

M: 26/16/7

Webster/Coles/Williams House

12 Martin's Lane, Rockville

Private

Built: 1917

Architect: prob. Aladdin Homes "The Virginia"

Builder: S. L. Gray; R. L. Baker

This substantial house was constructed by a local black builder, probably from an Aladdin Homes pre-cut house, "The Virginia", with minor changes. It is typical of the more sophisticated 20th century vernacular houses built by professional carpenters for third generation residents in the Martin's Lane/Haiti community near Rockville. It replaced an earlier house on the site.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M: 26/16/7

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

NR eligible:  yes  no  
Contrib. element in H.D.

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Webster/Coles/Williams House

and/or common Williams House

## 2. Location

street & number 12 Martin's Lane  not for publication

city, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Williams, Jr.

street & number 12 Martin's Lane telephone no.:

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 5125

street & number folio 507

city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

date Historic Sites Inventory 1976 federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records Park Historian's Office

city, town Derwood state Maryland

# 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 foursquare house with craftsman-colonial details is typical of the more sophisticated 20th century vernacular houses built by professional carpenters for third generation residents in the Martin's Lane/Haiti community near Rockville. Similar in design to its neighbor at #11, this house appears to be a 1919 Aladdin Homes design "The Virginia", reversed with minor window changes. It has been altered by artificial siding which also enclosed the exposed rafter ends and the porch alterations, but the basic mass and fenestration of the structure remains intact. The well, now covered, remains in the front yard.

The subject house faces north on Martin's Lane on a deep, rectangular one-half acre lot. To the east is a recent 17 unit three-story townhouse development, which fronts on an interior parking area with an eight-foot brick and board fence screening the perimeter. To the west, single family detached houses ranging from 19th century to recent construction with moderate set-backs occupy generous yards.

The house has a moderate setback similar to those of its neighbors and a low brick retaining wall with two concrete steps at the grade elevation from the public sidewalk. A concrete walkway leads to the house. A covered well sheltered by a pyramidal hipped-roof gaze structure is in the front yard while a macadam alley at the west property line leads to a parking apron and carport southwest of the house. The property is well-landscaped with a central lawn bordered by evergreen shrubs, azaleas, peonies and other plantings while ornamental dogwoods and a particularly fine mature tulip poplar tree shade the front. Azaleas and rhododendrons soften the foundation line and mature trees shade the side and rear yard.

This well-maintained ca. 1917, frame, 2-1/2 story, 3-bay by 2-bay American foursquare has a central front dormer, full width front porch, a one-story three-sided bay on the east facade, and a one-story addition on the west facade. The pyramidal hipped roof is composition-shingled. The exterior is clad with wide artificial siding and the foundation is beveled block. A plain common-bond interior chimney with stepped concrete cap is on the west roof slope. Windows are 6/1 with plain mitred surrounds.

Continued on Attachment 7.1

Architectural Description (continued):  
12 Martin's Lane

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The three-bay north (front) has a central three-light hipped-roof attic dormer, now filled with louvered ventilator panels. The second story has three evenly spaced windows. The first story has a pair of windows in the two east bays and a doorway with a three-light transom and full length two-panel sidelights of green translucent material in the west bay. A full width one-story front porch has a shallow hipped roof supported by four heavy square paneled half-columns on brick piers. Wrought iron railing encloses the porch.

The three-bay east facade has a window in the north and south bays, second story. The first story has a window in the north bay and a mitred three-sided bay with three windows covered by a slightly hipped roof in the south bay.

The three-bay south (rear) facade has a two-story porch, probably an upper sleeping porch and lower kitchen porch, which has been enclosed with synthetic siding as the rest of the house. The second story has a horizontal 2/2 window in the east and west bay. The first story has a central 6-light wood exterior door, and horizontal 2/2 windows are in the east and west bays. A new one-story porch and patio is under construction.

The two-bay west facade has a small four-light window centered on the second story with a 6/6 window in the south bay. The first story is occupied by a hipped roof one-story addition, perhaps an enclosed former porch, with a pair of 1/1 modern windows in the south facade, a string of four similar windows in the west, and a pair of windows in the north facade. A shed-roof carport with lattice screening is to the rear (south) of the addition.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. M. 26/16/7

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/
<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)

**Specific dates** ca. 1917 **Builder/Architect** local history S.L.Gray, R.L.Baker(B)

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 substantial house was constructed by a local black builder, probably from an Aladdin Homes pre-cut house ("The Virginia") with minor changes. It replaces an earlier structure owned by early Haiti residents who had purchased land from the Beall estate.

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

### HISTORIC CONTEXT

In 1882, Margaret J. Beall sold to Isabella Smith a parcel of 93 square perches (almost 1/2 acre) for \$5.00. 1/ Some time before the turn of the century Isabella and her husband Joseph Smith constructed a small house on this property. 2/ The Smiths were related to the Wood family.

