

D-784
Winfield Webster Office Building
Vienna
c. 1923-24
Private

Credit for the construction of this well-appointed office is award to canner and merchant, Winfield Webster, who purchased this Market Street property from Jurusha A. Moore in the summer of 1923. Eleven years later this property was included in a Chancery Court settlement following Webster's death. The estate trustees, W. Laird Henry and Calvin Harrington, sold the Market Street office building, along with an adjacent tenant house, to Clay M. Webb, who had occupied the concrete block office as a tenant while the property was in settlement and before its transfer to Webb in November 1935 for \$1560. For the following forty-five years, the "Office Building Property," as it was known, was held by Webb family members.

The Winfield Webster office building is a distinctive and unusual structure in Vienna's historic district. Built around 1923-24, the rectangular, two-room plan structure was erected with rusticated concrete blocks, a relatively new material developed for its inexpensive cost and ease of construction. Enhancing each block is a rough texture that was intended to imitate hand-cut stone. The wall elevations of this office building are enlivened further by red mortar, which accents the blocks walls as well as the single unit jack arches that span the window and door openings. Capping the diminutive structure is a distinctive hip roof, covered with pattern slate, and enhanced with a kicked eave along with shaped end cornice blocks under the wide soffit. The two-room office building is

well finished inside with tongue-and-groove board wainscoting and a brick-faced fireplace. Colonial Revival surrounds frame the window and door openings.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-784

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Winfield Webster Office Building

other Office Building Property

2. Location

street and number 109 Market Street not for publication

city, town Vienna vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name Paul D. Rhymer and Carolyn P. Thome

street and number 3718 Kanawha Avenue telephone

city, town Point of Rocks state MD zip code 217770-2031

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 935 folio 130

city, town Cambridge tax map 500 parcel 93 tax number 03-044599

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	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:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

7. Description

Inventory No. D-784

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.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Winfield Webster office building stands at 109 Market Street in the center of Vienna, Dorchester County, Maryland. The single-story, rusticated concrete block building is covered with a medium pitched hip roof covered with slate with metal covers lining the hip corners. The hip roof has a kicked eave, and a wide soffit featuring long cornice blocks. Built around 1923-24, the office building faces southeast with the hip roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis. The interior has survived relatively intact with a narrow tongue-and-groove floor, tongue-and-groove board wainscoting, and a fireplace in the front room.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Winfield Webster office building, also the Clay M. Webb office, is a single-story rusticated concrete block structure that stands at 109 Market Street in the town of Vienna, Dorchester County, Maryland. The rectangular, two-room plan building has four walls of rusticated concrete block laid in a red colored mortar. The office building is covered by a medium pitched slate roof distinguished with a kicked eave and wide soffit. Metal covers the seams at the four corners of the hip roof. Piercing the center of the building is a brick chimney stack.

The southeast (main) elevation is a two-bay façade with a side entrance and flanking single pane sash window. The front door is partially glazed with a single pane topping a two-panel bottom. The door retains its original knob. The doorway also features a single-pane transom. The door opening, as well as the adjacent window opening, is spanned by a concrete jack arch. Distinguishing the wide board soffit is a cornice block row that extends around the perimeter of the roof. The long cornice-like blocks have a shaped end.

The northeast (side) elevation is a two-bay façade defined by a pair of single-pane sash windows, and each opening is spanned by a concrete jack arch. Each window is also fitted with a concrete sill.

The northwest (rear) façade is a two-bay elevation with a side entrance marking the left bay and a single-pane sash window in the adjacent bay. Each opening has a concrete jack arch. The partially glazed door is topped by a single pane transom.

