

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: M:26-33 (PACS 7.15) Construction Date: 1940-1955

Name: Rockcrest Neighborhood

Location: Intersection of Veirs Mill Road, First Street and Rockville Pike; Rockville,
Montgomery County

Private/Private Residences/Occupied/Good/Unrestricted

Description:

The Rockcrest Neighborhood, developed between 1940 and 1955, is a subdivision characterized by 1- and 1½-story, 2- and 3-bay cottages. The subdivision is bounded by Veirs Mill Road on the north, Gail Avenue on the west, Lewis Avenue on the south, and Parrish Drive and Okinawa Avenue on the east.

Significance:

Thomas O. DeBeck, President of the Rockcrest Realty Corporation, began acquiring the land in the Rockcrest area in the late 1930s. The first subdivision plats were filed in 1940. Joseph N. Starkley was the engineer. Rockcrest evolved beginning in the east around Gail Avenue. The properties between Gail Avenue and Edmonston Avenue were constructed between 1940 and 1950. The properties west of Edmonston Avenue were constructed beginning in 1951.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief

Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic (preferred) Rockcrest Neighborhood

and/or common name

2. Location:

street & number Abbott Rd., Agnew Dr., Allison Dr., Autre Ct., Broadwood Dr., Burris Rd., Clagett Dr., Coral Sea Dr., Crawford Dr., DeBeck Dr., Edmonston Dr., Farr Rd., Gail Ave., Henry Rd., Highwood Rd., Langbrooke Pl., Lewis Ave., Okinawa Ave., Parrish Dr., Paul Dr., Rockwood Dr., Simmons Dr., Veirs Mill Rd., Wade Ave. not for publication

city, town Rockville vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification:

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input 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"/> education | <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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |

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

name Multiple

street & number

telephone no.:

city, town

state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Montgomery County

liber

street & number 50 Maryland Avenue

folio

city, town Rockville

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. M:26-33 (PACS 7.15)

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| <u>Condition</u> | | <u>Check one</u> | <u>Check one</u> | |
| <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 | | | |

Resource Count: approximately 750

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Rockcrest Neighborhood, developed between 1940 and 1955, is a subdivision characterized by 1- and 1½-story, 2- and 3-bay cottages. The subdivision is bounded by Veirs Mill Road on the north, Gail Avenue on the west, Lewis Avenue on the south, and Parrish Drive and Okinawa Avenue on the east.

The cottages in the Rockcrest Neighborhood are constructed of brick and wood-frame. Asbestos shingles and vinyl siding are common. Most of the cottages have concrete foundations and asphalt-shingle, side-gable roofs. Colonial Revival details appear on many cottages, as do rear and side additions. Most of the cottages have 6/6 double-hung windows.

There are seven basic types of cottages in this neighborhood. The first type is a 1½-story, 3-bay cottage with a center entry and a side-gable roof with two gable dormers. This type is usually constructed of wood frame. The second type is a 1½-story, 3-bay cottage with a center entry and a gable-front-and-wing form. This type is also usually constructed of wood-frame. The third type is a 1-story, 3-bay cottage with a side-gable roof and an entrance on the side elevation. This type is usually constructed of brick. The fourth type is a 1-story, 3-bay cottage with an off-center entry and a side-gable roof. This type is executed in both brick and wood-frame. The fifth type is a 1-story, 2-bay cottage with a side-gable roof and an entrance on the side elevation. This type is usually constructed of wood-frame. The sixth type is a 1-story, 3-bay cottage with a center entry and a side-gable roof. This type is usually constructed of brick. The seventh type is a 1-story, 4-bay cottage with a side-gable roof and an entry on one end of the front elevation. This type is usually constructed of wood-frame and has large, tripled double-hung windows and small fixed-sash windows.

The Rockcrest Neighborhood is located near the busy intersections of Veirs Mill Road and First Street and Rockville Pike and First Street. The subdivision has a curvilinear design and the streets are lined with deciduous trees. Hillcrest Park and Rockcrest Park are located within the neighborhood. The Rockcrest Neighborhood is located in a dense suburban area. Residential development is located to the north and east, while commercial development is located to the south and west.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Rockcrest Neighborhood

SRVEY NO.: M:26-33 (PACS 7.15)

ADDRESS: Intersection of Veirs Mill Road, First Street, Rockville Pike, Rockville,
Montgomery County

8. Significance (Continued)

who lived in the suburbs to commute to work in the city. Beltways and other highways linking suburbs together were also constructed. In many cases, extensive suburban development occurred in areas which likely would have remained undeveloped were it not for the existence of these highways. After the war, however, houses in the new low-cost developments were purchased primarily by veterans and young families with little disposable income. These communities were characterized by 1½-story, front-gabled cottages and simple twentieth century architectural styles.

