

DERWOOD STORE AND POST OFFICE

15911 REDLAND ROAD

DERWOOD, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD 20855

MASTER PLAN HISTORIC SITE DESIGNATION FORM

APRIL 2019



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**Maryland – National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Montgomery County Department of Planning
Master Plan Historic Site Designation Form**

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Derwood Store and Post Office

Current Name: None

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties #: [22/33-3](#)

2. LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Address Number and Street: 15911 Redland Road

County, State, Zip: Montgomery County, Maryland, 20855

3. TYPE OF PROPERTY

A. Ownership of Property

- ☒ Private
- ☐ Public
- ☐ Local
- ☐ State
- ☐ Federal

B. Category of Property

- ☒ Private
- ☐ Public
- ☐ Local
- ☐ State
- ☐ Federal

C. Number of Resources within the Property

Contributing

- ☒ Buildings
- ☐ Structures
- ☐ Objects
- ☐ Archaeological Sites
- ☒ Total

Noncontributing

- ☐ Buildings
- ☐ Structures
- ☐ Objects
- ☐ Archaeological Sites
- ☐ Total

D. Listing in the National Register of Historic Places: The Derwood Store and Post Office is not listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

4. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic Function(s): COMMERCIAL/TRADE: Department Store/General Store
GOVERNMENT: Post Office
DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling/Apartment Building

Current Function(s): VACANT/NOT IN USE

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Site Description: The Derwood Store and Post Office is located at 15911 Redland Road (addressed to the former road) at the northeastern corner of the intersection of Chieftain Avenue and Derwood Road in Derwood, Montgomery County, Maryland. The store is sited on a trapezoid .265-acre lot (11,580 square feet) with topography that slopes downwards to the southeast corner. The property is bound by: a single-family dwelling to the north; Derwood Avenue to the south; a gravel alley and single-family dwellings to the east; and Chieftain Avenue to the west (App. 1, Fig 1).

The façade (west elevation) of the store is orientated towards Chieftain Avenue and separated from the public right-of-way by a lawn. The setback varies from 2' to 8' from the avenue with the southwest corner of the porch nearly adjoining the intersection. The side (south) elevation abuts an 8' to 10'-wide concrete sideway along Derwood Road that terminates at the end of the original building. The rear yard to the east of the store consists of a lawn and gravel parking area accessed via the alley. The yard formerly contained a one-story garage (App. 5, Fig. 9) demolished ca. 2010. The narrow side yard to the north of the building consists of a lawn. The northern edge of the rear yard is partially delineated by the neighboring property's fence.

General Architectural Description: Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson constructed the Derwood Store and Post Office circa 1904. The building consists of: 1) the original two-story (with a basement), front-gable store and front porch enclosed in the mid-twentieth century; and 2) the mid-twentieth-century two-story, full-width, gable rear addition (App. 4, Fig. 3).

The original building rests on an uncoursed stone foundation, which is parged with concrete on the south elevation. The foundation supports a wood-frame structural system that is clad with German wood siding, later covered with asbestos shingles. Fenestration consists of non-historic, single-leaf, wood doors, and two-over-two and six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The original two-over-two windows remain on the second-story of the façade, but the rest of the original windows and shutters have been removed. All the windows have simple wood sills and surrounds. The building is capped with a front-gable roof sheathed with stamped tin shingles. The roof features a wood frieze board, molded wood cornice, and overhanging eaves. The store has an enclosed one-story front porch; the property owners enclosed and altered the porch in the mid-twentieth century.

The rear non-historic two-story addition rests on a concrete block foundation. The wood-frame structural system is clad with wood lap siding and capped with a shallow-pitched standing seam metal gable roof. A large exterior gable-end brick chimney dominates the rear elevation.

In the mid-twentieth century (likely coinciding with the construction of the addition), the owners altered the interior arrangement of the floor plan, effectively creating a three-story apartment building. While the original partially exposed basement likely served as the warehouse or storage for products, grain, and other goods, the owners altered the space to create residences. This resulted in the present-day fenestration and exterior design. For the purpose of the architectural description and

continuity, the building will be referred as a two-story store with a basement level. Describing the building as a “three-story building” would conflict with its original design and fenestration.

Detailed Architectural Description:

West Elevation (facade) – App. 4, Fig. 1-2

The two-story, two-bay west elevation with a partially exposed basement is adorned with an enclosed full-width, wood-frame front porch. The enclosed porch rests on a continuous foundation, is sheathed with asbestos shingles, and capped with a hipped, standing seam metal roof. The exposed basement of the enclosed porch consists of two openings: the northernmost opening features a paired one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window covered with plywood and the southernmost opening has a single one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window. On the second story of the enclosed porch, there is a centrally located window opening covered with vinyl signage. The second story retains the original fenestration of two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows.

South Elevation (side facing Derwood Avenue) – App. 4, Fig. 3-4

The south elevation consists of the: 1) two-story, six-bay historic store with a full-height exposed basement level and enclosed front porch; and 2) the three-bay, non-historic addition to the east. On the historic store, the enclosed porch consists of a single leaf-door covered with plywood accessed directly from the adjoining sidewalk. The basement consists of three pairs of single-leaf doors accessed directly from the sidewalk and small square windows. All the fenestration is infilled or covered with plywood. In all likelihood, these doors and windows were added during the conversion of the building to apartments. The first story features six, six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The four windows towards the western end are covered with plywood. The second story maintains the original fenestration pattern with three windows. Based on archival records, the openings featured two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows (App. 5, Fig. 2). Presently, two of the windows are covered with plywood. The western window is exposed but missing the lower sash and any evidence of the original divided lights.

The basement of the non-historic addition consists of three foundation windows which are all infilled or covered with plywood. The three-bay first story has a plywood-covered, single-leaf door formerly accessed via a missing stair and two symmetrically-located, six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The second story repeats the fenestration absent the single-leaf door.

East Elevation (rear) – App. 4, Fig. 4-6

The two-bay rear elevation of the building consists of the two-story, non-historic addition and the partially-exposed, setback second story of the historic store. The elevation is dominated by a tall gable-end, exterior, square chimney stack on the addition. Chimneys of this size are often found with multi-family dwellings.

The basement of the rear addition consists of a single-leaf door covered with plywood accessed via concrete steps. The first story features two openings both covered or infilled with plywood. One opening directly abuts the southern side of the chimney and the second is located towards the south elevation. The openings likely held six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The second story has a single window towards the southern end.

The partially visible upper-story of the original store consists of two six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows, likely added in the mid-twentieth century due to its position in relation to the addition.

North Elevation (side facing single-family dwelling) – App. 4, Fig. 1 and 6-8

The north elevation consists of the two-story, four-bay non-historic addition to the east and the two-story with partially exposed basement, three-bay historic store and enclosed porch to the west. The non-historic addition's foundation is parged with concrete on this elevation and punctured by a single metal louvered grate. The first-story consists of three irregularly-spaced, plywood-covered window openings and a single-leaf door. The second story has three irregularly spaced six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows.

The historic store's north elevation is interrupted by the addition of an exterior enclosed three-story stair that dates from the mid-twentieth century. The partially collapsed stair, supported by wood framing, is clad with asbestos shingle and capped with a standing seam metal roof. The store's basement retains a cellar access partially obscured by the non-historic exterior stair and blocked by a steel cistern. Three six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows are located to the west of the cellar stair. The first story consists of two six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The second story features a single-leaf door from the stair accessing the apartments and two six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows to the west.

The enclosed front porch has a single enclosed window opening of unknown configuration on the basement.

Interior

Historic Preservation staff did not evaluate the interior of the building due to its present hazardous condition.

6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A. Applicable Designation Criteria as described in Chapter 24: Historic Resources Preservation, Section 24A-3, Montgomery County Ordinance:

The Derwood Store and Post Office meets four of the nine designation criteria as described in Section 24A-3 of the Montgomery County Ordinance. See Section J of this report for a detailed description.

B. Statement of Significance:

The Derwood Store and Post Office reflects the growth of Montgomery County following the establishment of the Metropolitan Subdivision of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in 1873. The rail line spurred residential and commercial development as it allowed for easier access to Washington, D.C. In addition, the subject building represents the turn-of-the-twentieth-century commercial tradition of vernacular two-story, front-gable general merchandise stores in rural towns and small communities. These businesses served as the end-point of the distribution of products within the local economy and provided the community a place to share information. The store's inclusion of a post office (which operated at the location from ca. 1905 to 1966) further augments its historic significance. Derwood had at least three women postmasters who served a total of 17 years and their overall contributions to the area are not reflected in other sites. Lastly, the Derwood Store and Post Office serves as a reminder of the diminished rural and manufacturing character of the area.

C. Period of Significance: 1904-1966

D. Significant Dates: 1904-1905 (construction of the store and relocation of the post office); ca. 1950 (conversion of the general store to apartments); 1966 (closing of the post office)

E. Significant Persons: Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson, who first owned the Derwood Store and Post Office; Mary C. Watkins, Mary E. Matthews/Mullican (two marriages), and Margaret B. Welsh, who were appointed Derwood postmasters.

F. Areas of Significance: Commerce; Government; Women's History; Architecture

G. Architect/Builder: Unknown

H. Narrative:

Historic Context: Settlement of Derwood to Present Day

Prior to the completion of the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad (MET), Derwood consisted of three dwellings and a blacksmith shop at the intersection of two roadways near Crabbs Branch, a small tributary off Rock Creek (App. 2, Fig. 1).¹ On May 25, 1873, the opening of the MET spurred residential development of new suburban communities and summer resorts near Washington, D.C., stimulated the local economy by providing farmers of perishable goods access to larger markets, and encouraged the establishment of commercial industries such as mills. Residential communities included places such as Takoma Park, Silver Spring, Forest Glen, Capitol View Park, Kensington, Washington Grove, and Garrett Park.

Derwood, located 19-miles from Washington, D.C., served primarily as a freight and manufacturing town and secondarily as a commuter station. The 1877 *Annual Report of the President and Directors of the Stockholders of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company* itemized the construction of a 10'x14' waiting shed at Derwood, but historians have noted that the railroad began scheduled stops at the community in 1875 based on published schedules.² On April 18, 1883, the Post Office opened the Derwood location and appointed Randolph Watkins as its first postmaster.³

Between 1884 and 1887, commercial development in Derwood started in earnest. Charles Bready constructed a warehouse.⁴ Lyddane, Jones & Company built a four-story, 50'x36'x51' flour mill valued at \$20,000.⁵ Other proprietors such as J. Earnshaw opened a hay and straw establishment to supply clients in Washington, D.C.⁶

¹ Martenet & Bond, "Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland," (Baltimore, MD: Simon J. Martenet, 1865), Library of Congress.

² Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, *Fifty-First Annual Report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company* (Baltimore, MD: Sun Book and Job Printing Establishment, 1877), 45; Carlos Avery, "Derwood, Maryland, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Station: A Gingerbread Delight," January 29, 1986, M-NCPPC Historic Preservation Office.

³ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁴ "Montgomery Co. (MD.) News," *Evening Star*, June 28, 1884, Chronicling America.

⁵ "A Large New Flouring Mill," *Evening Star*, November 3, 1887, Newsbank; "Improvements at Derwood," *Baltimore Sun*, September 11, 1888, ProQuest.

⁶ "Rockville News," *Evening Star*, May 23, 1888, Newsbank.

The opening of these industries prompted the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to construct a new 125' platform and station in 1887 and 1888, respectively.⁷ Noted architect Edward Francis Baldwin designed the board-and-batten, wood-frame station capped with a standing seam metal roof and accented by bargeboards and a decorative finial (App. 6, Fig. 2). Nearly identical stations were built at Linden and Hanover.⁸

Simultaneously or soon thereafter, Samuel Vance created the Derwood subdivision consisting of 33 lots. G.M. Anderson surveyed the property in August 1888 and Vance recorded the subdivision in March 1889 (App. 2, Fig. 3).⁹ Clarence M. Hoskinson moved to Derwood in 1894, purchased Section 4, Lot 1, the following year, and built the Derwood Store circa 1904.¹⁰

The new train station and subdivision spurred further settlement of the small manufacturing town.¹¹ In the 1890s, new industries continued to open and existing facilities were expanded. Dorsey Plummer constructed a general store in 1890 (which burned later that year), Earnshaw opened a corn-cannery, and newspaper articles reference a blacksmith and wheelwright shop along with other potential business ventures.¹² Real estate owners rebranded the area as "Derwood Park" (App. 2, Fig. 4) and touted the area as "The Only Manufacturing Town on the Metropolitan Branch." The advertisement noted Derwood's picturesque qualities, cool summers, and accessibility to Washington, D.C., and highlighted its two stores, post office, creamery, cannery, grain elevator, steam flour mill, boarding-house, and congenial society.¹³

While the population of Derwood failed to meet expectations or match other nearby railroad suburbs on the MET, the community established educational, social, and religious institutions.¹⁴ Derwood residents established a lodge of the Order of Good Templars and successfully lobbied Montgomery County Commissioners to build a public school in 1892 (App. 6, Fig. 7). Montgomery County sold the "little red schoolhouse" in 1937, but the building remains standing at 15805 Paramount Drive.¹⁵ After meeting in various temporary locations, the Baptist Mission Chapel dedicated its first church in

⁷ Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, *Sixty-First Annual Report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company* (Baltimore, MD: Sun Book and Job Printing Establishment, 1887), 38; Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, *Sixty-Second Annual Report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company* (Baltimore, MD: Sun Book and Job Printing Establishment, 1888), 28.

⁸ Carlos P. Avery, *E. Francis Baldwin: The B&O, Baltimore, and Beyond* (Baltimore, Maryland: Baltimore Architecture Foundation, 2003): 30.

⁹ G.M. Anderson, "Plat of Derwood," August 3, 1888, Montgomery County Plat Index.

¹⁰ Maryland State Archives, Montgomery County, Assessment and Taxation, T22 1-19, 1896-1906.

¹¹ The *Evening Star* noted six new dwellings under construction in the town in April 1890. "Montgomery County, MD," *Evening Star*, April 4, 1890, Newsbank.

¹² "Real Estate Sales," *Evening Star*, August 28, 1890, Newsbank; "Real Estate Deals in Montgomery," *Evening Star*, May 9, 1890, Newsbank; *Baltimore Sun*, July 29, 1890, ProQuest; "Montgomery County News," *The News*, July 28, 1890, Newspapers.com; "Stole Tools to Crack a Safe With," *Evening Star*, May 23, 1891, Chronicling America.

¹³ "Derwood Park," *Washington Herald*, May 3, 1891, Newspapers.com

¹⁴ The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad noted the population of Derwood to be 72 in 1905.

