

Site M:26/10/21

Jerkinhead Cottage

12 South Adams Street

Built: 1889

Private/Restricted Access

The unusual repeated jerkin-head roof on the front facade and flanks of this cottage inspired the common name for this building. It is one of two houses that were being built for Hon. Stephen M. Lyddane at the time of his death in 1889, and remained in the Lyddane family until 1918. It has been altered for law office use and enclosed in vinyl siding, but retains its original unique roof, and porch and window detailing.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Jerkinhead Cottage

2. Location

street & number 12 South Adams Street not for publicationcity, town Rockville vicinity of congressional district 8state 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 checked="" 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 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 John T. Bell

street & number 101 West Jefferson Street telephone no.: 762-1717

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Land Records liber 4578

street & number Montgomery County Courthouse folio 387

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register - West Montgomery Ave. Historic District - 1974
M-NCPPC - 1976date Locally designated historic district - federal state county local
1974

pository for survey records City of Rockville

city, town Rockville state Maryland 20850

7. Description

Survey No. M: 26/10/21

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <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 | date of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

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

This two-story, 2-bay by 2-bay frame Jerkinheaded cottage faces west on South Adams Street. Set on a parged brick foundation and under front-flanking Jerkinheaded roofs, this asymmetrical structure is covered with grained vinyl siding. The house is roughly square in its plan, with Jerkinheaded projections on three sides and a central brick chimney.

The south bay of the west (main) facade features a 2-story three sided hipped roof bay window projecting from a slightly larger Jerkinhead gable end. This gable is a projection from yet a larger Jerkinheaded gable that has an additional northwest window bay. The repetition of these two Jerkinhead gables and the additional window bay results in an unusual facade that is visually complex. The entry bay on the northwest corner has been modified with a small enclosed box-like vestibule that projects outwardly with a diamond-lit Maple veneer door. The original entry porch from which this doorway emerges extends around the north facade to a one bay Jerkinheaded gable end on the northeast corner. Two original chamfered posts and decorative brackets remain. Two over two windows set in plain wood framing are present throughout the house.

The flat-planed south facade repeats the Jerkinhead roof on its southeast bay; the southwest bay adjoins under a gabled roof.

The east (rear) facade has a box-like central, two story projection (similar to that on the rear of 14 South Adams), as well as two flanking rear entrances.

Although this house has been remodeled and is presently in use as legal offices, it retains its unique massing and zealous employment of the Jerkinhead roofline. 12 South Adams complements its flanking neighbors with its moderate scale and distinctive character.

B.N. R.

8. Significance

Survey No. M: 26/10/21

| 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/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1889 **Builder/Architect** Builder: R.A.Clagett;
 Architect: E.M.West (presumed)

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.

Three adjoining houses on the east side of Adams Street were built in the late 1880s by Stephen M. Lyddane. The cottages show three different architectural faces. The middle house, 12 South Adams Street, has a jerkin-head roof on its front elevation and both flanks. It remained in the Lyddane family for twenty years, but during their ownership and subsequently it was a rental unit. It has been altered for its present use as a law office.

Judge Stephen Lyddane died in 1889; at the time of his death he had contracted for the construction of 3 buildings. One of these structures was the store/dwelling house at the corner of Adams Street and Commerce Lane (now West Montgomery Avenue). The other two buildings were the cottages located on parts of lots 69 and 70, now 14 and 12 South Adams Street. His Estate listed payments to various contractors and mechanics for work on these houses, as well as payments for materials.¹ The two cottages were being constructed by R. A. Clagett; however, it is believed that the design and building plans for both houses were the work of Edwin M. West, who was owed money by the estate for some unspecified work. The similarity between Mr. West's own house and the corner house at 14 South Adams is discussed in Survey Site #M:26/10/20.

The subject house at 12 South Adams bears marked similarity to the first known house constructed by Edwin West in Rockville, located at 19 Wall Street; West was one of the first to purchase a lot and build in Rebecca T. Veirs' new addition at the west end of Rockville.² The newspaper reported the sale of that property: "Real Estate Sales -- to Lillie Claubaugh of Washington for \$2,250 the pretty cottage recently built in the West End by Mr. Edwin M. West."³ The Wall Street and South Adams Street cottages are similar though not duplicates. On the main facade of the Adams Street house, the jerkinhead roof is repeated atop a 2-story, 3 sided bay, and the over-all design plans and massing differ.