The interior of the office building survives with a high percentage of its original office woodwork including a tongue-and-groove board floor, tongue-and-groove board wainscoting, and Colonial Revival door and window surrounds. The center partition contains a fireplace featuring a brick face.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-784

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 checked="" 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.)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Winfield Webster office building is a distinctive and unusual building in Vienna's historic district. Built around 1923-24 for merchant and canner Winfield Webster, the rectangular, two-room plan structure made use of rusticated concrete block, a relatively new wall material developed at the close of the nineteenth century to facilitate rapid and inexpensive construction for all types of buildings and foundations. Enhancing the concrete block is a rough textured surface that was intended to imitate hand-cut stone. The wall elevations of concrete block are further enlivened with red mortar, which accents the block walls as well as the single unit jack arches that span each window and door opening. Capping the diminutive structure is a distinctive hip roof, covered in patterned slate, and featuring a kicked eave along with shaped end cornice blocks under the eave. The two-room office building is well finished inside with tongue-and-groove board wainscoting and a brick-faced fireplace. Colonial Revival surrounds frame the window and door openings.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Construction of this well-built office is attributed to Winfield Webster, canner and merchant, who purchased this Market Street property from Jurusha A. Moore in the summer of 1923.¹ Eleven years later the property was included in a Chancery Court settlement following the death of Winfield Webster.² The estate trustees, W. Laird Henry and Calvin Harrington, sold the Market Street office building, along with an adjacent tenant house, to Clay M. Webb, who had occupied the concrete block office as a tenant until the transfer was recorded. The property sold to Clay Webb for \$1,560 in November 1935.³ For the following forty-five years, the "Office Building Property" was held by Webb family members.⁴

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 13/323, 3 August 1923, Dorchester County Courthouse.

² Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 33/136, 23 November 1935, Dorchester County Courthouse.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Dorchester County Land Record, 214/557, 15 May 1980, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-784

Name Winfield Webster Office Building
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Winfield Webster Office Building
109 Market Street
Vienna, Dorchester County, Maryland

CHAIN-OF-TITLE

Map 500, Parcel 93

MLB 935/130

Daniel J. Arnold and Anne C. Arnold

to

8.17.2009

Paul D. Rhymer and Carolyn P. Thome

MLB 554/287

David A. Owens and Carol L. Owens

to

12.5.2003

Daniel J. Arnold and Anne C. Arnold

481/651

Harvey Altergott and Elise Altergott

to

4.30.2002

David A. Owens and Carol L. Owens
\$4,500

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Name Winfield Webster Office Building
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

214/557 Deborah Webb Giunta, Linda Webb Gorman, Personal
Representatives of Albert Walter Webb (died 8.20.1978
intestate)

to

5.15.1980 Harvey Altergott and Elise Altergott

RSM 78/298 Nellie M. Webb, widow, et al.

to

5.14.1952 Albert Walter Webb

Lot No. 4

JFD 33/136 W. Laird Henry and Calvin Harrington, Trustees and Lloyd
S. LeCompte

to

11.23.1935 Clay M. Webb

“Office Building Property” \$1,560.

Whereas by a Decree of Circuit Court, dated 20 October 1934,
wherein W. Laird Henry and Calvin Harrington, administrators,
of the personal estate of Winfield Webster, deceased, were the
complainants and Guy L. Webster and others were defendants
being No. 5721 in Chancery, did sell unto Clay M. Webb and the
said Lloyd S. LeCompte...all that land situated on west side of
Market Street, fronting 54' more or less, on said street...together
with the improvements thereon, consisting of an office building

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Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

occupied by Clay M. Webb, as tenant, and a dwelling house
property occupied by William P. Mills as tenant

JFD 13/323

Jurusha A. Moore

to

8.3.1923

Winfield Webster

...all that lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the
the town of Vienna, Dorchester County, Maryland,situated
on the westward side of Market Street, which was devised to
said Jurusha A. Moore by Item 4th of the Last Will and
Testament of Levin B. McNamara, deceased, dated 12.15.1894
And now in the Will Records, JWF 1/523, which property is at
present tenanted by Frank Higgins....

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-784

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1,625 square feet
Acreage of historical setting 1,625 square feet
Quadrangle name Mardela Springs MD 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	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	12.3.2009
street & number	Cedar Hill, 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

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Winfield Webster Office
Continuation Sheet

