

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M: 35-13-3
(date entered 5-4-80)

1. Name: Williams Farmhouse
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 35/13/3 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 21
Chevy Chase H.D. F-12
4. Address: 3707 Williams Lane, Chevy Chase

5. Classification Summary

Category <u>building</u>	Previous Survey Recording <u>M-NCPPC</u>
Ownership <u>private</u>	Title and Date: <u>1976 Inventory of</u>
Public Acquisition <u>N/A</u>	<u>Historical Sites</u>
Status <u>occupied</u>	
Accessible <u>no</u>	Federal <u> </u> State <u>x</u> County <u>x</u> Local <u> </u>
Present use <u>private residence</u>	

6. Date: c. 1875 7. Original Owner: Hilleary L. Offutt

8. Apparent Condition

a. good b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This four bay by four bay, two-and-a-half story L-shape house originally faced east, but has been reoriented to face south. The house has white novelty siding. There is a brick terrace on the south elevation. The southwest corner shed roofed porch has been enclosed. There are two-over-two double hung-windows flanked by green wooden louvered shutters. The intersecting gable roof has green asbestos shingles. There is an exterior chimney at the south gable end.

10. Significance: This 19th century farmhouse has been surrounded by suburban development and incorporated into a 20th century neighborhood.

In 1872 Hilleary L. Offutt purchased 90 acres of "No Gain", apparently constructed this house, then sold the same parcel three years later to John M.C. Williams. Williams lived there and farmed the land for many years before selling off most of the property to the Chevy Chase Land Company. When Williams died in 1905, the 17 acre property was settled between his widow, Eliza, and two sisters, Bette Offutt and Laura Williams. The entire property was left to Bette Williams by 1910. She and her husband Willie sold the house with 21,493 sq. ft. of land to their son, William Lyles Offutt, in 1919. Through the next three decades the house had a series of owners, and was purchased in 1957 by the present Robert and Hallie Blum, who lived there 21 years before selling in 1978 to the present owners.

11. Researcher and date researched: Eileen Smith-7/79 Candy Reed Arch. Description
12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock 13. Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage: 21,492.8 sq. ft.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. M:35:13-3

1. Name of Property (Indicate preferred name)

historic John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3707 Williams Street

not for publication

city, town Chevy Chase

vicinity of

state Maryland

county

Montgomery

3. Classification

Category

- district)
- building(s)
- structure
- site
- object

Ownership

- public
- private
- both

Present Use

- agriculture
- commercial
- educational
- entertainment
- government
- industrial
- military
- museum
- park
- private residence
- religious
- scientific
- transportation
- other:

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

name Lars A. Hanslin & Rebecca H. Laird

street & number 3707 Williams Lane

telephone no:

city, town Chevy Chase

state and zip code

Maryland 20815

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

Tax Map and Parcel

N342: P408

city, town Rockville state Maryland

Liber and Folio

05199/0811

6. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Individually Listed in the National Register
- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- HSR or Research report at MHT
- Other:

7. Description

Survey No. M:35:13-3

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

Resource Count:

See attached

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 7:2

The Clayton Williams House is located on Williams Lane in today's Village of Chevy Chase, Section 5. It is a two-story, cross-gabled farmhouse with center hall plan, typical of the vernacular residential building forms of the period. Ell-shaped in plan, the frame house is clad with weatherboard and includes a principal three-bay wing with a central gable and a rear ell. The main block and two-story kitchen ell are covered with a cross gable roof; brick end chimneys are located in the gable ends. The three-bay, central gable east elevation fronting Brookville Road was the original facade. As the area was developed and the land between this house and Brookville Road was divided into lots and improved with residences, the houses' principal entry was moved to the two-bay end wall of the main wing of the house, facing south on Williams Lane (formerly a dirt farm lane).

The earliest part of the house probably dates to 1887 when tax assessment records indicate the first improvements, valued at \$200. The house appears to have been enlarged in 1893 when \$700 worth of improvements were added.¹

The south elevation of the house facing Williams Lane, which is the end wall of the principal wing of the house, consists of two bays with openings located on either side of a central brick chimney. This elevation features a single entry and window in the first story and two windows in the second story. The entry is defined by a 1920s Colonial Revival-style engaged pediment, while the 2/2 windows are original.

By 1927, three changes had been made: 1. The original entry porch on the former front (east) side was replaced with a center one-bay enclosed addition; 2. The one-story porch at the southwest corner between the main block and kitchen ell was enclosed to make a sun room. 3. A one-story garage was constructed.

¹The 1893 increase in assessment may also have included construction of one or more outbuildings.

8. Significance

Survey No. M:35:13-3

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian	
	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates: 1887; 1893

Builder/Architect: _____

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: A B C D E F

Level of Significance: national state local

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type: Individual

Category: Residential

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Residential

Known Design Source:

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 8:2

The Clayton Williams House, which was built by 1887 and was probably enlarged in 1893, is historically significant as the residence of an established local family. It was built before the Chevy Chase Land Company transformed the region. The development of the Williams property has influenced the character of Williams Lane and helped lead to the establishment of the Otterbourne community. Both areas developed independent of, yet to some extent ultimately influenced by, the Chevy Chase Land Company. The property's orientation toward Brookville Road reflects the importance of this early thoroughfare.

