

M-26-10 647

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Montgomery
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON:
West Montgomery Avenue Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Centered on West Montgomery Avneue

CITY OR TOWN:
Rockville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Eighth

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Montgomery CODE: 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Office</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Multiple public and private owners

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
National Register (Beall-Dawson house)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
National Register of Historic Places

STREET AND NUMBER:
National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Montgomery

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The West Montgomery Avenue historic district is primarily a residential area with single family dwellings predominating; several churches and houses recently converted to offices reflect both the old residential character and the new use that the buildings are finding. The major group of structures (45 out of 83) dates from the 1880's, with a few older homes and somewhat more from later periods. The Beall-Dawson house, a brick Federal-style structure dating from 1815 and independently entered on the National Register, is within the district. The predominant character of the district, however, is set by the rows of Victorian houses in a vernacular residential mode with Eastlake and Stick Style influences. The district is bounded on the east by the Rockville business district, and on the west, north and south by areas of newer construction. The historic district is bounded by the west property line of 500 W. Montgomery Avenue then east along the center of W. Montgomery Avenue to Laird Street then north along the center of Laird Street then west along the north property line of 11 Laird Street then south to the rear property lines on the north side of W. Montgomery Avenue and east with these property lines to the rear property lines of 14 and 18 Forrest then north with these property lines to Anderson Avenue then west with the center of Anderson Avenue to the rear property lines of 100, 108, and 112 Forrest then north with these property lines to Beall Avenue then east with the center of Beall Avenue to the center of Forrest then south with Forrest to the rear property lines in the north side of W. Montgomery Avenue which extends in a straight line to include the center of Middle Lane, then east with the property lines and Middle Lane to the west property line of 102 N. Adams Street then north with said property line to the north property line of 106 N. Adams Street then east with the property line to the center of N. Adams Street then north with N. Adams Street to its terminus at Wood Lane then continuing north, east, and south along the property lines of 41, 21, and 17 Wood Lane, then west with the center of Wood Lane to the rear property line of 109 N. Adams Street then south and west following these property lines, then south and east following the rear property lines of 107, 101, 9, 5, and 39 N. Adams Street to the center of W. Montgomery Avenue then west with Montgomery Avenue to the center of South Adams Street then south with South Adams Street to the north property line of 10 South Adams Street, then east and south and west following the property lines of 10, 12, and 14 South Adams Street, then south with the center of South Adams Street to the south property lines of 103 S. Adams Street, then west and north with the property lines of 103 South Adams Street and 104 W. Jefferson Street, then north with the center of Van Buren Street to the south property lines of 105 Van Buren Street then east

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) # 1

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#7 Description (Continued)

and north with said property lines then west in a straight line to the east side of Great Falls Road then north in a straight line to the south property line of 214 W. Montgomery Avenue then west with the property lines of 218 and 212 W. Montgomery Avenue then south with the center of Williams Street to the south property line of 300 W. Montgomery Avenue, then south with the rear property lines of 12, 16, 22, and 26 Wall Street (including 309 Potomac Street), then west with the south property lines of 26 and 25 Wall Street, then north with the rear property lines of 25, 21, 19 Wall Street then east with the south property line of 16 Thomas Street then south in the center of Thomas Street to the rear property line of 500 W. Montgomery Avenue then west with the property line to the beginning.

The buildings which provide the flavor of the district were generally built between 1880 and 1900. Construction is frame with clapboard, shiplapped, or tongue-and-groove siding, with wood shingles frequently used for contrast. Many of the buildings feature towers, elaborate porch balustrades, cornice trim, and other typical features of the era.

One identifying feature of the district is a form of bay window which has been identified with homes built by Edwin West, a local builder. This bay has a semi-octagonal ground floor plan with a rectangular second floor plan. The second floor of the bay, therefore, overhangs the ground floor on the corners, allowing the builder to use bracket and arch motifs to give the entire bay visual unity.

Detailed descriptions of examples:

1. Barnes house, 106 North Adams Street. The building is a two-story, clapboarded structure with a one-story porch across the main (south) facade. This block was built about 1790, and although the facade was remodelled in the late nineteenth century, some of the earlier features are still visible. The large internal end chimneys were designed for fireplaces, the doorway has sidelights and transom light, the windows on the east end are narrow nine over six double hung sash with wide mullions, and the mantelpieces are of a simple classical revival design. When the house was remodelled, the most notable changes made were the additions of the porch, of a small central gable, and of period groups of windows. Between the time of the completion of the original house and the remodelling, a large two-story block was added at the west end. The east facade of this wing

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

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#7 Description (Continued)

is sheeted with flush beaded boarding, the other facades with clapboards. The windows of the addition are six over six double hung sash; those of the east facade have simple cornice consisting of a wide frieze and a moulding.