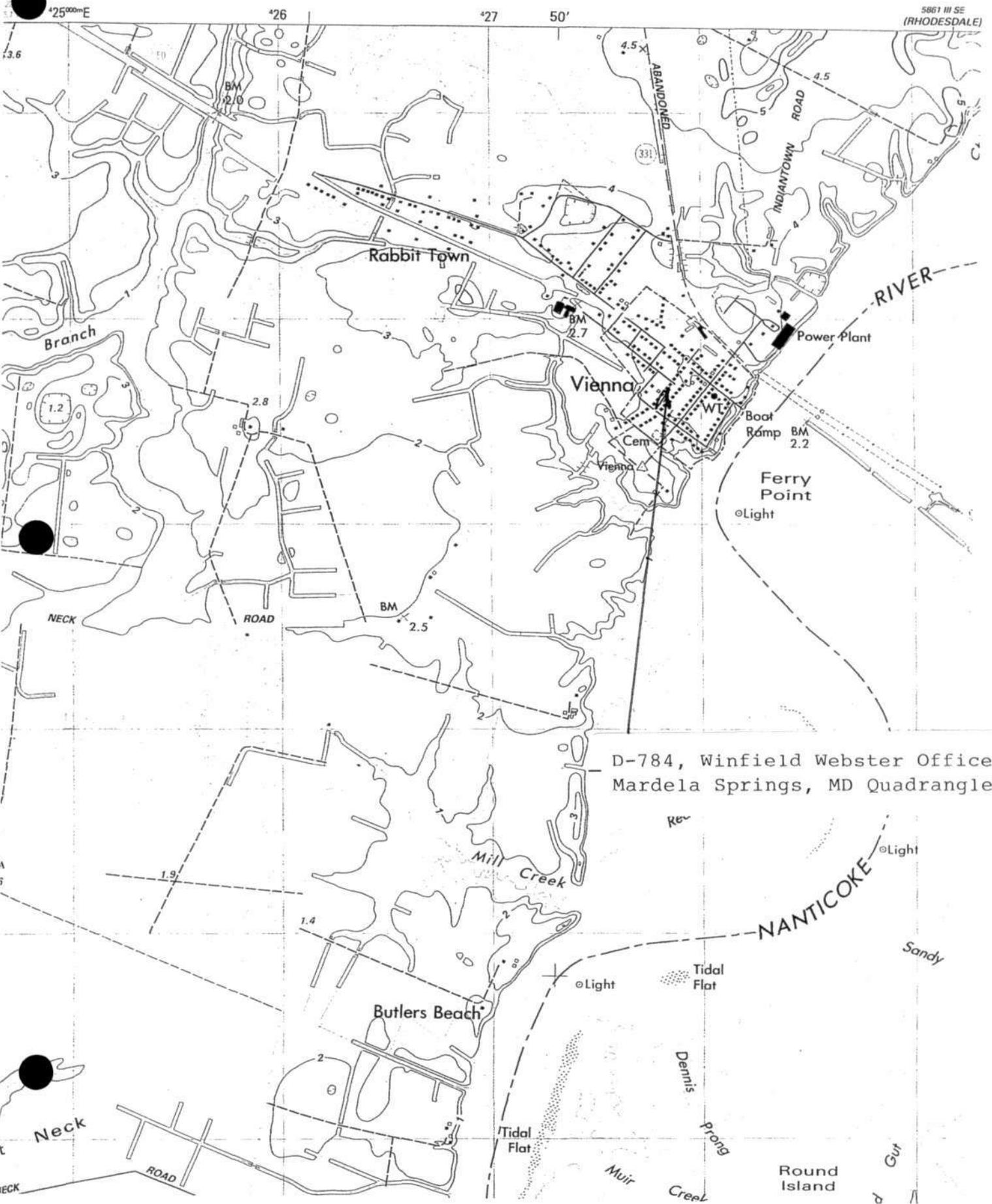
Number 9 Page 1

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TATES
THE INTERIOR
SURVEY



D-784, Winfield Webster Office
Mardela Springs, MD Quadrangle

5861 III SE
(RHODESDALE)



D-784

WINTERS WEBSTER OFFICE BLDG.

VIENNA, DORCHESTER C., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

12. 2009, PAUL B. TONANT, PITUIT.

NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 3



D-784

WINKFIELD WEBSTER OFFICE BUILDING

VIENNA, DORCHESTER CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

12.2009, PAUL B. TOWERS, PITUIT.

WET./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2 of 3



D-784

WINDFELLY WEBSTER

OFFICE BLDG.

VIENNA, DORCHESTER CO.
MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEV. (DETAIL)

12.2009, PAUL D. TOWANT,
PHOTO.

NEG/MD. HIST. TRUST

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