

Site: M: 26/10/51

The Duncan House

400 West Montgomery Avenue

Built: 1887 Builder: W.R. Pumphrey Private

This ell-shaped house was one of the first built in "R.T. Veirs' Addition to Rockville". It was constructed for Methodist Minister Beverly Bond, who never resided here. The basic form and structural elements of this vernacular structure remain, although modern enlargements and classical detailing have altered its appearance.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Noneand/or common The Duncan House

2. Location

street & number 400 West Montgomery Avenue 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 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"/> 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 Dr. and Mrs. Leroy Duncanstreet & number 400 West Montgomery Avenue telephone no.: 762-2876city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery Co. Land Records 2084 liberstreet & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse 434 foliocity, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register of Historic Places (1974)date City of Rockville Historic District (1974) federal state county localdepository for survey records City of Rockvillecity, town Rockville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. M'26/10/51

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" 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 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 vernacular house faces north on West Montgomery Avenue at the corner of Wall Street. Several trees shade the lot. A two-car garage and storage structure are at the rear of the property accessed via Wall Street.

The house has a main block consisting of a 2-1/2 story "I" house with a 2-1/2 story rear gable ell and one-story lean-to, forming an L-shaped plan. This form creates a side-gabled roof broken on the front by a moderately-pitched center gable. The main block is set on a brick foundation and covered with pebble-dash. A 1960s two-story addition at the southwest corner adjusts the plan to a square. This addition has a sloping roofline and is sheathed in horizontal clapboard. The original tin roof of the main block was replaced by asphalt shingles in 1955. Windows have molded lintels and flanking louvered wooden shutters.

Although heavily altered, the house retains the basic form and some structural elements typical of late-19th-century vernacular dwellings. The structural elements are eclectic, borrowing from a variety of architectural styles: Victorian attic vents in gable pediments; Colonial Revival return gable eaves and wide flat cornice; and Gothic Revival central gable. These components and the form of the house's main block make this structure more reflective of local builders and owners interpretation than pure architectural style.

The north facade has three bays. A full-width open wooden porch extends over the first-story bays and is supported by four Doric columns. The porch is covered with a tin seamed roof, set on brick piers, and is reached by wide wooden steps. This first story has elongated 2-over-2 sash windows in the first and third bays; an exterior wood paneled door with molded surround is in the second bay. The second story has single 2-over-2 sash windows in the first and third bays and a pair of narrower 1-over-1 windows in the center bay.

The three-bay east facade has double 2-over-2 windows with flat lintels on the first bay, first and second story. The third bay, first floor, has a tripartite bay window with 2-over-2 sash windows in each part. All other bays have 2-over-2 sash windows, flanking wooden louvered shutters, and molded lintels.

The south facade is composed of the gable end of the rear ell and lean-to at the southwest corner, and the two-story, two-level addition at the southeast corner. The former has a rear exterior door covered by an overhanging roof supported by two wooden columns. The latter southeast corner has 2-over-2 sash windows on the second story and a central 2-over-2 sash window on the first. A brick chimney is located on the ridge line.

- Continued on attachment 7.1

8. Significance

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) LOCAL HISTORY
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1887 Builder/Architect W. R. Pumphrey, Builder

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.

The house at 400 West Montgomery Avenue is representative of the vernacular residences being constructed in Rockville's newly-opened West End during the last quarter of the 19th century.

History & Support

The success of Mrs. R. T. Veirs' 1886 Addition to Rockville was immediate. Barely six months after the 19 lots were platted, two houses were under construction at the corners of Wall Street and West Montgomery.^{1/} The subject house was constructed by a local carpenter in a vernacular style; later additions have been made with contrasting materials.

The Reverend Beverly Bond, Minister of the Rockville M. E. Church, South from 1883-1887, was reassigned from Rockville in January, 1887.^{2/} Perhaps planning to return later, Rev. Bond purchased one of the new lots being offered in Mrs. Veirs' Addition for \$400. In February, 1887, the newspaper noted that Rev. Bond had "contracted with W.R. Pumphrey for a house in the west end..."^{3/} Mr. Pumphrey, of the second generation of family carpenters/coffin-makers in Rockville, erected an L-shaped, frame Victorian cottage on the eastern half of Bond's lot (#3) fronting on Montgomery Avenue and bordering the west side of Wall Street.

The house was leased from 1887 to 1902 and finally sold then, for the Bonds were never to return to Rockville. Rev. Bond's distinguished career was rewarded by his election as Presiding Elder of the Baltimore Conference of Methodists; he died in 1920.

In 1909 Ada R. Thompson bought the house for \$3,525. ^{4/} Her son Hugh Thompson purchased the western half of the lot, still unimproved, from the Bonds in 1915, and the property was again divided in 1925. Ada Thompson died intestate in February 1945 and her heirs sold the property to Henry M. and Annie White.

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400 West Montgomery Avenue
Attachment 7.1

The three-bay west facade has 2-over-2 sash windows on each floor of the side gable end. Three 2-over-2 sash asymmetrically placed windows characterize the recessed rear ell. A small 1-over-1 window is in the lean-to. A brick chimney is at the junction of the front side gable and rear ell.

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Attachment 8.1

Between 1951 and 1955 the Douglas B. Henderson family resided at 400 West Montgomery. The current owners purchased the house in 1955. Some additions to the rear facade as well as substitution of classical detailing on the front porch had already been made by the time of the Duncans' purchase. Since then, the Duncans have added further bays to the rear, resulting in an almost square house.

Footnotes:

1. #318 West Montgomery had been started in the Fall of 1886, #400 was begun in February 1887, and by May five more lots had been sold.
2. Reverend Bond's career is discussed in several entries in Gordon Baker's Those Incredible Methodists, Nashville, 1972.
3. Montgomery County Sentinel February 4, 1887. Montgomery County Land Record JA4/274 (1887).
4. Montgomery County Land Record 206/389 (1909)



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ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

400 W. Montgomery Ave
Rockville
No. Facade

6/85 #1073

M: 26/10/51

0695-15-3



400 W. Montgomery Ave, Rockville
SE Facade
6/85 #2 of 3

M: 26/10/51

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0685-14-7



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400 West Montgomery Ave
Rockville
Garage + SE Facade

6/85

#3073

M: 26/10/51

0685-14-6