

Site M:26/22/2

Frank Tyler House

149 South Adams Street

Built: 1931

Private

The Tyler House is an example of the vernacular Arts & Crafts style. Its stuccoed surface, steeply pitched front gable with recessed entry and the bands of small paned windows imitate the medieval English cottage and combine quaint detailing with modern geometric streamlining. The Tyler family has lived in this splendidly maintained house since 1939.

Survey No. M:26/22/2

Magi No. 1651605804

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Frank Tyler house

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 149 South Adams Street  not for publication

city, town Rockville  vicinity of congressional district 8

state Maryland county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 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 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 Frank A. Tyler, Jr. and Ruby G. Tyler

street & number 149 South Adams Street telephone no.: 762-2604

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery Co. Land Records liber 766

street & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse folio 64

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

Survey No. M: 26/22/2

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input 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 modest 2 story Stucco cottage faces east on South Adams Street. A steeply pitched, asphalt shingled gable roof covers this asymmetrical, rectangular home resting on a beveled concrete block foundation.

The north bay of the east facade is dominated by a projecting 1 1/2 story facing gable end entry bay with a recessed flat-arched vestibule. The 3-light paneled door is flanked by a pair of small six-light casement windows; there is a central second floor window above. To the south a trio of six-over-six windows on the first floor is directly below a second floor dormer housing a similar arrangement. A large rectangular brick chimney is on the south end wall. A one story, one bay square clapboarded and shed roofed addition extends the south facade.

The north facade has a side entry centered in the gable end. The projecting front entry bay and a rear dormer and porch broaden this four windowed facade. A granite mill wheel is set into the small concrete step leading to the door from the paved driveway that leads to a German sided free standing garage.

The west (rear) facade has a 3-bay roof dormer, screened porch, and a tripartite picture window centered in the south addition. The backyard as well as the front has many well established plantings and mature trees.

The house has been well maintained and is in excellent condition. 149 South Adams retains its original architectural character which is derived, in part, from the Arts and Crafts movement. The English cottage style enjoyed popularity as an outgrowth of the bungalow house at a period when reference, if not complete faithfulness, was often made towards historical architecture styles.

## Footnotes

1. Memoirs of both Dr. Linthicum and William Prettyman speak of hunting south of the Academy during the 1920s.
2. Land Records, folio 766/64 (1940), Platted at Book A/56.
3. Ibid. JA 19/420 (1890), Mr. Higgins owned lot 5 next door, which was not built upon until the mid-20th century. Lot 4 cost \$500.
4. According to Mrs. Tyler, Charles West built the house 1930-31.
5. Henry H. Saylor, Architectural Styles for Country Houses (New York: McBride, Nast & Co.), 1912.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. M: 26/22/2

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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1931 Builder/Architect Charles West

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.

The Arts and Crafts movement was a popular expression of architecture that combined the desire for a "modern" house with one whose craftsmanship and architectural elements were evocative of a past period or more traditional style. The house at 149 South Adams is a 1931 local interpretation of the Arts and Crafts mode, here imitative of the English medieval cottage. The present owners purchased the house in 1939 and have retained the original character and workmanship, with only minor alterations.

When Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tyler Jr. bought this cottage in 1939, the area south of the Rockville Academy was still woods and fields, a favorite hunting spot of residents.<sup>1</sup> Like its competitor the West End Park development, Rockville Heights was planned in 1890 to include parks, boulevards and circles;<sup>2</sup> like West End Park, the planned community never materialized. A handful of fine homes were built in the Heights, particularly on the lots closer to the Courthouse, but for the most part construction of houses here was slow.

Amelia Higgins, sister of real estate agent Frank Higgins, purchased lot 4 in block 7 in July 1890. The deed stated that "No dwelling house is to be built within 15 feet of the front line, no stable, cowhouse or privy within 25 feet of any street..."<sup>3</sup> Miss Higgins owned the property for 26 years before selling it to Luther Hoellman in 1916. Mr. Hoellman sold the lot to Norman Ingalls in 1931, and soon after the house was constructed by local builder Charles West.<sup>4</sup>

The house has a pronounced, steeply pitched front gable with Tudoresque recessed entrance under an arch. The medieval cottage imitation is also evident in the narrow multi-paned windows with wide muntins arranged in bands of three windows, or staggered diagonally across the north facade. The textured stucco surface and contrasting shapes emphasize the streamlined craftsmanship, rather than any ornamental detailing, and were based on the "Modern English Plaster House" advocated by one of the pioneer modern architects.<sup>5</sup> An additional example of the crafts motif is found in the presence of a mill-wheel embedded in the cement of the north side walkway.

Mr. and Mrs. Tyler constructed an additional room on the south of the house. Alterations during their ownership have been made in the scale and materials of the original style.