The Clayton Williams House itself is architecturally significant as a vernacular Gothic Revival residence, a house type that is typical of post Civil War rural residential architecture yet is uncommon in the now highly developed Chevy Chase/Bethesda area. It was originally built on a 32 3/4-acre parcel of land lying west of Brookville Road which had been part of the No Gain estate (Resource #35/69). In 1865, No Gain was subdivided into three sections, Lots A, B, and C. Lot C, the property in question, was the eastern portion of today's Section 5. Lot A was a 90-acre parcel which included the western halves of today's Section 3 and Section 5. Lot B was the eastern part of Section 3. (See Figure One)

The 32 3/4-acre parcel (Lot C) was purchased by Clayton Williams for \$1,280 in 1883. It was sold at an auction to settle the estate of Samuel Anderson, owner of the No Gain estate, who had owned the property since 1868. The sales notice described it simply as "32 acres of land, well wooded and watered, Situated 6 miles from Washington DC and about 2 miles from Linden Station on the Metropolitan Railroad."²

John M. C. "Clayton" Williams grew up in the Bethesda/Chevy Chase area on a 212-acre farm west of Wisconsin Avenue which his father, Richard Williams, had owned since 1833. The Williams Farm, located on the "Friendship" tract, was later developed and became the Somerset community. In 1875, 28-year-old Clayton purchased the 90-acre tract described above. There was already a residence on that property, the former Hodges House, as shown on maps of 1865 and 1867. By 1878, when G. M. Hopkins compiled his map of the Bethesda District, "J.C. Williams" was living in or near the Hodges House. Thus, when the 32-acre property came on the market, the sales notice stated that it was "adjoining the lands of Messrs. Edgar P. Watkins, Clayton Williams and others."³

²Samuel B. Anderson had purchased the 32 3/4 acre parcel from Hodges' estate in 1868. Equity Court Judgement EBP 4:99-150, cited in LeoGrande, No Gain, CCHS manuscript. Deed 33:353 (1883).

³Deed BS 5:572 (1833); Deed EBP 14:380 (1875). Richard Williams farm described in Offutt, *Bethesda: A Social History*, p.232. Also see Somerset Historic District, M-NCPPC File.

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 8:3

Clayton Williams built his house in 1887 when he married Eliza Ellen Renshaw. The Williams house is shown on the Fava Naeff map of 1890. The Chevy Chase Land Company, in 1890, bought the adjoining 90 acre parcel (Lot A) that had been owned by Williams and where he had resided previously.⁴ In addition to Lot A, the Land Company also acquired old Lot B, which together were known as the Hamilton Tract (see Figure 3).⁵

Tax records show that the first improvements made to the 32 3/4-acre Williams property c1887 were assessed at a modest \$200. Additional improvements of \$700 were made in 1893, either additions to the house and/or construction of a barn or outbuildings.⁶

In 1892, Clayton Williams sold 14 acres, the southern portion of his tract, to developer John Frank Ellis who created Otterbourne, platted in 1894. Clayton and Eliza Williams retained 17 acres with their house. Their property included a substantial barn and outbuildings, as well as another dwelling located west of the main dwelling which is now 3806 Williams Lane. This structure, a vernacular Victorian house with Queen Anne style features built c1895 was the residence of Clayton's older unmarried sister, Laura Williams.⁷

Williams Lane was originally a private access road used by the Williams family to get to the various buildings on the property. In 1898, Clayton Williams sold a non-family member, Frank Simpson, a 1/5 acre lot. Simpson built a house on the Lane by the end of 1898, the first outsider to do so. The road is shown on a 1915 map, by which time five structures had been built. The Chevy Chase Land Company attempted to change the name of the road to Virgilia Street to make it compatible with the cross street west of Connecticut Avenue, but the Williams

⁴Deeds EBP 14:380 (1875) & Equity Case 189. The 1979 MHT form incorrectly states that the Williams Farmhouse, 3707 Williams Lane, was built c1875 on a 90-acre tract of land. Manuel, *Marriage Licenses of Montgomery County, Maryland, 1798-1898* (1987). CCLC purchase information from LeoGrande, p.13. Hattie Blum, a former owner of the Williams House, wrote "Brookeville Road and Williams Lane...Historical Fiction Based on Actual Records" in 1872. According to this paper, the Williams farmhouse (3707 Williams Lane) was built by Richard Williams by c.1840. This false information was repeated in William Offutt's *Bethesda: A Social History* (p. 156).

⁵The 90-acre tract, which was later bisected by Connecticut Avenue, ran from Bradley Lane at the south to Aspen Street at the north.

⁶Tax assessment records, Maryland State Archives.

⁷ See Inventory Form for M:35/76 Williams-Wirgman House. Deed JA 36:198 (1892). Otterbourne, Plat Book 1:1 (1894).

