

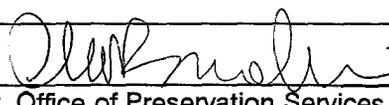
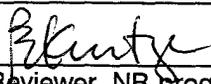
Property Address <u>706 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Montgomery County</u>
Owner Name/Address <u>706 Pike Partnership, 751 Rockville Pike #13A, Rockville MD 20852</u>
Year Built <u>1888-1889</u>

**Description:**

The Rebecca Key Offutt Property, also known as the Simmons Building, was previously surveyed in 1985 by the Peerless Rockville organization. Since the time of the previous survey, the windows on the second story of the original house have been covered. No other alterations have taken place. No determination of eligibility was made at the time of the survey.

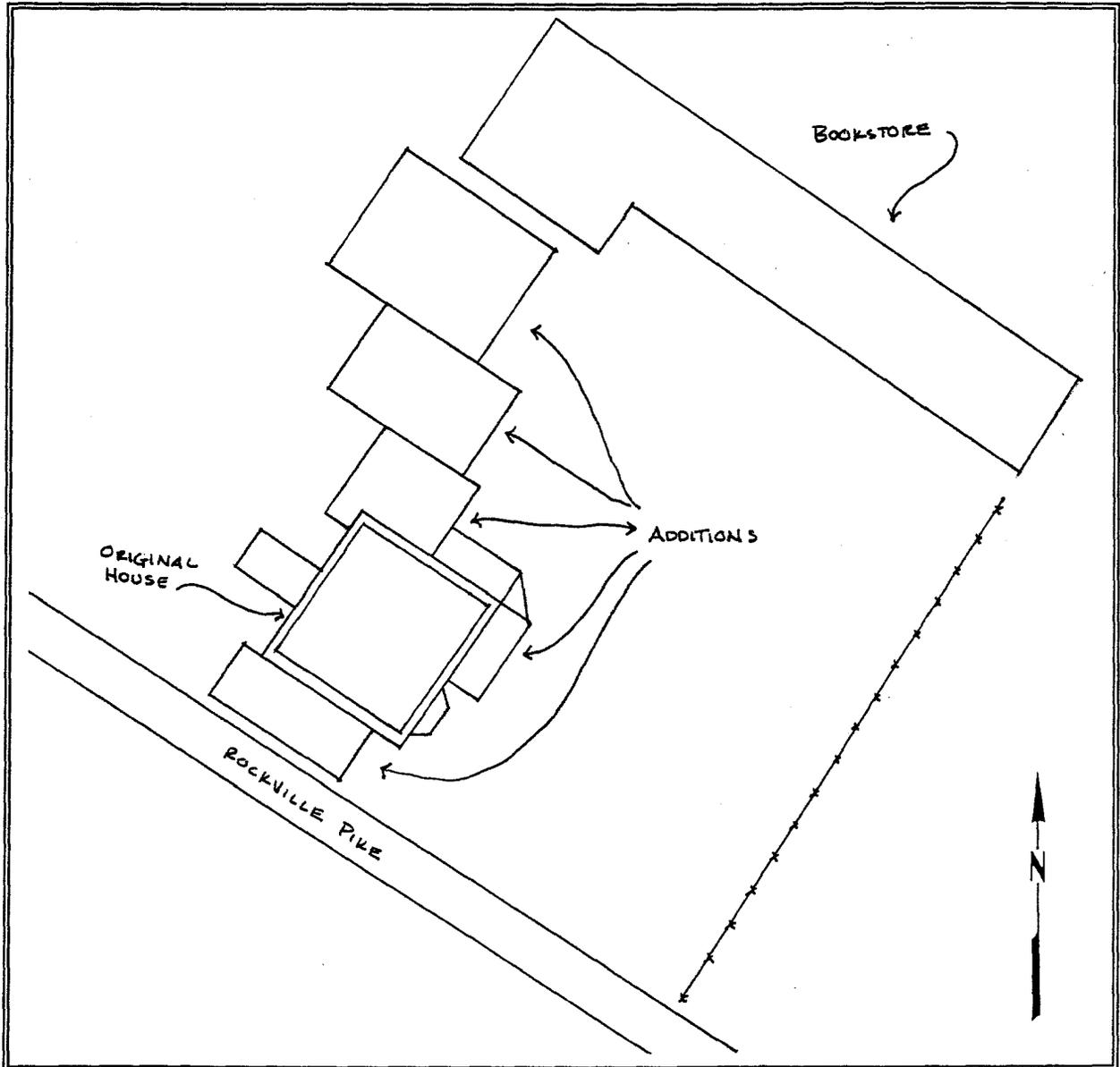
