MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: In The Woods / David Fairchild Estate Inventory Number: M:35-38

Address: 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, Montgomery County, Maryland 20815

Owner: Chevy Chase Recreation Association, Inc.

Tax Parcel Number: P600 Tax Map Number: HP341

Project: I-495/I-95 Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Improvement Study Agency: State Highway Administration

Site visit by: _____ Staff: ☐ No ☐ Yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended: X Eligibility not recommended: _____

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐A ☐B ☐C ☐D ☐E ☐F ☐G ☐ None

Is property located within a historic district? ☒No ☐Yes Name of District: _____

Is district listed? ☐No ☐Yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: I-495/I-95 Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Improvement Study Historic Resources Survey and Determination of Eligibility Report

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*:

In the Woods / the David Fairchild Estate was previously surveyed by Roy Gauzza and George Andreve of the Maryland Historical Trust in 1978. A determination of eligibility has not been made. In the Woods is significant as the residence and home garden of David Fairchild who directed the Office of Plant Introduction at the Department of Agriculture between 1906 and 1928. Under his direction, this office was responsible for the introduction of more than 75,000 plants to the United States. Mr. Fairchild was also the promoter of the idea of planting flowering trees along the streets of Washington, D.C. and was the principal force behind the planting of the cherry trees along the city's Tidal Basin. An internationally renowned horticulturist, Mr. Fairchild built In the Woods and developed the surrounding garden for his family between 1906 and 1910.

The house was designed by Edward Clarence Dean, who studied at Yale, Columbia, and the Ecole des Beaux Arts. Before opening his own practice, he worked for Delano and Aldridge and John Russell Pope. Dean's work is principally residential, with projects located in New York, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Massachusetts, and Florida.

The two-story, hollow tile structure is stuccoed. Its design is based on contemporary California architecture with a spreading plan and floor-to-ceiling glass doors that open unto terraces. The gardens are planted with a myriad of species in a naturalistic setting.

Prepared by: Julianne Mueller, KCI Technologies, Inc., January 2000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended: X Eligibility not recommended:

Criteria: ☐ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐A ☐B ☐C ☐D ☐E ☐F ☐G ☐ None

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date 9/14/00

Reviewer, NR Programs Date 10/12/00

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: In the Woods / David Fairchild Estate Inventory Number: M:35-38

The property is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria B and C. The property is eligible under Criterion B for its association with David Fairchild. The property is eligible under Criterion C as an excellent example of an early twentieth century residential design with Mediterranean and Japanese influences, and for its association with architect Edward Clarence Dean. The property, although no longer used as a residence, retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. ~~Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B~~. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: In the Woods / David Fairchild Estate Inventory Number: M:35-38

PRESERVATION VISION 2000; THE MARYLAND PLAN
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

I. Geographic Region:

- ☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- ☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- ☒ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- ☐ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- ☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- ☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- ☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- ☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- ☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Historic Period Themes:

- ☐ Agriculture
- ☐ Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- ☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- ☐ Government/Law
- ☐ Military
- ☒ Religion
- ☒ Social/Educational/Cultural
- ☐ Transportation

