

Matthias Hammond and Abner Linthicum, are hereby appointed commissioners, to lay out, survey, mark, bound and open, a public road in said county, at the expense of those willing to contribute thereto, not exceeding twenty feet in width, beginning at a bounded stone standing by William Merriken's gate, on the road leading from the Priest's Bridge over the Patuxent river, to run in the most convenient direction the nature of the ground will admit of, to pass at or near Caleb Sappington's blacksmith shop, thence in the most direct and convenient course to intersect the road leading from the city of Annapolis to Hammond's or Cragg's ferry, on the Patapsco, and they are hereby required to return a plot of the same to the clerk's office of Anne-Arundel county, to be there recorded, and when the said road shall be so opened, it shall be deemed and considered a public road, and kept in repair as other public roads are in said county.

2. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, or a majority of them, be and they are hereby authorised and required to assess the damages sustained by the individuals over whose land the said road may run, taking into consideration the advantages, and the same, when so assessed, shall be paid, or secured to be paid, by the persons interested in opening the said road, to the person or persons entitled to receive the same, before the said road, after it is laid off, shall be opened or cleared.

To assess damages

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any person or persons over whose land the said road shall pass, or his, her or their guardian or trustee, shall conceive himself, herself or themselves aggrieved by such valuation or assessment of damages by the said commissioners, it shall and may be lawful for any justice of the peace, on his, her or their application, to issue a warrant, under his hand and seal, directed to the sheriff of the county, commanding him to summon twelve disinterested men, qualified to serve as jurors in the county court, to meet upon the premises on a certain day, of which ten days notice at least shall be given to the party or parties interested; and the said jurors, when so met, and having each first taken an oath before some justice of the peace of said county, that he will, without favour, affection, prejudice or partiality, assess the damages sustained by the person or persons at whose request such inquisition shall be taken, by reason of opening the aforesaid road through his, her or their land, shall thereupon proceed to assess and value the damages accordingly, taking into consideration the advantages and disadvantages, if any, and such inquisition and valuation shall be final and conclusive between the parties respectively; *Provided*, that the said road shall not be opened through the buildings, yards, gardens, orchards or meadows, of any person without his, her or their consent.

Persons aggrieved by such assessment may have jury summoned, &amp;c.

Prodan.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners aforesaid shall be and they are hereby entitled to receive two dollars each for every day they shall respectively attend to the discharge of the duties required by this act, to be paid by the persons interested in opening and clearing the said road.

Allowance to commissioners.