**National Register Evaluation:**

Constructed in 1888-1889, the Rebecca Key Offutt Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property was previously surveyed, however it has been removed from the Locational Atlas for Historic Properties in Montgomery County and was determined by Montgomery County to be ineligible for inclusion in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state, or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C because modern alterations have seriously compromised its integrity. The building has major unsympathetic additions on the south (front) and north elevations. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

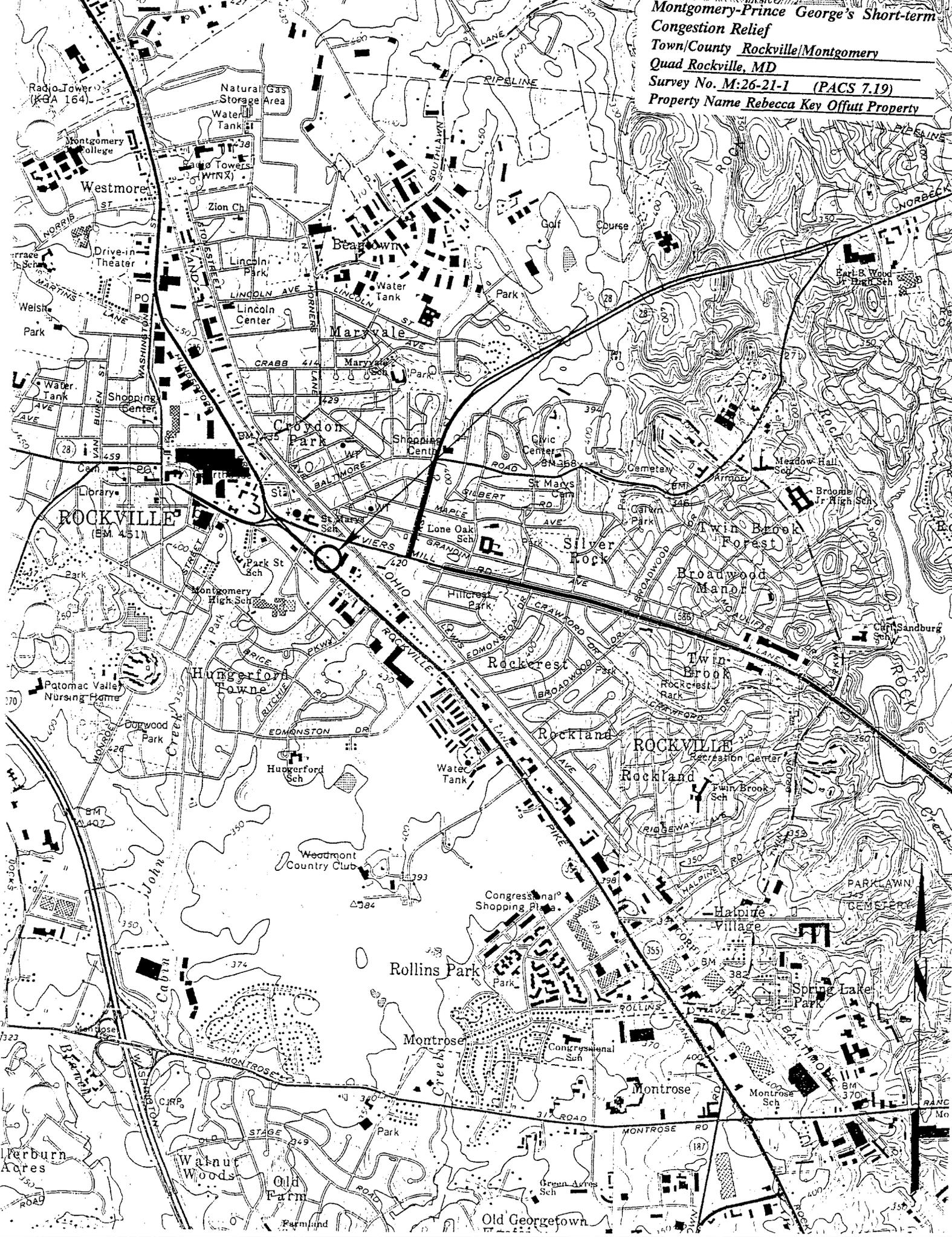
<b>MHT CONCURRENCE:</b>	
Eligibility <input type="checkbox"/> recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not recommended	
Criteria <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
_____	
_____	
	