IV. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Private Residence

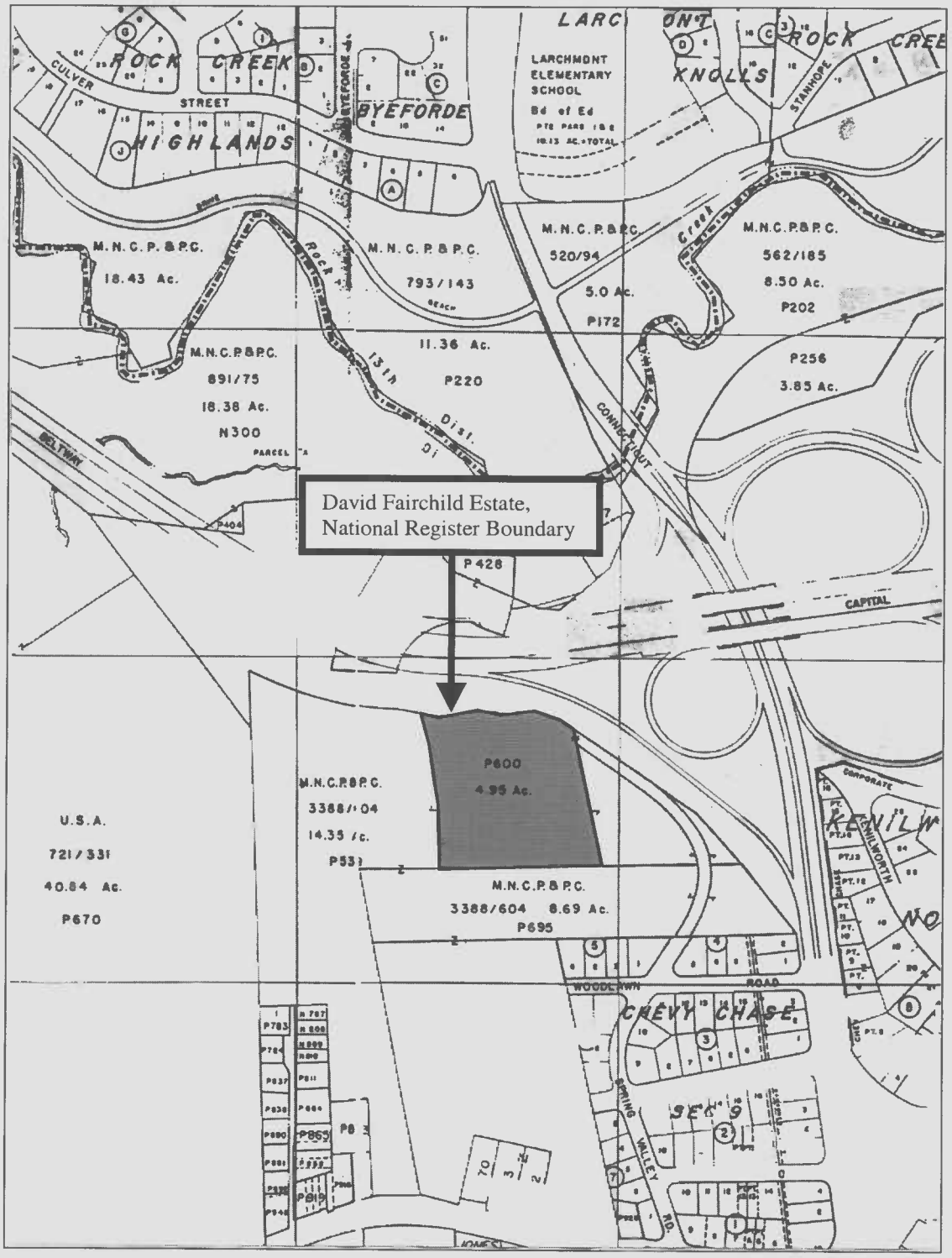
Known Design Source: None

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: In the Woods / David Fairchild Estate Inventory Number: M:35-38

National Register Boundary Map:

