

GAITHERSBURG HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET

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ADDRESS 24 BROOKES AVENUE
County: Montgomery
Gaithersburg

MHT # M-21-60

LIBER 538, FOLIO 7

SURVEY # 11
LOT 4, BLOCK 2374

OWNER: Hallam Webber/Shirley Adams
ADDRESS: same
CITY: same

PRESENT USE: residence
ORIGINAL USE: residence
BUILDER: Moore

STYLE: vernacular Queen Anne DATE BUILT: 1896

PHYS. COND: good

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:

FOUNDATION: brick
WALL STRUCTURE: Balloon
WALL COVERING: clapboard

ROOF CONSTRUCTION:

ROOF STRUCTURE: Wood Truss
ROOF COVERING: asphalt shingle
ROOF STYLE: gable
EAVES: verges projecting
CHIMNEYS: two interior

APPENDAGES:

ADDITIONS: rear
ELLS: -
PORCHES: front, rear
SUPPORTS: turned post
OUTBUILDINGS: several

STORIES: 2 1/2

BAYS: 3 x 3

APPROX DIMENSION: 33 x

WINDOWS:

TYPE: d.h.s.
LIGHTS: 1/1,2/2
BAY WINDOWS: -
SIDE BY SIDES: front
GABLE TYPES: small Palladian type

ENTRANCES:

LOCATION: middle
DESCRIPTION: half-glass original

THREAT: none

SURROUNDINGS: residential

DESCRIPTION: This vernacular Queen Anne is often described as the most architecturally significant house in the neighborhood. It has a steeply pitched gabled roof and irregular massing. The front porch wraps to the right and is supported by six turned posts with a decorative bargeboard frieze and "praying madonna" railing. The main door is the original half-glass with fancy incised hinges visible from the interior. The side door off the porch is in the recessed right bay, also original. The projecting left bay has two 1/1 d.h.s. windows. The second storey left bay has similar fenestration. The middle bay has recently been restored to the original open porch which projects over the first floor porch and has a steep gabled roof with decorative bargeboard and a sunburst pattern frieze. The porch itself has fancy turned spindle balusters and frieze and decorative brackets and is supported by two turned posts. A small shed roof projects out from the bottom of the gable. The right recessed bay has a 1/1 d.h.s.

The half-storey left bay is a gable with verges projecting, a decorative bargeboard and frieze. There are three small windows arranged in a Palladian fashion with the center one having two lights and the smaller side ones having one light. There are staggered butt fishscale shingles in the gable end.

Both the left and right elevations have decorative bargeboards and friezes in the gable ends, each one distinct in design. There is a rear right-side porch supported by square chamfered posts with plain corner brackets and plain square post railing and frieze with a low hip roof covered in tin shingles. There are brackets in the eaves.

The left rear of the house appears to have been enclosed sometime after the original construction as a change in siding is slightly noticeable.

Presently the interior space is a bathroom and butler's pantry connecting the kitchen and dining room.

There is a shed-roofed garage to the right rear of the house with rafters exposed, eaves projecting, board and batten on right side, then beaded plank addition. A modern raised garage door has been added. There is a small shed-roofed building just off the rear side porch with a small door and a vertical casement 1/1 window. It was possibly a spring house. There is a large gable roofed building directly to the rear of the house with a tin roof, clapboard covered, three doors. Appears to have possibly been small barn/stable. There was a chicken coop to the rear of the property that has recently been removed due to deterioration.

According to the daughter (Virginia Moore Bell, now deceased) of the original owner/builder, Robert B. Moore, the house was constructed in 1896 of wood transported from the family's land somewhere in Virginia. Mr. Moore was the head teller of the First National Bank of Gaithersburg, considered to be a prominent position at that time. The house was held by the original family until Mrs. Bell's death in 1983. The current owners have undertaken a major restoration of the exterior and will soon return the house to a multi-color paint scheme, as evidenced in early photographs of the house.

Recorded by:
K. Bowers
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Historic Inventory Task Force