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Reviewer, NR program
Date <u>1/29/98</u>	Date <u>3/2/00</u>

Property Address 706 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Montgomery County  
Owner Name/Address 706 Pike Partnership, 751 Rockville Pike #13A, Rockville MD 20852  
Year Built 1889-1889

Resource Sketch Map:



Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term  
Congestion Relief  
Town/County Rockville/Montgomery  
Quad Rockville, MD  
Survey No. M:26-21-1 (PACS 7.19)  
Property Name Rebecca Key Offutt Property





1 M: 26-21-1

2 REBECCA KEY OFFICE PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Julie Danner

5 5/19

6 ALL SHPO:

7 SOUTH (FRONT) ELEVATION

8 1/19

STATION 100024



- 1 MI: 26-21-1
- 2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)
- 3 Montgomery Co Md
- 4 Jesse Dawson
- 5 5/78
- 6 Md SHPs
- 7 SOUTH WEST CORNER
- 8 2/9

CC F N N 1220012



1 M: 26-21-1

3

2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery A. Ald

4 John Dawie

5 5/98

6 MID SHPO

7 WEST ELEVATION

210011 M 1230212

8 3/9



1 M: 26-21-1

2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Julie Davis

5 5/95

6 Md. 24111

75666 1230802

7 NORTHWEST CORNER

8 4/9



1 M: 26-21-1

2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 James Davis

5 5/28

6 Md SPPD

7 NORTH ELEVATION

8 5/9

7-7-N-R-N 1100 602



LOCKSMITH  
ESTABLISHED 1888

1 M: 26-21-1

2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery & Mol

4 Lake Dasso

5 5/98

6 Mid. 8/180

BOOK IN 120512

7 NORTH EAST CORNER

8 6/9



1 M: 26-21-1

2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Debra Davis

5 5/98

6 Md. SHPO

CE-1111 1200 014

7 EAST ELEVATION

8 7/9



- 1 M: 26-21-1
- 2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)
- 3 Maryland C. Md
- 4 Julie Davis
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md 8HPD
- 7 SOUTHEAST CORNER
- 8 8/9

\*\*\*\*\* 1220602



1 M: 26-21-1

2 REBECCA KEY OFFUT PROPERTY (SIMMONS BUILDING)

3 Montgomery Co Md

4 Julia Davis

5 5/98

6 Mt St

7 REAR ADDITION

200000 120000

8 9/9

Site: M:26/21/1

Simmons Building

Built: 1888/89

706 Rockville Pike

Commercial

This 2-1/2 story frame house was constructed for Rebecca Offutt, and for half a century was owned and occupied by the Daniel Day family. It was converted to office use by Dennis Simmons in 1955; Subsequent commercial additions have obscured many of the original details.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Simmons Building

### 2. Location

street & number 706 Rockville Pike  not for publicationcity, town Rockville  vicinity of congressional district 8

state Maryland county Montgomery (RV Planning Area 9)

### 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Dennis and Anna Simmons

street &amp; number 706 Rockville Pike 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 liber 1018

street &amp; number Montgomery Co. Courthouse folio 256

city, town Rockville state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

state  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. M: 26/21/1

<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
<input checked="" 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.