Montgomery County Tax Map HP341, Parcel P600

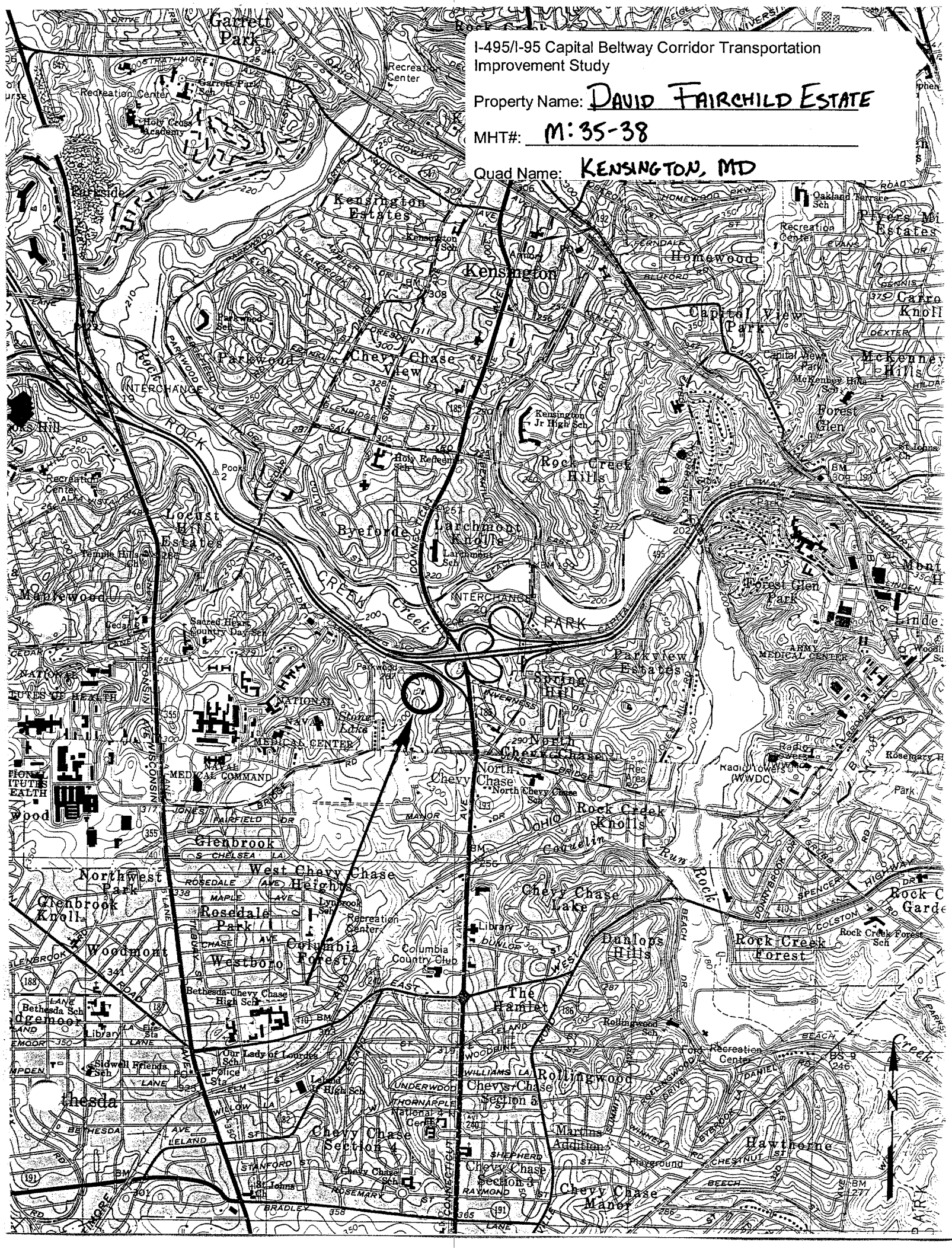


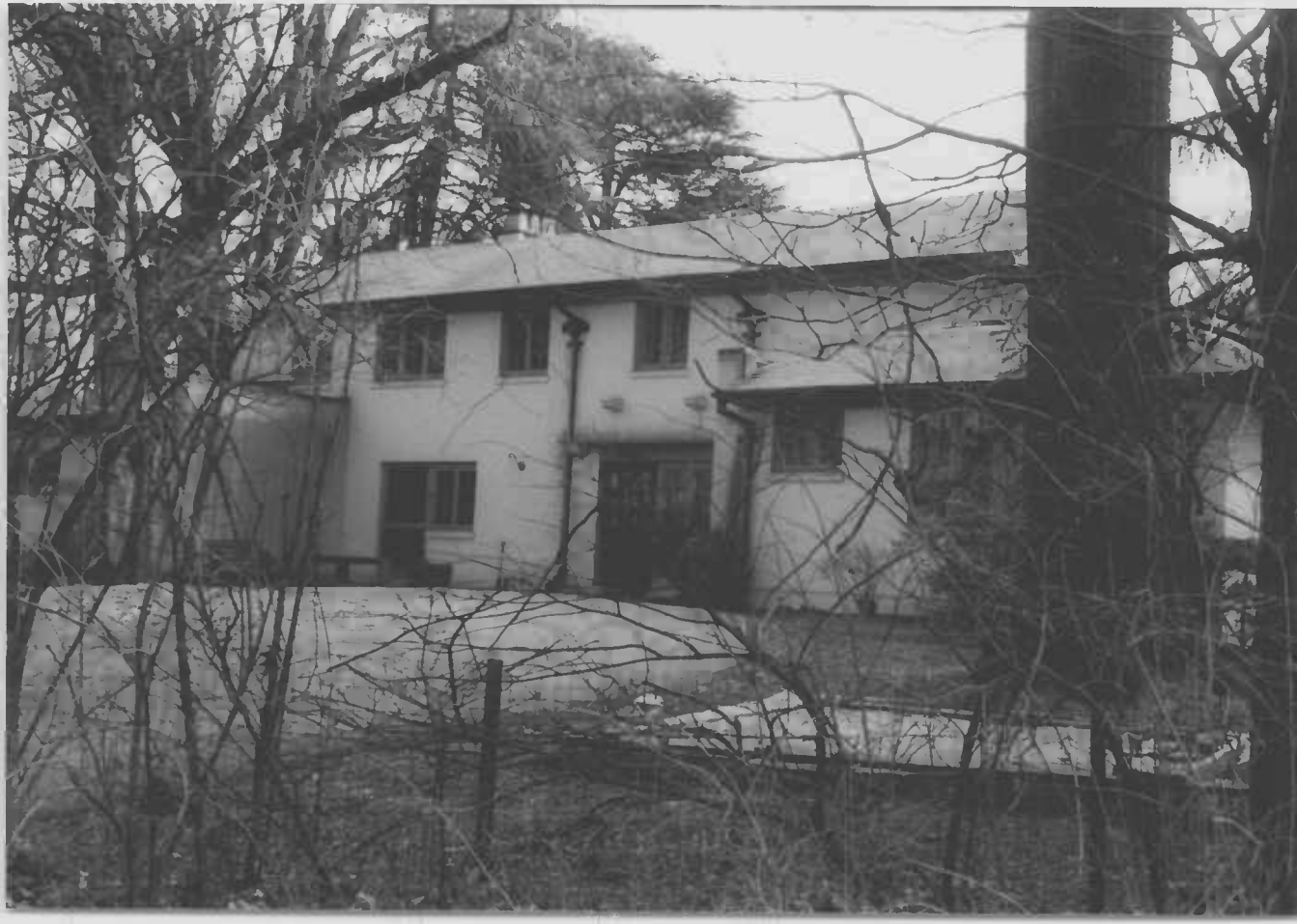
I-495/I-95 Capital Beltway Corridor Transportation Improvement Study

Property Name: DAVID FAIRCHILD ESTATE

MHT#: M:35-38

Quad Name: KENSINGTON, MD





1) m: 35-38

2) IN THE WOODS/ DAVID FAIRCHILD ESTATE

3) MONTGOMERY COUNTY

4) JULIE MUELLER

5) 12/99

6) MD SHPO

7) 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, VIEW SE

8) 1 OF 6

1) M: 35-38

2) IN THE WOODS / DAVID FAIRCHILD ESTATE

3) MONTGOMERY COUNTY

4) JULIE MUELLER

5) 12/99

6) MD SHPO

7) 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, VIEW SE

8) 2 OF 6

1) M: 35-38

2) In the Woods / David Fairchild Estate

3) Montgomery County

4) Julie Mueller

5) 12/99

6) MD SHPO

7) 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, VIEW NE

8) 3 OF 6

1) M: 35 - 38

2) In the Woods / David Fairchild Estate

3) Montgomery County

4) Julie Mueller

5) 12/99

6) MD SHPO

7) 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, VIEW E

8) 4 of 6

1) M: 35-38

2) In the Woods/ David Fairchild Estate

3) Montgomery County

4) Julie Mueller

5) 12/99

6) MD SHPO

7) 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, VIEW N

8) 5 OF 6

1) M:35-38

2) In the Woods / David Fairchild Estate

3) Montgomery County

4) Julie Mueller

5) 12/99

6) MD SHPO

7) 8922 Spring Valley Road, Chevy Chase, VIEW SW

8) 6 of 6

M: 35-38

MAGI # 1609255704

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
"In the Woods"

AND/OR COMMON
The David Fairchild Estate

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
8922 Spring Valley Road — __NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Chevy Chase — __ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Seventh

STATE
Maryland

CODE

COUNTY
Montgomery

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	XX PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	X EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDEREO	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. Read P. Dunn, Jr.
Chevy Chase Recreation Association

STREET & NUMBER
8922 Spring Valley Road

CITY, TOWN
Chevy Chase — __ VICINITY OF

STATE
Maryland

STATE
20015

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Rockville

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

M:35-38

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"In the Woods," the David Fairchild Estate, is located at 8922 Spring Valley Road in Montgomery County, Maryland. On the site is a two-story house built of hollow tile covered with stucco and surrounded by a collection of mature plant species in a naturalistic setting. The house, built in 1910, has a gabled two-story central block facing north flanked by two one-story sections with hipped roofs. Forty lattices covered exterior walls, but only one remains. Throughout, there are pairs of projecting brackets, presumably to support flower boxes, between the first and second floor openings. To the south is a two-story wing. The principal and servants' entrances, both similar in form, face north and open onto a semicircular driveway. The more elaborate main entrance has a transom and double casement windows to one side surmounted by a large wooden lintel. A pergola originally stood over a flagstone (now brick) entrance terrace and was supported by the lintel and two brick columns, now removed. After 1933, a northeastern room was added to the first floor enclosing a triple casement window, cellar stairway and part of the kitchen terrace. Originally there was an enclosed kitchen terrace which included the secondary entrance.

