

WI-253
Moore-White House
Salisbury
Private

1898

Standing at 117 East Isabella Street is a two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling that bears a close resemblance to its immediate neighbor to the east erected in 1896 by William J. Johnson. Following the construction of the Johnson house next door, this plainer version of the same house form was financed by Rollie and Maria Virginia Moore. A short item printed in the *Salisbury Advertiser* on May 21, 1898 stated, "*Mr. W. J. Johnson, who is now at Rehoboth building a summer residence for Rev. C. W. Prettyman, will complete the work in two weeks. He will then begin the erection of a residence for Mr. Rollie Moore on Isabella street adjoining the property of Mr. W. M. Day.*"

The basic architectural massing of the house, with a center block covered by a jerkinhead roof, is extended to each side by two-and-a-half story gable roofed pavilions. However, the Johnson house was designed with a wealth of intricate Victorian detail, while decoration on the Moore house is limited to fishscale shingles that cover the gable ends. William J. Johnson, a prolific contractor in Salisbury during the late nineteenth century, undoubtedly had a self-interest in advertising his talents in the house he designed and built for himself and his family. As two versions of similar house plans executed in different architectural details, the Moore and Johnson houses offer an interesting contrast.

Rollie and M. Virginia Moore owned this property for a relatively short time, since they sold the house and lot to William M. Day, their neighbor to the west, in 1904 for \$3,500. Three years later, in October 1907, William M. and Emily C. Day sold the house and lot to E. Riall White for \$4,800. White family ownership of the house and lot continued until 1983.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Moore-White House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-253

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial-Urban Dominance
1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-253
Magi No.
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Riall White House

and/or common Moore-White House

2. Location

street & number 117 East Isabella Street not for publication

city, town Salisbury vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Victoria Weber Greene

street & number 117 East Isabella Street telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 104, P. 642
liber 1282

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 659

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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.

The Riall White house, also known as the Rollie Moore house, is located at 117 East Isabella Street in the center of the Newtown Historic District in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The asymmetrical plan frame dwelling faces south.

Built around 1898, the two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling is supported on a high brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain weatherboards and fishscale shingles. The steeply pitched jerkinhead roof is covered with slate.

The south (main) elevation is an uneven facade with the entrance located in the west bay. A partially enclosed Tuscan columned porch shelters the front entrance, which is fitted with double door of decorated Victorian panels. The entrance bay is identified by a small gable roof on the porch. Dominating the front of the house is a projecting two-and-a-half story gabled pavilion, which is pierced by paired single-pane sash on the second floor and paired four-over-one sash in the upper gable. The attic windows are set within a field of fishscale shingles. The eaves of the roof are extended and the soffits are sloped. That small gable end of the jerkinhead roof is pierced by a miniature two-over-two sash window with the surrounding surface covered with fishscale shingles as well.

Extending from the east and west sides of the house are two-and-a-half story pavilions pierced by single-pane sash windows. A narrow brick stove chimney rises through the center of the house. Filling the northeast corner of the main block is a two-story screened in porch.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-253

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

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.

Standing at 117 East Isabella Street is a two-and-a-half story Queen Anne frame dwelling that bears a close resemblance to its immediate neighbor to the east erected in 1896 by William J. Johnson. Following the construction of the Johnson house next door, this plainer version of the same house form was financed by Rollie and Maria Virginia Moore. The same architectural form with a center block covered by a jerkinhead roof is extended to each side by two-and-a-half story gable roofed pavilions. However, the Johnson house was designed with a wealth of intricate Victorian detail, while decoration on the Moore house is limited to fishscale shingles that cover the gable ends. William J. Johnson, a prolific builder and contractor in Salisbury during the late nineteenth century, undoubtedly had a self-interest in advertising his talents in the house he designed and built for himself and his family. As two versions of similar house plans executed in different architectural details, the Moore and Johnson houses offer an interesting contrast.

Rollie and M. Virginia Moore owned this property for a relatively short time, since they sold the house and lot to William M. Day, their neighbor to the west, in 1904 for \$3,500. (EAT 43/230) Three years later, in October 1907, William M. and Emily C. Day sold the house and lot to E. Riall White for \$4,800. (EAT 56/219) White family ownership of the house and lot continued until 1983. (AS 992/618)

On account of its relatively well-preserved character and its contribution to a series of late 19th century dwellings that line East Isabella Street, this property should be listed in *Category A*, which designates structures that must be retained.

WI-253
Riall White House
117 East Isabella Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 104, Parcel 642

1282/659 Benjamin Babb Greene, Jr.
Victoria Weber Greene

to

2/28/1992 Victoria Weber Greene

Designated as Lot No. 2 on a plat made for William M. Day
by P. S. Shockley, dated 3/11/1907, EAT 53/496

AS 992/618 M. Louise White

to

6/24/1983 Benjamin Babb Greene, Jr.
Victoria Weber Greene

Being all the same property conveyed by William M. Day
et ux. To E. Riall White, 10/3/1907, EAT 56/219; the said
E. Riall White having died seized and possessed of said
property, JAH 1/91, was devised unto his widow for life,
and after her death in remainder to his three children, M.
Louise White, Edward R. White, Sr. and Milton G. White,
Evelyn T. White; and Edward R. White, Jr. and Alice E.
White having conveyed all their right, title and interest,
the same being an undivided 2/3 interest, unto M. Louise
White, 9/29/1966, JWTS 639/75

JWTS 639/75 Milton G. White, et al.

to

9/29/1966 M. Louise White
2/3 interest

WI-253
Riall White House
117 East Isabella Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

EAT 56/219

William M. Day et ux.
Emily C. Day

to

10/1/1907

E. Riall White

\$4,800.00 Lot 2 Plat EAT 53/96

EAT 43/230

M. Virginia Moore
Rollie Moore, City of Washington, D. C.

to

12/28/1904

William M. Day

\$ 3,500.00

JTT 21/366

Agnes Johnson
A. Sydney Johnson

to

7/17/1897

Maria Virginia Moore, wife of Rollie Moore

\$ 500.00

and being a part of the same property which was conveyed
to M. Virginia Moore by William J. Johnson by deed dated
2/19/1898, JTT 22/56

WI-253
Riall White House
117 East Isabella Street
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

FMS 7/164

Isabella Humphreys

to

10/31/1890

Agnes Johnson (then Agnes Bacon)

\$300.00

WI-253
Riall White House

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.
VIENNA 15 MI. 447000m E.