The subject house faces south on Rockville Pike in a commercial area. The setback allows only a sidewalk between building and Rockville Pike in contrast to the deep setbacks of its much later neighbors, car dealerships to the east and west. The 132 ft. wide lot is an irregular parrallelogram, 247 feet on the east and 229 feet on the west. The southwest front of the building is less than one inch from the property line. The lot's rear portion has a number of one-story commercial structures constructed since 1962, and the remaining grounds are paved for parking. Access is by an east side driveway from Rockville Pike. Neither the front exterior appearance of the structure nor its present site reflect its original residential use. However, the structure behind the office front retains the basic mass and details common to its use and period.

This 1888-89 frame, rectangular, three-bay by three-bay, 2-1/2 story structure has been radically altered by the addition of a flat-roofed rectangular cinderblock office with stone faced front. The original dwelling has a side gable roof covered with composition shingles. The exterior finish is pebble dash masonry, the foundation is parged with concrete, and two brick interior chimneys are symmetrically placed near the ridgepole on both ends.

As built, the original structure was set approximately 43 feet back from two-lane Rockville Pike, allowing a generous lawn rising to the house, placed just below the crest of a small hill. Due to the slope of the lot, the front foundation of the original building is nearly completely exposed, allowing a portion of the second story to be seen behind the two story front addition. The trim and ornamentation of the dwelling have been removed, but evidence points to an early Colonial revival Victorian : rectangular 2-1/2 story form with three-bay front fenestration, symmetrical placement of front dormers and chimneys, deeply returned eaves derived from Colonial examples, and wide front verandah, rear porch, and two three-sided projecting bays relieving the flat facade in accordance with Victorian taste.

The south (front) facade is formed of a flat-roofed, two story, three bay modern office addition which fronts the older structure. The addition has two sets of paired metal-framed tiered casement windows in the east and west bays, second floor, and large plate glass store front windows in all three first floor bays. Wooden single-light entry doors flank the window in the center bay. The two bay east and west facades of the addition each have two smaller casement windows on the second story, each side. The top portion of

continued on attachment 7.1

M: 26/21/1  
The Simmons Building  
Attachment 7.1

the original second story can be seen behind the addition. The two steeply gabled roof dormers have small rectangular lights in them. The west (dormer) gable roofs a projecting three-sided bay with only the tops of the truncated windows still visible. In the east bay, the top of a window is visible. There is a profusion of attached and painted commercial signs on both the south and east facades of the building.

The three-bay east facade has a rectangular metal louvered ventilator in the gable window opening. The south second story bay is occupied by a projecting gable-roofed three-sided bay with a 2/2 window in each side. Louvered glass panels replace the first story windows. The north bay has a 2/2 window on the second story and an enclosed shed-roofed one-story addition (perhaps formerly a porch) in the north bay. The addition has modern metal frame three-tier casement windows, one on the south and two on the east. There is one small double sash window in the fully exposed foundation at the south end.

The three-bay north (rear) of the facade has been drastically altered to create entrances to three offices and an office addition on the northwest corner. The east and west second story bays have 2/2 windows. The center bay is finished in vertical tongue and groove siding with one three tier modern casement window, suggesting an infilled balcony or sleeping porch. The first story has a modern 1/1 aluminum frame window in the east bay. The center bay has a modern metal framed two light plate glass door flanked with half wood panels topped with two large glass side lights and one large overhead light. A small 6/1 wood framed window is to the west of the entrance. A modern metal frame plate glass door is to the west of the window. A cement pad is sheltered by a shed-roofed canopy supported by three steel posts which continues at a right angle into the canopy of the attached northwest corner office addition. The one-story side-gabled addition has a brick faced front with central entrance and one three-tiered casement window on the north end. A three bay garage and a smaller office addition are telescoped to the addition's north facade.