¹⁵ *Evening Star*, April 15, 1892, Newsbank; *Evening Star*, June 17, 1892, Newsbank; *Evening Star*, September 16, 1892, Newsbank. *Evening Star*, July 28, 1892, Newsbank; "Nine Schoolhouses Slated For Sale in Montgomery County," *Baltimore Sun*, December 2, 1937, ProQuest.

Derwood in 1896. The wood-frame building valued at \$1,000 seated 200 congregants (App. 6, Fig. 8). While the steeple has been removed, the building remains standing at 15812 Esquire Court.¹⁶

The population of Derwood remained limited as the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad estimated between 72 and 225 residents between 1905 and 1928.¹⁷ In 1912, the Potomac Electric Power Company provided electricity to Derwood and other communities along the MET between Rockville and Gaithersburg.¹⁸ The following year, the Derwood Flour Mill (then owned by Joseph Mullinix who had just refinished the building) burned to the ground. The residents were forced to call assistance from Engine Company 24, Washington, D.C., to extinguish the fire and protect neighboring businesses and homes. The Derwood Mill, however, was rebuilt as shown in later photographs (App. 6, Fig. 6).

By the 1950s, Derwood consisted of approximately 35 buildings (App. 2, Fig. 7). While passenger service waned on the MET, freight traffic continued to transfer goods and products.¹⁹ The Derwood Mill and its associated railroad siding sustained the retention of Derwood as a passenger and freight stop on the MET. On June 7, 1954, the Derwood Mill, however, suffered a fire that led to a total forfeiture. Richard T. Schwartz, the owner of the subject Derwood Store, reported a loss of \$400,000 in property and \$750,000 reinvestment to rebuild the Derwood Mill. In addition, the fire destroyed the Derwood Station.²⁰ Neither the Derwood Mill nor Derwood Station were rebuilt and all train service ceased at this location.

In 1966, the Post Office vacated the Derwood Store and shifted to its present location at Redland and Muncaster Mill Roads by 1974.²¹ In 1982, Derwood Development re-subdivided Block 3 of Derwood into eight lots on a new cul-de-sac on Yellowstone Way and constructed the dwellings ca. 1984.²² The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) opened the nearby Shady Grove metro station on December 15, 1984. The construction of the METRO (which shared the right-of-way with the MET) stopped traffic across the line, terminated present-day Chieftain Avenue at its intersection with Derwood Road, and altered the circulation network of the community (App. 5, Fig. 4). In the early 1990s, Derwood Industrial Limited Partnership built the Derwood Business Center (15904-15906 Derwood Road), an industrial and office building. Developers continue to build townhouses nearby.

¹⁶ "Church Dedication," *Baltimore Sun*, July 27, 1896, ProQuest.

¹⁷ Jo Seymour, "Short History of Derwood," in *Derwood Days, April 26-May 4, 1986*, Montgomery County Historical Society.

¹⁸ "Rockville and County News Items and Notes," *Evening Star*, October 27, 1912, Newsbank.

¹⁹ Herbert H. Harwood, *Impossible Challenge* (Baltimore, MD: Barnard, Roberts & Co., 1979), 291-297.

²⁰ "County Mill Razed by \$750,000 Fire," *Washington Post*, June 8, 1954, ProQuest.

²¹ Records are inconsistent regarding the date the Post Office vacated the Derwood Store. The Postal Service records and newspaper accounts state that the Derwood Post Office at the Derwood Store and Warehouse closed in 1966, but historians have noted that the present-day location was not built until 1974. "Post Office Closing Move Stirs Derwood," *The News*, August 21, 1965, Newspapers.com.

²² "Derwood," November 18, 1982, Montgomery County Index of Plats.

Historic Context: History and Ownership of the Derwood Store and Post Office (Chain of Title, App. 9)

Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson, 1895-1912

Clarence Hoskinson was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, in 1869. He is the son of Hilleary and Elizabeth Hoskinson. His parents owned and operated a tavern near the Brighton Post Office.²³ Ten years later, Hilleary Hoskinson is noted as a grocer and farm owner.²⁴ After the death of his father in 1894, Hoskinson moved from Darnestown to Derwood. On February 15, 1895, *The News* (Frederick, Maryland) noted that Hoskinson had a “flourishing business” over his past year in Derwood.²⁵

To expand his mercantile business, Hoskinson acquired the subject property from William E. and Emma Earnshaw on August 17, 1895, for \$110.²⁶ The cost of the property, newspaper records, and tax assessment records suggest limited improvements or buildings at the time of purchase. It is not known how Hoskinson utilized this site prior to the construction of the subject building.

Hoskinson married Elizabeth Farmer in 1899.²⁷ Elizabeth was the daughter of James Monroe and Eudora (nee Brown) Farmer of Culpepper, Virginia.²⁸ The couple had at least three children: Helen, Henry, and Virginia. The Hoskinsons built their extant dwelling at 15919 Chieftain Avenue ca. 1903 (App. 6, Fig 1) and the subject general store the following year.²⁹ The two-story, front-gable general store reflected typical vernacular architecture at the turn of the century. Independently operated post offices were often located within such commercial buildings. The Postal Service appointed Hoskinson postmaster in 1905, which is when the post office moved to the subject building.³⁰ In 1910, Watts R. Farmer, the brother of Elizabeth, served as a clerk at the store, and Nora Maddox, a 15-year-old white domestic servant, lived with the family.³¹

On November 1, 1912, the Hoskinsons sold their house, subject store, and merchant business to Ulysses S. Walters for \$12,500 and moved towards other professional ventures.³² Clarence was a prominent figure in the region and served as the purchasing agent for the Montgomery County Farm Bureau Supply Company of Rockville, Maryland, President of the Rockville Rotary Club, and later President of the First National Bank of Gaithersburg. Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson died in 1932 and 1961, respectively, and are buried at Oak Hill Cemetery, Washington, D.C.³³

²³ Hoskinson was the youngest of four children: George (11), Helen (10), and Levin (4). “Clarence Hoskinson,” 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

²⁴ Hoskinson is listed as attending school and had three younger siblings: Florence (8), Bruce, (5), and Harrie (2). “Clarence Hoskinson,” 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

²⁵ “Derwood,” *The News*, February 16, 1895, Newspapers.com.

²⁶ Montgomery County Land Records, “William and Emma Earnshaw to Clarence Hoskinson,” (August 17, 1895), Liber JA 49, Folio 471-472.

²⁷ “Marriage Licenses,” *Evening Star*, December 12, 1899, Newspapers.com.

²⁸ “Jas. M. Farmer,” 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

²⁹ Tax assessment records show an improvement value of \$150 and \$1,150 in 1903 and 1904, respectively. Maryland State Archives, Montgomery County, Assessment and Taxation, T22 1-19, 1896-1906.

³⁰ The *Washington Post* reported that the Postal Service appointed Hoskinson as postmaster in 1894, but the Postal Service records do not correspond. Post Office Department. “Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971.” National Archives.

³¹ “Elizabeth Hoskinson,” 1910 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

³² Montgomery County Land Records, “Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson to Ulysses S. Walters,” November 1, 1912, Liber JLB 230, Folio 313-315.

³³ “Clarence Hoskinson, 63, Bank Head, is Dead,” *Washington Post*, February 15, 1932, Proquest.

Ulysses S. and Hattie L. (nee Febrey) Walters, 1912-1914

Ulysses (August 7, 1863 – March 16, 1933) and Hattie (December 15, 1867 – October 29, 1957) Walters owned the Derwood Store and Post Office for a short period of time. Married in 1888, the couple had resided primarily in Fairfax, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.³⁴ Walters operated a dairy business under the tradename “Walters & Watson Dairy” in the District of Columbia. A year before purchasing the Derwood Store, he dissolved the business and transferred his stake to his then partner Henry T. Watson.³⁵

After acquiring the store from Hoskinson, Walters opened the store with George D. Walters, his son, under the firm name U.S. Walters & Son.³⁶ George received an appointment as postmaster on August 16, 1913. For reasons unknown, the following year, the Walters family sold all of the Derwood property including the subject store and business to John Welsh for \$14,250.³⁷ The *Washington Post* noted that the Walters family returned to Virginia.³⁸

John Lee Welsh, Florence Gertrude (nee Day) Welsh, Margaret (nee Bean) Welsh, and Elijah T. Bean 1914-1941

John and Florence Welsh married in Avery, Montgomery County, Maryland, in March 1899, and had six children.³⁹ Before moving to Derwood, the Welshs lived in Laytonsville, Montgomery County, Maryland, and operated a general store. The family purchased the Derwood Store and Post Office from the Walters family on July 28, 1914.⁴⁰ John Welsh was appointed postmaster of Derwood on April 5, 1915.⁴¹ The United States Federal Census listed Welsh as a merchant of grain and general merchandise.⁴²

The Welsh family soon experienced a tremendous amount of turmoil in their family and business affairs. Florence Welsh died in February 1917.⁴³ John later married Margaret L. Bean in April 1919.⁴⁴ Two years later, on November 27, 1921, John Welsh died and Margaret (nee Bean) Welsh and her brother Elijah T. Bean acquired the subject store and property after legal proceedings.⁴⁵ Margaret Welsh was appointed postmaster and served in the position for over a decade (1922-1933).⁴⁶ In 1941,

³⁴ In 1910, the Walters rented a farm in Fairfax, Virginia, with their four children: George Douglas (19), Pearl (15), and Milton (8). “Ulysses S. Walters,” 1910 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

³⁵ “Notice,” *Washington Times*, September 18, 1911, Newspapers.com.

³⁶ George Walters also acquired the Derwood Mill on April 18, 1914. Montgomery County Land Records, “Joseph and Eva Mullinix to Walter W. Mobley and George D. Walters,” April 18, 1914, Liber JLB 242, Folio 49-50.

³⁷ Montgomery County Land Records, “Ulysses S. Walters, Hattie L. Walters, and George D. Walters to John L. Welsh,” July 28, 1914, Liber JLB 246, Folio 48-50.

³⁸ *Washington Post*, July 12, 1914, Proquest.

³⁹ “Avery,” *The News*, March 29, 1899, Newspapers.com.

⁴⁰ John Welsh acquired George Walters interest in the Derwood Mill on September 4, 1919. Montgomery County Land Records, “George D. Walters to John L. Welsh,” September 24, 1914, Liber JLB 246, Folio 224.

⁴¹ Post Office Department, “Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971,” National Archives.

⁴² “John Welsh,” 1920 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

⁴³ “News of Rockville,” *Evening Star*, February 23, 1917, Newspapers.com

⁴⁴ Born in 1876, Margaret was the daughter of Cornelius and Lucinda Bean, farmers near Derwood. “Rockville and County,” *The News*, May 3, 1919, Newspapers.com.

⁴⁵ Montgomery County Land Records, “Otho H.W. Talbott and Albert M. Bouic to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland,” (February 18, 1924), Liber PRB 344, Folio 152; Montgomery County Land Records, “Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland, to Margaret E. Welsh and Elijah T. Bean,” April 7, 1925, Liber PBR 372, Folio 467.

⁴⁶ Post Office Department, “Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971,” National Archives.

Montgomery County National Bank foreclosed on the property after the siblings defaulted on the mortgage.⁴⁷

Richard T. Schwartz and Harry P. Arnold, 1941-1979

Richard Schwartz and Harry Arnold were active businessmen and residents in the Derwood community. Schwartz and Arnold had purchased the adjacent Derwood Mill in 1925, more than 15 years before acquiring the Derwood Store and Post Office.⁴⁸ Both men were born in Pennsylvania in 1899 and 1897, respectively. Schwartz attended the Williamson Trade School and graduated from Pennsylvania State College.⁴⁹ Arnold was born in Pennsylvania in 1897 and served in World War I.⁵⁰

Schwartz married Mary Senft Menges on July 3, 1931.⁵¹ Mary Menges, born in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1898, was a school teacher and secretary to Congressman Franklin Menges, her father.⁵² The couple resided in Derwood and purchased the former Hoskinson dwelling at 15919 Chieftain Avenue.

On July 23, 1941, Schwartz and Arnold purchased the Derwood Store from Margaret Welsh and her brother Elijah Bean following bankruptcy proceedings.⁵³ Between 1941 and 1953, the owners likely converted the store to an apartment complex and built the rear addition.⁵⁴ In 1953, Frank Sartwell of the *Evening Star* stated the Derwood Post Office was slated for potential closure. He noted the following:

Mrs. Lucille Grogg, a housewife who lives in the apartment building in which the post office is located, is acting postmaster. Stamp sales last year totaled \$2,262.75. Mrs. Grogg lists 1,0003 families that get rural free delivery from the Derwood office.

In addition to the building being described as an apartment, a photograph of the subject store showed the extant asbestos shingle siding and likely entry to the post office on the south elevation of the enclosed porch (App. 5, Fig. 3). At that time, the Postal Service decided to retain the Derwood Post Office in this location.⁵⁵

The following year, a fire that originated at the Derwood Mill burned the complex, two trucks and a car, a freight car on the railroad siding, and the adjacent train station. Schwartz and Arnold lost 300

⁴⁷ Montgomery County Land Records, "Elijah T. Bean and Margaret E. Welsh to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (May 4, 1925), Liber PBR 373, Folio 116; Montgomery County Land Records, "Elijah T. Bean and Margaret E. Welsh to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (May 4, 1925), Liber PBR 373, Folio 116; Montgomery County Land Records, "Robert Peter, Jr., Attorney to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (July 17, 1941), Liber CKW 839, Folio 359.

⁴⁸ "County Mill Razed by \$750,000 Fire," *Washington Post*, June 8, 1954, ProQuest.

⁴⁹ "Miss Mary Menges is Wed," *Baltimore Sun*, July 3, 1931, ProQuest.

⁵⁰ In 1930, Schwartz and Arnold lived together and operated the mill in Derwood. Advertisements during their ownership listed various products but primarily animal feed. "Richard Schwartz," 1930 United States Federal Census, Ancestry; "Harry Peter Arnold," *WWII Draft Registration Card for Maryland*, Fold3; "Arnold, Harry P.," Pennsylvania, WWI Veterans and Compensation Files, Ancestry; "Chicks Live," *Evening Star*, April 22, 1938, Newspapers.com; "Advertisement," *Evening Star*, January 31, 1954, Newspapers.com.

⁵¹ "Richard T. Schwartz," Find A Grave Index, Ancestry.

⁵² "Miss Mary Menges is Wed," *Baltimore Sun*, July 3, 1931, ProQuest.

⁵³ Montgomery County Land Records, "Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland to Harry Arnold and Richard T. Schwartz," (July 23, 1941), Liber 1512, Folio 38.

⁵⁴ While the alterations to the store could have occurred prior to their ownership, oral histories documented as part of former research efforts support that Schwartz and Arnold converted the store to apartment units.

