

M: 26/16/17

Cole/Smith House

104 North Street, Rockville

Private

Built: 1924

This house was constructed by the Reverend James S. Cole, minister of the Rockville Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for his son, Edgar. Rev. Cole lived in the Jerusalem M. E. Church parsonage on Wood Lane. The house demonstrates the survival of 19th century vernacular house types and household life into the 20th century. It functioned much as its prototype did in a semi-rural area without sewer or water until 1951.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE  yes  noNR eligible:  yes  no  
Contrib. element in H.D. 

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Cole-Smith House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 104 North Street  not for publicationcity, town Rockville  vicinity of congressional district 8th

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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 Gloria E. Smith &amp; Ella Louise W. Smith

street &amp; number 104 North Street telephone no.:

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 5960

street &amp; number folio 839

city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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.

This 2-1/2 story vernacular house demonstrates the survival of 19th century vernacular house types and household life into the 20th century. Although built in the 1920s, the house is typical of mid-to-late-19th century L-shaped vernacular houses, consisting of a center-peaked side-gabled three-bay rectangular main block with rear kitchen wing, differing only in its two-bay width and the shallowness of its central front peak. It functioned much as its prototype house did in a semi-rural area without water or sewer until the 1950s. It has been modified for modern utilities and the exterior cladding and porches have been altered.

The subject house faces north on North Street on a 50' by 260' lot, one of a row of mixed twentieth century single family detached houses with similar moderate setbacks and spacing. Neighboring houses range from 2-1/2 story turn-of-the-century frame houses to modern one-story ramblers with moderate set-backs and lots. The house has a chain-link fence around the front yard and ornamental flowers and flowering shrubs in bermed planters along the drive and fence. A central concrete walkway leads down the slight grade from the street to the porch. A driveway and parking area from North Street is east of the house.

The rectangular main block has a center-peaked side gabled roof clad with composition shingles, as is the rear-gabled kitchen wing. The exterior is clad with aluminum siding but covers clapboard according to the owner. The foundation is beveled concrete block. There is one plain brick interior chimney on the south roof slope. Windows are 1/1 with plain mitred surrounds that have been spaced out with molding strips.

The three-bay north (front) has a central front-gabled attic dormer with a window which has been covered with slit siding for air movement. The second story has three evenly spaced windows. The first story has windows in the east and west bays and a central wood hollow-core exterior door with one diamond-shaped light and a brass mail slot. The full-width porch has a composition-shingled shallow hipped roof supported by four turned wooden columns. The owner says that originally it was a wood porch and decking with lattice panels on the sides, but it rotted and was replaced with the current concrete slab.

Architectural Description (continued):  
104 North Street

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The two-bay east facade has two evenly spaced windows on both the first and second stories.

The two-bay west facade has a window in the north bay and a small casement window in the south bay on the second story. The first story has a window in each bay, north and south..

The south (rear) facade consists of a two-story rear wing and a shed-roofed one-story rear porch, now enclosed. The rear wing has one window on the first and second stories, west facade. The south side is unrelieved. The east facade has one window on the second story and a modern exterior door centered on the first story. There is a cement slab patio at the exterior door.

The deep rear yard was once mostly vegetable garden but is now lawn with well-tended ornamental beds near the house.



James S. Cole



Lila Cole

# 8. Significance

Survey No. M. 26/16/17

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				local history

<b>Specific dates</b>	1924	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	NA
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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.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was constructed in 1924 by the Reverend James S. Cole, a minister of the M.E.Church. Reverend Cole, as minister of the Rockville Circuit, Washington Conference from 1923 to 1926, lived in the parsonage on Wood Lane and constructed this house for his son, Edgar.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA: Attachment 8.2  
ROCKVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN DATA: Attachment 8.2

### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Before coming to Rockville, Rev. James Cole served the upper County area for about 25 years. His circuit included Mount Zion (on the Beallsville-Barnesville Road in the community known as Big Woods), Warren (in Martinsburg), Elijah's Rest (in Poolesville), and St. Paul (in Sugarland). Rev. Cole would preach at one church in the morning and another in the afternoon, covering the other churches on the circuit on alternate Sundays.

