

Site: M:26/13/7

Welliver-Hickerson House

Built 1911

307 Baltimore Road

Private

This square 1-1/2 story bungalow was constructed for the Morrison Welliver family. From 1912 to 1946 it was owned by Florence Hickerson, who raised the roof and added the front dormer. These alterations resulted in an interesting combination of elements from several style vocabularies.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M:26/13/7

Magi No. 1651345704

DOE yes no

NR eligible yes no
 contrib. element in H.D.

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

Welliver-Hickerson House

historic

and/or common

2. Location

307 Baltimore Road

street & number

not for publication

Rockville

8

city, town

vicinity of

congressional district

Maryland

Montgomery (RV Planning Area 2)

state

county

3. Classification

Category

district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

public
 private
 both
Public Acquisition
 in process
 being considered
 not applicable

Status

occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress
Accessible
 yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military
 museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Gendron

name

307 Baltimore Road

street & number

telephone no.:

Rockville

Maryland 20850

city, town

state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

Montgomery Co. Land Records

5967

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Montgomery Co. Courthouse

liber

821

street & number

Rockville

folio

Maryland

city, town

state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (1976)

title

Park Historian's Office, Needwood Mansion

date

federal

state

county

local

8700 Needwood Road

pository for survey records

Derwood

Maryland

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. M:26/13/7

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 subject house faces north on Baltimore Road, situated on a wide, spacious lot approximately three feet above street grade in a row of larger 2-1/2 story houses with similar lot size and grade. The older vernacular Victorian house to the east is set closer to the street than this house, which in turn is slightly closer to the street than its foursquare neighbors to the west. The landscape features azaleas and evergreens, and hardy deciduous shrubs soften the foundation lines. A clothes drying yard is at the rear of the house. A front-gabled cinderblock garage faces south at the extreme southeast corner of the lot, accessed by a rear east-west alley from Maple to Grandin Avenue.

This 1911 frame, six bay-by-three bay rectangular 1-1/2 story bungalow has a three-sided mitred window bay on the east half of the front balanced by a shed-roofed porch on the west half. The hipped roof is broken by a dormer on the front and rear with gables on each side and covered with patterned tin shingles embellished with metal snowcatchers on the lower eave overhang. The house is clad with wood-grained asbestos shingles and rests on a fieldstone foundation. A corbelled-top brick interior chimney is on the south roof slope.

This house was derived from the compact "California bungalow" style of rectangular houses with high hipped roof, relieved by bay windows and dormers popularized in the early 20th century. This 1-1/2 story bungalow had its roof raised and dormers and additional windows added in 1926-27. Therefore, the windows vary, with 6/1 predominating, and the window and door surrounds are plain. An exceptionally wide friezeboard with a lower lip is exposed only in the front where it overhangs the mitred bay.

The four-bay north (front) facade has a large central dormer with a pair of centered 6/1 windows. On the first story, the east half of the facade is occupied by a mitred three-sided window bay which has a central window consisting of one large light surmounted by a panel of 16 small colored glass lights; 6/1 windows flank it on the remaining two sides. The previously mentioned wide friezeboard overhangs this bay on the corner. The west half of this facade is occupied by a shed-roofed porch supported by four fluted square posts (probably not original to the house) resting on brick piers and accessed by three brick stairs with brick balustrade. A one-light wood exterior door is located at the east side of the porch.

continued on attachment 7.1

Description (continued) : 307 Baltimore Road

The three-bay east facade has a pair of windows centered in the attic gable peak. One window is in the north bay, first story, a pair of windows is in the center bay, and one slightly shorter window occupies the south bay. A four-light wood panel cellar door and stairwell projects from the southwest corner of the house, protected by a gabled roof and enclosed by German siding.

The three-bay south (rear) facade has a two window central dormer as found in the front. The first story is occupied by a clapboard enclosed three-bay shed-roofed rear porch. The porch has a modern 1/1 window in the east and west bays and a flush mounted exterior door with three staggered vertical lights in the center bay.

The three-bay west facade has a pair of windows in the attic gable as the east side, one window in the north bay and one window in the south bay, first story. A small double sash window, not original to the building, has been added at the extreme south end of this facade.

Garage

A front-gabled cinderblock garage at the southeast corner has a four-light window and narrow vertical siding in the gables on both ends. The north (rear) facade is visible from Baltimore Road. The south end with one solid sliding door faces an east-west alley from Maple to Grandin. The west facade has one rectangular light high on the south end and an exterior door sheltered by a small pent roof on the north end.

8. Significance

Survey No. M:26/13/7

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)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> local history

Specific dates 1911 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.

Significance

This area of Baltimore Road developed gradually over a quarter century, and its houses illustrate a variety of vernacular architectural styles. This house is interesting as an example of transitional architecture, incorporating features from several design vocabularies.

ROCKVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN DATA:

1. Historic context theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning
2. Geographic Organization: Piedmont, Montgomery County, City of Rockville
3. Chronological Period(s): Maturation and Expansion ; 1873-1931.
4. Resource type: single family residence

History and Support

Lots 21,22,&23 of Block 3 of Rockville Park were sold by Washington Danenhower in 1891 and 1892 for \$150 each. 1/ These lots remained vacant until 1911 when this house was built by Apha and Morrison Welliver. 2/ The Wellivers moved from Iowa to be closer to their son Judson, a noted journalist. The Judson Wellivers lived on a large suburban estate on the Frederick Road above Rockville; there they entertained the political and social elite of Washington. (This estate was purchased by the Gude family and named "Four Winds"; it now fronts on Crabbs Branch Way near Gude Drive.) 3/

The Welliver occupancy of 307 Baltimore Road ended when Morrison Welliver died in 1912. 4/ Mrs. Welliver sold the house to Florence Hickerson, who owned it for the next 34 years.

continued on attachment 8.1

Statement of Significance/ History (continued) : 307 Baltimore Road

Florence Hickerson's husband, who died young, was related to Lindsay and Clarence Hickerson, brothers who operated a grist mill near the B&O tracks until 1928-29. Florence had two sons who grew up in the house - - J. Ralph, who worked at his cousin's mill in the 1920s, and John. In 1926-27, Mrs. Florence Hickerson raised the roof of the little bungalow and added the dormer. She purchased other lots nearby, which she used for gardens; she sold flowers to Blackistone's Florist in Washington, D.C. Lot 23 was added to the property in 1918.

