

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name Gaegler House

2. Planning Area/Site Number 30/3

3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference  
Map K-18

4. Address 12190 Rockville Pike, Rockville

5. Classification Summary

Category Building  
 Ownership Private  
 Public Acquisition --  
 Status Occupied; Special Exception, demolition being considered  
 Accessible No  
 Present use Residence  
 Previous Survey Recording \_\_\_\_\_ Federal \_\_\_ State xx County xx Local \_\_\_\_\_  
 M-NCPPC 1976

6. Date c. 1860

7. Original Owner Rudolph Gaegler

8. Apparent Condition

a. excellent  
 b. altered??

c. original site

9. Description

This is an unusual house, built of rammed earth and coursed stone set in forms that laid a thick foundation but tapered as they reached the roofline. Two sections were built in this fashion -- the (north) 2-story, main house, and the 1-story wing in the middle. The main section is Federal-style, with three bays; one of the two windows on the first floor has settled almost a foot below the other. Windows are 6-over-6, double-hung, and there are moldings over the window heads. A large, brick chimney rises 2 stories on the exterior north wall. The house presents a uniform appearance, with painted stucco surface and tin roof.

10. Significance

The Gaegler house has led a varied existence, beginning as the showplace of the Gaegler farmstead, a family intricately involved in the life of the vanished community of Montrose, and later serving a company which manufactured vaccines and antitoxins. It was built between 1856 and 1865 by Rudolph Gaegler. Around 1870 his daughter Mary and her husband Francis Heley began the Montrose Store, later becoming postmasters. She sold the property in 1914 to the National Vaccine and Antitoxin Institute, which used the 53 acres for an experimental farm; the Institute manufactured and sold vaccines, antitoxin, and other biological products used in the treatment of farm animals. The company went out of business in 1920, partly due to its practice of guaranteeing effective serum to its nationwide dealers, and the property was sold at public auction the following year. The land has been resold several times since, each time losing more of its acreage. The present owner, Albert Gotch, bought the house and two acres in 1944.

11. Date researched summer, 1978

Mark Walston

Candy Reed - Architectural Description

12. Compiler

Eileen McGuckian

13. Date Compiled

November, 1978

14. Designation

Approval \_\_\_\_\_

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC The Gaegler House

AND/OR COMMON Rammed Earth House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 12190 Rockville Pike

CITY, TOWN Rockville VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Albert Gotch Telephone #: unlisted

STREET & NUMBER 12190 Rockville Pike

CITY, TOWN Rockville VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 20852

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 953  
Folio #: 145

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE 1976  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historians' Office

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:30-3

**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This is a most unusual house. At first glance it appears to be a stucco-covered, Federal-style building of brick or stone. However, it was built of rammed earth and coursed stone set in forms that laid a thick foundation but tapered as they reached the roofline. Technically, it is a masonry house.

Two sections were built in this fashion—the (north) two-story, main house, and the one-story wing in the middle. Allegedly, the earliest section was a one-story log cabin that stood where the present, twentieth-century, south wing is now. Joined to this modern wing is another one and a half-story, two-bay part facing east. A hood-type portico covers the entrance in the northernmost bay of this middle section. Attached to this is a two-story, Federal-style house of three bays. While the second story here has three windows, there are only two windows on the first floor, the northeast corner being a blank wall. Perhaps there was never an opening here because the earth walls could not support the weight of the second story. (One of the two windows on this facade has settled almost a foot below the other.)

Windows are six-over-six, double hung, and there are moldings over the window heads. A large, brick chimney rises two stories on the exterior north wall.

The house presents a uniform appearance with matching shutters, a painted stucco surface, and an older tin roof in each section. Inside, the floors and moldings are of an early period and, in the attic, the round chestnut rafters are joined to a heavy ridge pole.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1856 - 1865

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gaegler House is a building unusual in its historical association, having performed a purely domestic function common to all family dwellings, and yet, at one time, participated in a highly technical commercial venture. For over 100 years the building has led a full and varied existence, beginning as the showplace of the Gaegler farmstead, a family intricately involved in the life of the vanished community of Montrose, and later serving as a major component of a company engaged in the manufacture and distribution of veterinary vaccines and antitoxins. Today it stands amidst modern architectural complexes as a reminder of a past heritage.

The Gaegler house was built between 1856 and 1865 by Rudolph Gaegler on his 72-acre farm. Around 1870 Gaegler's daughter, Mary, and her husband Francis Heley, established the "Montrose Store" on a one-acre parcel of the farm, at the intersection of current Old Georgetown Road and Route 355. Francis Heley, bought the entire plot from the remaining Gaegler heirs. The property then consisted of a five-room stone house, barn, stable, "grainary," and poultry house, completely fenced.

In 1914, Mary Heley sold the property to the National Vaccine and Antitoxin Institute, owned by Dwight T. Scott. The Institute was one of only eighty-one companies licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for interstate shipment of veterinarian medicine under the Virus-serum-toxin act of 1915, and one of the first companies licensed. The Institute manufactured and sold vaccines, antitoxin, and other biological products used in the treatment of farm animals.

