

Site M:26/10/18

England's Cottage

15 West Montgomery Avenue

Restricted-Private

Built: 1872

The steeply pitched cross gable roof with its bracketed cornice illustrates the Victorian cottage style of this house. The rear facade has been heavily enlarged and altered to accommodate 40 years of office use. The building is now covered with grained vinyl siding except under the shallow pillared entrance portico (a later addition).

Merchant and Post Master, John England owned nearly half the block in the late 19th century. He outgrew this residence cottage and built a larger one fronting on Washington Street. This corner has always been commercial; small brick stores were once located on both sides of this structure, and its construction in 1872 replaced a log structure dating from 1795.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic England's Cottage

and/or common Stackhouse property

2. Location

street & number 15 West Montgomery Avenue not for publication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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Lawrence I. Kasdon

street & number 6916 Heather Hill Road telephone no.: 229-3446

city, town Bethesda state and zip code Md 20816

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 5784

street & number Montgomery County Land Records folio 242

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date federal state county local

repository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. M. 26/10/18

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" 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 1872 Bracketed Victorian cottage is situated on lot 23 of the original town plat. It fronts on West Montgomery Avenue (formerly Commerce Lane) immediately adjacent to commercial buildings on Washington Street.

The south (main) facade of the original 2 1/2 story, 5 bay by 2 bay block with flush end chimneys, parged stone foundation and gable roof is relatively unaltered. A steeply pitched central gable breaks the cornice line at the center of this facade. The heavy cornice is scroll bracketed and partially returned. Under the center gable a Gothic window of pointed arch shape decorates the gable peak. The second floor front windows retain the original architrave and have wide lintels with cap molding. Windows on the first and second floors are two over two double hung sash.

The central raised entry porch is under a shallow portico with later Colonial Revival round columns. The wood and glass paneled door has a ribbon transom and sidelights of one narrow glass pane over molded wooden panel. The brick steps are recent replacements.

Some of the early wide clapboard is evident under the protection of the porticoed entry. The remainder of the house has been covered twice—once in asbestos shingle siding and recently with modern vinyl siding. The fenestration on the other three sides has also been altered, with several windows covered. A bulk head cellar door is present on the east side.

The large rear 2 X 3 bay addition runs perpendicular to the main block. It has been altered several times since the building's conversion to office use, most recently with a mansard-style roof and metal exterior stairway.

There is a (new) white picket fence along West Montgomery Avenue, and the west (side) yard is paved for parking.

1. Montgomery County Judgment Records, Liber 1817-1823, folio 90 and folio 257 contains testimony regarding this lot, reciting that a "log house was built on this site c. 1795; that Upton Beall had purchased half the lot in 1814 and that there were also a tavern and shops located there from time to time. Lot 24, the site of the later England House was purchased by Phillip Jenkins in 1787 (Liber C, folio 671)
2. Land Records, JGH9/318 and EBP 8/227
3. England family information from genealogical and family files at Montgomery County Historical Society
4. Land Records, EBP 8/361. The remainder of lot 23 was purchased from Margaret Beall for \$300 in 1876 (EBP 16/5)
5. Montgomery County Sentinel, October 4, 1872
6. Land Records, 4643/458 (1975)

8. Significance

Survey No. M:26/10/18

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 type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input 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 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 1872 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

