

Site M:26/10/26

115 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville

Stokes House

Built: 1888/89

Private

Contemporary with and comparable to the Lowry Villa/The Blue House next door, the Stokes House shares similar compound blue slate roof and massing, but features a more vertical, stick-style detailing. It is sheathed in very narrow German siding and has a two-tiered covered porch on the rear facade. It was built as a wedding present for Katherine Baker when she wed Rockville banker Richard Stokes, and remained in the Stokes family until 1973.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Stokes house

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 115 West Montgomery Avenue not for publication

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	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 type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name JoAnn and Russell Hamill, Jr.

street & number 115 West Montgomery Avenue telephone no.: 279-0562

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Land Records liber 4854

street & number Montgomery County Courthouse folio 277

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register: West Montgomery Ave. Historic District - 1974
Locally designated historic district - 1974

date M-NCPPC - 1976 federal state county local

pository for survey records City of Rockville

city, town Rockville state Maryland 20850

7. Description

Survey No. M: 26/10/26

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

This 2½ story, 2 bay and 3 bay wooden Queen Anne style house is set back from West Montgomery Avenue facing south.

The asymmetrical composition consists of a variety of details employed on an irregularly shaped plan. A rectangular brick interior chimney protrudes from the roof crest, which is comprised of gables intersecting the main hipped roof.

A porch extends the full width of the first level of the front (south) facade and continues around the east side of the house. Turned posts, perforated brackets, square balusters, and a running frieze support the porch's hipped roof and its stick work entry pediment. A wood and glass paneled door is set in the recessed east half of the facade. Above, on level two, is a balconet well set into the porch roof and accessed through a large window. This balconet is itself sheltered by the dominating hip roof of plain and fishscale slates. A forward facing gable end projects at the west half. It contains a 3-sided first level window bay and a squared, projecting second level bay with double windows.

This house, which remains in near original condition, is sheathed with very slender clapboarding on both floors with imbricated and beveled wood shingles over the attic story. Windows throughout the house are one-over-one double hung wood sashed, except for attic lights which repeat the small square panes in the stairway.

The east facade contains a stairway window that is about 1½ stories high. A central tall rectangular window composed of small, square panes is set into wooden framework that is framed by a leaded tracery surround, in a neo-classic motif. The rear (north) of the house has porches on both levels that retain their original turned posts and square balusters.

Painted entirely in white, this house is in good condition and retains its original physical character and large landscaped plot.

8. Significance

Survey No. M: 26/10/26

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 1888-89 **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.

