

Memo to file

December 30, 2003

From: Peter E. Kurtze  
Administrator, Evaluation and Registration

Re: M: 23-145  
Robert G. Nicholson Property

The property documented in the following MIHP form has not been formally evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The comments in the text are those of the preparer of the documentation. The State Historic Preservation Officer has neither concurred nor disagreed with those comments.

## CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: M:23-145 (PACS 9.38) Construction Date: Circa 1935

Name: Robert G. Nicholson Property

Location: 17127 Old Baltimore Road, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Yes:restricted

### Description:

The Robert G. Nicholson Property is a 2-story, 3-bay hipped roof residence influenced by the Four-square movement and located on the south side of Old Baltimore Road in the Olney vicinity, Montgomery County. Constructed circa 1935, the building consists of a square main block under a pyramidal hipped roof with a 2-story hipped roof rear ell. It is of wood-frame construction with panel-faced molded concrete block foundation, wood siding, and a standing-seam metal roof. The windows are wood 3/1 double-hung and an interior brick chimney is located at the intersection of the main block and rear ell. The house has a 1-story hipped roof porch on the front elevation and a wood deck on the rear elevation. The front porch has a standing-seam metal roof supported by four Doric columns. The porch floor is wood over concrete block piers.

### Significance:

The lot upon which Robert G. Nicholson constructed his house was once part of a larger tract of land which extended along both sides of Georgia Avenue and was used for agricultural purposes. Ward and Cora Savage bought 28.3 hectares (69.89 acres) of land from William E. Dill in 1921. Ward and Cora Savage began subdividing the land into small residential lots along Georgia Avenue and Old Baltimore Road in the late 1920s. Robert G. Nicholson bought a .5 hectare (1.24 acre) parcel from Ward and Cora Savage in 1935. A condition of the deed stated that Robert G. Nicholson would, "erect and finish upon the parcel hereby conveyed one dwelling house at the cost of \$3500.00". Nicholson constructed a house on the property circa 1935. Thomas and Mary Aylward, the current owners, bought the property in 1961. The lot size remains .5 hectares (1.24 acres).

Maryland Historical Trust  
 Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form  
 Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief

DOE  yes  no**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Robert G. Nicholson Property (preferred)

and/or common Aylward Property

**2. Location:**

street &amp; number 17127 Old Baltimore Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Olney  vicinity of

congressional district

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"/> education	<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 checked="" 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"/> other:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	

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

name Thomas J. and M. L. Aylward

street &amp; number 17127 Old Baltimore Road

telephone no.:

city, town Olney

state and zip code MD 20832

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Montgomery County

liber 2883

street &amp; number Montgomery County Judicial Center

folio 5

city, town Rockville

state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)

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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Resource Count: 3

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

The Robert G. Nicholson Property is a 2-story, 3-bay hipped roof residence influenced by the Four-square movement and located on the south side of Old Baltimore Road in the Olney vicinity, Montgomery County. Constructed circa 1935, the building consists of a square main block under a pyramidal hipped roof with a 2-story hipped roof rear ell. It is of wood-frame construction with panel-faced molded concrete block foundation, wood siding, and a standing-seam metal roof. The windows are wood 3/1 double-hung and an interior brick chimney is located at the intersection of the main block and rear ell. The house has a 1-story hipped roof porch on the front elevation and a wood deck on the rear elevation. The front porch has a standing-seam metal roof supported by four Doric columns. The porch floor is wood over concrete block piers.

The north, or front facade has a 6-light wood panel door and two double-hung windows on the first story. The second story has three double-hung windows, while a double-hung window is located in a hipped roof dormer on the attic level.

The east elevation has two 3-light awning windows and a metal bulkhead door on the basement level. The first story has three double-hung windows and the second story has two double-hung windows. The east elevation of the rear ell has a vinyl 9-light door on the first story. The door opens onto the wood deck located at the intersection of the main block and rear ell.