The three bay west facade of the original building has a set of wooden louvers in the gable. There is one 2/2 window in the north and two 2/2 windows in the south bay. The first story north bay has an enclosed shed-roofed entry porch with modern exterior door, and the two south bays have one 1/1 window, each bay.

#### Accessory Buildings;

At the rear of the house, facing east and south, is an L-shaped cluster of one-story commercial structures of varying ages and design. None are architecturally related or compatible with the original.

# 8. Significance

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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

Specific dates Built 1888/9 Altered **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

The late Victorian style villa built on this site in 1888/9 is obscured by the one-story store building now attached to its front facade. It was a private residence for almost 60 years and then a tourist home. In 1955, it was converted to office space by owner Dennis Simmons, but some of the original mass and detailing remains from the days when the Turnpike to Rockville was lined with such residences.

### History and Support

The property is still identified on the tax records as "part of Haymond's Addition", the original land grant patented to John Haymond in 1734. Located in the area between the Turnpike and the City Road (Veirs Mill Road), it lay outside the commercial core of Rockville.

The 11 acre parcel was divided into building lots in 1886 at the time the Brewer estate was partitioned. This site, numbered Lot 5, was purchased by Dr. Flodoardo Howard for \$262. 1/ Two years later Dr. Howard's Will devised his houses in Washington City and his other Rockville property at #8 Thomas Street to his heirs. 2/ This undeveloped lot was sold by his executor to Rebecca Key Offutt, who built the large, cross-gabled frame villa here soon after. 3/ 4/ Mrs. Offutt died in 1893, and her husband Dorsey Offutt sold this property "where grantors now reside" in 1902 for \$2,600. 5/

Two generations of the Daniel Day family owned and occupied this home on its elevated site above the Georgetown To Rockville Turnpike for over 50 years. The driveway to the home was lined with boxwood, and towering trees shaded the broad verandah.

Dennis and Anna Simmons purchased the property in 1946, 6/ and the house retained its original appearance while Mr. Simmons' sister operated a tourist home there until 1955. 7/ In that year, Mr. Simmons removed the front porch and constructed a two-story addition across the front to house his barber shop/beauty salon. Over a

continued on attachment 8.1

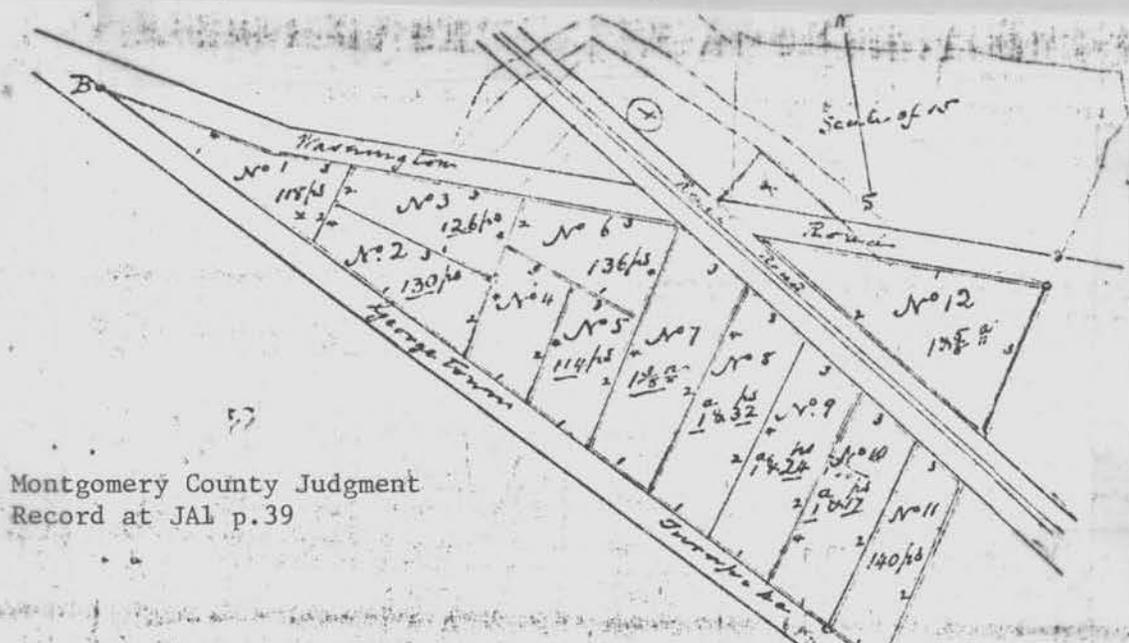
period of several years, the interior of the whole building was converted to office space. In 1970's three one-story additions were attached in stepped fashion to the northwest corner of the original structure.

