Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

CE - 145 (24)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Woodlands

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
North side of Old Post Road (Md. Route 7), 1/2 mile east of Perryville

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Perryville

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
First

STATE
Maryland

CODE
24

COUNTY
Cecil

CODE
015

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	X AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Woodlands, Inc. c/o Mrs. Joseph Coudon

STREET & NUMBER
~~Route 7~~ P.O. Box 377

CITY, TOWN
Perryville

X VICINITY OF

STATE
Maryland 21903

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Cecil County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Elkton

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CE-75

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Woodlands is located on the north side of Maryland Route 7, one-half mile east of Perryville, Maryland. The house appears to have been constructed in two principal periods. First, the original section was built circa 1810-1820; it consisted of a 2 1/2-story section, three bays in length of stuccoed stone, fronting south, and containing a hall along the east and two rooms on the west, and a 1 1/2-story north kitchen wing, two bays in length, of stuccoed masonry, extending behind the two original rooms. Second were additions in a Greek Revival mode, dating circa 1840-1850. These were: an additional two bays of stuccoed brick extending the original house to the east, with double parlors in the first story, and the addition of Greek Revival details to the earlier house, including the south portico, the south entrance feature, the triple window above, the dormers (or at least their detailing), and the trim in the main hall, except the stair; a two-bay two-story addition of stuccoed masonry lengthening the original portion of the north service wing, and adding to the earlier north wing a second story and a porch along the east side with small, frame chambers above; and extending from the south corner of the west end of the main house, a one-story, semioctagonal, glazed conservatory.

The reuse of original materials, displaced by the additions and alterations, has been a very unusual tradition at Woodlands, easily leading to error in conjecturing the sequence of construction. The frequency of this practice betrays its existence, and once assumed, the relative dates of the several sections, and the sequence of their construction, becomes obvious.

The Original Main House

The original main house is of a typical size, scale and design for its period, c. 1810-1820. Externally most of its detailing relates to the period of the east addition, c. 1840-1850. The 6/6 sash of both storeys are set in narrow frames, identical to those of the east addition. Driven pintels remain for the strap hinges of the former blinds, no longer hung at the windows. Sills of all first and second storey south windows are of white marble, while those of the basement and on other elevations are of Port Deposit granite, the less expensive material. The wide, four-panel entrance door, set within painted glass sidelights and transom, dates from the period of the addition, as does the sheltering, flat-roofed Doric portico and the three-part window above, the center element of which has jib doors beneath the glazed sash for access to the portico roof. The dormer above the (present) central bay does not center on the window and entrance below, suggesting that those elements are widened from earlier openings of standard width. The two dormers of the original section are identical with the third dormer above the east addition; Doric pilasters flank the window and support a classical pediment. The wooden cornice extends across the entire facade, without a break, indicating it to date from the period of the east addition.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

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A pair of flush chimneys rises from the west gable, the southerly one being slightly broader than the northerly one. Windows flank the northerly chimney in both storeys, and a double window is between the chimneys in the third or attic storey.

At the north end of the hall, the principal stair rises, with intermediate landings, to the third floor. The round walnut rail is supported by plain rectangular balusters and, at the foot of the stair, by a massive, turned walnut newel; slim turned colonette newels support the rail at the landings and at the upper floors, terminating in drop finials beneath the related ceilings. The walnut newel probably dates from c. 1840-1850, but other elements are probably original, including the delicately sawn and carved scrolled step ends.

In the cellar, sawn wood joists support the floor beside the stair down, as though filling an earlier stair well, barely suggesting the possibility that the entire staircase has been reinstalled in a mirror image of its original installation. Those sawn joists are of straight sawn material, installed with mortise and tenon joinery, and uniformly whitewashed with all the typical half-log joists elsewhere in this section of the house; in short, if the stair was altered, it was altered many years ago, probably when the double parlors were added to the east, c. 1840-1850. The first and second floors are covered with quarter-sawn oak parquet, added c. 1905.

