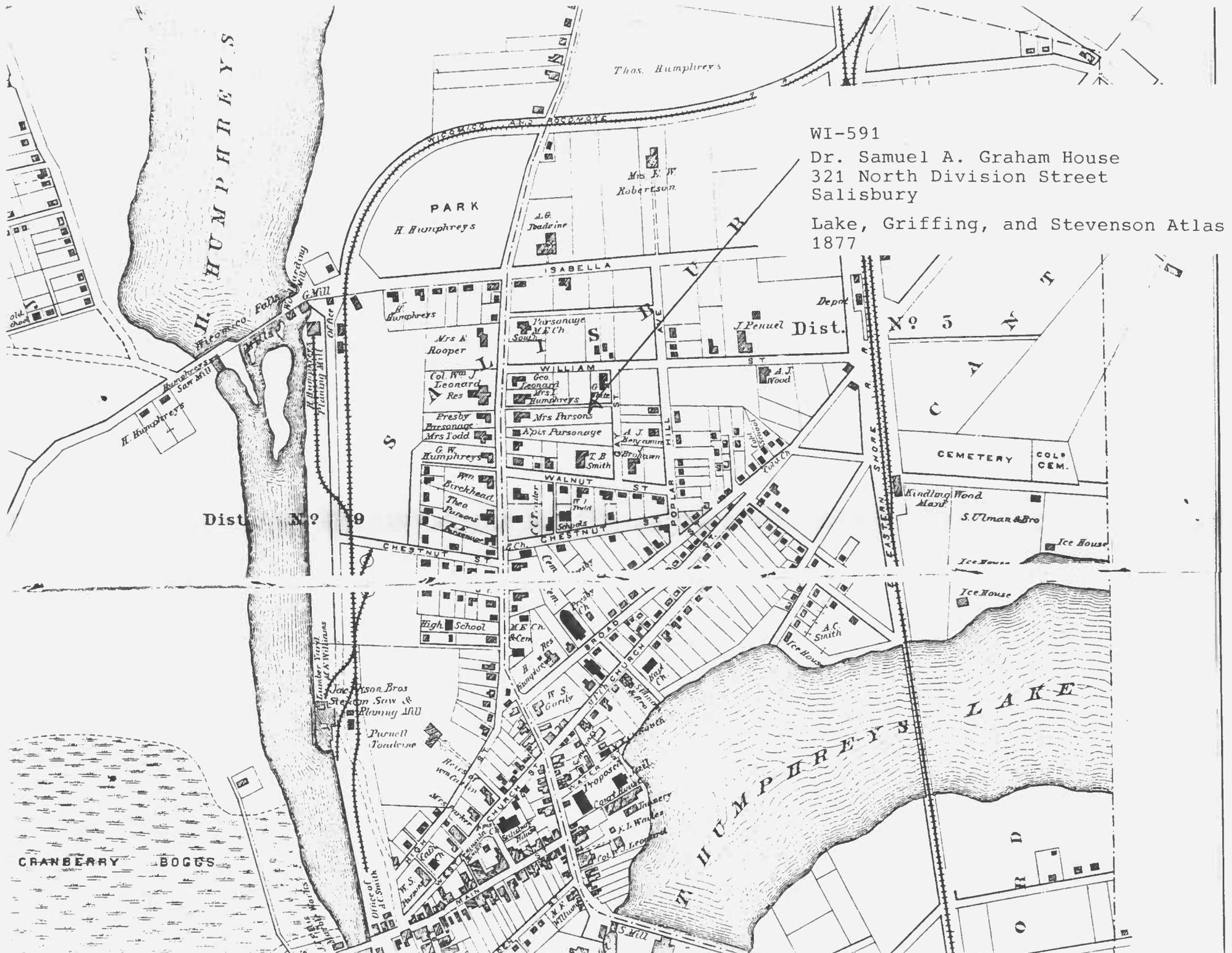
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name/title	Paul B. Touart		
organization	Private Consultant	date	3/28/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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-591

Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
321 North Division Street  
Salisbury

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas  
1877

Thos. Humphreys

PARK  
H. Humphreys

Mrs. E. W.  
Robertson

A. G.  
Dadaine

Depot

Dist.

No. 5

CEMETERY

COLD  
CEM.

Dist. No. 9

CHESTNUT ST.

EASTERN SHORE

Kindling  
Manuf.