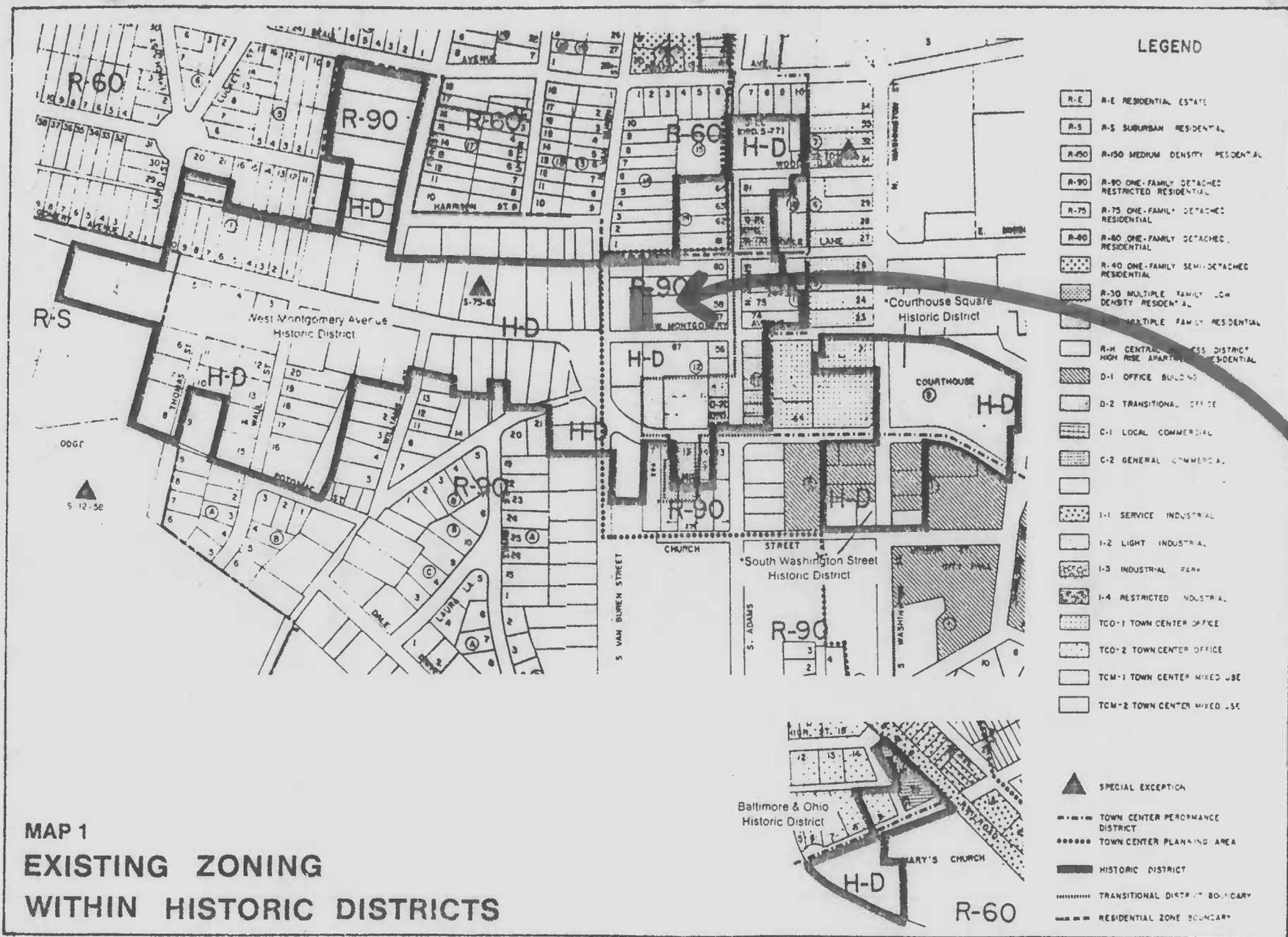
The large lots of Beall's Subdivision were intended to appeal to the professional and business class of buyers -- those having substantial financial means. The Stokes property was a wedding present to Katherine Baker when she wed Richard Stokes of Rockville. This Queen Anne style house, like the Lowrey Villa next door, was constructed in 1888/89.¹ Both houses are comparable in size and materials, although below their blue slate roofs they display individual detailing, massing and fenestration. This house belonged to the Stokes family for 85 years and remains in original condition.

Richard Stokes held the position of Cashier of the Montgomery County National Bank when it opened its doors in 1884. In 1887, he married Katherine Baker of Winchester, Va. Mr. Camillus Baker, a grocery wholesaler, paid Ms. Margaret Beall \$800 for this lot lying south and west of her own home. It fronted 65 feet on Commerce Lane (now West Montgomery Avenue) and stretched north to a depth of 200 feet.²

Rockville was finally beginning to realize the development promise anticipated since the 1873 opening of the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad. In 1888, business, especially housing construction, was booming, necessitating comparable civic improvements. Among the improvements voted in 1888 by the City Commissioners was "to lay brick paving (sidewalks) from the east line of R. H. Stokes west 500 yards to Dr. Simpson's ... brick to be laid on 6 inches of sand."³

The house at 115 was listed on the Tax Assessments as the property of Katherine Stokes from 1889 to 1917.⁴ Richard Stokes purchased the lot adjoining the house to the east, but this lot was not built upon until the mid-20th century. He died in 1919 at age 61, but Mrs. Stokes had already deeded the house to her daughter Margaret Whiting. Her brother, Camillus Stokes, later owned the house, and it remained in possession of the Stokes family until 1973. The present owners purchased the house in 1976.

- 1. See 117 West Montgomery Avenue (Survey Site # 26/10/).
- 2. Montgomery County Land Records, JA 9/262 (1888) and 1888 Tax Assessment - Camillus Baker of Winchester, VA. 1/3 acre, valued at \$600 unimproved.
- 3. Montgomery County Sentinel, August 10, 1888.
- 4. Montgomery County Tax Assessments, Between 1898-1910, valued at \$600 plus \$2,500 improvement



**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.

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 M: 26/10/26
 Stokes House
 115 West Montgomery Avenue
 Rockville



1017-7

RICHARD H. ANDREWS
1608 Farragut Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20851

M: 26/10/26

STOKES HOUSE

115 N. Montgomery Ave.

SOUTH / SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

AUGUST, 1984



M: 26/10/27 and M 26/10/26

1017-11

117 and 115

West Montgomery Ave -
SOUTH ELEVATION

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AUGUST, 1984