Doors within the hall are trimmed with Doric pilasters supporting a Doric entablature. The doors to the easterly rooms are of four panels with loose echinus mouldings around the raised panels. The doors to the westerly rooms are of six panels with compound mouldings run on stiles and rails around the shallow raised panels. Most mortised or rim locks throughout are signed "Johnson, Baltimore," apparently dating from the period of the addition, and plugged holes of earlier rim locks remain on the earlier doors. Cast-iron butt hinges of both periods are signed, but paint obscures the name; the screw pattern in the two periods of hinges varies somewhat, thus distinguishing one period from the other. The back door is an early six-panel one with a layer of thin boards applied on the "in" side in imitation of the four-panel design of c. 1840-1850, possibly in an attempt to restyle the door. The lock, like a few other remaining early ones, is a Carpenter lock stamped WR for William IV (1830-1837).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

The southerly room west of the hall is the smaller. Doors and windows are trimmed with a two-plane architrave with an ogee backband, all in a characteristically early nineteenth century profile. Window jambs are splayed and paneled with loose echinus mouldings, dating from the period of the addition; though they were probably paneled originally. The mantel in the southerly room is of modern date, as is the paneled chimney breast and dado, cornice and built-in bookshelves.

The northerly room retains a mantel contemporary with the c. 1810-1820 date of the house, consisting of paneled pilasters supporting a frieze and shelf. Original chair railing surrounds this room but the beamed ceiling is modern. The splayed jambs of the windows here are paneled and flank the chimney breast. The lower portions of the paneling are apparently spliced with the upper portions, and all the paneling relates in profile to the six-paneled doors, thus suggesting that the windows originally had sills at chair rail height, and were lowered to the floor circa 1840-1850, reusing available material removed from the windows in the southerly room. Window and door architraves are like their counterparts in the southerly room, as are the six-panel doors.

The second floor plan is like the first except that the south end of the hall was partitioned as a room; the partition is now removed and a modern partition, south of the original, encloses a modern bathroom. Doors into the two westerly rooms were immediately adjacent to the dividing partition, to allow for as large a hall room as possible. The door to the southerly room was relocated a few feet to the south, using original materials. Doors to the easterly rooms are trimmed with original architraves, probably salvaged from the door to the hall room. A former east window is now a cupboard, its doors having loose echinus mouldings of c. 1840-1850, its jambs paneled with early material. Six-panel doors are fully raised, characteristically more old fashioned in the second storey.

In the southerly room, the mantel consists of an architrave surround supporting a frieze and shelf. Window sills extend a few inches below the chair rail and the jambs are paneled with material related to the c. 1810-1820 date of this section.

The mantel of the northerly room consists of a very bold architrave surround. Windows flank the chimney breast with sills at chair rail height and plain jambs. No windows are apparent in the north wall, further indicating that the north wing is original. The door between the south and north room dates from

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

the late 19th century. A door through the north wall leads to the second storey of the north wing via a short flight of steps down within the wing.

A door leads from the first landing of the principal stair to the second floor of the wing. While the door appears to be of original material, it may be reused from elsewhere, if the wing had originally a conventional 1 1/2-storey form, or it may be original if the wing had a shed-roofed form.

The third floor of the original house is finished as two rooms, a larger one above the westerly rooms below, a smaller one above the hall, where a former small gable window is finished as a small cupboard.

The rafters, visible above an attic access hatch near the west gable, are joined with pegged mortise and tenon.

A stone-walled cellar extends beneath the entire house. Beneath the southerly portion of the hall, a storage room was partitioned off with very thick vertical boards, both edges of which were grooved, joined with a separate spline. The north partition has been removed as has part of the west partition; the boards and associated blocking are secured with wrought iron, hand-made nails. The ceiling of the storeroom is plastered on hand-split lathe, fastened to the joists with cut nails. The ends of (apparently) former stiles of a shelving system are sawn off flush with the plaster.