Ice House

CRANBERRY BOGGS

HUMPHREYS LAKE

HUMPHREYS

HUMPHREYS

HUMPHREYS

HUMPHREYS

HUMPHREYS

HUMPHREYS

High School

Jac. & Son  
Saw &  
Planing Mill

Purnell  
Foundry

Office of  
A. C. Smith

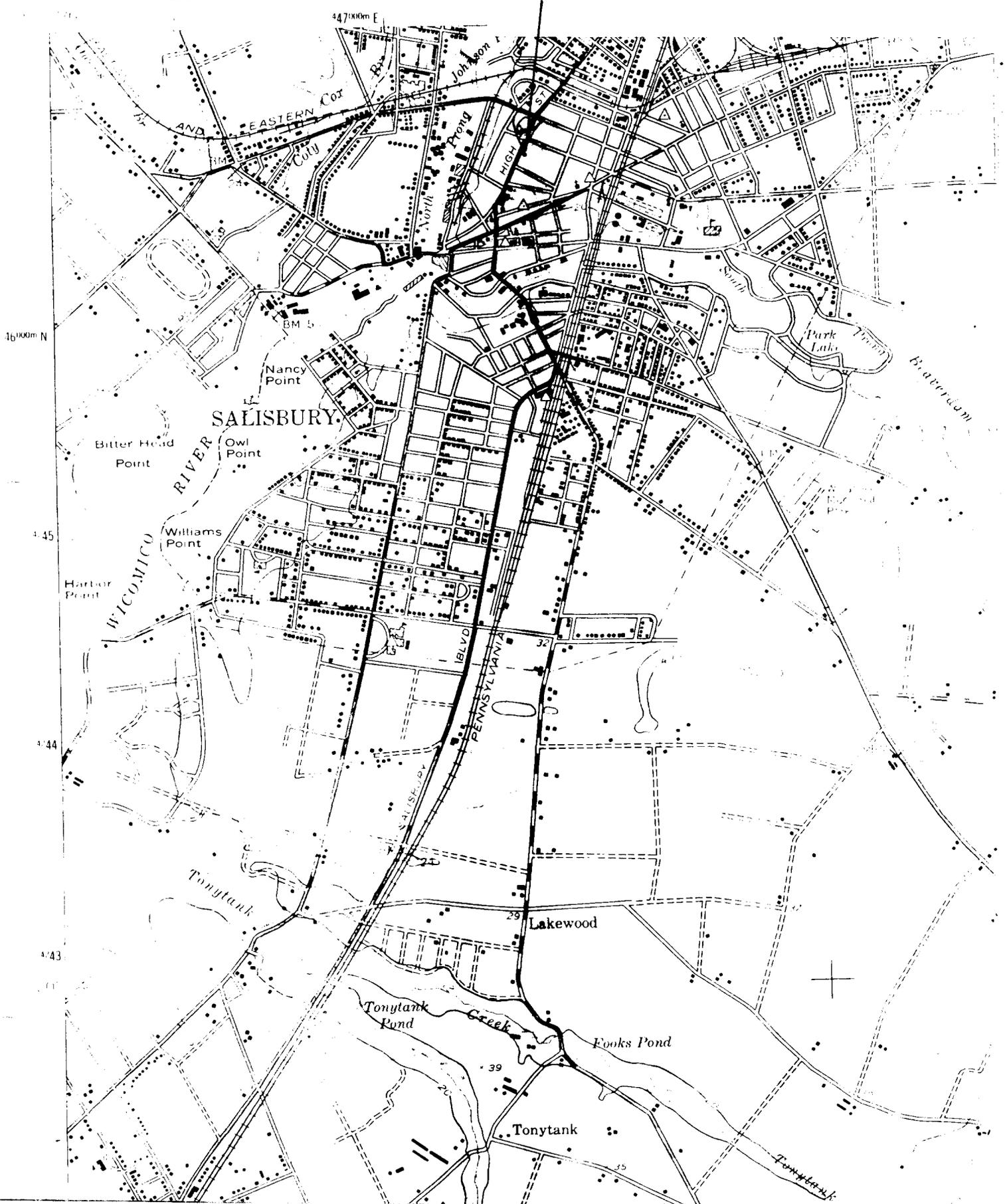
High School

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WI-591

Dr. Samuel A. Graham House  
321 North Division Street

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942





W. 51.

Dr. Spence & Co. 1870

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A. CRAIGMAN HOUSE

SALISBURY, WINDSOR CO., MD.

GENERAL RECORDS

2/2001, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHER  
NEE. / M.D. HISTORICAL TRUST

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