⁵⁵ "Group Will Meet with Hyde on Fate of 3 Post Offices," *Evening Star*, September 21, 1952, NewsBank.

tons of grain and feed and estimated that it would cost \$750,000 to rebuild the facility.⁵⁶ The owners, however, never rebuilt the mill.

The Postal Service discontinued the location of the Derwood Post Office in the subject building effective January 14, 1966.⁵⁷ Photographs from this era show the same fenestration and design evident today absent the loss of the windows, doors, stair on the south elevation accessing the rear addition, and wood picket fence enclosing the rear yard (App. 5, Fig. 4). The Derwood Store continued to be utilized as an apartment complex until its abandonment in the 1970s.

Arnold died on March 14, 1971, in Broward, Florida.⁵⁸ Schwartz and Margaret Dougherty (relationship unknown) sold the Derwood Store to Paul Millonig and Edwin Heine on June 14, 1979.⁵⁹ Richard T. Schwartz and Mary M. Schwartz died in 1987 and 1988, respectively, and are buried in Laytonsville United Methodist Cemetery, in Montgomery County, Maryland.⁶⁰

Recent Ownership of the Derwood Store

The date that tenants vacated the building is unknown, but this likely occurred by the 1980s. The Millonig Corporation conveyed the property to Joao Morgado in 2001. Morgado stored construction supplies in the building before the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs issued a condemnation notice in 2003. He sold the property to the present-day owner in 2005 and it has remained vacant.⁶¹

Historic Context: Front-Gable General Merchandise Stores

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, general merchandise stores were important buildings within small-towns and rural areas. The store, often located at a transportation crossroads, served as the center for social activity and service.⁶² The business represented the endpoint of the distribution of products within the local economy and their importance often were augmented by the presence of a post office. Such places became meeting places and centers for community discussions and everyday sharing of information. In addition, the owner of the general store frequently served as post master. Prior to 1896, farmers throughout the country were required to pick up their mail from the post office, which further heightened the importance of such businesses.

General stores were primarily one to two stories, front-gable vernacular buildings. These stores featured a simple design that housed the business on the first story and living space (often for the owner) or public space on the second story. The wood-frame buildings typically consisted of clapboard siding, a central entrance flanked by display windows on the first story, traditional double-hung windows on the second story, and a porch roof to cover the entrance and products. Windows on the side elevations of the first story were less symmetrical due to the internal floorplan that required

⁵⁶ "County Mill Razed by \$750,000 Fire," *Washington Post*, June 8, 1954, ProQuest.

⁵⁷ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁵⁸ "Arnold," *Fort Lauderdale News*, March 15, 1971, Newspapers.com.

⁵⁹ Montgomery County Land Records, "Richard Schwartz and Margaret Dougherty to Paul Millonig and Edward Heine," (June 14, 1979), Liber 5339, Folio 623.

⁶⁰ "Richard T. Schwartz," Find A Grave Index, Ancestry; "Richard Schwartz," Social Security Death Index, Ancestry; "Mary M. Schwartz," Social Security Death Index, Ancestry.

⁶¹ Department of Assessments & Taxation, "15911 Redland Road," Real Property Data Search.

⁶² Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular: Buildings and Interiors* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2009), 236.

shelving for the business. Owners limited ornamentation to narrow corner boards and brackets in the gable end. The businesses often placed a signboard on the façade to advertise the name of the store.⁶³

Examples of general stores listed in the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation* in Montgomery County include the: 1) Seneca General Store, Seneca (#17/62); 2) Warfel Store, Sellman (#12/14-3); 3) Cedar Grove Store, Cedar Grove (#14/27); 4) Darby Store, Beallsville (#17/01); and 5) Wilson Store, Clarksburg (#13/10). Similar to the Derwood Store and Post Office, all of the commercial buildings express the same general design principles (two-story, front-gable building) and location near a significant transportation corridor or crossroads (App. 7, Fig. 1-6)

Historic Context: Women Postmasters

The Derwood Store and its inclusion of a post office from ca. 1905 to 1966 reflects women's role as postmasters in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Derwood Post Office had 18 postmasters. Three of the 18 postmasters were women and newspaper records suggest additional women served as acting postmasters or clerks.⁶⁴ The recorded women postmasters were: Mary C. Watkins (1885-1887), Mary E. Matthews/Mullican (1893-1897), and Margaret B. Welsh (1922-1933).⁶⁵

Women frequently were appointed postmasters of rural post offices, with their number increasing in the last quarter of the 1800s.⁶⁶ By the end of the century, 113 women postmasters managed Maryland post offices and about 10 percent of the 70,000 post offices in the country.⁶⁷ In 1893, historian Marshall Henry Cushing stated the following regarding women postmasters:

A whole book could be written about the many admirable women who work away with all their tact and business prudence, and with a loyalty sometimes more loyal than a man's, trying to please their patrons and the Department alike, and pleasing both because they try. Sometimes they are popular and successful politicians in their way. Sometimes that are the most important persons in their towns.... They deserve to be known outside of their own localities.⁶⁸

Women postmasters, like other female government and private employees, faced discrimination, unfair treatment, and a lack of pay parity. At the turn of the twentieth century, written statements were required from female postal clerks regarding their marital status and an employee who changed her name by marriage would not be reappointed.⁶⁹ These policies discouraged married women from appointment to the positions and left ambitious women with difficult decisions regarding their

⁶³ Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular: Buildings and Interiors* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2009), 233-236.

⁶⁴ The *Baltimore Sun* reported that Mrs. Agnes Spurling (nee Hadlock), was reappointed Postmaster of Derwood, Montgomery County, in 1887. The *Evening Star* stated that Mrs. Lucille Grogg served as acting postmaster in 1953. Frank Sartwell, Jr., "Rural Post Office Threatened; Will Cracker Barrels Go Next," *Evening Star*, July 26, 1953, Newsbank; "Miscellaneous," *Baltimore Sun*, October 5, 1887, Proquest.

⁶⁵ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁶⁶ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁶⁷ Marshall Henry Cushing, *Story of Our Post Office: The Greatest Government Departments in All its Phases* (Boston, Massachusetts: A.M. Thayer & Co., Publishers, 1893), 443; Jennifer Singleton, "Postal Pioneers – USPS Celebrate Women's History Month," March, 27, 2018, <http://www.uspsblog.com> (accessed April 1, 2019).

⁶⁸ Marshall Henry Cushing, *Story of Our Post Office: The Greatest Government Departments in All its Phases* (Boston, Massachusetts: A.M. Thayer & Co., Publishers, 1893), 443.

⁶⁹ Post Office Department, *Postal Laws and Regulations of the United States of America* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913), 89;

personal lives. In addition, the Postal Service failed to achieve pay parity between men and women. According to the Department of Commerce and Labor in 1909, the average annual compensation for men and women postmasters equaled \$400 and \$250, respectively.⁷⁰

I. Areas Exempt from Designation: There are no areas exempt from designation.

J. Designation Criteria:

The Derwood Store and Post Office meets Designation Criteria 1.A, 1.D, 2.A, and 2.E as listed in Section 24A-3 of the Montgomery County Ordinance.

1.A Historic and cultural significance. The historic resource has character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the county, state or nation.

The Derwood Store and Post Office is associated with: 1) the creation of railroad communities along the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad towards the end of the nineteenth century; 2) the inclusion of post offices within general merchandise stores; 3) the commercial and social importance of general merchandise stores in small towns and rural areas; and 4) Derwood's history as a manufacturing town in the early twentieth century.

1.D Historic and cultural significance. The historic resource exemplifies the cultural, economic, social, political, or historic heritage of the county and its communities.

The Derwood Store and Post Office serves as a reminder of the slowly eroding rural and manufacturing character of Derwood in the early twentieth century. In addition, the store's inclusion of a post office further augments its historic significance. Derwood had at least three women postmasters who served the community for over 17 years. The contributions of these women are not identifiable in other sites or resources within the surrounding community.

2.A Architectural and design significance. The historic resource embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction.

The Derwood Store and Post Office retains sufficient elements of its design and materials to express its period of significance as a turn of the twentieth-century general merchandise store. The vernacular two-story, front-gable form and porch are character defining elements of a rural general store. Unlike other similar stores, the Derwood Store is embellished with a stamped tin shingle roof instead of a standing-seam metal roof or asphalt shingle roof. The wood siding remains intact under the asbestos shingle and has the potential to be restored.

2.E Architectural and design significance. The historic resource represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or county due to its singular physical characteristic or landscape.

⁷⁰ Department of Commerce and Labor, *Bulletins Nos. 91-100* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office 1909), 159.

The Derwood Store and Post Office is the oldest commercial building within historic Derwood. Other commercial buildings associated with the area's manufacturing history, such as the Derwood Mill, were destroyed in the mid-twentieth century by a fire. The Hall's Store at 15833 Derwood Road was demolished in 2018. Inherent to general merchandise stores, the building continues to be located at a highly-visible intersection within the community and has become a local landmark. For these reasons, the store serves as a tangible link between the community and its past, providing a sense of continuity, orientation, and place as a former center of commercial and social activities.

K. Conclusion:

The Derwood Store and Post Office retains sufficient historic and physical integrity to convey its period of construction and historic significance. The store has integrity of location as it remains in its original location on the Metropolitan Subdivision (former Metropolitan Line of the B&O). The resource's integrity of setting is diminished due to the construction of surrounding townhouses and alteration of the rail right-of-way for the Metro line, but multiple neighboring dwellings and resources from its period of construction remain intact. The conversion of the Derwood Store and Post Office to an apartment complex diminished the resource's integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. However, the character defining features of the building remains intact. This includes the two-story, front-gable form, front porch (albeit enclosed), stamped tin-shingle roof, and wood siding. Therefore, the property is suitable for rehabilitation, restoration, and adaptive reuse as undertaken on other general stores of this period.

For these reasons, the Historic Preservation Office recommends the property be listed in the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation*.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING/GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Property Land Area: 11,580 square feet

Account Number: 00045257

District: 04

Environmental Setting Description: The Derwood Store and Post Office is located at 15911 Redland Road, Derwood, Montgomery County, Maryland. The proposed site to be listed in the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation* consists of the entirety of the Derwood Store and Post Office and 11,580 square-foot property identified as Account Number 00045257, District 04, and as shown on the accompanying map (App. 1, Fig. 1). The property is in part of Lot 1, Section 4, Derwood Subdivision.

Environmental Setting Justification: The proposed environmental setting includes all of the property associated with the historically significant general store and post office.

8. PROPERTY OWNERS

Name: CLW Real Estate Group, LLC

Address: 405 Cork Tree Lane, Rockville MD 20850

9. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: John Liebertz, Montgomery County Planning Department, Historic Preservation Specialist

Date: April 2019

10. MAJOR SOURCES CONSULTED

Ancestry.com [numerous].

Baltimore Sun [numerous].

Evening Star [numerous].

Harwood, Herbert H. *Impossible Challenge*. Baltimore, MD: Barnard, Roberts & Co., 1979.

Jane C. Sween Research Library and Special Collections, Montgomery History.

Montgomery County Land Records, <http://www.mdlandrec.net>.

Post Office Department. "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971." National Archives.

Seymour, Jo. "Short History of Derwood" in *Derwood Days, April 26-May 4, 1986*, Montgomery County Historical Society.

The News [numerous].

Washington Post [numerous].

Washington Times [numerous].

APPENDIX ONE:
ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING/GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

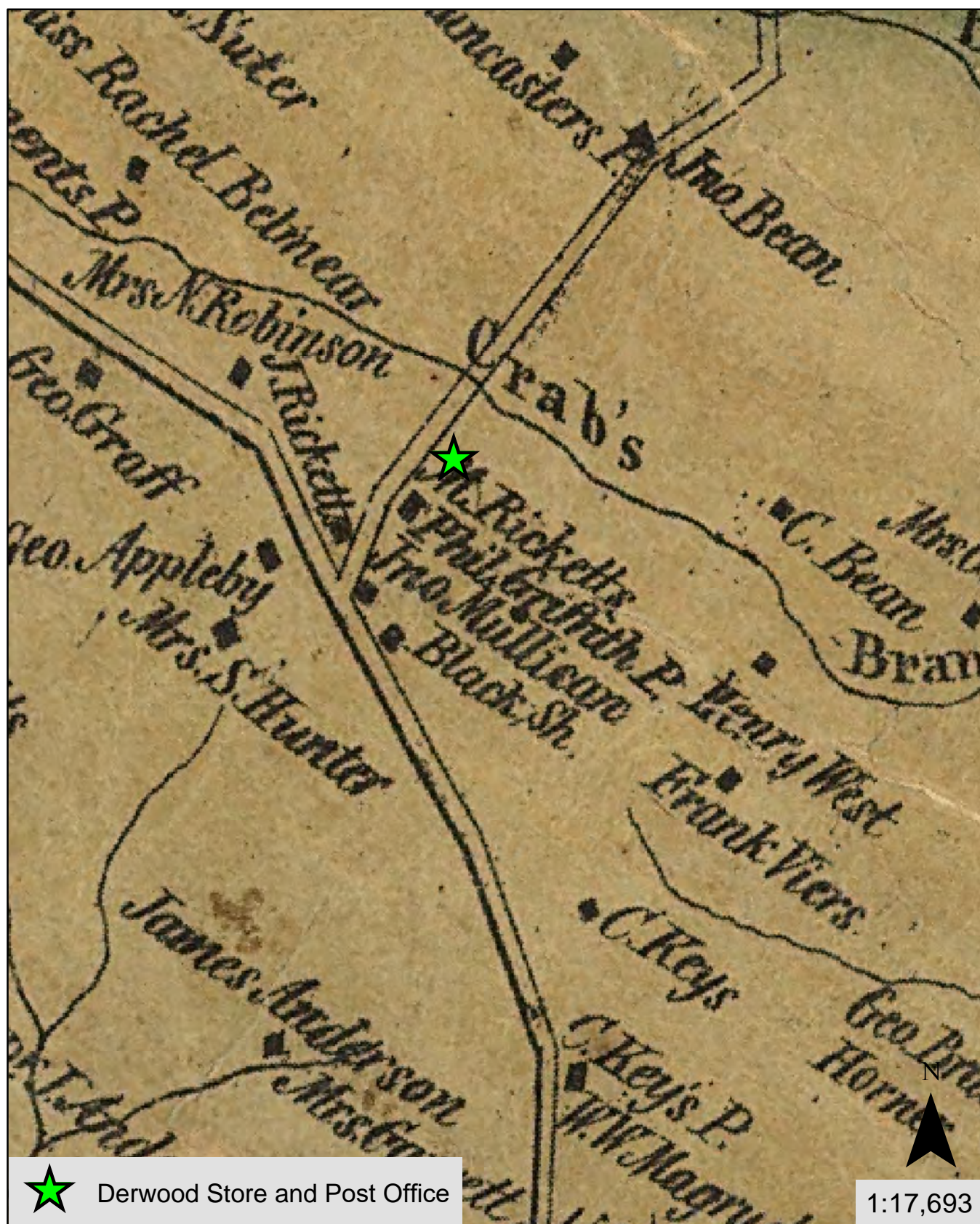
Figure 1: Environmental Setting



Source: M-NCPPC GIS.