Rev. Cole was the minister at Mount Zion about 1915 when the parsonage burned; he helped build the house today used as the parsonage, sawing trees and hauling them to the sawmill for building lumber. Rev. Cole was often paid for his services in chickens, pigs, and vegetables. He owned a large quantity of land, selling off lumber and farming; he raised fruits and vegetables and sold the surplus. He and his wife Lila had a large family of nine children. 1/

Continued on Attachment 8.1

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
104 North Street

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Reverend Cole came to Rockville in 1923. His circuit included Jerusalem in Rockville and Mount Pleasant in Norbeck. The senior Coles lived in the parsonage on Wood Lane, and in 1924 purchased 13,500 square feet of land from Margaret S. Dawson, Mary K. Brooke, and Priscilla B. and Robert Farmer, heirs to the Beall-Dawson estate. Rev. Cole took out a \$700 mortgage at 6% for three years and had the house at 104 North street constructed for his son, Edgar. 2/ Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Cole and their three children lived in the house for some time. Rev. Cole died of food poisoning on July 2, 1926, while he lived in Jerusalem parsonage.

The property remained in Cole family ownership until 1933, when it was offered for sale as part of Rev. Coles' estate. The Montgomery Independent advertised "a house and lot situated in a subdivision improved by homes for colored people near Rockville; that the dwelling-house on said premises is largely in need of repairs and is rapidly [sic] deteriorating and depreciating in value....a two-story six-room frame dwelling with composition shingle roof, electric lights, front and back porches and some outbuildings, ....terms of sale \$1000 cash." William S. Watkins, who held the first trust lien, purchased the house for \$947.25. 3/

In 1940, William Watkins' widow sold the property to Albert and Inez Smith, who in 1947 sold it to Albert's brother Warner and his wife Gertrude. 4/ Warner and Gertrude Smith lived there for some time, then resold the property to Albert in 1955. 5/

The house was vacant when Ella Smith's home on North Washington Street was demolished to make way for the One-Stop Shopping Center. She moved into a house with an outside water pump and toilet, and no central heat; kerosene and coal stoves heated specific rooms, and there was a kitchen stove to cook on. Within a few years, water and toilet were brought indoors; Mr. Albert Smith (no relation to Ella) also added aluminum siding and thermal windows to the house.

After renting for 35 years, Gloria E. and Ella Smith purchased the house from Albert Smith's estate in 1982.

Footnotes:

1. Nina Clarke, History of the 19th Century Black Churches in Maryland and Washington, D.C., 1983. pp. 187-191.
2. Montgomery County Land Records 364/84; Tax Records, 1923, where Rev. Cole is also listed as having an automobile assessed at \$300; Deed of Trust: Land Records 363/472 (1924).
3. Montgomery County Judgment Records CKW56/387-410 (1933).
4. Land Records, op. cit. 797/114 (1940) and 1120/358 (1947).
5. Land Records, op.cit., 2070/446.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Land, Equity, and Tax records; Nina Clarke, Black Churches, (1983) and History of the Rockville Charge: 1835-1979; Telephone interviews with Ella Smith, Rosalie Campbell, and Nina Clarke, 1988.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 13,000 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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

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

## Verbal boundary description and justification

Part of Lot #9, block 10 in "Resubdivision of Part of Beall's Subdivision of Part of Rockville".

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eileen McGuckian / Judy Christensen

organization Peerless Rockville date May, 1988

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 18I 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

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
104 North Street

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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance      A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