A fireplace in the cellar is in the southerly chimney and an original external entrance leads out south of the chimney breast, now into the basement beneath the conservatory.

The entire first floor is supported by log joists, heavily whitewashed. An apparent patch is beside the stair, described above.

North Wing, Original Section

Said to be of brick construction, the existing stucco all but masks the exact extent of this section. It appears to extend to the north side of the chimney which rises between the two sections of the north wing, and to have no independent south wall, the main house serving that function.

The door and window in the first storey of the west wall, and the two windows above, have wide frames, applied backbands, and applied wrought-iron shutter

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4.

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pintels and staples. A 1 1/2-storey original height is suggested by a plaster outline on the north wall of the main house, visible in the wing's attic. No joint between the storeys is apparent in the exterior stucco.

The east wall of the wing is of masonry to a point several feet north of the door from the hall of the main house; it changes to stuccoed frame, reducing in thickness, to allow clearance for this door.

The very low pitched roof extends symmetrically over an easterly extension of the wing, consisting of an open porch in the first storey and a frame-walled chamber above. A window with a thick frame in the porch chamber, between it and the main portion of the north wing, suggests that the original east wall of the wing was at least two storeys in height, the west wall one storey in height, supporting a shed roof, not a gabled roof. The early second storey windows in the west wall may be early materials displaced by alterations and reused there.

The rafters of the very low pitched roof are mitered at the ridge. The earlier roof pitch was 8 in 12, slightly steeper than the existing.

Internally both storeys have been refinished in modern times. A large chimney with a fireplace is in the north wall, now the dividing wall between the two sections of the wing. There is no cellar beneath the wing.

The Greek Revival Additions - The Double Parlors

The present five-bay length of the main house was achieved c. 1840-1850 by an addition of two bays at the east end, containing a pair of parlors and two rooms above. The entire south front was slightly altered to conform to a uniform mid-century Greek Revival design.

Windows are 6/6, with narrow frames. A pair of chimneys rises flush with the east gable, flanking a 12/12 attic window.

The elegant double parlors are divided by two Doric columns. The matching mantels are of black marble in a simple Greek design. A plaster cornice extends around both rooms. Doors to both rooms from the main hall are of four panels with loose echinus mouldings, the characteristic moulding used in panels of this period throughout the house.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #5.

The two rooms above have simple trim and mantels of the period; the single room of the third floor is even simpler in its finish and it has no fireplace. Rafters, visible above a hatch near the east gable, are mitered at the ridge.

Former east windows in the former east wall of the original house are refitted as cupboards, all described above; a 12/12 window with earlier trim is reused in the attic.

In the full cellar beneath this section, the first floor is supported by straight-sawn joists, dimensionally uniform. A window formerly in the exterior east wall of the earlier cellar remains in place, its jambs cut for former thick louvres.

Locks throughout the addition, and often in the main house, are signed by the maker, Johnson of Baltimore. In important doors, Johnson locks are mortised; in secondary doors, and at the south front door, they are rim-mounted and the small brass knobs characteristically are attached to spindles with flat, broad-headed screws centered in the face of the knob.

Later Portion of the North Wing

The two northerly bays of the north wing probably date from the addition of the double-parlors, c. 1840-1850, at which time the earlier portion of the north wing was raised to its present height and profile. That profile, with the east porch and second storey frame-walled chambers, extends through the entire north wing. The roof construction, exposed in the attic, is uniform above the entire wing with rafters mitered at the ridge.

Internally, the first storey has been refinished in modern times; the second storey is extremely simple, with mid-nineteenth century wooden elements and signed hardware throughout. A large fireplace, fitted with a crane for cooking, is in the chimney which rises flush with the north gable of the wing.

A one-storey extension of the wing encloses another room at the very north end of the wing, again with a modern interior. Exterior elements appear to match counterparts in the 1840-1850 portion of the north wing.

The Conservatory

Extending west from the southwest corner of the original house is a glazed

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6.

