

Site: M:26/10/61

The Dr. Willson Cottage

10 Thomas Street

Built: 1890

Private

This example of the vernacular cottage residence is noteworthy for its unaltered condition in comparison to its neighboring "twin". Both cottages were constructed as speculative ventures in 1890 in "R.T.Veirs' Addition to Rockville" by local educator Cooke Lockett.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic The Dr. Willson Cottage

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 10 Thomas Street not for publication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 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 Marguerite Fields

street & number 10 Thomas Street telephone no.:

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery Co. Land Records 5846
liber

street & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse 498
folio

city, 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 local

depository for survey records City of Rockville

city, town Rockville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. 26/10/61

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
<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 house faces west on Thomas Street and in plan matches its neighboring house. Several large trees shade the front; small shrubs are next to the house. A brick curb extends across the front property line.

The 2-1/2-story, gable-front-and-wing house with rear gable forms an "L"-shaped plan expanded to the rear. It is set on a fieldstone foundation, sheathed in German siding, and has a gable roof covered with asphalt. This vernacular cottage typical of the late 19th century appears to be virtually unaltered. The major exception being the recent loss of the tin roof.

The west (front) facade has two bays on the front-facing gable and one on the north wing. A one-story wooden porch covers the gable front and wraps around to meet the wing. The porch is supported by square wooden columns, covered with an asphalt roof, and built on brick piers. The gable front and wing have 2-over-2 sash, full-length windows in each bay with the exception of the center bay facade which has an exterior door with clear light transom. Each bay of the gable and wing second story has a 2-over-2 sash window. A single 12-over-2 sash window is centered in the gable pediment which has return gable eaves and Ionic capital cornice work. Wooden, louvered shutters and moulded lintels surround each window and the exterior door. A metal railing is attached to wide wooden steps that lead to the front door.

The three-bay north facade is dominated by a projecting center gable. Each bay, however, has a 2-over-2 sash window on each floor similar to those in the front. A 12-over-2 sash window is centered in the gable pediment that is highlighted with return gable eaves and two-story cornerboards with simple Doric capitals. There is an entrance to the basement from this facade.

The three bay east facade has 2-over-2 sash windows in each of the second-story bays and a 12-over-2 sash window in the new gable pediment. A one-story wooden porch with roof supported by wooden columns and brick piers wraps around the rear gable to connect to the main block of the house. Single 2-over-2 sash windows are in the first and second bays; an enclosed storage room with door and wainscotting occupies the north bay. All the windows are similar to the others in the house. the first floor has no shutters.

The three bay south facade has single 2-over-2 sash windows in each bay, each story. Wooden, louvered shutters and moulded lintels are similar to the others in the house. A brick and cement-covered chimney is located on the sloping roof.

8. Significance

Survey No. M.26/10/61

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: 1890 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.

This vernacular cottage represents the speculative construction occurring in Rockville during the last decades of the 19th century. It is particularly notable for its architectural integrity.

History & Support

The house at #10 Thomas Street, along with its twin next door, was constructed in 1890 by noted Rockville educator Cooke Lockett. Lockett found the booming real estate market of Rockville's West End more lucrative than his previous career and purchased five lots in Rebecca T. Veirs' Addition to Rockville, subdividing them into eight. He mortgaged the Thomas Street lots in 1890, while houses were being constructed on them.

Cooke Lockett was able to quickly sell his new cottages in the West End of Rockville in 1890, 1/ encouraging the reluctant Town Commissioners to resolve that, "A Plank bridge be laid across the gutter on the south side of Montgomery Avenue from the street to the houses of Miss Waring and Mrs. Lamar, but such action shall not constitute an acceptance of the street laid out in front of the houses." 2/ Miss Lizzie Eades Waring had paid Lockett \$3,000 for the Victorian L-shaped cottage, also assuming a \$1,000 mortgage. 3/ Miss Waring was able to repay this obligation, but was forced to remortgage in 1891, and the widespread depression caused by the financial panic of 1893 forced default of her mortgage and a foreclosure sale in 1895. 4/ Advertisements for the Public Auction of the property included this description: 5/

Sale, Lot 11..front 105 feet on Thomas Street...improved by a very nice two story frame dwelling of 8 rooms with front porch across whole front and back porch. Fine well of water at back porch... very good stable and carriage house...faces Woodlawn Hotel...

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The Dr. Willson Cottage
Attachment 7.1

The Lyddane family, owners of the Derwood Flouring Mills, bought the property for only \$1,805; members of this family owned it for 17 years until its resale in 1912. Dr. Barrett P. Willson, a young dentist, paid \$3,000 for the house, 6/ and the Willson family occupied the property until 1962. That year it was purchased by Walter Fields. Marguerite Fields is the present owner, having a life estate under the Will of her husband. 7/

Neither the Willsons nor the Fields have altered the 1890 cottage, in contrast to the modernization of its twin next door at #16 Thomas (Site #M:26/10/32.)

Footnotes:

1. Montgomery County Sentinel reported the sale of the "new cottage and lot in the West End for \$3,000" in 1890.
2. Minutes of the Meeting of Town Commissioners, November 1890.
3. Montgomery County Land Records JA 21/349 (1890)
4. Montgomery County Judgment Records JA 10/210
5. Advertisement in the Montgomery County Advocate, April 1895
6. Land Records, 228/346 (1912)
7. Administration of Estate # 040-30-81 (1982)



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ROCKVILLE, MD 20851

0685-15-12

10 Thomas St
Rockville
6/85
WEST FACADE
M: 26/10/61