The rear elevation has a double-hung window on both the first and second stories. The rear elevation of the rear ell has two double-hung windows on both the first and second stories. The rear ell is supported by concrete block piers.

The west elevation has two 3-light awning windows on the basement level. The first and second stories each have three double-hung windows.

There are two outbuildings associated with this property. The first outbuilding is a cottage/guest house, with a front-gable metal roof and exposed rafter ends. Constructed circa 1935, it is of wood-frame construction with a parged concrete foundation and wood siding. The front, or north elevation has a 9-light vinyl door and cantilevered canted bay. The bay has a central vinyl 8/8 double-hung window flanked by vinyl 4/4 double-hung windows. The gable end has a vinyl 8/12 double-hung window. The east elevation has two vinyl 8/12 double-hung windows, while the rear elevation has a sliding glass door and band of vinyl awning windows. The rear elevation has a wood deck. The west elevation has a sliding glass door with a small wood deck. The structure is located southeast of the house.

The second outbuilding is a shed located south of the house and southwest of the cottage/guest house. Constructed circa 1935, it is of wood-frame construction with a gable roof covered in wood shingles. The shed has wood siding and rests on a concrete slab. The east elevation has a wood 1/1 double-hung window and a wood door.

The property is located on the south side of Old Baltimore Road, with a modern residential development to the north, residential property to the east and west and a farmstead to the south.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Circa 1935

Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exceptions:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The lot upon which Robert G. Nicholson constructed his house was once part of a larger tract of land which extended along both sides of Georgia Avenue and was used for agricultural purposes. Ward and Cora Savage bought 28.3 hectares (69.89 acres) of land from William E. Dill in 1921. Ward and Cora Savage began subdividing the land into small residential lots along Georgia Avenue and Old Baltimore Road in the late 1920s. Robert G. Nicholson bought a .5 hectare (1.24 acre) parcel from Ward and Cora Savage in 1935. A condition of the deed stated that Robert G. Nicholson would, "erect and finish upon the parcel hereby conveyed one dwelling house at the cost of \$3500.00". Nicholson constructed a house on the property circa 1935. Thomas and Mary Aylward, the current owners, bought the property in 1961. The lot size remains .5 hectares (1.24 acres).

The Robert G. Nicholson Property is located in the vicinity of Olney. The settlement of Olney began before 1800 as a cross-roads village at the intersection of Brookeville/Washington Pike Road (now Georgia Avenue - MD 97) and Sandy Spring/Mechanicsville Road (now Olney-Sandy Spring Road - MD 108). The initial name for the area was Fair Hill, however it soon became known as Mechanicsville, for the large number of craftsman and artisans who settled at the cross-roads. Olney became the official name of the community in 1851. Olney's importance throughout the nineteenth century derived from its ability to provide goods and services to travelers and the surrounding agricultural region. In 1865, Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland shows several businesses, a seminary, schoolhouse and Episcopal Church. Most of the structures were destroyed by fire or demolished for road construction during the twentieth century. Two structures which remain of the historic village of Olney are the St. John's Episcopal Church (1842) and the Olney House (1841) (Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet-Nomination Form: Olney Historic District).

The house constructed on the Robert G. Nicholson Property is a hipped roof residence inspired by the Four-square movement. The Four-square house was popular in both suburban and rural areas of America from the late 1890s into the 1930s. Four-square dwellings are usually 2 to 2½-stories tall with a simple square or rectangular plan, low-pitched, hipped roof, and a front entrance, usually off-centered, which served as the focal point of the facade. They also commonly featured dormers on all planes of the roof and a wide 1-story front porch. Inside are usually four roughly equal-sized rooms on each floor, with a side stairway. Exterior wall surfaces were generally clad in clapboards or wood shingles. In vernacular examples, the Four-square often featured hipped dormers, a 1-story, full-width front porch, and double-hung sash windows.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Robert G. Nicholson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)

ADDRESS: 17127 Old Baltimore Road, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County