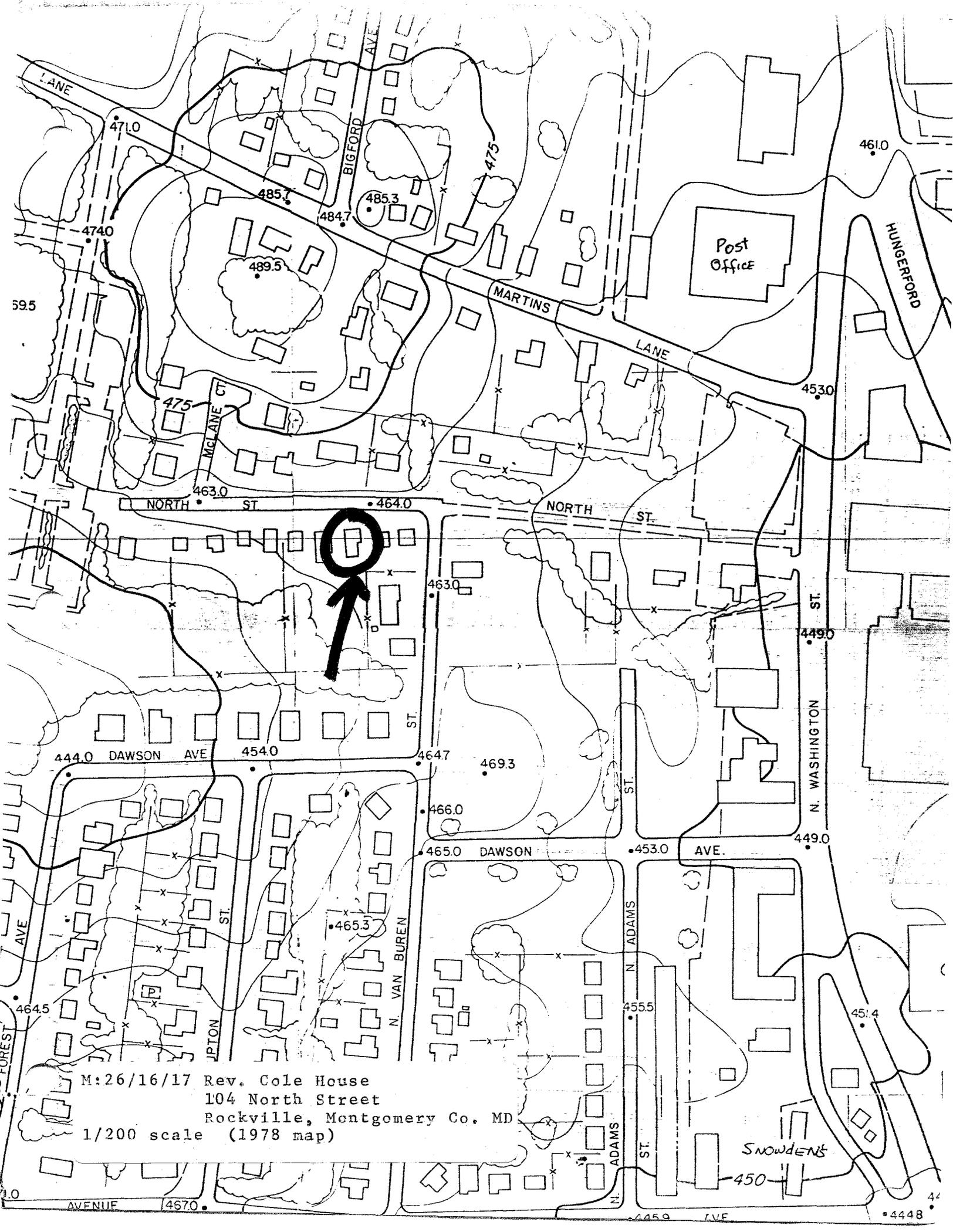
Settlement/Political  
Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning  
Social/Educational/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: Building  
Setting: Urban  
Historic Function(s) or Use(s): Domestic/Single Family/Residence  
Known Design Source: None

ROCKVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN DATA:

1. Geographic Organization: Piedmont, Montgomery County, Rockville
2. Chronological Period(s):  
Maturation and Expansion of the County Seat    A.D.1873-1931
3. Historic Context Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture,  
Community Planning (Black History); Social/Educational/Cultural
4. Resource Type:  
Category : Building  
Setting: Urban  
Historic Function(s) or Use: Domestic/Single Dwelling/Residence  
Known Design Source: None



M:26/16/17 Rev. Cole House  
104 North Street  
Rockville, Montgomery Co. MD  
1/200 scale (1978 map)

Post Office

Snowdens



Cole/Smith House

M: 26/16/17

104 North street

Rockville, Md 20850

North C Front and east facade

J Christensen

5/88