

Site M:26/10/16

Jenkins/Miller/McFarland House

5 North Adams Street

Built: c. 1793, remodeled and enlarged 1860's and 1887

The oldest building in Rockville, the original 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  story lean-to and cellar section appears in the 1793 Tax Assessments at a rental of \$14.00 a year. This earliest section is the northwest block bordering North Adams Street. Many of the interior elements of this section are original, including floors, mantels and doors. The rear of this section still has the nine-over-six windows, and one paneled shutter remains on the lean-to.

John Miller, a bricklayer, merchant and Town Baliff, added the south block and later raised the roof on that block, ~~added the east~~ wing and the extant Victorian detailing. The house is now a composite of 180 years of vernacular building, enclosed in 20th century aluminum siding. It has been adapted for use as a law office but retains many of its original features.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Jenkins/Miller/McFarland house

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 5 North Adams Street  not for publication

city, town Rockville  vicinity of congressional district 8

state Maryland county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name William H. Clarke & Richard W. Galiher

street & number 5 North Adams Street telephone no.: 762-2102

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 4394

street & number Rockville folio 321

city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register (W. Montgomery Avenue Historic District) - 1974  
locally designated historic district - 1974

date M-NCPPC - 1976  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records City of Rockville

city, town Rockville state Maryland

# 7. Description

Survey No. M:26/10/16

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

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

This frame building is located on lot 76 of the original Town of Rockville bordering the east side of North Adams Street. Its earliest section was built in 1793 and it has had two 19th century additions, resulting in a nearly rectangular form of 3 X 4 bays. The house has side and cross gables, long porches on its north and south facades and late Victorian detailing. It is now completely enclosed in aluminum siding over a brick foundation. It has interior brick chimneys.

West Elevation: The original 1793 2 story block is at the northwest corner bordering the brick-paved North Adams Street. Its two room, attic and lean-to configuration can still be recognized. The present large-paned two-over-two late Victorian windows on the west facade have the wide, flat, cap-moulded lintels matching the other windows on the house. The original windows are present only on the rear of this 18th century block; they are six-over-six. One old paneled shutter remains, nailed to the lean-to window.

South Elevation: The 1793 section no longer has an entrance to the street; an addition square block was added to the south and slightly behind the original section in the mid-19th century. The main facade now faces south. It was raised to two stories in 1887. It is now 3 bays by 2 bays with a center gable containing a round attic vent of jigsawn work topped by a gilded pinnacle ornament.

A deep porch runs the full length of the first story on this facade and wraps around the southwest corner to meet the 1793 section. The porch roof is supported by chamfered posts. There is one surviving segment of jigsawn baluster at the east end. The porch floor is covered by plywood sheeting. The porch has brick piers with lattice work panels between, and is only one step up from the ground level.

The front door has a large square light and moulded panel set into a plain frame; there is a transom above. One over one windows are on both levels.

North Elevation: A third section was added to the house sometime after 1890. This section is long and narrow under a slightly pitched shed roof and is of lower elevation than the two sections already discussed. This addition is 2 by 3 bays and features a recessed porch on the first floor of the north side; this porch abuts the lean-to, and has a centered raised entrance.

The later date of this facade is evident in the fact that the cellar entrance into the south side block was covered by construction of the porch, and now it is necessary to go through a trap door in the porch floor to enter the cellar. The later date is also evident in the plain porch and window trim, and in the moulding on the interior doors, which are topped with bulls-eye head blocks.

Another cellar is present under the 1793 block; it is of stone and can be entered through a bulkhead door on the ground in front of the lean-to. It does not connect with the other cellar, and the 18th century joists and beams have been replaced.

Continued on page 7.1

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#5 North Adams Street  
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#7 CONTINUATION P. 7.1

An asphalt driveway on the north side leads to a large parking area that dominates the back yard, although there is one large mature tree here and several on the south side. This building is now used as a law office.