Both blocks have boxed cornices, the main block having a simple bed moulding below the boxed section, the rear wing having a projecting ogee moulded cap applied to the face of the boxed section.

2. Jerusalem Church, 21 Wood Lane. The building is a brick church stuccoed over in the 1950's. It was built in 1858 and rebuilt on a larger scale in 1892. The present building has a front facing gable with a corner tower and corner buttresses. The facade has a central arched doorway with flanking, triangular-headed openings in the nave. These openings are grouped in pairs between the buttresses. The rafter ends are cut off in a scalloped pattern.

The north end has two openings on each floor, those of the ground floor arched and those of the nave triangular-headed.

3. former Rockville Christian Church, 101 West Jefferson Street. The church, built in 1893, is a brick structure with wooden trim. It is rectangular in plan with a tower projecting at the southeast corner. The front-facing gable end has an entrance through a projecting, pointed-arched portico. Small, square-headed openings flank the portico; the gable has a pair of round-headed windows.

The tower is divided into two stories. The first, with buttressed corners, has a round-arched doorway with a fanlight above the double, square-headed doors. The second story, stepped back one course, has a round window. The roof of the tower has a square, hipped base that supports an octagonal lantern with louvered, pointed-arched openings. The spire is octagonal; like the nave, it is covered with alternating bands of square and octagonal slate tiles.

Along the nave sidewalls, the granite foundation is exposed. Above this are four courses of brick laid flush with the surface of the stone; the fifth course is a moulded brick water-table of quarter-round profile. Three pointed-arched windows light the nave. The projecting rafter ends are cut in a looped pattern.

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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#7 Description (Continued)

The north end has a small narthex that follows the form of the larger gable end. It once had a pointed-arched window that is now bricked in.

4. Dietz house, 117 West Montgomery Avenue. The house is a two story frame building in an Eastlake manner. The massing is irregular, with a rectangular central block from which rectangular wings project to the south and east. The central block has a hipped roof, while the wings are straight-gabled with shingled ends. A one story porch with bracketed square posts wraps around the front of the house, running from the west side of the south wing to the south side of the east wing.

The wings terminate in distinctive bays, the southern one being a typical "Rockville bay". This one has a semi-octagonal first floor plan and a rectangular second floor plan, the two sections joined visually by brackets. The eastern bay is similar, but the octagonal plan continues through two stories and the gable has a square plan; brackets and coving join the two elements together.

The two bay windows on the west facade are treated differently. On the north side of the facade there is a one-story bay on the ground floor. On the south side of the facade, the bay, with shingled pediment and elaborate bracketed cornice, is at the second floor level; the porch roof runs under the bay window, and a bantered base is employed to provide a transition from the straight wall surface to the sloping porch roof.

The main chimney rises behind the gable end of the south wing. The wall surface over the chimney is marked by rails and decorative patterns in wood in the stick style. The projecting stack is pilastered and has a projecting cap. The entire house has a "cornice" composed of rows of patterned shingles.

5. Ward house, 409 West Montgomery Avenue. The house is a two-story structure of an "L" form with a tower between the legs of the "L". The forward facing leg has a semi-octagonal bay on the first floor; on the second floor is a single window, while the gable end has a round opening filled in with a decorative wooden panel. The tower has a single window at the level of the stair landing and a double window under the wooden frieze course. The eastern leg is the entrance wing, with a small porch running from the tower around the east facade of the wing. The porch is bracketed.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

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#7 Description (Continued)

The jerkinheaded roof has carved bargeboards with long drop pendants at the extremes of the slope. The tower roof has a bell-shaped, hipped roof.

The house has been stuccoed, with wooden friezes and window cornices exposed.

In general massing, the house resembles several plans in Calvert Vaux's Villas and Cottages, notably No. 13, although the details are dissimilar. The design for the house may well have come from a book similar to Vaux's.

6. Brewer house, 309 Potomac Street. The house is a two-story square framed building with a widely projecting hipped roof. A one-story porch with round columns runs across the main (south) facade; the entrance is in the west bay of the facade, with two windows in the east bays. On the second floor, there are two sets of paired windows. The roof has dormers on each slope; the dormers have triple windows.

On the west facade, a large two-story bay window rests on console brackets.

A large exterior chimney rises on the east facade.