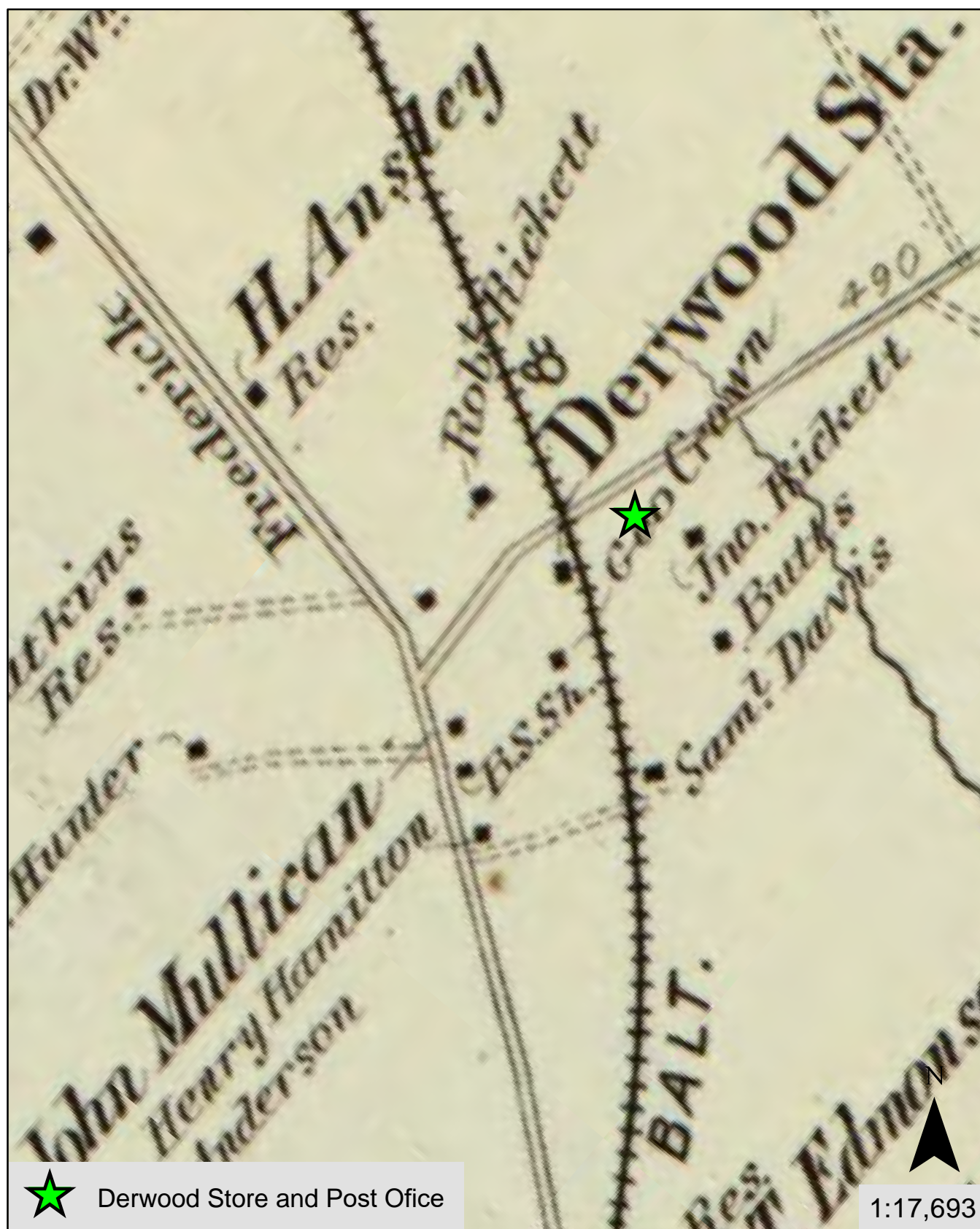
APPENDIX TWO:
CARTOGRAPHIC RECORDS

Figure 1: Map of Montgomery County, 1865.



Source: Martenet & Bond, "Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland," (Baltimore, MD: Simon J. Martenet, 1865), Library of Congress. 19

Figure 2: Rockville District No. 4, 1878.



Source: Griffith Morgan Hopkins, Jr., "Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland," (Philadelphia, PN: G.M. Hopkins, 1878), Library of Congress.

Figure 3: Plat of Derwood, 1888.

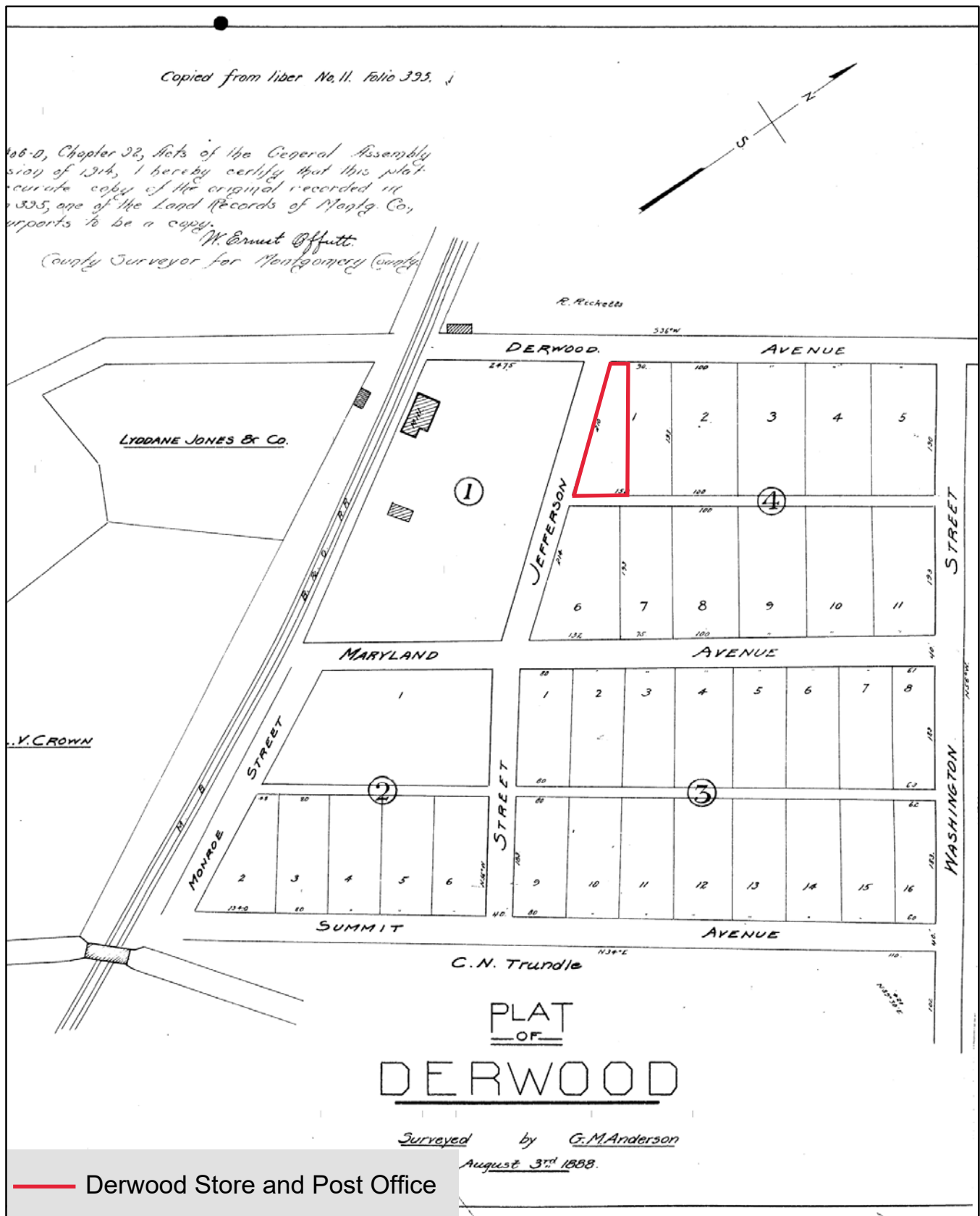
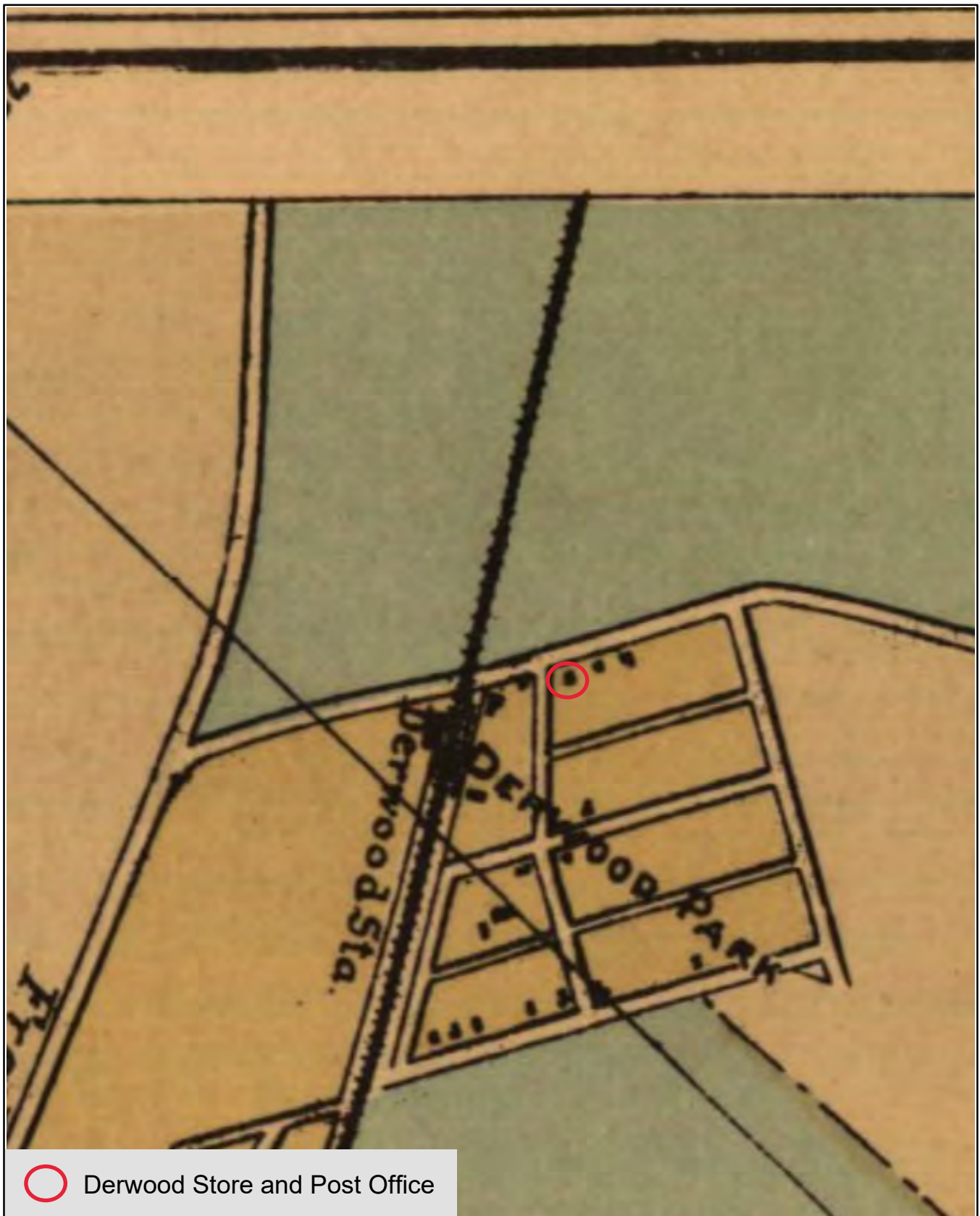
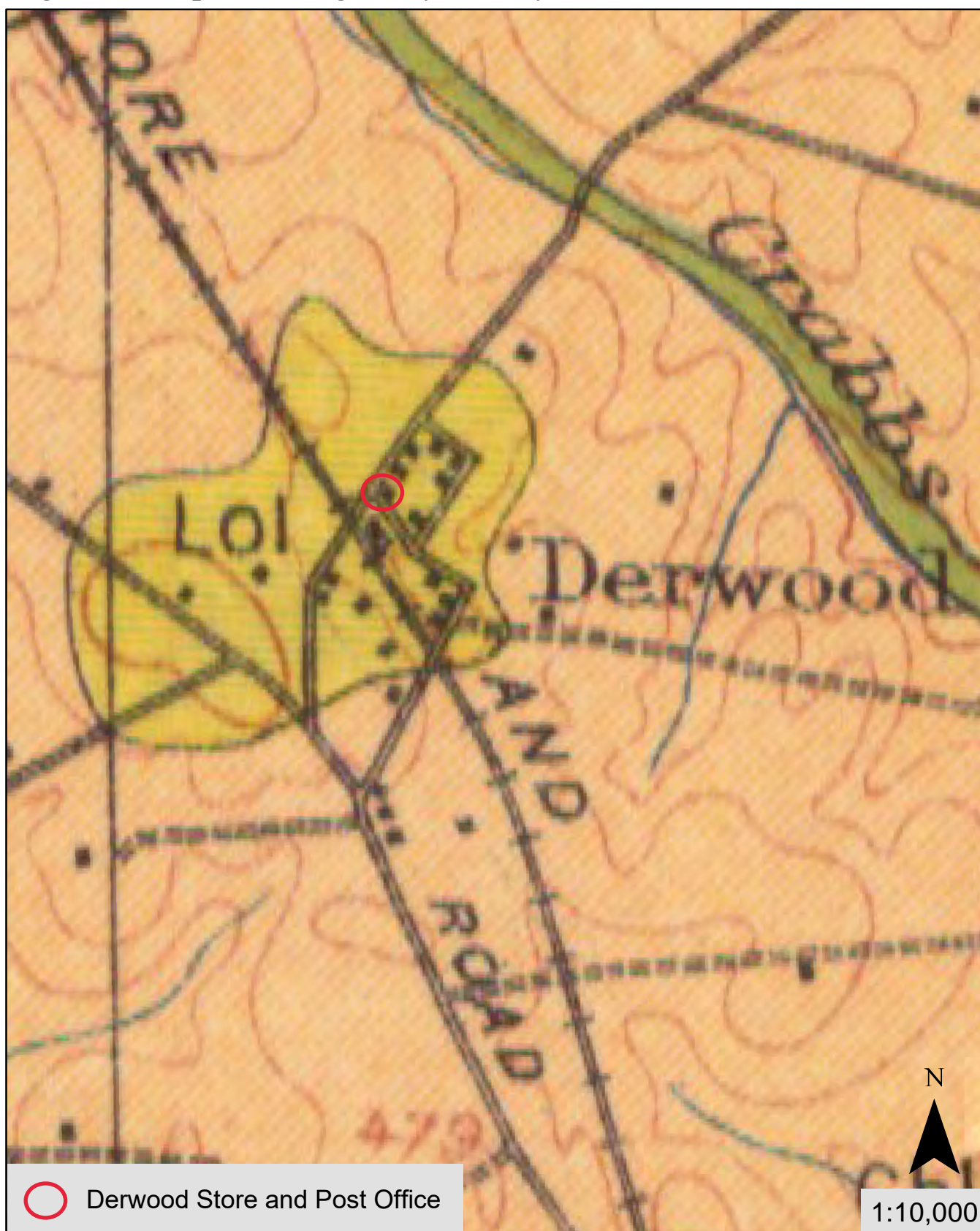


Figure 4: Real Estate Map of the Metropolitan Branch, 1890.