The interior of the house is plain but was designed so as to give access, visually and otherwise, to the gardens. In the entrance hall is a settle which matches the dogleg chestnut stair featuring a butterfly design in the balustrade. The paneling of the staircase and in an alcove off the entrance hall and two doors have a modified butterfly design. On the west wall above the staircase is a Japanese-style panel of wood carving. Architect Edward Clarence Dean must have been influenced by the work of Greene and Greene when he designed the entrance hall, woodwork and stair.

The living and dining rooms comprise the first floor of the rear wing. The living room has a vaulted oak ceiling having exposed beams with iron brackets and an imported tile floor. On the south end wall is a brick fireplace within a semicircular recess, flanked by oak bookcases. Over the fireplace is a marble bas-relief of the Madonna and Child. On both side walls are triple French doors. Two oak-paneled square columns define the passage between the living and dining rooms. West of the living room is a glass-enclosed terrace which was open before 1926. Between the terrace and the entrance hall are double doors with an arched transom.

West of the entrance hall is a one-story wing with three bedrooms and a bath. The large southwest corner bedroom has a brick fireplace and oak bookcases along the entire north wall. Another bedroom has a Dutch door with a modified butterfly design. Throughout, the interior walls are stuccoed. On the second floor are bedrooms.

The house is presently used as a nursery school and has one apartment in part of the second floor. Montgomery County is expected to purchase the property in the near future.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

M:35-38

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

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

Of the original 34-acre tract, there are five acres on which are the remaining collection of plant species and the house. The grounds consist of a mixture of large mature trees and shrubs extending over the entire site with dense growth in dispersed areas. Evergreen and deciduous trees, shrubs, and vines and flowering trees and shrubs exist in a naturalistic setting as specimen and mass plantings. A limited lawn area encircles the house.

Prior to 1956 the house was approached by a winding drive through untouched forest. Landscaping on the estate centered around the house and at least one area along the drive. The driveway circle in front of the house is the only portion of the original drive which exists today. A sunken garden area extending to the south of the house was entered by flagstone steps with a flagstone retaining wall extending to the east and west. This garden area is no longer present except the limited areas of single specimen trees. Over one-hundred Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees were planted on the estate, the bulk of which were located in the sunken area until 1959. A flagstone patio located west of the terrace is now removed although traces are present at the foot of the outside staircase. After 1926, a reflecting pool was situated in this area but later removed.

Between 1906 and 1926, the majority of original plant material consisted of introduced species of trees from around the world. Shrub species and a small number of vine species were also introduced on to the grounds. In the placement of the original cultivated plant material, the landscape design maintained the element of vistas from the major windows and doorways of the house to the woods beyond.

Between 1926 and 1946 extensive renovation of the grounds occurred. Addition of a large amount of flowering shrubs, perennials, annuals and lawn area was combined into the naturalistic setting creating stronger effects of cultivated areas. Two flagstone paths winding through the plantings and a stone bench with stone tesserae in mosaic design were added in this period. A large portion of the design effect in this stage of the development of the grounds is indistinct now. Through time, a return to the original period has occurred in the landscape design.

Of four original outbuildings which included offices and laboratories, one shed remains.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

A list of the largest and most distinctive plant species on the grounds is below, with descriptions.

Acer maximowiczianum, Nikko Maple. Native of Japan and central China. A deciduous tree with brilliant autumn color and vase-shaped growth habit. Height: 60 feet. Planted in 1908.

Cedrus libani var. stenocoma, Turkish Cedar. Native of Asia Minor. An evergreen tree with dark green foliage and stiffly horizontal branches. Height: 70-80 feet. Planted in November, 1909. Acquired from Arnold Arboretum.

Chionanthus retusus, Chinese Fringe Tree. Native of China. A deciduous tree with ornamental fleecy white flowers. Height: 30 feet.

Cladrastis lutea, American Yellowwood. Native of North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. A deciduous tree with pendulous clusters of white, fragrant flowers and bright green leaf color. Height: 60 feet. Planted in the spring of 1906.

Davidia involucrata, Dove Tree. Native of western China. A deciduous tree with extremely ornamental white flowers. Height: 40 feet. Planted in 1906.

Picea orientalis, Oriental Spruce. Native of Asia Minor, Caucasus. An evergreen tree with a compact pyramidal growth habit, pendulous horizontal branches, and very dark green foliage. Height: 50 feet.

Pinus koraiensis, Korean Pine. Native of Japan and Korea. Evergreen trees with dark green foliage and pyramidal growth habit. Height: 50-60 feet. Grown from seed imported from Japan in 1914.

Prunus subhirtella 'Pendula,' Higan Weeping Cherry. Native to Japan. A deciduous grafted tree with gracefully pendulous branches and single, pink flowers. Height: 40 feet. Planted in 1906.

Prunus x yedoensis, Yoshino Cherry. Cultivated in Japan. A deciduous tree with single white to pink, slightly fragrant flowers. Height: 50 feet. Planted in 1906.