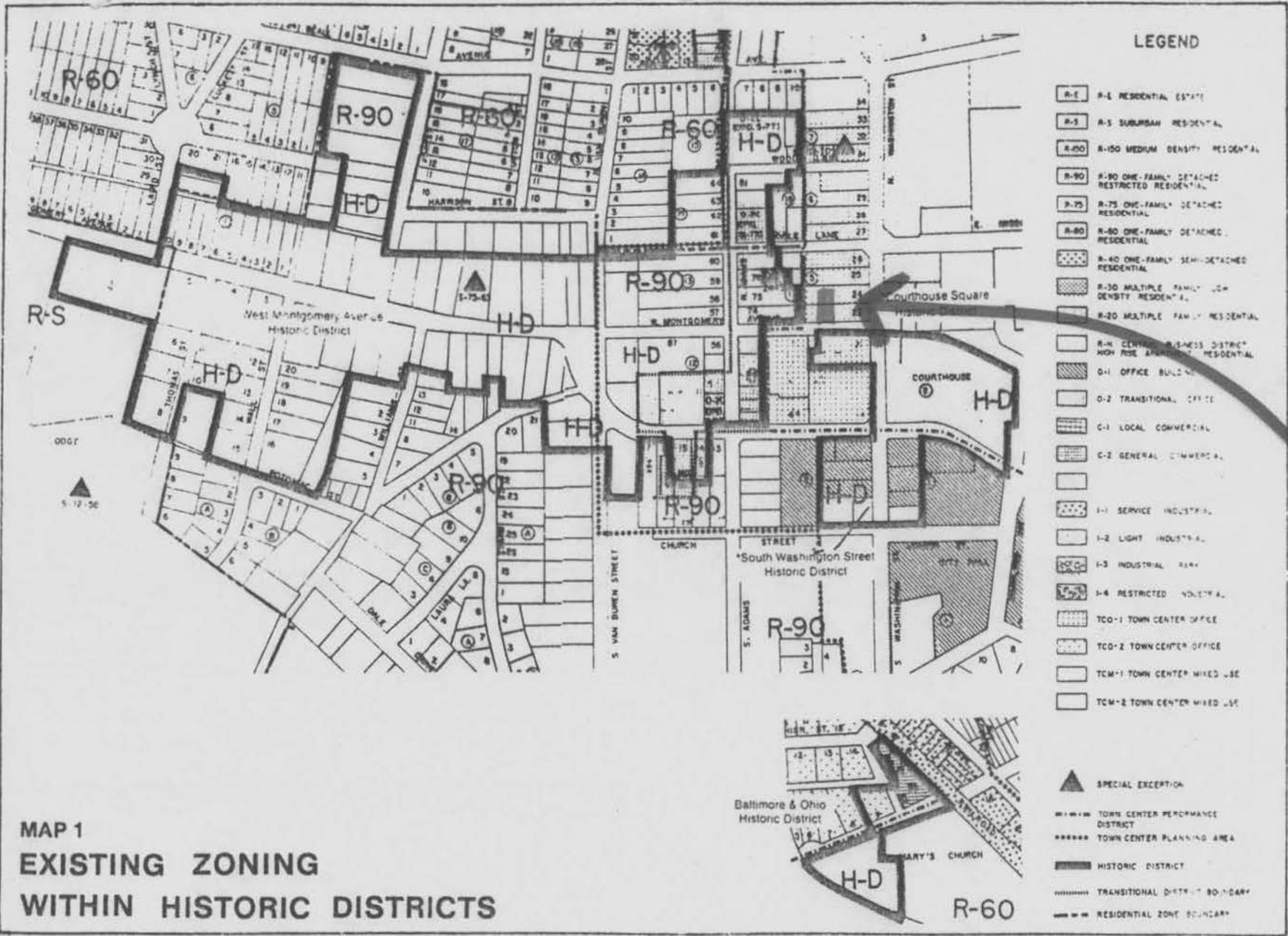
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

When Rockville was platted in 1803, the existing road to Frederick became Washington Street; being just one block from the Courthouse, it became the prime commercial section of the town. There were already several shops, taverns and residences constructed before this time.¹ John England built the second "generation" of buildings on these lots in the third quarter of the 19th century. This bracketed cottage is the last remaining building of the several residential or commercial structures he built on the lots abutting on Washington Street at the corners intersected by Montgomery Avenue (then Commerce Lane).² This structure had a store on one side and a stable on the other, but England's store has been replaced by modern commercial establishments that now line Washington Street and extend back nearly to this house. It has survived through its alteration and adaptation for office use.

John G. England, Sr. came to Montgomery County around 1830 and served in the Maryland Legislature 1839-1841.³ John, Sr. and his son married into branches of the Crabb-Howard, Griffith and Wilcoxon families, all early settlers and large landowners in the County. John G. England, Jr. came into possession of the old tavern and house lots #23 and #24 which were given to his wife by her Aunt Ursula Wilcoxon.⁴ England built this house in 1872, "a two-story frame house on his lot fronting on Commerce Lane a few yards west of the Post Office".⁵ Since John and his wife (Ann Griffith) had 15 children, they soon after built a larger one at the north end of lot #24, fronting on Washington Street. John England was Postmaster for 16 years, Mayor of Rockville in 1894 and on the City Council from 1898 to 1902.

The house remained in the England family until 1950. It was then purchased by Will Stackhouse, who owned it for approximately 20 years and used it as his insurance office. His heirs sold it to Robert White,⁶ who added the rear block and made other interior and exterior alterations. Since then the property has changed hands several times.

(FOOTNOTES CONTINUED ON OPPOSITE PAGE)



**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
M: 26/10/18
England's Cottage
15 West Montgomery Avenue
Rockville



1017-1

RICHARD H. ANDREWS
1608 Farragut Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20851

M: 26/10/18
ENGLAND'S COTTAGE
15 West Montgomery Ave.
SOUTH ELEVATION

AUGUST, 1984