Later owners of the property were the Oscar Fraleys 5/ and Margaret Holt. The present owners purchased the house in 1982.

Footnotes:

1. Lots 21 & 22 to Harry and Jesse Grove at Montgomery County Land Records JA 31/171 (1891) - \$300. Lot 23 to John Bacigalupi at JA 34/205 (1892) - \$150.
2. Montgomery County Land Records 224/27 (1911) and Tax Assessments 1892-1918.
3. Judson Welliver was an aide to Warren Harding, speechwriter to both Presidents Harding and Coolidge, and manager of the Washington Herald newspaper. The Judson Welliver Society is an association of former White House speechwriters, named for the "first" in their field. "In Praise of Judson Welliver", Washington Post, October 20, 1985. Several items appeared in the Montgomery County Sentinel from 1912-1915 relating to the Wellivers' entertainments. The original house burned and the present Georgian style mansion house was built in 1915.
4. Montgomery County Sentinel, March 22, 1912.
5. Oscar Fraley, USN, owned from 1944 to 1964.

1982

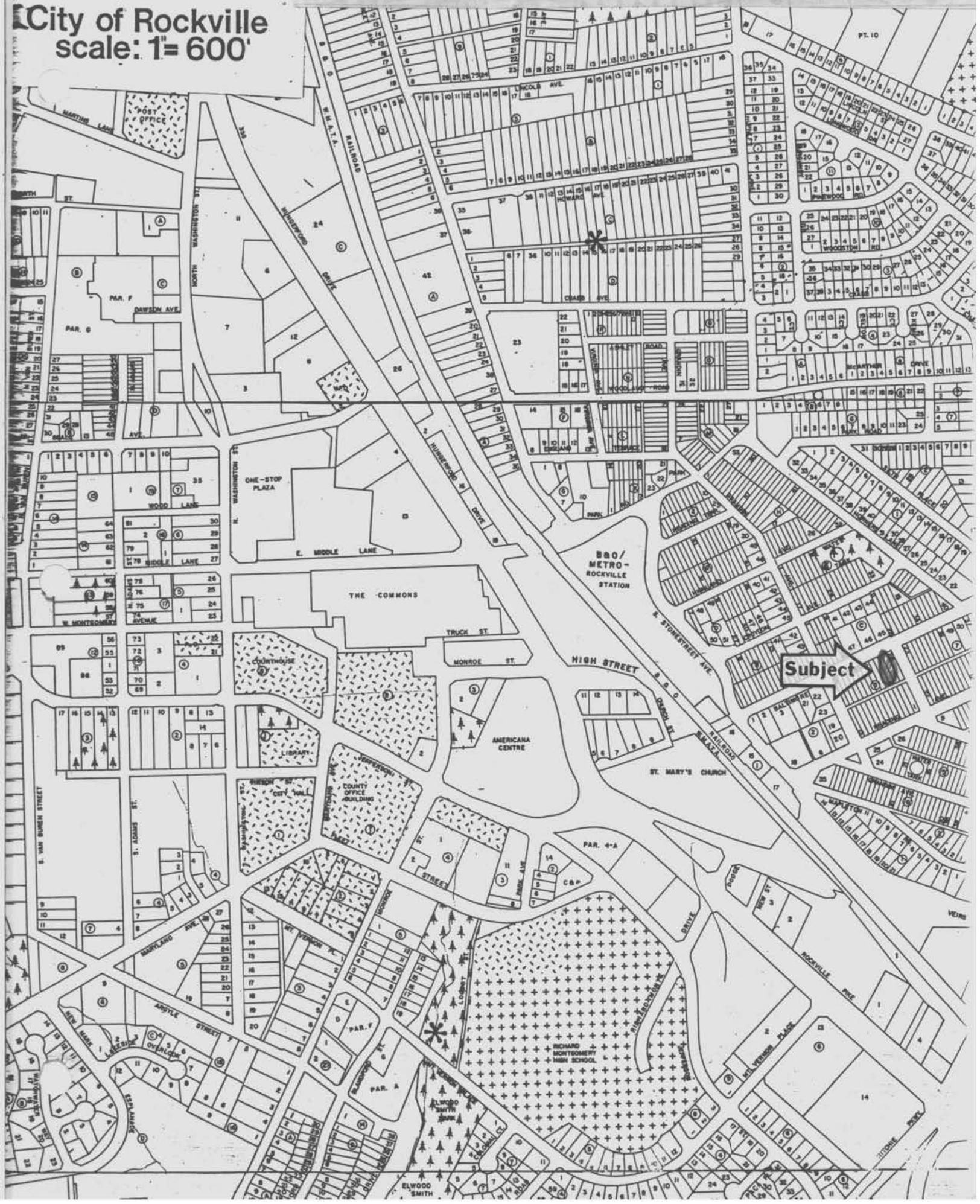
M:26/13/7

2

Welliver-Hickerson House

307 Baltimore Road

City of Rockville
scale: 1"= 600'





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

M:26/13/7

Welliver-Hickerson House
307 Baltimore Road
Rockville, Md. 20850
Richard Andrews
date:6/1987 elevation: NE

128632.05