Quercus variabilis, Oriental Oak. Native of Northern China, Korea, and Japan. A deciduous tree with corklike outer bark and open growth habit. Height: 70 feet. Planted in 1910.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

M:35-38

Form No 10-300a
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DATE ENTERED

"In the Woods"
Montgomery County
CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

DESCRIPTION, continued

A sample of additional plant species on the grounds is listed below:

Botanical Name	Common Name
Acer palmatum	Japanese Maple
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata	Turquoise Berry
Azalea	Azalea
Berberis thunbergi	Japanese Barberry
Chaenomeles speciosa	Common Floweringquince
Cornus florida	Flowering Dogwood
Hedera helix	English Ivy
Lonicera maacki	Amur Honeysuckle
Magnolia x soulangiana	Saucer Magnolia
Picea abies	Norway Spruce
Phyllostachys spp	Bamboo
Pueraria thunbergiana	Kudzu
Quercus alba	White Oak
Rhododendron	Rhododendron
Taxus baccatta	English Yew
Tsuga caroliniana	Carolina Hemlock
Ulmus pumila	Siberian Elm
Viburnum setigerum	Tea Viburnum
Chamaecyparis obutsa	Hinoki Falsecypress
Tilia platyphyllos	Big Leaf European Linden

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:35-38

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	X LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—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
—1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) Horticulture Local History
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Gardens: 1906 House: 1910 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Edward Clarence Dean

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

World famous plant explorer and horticulturist David Fairchild had great impact on the fields of American agriculture and horticulture. The results of his world wide plant explorations revolutionized the farming industry of the United States. He was credited with the introduction of plants which resulted in and increased agricultural income totaling more than $100 million in 1954. In his search of new plants, he introduced to the United States many species including: citron, many mangoes, the Chinese Calamondin orange, Peruvian alfalfa, many cacti, avocadoes, the "Sultana Ro a" seedless raisin grape, Egyptian cotton, the edible acorn, "Hanna" barley, the "Saaz" and "Sensch" hops, the Istrian filbert, the "Plaz" pistachio nut, six varieties of Nile dates, "mariut" barleys, "Quetta" nectarine, udo, zoysia grass, many bamboos, the Kaffir orange and plum, Rhodes grass, the kudzu vine, Durham wheat, and Japanese rice.

Largely responsible for organizing the Office of Plant Introduction Department of Agriculture, David Fairchild directed this organization from 1906 to 1928. More than 75,000 different species of plants, field crops, fruit crops, and ornamentals were introduced into the country under his direction. Through his efforts, establishment of plant introudction gardens occurred in Panama (1905) and Florida (1910). The Fairchild Tropical Gardens in Florida was developed for the many hundreds of tropical plants that David Fairchild introduced and named.

The existence of the Japanese Flowering Cherry trees along the Tidal Basin in Washington, D. C. is due to David Fairchild's endeavors. He was the first to suggest planting the Flowering Cherry trees at Potomac Park and became a motivating force behind the undertaking of 1912. After planting the trees on the Fairchild estate, he decided to promote them as the ideal type of tree to plant along avenues in the Washington area. He increased popularity of the trees by organizing plantings at Washington, D.C. public schools and the suburbs and arranged the shipment of trees for the Tidal Basin planting when he was in Japan. His involvement was a means to realize the beautification plans of First Lady Mrs. Taft through the joint efforts of the governments of Japan and the United States.

Among the honors bestowed upon David Fairchild was the George Robert White medal in 1930, the highest horticultural award in America. He is the author of Exploring For Plants (1930), The World Was My Garden (1938), Garden Islands Of The Great East (1943), and The World Grows Around My Door (1947).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4.

M:35-38

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"In The Woods"
Montgomery County

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

The grounds of "In The Woods" contain a collection of plant species unique to the Washington, D. C., metropolitan area and to the state of Maryland. Many of the specimens have attained an exceptional development in size and beauty. The collection includes plants which are the oldest and largest in the Mid-Atlantic states and at least one, the Oriental Oak, is the only plant of its type in the state. The garden's mature specimens are the result of many plants imported by Mr. Fairchild from their native country as nursery stock. His Japansse flowering cherry trees were the first planted in large numbers in the Washington area, before those at the Tidal Basin and other large-scale public and private plantings.

The gardens of "In The Woods" were established prior to the construction of the house, not the normal order. The significance of the largest and most distinctive plant species on the grounds is:

Acer maximowiczianum, Nikko Maple. An excellent specimen, the largest in the metropolitan area and one of the largest in the state.

Cedrus libani var. stenocoma, Turkish Cedar. The Turkish Cedar, native to the Taurus Mountains of Turkey, differs from the Cedar of Lebanon in growth habit and in being the hardiest of all members of the genus Cedrus (Cedar). An excellent specimen, the largest in the metropolitan area, the state, and one of the largest in the country. The plant in this particular growth form is rare.

Chionanthus retusus, Chinese Fringe Tree. A good rare specimen, the largest known in the metropolitan area.

Cladrastis lutea, Yellowwood. A specimen uncommon to the metropolitan area.

Davidia involucrata, Dove Tree. A good specimen, the largest and oldest in the metropolitan area. A rare tree.

Picea orientalis, Oriental Spruce. An excellent specimen, one of the largest in the metropolitan area. A plant of this size is rare.

Pinus koraiensis, Korean Pine. Good specimens, the largest in the metropolitan area and the state. Rare specimens.

Prunus subhirtella "Pendula", Higan Weeping Cherry. Excellent specimens, a few of the oldest in the metropolitan area.

Prunus x yedoensis, Yoshino Cherry. Good specimens, a few of the largest in the metropolitan area and the state. Similar to the Yoshino Cherry of the Tidal Basin, one of the first such species to be planted in the metropolitan area preceding the planting at the Tidal Basin.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #5.

Quercus variabilis, Oriental Oak. An excellent specimen, the largest in the metropolitan area, the only species of its kind in the state, and one of the largest in the country. A rare tree.

According to McAdam in Country Life in America, the design of the house illustrates the blending of four different aspects of architecture to the owner's individual tastes and desires. This venture was a new undertaking in the early 20th century for the specific assemblage of characteristics.