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 8:4

Lane name was too much embedded in people's memories to change.⁸

In 1905, the Williams House was valued at \$2,500, the barn at \$1,000 and various outbuildings at \$200 total. The 17 acres of land were worth \$11,900 (\$700 per acre).⁹

John M. C. Williams died on March 15, 1905. His heirs, widow Eliza and sisters Bettie Offutt and Laura Williams, could not agree on a division of the land, so a settlement was made in Equity Court. In September 1905, Eliza was allotted 4 acres of land including the house at 3707, described as a "dwelling in which she resides," and the barn and outbuildings. Bettie Offutt and Laura Williams subsequently divided the remaining land between themselves.¹⁰

By 1912, the house was inhabited by William Lyles Offutt, nephew of Clayton and son of Bettie and William Grindage Offutt. In 1919, Bettie and husband Willie G. Offutt formally conveyed the house and a half-acre lot to their son, William Lyles Offutt. Offutt, a carpenter and painter, lived here with his wife Lilian Troth Offutt. He was also a county assessor for Chevy Chase in the 1920s. The sale of the property in 1928 marked the end of a 40 year period of residency by the Williams family. In 1923, the Chevy Chase Land Company platted the land west of the Williams tract which was known as Section 5. This plan effectively extended Williams Lane with Connecticut Avenue, adopting the same name in the CCLC land record.¹¹

⁸1915 Caldwell Map. CCLC's 1915 Map by Thos. J. Fisher shows the road designated Virgilia Street. The name did not hold.

⁹Deed JA 36:198 cited in Equity Case 189. Plat of Otterbourne, Plat Book 1, p.1. Equity Case 2172, Judgement Record JLB 3: value of property (p125); Simpson deed TD 2:255 cited (p114). See MHT forms for Resource #35/77, Frank Simpson House (3807 Williams Lane), and #35/76, Williams-Wirgman House (3806 Williams Lane) for more on these properties.

¹⁰Equity Case 2172, Judgement Record JLB 3:109. Monetary values of the property given above. Deed 184:191, October 1905. (It is not known when Eliza Williams died. Evidently, she had bequeathed the property to her sister-in-law Bettie Offutt.)

¹¹Deed 180:487 was made 2/10/1905 but was not recorded until 4/4/1905. In 1905, William Lyles Offutt had acquired a 0.47 acre lot from his uncle and aunt, Clayton and Eliza Williams, believed to be 7506 Brookville Road. (Deed 467:344). John M. Clayton Williams died 3-15-1905. Deed 290:162 (1919). Deed 467:344 (1928). Plat Book 3:254.

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 8:5

A barn from the Williams farm still stands today, though it has been converted into a residence. From 1910 to 1912, the loft of this barn was the gathering place for members of the Orem, Simpson, and Troth families, forming the beginning of the congregation that became the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church. The Williams barn, separated onto its own lot, was converted into a three-bedroom residence. Horace Troth is credited with moving the barn from near Williams lane, turning it 90 degrees and setting it parallel to the street and converting it to a three-bedroom residence, now 3713 Williams Lane. By 1920, realtor Dion Kerr and family were living there.¹²

According to one account, the property was purchased by a Robert Browning in 1931 who is credited with enlarging the basement from a single room under the kitchen ell to a larger size to accommodate a modern oil furnace. He also enhanced the yard with boxwood at the front and a magnolia tree in the rear.

From 1938 to 1950, the Williams house was owned by Colonel Mason Pritchard, who installed an antique mantelpiece in the living room. Later owners include Andrie Knutson (1950-1957) and Robert and Hallie Blum (1957-1978). The present residents, Lars Hanslin and Rebecca Laird, have owned the property since 1978.¹³

c35-13-3

¹²Blum p.5. 1920 Census: 1927 Polk's Director; 1927 Sanborn map. "Chevy Chase Methodist Church," file at Chevy Chase Historical Society: 9-25-87 newsletter with photograph of former Williams Barn converted to residence. Homer Smith, "75th Anniversary: Chevy Chase United Methodist Church," 1987.

¹³ This information comes from Hallie Blum's 1972 article; however, this source contains inaccuracies about the early history of the house. The later history is more reliable though caution is still needed. The 1941 Klinge map confirms Pritchard as owner. Deed 5199:811 (1978).