Source: Fava Naeff & Co., "Real estate map of the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company between Washington, D.C., and Rockville, MD., and adjacent land holdings," (Washington, D.C.: Francis R. Fava, Jr., 1890), Library of Congress.

Figure 5: Map of Montgomery County, 1916.



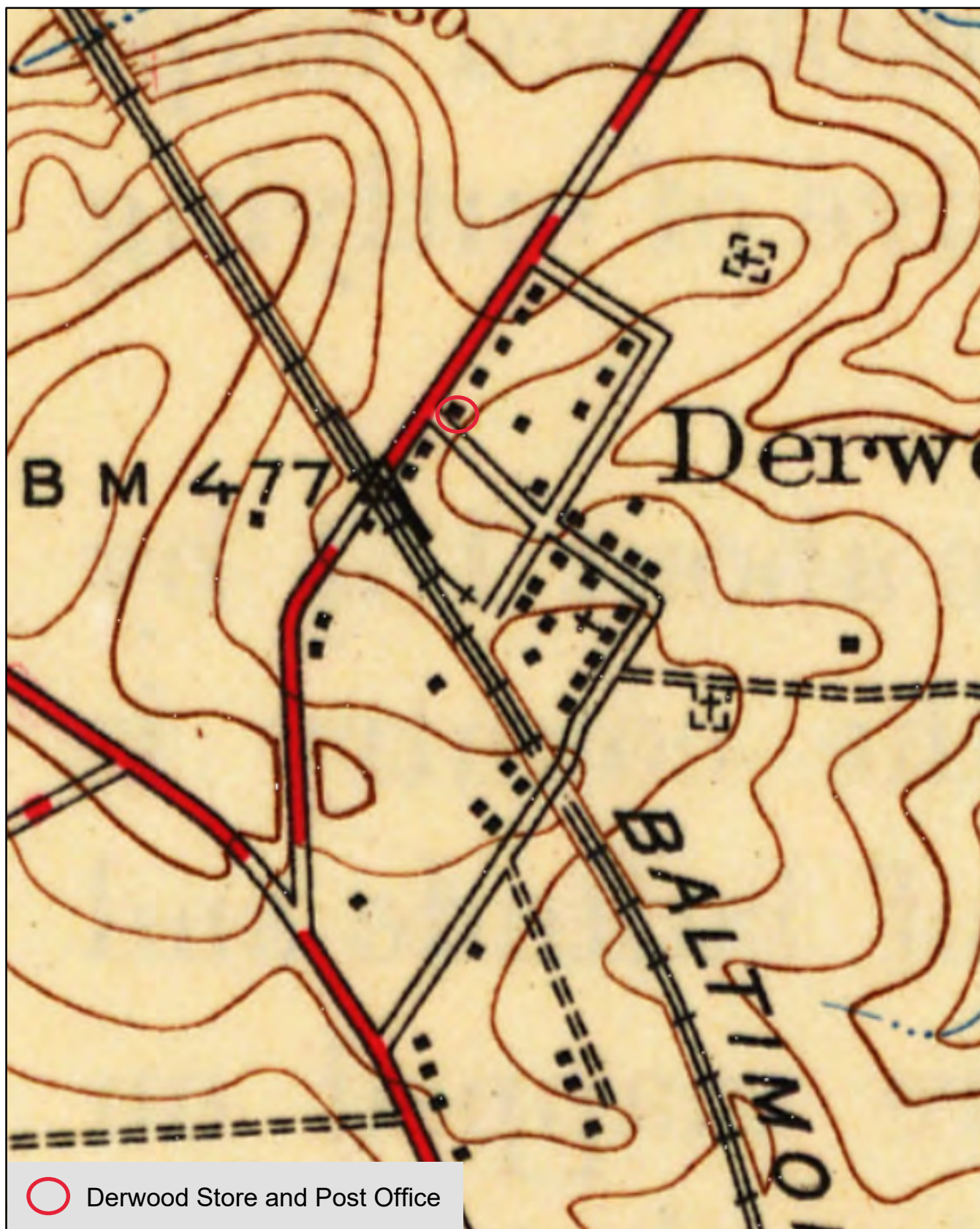
Source: William Bullock Clark, "Map of Montgomery County showing the Agricultural Soils," (Baltimore, MD: A. Hoen & Co. Lith, 1916), M-NCPPC GIS.

Figure 6: Real Estate Atlas, 1916.



Source: Edward Deets and Charles Maddox, "Real Estate of Part of Montgomery County, Maryland," (1916), Montgomery County Historical Society, Jane Sween Library.

Figure 7: Topographic Map, 1945.



Source: United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey, "Maryland-Virginia, Rockville Quadrangle," (1945), United States Geological Survey Topoview.

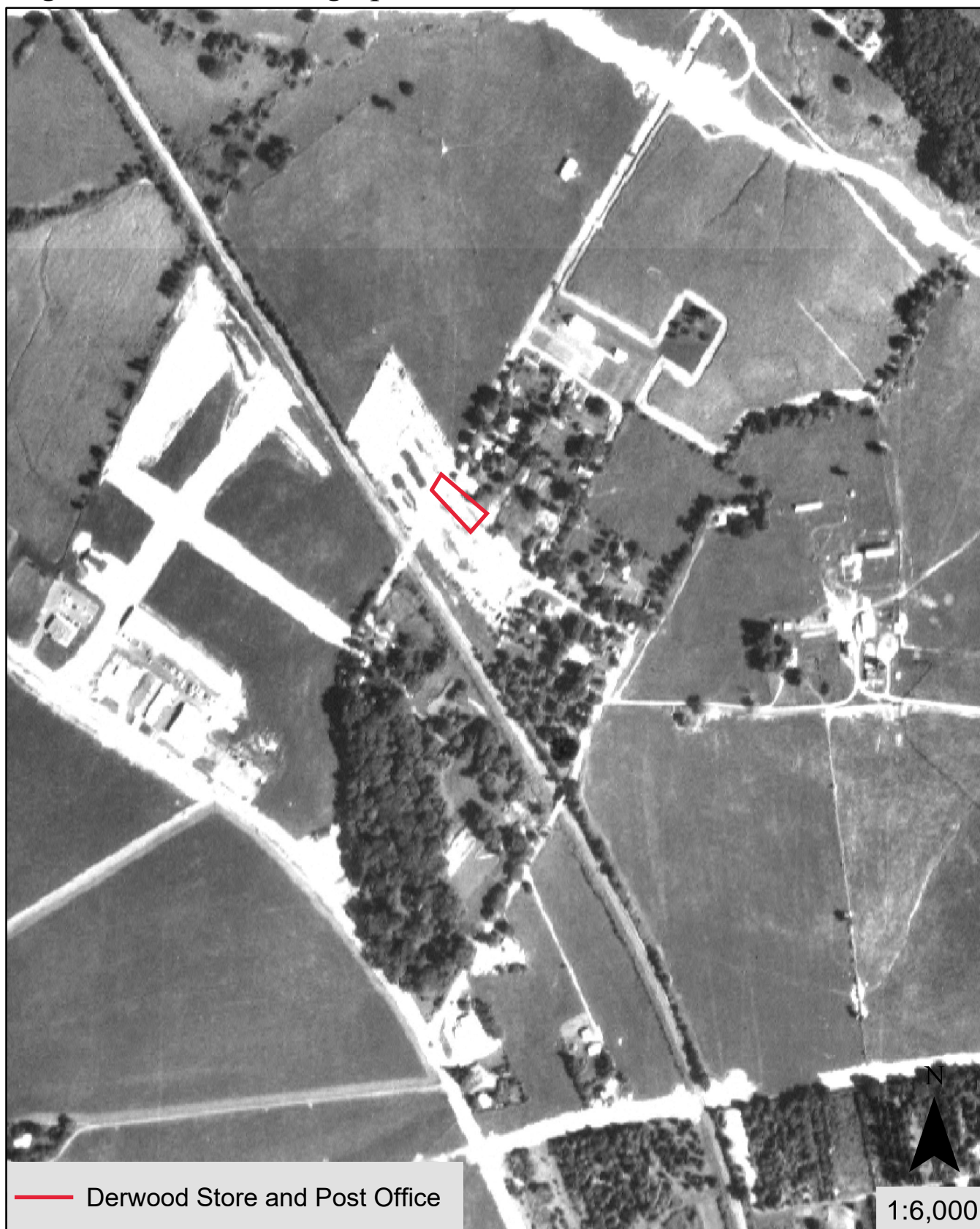
APPENDIX THREE:
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Figure 1: Aerial Photograph, 1951.



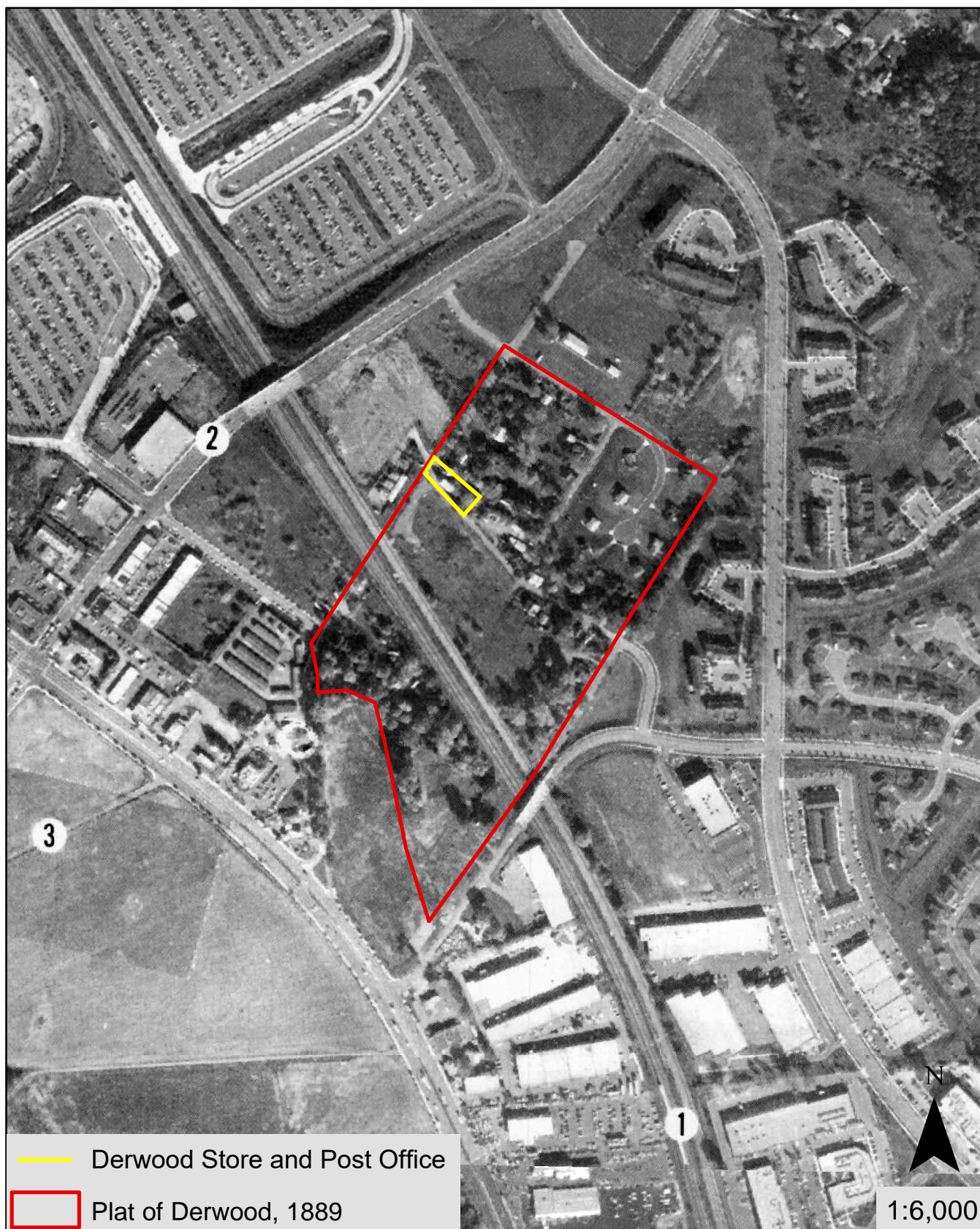
Source: M-NCPPC GIS.

Figure 2: Aerial Photograph, 1970.



Source: M-NCPPC GIS.

Figure 3: Aerial Photograph, 1986, Overlaid with the Plat of Derwood, 1889.



Source: M-NCPPC GIS.

Figure 4: Aerial Photograph, 2017, Overlaid with the Plat of Derwood, 1889.



Source: M-NCPPC GIS.

APPENDIX FOUR:
EXTERIOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DERWOOD STORE AND POST OFFICE

*All photographs taken by Historic Preservation staff, Winter 2019.



Figure 1: View of the façade (west elevation) and the north (side) elevation from Chieftain Avenue.



Figure 2: View of the façade (west elevation) and the south (side) elevation from Chieftain Avenue.



Figure 3: View of the south (side) elevation from Derwood Road. The enclosed porch is to the left, the original two-story store and warehouse is in the center, and the mid-twentieth century addition is to the east.



Figure 4: View of the south (side) and east (rear) elevation from Derwood Road.



Figure 5: View of the west (rear) elevation from the rear yard.



Figure 6: View of the east (rear) and north (side) elevations from the rear yard.



Figure 7: View of the north (side) elevation, primarily showing the two-story rear addition, looking southeast.



