

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

MAGI #1650212604
(#assigned 11/86)

1. Name Daniel F. Owens House
2. Planning Area/Site Number 26/10
West Montgomery Avenue HD
3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 15
Coordinate F-13
4. Address 218 West Montgomery Avenue
Rockville, Md.
5. Classification Summary

Category building
 Ownership private
 Public Acquisition N/A
 Status occupied
 Accessible no
 Present use private residence
 Previous Survey Recording _____
 (Title and date: _____)

MNCPPC-County, Local-1976
 National Register-Federal-1975
 Rockville Historic District
 Commission - 1974
 Federal _____ State _____ County _____ Local _____

6. Date 1890
7. Original Owner Daniel F. Owens
8. Apparent Condition
- a. fair
- b. altered
- c. original site

9. Description: This 2½ story, 4 bay by 4 bay brick house is set back from West Montgomery Avenue facing north. Built on brick foundations with common-bonded brick walls, this house is nearly square. There are 2-over-2 double-hung windows throughout the house, and the first floor windows are set into segmental arches. There are 2 bay windows, and 4 interior end chimneys. The hipped roof has slate shingles arranged in horizontal bands of fish scale and regular shingles. There are 2 hipped dormer windows, one on the north and one on the south elevation.

There are three porches on the house, at the north, south, and east elevations. South of the house a brick walk leads to a square brick outhouse. It has a gable roof covered with slate and a small porch.

10. Significance: After the opening of the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad in 1873, Rockville changed from a sleepy Courthouse village into a bustling focus for vacationers, commuters, and real estate entrepreneurs. Rockville's population trebled between 1873 and 1900, new businesses and subdivisions opened up, and many new homes were constructed.

Daniel F. Owens was attracted by Rockville's "boom" and promise and left Pennsylvania in 1872 to become the town's first druggist. He was sufficiently prosperous by 1889 to purchase 1/3 acre and erect this handsome house. Dr. Owens served, briefly, as Mayor of Rockville in 1890.

After Dr. Owens' death, the house was sold for \$6,750 to George and Blanche Lewis, but has been owned for many decades by the Ricketts and Hartley families.

11. Date researched and researcher Candy Reed/Architectural Description
Eileen McGuckian 7/78
12. Compiler Eileen McGuckian 13. Date Compiled 2/79 14. Designation Approval _____
15. Acreage 15,144 sq. ft.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Daniel F. Owens House
AND/OR COMMON Ricketts House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 218 West Montgomery Avenue
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Theodore Ricketts Telephone #: 762-4286
STREET & NUMBER 406 Beall Avenue
CITY, TOWN Rockville VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 20850

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse Liber #: 5076
Folio #: 165
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Rockville, Maryland STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission
DATE 1976 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office
CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M:26-10-5

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 DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two and a half story, four bay by four bay brick house is set back from West Montgomery Avenue facing north.

Built on brick foundations with common bonded brick walls, this house is nearly square. The north (front) porch has a half hipped roof supported by four wooden columns connected by a railing with square wooden balusters. There is a wooden pediment over the seven wooden steps which lead up to the porch. There is a wrought iron handrail on the east and west sides of the porch. The north (front) door has evidently been moved from its original position (which has been bricked up) to a position to the east. A window was enlarged and opened; the north wooden paneled door was inserted. On the south (rear) elevation the porch extends across the full width of the building. Six square wooden posts support a shed roof. Nine wooden steps lead up to the porch. A third porch, on the east elevation, may be reached by two separate stairways on the north and south which meet at the balustrade landing. The glass and wooden paneled door is set into a segmental arch.

There are two over two double hung windows throughout the house flanked by white wooden louvered shutters. There are some three vertical light over one light double hung windows on the north and south elevations. The first floor windows are set into segmental arches. There are two bay windows. On the north elevation there is a two story bay window and on the east elevation there is a two story bay window with a blank wall on the east side. A chimney stack arises out of this bay on the east elevation. In addition, there are three other interior end chimneys at the southeast, southwest, and northwest corners. The hipped roof has slate shingles arranged in horizontal bands of fish scale and regular shingles. There are two hipped dormer windows: one on the north and on the south elevations. These each have nine lights and are possibly casement style windows.

South of the house a brick walk leads to a brick outhouse located southwest of the house. It is a square structure, one story, with a gable roof which is short on the south elevation, and faces north. The roof extends out over the north elevation wall to provide a porch covering over the wooden four paneled door. This roof is slate and the gable ends are slate shingled as well. There is a six light casement window on the south elevation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:26-10-5

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 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

1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

After the opening of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad in 1873, Rockville changed from a sleepy Courthouse village into a bustling focus for vacationers, commuters, and real estate entrepreneurs. Rockville's population trebled between 1873 and 1900, new businesses and subdivisions opened up, and many new homes were constructed.

Daniel F. Owens was attracted by Rockville's "boom" and promise and left Pennsylvania in 1872 to become the town's first druggist. His pharmacy near the Courthouse sold medical supplies, vegetable seeds, and household articles.¹

Dr. Owens was sufficiently prosperous by 1889 to purchase a 1/3 acre lot on "Commerce Street" for \$1,000,² and the following year to erect a handsome two-story residence "with modern improvements" on it.³ The house is significant for its materials (brick in a town of predominantly frame structures), its fine unaltered architectural details, and its companion outhouse in the backyard. Dr. Owens served, briefly, as Mayor of Rockville in 1890.

After Dr. Owens' death, the house was sold for \$6,750 to George and Blanche Lewis,⁴ but has been owned for many decades by the Ricketts and Hartley families.

- Footnotes:
1. Montgomery County Sentinel, Advertisement, 1878
 2. Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland, JA13/77 and JA19/63
 3. Montgomery County Sentinel, "Local and Personal" Column 1890
 4. Land Records, 208/431

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland
Montgomery County Sentinel

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15,144 square feet

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	<u>Candy Reed/Architectural Description</u>	DATE	<u>July, 1978</u>
ORGANIZATION	<u>Eileen McGuckian, Volunteer</u>		
	<u>Sugarloaf Regional Trails</u>		
STREET & NUMBER	<u>Box 87, Stronghold</u>	TELEPHONE	<u>926-4510</u>
CITY OR TOWN	<u>Dickerson</u>	STATE	<u>Maryland 20753</u>

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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~~
~~The Shaw House, 21 State Circle~~
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~
~~(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
Box 87, Stronghold
Dickerson, Md. 20753
(301) 926-4510