Interior - 1793 Section: The interior of the northwest block--the original house-- has not been significantly altered though certain changes that reflect the exterior form have taken place. For example, though the front windows are Victorian, the original six-over-six with plain trim remain on the rear elevation and lean-to. In addition, fireplaces with hearths and mantles are extant in both rooms, but not evident from the exterior due to siding covering the whole north end wall.

The floors are random width pine, and the interior doors which flank the fireplaces on each side are vertical, sawn boards as are the connecting doors to the south side wing. Plain plastered walls duplicate the original. A pull-down stairway allows entrance into the attic, but traces of a larger attic entrance remain in the framing and on the attic floor; a stairway may once have been there. 18th century windows, though now covered, are visible at either end of the attic--one on the north wall and one where the roof was raised on the south block.

\*\* Only the south side porch shows on a plat with silhouette drawings made in 1890 when Beall's Subdivision was surveyed. Plat 23e, Montgomery County Historical Society.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. M: 26/10/16

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1793, 1887 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This building is important as one of the few surviving 18th century structures in the original town of Rockville. Its configuration has evolved over a span of nearly 200 years. The small clapboard structure that Philip Jenkins owned in 1793 is now enclosed within the later additions made by John R. Miller, a prosperous resident and Town Officer in the mid-19th century; the house served as both his home and a millinery shop operated by Mrs. Miller. The continued attraction of proximity to the County Courthouse is represented by the 20th century adaptive use of this structure as a law office.

Philip Jenkins was one of the earliest owners of land in "Williamsburg", the town laid out by William P. Williams before the survey and charter of Rockville. In 1787 he purchased lot 24 (which lay due east of this property, lot 76) and erected a building. Lot 76 on Adams Street was purchased in 1792;<sup>1</sup> the 1793 Tax Assessment notes an improved lot rented to Benjamin Jones for \$14.00 a year, valued at \$87.15.<sup>2</sup> This improvement was probably the simple two room, loft and lean-to which is the northwest section closest to Adams Street.

In 1824 Jenkins moved to Kentucky, selling the lot and building to John Braddock for \$400. One of the Braddock daughters married John R. Miller, and the house passed to Mrs. Miller.<sup>3</sup>

In 1853 Nathan Martin, a free negro, owned a small part of this lot with \$50 worth of improvements, probably a small shed or shop of some kind.<sup>4</sup>

By the late 1860's John R. Miller was a prominent citizen who had served as Baliff of the Town.<sup>5</sup> Some enlargement of the house had taken place by 1866 when the tax records valued it at \$1,200 with a stable worth \$600. These two buildings are shown on the Hopkins Atlas (1879). Mr. Miller also owned the block of land southwest across Adams Street which he had resurveyed and called "Miller's Hope"; many fine homes were constructed there 1888-1908.

In 1887 further enlargement of the house took place.<sup>6</sup> The Sentinel newspaper announced that "John R. Miller and Isaac Maus will raise their houses one story next Spring". The following March the paper noted, "John R. Miller has commenced the building of an addition to



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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This is the oldest extant building in Rockville. Its northwest section of two rooms, attic, cellar and lean-to predate 1793; part of the fenestration and many of the interior features of the original 18th century block remain. The small clapboard structure that Philip Jenkins owned in 1793 was enlarged by John R. Miller, a prosperous resident and Town Officer in the mid-19th century; the building served as both a family home and a millinery shop operated by Mrs. Miller. The continued attraction of proximity to the County Courthouse is represented by the 20th century adaptive use of this structure as a law office.