Despite the twenty years of alteration to the building, much of the original Victorian remains. From the east side a three-sided bay with pyramid roof can be seen under the cross-gable decorated with raking cornice. The fenestration above the first floor is extant and some interior woodwork in staircases and bulls-eye molding remains. The original exterior framing is covered by pebble dash.

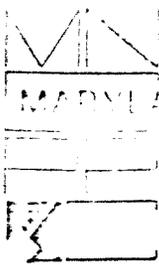
The building was the long-time headquarters of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce and has also housed various small shops and offices. Mr. Simmons' real estate company occupies the second floor of the building.

Footnotes:

1. Montgomery County Judgment Record, JA1/327. The Plat for division into building lots at p.349 (attached). Lot 5 was purchased by Dr. Howard on August 7, 1886 and contained 114 square perches.
2. Montgomery County Will Records, RWC 15/146 (July, 1888).
3. Rebecca Key Offutt was one of the heiress daughters of Thomas Hunter of "Windsor Forest," and a cousin of the Francis Scott Key family.
4. Tax assessment records for 1888-1890 are not listed in separate years, but the property appears on the 1890 list valued at \$2,000.
5. Land records TD24/128 (1902).
6. The Simmons purchased the property from Robert and Sally Grisby, who owned it for one year. The deed at Liber 1018/256 describes the location as the "north side of the Georgetown Turnpike."
7. This information and the following details of construction and conversion of the property were supplied by Mrs. Anna Simmons in two telephone conversations in June, 1986.







M:26-21-1

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated 5/27/82 and 7/6/82

ACTION TAKEN

5/27/82.....Notice of Public Hearing  
Proposed Removal of Sites from the "Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County"

7/6/82..... Planning Board voted to confirm the Historic Preservation Commission's recommendation not to keep these sites on the Locational Atlas and not to place them on the Master Plan.