> The house is a result of combining four conditions that are exceedingly different and difficult to reconcile - the desire for living outdoors, the Japanese idea of simplicity, the European characteristic of permanence and the use of American materials. The outdoors spirit is produced in the design by the creation of an outdoor staircase which furnishes access to the outdoors from any bedroom. The house is built on ground level, one step away from the outdoors. From the enclosed terrace a veiw through the house in two directions is possible. The feeling of Japanese simplicity is expressed through the absence of trim and molding, the decoration on the staircase in the entrance hall, and the wood carving in the wall above the staircase. The European desire for permanence and mellowness is conveyed in the construction through the use of fireproof hollow tile, the stucco covering, the irregular stonework that caps the eaves, and the mellow tone of the walls.The American expression includes American building materials and the relationship of the house to the site.[1]

David Fairchild's architect was Edward Clarence Dean (1879-1950) who studied at Yale, Columbia and the Ecole Nationale Superieure de Beaux-Arts. After working for Delano and Aldridge in New York City and John Russell Pope, he practiced in Washington beginning in 1910 until moving back to New York in 1915. He mostly designed residences in New York City, Washington, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Florida but gained much recognition for the Woman's Cosmopolitan Club of 1917 in New York. He also designed a second house (1927) in Miami in an "oriental-tropical" style. "In The Woods" is a combination of forms found in contemporary California domestic archite ture. Though not a masterpiece of design its stuccoed somewhat Spanish exterior, spreading plan and rooms with

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6.

floor to ceiling glass doors opening onto terraces are reminiscent of southern California and appropriate in view of Fairchild's horticultural interests. Some aspects of the interior, especially the central wooden stair, show that Dean must have admired the work of Charles and Henry Greene.

While Fairchild owned the house, his father-in-law Alexander Graham Bell spent much time there. He used the "Retreat" (demolished), a small, one room cottage on the estate, for a laboratory-workshop. Another frequent visitor was Gilbert Grosvenor of the National Geographic Society and Magazine, brother-in-law of David Fairchild. In 1916, the estate was rented to Secretary of War, Newton Baker, and became a meeting place for President Woodrow Wilson to confer with Baker. The Herbert Hoovers rented the house in 1918, in order to establish a safe retreat for their children during the flu epidemic of that year. In addition, ambassadors and cabinet members of the Wilson Administration often visited the estate.

M:35-38

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fairchild, David. The World Was My Garden. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1938.

McAdam, Thomas. Country Life in America. New York: Double, Page & Company, 1914.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A				B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Roy H. Gauzza/George J. Andreye

ORGANIZATION: ------/Maryland Historical Trust

DATE: May, 1978

STREET & NUMBER: 10907 Jolly Way/21 State Circle

TELEPHONE: 301-946-4383/269-2438

CITY OR TOWN: Kensington/Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

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 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

GPO 892-453

NOTE: SEE NR FORM

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:35-38

1. Name "In the Woods"/David Fairchild Estate

2. Planning Area/Site Number 35/38 (new number) 3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 21 F 8

4. Address 8922 Spring Valley Road
Chevy Chase

5. Classification Summary

Category building
Ownership private
Public Acquisition being considered?
Status occupied
Accessible yes; restricted
Present use commercial/educational/entertainment
Previous Survey Recording - None Federal___State___County___Local___

6. Date Gardens 1906; House 1910

7. Original Owner David Fairchild

8. Apparent Condition

a. good

b. unaltered

c. original site

9. Description: The 2 story house is a combination of farms found in Contemporar California domestic architecture. It is built of hollow tile covered with stucco and surrounded by a collection of mature plant species in a naturalisti setting. The house has a gabled 2-story central block facing north, flanked b lower sections with hipped roofs. To the south is a 2-story wing. Entrances open onto a semicircular driveway. The stuccoed interior of the house is plai but was designed to give access, visually and otherwise, to the gardens. The living room has a vaulted oak ceiling and an imported tile floor. Large matur trees and shrubs extend over the entire estate, with dense growth in dispersed areas. Evergreen and deciduous trees, shrubs, and vines and flowering trees and shrubs exist in a naturalistic setting as specimen and mass plantings. There is one shed outbuilding.

10. Significance: Both the house and the gardens are important at "In the Woods". The gardens contain a collection of plant species unique to the D.C. and Maryland areas. They were brought to the site by world famous plant explorer and horticulturist David Fairchild. In his capacity with the Dept. of Agriculture from 1906 to 1928, Fairchild explored the world for plants which revolutionize the farming industry of the United States. He is well known for his introduction of the Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees along the Tidal Basin. Fairchild received many horticultural honors and is the author of four books. Fairchild made his home available to several famous personages during WW 1, and his father-in-law, Alexander Graham Bell spent much time here.

11. Date researched and researcher
Roy Gauzza, May 1978

12. Compiler
Eileen McGuckian

13. Date Compiled
Dec. 1978

14. Designation
Approval___

15. Acreage (5 acres nominated)

M:35-38

David Fairchild Estate
"In the Woods"

See The American Architect, Vol cl11, No. 1951, May 14, 1913.
"View from Covered Terrace, House of David Fairchild,
Chevy Chase, Md."