FOOTNOTES ON OPPOSITE PAGE

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M: 26/22/2

Montgomery County Land & Tax Records, Plats  
General histories & family records  
Interview with Mrs. Tyler

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 14,490 square feet

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

Lot 4 of Block 5, Rockville Heights (Plat A/56)  
Fronting 70' on the west side of Adams Street, by a depth of 207'

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Anne W. Cissel/Glen Leiner, arch. desc.		
organization	Peerless Rockville	date	September 1984
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

Vide decree in No. 15536 Equity

Vide Decree - No. 15861 Equity

Vide Decree - No. 20506 Equity

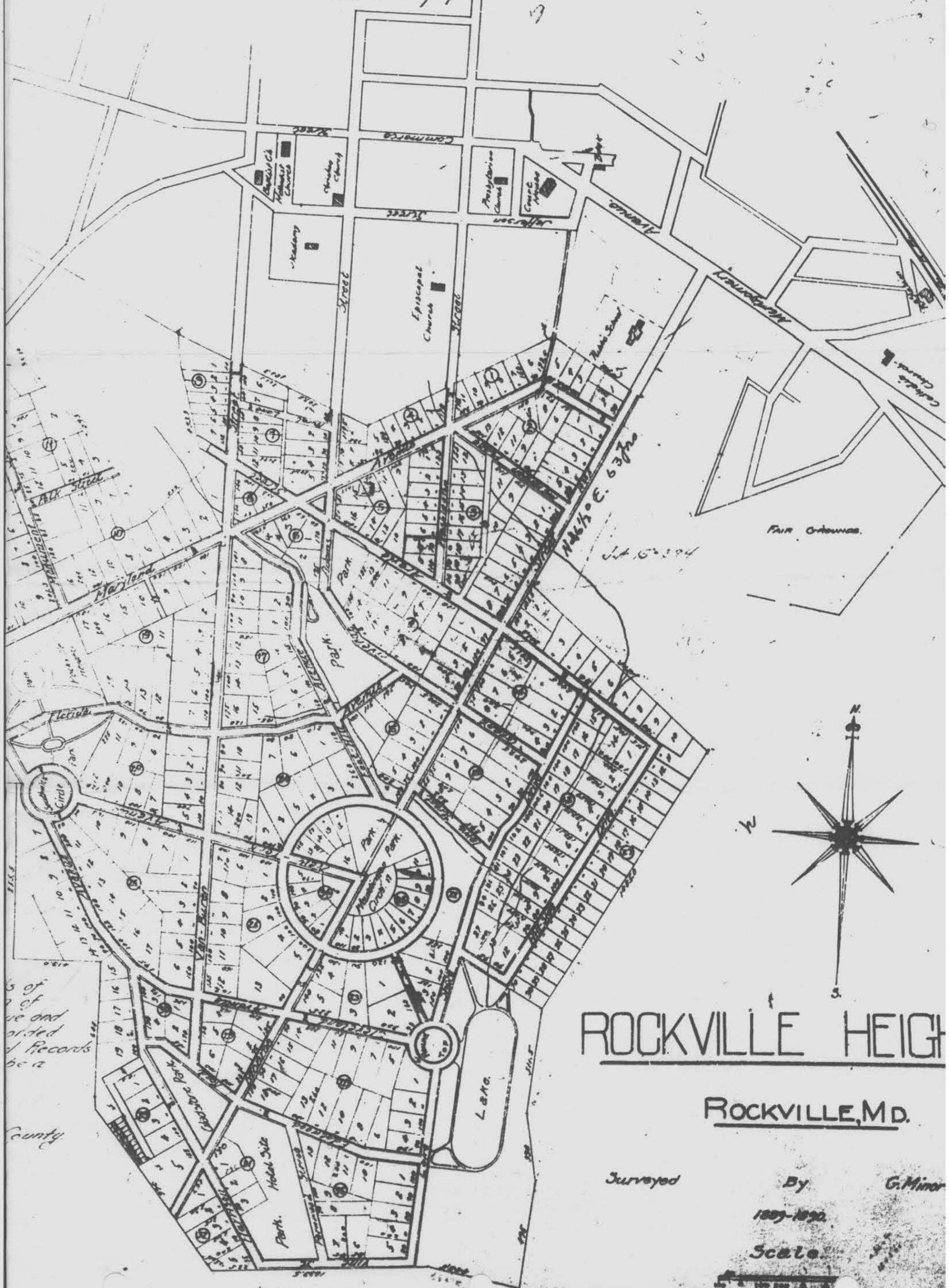
M: 26/22/2  
Frank Tyler House  
Rockville

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Vide Decree - No. 20972 Equity

Vide Decree - No. 30956 Equity

Vide Decree Equity No. 31405



ROCKVILLE HEIGHTS

ROCKVILLE, M.D.