Clayton Williams House, 3707 Williams Lane (35/13-3)

Laura Williams House, 3806 Williams Lane (35/76)

Tax Assessment Records

Key: ■■■■

Maryland State Archives, Series T221, Fourth Election District (Rockville & Bethesda)

Date					Improve ments	Private Securities	Live Household stock	Furniture	Other Property	Transfer
1885*	Jno M C Williams	Pt of Aspin Grove Pt of Rutledge	90 acres 32 acres	\$40/ac \$40/ac	\$900 -----		\$240	300	264 Plate: 36	
1887*	Jno M C Williams	Pt of Rutledge	32 acres	\$40/ac	\$200	\$1480	\$240	300	264 Platc: 36	
1893* p.140	Jno M C Williams	Pt of Rutledge	17 1/2 ac.	40/ac	200 ADD'93: 700	900 1600				
1895*	Jno M C Williams	Pt of Rutledge			900 ADD'95: 1500 ■■■■		240	300	264 Plate: 36	
1898 ⁺	Jno M C Williams	Rutledge	18 ac.	75/ac	3000	1465	150	100	35	
1900 ⁺	Jno M C Williams	Rutledge	18 ac.	75/ac	3000	850	150	100	35	
1905 ⁺	Jno M C Williams	No Gain and Rutledge	17 1/2 ac.	75/ac	3000	850	150	100	35	To: Laura Anna Williams 4 ac Eliza E Williams 3 1/3 ac Bettie Offutt Bal[ance]
1906 ⁺	Eliza E Williams Bettie Offutt	No Gain/Rutledge No Gain & etc. Equity 2172	3 1/3 ac 8 1/3 ac 1 6/10 ac	75/ac 75/ac 75/ac	1550 ----- -----					From J M C Williams From J M C Williams From J M C Williams
1906 ⁺	Laura Anna Williams	No Gain & Rutledge	4 ac	75/ac	1500 ■■■■					From J M C Williams

*=Volume 1876-1896

+ =Volume 1896-1906

Clare Lise Cavicchi

10-1998

g:\preserve\chchase\c35-13-3tx

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3:John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane

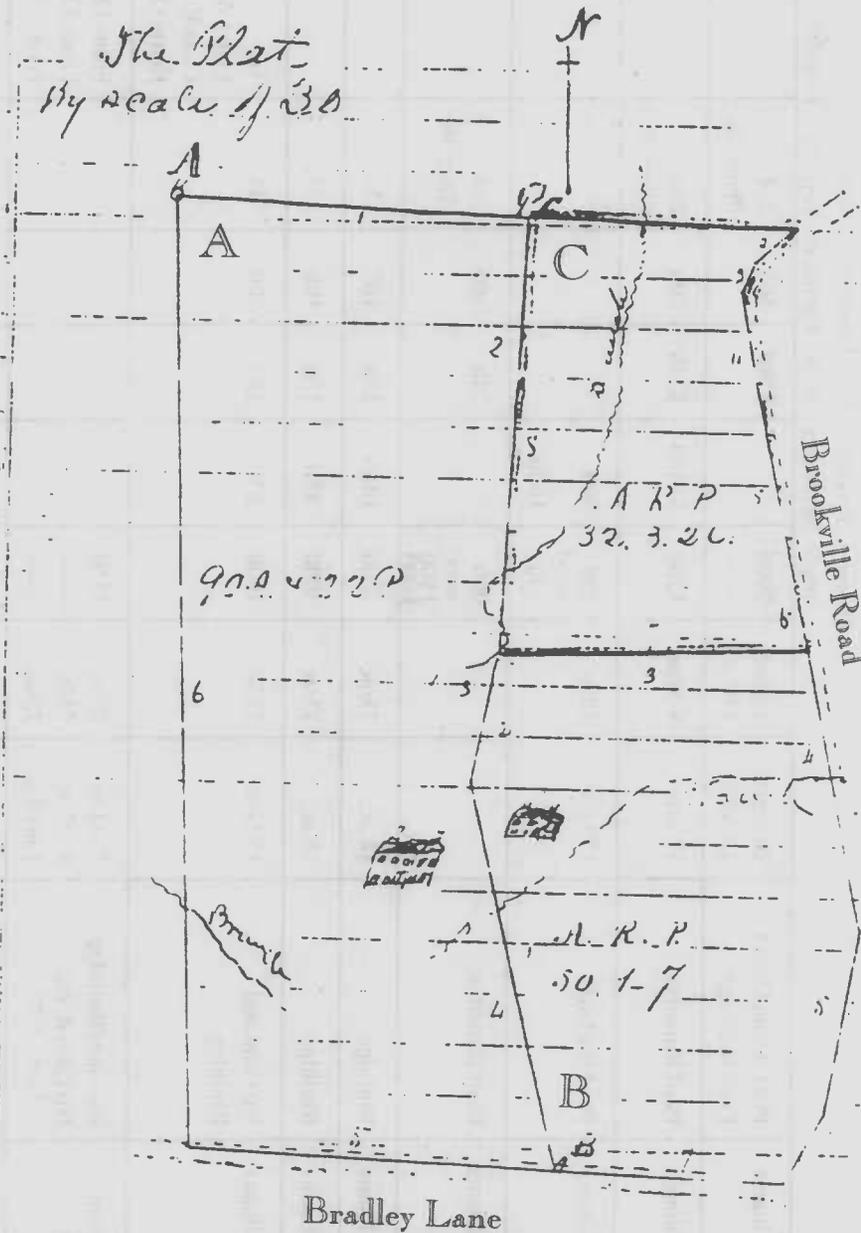


FIGURE ONE

1867 Plat showing 33-acre Lot C, later purchased by Clayton Williams.
Source: William M. Leo Grande
No Gain manuscript (1997): Equity Judgement EBP 1:202

