



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 26/15-2  
 Part of Lincoln Park  
 Historic District  
 MAGI# 1651395604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Cooke House

AND/OR COMMON  
 Cooke House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 302 Lincoln Avenue

CITY, TOWN Rockville VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

STATE Maryland COUNTY Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Percie Brown Telephone #: 340-0364

STREET & NUMBER 302 Lincoln Avenue

CITY, TOWN Rockville VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 20850

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 1231  
 Folio #: 463

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE 1976  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This three bay by two bay, two story house faces south.

Built on fieldstone foundations, this stretcher bonded brick structure is painted light pink; its east and west elevations are stuccoed. There is a poured concrete slab across the south elevation. The south door is glass and wooden paneled.

There are one over one double hung windows. On the south elevation these windows are set into segmental arches of decorative bricks with raised ball design. The house has a shed roof with tin and tar covering. There is a corbelled cornice line on the south elevation. There is an interior end chimney on the north elevation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
-1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
-1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
-1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
-1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
-1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) (Black History)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1894-5 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William Wallace Welsh moved his residence from Hyattstown to Rockville after the Civil War, working in a local general store. He married the boss' daughter, and after a few years opened his own business adjacent to the railroad tracks, across the street from the newly-opened passenger station. Welsh and his partner sold implements, grains, fuel and provisions from their frame building and large warehouse.<sup>1</sup> When these buildings were destroyed by fire about 1895, a modern brick cast-iron front building was erected farther south on the same lot.

Welsh also invested in farmland east of the railroad tracks, and in 1890 subdivided it into "Lincoln Park".<sup>2</sup> He sold quarter-acre lots for \$80 each to blacks who were attracted to Rockville during the town's prosperous period from 1891 to 1919. Welsh died in the flu epidemic which swept Montgomery County at the close of World War I.

In 1894, Welsh sold a lot in his "First Addition to Lincoln Park" to George W. Cooke.<sup>3</sup> Cooke built his grand brick townhouse almost immediately.

George Cooke died in 1913, and his wife Fannie died in 1927; they both died intestate, and their house was sold by the heirs to Harry and Minnie Waters in 1929.<sup>5</sup> Harry Waters sold the property to the present owner in 1949.<sup>6</sup>

The Lincoln Park community is unique in Rockville, not officially becoming a part of that City until the 1950's. Before that decade, Lincoln Park residents were quite isolated from much of the rest of Rockville. Their children attended schools built for the black population. Electricity, running water, and paved roads came late to Lincoln Park.<sup>7</sup>

The Cooke house, too, is unique in Rockville and in Lincoln Park, as a "grand" brick townhouse in an area of less pretentious, predominantly frame dwellings.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Ledger belonging to Billy Wire, Wire Hardware Co., Rockville.
2. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., Plat Book, Plat 13.
3. Ibid., JA 46/294.
4. Tax Assessment Records, Fourth Collection District, Montgomery County, 1876-1896; 1896-98.
5. Land Records, op. cit., 492/110.
6. Ibid., 1231/463
7. "Mrs. Mabel Hill Talks About Lincoln Park", Oral History by Bridget Bolcik, April 5, 1976.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland  
Tax Assessment Records of Montgomery County, Maryland  
Ledger belonging to Billy Wire, Wire Hardware Co.,  
"Mrs. Mabel Hill Talks About Lincoln Park", Oral History by Bridget  
Bolcik, April 5, 1976.

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**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 8,817 square feet

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Lot 19, Block 1, "First Addition to Lincoln Park"; Plat recorded JA33/266.