The experimental farm at Montrose was referred to as the "National Vaccine Station" and comprised 53 acres including the stone house, Montrose Store, a frame house with six rooms and bath, five stables, a silo, a frame corn house, and a garage and pump house. (See quoted description on page 3 of historical report.)

The NVAI founded a practice of guaranteeing effective serum to their nationwide dealers, and replacing outdated medicine. This practice proved impossible at the time, and led to the dissolution of the corporation.

Scott resigned in 1920, leaving the company with a debt of over \$70,000. A trust company took over the business at a loss of \$1,500 a month. The property was sold at public auction to Leonard C. Nicholson for \$30,000 in 1921.

In 1922, Nicholson sold the entire property to Adam Cokinos. In 1924, Cokinos sold eight acres including the Gaegler House to Milo G. Coplen, who sold the house and two acres to Thomas Lee Smith in 1941. The present owner Albert Gotch, bought the parcel in 1944.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:30-3

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- Maryland Directory of 1882
- Montgomery County Land Records
- Montgomery County Equity Records
- Montgomery County Orphans Court Records
- Boyd, T.H.S., The History of Montgomery County...  
(Baltimore, Regional Publishing Co., 1968 (c. 1879))

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.694 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY	<u>Candy Reed - Architectural Description</u>
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STATE	COUNTY
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**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Mark Walston

Candy Reed - Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

6/78

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>					
COMMON:					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Geigler House					
<b>2. LOCATION</b>					
STREET AND NUMBER: 12190 Rockville Pike					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville					
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>					
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<b>OWNERSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<b>STATUS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious    _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific    _____					
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>					
OWNER'S NAME: Albert W. Gotch					
STREET AND NUMBER: 12190 Rockville Pike					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>					
TITLE OF SURVEY:					
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 5px;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 5px;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Altered    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncutered           </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: right; margin-bottom: 5px;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site           </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>This is a most unusual house. At first glance it appears to be a stucco-covered, Federal-style building of brick or stone. However, it was built of rammed earth and coursed stone set in forms that laid a thick foundation but tapered as they reached the roofline. Technically, it is a masonry house.</p> <p>Two sections were built in this fashion-the (north) two-story, main house, and the one-story wing in the middle. Allegedly, the earliest section was a one-story log cabin that stood where the present, twentieth-century, south wing is now. Joined to this modern wing is another one and a half-story, two-bay part facing east. A hood-type portico covers the entrance in the northernmost bay of this middle section. Attached to this is a two-story, Federal-style house of three bays. While the second story here has three windows, there are only two windows on the first floor, the northeast corner being a blank wall. Perhaps there was never an opening here because the earth walls could not support the weight of the second story. (One of the two windows on this facade has settled almost a foot below the other.)</p> <p>Windows are six-over-six, double-hung, and there are moldings over the window heads. A large, brick chimney rises two stories on the exterior north wall.</p> <p>The house presents a uniform appearance with matching shutters, a painted stucco surface, and an older tin roof in each section. Inside, the floors and moldings are of an early period and, in the attic, the round chestnut rafters are joined to a heavy ridge pole.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC      DATE: 5/12/75

STREET AND NUMBER:  
8787 Georgia Ave.

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring      STATE: Maryland

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:  
National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated June 12, 1984

ACTION TAKEN

The following sites have been reviewed and found not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Those sites also listed on the Locational Atlas will no longer be subject to regulation under the Moratorium on Alteration and Demolition.

Site No.

10/2		23/70	
10/9		23/98-1	
10/11		24/12	
10/22		24/14	
10/25		24/15	
10/54		25/1	
10/71		25/10-1	
10/73	15/68	27/5	
	15/69	27/7	
10/74	16/19		<u>Site No.</u>
11/8	*17/4	*27/11	35/6
12/14-1	17/55	*27/13	36/9
12/16	18/1	28/15	*37/4
12/26	18/9	28/26	
	18/22	30/3	
13/15	18/27	30/7	
13/16	18/29-1	30/9	
13/28	19/8	30/15	*Recommended for designation by the
13/32	19/18	30/17	Mont. Co. Historic Preservation
	19/20	30/19	Commission.
14/1	20/6	31/9	
14/15	20/14	33/3	**These sites were previously considered
14/18	20/27	33/5	by the County Council and found not
14/19	22/5	33/11	to warrant regulation under the
14/23	22/6-1	*34/1	Historic Preservation Ordinance.
14/30	22/18	*34/9	They are listed here to bring the
14/31	22/21		functional Master Plan in conformance
14/40	22/22		with Council's actions.
14/48	22/23		
14/54	22/24		
15/10	23/13		
15/11			
15/18			
*15/62			

Geigler House

M:30-3

This site was removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County and is not included in the Master Plan for the county. This determination was made by the Montgomery County Planning Board on June 17, 1982.



M: #30-3

NAME GEIGLER HOUSE  
LOCATION OFF ROCKVILLE PIKE NEAR MONTROSE RD  
EACADE E ROCKVILLE, MD  
PHOTO TAKEN 5/12/75 MDWYER