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3:John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane

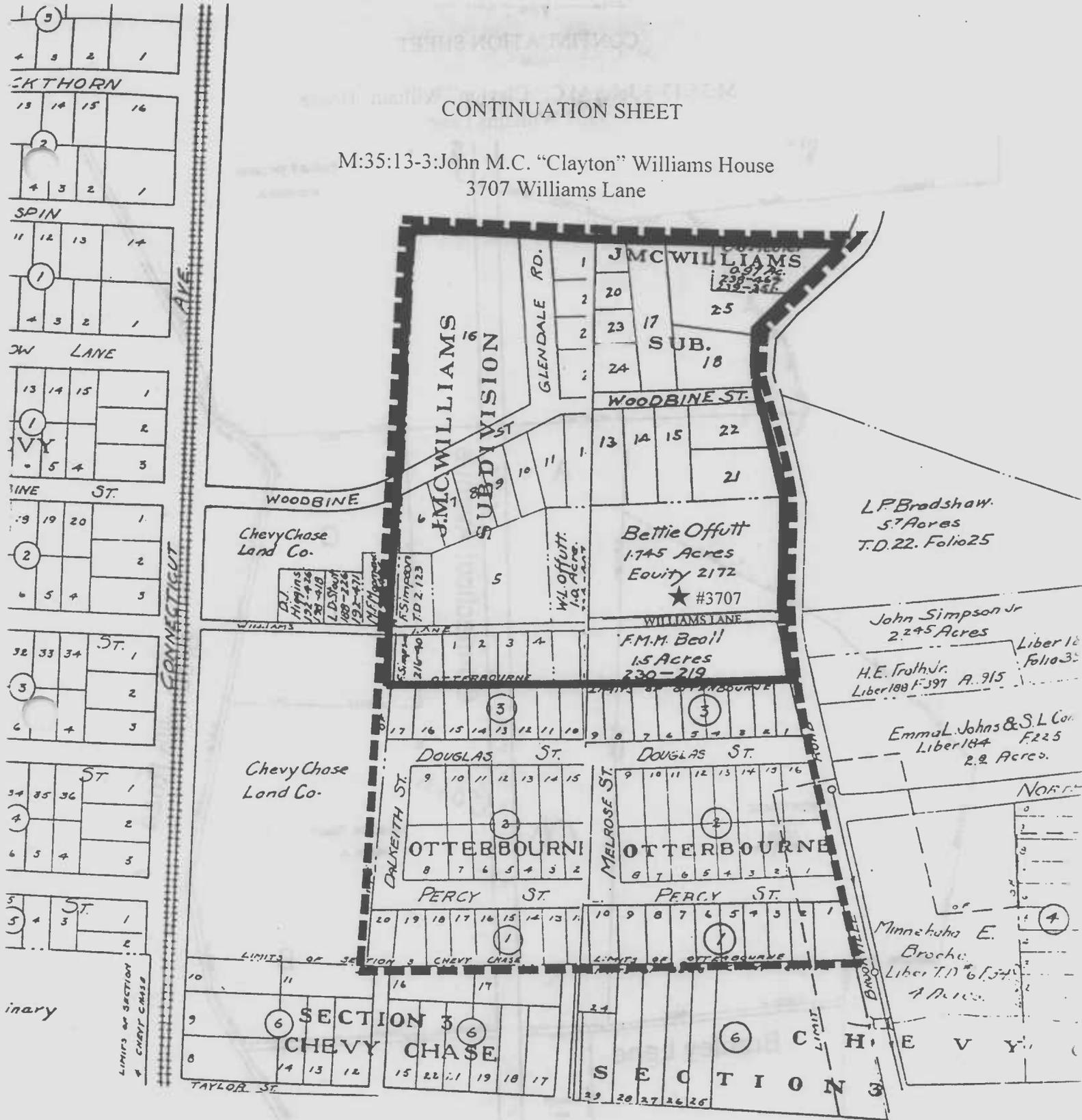


FIGURE TWO

CLAYTON WILLIAMS' LAND
 - - - Williams' original 33 acre tract (old lot C)
 ——— 17 Acres subdivided in 1894 sale of Overbourne
 Source: 1917 Deets & Maddox Real Estate Atlas