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conservatory, with a semi-octagonal or apsidal west end. The pitched roof is pyramidal over the polygonal end and a short, plain finial rises above the apsidal roof thus formed. All walls are glazed with sliding-sash windows and there is a door through the west wall. The door leading to the conservatory from the southerly room of the original house, south of its chimney breast, dates from the mid-nineteenth century, suggesting that the conservatory was added with the double parlors, c. 1840-1850.

Outbuildings

A stone smokehouse, two storeys in height, is apparently coincidental with a small tenant house which adjoins it. The smokehouse probably is at least as old as the original house and the tenant house portion appears to have been remodeled for that purpose in the mid-nineteenth century. Further examination of this structure may indicate it to have been entirely a dwelling, originally.

A framed small barn and corn house west of the stone smokehouse and tenant house is covered with wide, beaded horizontal siding. The hewn frame is joined with mortise-and-tenon and all thinner boards inside and out are attached with hand-made wrought-iron nails.

The square frame privy with pyramidal roof contains its original seat with four holes.

An early carriage house of frame construction stands north of the privy.

A frame garage, possibly pre-dating the automobile, stands south of the privy.

A large frame bank barn dates from c. 1905.

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8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	X LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1810-1820
circa 1840-1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Woodlands is the estate and ancestral home of the Coudon family. The main dwelling house and adjoining outbuildings are situated on a hill which overlooks the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay. The house has lovely grounds surrounding it with landscaped gardens, boxwood, and several old trees of merit.

During the 17th century Woodlands was part of George Talbot's 3,200-acre tract called Susquehanna Manor. After passing through several owners the land which was to become Woodlands was purchased by Joseph Coudon in the early 1800's. The farm has remained in the family and today's owners are the sixth generation of Coudons to work the same soil.

The mansion, Woodlands, is one of the most important 19th century buildings in Cecil County. The house has endured moderate alterations, but still portrays pre-Civil War times more like the antebellum South than a border state. The Greek Revival influence in the east side of the house is without peer in Cecil County. Another important feature of this property is the large number of original outbuildings still intact and continuing to perform as part of a working farm.

The Coudon family has been an important family in Cecil County, particularly in the field of religion. The Reverend Joseph Coudon, father of the first Coudon to own Woodlands, served as rector to St. Mary Anne's Church in nearby North East, Maryland from 1787 to 1792, and was one of the first priests to be ordained by Bishop White. The family has continued to worship and support this church through the years. Joseph Coudon, Jr.'s son married the daughter of George P. Whitaker, owner of Principio Furnace, which created early ties between the two historic properties. Due to the long occupancy of Woodlands, a large amount of furniture and artwork have accumulated within the house.

The Coudons wish to preserve and protect this historic property for numerous and obvious reasons. They primarily feel that designation by the National Register will help insure the future of Woodlands in a rural area rapidly changing into a suburban community.

CE-45

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Johnston, George. History of Cecil County. Elkton: Johnston, 1881.
Miller, Alice. Cecil County, Maryland. Elkton: C & L Printing, 1949.
Martenet, Simon J. Martenet's Map of Cecil County, Maryland. Philadelphia, 1858.
Records of St. Mary Anne's Church, North East, Maryland.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately ~~137~~ 103 acres

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A				B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bounded by Mill Creek on the north, Old Post Road or Route 7 on the south, Mill Creek Road on the east and ~~a line drawn from Route 7 (perpendicular)~~ the Perryville City limit to Mill Creek on the west.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

vdp

NAME / TITLE
James T. Wollon, Jr. and George Lutz

ORGANIZATION
Harford County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
July 22, 1977