In January, 1917, Isabella Smith, by then a widow, sold .2386 acre to Raymond LeRoy Baker. Baker, a young man not quite 20 years old, apprenticed under builder S. L. Gray, who had married into the Johnson family and was constructing homes for Johnson sisters elsewhere on Martin's Lane. It is likely that the present house at 12 Martin's Lane was constructed by Mr. Baker during his eight-month ownership or by Mr. Gray soon after his sister-in-law Daisy E. (Johnson) Webster and her husband Nathaniel purchased the property from Mr. Baker in September of 1917. 3/

Continued on Attachment 8.1

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
12 Martin's Lane

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Nathaniel (Nathan) and Daisy Webster worked in local households. Mrs. Webster cooked for Judge Anderson's family on West Montgomery Avenue for a long time, while Mr. Webster was skilled in a variety of household duties. They left Haiti for some years to work as cook and butler in Pennsylvania but later returned to Haiti to live. 4/

Daisy E. Webster lived at 12 Martin's Lane for the remainder of her life. Nathaniel Webster died in 1939 and was buried in Haiti cemetery, after which his widow married Stephen Coles, whom she also outlived. Before Mrs. Daisy Coles died in 1963, she included as owners of #12 her daughter and son-in-law, Madelane (since deceased) and Aaron Williams. 5/

Since that time, the property has been owned by Mr. Aaron Williams, Jr. and his wife.

Footnotes:

1. Montgomery County Land Records EBP27/391 (1882).
2. Mortgage at Montgomery County Land Records TD21/482 in 1904 for \$60 indicates that this is the property on which the Smiths reside; also, tax records 1910 show \$150 value each for land and improvement.
3. Montgomery County Land Records 286/25-6.
4. Interview with Oscar Wood, 1988.
5. Land Records, op. cit., 3050/319 (1963).

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
12 Martin's Lane  
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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: Aladdin Homes, "The Virginia".

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: Aladdin Homes, "The Virginia".

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Land and Tax records; Interview with Oscar Wood, 1988.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 23,790 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

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

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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## Verbal boundary description and justification

South side of Martin's Lane

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eileen McGuckian / Judy Christensen

organization Peerless Rockville date May 1988

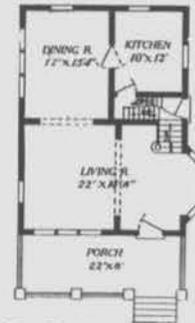
street & number P.O. Box 4262 telephone 762-0096

city or town Rockville state Maryland 20850

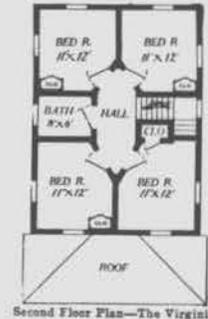
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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



First Floor Plan—The Virginia



Second Floor Plan—The Virginia

## The Virginia

See prices on inside of front cover.

**H**ERE'S a home. From every view it breathes a welcome, inviting you into its big, strong, protecting walls to find comfort, pleasure, and satisfaction. From the front it strikes you pleasingly, and, as you approach, the impression is heightened by the finished detail of roof, eaves, columns, and porch work.

The exterior of the Virginia always pleases—the design being founded on conservative lines. The wide porch stretching across the front is always a popular feature, especially the one designed for the Virginia. Slender spindles are extended from the rail to the ground creating a very neat appearance. The bay at the side breaks the long straight sidewall, thus adding attractiveness to the exterior and providing a cosy corner for the interior. The special scrolled bracket which is used for decoration under eaves of house roof and dormer roof add a touch of beauty to the home.

The Virginia as shown here is painted gray with white trim. Many other attractive

schemes could be used with equal or greater success. The belt dividing first and second stories suggests a dark color—possibly brown for second story and cream for first story, with white trim.

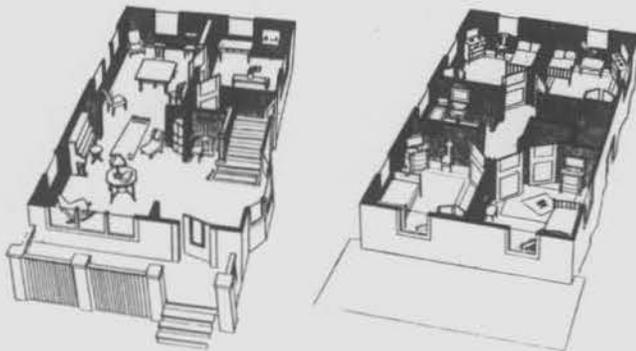
The Virginia is a popular design among Aladdin customers. It has been erected many times thruout the country. Owners are loud in their praise of it. Dr. Corn of Ohio, writes as follows: "The material was excellent and every piece fitted exactly."

Mr. J. F. Kugler of Pennsylvania, in a letter says: "I have saved between \$300 and \$500. I have a fine home—The Virginia."