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane

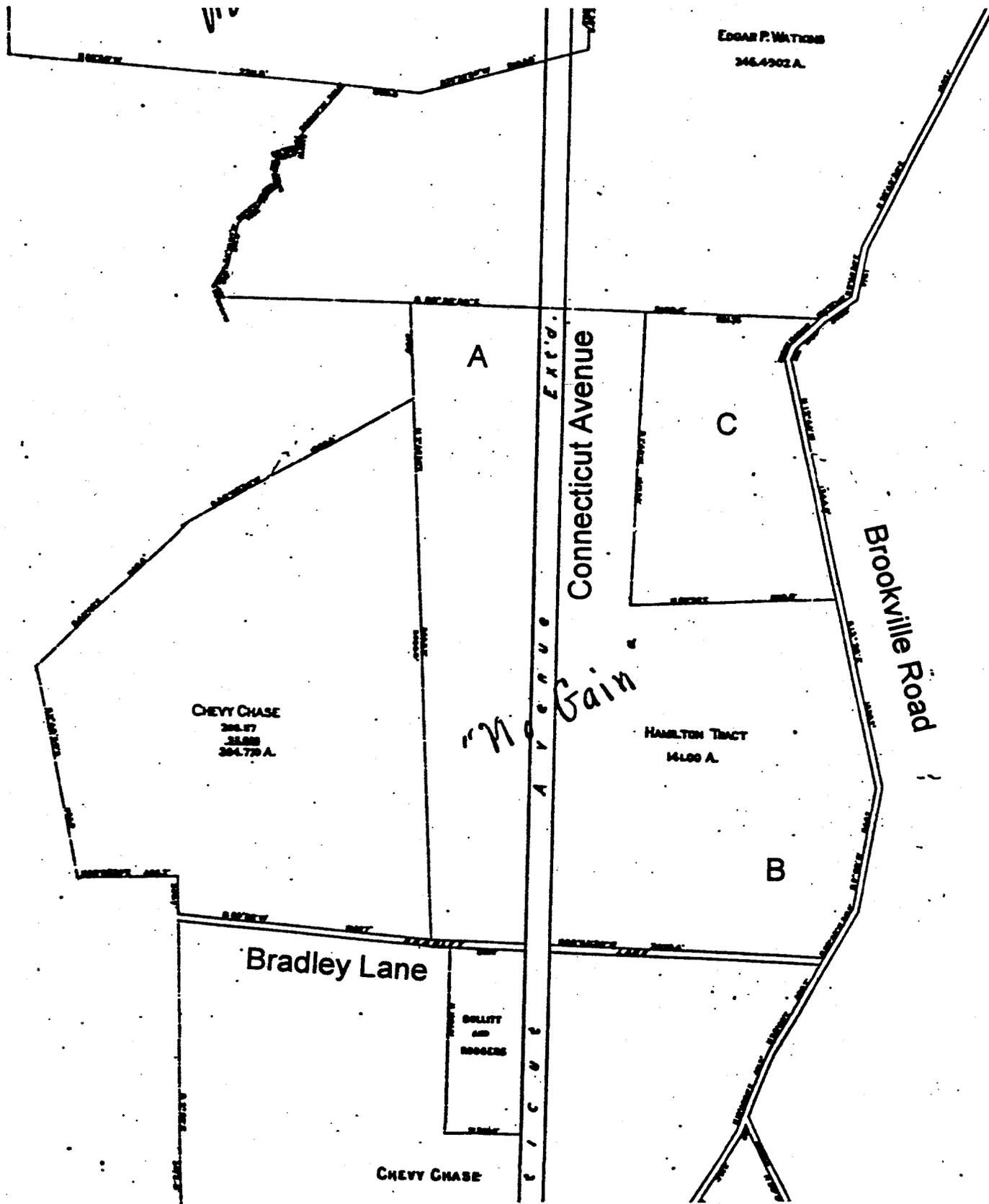


FIGURE THREE

1894 map showing 33-acre Lot C where Williams built his house in 1887. In 1890 the Chevy Chase Land Company acquired Lots A and B, known together as the Hamilton Tract. Source: Thos. J. Fisher & Co. Map. William LeoGrande, No Gain manuscript, 1997.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:35:13-3

See attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____ 21,496 Sq. Ft. _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

Form Prepared By

name/title	Clare Lise Cavicchi, Historic Preservation Planner Architectural description by Kimberly Prothro Williams		
organization	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission	date	November 1998
street & number	8787 Georgia Avenue	telephone	301-563-3400
city or town	Silver Spring	state	Maryland 20910-3760

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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 9:2

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources:

Census, U. S. 1910 and 1920.

Directories:

Boyd, *Washington City Directory*, 1900, 1905, 1912, 1913.

Caldwell, S. D. *Directory of Bethesda District* (Bethesda, Md), 1911 and 1915.

Nelson, Justus C. *Nelson's Suburban Directory* (Washington, D.C.), 1912-1913.

Polk, R. L. *Polk's Washington Suburban Directory* (Washington, D.C.) 1927-1928.

Equity Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.

Fisher, Thos. J. *Chevy Chase for Homes*. Washington, D.C.: Thos. J. Fisher & C., 1916.

Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.

Deeds Plat Book 1, Folios 71 and 90.

Maps:

Caldwell, S.D. *Map of Bethesda District*, 1915

Deets and Maddox, *Real Estate Atlas*, 1917.

Hopkins, G.M. *Bethesda District*, 1878.

Hopkins, G.M. *Northern Virginia and Bethesda*, 1894.

Klingé *Real Estate Atlas*, 1931 and 1941.

