

CAPSULE SUMMARY

PG:68-074-05

Weinstein House/Harry's Market

4221 31st Street, Mount Rainier, MD 20712

1920

Private

The Weinstein House/Harry's Market consists of two connected early twentieth century buildings: a one-story, stucco-clad masonry store constructed c. 1920 and a two-and-one-half story, wood frame multi-unit dwelling added by 1924. The store features a saltbox roof and steel-framed display windows framing a historic wood entry door with a surviving interior bell. The attached vernacular dwelling displays American Foursquare influences, with wood siding and shingles, a full width porch, and a complex roof form with multiple dormers accommodating three apartment units.

Harry's Market is significant for its associations with commerce, community planning and development, ethnic heritage, and architecture. Operating from 1924 to 1996, it illustrates broad patterns in suburban commercial development and the decline of neighborhood groceries as supermarket chains emerged. Its membership in the District Grocery Stores (DGS) cooperative connects the property to a major regional network that provided economic and social support for independent grocers across the metropolitan area.

The site is also significant for its long association with the Weinstein family, Jewish immigrants who lived and worked in the building for more than seventy years. It exemplifies Jewish immigrant entrepreneurship and family-run commercial culture in the Washington region. Architecturally, the property is an intact example of an early mixed-use neighborhood structure, combining a corner store with a purpose-built multi-unit dwelling. The property retains moderately high integrity, with its historic location, setting, design, and workmanship still evident despite some material alterations. The property's significance is reflected in its status as a contributing resource in the Mount Rainier National Register Historic District, which was listed in 1900.