Rockcrest is a neighborhood of vernacular cottages. Between 1870 and 1950 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder. A variety of front-gable, side-gable, cross-gable and hipped roof frame cottages were developed in the early to mid-twentieth century. Front-gable and hipped roof cottages are primarily 1 to 1½-stories tall, 3-bays wide and several rooms deep. Side-gable and cross-gable structures are usually 2 to 2½-stories tall, are typically 2 to 3-bays in width and vary from one to three rooms deep. They usually include a porch covered with a shed roof. Porches are supported by posts often containing machine-produced Victorian ornamentation. Some cottages feature ornamentation drawn from Craftsman style or Colonial Revival architecture (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

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8. Significance (Continued)

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed between 1940 and 1955, the Rockcrest Neighborhood is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. 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, as the cottages represent a common and indistinctive type of architecture constructed by a developer to provide low-cost housing during the period of post-war expansion. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended X
Comments _____

Reviewer, OPS: [Signature] Date: 7/29/2000
Reviewer, NR Program: [Signature] Date: 3/1/02

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. M:26-33 (PACS 7.15)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name Rockville, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

Prepared by: _____
e/title Julie Darsie

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company date May 1998

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412 telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore state Maryland

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
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

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9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Boyd, T.H.S. 1968. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company.
- Brugger, Robert A. 1988. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Coleman, Margaret Marshall. 1984. Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Rev. 1990. Norfolk and Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers.
- Farquhar, Roger Brooke. 1962. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiler, Inc.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. 1988. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press.
- Liebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. 1976. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Hopkins, G.M. [1879] 1975. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including the County of Montgomery, Maryland. Reprint. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
- Martenet, Simon J. [1865] 1975. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Reprint. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Relph, Edward. 1987. The Modern Urban Landscape. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Rockville Historic District Commission. 1973. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. West Montgomery Avenue Historic District. Rockville, MD.
- Tindall, George Brown. 1984. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

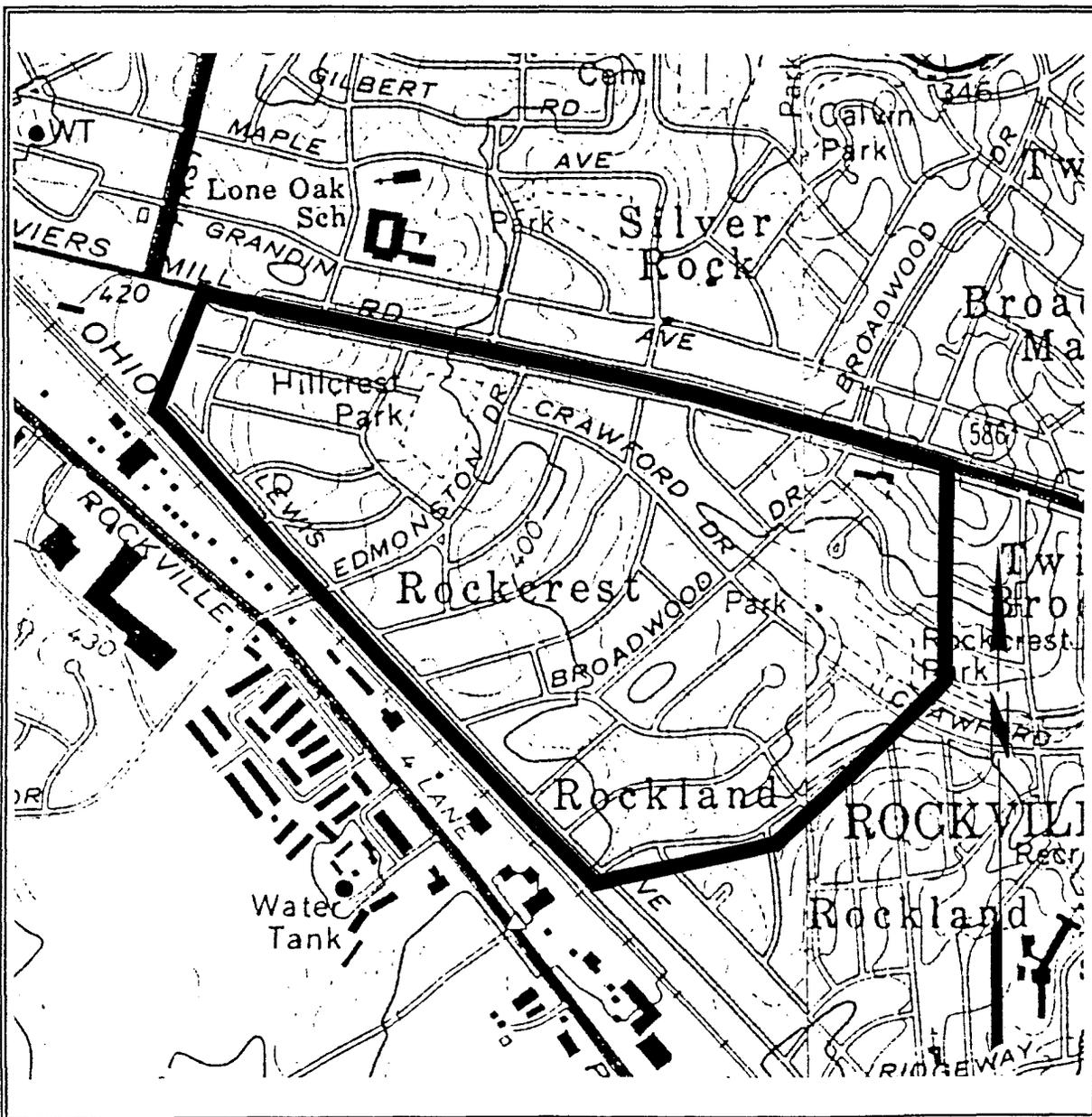
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10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map