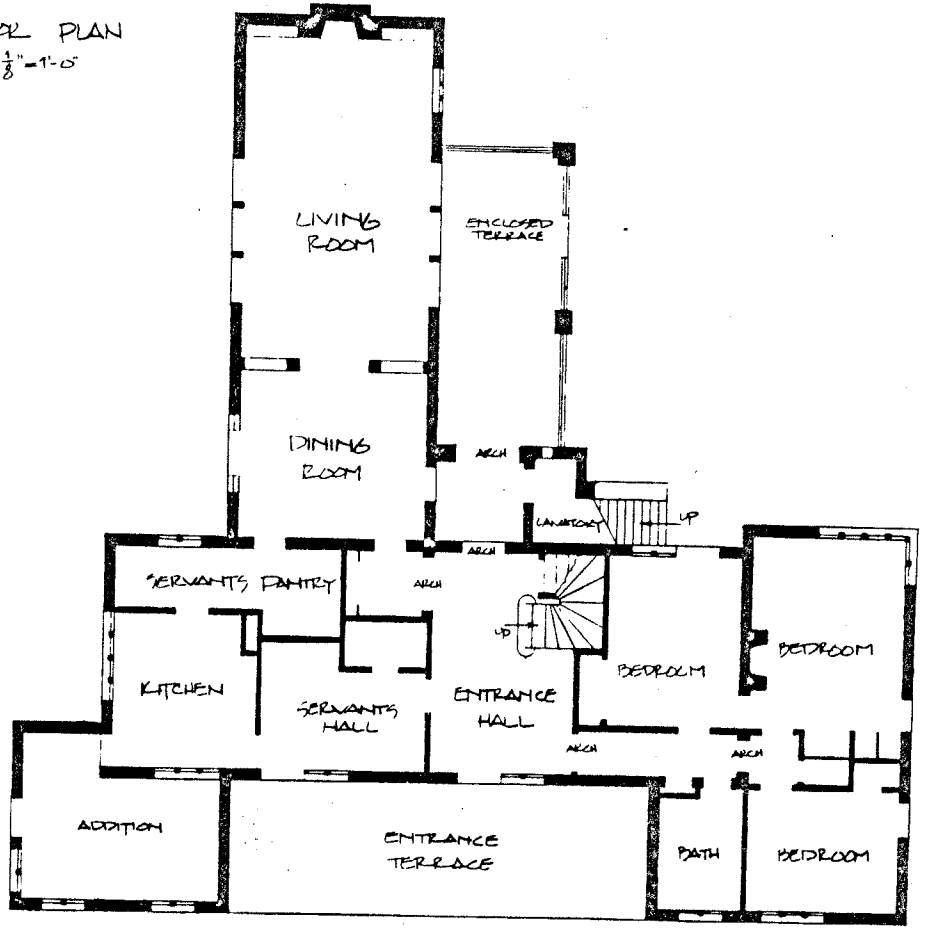
"IN THE WOODS"

THE DAVID FAIRCHILD ESTATE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

M:35-38

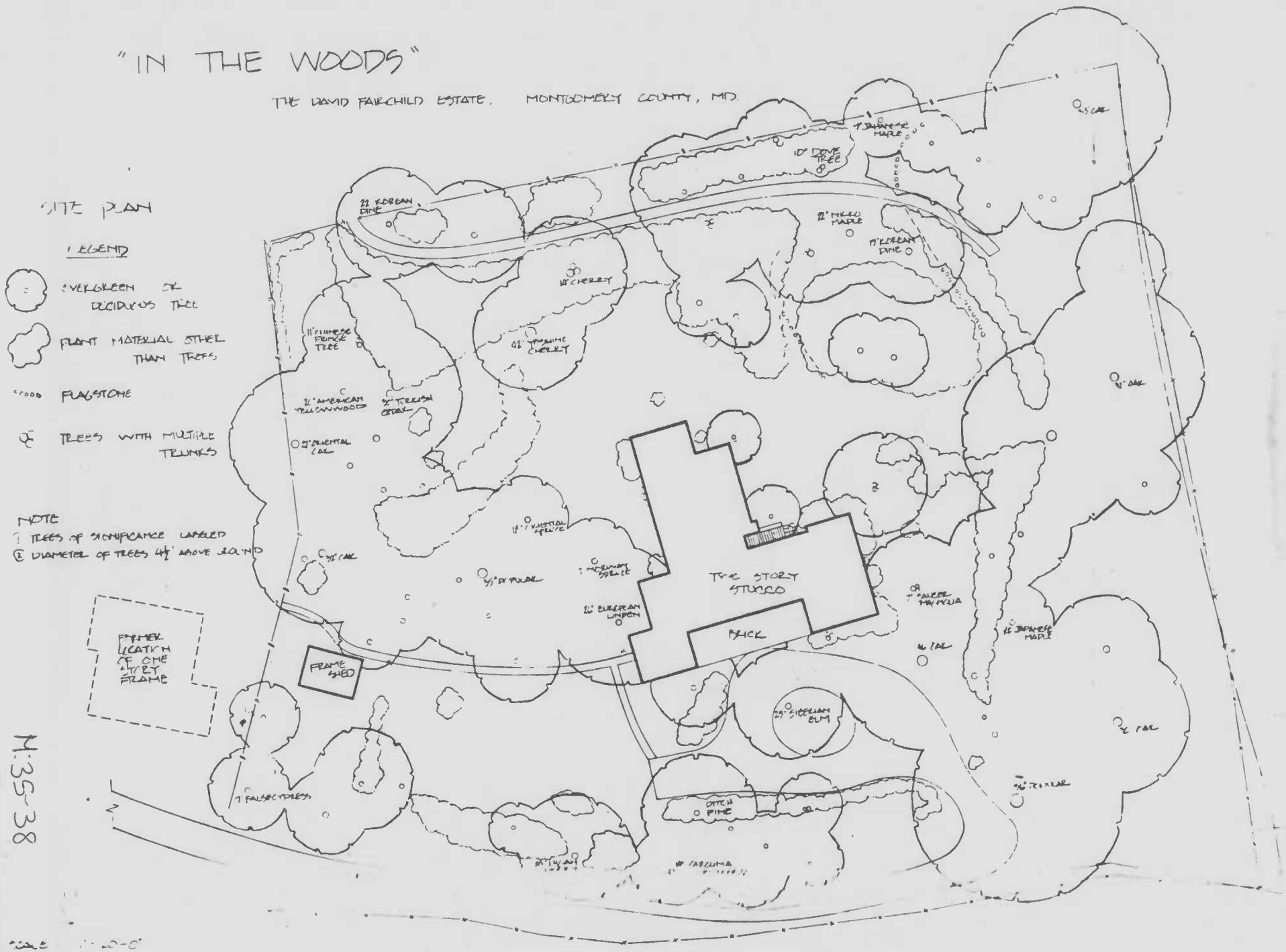
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: $\frac{1}{8}$"=1'-0"



"IN THE WOODS"