Martenet and Bond, *Map of Montgomery County, Maryland*, 1865.

Maryland Geological Survey Map, Bethesda & Vicinity, 1910.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1916, 1927, 1927-1959.

Tax Assessment Book, 1896-1906, Series T221. Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland.

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane
Section 9:3

Secondary Sources:

- Blum, Hallie Lou W. and Francis X. Emmett, "Brookville Road and Williams Lane: Oldest Streets in Chevy Chase, Maryland: Historical Fiction Based on Actual Records," Manuscript at Montgomery County Historical Society, 1972.
- George, Mary Roselle. "Developer Influence in the Suburbanization of Washington, D.C.: Francis G. Newlands and Chevy Chase." M.A. Thesis, University of Maryland, 1989.
- Henry, Samuel J. *Old Days with Horse and Hound: The Story of the Chevy Chase Hunt, 1892-1916.* (1960)
- LeoGrande, William M. "No Gain:" *Portrait of a Yeoman Family Farm in Montgomery County, Maryland.* Manuscript on file, Chevy Chase Historical Society, 1997.
- Manuel, Janet Thompson. *Marriage Licenses of Montgomery County, Maryland, 1798-1898,* Silver Spring, Md: Family Line Publications, 1987.
- Offutt, William. *Bethesda: A Social History of the Area Through World War II.* Bethesda, Md: The Innovation Game, 1995.
- Smith, Eileen. *Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey: Williams Farmhouse, Resource #35/13-3.* Architectural Description by Candy Reed. Sugarloaf Regional Trails, 1979.
- Smith, Homer (History Section). "75th Anniversary: Chevy Chase United Methodist Church," Chevy Chase, Md: Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 1987.
- Wright, Gwen; William B. Bushong; and Clare Lise Cavicchi; "Chevy Chase, Maryland, Survey District: Survey Report: Phase Two," Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, June 1997.

1445 S. ST. JAMES STREET
UPPER FLOOR VIEW
M:35:13-6 John M. Williams House
2775 W. Williams Lane
Baltimore, Md.
1912



CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35:13-3 John M.C. "Clayton" Williams House
3707 Williams Lane



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FORM
LOCATIONAL MAP



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FORM
LOCATIONAL MAP

SURVEY NO.: 35:13-3
PROPERTY NAME: Clayton Williams House
TOWN: Section 5, Vllg of Chevy Chase
COUNTY: MONTGOMERY

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Williams Farmhouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 3707 Williams Lane

CITY, TOWN

Chevy Chase

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Lars Hanslin & Rebecca Laird

Telephone #: unlisted

STREET & NUMBER

3707 Williams Lane

CITY, TOWN

Chevy Chase

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20015

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 5199

Folio #: 811

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

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

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This four bay by four bay, two-and-a-half story L-shaped house originally faced east, but has been reoriented to face south.

Built on brick foundations, the house has white novelty siding. The original east entry way has been closed and a brick terrace on the south elevation leads up to the wooden paneled south door which is surmounted by a simple triangular pediment. The southwest one story shed roofed porch has been enclosed. A glass and wooden paneled west door opens into this porch.

There are two-over-two double hung windows flanked by green wooden louvered shutters. The house has an intersecting gable roof with green asbestos shingles. There is an exterior chimney at the south gable end.

The south door opens into the living room (southeast corner). North of the living room is a hall. An open string double run stairway ascends east to west along the north interior wall. It has a carved newel post, oak handrail and turned balusters. East of the hall the enclosed entry vestibule is now a bathroom. North of the hall is the dining room. West of the dining room is the kitchen. South of the kitchen and west of the hall is the playroom (formerly the porch). There is a closed string, single run winder stairway in the northwest corner of the kitchen.

The floors are of narrow hardwood. The playroom has poured concrete tile flooring. The walls and ceilings of the house are both plaster over lath and wall board. The kitchen has tongue and groove wainscoting. The north and east walls of the playroom are covered by tongue and groove siding. There are bullseye door surrounds and wooden paneled doors.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1875 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is a 19th century farmhouse which has been surrounded by suburban development and incorporated into a 20th century neighborhood. In 1872 Hilleary L. Offutt purchased 90 acres of "No Gain" for \$3,642,¹ apparently constructed this house, then sold the same parcel three years later for \$8,500 to John M.C. Williams.² The house originally faced Brookeville Road. Williams lived there and farmed the land for many years before selling off most of the property to the Chevy Chase Land Company. When he died in 1905, his widow and two sisters, Bettie Offutt and Laura Williams, could not agree on a division of the 17 acre property, so the court was requested to appoint commissioners who would assign land to each of the heirs. When the estate was settled, Eliza Williams received as her widow's dower 3-1/3 acres with the house and outbuildings.³ Laura Williams left her share of the estate to Eliza in 1908, and Bettie Offutt by 1910 owned the residue of John M.C. Williams' estate.⁴