STREET & NUMBER
21 State Circle, Shaw House

TELEPHONE
(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN
Annapolis,

STATE
Maryland 21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

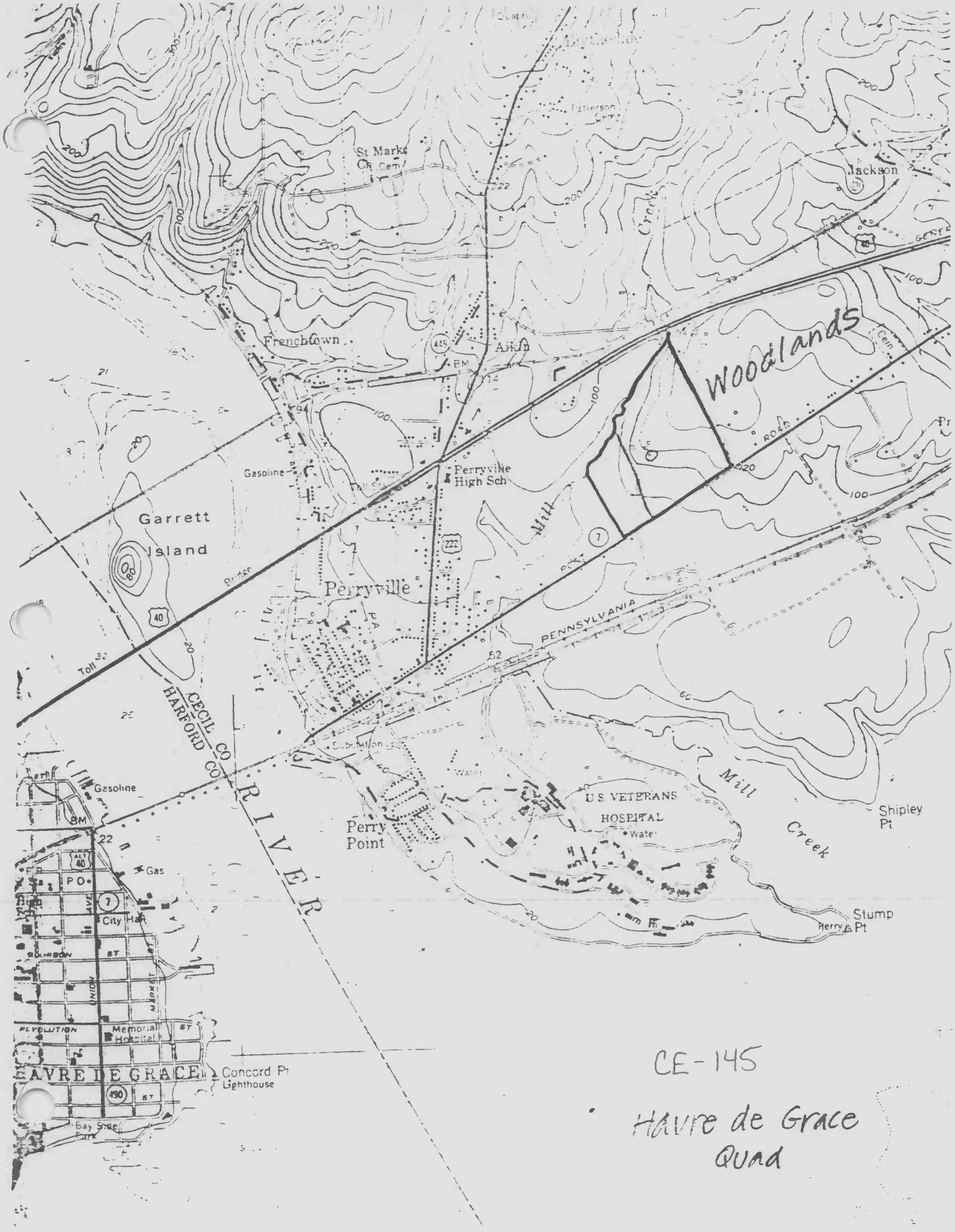
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



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Havre de Grace Quad

Woodlands
Near Perryville
South Elevation
MOB/1968

CE - 145

NEG - MD. Hist. Trust

CE-145
Woodlands
Photographer - Michael Bourne
Negatives at MIT