7. Abbe house, 100 Forest Avenue. The house is a two-story frame structure sheathed with clapboards. A one-story porch runs across the length of the main (east) facade. The central bay of the facade projects forward in the form of a stair or porch tower, terminating with a forward-facing shingled gable. The doorway has a transom light; on the second floor the tower has a round arched window. There are shingle-sheathed dormer windows with hipped roofs flanking the tower.

The gable ends are also covered with patteened shingles. On the south end, a projecting rectangular bay echoes in material and form the roofline of the main block.

In summary, this district shows in its style and setting the visual and aesthetic qualities of a Victorian county seat. The district achieves a sense of cohesiveness through the consistency of style, rhythm of spacing, similarity of scale and massing, and the predominance of clapboard and shingle materials. Many of the structures remain essentially in original condition. The later construction and remodelling that has occurred within the district has not impaired the effect of an 1890 neighborhood.

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structures within the boundary of the historic district present a summary of the history of Rockville. Rockville became the county seat when Montgomery County was created in 1776. Through most of the nineteenth century, Rockville was a courthouse village surrounded by agricultural land. Some structures remain from this period, for example, 106 and 101 North Adams Street, the Beall-Dawson House, the Prettyman-Hathaway house, (104 West Jefferson Street).

Rockville remained a sleepy town until the coming of the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1873. Summer and weekend visitors stepped off the train to be taken in carriages to one of three grand hotels. The only remaining hotel is located in this district; formerly known as the Woodlawn Hotel, it is now Chestnut Lodge sanitarium (500 West Montgomery Avenue).

Around the resort trade, Rockville rapidly expanded in size and population. Many summer hotel patrons built summer residences in the district, and some stayed to live year round. Professional land developers were active as well. Henry N. Copp purchased land at the west end of town, and sold lots on which were constructed several houses in this district. Some houses built during this time: the Smith house (108 Forest Avenue) in 1890, the Morrow house (227 West Montgomery Avenue) c. 1888, the Greene house (11 Laird Street) c. 1890, 26, 16, 15, 19, 21, and 25 Wall Street. The depression forced Copp to abandon the subdivision by 1900, and Rockville's building boom was also over by that time.

Following the Victorian growth spurt, Rockville expanded slowly in size and population until rapid growth began following World War II.

There is an active interest by residents of the district to protect the historic flavor from falling victim to twentieth century suburban sprawl. Among other reasons, this district is significant because it is a surviving contiguous area of a

(See Continuation Sheet #5)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)# 5

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#8 Significance (Continued)

small nineteenth century town. These structures embody the fiber of the City; they strongly present the scope of Rockville's social, cultural, and architectural history. This scope encompasses history black and white, of various religious sects, and of rich and not-so-rich persons.

While the majority of structures in the district are residences, also included are attorneys' offices, churches and parsonages, a funeral home, a former hotel (now a sanitarium), the headquarters of the Montgomery County Historical Society, an 1890 structure built for use as a private academy and subsequently used as the public library and for church purposes, and an old graveyard remaining from a church demolished seventy years ago.

#11 Form Prepared By (Continued)

Mr. Christopher Owens September, 1973.
Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
5701 Muncaster Mill Road
Rockville, Maryland 20853

9 Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Montgomery County Land and Probate Records. Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.

Thompaon, Noma. Western Gateway to the National Capital (Rockville, Maryland). Washington: Stewart Printing, 1950.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Benton, William H. Lots for Sale by Henry N. Copp. Subdivision of West End Park, Rockville, Maryland. Washington: n.p., 1891.
 Copp, Henry N. "Peerless Rockville: What it offers to Homeseekers and Investors." Washington: Gibson Brothers, October 1890.
 Hopkins, G. M. Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington. Philadelphia: n.p., 1878.
 Martenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond Map of Montgomery County. Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1865.

(see continuation sheet #5)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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
NW	39° 05' 07"	77° 09' 54"			
NE	39° 05' 10"	77° 09' 15"			
SE	39° 04' 55"	77° 09' 17"			
SW	39° 05' 00"	77° 09' 55"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **53 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Eileen McGuckian, Chairperson (See Continuation Sheet #5) sdh

ORGANIZATION: **Rockville Historic District Commission** DATE: **Sept. 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall, 111 South Perry Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Rockville** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name _____ Arthur C. Townsend</p> <p>Title <u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>March 3, 1975</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>May 29, 1975</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>May 22, 1975</u></p>
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M 26:10--West Montgomery Avenue Historic District
Boundary Expansion to include the Higginsville cluster on MD 189
(Great Falls Road) and NR Bingham-Brewer House (M26/9)

Location Map
Rockville Quadrangle