This cottage stayed in the Lyddane family until after the death of Mrs. Sally Lyddane in 1911. It was sold to Eugene W. Cissel in 1918 for \$2,000, but resold the following year to Albert Marlowe for \$753 plus assumption of the \$1,496 mortgage.⁴ Between 1921 and 1959 William Vernon Beall, a local painter, and then his widow Florence owned the house. Since 1967, various attorneys, trading as corporations or limited partnerships have owned this house. Attorney John T. Bell purchased 12 South Adams in 1974. He also has an interest in and has rehabilitated other 19th century buildings in Rockville, notably the Rockville Christian Church, also built by Edwin M. West. (continued)

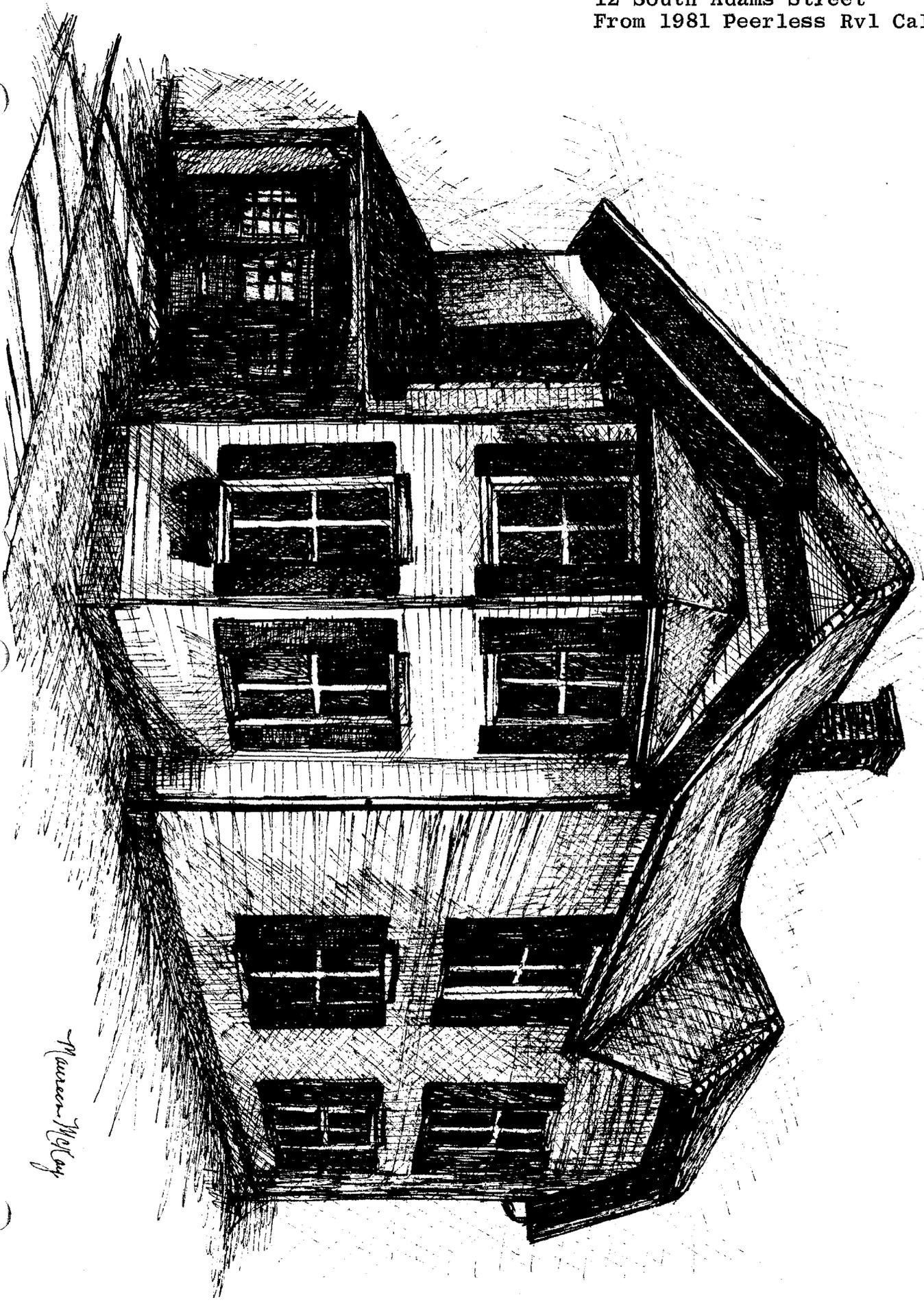
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE - 12 South Adams Street, Rockville, MD

The subject house has been altered for use as a law office and enclosed in vinyl siding, although most of the massing, fenestration and porch detailing are original.