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Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture and Community Planning

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

District

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residences

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer
P.A.C. Spero & Company
May 1998

USGS
Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term
Congestion Relief
Town/County Rockville/Montgomery
Quad Rockville, MD
Survey No. M:26-33 (PACS 7.15)
Property Name Rockcrest Neighborhood





- 1 M86-33
- 2 Rock crest
- 3 Montserrat Building
- 4 Quince Avenue
- 5 5/29
- 6 Mid Stn's
- 7 910 Lewis Ave

2000-01-20

8 1 of 20





- 1 M:26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery Co Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 1109 Agnes Dr., last elevation
- 8 3 of 20

SEE N.W. 123066



- 1 m: 26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5198
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 1110 Cypress Dr, NW Levittown
- 8 4 of 20

ST. JOHN 1220 562



1 M:26-33

2 Rock Crest

3 Montgomery Co Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md. SHPS

7 1107 Agnew Dr, east. cleve Tenn 43086

8 5 of 20



- 1 M: 26-33
- 2 Rockcrest
- 3 Montgomery Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
5. 5/98
6. Md 81116
- 7 1125 Agnew Dr., east elevation
- 8 6 of 20

SC 81116 120066



- 1 M: 26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery Co Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5198
- 6 Md 8140
- 7 1005 Lewis Ave, West side
- 8 7 of 20

ST N H T 120608



- 1 M:26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 1720 Henry Rd
- 8 8 of 20

200001 10086



1 M:26-33

2 RockCrest,

3 Montgomery Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHP,

7 1009-1005 Lewis Ave Streetscape

8 9 of 20

ENR N N K 1230 68E



- 1 M: 26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery A. Med
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHRO

7 900 Block Lewis Ave, West Side

8 100 20

899 0271 M N 13



- 1 M 26-33
- 2 Rock crest
- 3 Montgomery Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5198
- 6 Md 5119
- 7 1006 Paul Dr
- 8 11 of 20

CC BY-NC-SA 1230685



1 M:26-33

8

2 Rockcrest

3 Montgomery 3rd Mt.

4 John Davis

5 5/98

6 Mt St. H.

7 Gail Ave

8 12 of 20



- 1 11 26 33
- 2 Rock Creek
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md
- 4 Julie Davis
- 5 5198
- 6 1 Md. SPS
- 7 Cedar Point Ave
- 8 15 of 20

2000 1 1200 500



- 1 M. 24-33
- 2 Rockcrest
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md.
- 4 Jules Dancer
- 5 195
- 6 Ad 21
- 7 View Mt. 22
- 8 14 of 20



- 1 m. 26-33
- 2 Rockcrest
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md.
- 4 Julie Davis
- 5 5198
- 6 Md. 8412
- 7 Debeck Tr
- 8 15 of 20



1 M:26.33

2 Rockcrest

3 Montgomery Co Md

4 Julia Parson

5 5/98

6 vld. SHPO

7 Edw. Br. App. 1898

8 16 of 20



1 11-26-33

2 Rockcrest

3 Montgomery Co. Md.

4 Jules Varasi

5 5/98

6 Md. SHPO

7 Wade L. W.

8 17 of 20



- 1 M. 26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery Co Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 1135 Block: Agnew-Dr, east side
- 8 18 of 20



- 1 M. 26-33
- 2 Rock Crest
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPL
- 7 East side, Crawford St.
- 8 19 of 20

980271 4/14/22



1 M:26-33

2 Rock Crest

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SUPD

7 Hill Crest Park

8 20 of 20

ETERNAL 123096