Surveyed

By

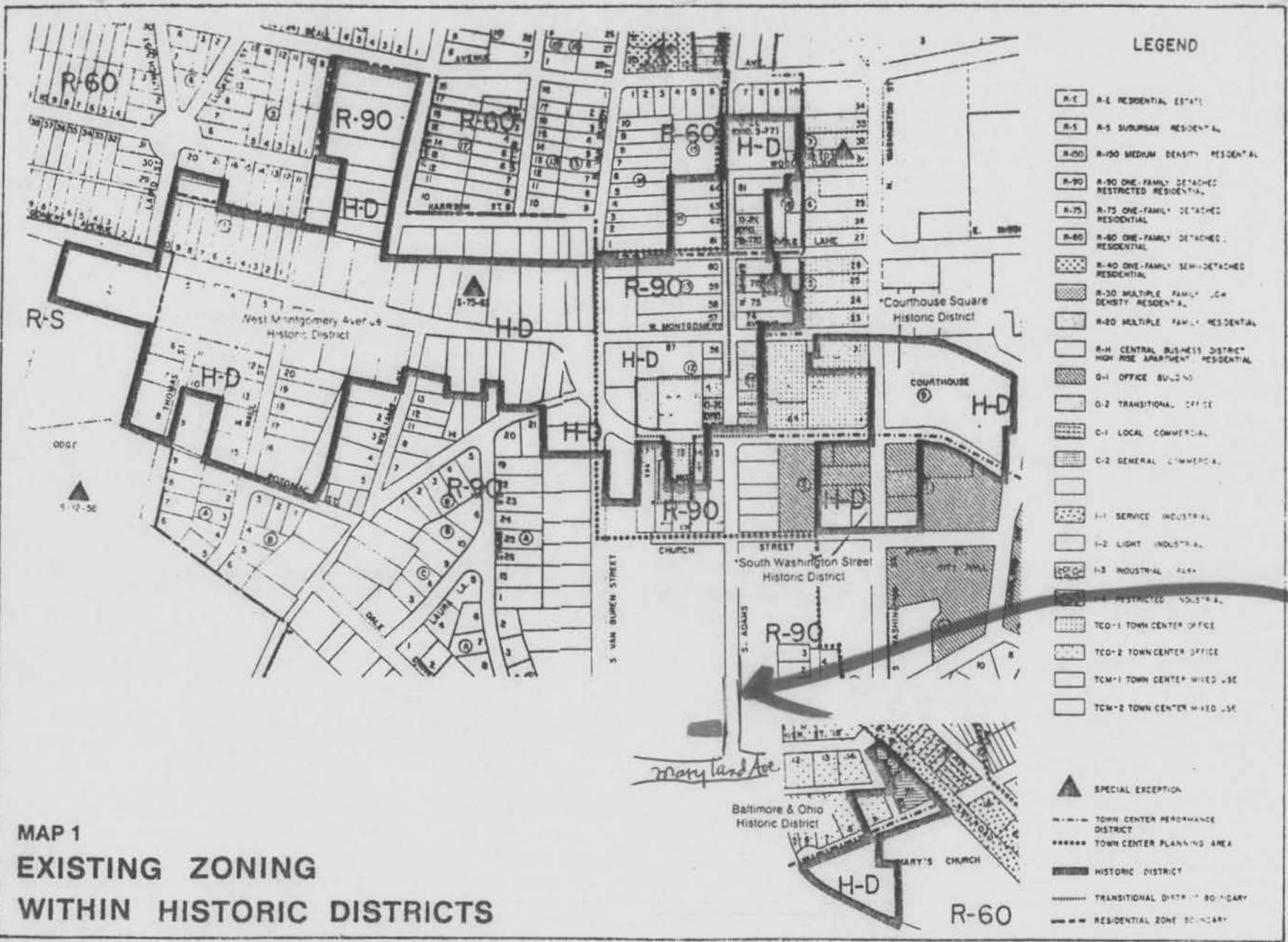
G. Minor

1897-1898

Scale



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County



**MAP 1  
EXISTING ZONING  
WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

\*Note: For discussion and planning purposes South Washington Street and the Courthouse Square district are considered independent Historic Districts even though they are shown on the existing zoning map as one district.

P11  
 M: 26/22/2  
 Frank Tyler House  
 149 South Adams Street  
 Rockville



1025-6

RICHARD H. ANDREWS  
1608 Farragut Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20851

M: 26/22/2  
FRANK TYLER HOUSE  
149 So Adams St  
NORTHEAST ELEVATION  
AUGUST, 1984