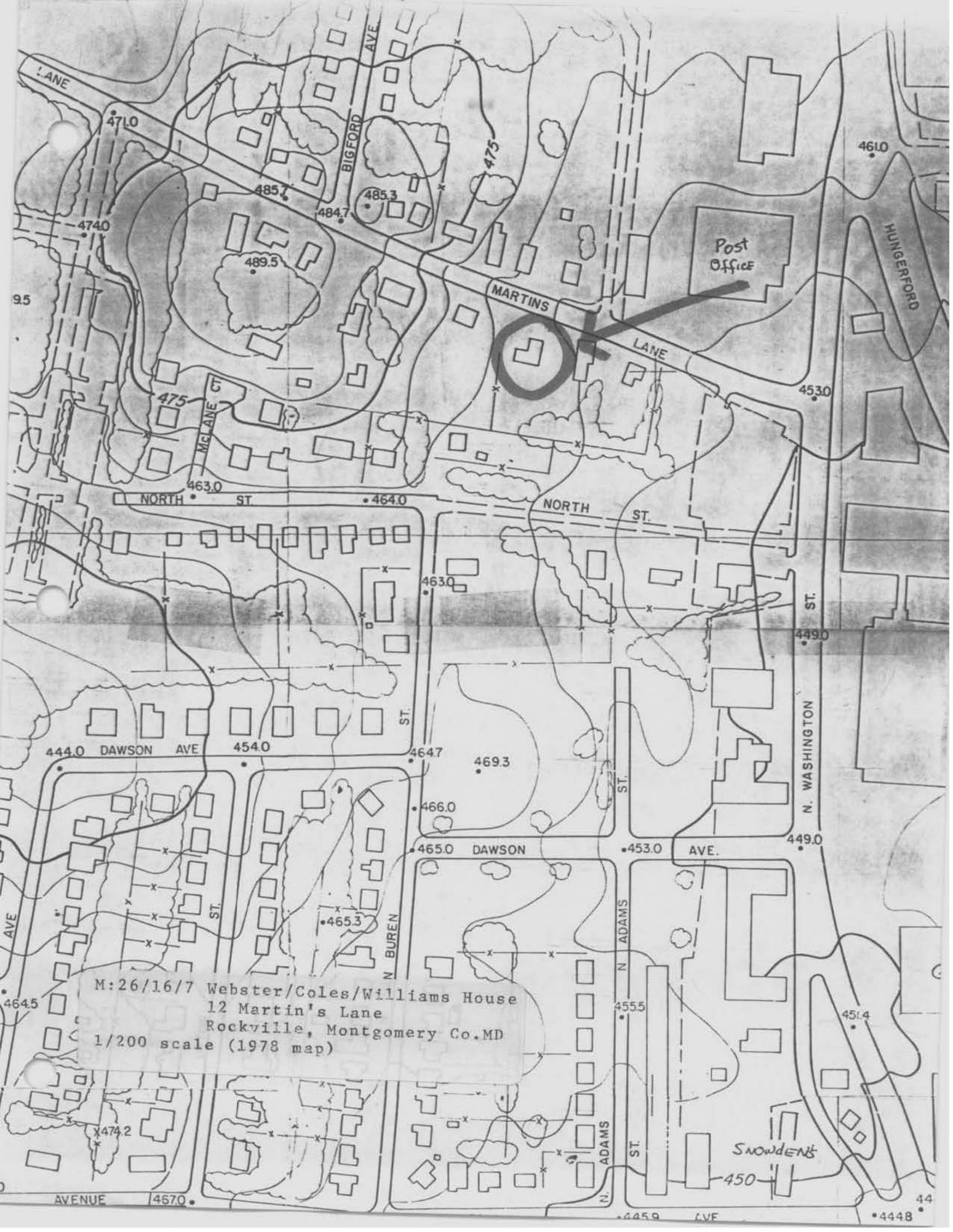
Mrs. M. E. Lloyd, of Florida, who has erected two Aladdins, in a letter says: "Everything went together like clock-work. My Virginia is a fine home."

Just inspect the arrangement of the interior. A living room that stretches from the bay window on one side of the house to the other, twenty-two feet, with the dining room separated by a wide arch—a freedom and expanse usually found only in much larger houses. One of the most interesting features on the interior is the bay window. This is most usually converted into a cosy corner and fitted with window seat, sofa cushions, etc., making it the most popular spot in the home. The cosy corner in bay window and handsome open stairway make a pleasing impression on entering the home. Kitchen, four bedrooms, bath, and closets complete this beautiful home. It is built to satisfy the hardest to please. It is a continual delight to every owner.

For Price of the Virginia refer to inside of front cover. See Terms on page 2 and General Specifications on pages 12 and 13.



Living Room and Dining Room—The Plaza



M:26/16/7 Webster/Coles/Williams House  
12 Martin's Lane  
Rockville, Montgomery Co. MD  
1/200 scale (1978 map)



webster/coles/williams house  
12 martin's Ln.

Reckville, Md. 20850

M: 26/16/7

North (front) and East elevation

J. Christensen

S/88