Figure 8: View of the north (side) elevation, primarily showing the original store and warehouse and mid-twentieth-century exterior stair, looking southwest.



Figure 9: Streetscape, showing the intersection of Chieftain Ave and Derwood Road.



Figure 10: Streetscape, looking north from the fence blocking access to the Metropolitan Subdivision (railroad tracks).



Figure 11: Detailed view of the exposed foundation.



Figure 12: Detailed view of the exposed wood siding.



Figure 13: Detailed view of the stamped tin shingle roof on the two-story store.

APPENDIX FIVE:
HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DERWOOD STORE AND POST OFFICE



Figure 1: View of Derwood, Maryland, from the West, [undated]. The red arrow points to the Derwood Store and Post Office. The photograph likely is from the early twentieth century.
Source: Montgomery History.



Figure 2: Detailed view of Derwood, Maryland, from the West [undated], compared with a present-day photograph taken near the same location (but from a slightly lower elevation). Visible is the original front porch and fenestration pattern on the south (side) elevation.
Source: Montgomery History (left photograph).

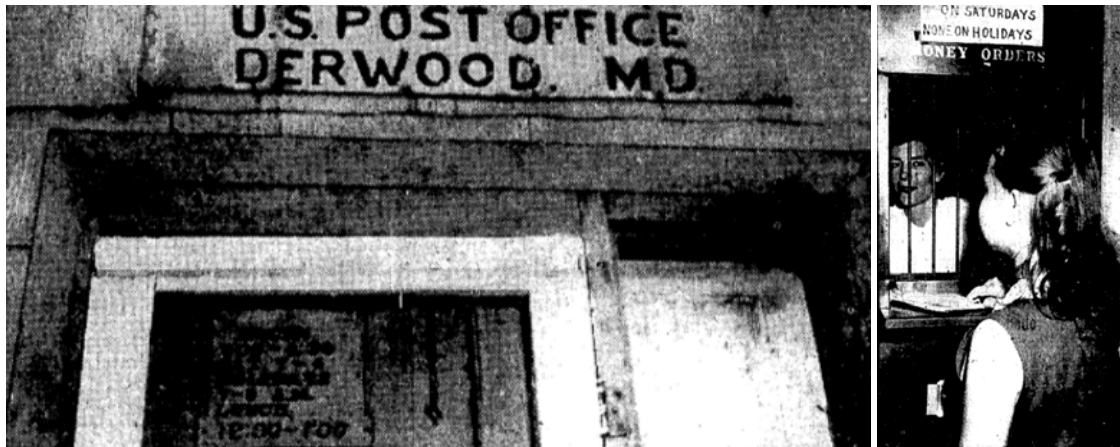


Figure 3: View of the entrance to the Derwood Post Office and interior money order window, 1953. Oral histories state that the post office was located within the enclosed front porch after remodeling of the store for apartments.



Figure 4: View of the south elevation of the Derwood Store and Post Office looking northeast from the south side of MET on present-day Chieftain Avenue, 1975. The construction of the METRO terminated present-day Chieftain Avenue at the its intersection with Derwood Road.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 5: View of the façade of the Derwood Store and Post Office, ca. 1980.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 6: View of the south (side) elevation of the Derwood Store and Post Office looking north from Derwood Avenue.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 7: View of the south (side) elevation of the Derwood Store and Post Office from the parking lot on the south side of Derwood Avenue, ca. 1980.
Source: Montgomery History.



Figure 8: View of the façade and south (side) elevation of the Derwood Store and Post Office, 2005.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 9: View of the non-historic garage in the rear property of the Derwood Store and Post Office, 2005. The property owner demolished the garage.

APPENDIX SIX:
HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF DERWOOD



Figure 1: View of the Clarence Hoskinson House, 1907. The house remains standing at 15919 Chieftain Avenue.

Source: V. MacDonald Collection, Montgomery Planning.



Figure 2: View of the Derwood Railroad Station, date unknown. The station burned in the 1954 Derwood Mill fire.

Source: Montgomery History.



Figure 3: View of Derwood Methodist Church South, date unknown.
Source: Montgomery History.



Figure 4: View of the MET looking south with the Derwood Station (right) and wood-frame outbuilding (left), taken between 1914 and 1921.
Source: B&O Railroad Museum.

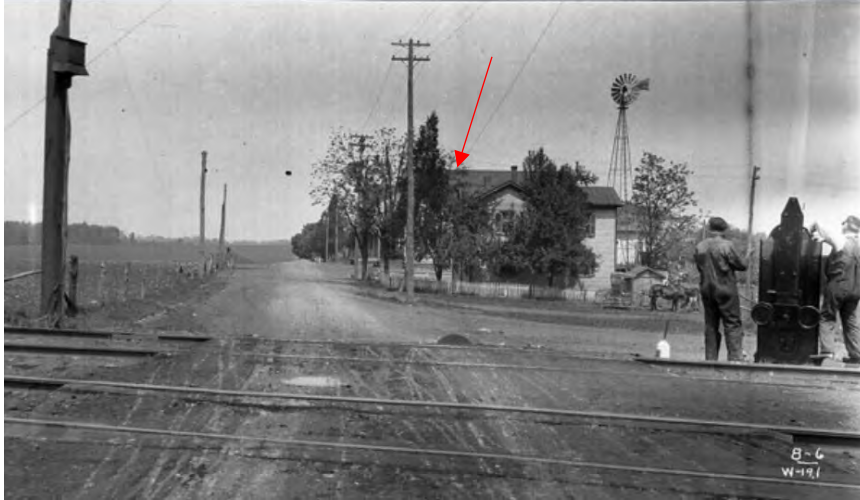


Figure 5: View of Derwood Avenue (present-day Chieftain Avenue) from the MET. The red arrow points to the roof of the Derwood Store and Post Office in the background.
Source: B&O Railroad Museum.



Figure 6: View of the Derwood Mill (right) and Derwood Station (left) from the Metropolitan Branch looking north, 1948. Both buildings burned in a 1954 fire.
Source: Lee B. Smith Collection as shown in Herbert Harwood, Jr., *Impossible Challenge: The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in Maryland*, (Baltimore, MD: Barnard, Roberts, and Company, 1979).



Figure 7: Comparative view of the former Derwood School, 15805 Paramount Drive. The photograph on the left and right are from 1929 and 2019, respectively.
Source: Montgomery History (left) and Montgomery Planning (right).



Figure 8: Comparative view of the former Derwood Baptist Church, 15812 Esquire Court. The photograph on the left and right are from the late-twentieth century and 2019, respectively. Source: Montgomery History (left) and Montgomery Planning (right).

APPENDIX SEVEN:
**EXAMPLES OF FRONT-GABLE GENERAL MERCHANDISE
STORES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**



Figure 1: View of the Darby Store, Beallsville.
Source: M-NCPPC.



Figure 2: View of the Seneca (Poole's) Store, Seneca. The building is presently being rehabilitated by Montgomery Parks.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 3: View of the Warfel Store, Sellman. The store remains vacant.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 4: View of the Cedar Grove Store, Cedar Grove. The building remains in-use as a commercial business.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 5: View of the former Wilson Store, Clarksburg. The building has been rehabilitated and remains as a commercial business.
Source: Montgomery Planning.



Figure 6: View of the Hull's Store and Post Office, Layhill. The store was demolished in 1984.
Source: Montgomery Planning.

APPENDIX EIGHT:
CHAIN OF TITLE FOR DERWOOD STORE AND POST OFFICE

Date: April 22, 2005

Grantor: Joao M. Morgado

Grantee: CLW Real Estate Group, LLC

Cost: \$305,000

Liber: MQR 29759

Folio: 697-701

Date: August 13, 2001

Grantor: Millonig Corporation

Grantee: Joao M. Morgado

Cost: \$110,000

Liber: MQR 19682

Folio: 743-745

Date: September 18, 2000

Grantor: Edwin D. Itzig Heine and Paul A. Millonig

Grantee: Millonig Corporation

Cost: \$40,000

Liber: MQR 18446

Folio: 254-255

Date: June 14, 1979

Grantor: Richard T. Schwartz and Margaret Dougherty

Grantee: Edwin D. Itzig Heine and Paul A. Millonig

Cost: \$18,000

Liber: HMS 5339

Folio: 623-624

Date: July 23, 1941

Grantor: Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland

Grantee: Richard T. Schwartz and Harry Arnold

Cost: \$10

Liber: 1512

Folio: 38-39

Date: July 17, 1941

Grantor: Robert Peter, Jr., Attorney

Grantee: Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland

Cost: \$2,000

Liber CKW 839

Folio: 359-360

Date: May 4, 1925

Grantor: Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland

Grantee: Elijah Bean and Margaret E. Welsh

Cost: \$10

Liber: PBR 372

Folio: 467-469

Date: February 18, 1924

Grantor: Otho H.W. Talbot and Albert M. Bouic (appointed trustees)

Grantee: Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland

Cost: \$10 (purchased for \$6,000 at auction)

Liber: PBR 344

Folio: 152-153

Date: July 28, 1914

Grantor: Ulysses S. Walters, Hattie L. Walters; Ulysses S. Walters and George D. Walters

Grantee: John L. Welsh

Cost: \$9,250 (minus \$5,000 to pay for the mortgage to Clarence Hoskinson)

Liber: JLB 246

Folio: 48-50

Date: November 1, 1912

Grantor: Clarence H. Hoskinson and Elizabeth Hoskinson

Grantee: Ulysses S. Walters

Cost: \$12,500

Liber: JLB

Folio: 313-315

Date: August 15, 1895

Grantor: William E. Earnshaw and Emma Earnshaw

Grantee: Clarence H. Hoskinson

Cost: \$120

Liber: JA 49

Folio: 471-472

APPENDIX NINE:
MARYLAND INVENTORY HISTORIC PROPERTIES FORM

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. 22-33-3

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Derwood Store and Post Office

other

2. Location

street and number 15911 Redland Road not for publication

city, town Derwood vicinity

county Montgomery

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

name CLW Real Estate Group

street and number 405 Coark Street Lane telephone

city, town Rockville state MD zip code 20850

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Circuit Court liber 29759 folio 697

city, town tax map GS22 tax parcel tax ID number 00045257

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	_____ Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. 22-33-3

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

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

Summary Description

The Derwood Store and Post Office is located at 15911 Redland Road (addressed to the former road) at the northeastern corner of the intersection of Chieftain Avenue and Derwood Road in Derwood, Montgomery County, Maryland. The store is sited on a trapezoid-shaped .265-acre lot (11,580 square feet) with topography that slopes downwards to the southeast corner. The property is bound by: a single-family dwelling to the north; Derwood Avenue to the south; a gravel alley and single-family dwellings to the east; and Chieftain Avenue to the west. Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson constructed the Derwood Store and Post Office circa 1895. The building consists of: 1) the original two-story (with a basement), front-gable store and front porch enclosed in the mid-twentieth century; and 2) the mid-twentieth-century two-story, full-width, gable rear addition.

Comprehensive Description

The original building rests on an uncoursed stone foundation, which is parged with concrete on the south elevation. The foundation supports a wood-frame structural system that is clad with German wood siding, later covered with asbestos shingles. Fenestration consists of non-historic, single-leaf, wood doors, and two-over-two and six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The original two-over-two windows remain on the second-story of the façade, but the rest of the original windows and shutters have been removed. All the windows have simple wood sills and surrounds. The building is capped with a front-gable roof sheathed with stamped tin shingles. The roof features a wood frieze board, molded wood cornice, and overhanging eaves. The store has an enclosed one-story front porch; the property owners enclosed and altered the porch in the mid-twentieth century.

The rear non-historic two-story addition rests on a concrete block foundation. The wood-frame structural system is clad with wood lap siding and capped with a shallow-pitched standing seam metal gable roof. A large exterior gable-end brick chimney dominates the rear elevation.

In the mid-twentieth century (likely coinciding with the construction of the addition), the owners altered the interior arrangement of the floor plan, effectively creating a three-story apartment building. While the original partially exposed basement likely served as the warehouse or storage for products, grain, and other goods, the owners altered the space to create residences. This resulted in the present-day fenestration and exterior design.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates	1895	Architect/Builder	N/A
Construction dates	ca. 1895		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Statement of Significance

The Derwood Store and Post Office reflects the growth of Montgomery County following the establishment of the Metropolitan Subdivision of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in 1873. The rail line spurred residential and commercial development as it allowed for easier access to Washington, D.C. In addition, the subject building represents the turn-of-the-twentieth-century commercial tradition of vernacular two-story, front-gable general merchandise stores in rural towns and small communities. These businesses served as the end-point of the distribution of products within the local economy and provided the community a place to share information. In addition, the store's inclusion of a post office (which operated at the location from ca. 1895 to 1966) further augments its historic significance. Derwood had at least three women postmasters who served a total of 17 years and their overall contributions to the area are not reflected in other sites. Lastly, the Derwood Store and Post Office serves as a reminder of the diminished rural and manufacturing character of the area.

Narrative: Settlement of Derwood to Present Day

Prior to the completion of the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad (MET), Derwood consisted of three dwellings and a blacksmith shop at the intersection of two roadways near Crabbs Branch, a small tributary off Rock Creek.¹ On May 25, 1873, the opening of the MET spurred residential development of new suburban communities and summer resorts near Washington, D.C., stimulated the local economy by providing farmers of perishable goods access to larger markets, and encouraged the establishment of commercial industries such as mills. Residential communities included places such as Takoma Park, Silver Spring, Forest Glen, Capitol View Park, Kensington, Washington Grove, and Garrett Park.

Derwood, located 19-miles from Washington, D.C., served primarily as a freight and manufacturing town and secondarily as a commuter station. The 1877 *Annual Report of the President and Directors of the Stockholders of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company* itemized the construction of a 10'x14' waiting shed at Derwood, but historians have noted that the railroad began scheduled stops at the community in 1875 based on published schedules.² On April 18, 1883, the Post Office opened the Derwood location and appointed Randolph Watkins as its first postmaster.³ Between 1884 and 1887, commercial development in Derwood started in earnest. Charles Bready constructed a warehouse.⁴ Lyddane, Jones & Company built a four-story, 50'x36'x51' flour mill valued at \$20,000.⁵ Other proprietors such as J. Earnshaw opened a hay and straw establishment to supply clients in Washington, D.C.⁶

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The opening of these industries prompted the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to construct a new 125' platform and station in 1887 and 1888, respectively.⁷ Noted architect Edward Francis Baldwin designed the board-and-batten, wood-frame station capped with a standing seam metal roof and accented by bargeboards and a decorative finial. Nearly identical stations were built at Linden and Hanover.⁸

Simultaneously or soon thereafter, Samuel Vance created the Derwood subdivision consisting of 33 lots. G.M. Anderson surveyed the property in August 1888 and Vance recorded the subdivision in March 1889.⁹ Clarence M. Hoskinson built the subject Derwood Store on Section 4, Lot 1, circa 1895, and the Post Service relocated the Derwood Post Office to this building.

