

Site: M:26/10/55

The Conklin House

411 West Montgomery Avenue

Built: 1924

Private

The Conklin House is an example of early 20th century infill on lots in the late 19th century "West End Park" subdivision. It was constructed in 1924 for a member of the England family which owned the Victorian residence next door. The original owners still reside here.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common The Conklin House

2. Location

street & number 411 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 Lucille E. Conklinstreet & number 411 West Montgomery Avenue telephone no.: 762-3348city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery Co. Land Records liber 574street & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse folio 173city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register of Historic Places 1974date 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: 26/10/55

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.

The Conklin house faces south toward the intersection of West Montgomery Avenue and Thomas Street. Large, towering hardwood trees and dense shrubbery surround the house virtually hiding it from the street. Its long, narrow lot stretches to a rear alley. This house is closely connected to its neighbor 409 West Montgomery Avenue and shares rear parking and outbuildings with it. The immediate backyard is fenced.

This 2-and-1/2-story frame house sits on a cement foundation. It has a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles, wide eaves, and a front, hipped dormer. The square shape of the house is altered at the rear where a number of additions have been made. Most of the windows are six-over-one double-hung sash. The house is now covered in a textured stucco. There is one interior chimney.

Although associated with its highly decorative neighbor, this house is a sharp contrast with its plain, unadorned facade. The house shares a basic form with other houses of the 1920s and is sometimes called an American Foursquare.

The front facade is asymmetrically arranged, with paired windows on each corner on both stories. A central exterior door containing a large window and having flanking sidelights serves as the principal entryway. Paired windows also are located in the dormer. An uncovered porch with cement foundation and capped cement piers connected with an iron balustrade stretches across the full facade.

The three-bay west facade has an even fenestration, with the center bay of the first story containing a smaller six-over-six window.

The north (rear) facade has a number of additions that create an asymmetrical massing. A two-story addition extends across the full facade with large plate-glass windows enclosing the second story. The first story has further additions that include a screened, shed roofed porch at the northeast corner and another gable roofed room at the northwest corner. These additions have different siding and multi-light windows.

The east facade has single windows in the first bay on both stories. A small projecting second-story porch with hipped roof covers an exterior door on the second story. This also covers a cement porch on the first story which has another exterior door. Wooden steps with railing lead down from the second story toward the south. Additional windows are irregularly set in the facade at the northeast corner. The windows in the east side of the rear additions also are irregularly placed.

8. Significance

Survey No. M:26/10/55

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
Specific dates	1924	Builder/Architect	William Roberts, 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.

Significance

The house at 411 West Montgomery Avenue is an example of early 20th century infill on lots in the late 19th century "West End Park" subdivision. It was constructed in 1924 for a member of the family which owned the Victorian residence next door.

History and Support

The Charles England family purchased the late 19th century Italianate residence at 409 West Montgomery Avenue in 1920. Mr. England carried the mail, and Mrs. Caledonia Gordon England occasionally substituted for him. Their daughter Lucille married R.W.Conklin, moved to a bungalow in Alta Vista, and then returned to the family home when her son Gordon was born in 1920.

The Conklins at first rented their house in Alta Vista, but decided to build to the west of the England family home when the Englands provided a lot. They sold the Alta Vista house and drove around the Bethesda area, sketching houses they liked.

Lucie Conklin wanted a bungalow, but her father did not think one would look good between two large houses, so she agreed to add the second floor. The Conklins worked with builder William Roberts to design and construct the house. Lumber was obtained from a family farm on Boswell Lane, and the framing of the house was constructed of oak. Construction began in January 1924, and the Conklins moved in in June.

The house was originally 28 by 32 feet. In the 1930s the original front porch was removed; at the same time a kitchen was added to the rear, rear porches were added and one enclosed. In 1984, Frank Ertter built a small rear addition to accommodate a dog and a utility area.

Until recently, the second floor has always been rented. A notice in the Montgomery County Sentinel of 1936-37 stated that "R.W. Conklin has a four-room apartment for rent, with hot water heater." The price was \$40 per month.

Mrs. Conklin continues to live in the house she designed and built sixty years ago.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. ^M26/10/55

Interviews with Lucille England Conklin, 1979 and 1985; Montgomery County Sentinel newspaper

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 15,509 square feet

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 6 and Part of Lot 7, Block 1, of "West End Park".

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Eileen McGuckian / Dwayne Jones, Architectural Description		
organization	Peerless Rockville	date	August 1985
street & number	P.O. Box 4262	telephone	762-0096
city or town	Rockville	state	Maryland 20850

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



RICHARD H. ANDREWS
424-8282
1608 FARRAGUT AVE.
ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

0885-4

m: 26/10/55
Conklin House
411 W. Montgomery Ave
Rockville S facade
8-85