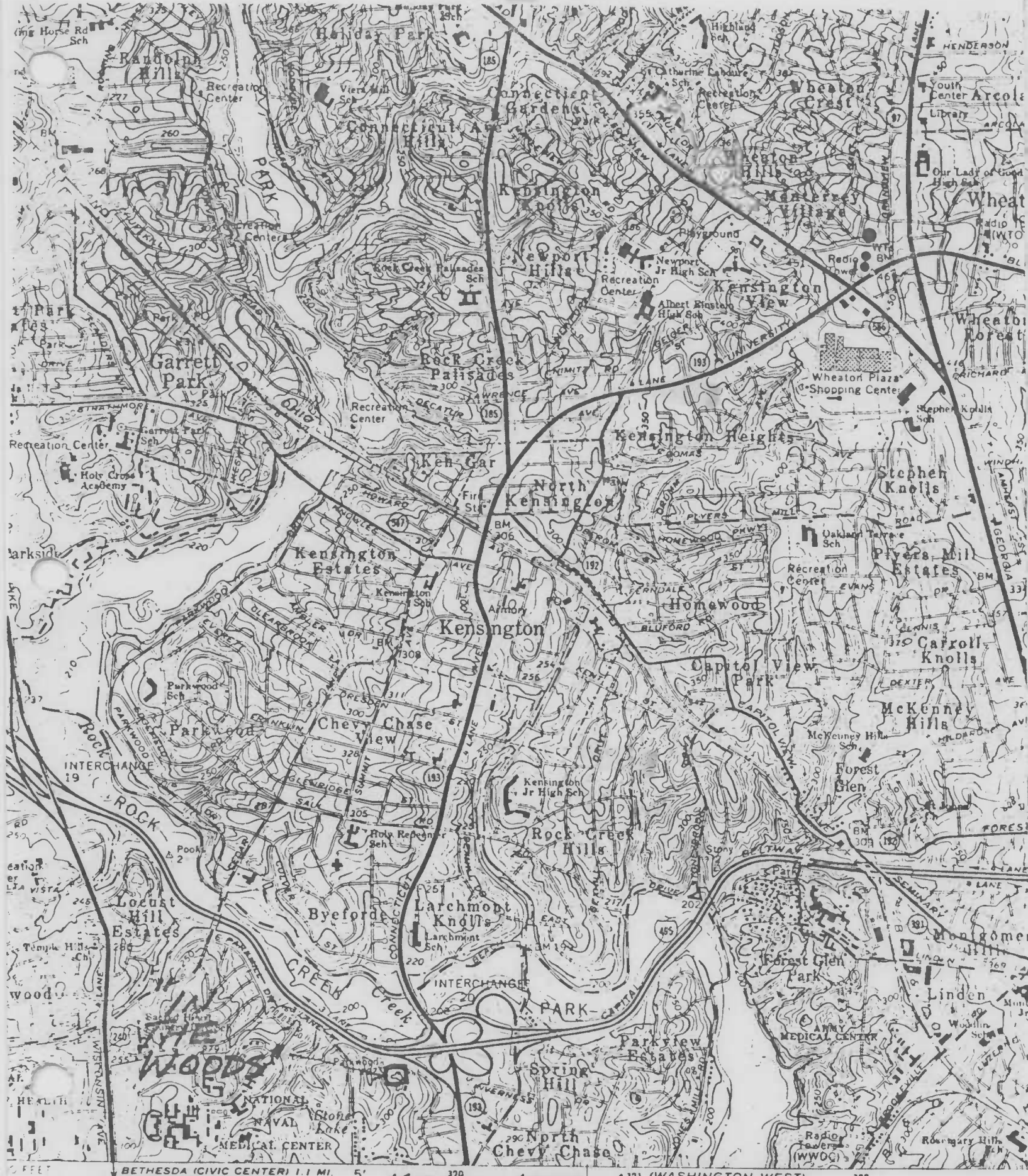
THE DAVID FAIRCHILD ESTATE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD.



M-35-38

SCALE 1"=20'-0"

M:35-38


Holiday Park
Randolph Hills
Connecticut Gardens
Connecticut Ave Hills
Kensington Knolls
Wheaton Crest
Wheaton Hills
Monterey Village
Newport Hills
Kensington View
Garrett Park
Rock Creek Palisades
Kensington Heights
Stephen Knolls
Ken-Gar
North Kensington
Kensington Estates
Kensington
Homewood
Flyers Mill Estates
Carroll Knolls
Capitol View Park
McKenney Hills
Forest Glen
Parkwood
Chevy Chase View
Rock Creek Hills
Locust Hill Estates
Byeforde
Larchmont Knolls
Forest Glen Park
Linden
Parkview Estates
Spring Hill
North Chevy Chase
Rock Creek Park
Connecticut Ave
Georgia Ave
Veirs Mill Rd
Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center
Recreation Center
Holy Cross Academy
Holy Redeemer Sch
Kensington Jr High Sch
Albert Einstein High Sch
Newport Jr High Sch
Oakland Terrace Sch
Parkwood Sch
Larchmont Sch
Stephen Knolls Sch
McKenney Hills Sch
Rock Creek Palisades Sch
Garrett Park Sch
Kensington Sch
Viers Mill Sch
Catherine Labouré Sch
Our Lady of Good Counsel High Sch
Youth Center
Library
Radio Towers (WTOP, WMAL, WWDC)
Army Medical Center
Walter Johnson Sch
Rosemary Hills Sch
Temple Hills Ch
Sacred Heart Sch
Pook's Hill
Stony Run
Interchange 19
Interchange 20
Park-Capital Beltway
Rock Creek
Sligo Creek
Connecticut
Georgia
Veirs Mill Rd
Wisconsin Ave
Rockville Pike
Parklawn Dr
Seminary Rd
Linden Ln
Rockefeller
Howard
Knowles
Plyers Mill Rd
Homewood Pkwy
Bluford
Ferndale
Evans
Dennis
Dexter
Capitol View Ave
Forest Glen Rd
Forest Glen
Kemp Mill
Kensington Pkwy
Parkwood
Franklin
Dresden
Saul
Glenridge
Summit
Oleander
Metropolitan
Armory
Bethesda (Civic Center) 1.1 mi.
Lincoln Memorial 9 mi.
(Washington West)
5561 I NE
Scale 1 24 000
0
1
Kensington Quad