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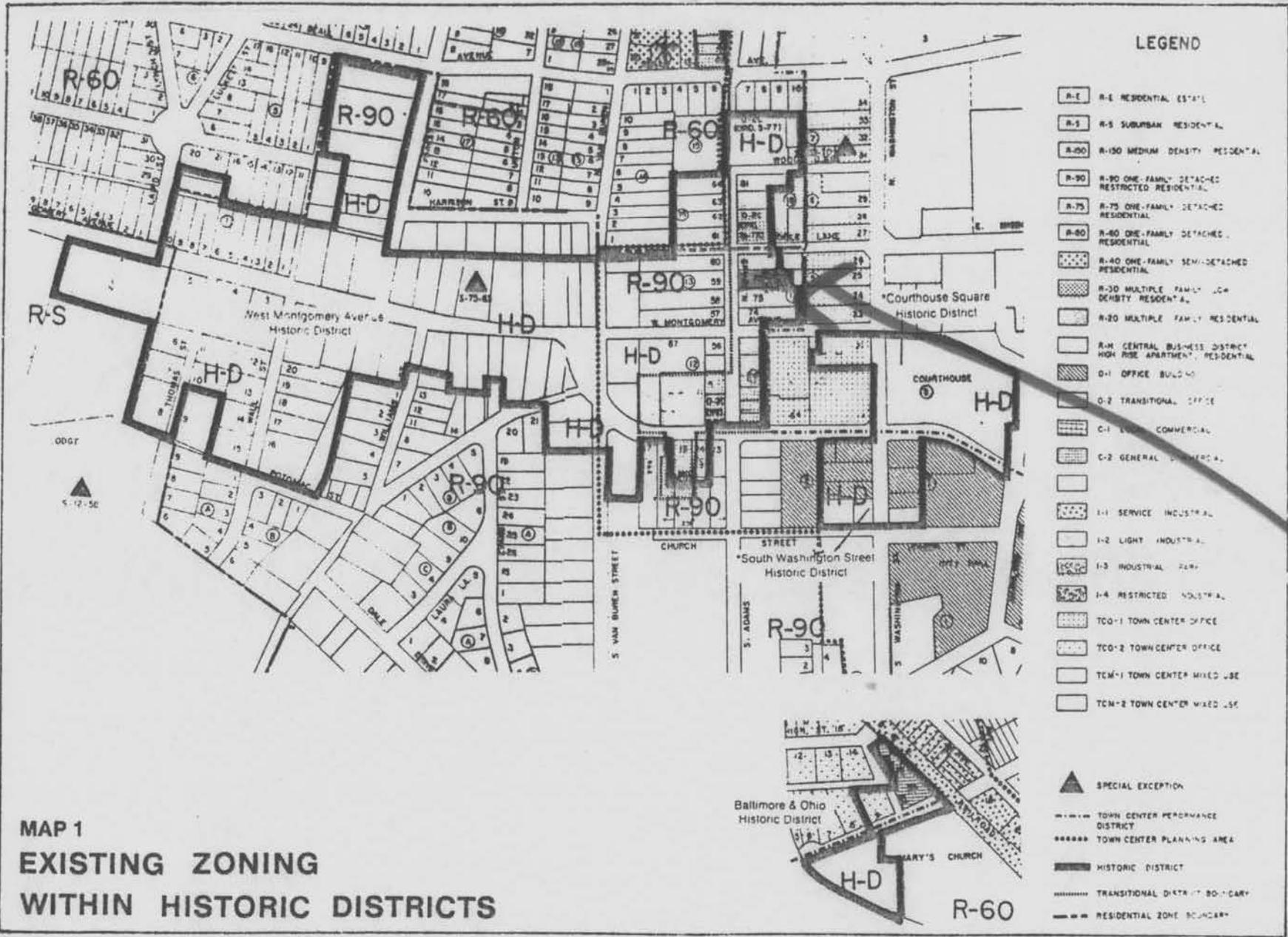
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**MAP 1  
EXISTING ZONING  
WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

\*Note: For discussion and planning purposes South Washington Street and the Courthouse Square district are considered independent Historic Districts even though they are shown on the existing zoning map as one district.

P11  
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 5 North Adams Street  
 Rockville



1007-7

M: 26/10/16  
JENKINS/MILNER/MCFARLAND  
5 No. Adams St.

SOUTH ELEVATION

RICHARD H. ANDREWS  
1608 Farragut Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

AUGUST, 1984



RICHARD H. ANDREWS  
1608 Faragut Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20851

M: 26/10/16  
JENKINS/MILLER/MCFARLAND  
5 No. Adams St.

NORTH/NORTHWEST ELEVATION

1010-6

AUGUST, 1984