Bettie Offutt and her husband Willie sold the house with 21,492.8 square feet of land to their son William Lyles Offutt in 1919.⁵ Offutt sold it nine years later in order to pay a debt.⁶ Through the next three decades the house had a series of owners, and was purchased in 1957 by Robert and Hallie Blum.⁷ The Blums lived there until the property was sold to the present owners in 1978.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., EBP 10/300 (October 28, 1872).
2. Ibid., EBP 14/380 (September 27, 1875).
3. Montgomery County Equity Records, Case #2172 (1905).
4. Ibid., Case #2542 (1910).
5. Land Records, op. cit., PBR 290/162 (September 1919).
6. Ibid., 467/344 (November 9, 1928).
7. Ibid., 2362/264 (July 11, 1957).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, Equity, and Will Records of Montgomery County, Md.
Maps: Hopkins Atlas (1879); Hopkins Map 1894).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 21,492.8 square feet

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

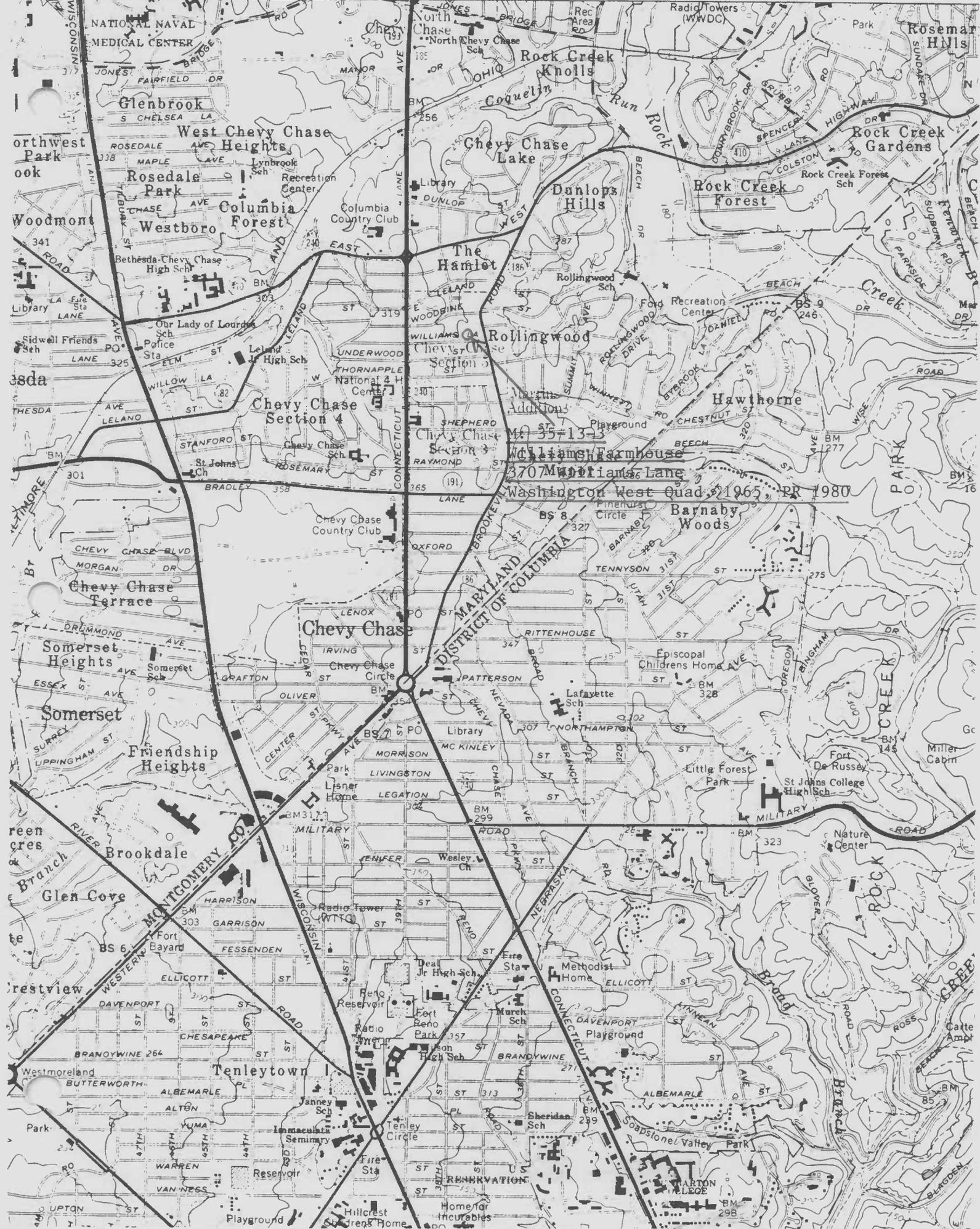
11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	Eileen Smith	Candy Reed	Architectural Description
ORGANIZATION	Sugarloaf Regional Trails	DATE	July 1979
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





M: 35-13-03

Williams Farmhouse
3707 Williams Lane
Chevy Chase
south elevation

B: 11 Bushong
2/1997

(see M: 35-13-04 for original)