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	Eileen McGuckian	Candy Reed/Architectural Description
ORGANIZATION	Sugarloaf Regional Trails	DATE November 1978
STREET & NUMBER	Box 87	TELEPHONE 926-4510
CITY OR TOWN	Dickerson	STATE Maryland 20753

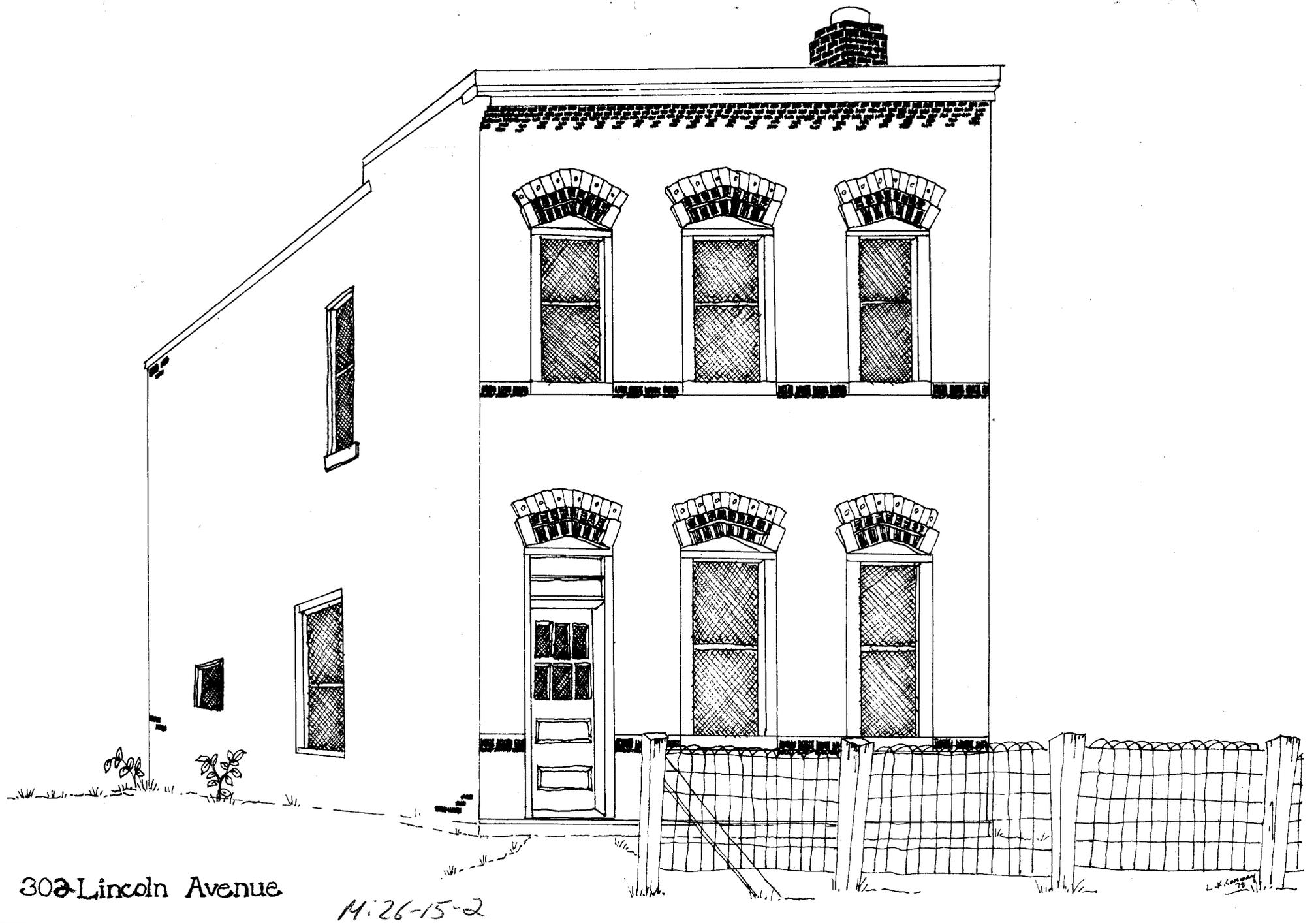
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

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302 Lincoln Avenue

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