FOOTNOTES:

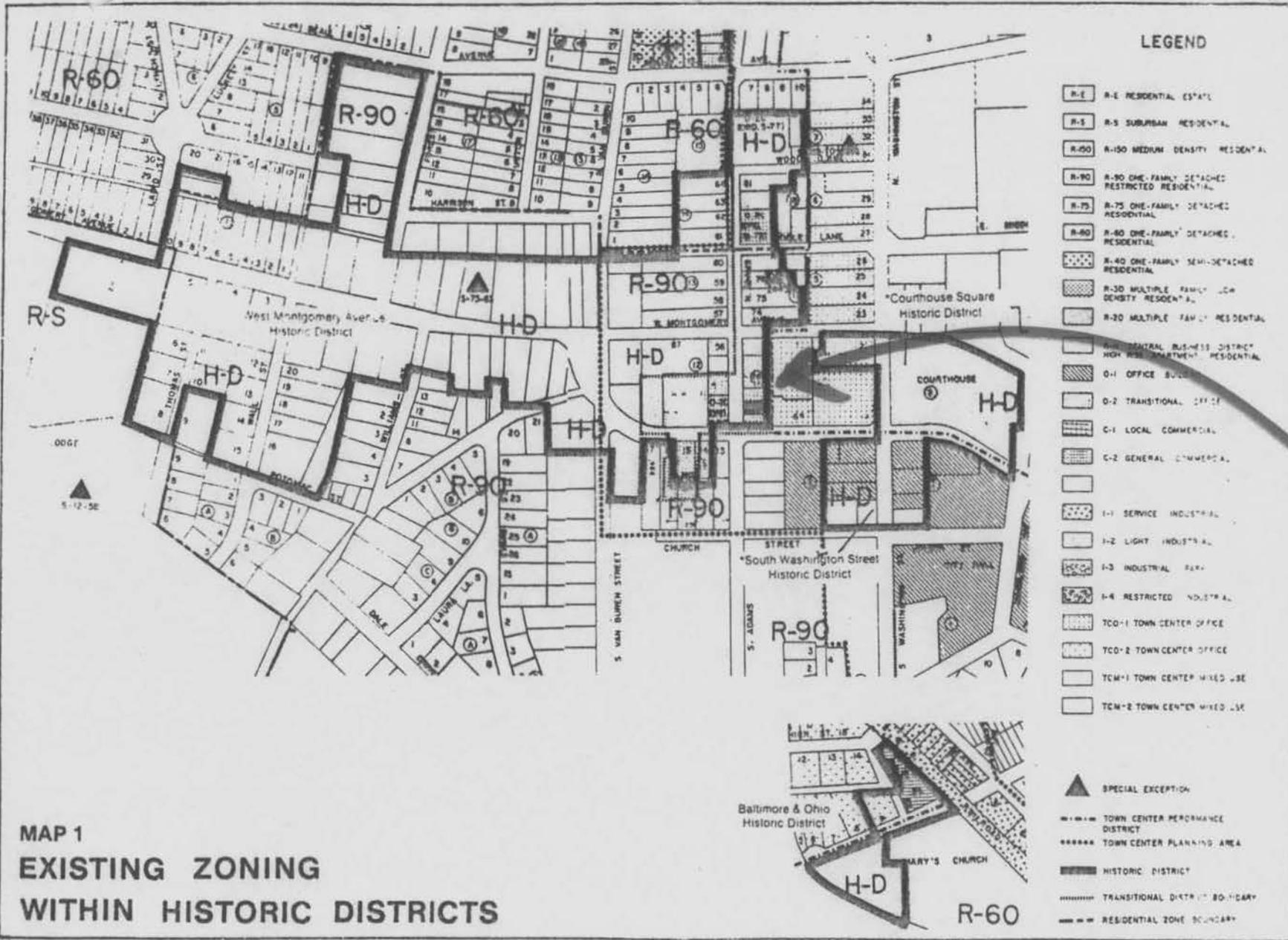
1. Lyddane Estate, Inventory of Accounts at RWC 19/254. Payment due for two houses was \$973 and \$1,132 and included a payment owing for "Plumber for lower house", presumed to be 14 South Adams.
2. West's purchase, Land Records at JA6/209 (1887), sold to Ms. Claubaugh at JA 15/9 (1889).
3. Montgomery County Sentinel, June, 1889.
4. Land Records, 274/286 (1918) and 308/426 (1919).

M: 26/10/21
12 South Adams Street
From 1981 Peerless Rv1 Calend.



12 South Adams

M. Lawrence - M. G. Long



M: 26/10/21
 Jerkinhead Cottage
 12 South Adams Street
 Rockville
 P11

*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.



1023-2

M: 26/10/21
JERKIN HEAD COTTAGE
12 So. Adams St.
Northwest Elevation

RICHARD H. ANDREWS
1608 Farragut Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20851

August, 1984