8. Significance (Continued)

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed circa 1935, the Robert G. Nicholson Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. 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. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as it is a ubiquitous building type which lacks architectural significance. The house on the Robert G. Nicholson Property is not a representative example of the Four-square style. The building deviates from the typical Four-square plan by adding a rear ell with its own hipped roof. The building also lacks pairs or bands of windows which are common to Four-squares. In addition a deck was added to the rear elevation and the rear door replaced. Finally, preliminary studies conducted for this project indicate the need for further assessment of the archaeological potential of this property. Therefore, no evaluation under Criterion D is being conducted at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility Not Recommended \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer, OPS: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, NR Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:23-145(PACS 9.38)

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See Attached

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name Sandy Spring, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state                    code    county    code

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state                    code    county    code

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Tim Tamburrino

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organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date May 1998

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street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

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city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

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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

DHCP/DHCD

100 Community Place

Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Robert G. Nicholson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)

ADDRESS: 17127 Old Baltimore Road, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

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- Boyd, T.H.S. 1968. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company.
- Brugger, Robert A. 1988. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Coleman, Margaret Marshall. 1984. Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Rev. 1990. Norfolk and Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers.
- Farquhar, Roger Brooke. 1962. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiler, Inc.
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. 1976. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Hopkins, G.M. [1879] 1975. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including the County of Montgomery, Maryland. Reprint. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.
- Martenet, Simon J. [1865] 1975. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Reprint. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet - Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service. Olney Historic District, Capsule Summary (M:23-98).
- Tindall, George Brown. 1984. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

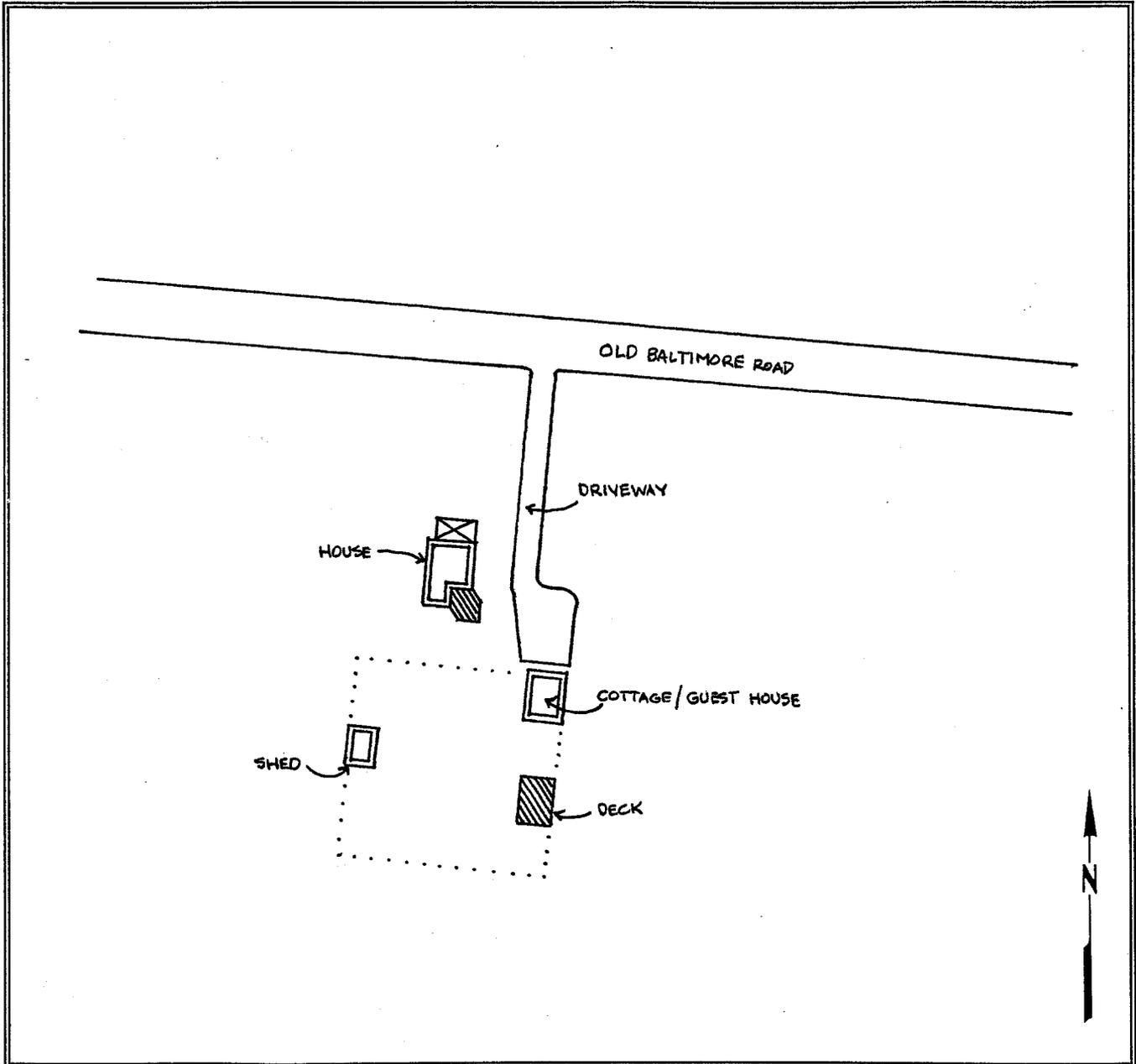
RESOURCE NAME: Robert G. Nicholson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)