M: 10/11  
M: 12/26  
M: 13/15  
M: 13/16  
M: 13/28  
M: 14/15  
M: 14/18  
M: 14/31  
M: 14/40  
M: 14/48  
M: 17/55

M: 18/1  
M: 18/9  
M: 19/8  
M: 19/18  
M: 19/20  
M: 20/6  
M: 20/27  
M: 21/4  
M: 22/18  
M: 22/21  
M: 22/23

M: 22/24  
M: 23/20  
M: 24/12  
M: 25/1  
M: 26/21  
M: 27/7  
M: 28/26  
M: 30/3  
M: 30/7  
M: 30/9E

# City of Rockville scale: 1" = 600'

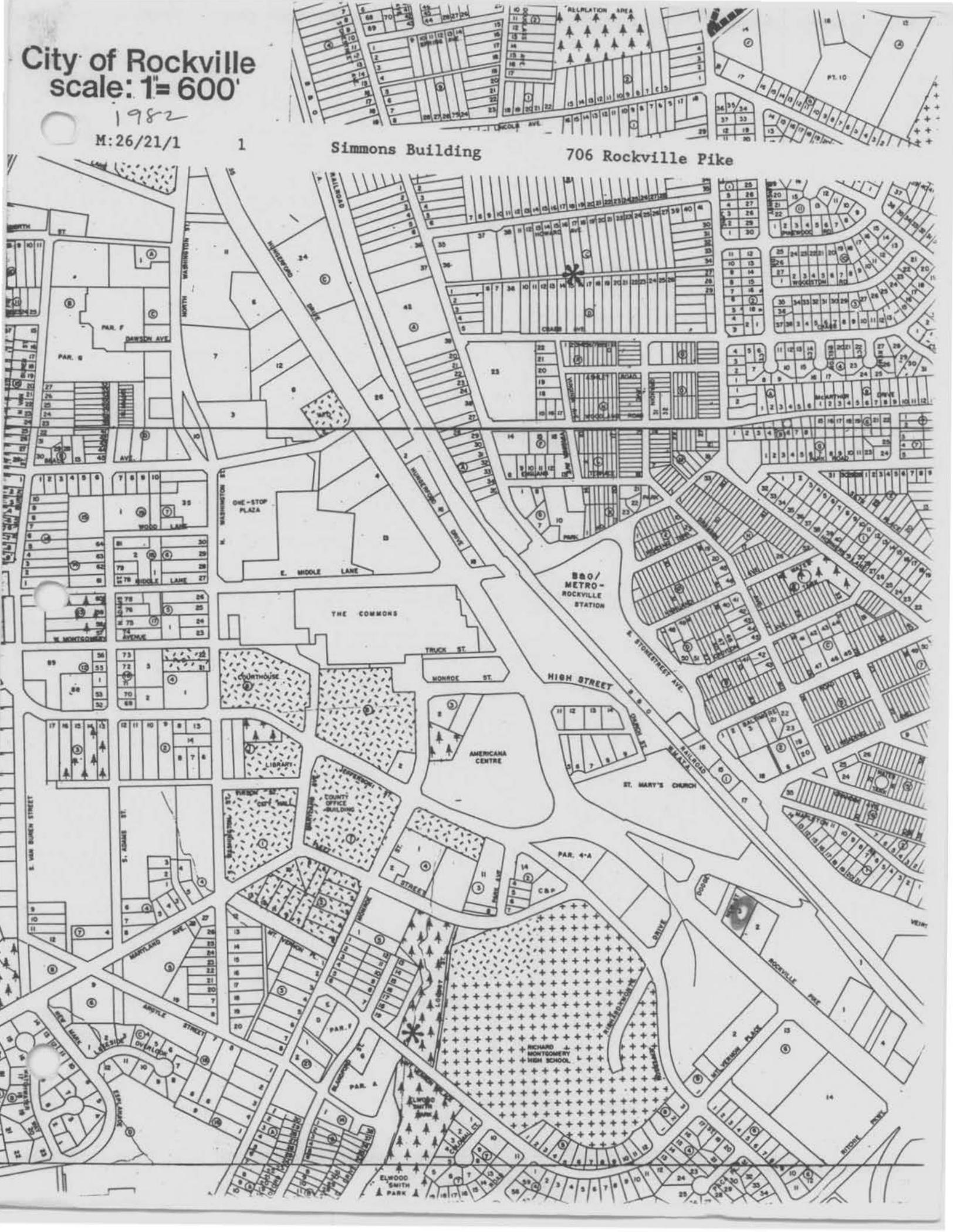
1982

M:26/21/1

1

Simmons Building

706 Rockville Pike



D. C. SIMMONS BUIL

706

THE ROCKVILLE  
GAZETTE

ART-WAY  
FLOWERS

rockville  
travel center

rockville  
travel center

CRUISES

AIR



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

M: 26/21/1  
Simmons Bldg  
706 Rockville Pike  
Rockville

0416131P

5-86



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0486 13 17