The new train station and subdivision spurred further settlement of the small manufacturing town.¹⁰ In the 1890s, new industries continued to open and existing facilities were expanded. Dorsey Plummer constructed a general store in 1890 (which burned later that year), Earnshaw opened a corn-cannery, and newspaper articles reference a blacksmith and wheelwright shop along with other potential business ventures.¹¹ Real estate owners rebranded the area as "Derwood Park" and touted the area as "The Only Manufacturing Town on the Metropolitan Branch." The advertisement noted Derwood's picturesque qualities, cool summers, and accessibility to Washington, D.C., and highlighted its two stores, post office, creamery, cannery, grain elevator, steam flour mill, boarding-house, and congenial society.¹²

While the population of Derwood failed to meet expectations or match other nearby railroad suburbs on the MET, the community established educational, social, and religious institutions.¹³ Derwood residents established a lodge of the Order of Good Templars and successfully lobbied Montgomery County Commissioners to build a public school in 1892. Montgomery County sold the "little red schoolhouse" in 1937, but the building remains standing at 15805 Paramount Drive.¹⁴ After meeting in various temporary locations, the Baptist Mission Chapel dedicated its first church in Derwood in 1896. The wood-frame building valued at \$1,000 seated 200 congregants. While the steeple has been removed, the building remains standing at 15812 Esquire Court.¹⁵

The population of Derwood remained limited as the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad estimated between 72 and 225 residents between 1905 and 1928.¹⁶ In 1912, the Potomac Electric Power Company provided electricity to Derwood and other communities along the MET between Rockville and Gaithersburg.¹⁷ The following year, the Derwood Flour Mill (then owned by Joseph Mullinix who had just refinished the building) burned to the ground. The residents were forced to call assistance from Engine Company 24, Washington, D.C., to extinguish the fire and protect neighboring businesses and homes. The Derwood Mill, however, was rebuilt as shown in later photographs.

By the 1950s, Derwood consisted of approximately 35 buildings. While passenger service waned on the MET, freight traffic continued to transfer goods and products.¹⁸ The Derwood Mill and its associated railroad siding sustained the retention of Derwood as a passenger and freight stop on the MET. On June 7, 1954, the Derwood Mill, however, suffered a fire that led to a total forfeiture. Richard T. Schwartz, the owner of the subject Derwood Store, reported a loss of \$400,000 in property and \$750,000 reinvestment to rebuild the Derwood Mill. In addition, the fire destroyed the Derwood Station.¹⁹ Neither the Derwood Mill nor Derwood Station were rebuilt and all train service ceased at this location.

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In 1966, the Post Office vacated the Derwood Store and shifted to its present location at Redland and Muncaster Mill Roads by 1974.²⁰ In 1982, Derwood Development re-subdivided Block 3 of Derwood into eight lots on a new cul-de-sac on Yellowstone Way and constructed the dwellings ca. 1984.²¹ The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) opened the nearby Shady Grove metro station on December 15, 1984. The construction of the METRO (which shared the right-of-way with the MET) stopped traffic across the line, terminated present-day Chieftain Avenue at its intersection with Derwood Road, and altered the circulation network of the community. In the early 1990s, Derwood Industrial Limited Partnership built the Derwood Business Center (15904-15906 Derwood Road), an industrial and office building. Developers continue to build townhouses nearby.

Narrative: History and Ownership of the Derwood store and Post Office

Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson, 1895-1912

Clarence Hoskinson was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, in 1869. He is the son of Hilleary and Elizabeth Hoskinson. His parents owned and operated a tavern near the Brighton Post Office.²² Ten years later, Hilleary Hoskinson is noted as a grocer and farm owner.²³ After the death of his father in 1894, Hoskinson moved from Darnestown to Derwood. He opened a mercantile business and received an appointment as postmaster.²⁴ On February 15, 1895, *The News* (Frederick, Maryland) noted that Hoskinson had a “flourishing business” over his past year in Derwood.

To expand his mercantile business, Hoskinson acquired the subject property from William E. and Emma Earnshaw on August 17, 1895, for \$110.²⁵ The cost of the property and newspaper records suggest the site lacked any improvements or buildings at the time of purchase. In all likelihood, Hoskinson soon thereafter constructed the subject store and moved the post office to this site.²⁶ The subject two-story, front-gable general store reflected typical vernacular architecture at the turn of the century. Independently operated post offices were often located within such commercial buildings. While Hoskins built his extant dwelling at 15919 Chieftain Avenue ca. 1903, the location of his first residence in the community is unknown. He may have resided in the second story of the store prior to his marriage.

Hoskinson married Elizabeth Farmer in 1899.²⁷ Elizabeth was the daughter of James Monroe and Eudora (nee Brown) Farmer of Culpepper, Virginia.²⁸ The couple had at least three children: Helen, Henry, and Virginia. In 1910, Watts R. Farmer, the brother of Elizabeth, served as a clerk at the store, and Nora Maddox, a 15-year-old white domestic servant, lived with the family.²⁹

On November 1, 1912, the Hoskinsons sold their house, subject store, and merchant business to Ulysses S. Walters for \$12,500 and moved towards other professional ventures.³⁰ Clarence was a prominent figure in the region and served as the purchasing agent for the Montgomery County Farm Bureau Supply Company of Rockville, Maryland, President of the Rockville Rotary Club, and later President of the First National Bank of Gaithersburg. Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson died in 1932 and 1961, respectively, and are buried at Oak Hill Cemetery, Washington, D.C.³¹

Ulysses S. and Hattie L. (nee Febrey) Walters, 1912-1914

Ulysses (August 7, 1863 – March 16, 1933) and Hattie (December 15, 1867 – October 29, 1957) Walters owned the Derwood Store and Post Office for a short period of time. Married in 1888, the couple had resided primarily in Fairfax,

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Virginia, and Washington, D.C.³² Walters operated a dairy business under the tradename “Walters & Watson Dairy” in the District of Columbia. A year before purchasing the Derwood Store, he dissolved the business and transferred his stake to his then partner Henry T. Watson.³³

After acquiring the store from Hoskinson, Walters opened the store with George D. Walters, his son, under the firm name U.S. Walters & Son.³⁴ George received an appointment as postmaster on August 16, 1913. For reasons unknown, the following year, the Walters family sold all of the Derwood property including the subject store and business to John Welsh for \$14,250.³⁵ The *Washington Post* noted that the Walters family returned to Virginia.³⁶

John Lee Welsh, Florence Gertrude (nee Day) Welsh, Margaret (nee Bean) Welsh, and Elijah T. Bean 1914-1941
John and Florence Welsh married in Avery, Montgomery County, Maryland, in March 1899, and had six children.³⁷ Before moving to Derwood, the Welshs lived in Laytonsville, Montgomery County, Maryland, and operated a general store. The family purchased the Derwood Store and Post Office from the Walters family on July 28, 1914.³⁸ John Welsh was appointed postmaster of Derwood on April 5, 1915.³⁹ The United States Federal Census listed Welsh as a merchant of grain and general merchandise.⁴⁰

The Welsh family soon experienced a tremendous amount of turmoil in their family and business affairs. Florence Welsh died in February 1917.⁴¹ John later married Margaret L. Bean in April 1919.⁴² Two years later, on November 27, 1921, John Welsh died and Margaret (nee Bean) Welsh and her brother Elijah T. Bean acquired the subject store and property after legal proceedings.⁴³ Margaret Welsh was appointed postmaster and served in the position for over a decade (1922-1933).⁴⁴ In 1941, Montgomery County National Bank foreclosed on the property after the siblings defaulted on the mortgage.⁴⁵

Richard T. Schwartz and Harry P. Arnold, 1941-1979

Richard Schwartz and Harry Arnold were active businessmen and residents in the Derwood community. Schwartz and Arnold had purchased the adjacent Derwood Mill in 1925, more than 15 years before acquiring the Derwood Store and Post Office.⁴⁶ Both men were born in Pennsylvania in 1899 and 1897, respectively. Schwartz attended the Williamson Trade School and graduated from Pennsylvania State College.⁴⁷ Arnold was born in Pennsylvania in 1897 and served in World War I.⁴⁸

Schwartz married Mary Senft Menges on July 3, 1931.⁴⁹ Mary Menges, born in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1898, was a school teacher and secretary to Congressman Franklin Menges, her father.⁵⁰ The couple resided in Derwood and purchased the former Hoskinson dwelling at 15919 Chieftain Avenue.

On July 23, 1941, Schwartz and Arnold purchased the Derwood Store from Margaret Welsh and her brother Elijah Bean following bankruptcy proceedings.⁵¹ Between 1941 and 1953, the owners likely converted the store to an apartment complex and built the rear addition.⁵² In 1953, Frank Sartwell of the *Evening Star* stated the Derwood Post Office was slated for potential for closure. He noted the following:

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Mrs. Lucille Grogg, a housewife who lives in the apartment building in which the post office is located, is acting postmaster. Stamp sales last year totaled \$2,262.75. Mrs. Grogg lists 1,0003 families that get rural free delivery from the Derwood office.

In addition to the building being described as an apartment, a photograph of the subject store showed the extant asbestos shingle siding and likely entry to the post office on the south elevation of the enclosed porch. At that time, the Postal Service decided to retain the Derwood Post Office in this location.⁵³

The following year, a fire that originated at the Derwood Mill burned the complex, two trucks and a car, a freight car on the railroad siding, and the adjacent train station. Schwartz and Arnold lost 300 tons of grain and feed and estimated that it would cost \$750,000 to rebuild the facility.⁵⁴ The owners, however, never rebuilt the mill.

The Postal Service discontinued the location of the Derwood Post Office in the subject building effective January 14, 1966.⁵⁵ Photographs from this era show the same fenestration and design evident today absent the loss of the windows, doors, stair on the south elevation accessing the rear addition, and wood picket fence enclosing the rear yard. The Derwood Store continued to be utilized as an apartment complex until its abandonment in the 1970s.

Arnold died on March 14, 1971, in Broward, Florida.⁵⁶ Schwartz and Margaret Dougherty (relationship unknown) sold the Derwood Store to Paul Millonig and Edwin Heine on June 14, 1979.⁵⁷ Richard T. Schwartz and Mary M. Schwartz died in 1987 and 1988, respectively, and are buried in Laytonsville United Methodist Cemetery, in Montgomery County, Maryland.⁵⁸

Recent Ownership of the Derwood Store

The date that tenants vacated the building is unknown but this likely occurred by the 1980s. The Millonig Corporation conveyed the property to Joao Morgado in 2001. Morgado stored construction supplies in the building before the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs issued a condemnation notice in 2003. He sold the property to the present-day owner in 2005 and it has remained vacant.⁵⁹

Narrative: Front-Gable General Merchandise Stores

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, general merchandise stores were important buildings within small-towns and rural areas. The store, often located at a transportation crossroads, served as the center for social activity and service.⁶⁰ The business represented the endpoint of the distribution of products within the local economy and their importance often were augmented by the presence of a post office. Such places became meeting places and centers for community discussions and everyday sharing of information. In addition, general stores often housed early post offices and the owner frequently served as post master. Prior to 1896, farmers throughout the country were required to pick up their mail from the post office, which further heightened the importance of such businesses.

General stores were primarily one to two stories, front-gable vernacular buildings. These stores featured a simple design that housed the business on the first story and living space (often for the owner) or public space on the second story. The

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wood-frame buildings typically consisted of clapboard siding, a central entrance flanked by display windows on the first story, traditional double-hung windows on the second story, and a porch roof to cover the entrance and products. Windows on the side elevations of the first story were less symmetrical due to the internal floorplan that required shelving for the business. Owners limited ornamentation to narrow corner boards and brackets in the gable end. The businesses often placed a signboard on the façade to advertise the name of the store.⁶¹

Examples of general stores listed in the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation* in Montgomery County include the: 1) Seneca General Store, Seneca (#17/62); 2) Warfel Store, Sellman (#12/14-3); 3) Cedar Grove Store, Cedar Grove (#14/27); 4) Darby Store, Beallsville (#17/01); and 5) Wilson Store, Clarksburg (#13/10). Similar to the Derwood Store and Warehouse, all of the commercial buildings express the same general design principles (two-story, front-gable building) and location near a significant transportation corridor or crossroads.

Narrative: Women Postmasters

The Derwood Store and its inclusion of a post office from ca. 1895 to 1966 reflects women's role as postmasters in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Derwood Post Office had 18 postmasters. Three of the 18 postmasters were women and newspaper records suggest additional women served as acting postmasters or clerks.⁶² The recorded women postmasters were: Mary C. Watkins (1885-1887), Mary E. Matthews/Mullican (1893-1897), and Margaret B. Welsh (1922-1933).⁶³

Women frequently were appointed postmasters of rural post offices, with their number increasing in the last quarter of the 1800s.⁶⁴ By the end of the century, 113 women postmasters managed Maryland post offices and about 10 percent of the 70,000 post offices in the country.⁶⁵ In 1893, historian Marshall Henry Cushing stated the following regarding women postmasters:

A whole book could be written about the many admirable women who work away with all their tact and business prudence, and with a loyalty sometimes more loyal than a man's, trying to please their patrons and the Department alike, and pleasing both because they try. Sometimes they are popular and successful politicians in their way. Sometimes that are the most important persons in their towns.... They deserve to be known outside of their own localities.⁶⁶

Women postmasters, like other female government and private employees, faced discrimination, unfair treatment, and a lack of pay parity. At the turn of the twentieth century, written statements were required from female postal clerks regarding their marital status and an employee who changed her name by marriage would not be reappointed.⁶⁷ These policies discouraged married women from appointment to the positions and left ambitious women with difficult decisions regarding their personal lives. In addition, the Postal Service failed to achieve pay parity between men and women. According to the Department of Commerce and Labor in 1909, the average annual compensation for men and women postmasters equaled \$400 and \$250, respectively.⁶⁸

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Ancestry.com [numerous].

Evening Star [numerous].

Montgomery County Land Records, <http://www.mdlandrec.net>.

Post Office Department. "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971." National Archives.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>.265</u>
Acreage of historical setting	<u>.265</u>
Quadrangle name	<u>Rockville</u>

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Derwood Store and Post Office is located on a 11,580 square-foot property identified as Account Number 00045257, District 04. The parcel is in part of Lot 1, Section 4, Derwood Subdivision. The boundary includes all of the property associated with the historically significant general store and post office.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	John Liebertz		
organization	Montgomery Planning, M-NCPPC	date	April 2019
street & number	8787 Georgia Avenue	telephone	
city or town	Silver Spring	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Derwood Store and Post Office, M: 22-33

Endnotes

¹ Martenet & Bond, "Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland," (Baltimore, MD: Simon J. Martenet, 1865), Library of Congress.

² Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, *Fifty-First Annual Report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company* (Baltimore, MD: Sun Book and Job Printing Establishment, 1877), 45; Carlos Avery, "Derwood, Maryland, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Station: A Gingerbread Delight," January 29, 1986, M-NCPPC Historic Preservation Office.

³ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁴ "Montgomery Co. (MD.) News," *Evening Star*, June 28, 1884, Chronicling America.

⁵ "A Large New Flouring Mill," *Evening Star*, November 3, 1887, Newsbank; "Improvements at Derwood," *Baltimore Sun*, September 11, 1888, ProQuest.

⁶ "Rockville News," *Evening Star*, May 23, 1888, Newsbank.

⁷ Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, *Sixty-First Annual Report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company* (Baltimore, MD: Sun Book and Job Printing Establishment, 1887), 38; Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, *Sixty-Second Annual Report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company* (Baltimore, MD: Sun Book and Job Printing Establishment, 1888), 28.

⁸ Carlos P. Avery, *E. Francis Baldwin: The B&O, Baltimore, and Beyond* (Baltimore, Maryland: Baltimore Architecture Foundation, 2003): 30.

⁹ G.M. Anderson, "Plat of Derwood," August 3, 1888, Montgomery County Plat Index.

¹⁰ The *Evening Star* noted six new dwellings under construction in the town in April 1890. "Montgomery County, MD," *Evening Star*, April 4, 1890, Newsbank.

¹¹ "Real Estate Sales," *Evening Star*, August 28, 1890, Newsbank; "Real Estate Deals in Montgomery," *Evening Star*, May 9, 1890, Newsbank; *Baltimore Sun*, July 29, 1890, ProQuest; "Montgomery County News," *The News*, July 28, 1890, Newspapers.com; "Stole Tools to Crack a Safe With," *Evening Star*, May 23, 1891, Chronicling America.

¹² "Derwood Park," *Washington Herald*, May 3, 1891, Newspapers.com

¹³ The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad noted the population of Derwood to be 72 in 1905.

¹⁴ *Evening Star*, April 15, 1892, Newsbank; *Evening Star*, June 17, 1892, Newsbank; *Evening Star*, September 16, 1892, Newsbank. *Evening Star*, July 28, 1892, Newsbank; "Nine Schoolhouses Slated For Sale in Montgomery County," *Baltimore Sun*, December 2, 1937, ProQuest.

¹⁵ "Church Dedication," *Baltimore Sun*, July 27, 1896, ProQuest.

¹⁶ Jo Seymour, "Short History of Derwood," in *Derwood Days, April 26-May 4, 1986*, Montgomery County Historical Society.

¹⁷ "Rockville and County News Items and Notes," *Evening Star*, October 27, 1912, Newsbank.

¹⁸ Herbert H. Harwood, *Impossible Challenge* (Baltimore, MD: Barnard, Roberts & Co., 1979), 291-297.

¹⁹ "County Mill Razed by \$750,000 Fire," *Washington Post*, June 8, 1954, ProQuest.

²⁰ Records are inconsistent regarding the date the Post Office vacated the Derwood Store. The Postal Service records and newspaper accounts state that the Derwood Post Office at the Derwood Store and Warehouse closed in 1966, but historians have noted that the present-day location was not built until 1974. "Post Office Closing Move Stirs Derwood," *The News*, August 21, 1965, Newspapers.com.

²¹ "Derwood," November 18, 1982, Montgomery County Index of Plats.

²² Hoskinson was the youngest of four children: George (11), Helen (10), and Levin (4). "Clarence Hoskinson," 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

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²³ Hoskinson is listed as attending school and had three younger siblings: Florence (8), Bruce, (5), and Harrie (2). "Clarence Hoskinson," 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

²⁴ The *Evening Star* reported that he would move to Derwood around March 15, 1894. *Evening Star*, February 23, 1894, Newspapers.com; *Evening Star*, October 13, 1894, Newspapers.com; "Gaithersburg," *Washington Post*, October 21, 1894, Proquest.

²⁵ Montgomery County Land Records, "William and Emma Earnshaw to Clarence Hoskinson," (August 17, 1895), Liber JA 49, Folio 471-472.

²⁶ Other historians have noted that Hoskinson built the store in November 1903, but the date of construction lacks a citation. Property tax assessments that could verify the date of construction are held at the Maryland State Archives and were not reviewed as part of this research effort.

²⁷ "Marriage Licenses," *Evening Star*, December 12, 1899, Newspapers.com.

²⁸ "Jas. M. Farmer," 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

²⁹ "Elizabeth Hoskinson," 1910 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

³⁰ Montgomery County Land Records, "Clarence and Elizabeth Hoskinson to Ulysses S. Walters," November 1, 1912, Liber JLB 230, Folio 313-315.

³¹ "Clarence Hoskinson, 63, Bank Head, is Dead," *Washington Post*, February 15, 1932, Proquest.

³² In 1910, the Walters rented a farm in Fairfax, Virginia, with their four children: George Douglas (19), Pearl (15), and Milton (8). "Ulysses S. Walters," 1910 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

³³ "Notice," *Washington Times*, September 18, 1911, Newspapers.com.

³⁴ George Walters also acquired the Derwood Mill on April 18, 1914. Montgomery County Land Records, "Joseph and Eva Mullinix to Walter W. Mobley and George D. Walters," April 18, 1914, Liber JLB 242, Folio 49-50.

³⁵ Montgomery County Land Records, "Ulysses S. Walters, Hattie L. Walters, and George D. Walters to John L. Welsh," July 28, 1914, Liber JLB 246, Folio 48-50.

³⁶ *Washington Post*, July 12, 1914, Proquest.

³⁷ "Avery," *The News*, March 29, 1899, Newspapers.com.

³⁸ John Welsh acquired George Walters interest in the Derwood Mill on September 4, 1919. Montgomery County Land Records, "George D. Walters to John L. Welsh," September 24, 1914, Liber JLB 246, Folio 224.

³⁹ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁴⁰ "John Welsh," 1920 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.

⁴¹ "News of Rockville," *Evening Star*, February 23, 1917, Newspapers.com

⁴² Born in 1876, Margaret was the daughter of Cornelius and Lucinda Bean, farmers near Derwood. "Rockville and County," *The News*, May 3, 1919, Newspapers.com.

⁴³ Montgomery County Land Records, "Otho H.W. Talbott and Albert M. Bouic to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (February 18, 1924), Liber PRB 344, Folio 152; Montgomery County Land Records, "Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland, to Margaret E. Welsh and Elijah T. Bean," April 7, 1925, Liber PBR 372, Folio 467.

⁴⁴ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁴⁵ Montgomery County Land Records, "Elijah T. Bean and Margaret E. Welsh to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (May 4, 1925), Liber PBR 373, Folio 116; Montgomery County Land Records, "Elijah T. Bean and Margaret E. Welsh to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (May 4, 1925), Liber PBR 373, Folio 116; Montgomery County Land Records, "Robert Peter, Jr., Attorney to Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland," (July 17, 1941), Liber CKW 839, Folio 359.

⁴⁶ "County Mill Razed by \$750,000 Fire," *Washington Post*, June 8, 1954, ProQuest.

⁴⁷ "Miss Mary Menges is Wed," *Baltimore Sun*, July 3, 1931, ProQuest.

⁴⁸ In 1930, Schwartz and Arnold lived together and operated the mill in Derwood.⁴⁸ Advertisements during their ownership listed

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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various products but primarily animal feed. "Richard Schwartz," 1930 United States Federal Census, Ancestry; "Harry Peter Arnold," *WWII Draft Registration Card for Maryland*, Fold3; "Arnold, Harry P.," Pennsylvania, WWI Veterans and Compensation Files, Ancestry; "Chicks Live," *Evening Star*, April 22, 1938, Newspapers.com; "Advertisement," *Evening Star*, January 31, 1954, Newspapers.com.

⁴⁹ "Richard T. Schwartz," Find A Grave Index, Ancestry.

⁵⁰ "Miss Mary Menges is Wed," *Baltimore Sun*, July 3, 1931, ProQuest.

⁵¹ Montgomery County Land Records, "Montgomery County National Bank of Rockville, Maryland to Harry Arnold and Richard T. Schwartz," (July 23, 1941), Liber 1512, Folio 38.

⁵² While the alterations to the store could have occurred prior to their ownership, oral histories documented as part of former research efforts support that Schwartz and Arnold converted the store to apartment units.

⁵³ "Group Will Meet with Hyde on Fate of 3 Post Offices," *Evening Star*, September 21, 1952, NewsBank.

⁵⁴ "County Mill Razed by \$750,000 Fire," *Washington Post*, June 8, 1954, ProQuest.

⁵⁵ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁵⁶ "Arnold," *Fort Lauderdale News*, March 15, 1971, Newspapers.com.

⁵⁷ Montgomery County Land Records, "Richard Schwartz and Margaret Dougherty to Paul Millonig and Edward Heine," (June 14, 1979), Liber 5339, Folio 623.

⁵⁸ "Richard T. Schwartz," Find A Grave Index, Ancestry; "Richard Schwartz," Social Security Death Index, Ancestry; "Mary M. Schwartz," Social Security Death Index, Ancestry.

⁵⁹ Department of Assessments & Taxation, "15911 Redland Road," Real Property Data Search.

⁶⁰ Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular: Buildings and Interiors* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2009), 236.

⁶¹ Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular: Buildings and Interiors* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2009), 233-236.

⁶² The *Baltimore Sun* reported that Mrs. Agnes Spurling (nee Hadlock), was reappointed Postmaster of Derwood, Montgomery County, in 1887. The *Evening Star* stated that Mrs. Lucille Grogg served as acting postmaster in 1953. Frank Sartwell, Jr., "Rural Post Office Threatened; Will Cracker Barrels Go Next," *Evening Star*, July 26, 1953, Newsbank; "Miscellaneous," *Baltimore Sun*, October 5, 1887, Proquest.

⁶³ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

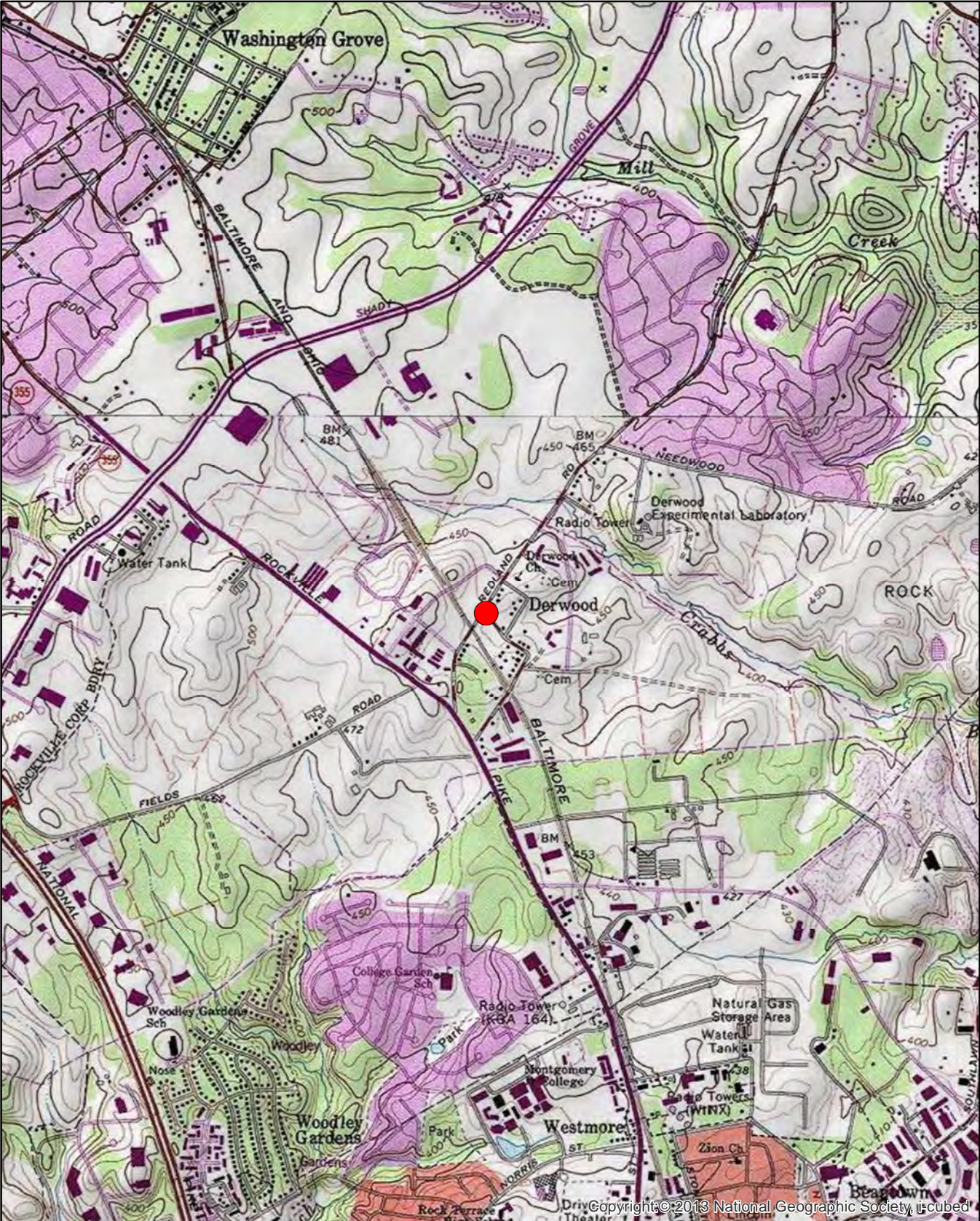
⁶⁴ Post Office Department, "Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971," National Archives.

⁶⁵ Marshall Henry Cushing, *Story of Our Post Office: The Greatest Government Departments in All its Phases* (Boston, Massachusetts: A.M. Thayer & Co., Publishers, 1893), 443; Jennifer Singleton, "Postal Pioneers – USPS Celebrate Women's History Month," March, 27, 2018, <http://www.uspsblog.com> (accessed April 1, 2019).

⁶⁶ Marshall Henry Cushing, *Story of Our Post Office: The Greatest Government Departments in All its Phases* (Boston, Massachusetts: A.M. Thayer & Co., Publishers, 1893), 443.

⁶⁷ Post Office Department, *Postal Laws and Regulations of the United States of America* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913), 89;

⁶⁸ Department of Commerce and Labor, *Bulletins Nos. 91-100* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office 1909), 159.



1 inch = 2,000 feet

3,600 1,800 0 3,600 Feet

Derwood Store and Post Office (M: 22-33-3)
Derwood, Montgomery County, Maryland