ADDRESS: 17127 Old Baltimore Road, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Robert G. Nicholson Property

SURVEY NO.: M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)

ADDRESS: 17127 Old Baltimore Road, Olney vicinity, Montgomery County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period (s):

Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building(s)

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

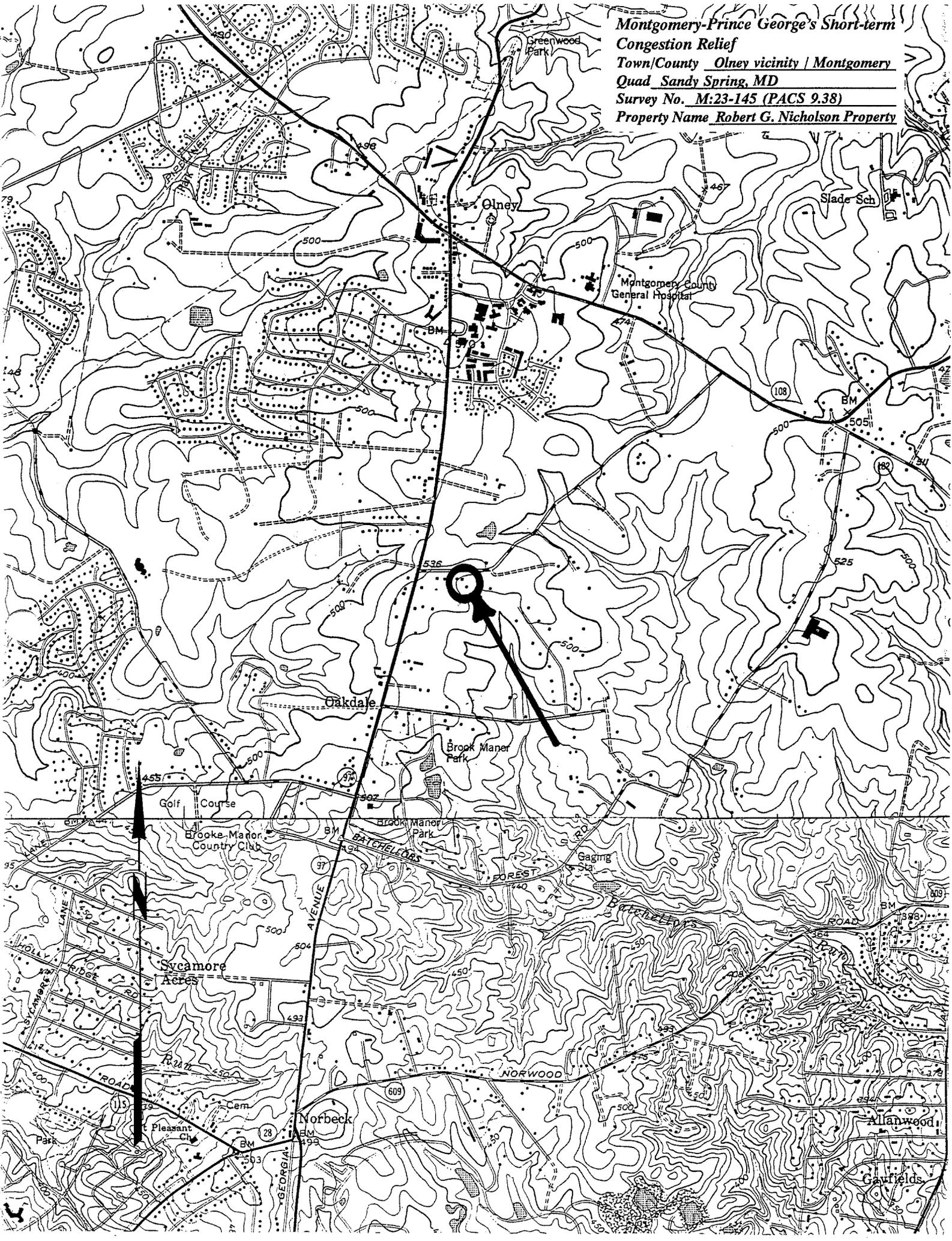
Private Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer  
P.A.C. Spero & Company  
May 1998

Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term  
Congestion Relief  
Town/County Olney vicinity / Montgomery  
Quad Sandy Spring, MD  
Survey No. M:23-145 (PACS 9.38)  
Property Name Robert G. Nicholson Property





1 M 23 - 145

2 Robert G. Nicholson Property

3 Montgomery Co, Md

4 Jim Tamburino

5 4/98

6 Md 8470

7 Front elevation

8 1 of 11



- 1 M: 23-145
- 2 Robert H. Nicholson Property
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md.
- 4 Susan Jamburinec
- 5 4/99
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 NE corner
- 8 2 of 11



1 M 23-145

2 Robert L. Nicholson Property

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Gen. Jamburino

5 4/98

6 Md 84PA

7 E elevations

8 3 of 11



1 M 23-45

2 Robert H. Nicholas Property

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Sun. Jan 21 1997

5 4197

6 Md 8410

7 SE corner

8 4 of 11



1 m. 23-145

2 Robert L. Nicholson Property

3 Montgomery Co. Md  
307 5271 2nd fl.

4 Jim Tamburino

5 4195

6 Md SHPD

7 S. elevation

8 5 of 11







- 1 M: 23-145
- 2 Robert L. Nicholson Property
- 3 Montgomery Co. Md  
20120-11000
- 4 Ann Tamborino
- 5 4198
- 6 Md SHPS
- 7 W elevation
- 8 7 of 11



1 M 23-145

2 Robert G. Nicholson Property

3 Montgomery Co. MD

4 Ann James Wilson

5 4198

6 MD SHPO

7 NW corner

8 8 of 11







1 M. 23-145

2 Robert D. Nicholson Property

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Jim Samborski

5 4/98

6 Md SHPD

7 Cottage / guest house

8 10 of 11



1 M. 23-145

2 Robert G. Nicholson Property

207 2071 N. W. H. 1.0

3 Montgomery Co. Md

4 Tom Sam Larrens

5 4101

6 W. J. 8400

7 Shed

8 11 of 11