MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-35-101

1. Name of Property

historic name Shelton House
common/other name

2. Location

street & number 3910 East-West Highway Not for publication x
city or town Chevy Chase vicinity X state Maryland code MD
county Montgomery code MO zip code 20810

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

4. National Park Service Certification

N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- X private
- ____ public-local
- ____ public-State
- ____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	____	buildings
____	____	sites
____	____	structures
____	____	objects
____	____	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?
Yes____ Name of Listing____ No____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation
roof asphalt
walls wood-clapboard
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

The two-and-a-half-story, three-bay Colonial Revival style residence has a side gabled roof and wood-clad walls. Windows at all levels are 6/1 sash. The one-story full-width porch is supported by paired classical columns. The porch deck extends beyond the full-width roof in a manner popular after the turn of the century, allowing access to outdoor living space while bringing light into interior rooms. The off-center front entry is accentuated by a decorative crown pediment. The front door features sidelights in an unusual geometric pattern.

The Shelton House has outstanding architectural integrity, with original details including operable shutters, slate shingled dormers, and a porch railing with a Union Jack design.

The house remains on its original site, Lot 10, Block 3, consisting of 12,000 square feet of land.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_X_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_X_ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture
Community planning and development

Period of Significance c1911

Significant Dates c1911

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

A fine example of the early 1900s Colonial Revival style, the Shelton House was constructed c1911, one of the first houses built north of the Chevy Chase Inn during the earliest phase of construction in Section 4 after it was platted in 1909.

In 1910 Arthur B. Shelton purchased Lot 10, Block 3 from the Chevy Chase Land Company for $3600. At the time of purchase in 1910 Arthur Shelton was living at 1712 R Street in Washington, D.C. where he worked as a clerk for the U.S. Court of Custom Appeals. The house on Lot 10, Block 3 was constructed by 1912 when improvements were assessed at $4500.[1]

In 1912 Shelton's home address was shown as þCypress Street,þ as this portion of East-West Highway was then known. The road was only one block long and provided access to five lots on the south and the Columbia Country Club on the north.[2]

Arthur B. Shelton served as Secretary of the Columbia Country Club for 42 years, beginning about the time he moved into the Cypress Street house with his wife, Annie Latimer Shelton, and young son, Charles Latimer Shelton. He had been a member of the Club since about 1909, while still residing in the District of Columbia.[3]

A c1915 aerial photo shows the Shelton House, Cypress Street, and the Club grounds. There were no other houses on Cypress Street at that time.[4] By 1915 the Shelton household included Shelton's mother, Emma Shelton. In 1920 the household members were Arthur and Annie Shelton, both 46; son Charles, 14; a sister-in-law, Margaret Latimer, 44; Emma Shelton, 70, who was then president of the local chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union; and a housekeeping servant.[5]

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[1]Deed 212:4996 (5/2/1910), Montgomery County Land Records; Boyd's Washington Directory 1910; Tax Assessment Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

[2]Nelson's Directory 1912; dedication plat 223, Bethesda-Silver Spring Highway, May 27, 1929.

[3]Minutes of Columbia Country Club Board of Governors meeting June 22, 1954; correspondence from the Club to Mrs. Shelton dated August 29, 1954; Caldwell Directory 1915.

[4]*The Town of Chevy Chase*, 1990, p. 12.

[5]Caldwell Directory 1915; U.S. Census 1920.

In May 1954 Shelton resigned as Secretary of the Columbia Country Club because of ill health. He died a few months later. In a letter of condolence written to Annie Shelton on August 29, 1954, the President of the Club described Shelton as þone of the truly great men in the annals of the Clubþ who was þin a generous measure, responsible for the success of the Club from its humble beginnings . . .þ

Annie Shelton was still living at 3910 East-West Highway in August 1954.[6]

[6]Minutes and correspondence, Columbia Country Club records.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-35-101
Shelton House
Name of Property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

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

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building/Single Dwelling

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function (s): Domestic

Known Design Source: Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
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Inventory No. M-35-101
Shelton House
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

==========

Chain of Title:

May 1910: Chevy Chase Land Company to Arthur B. Shelton for $3600 (212:4996). The house was built by 1912 and assessed at $4500. It remained in the Sheltons' ownership until 1954.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Primary Sources:

Census, U. S. 1910 and 1920.

Columbia Country Club Archives, Correspondence and Minutes.

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 and Plats.

Maps:

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

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

Fava Naeff. *Real Estate Map of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad*, 1890.

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

Klingé. *Real Estate Atlas*, 1931 and 1941.

Maryland Geological Survey Map. Bethesda & Vicinity, 1910.

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

Tax Assessment Records, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

Secondary Sources:

George, Mary Roselle. þDeveloper Influence in the Suburbanization of Washington, D.C.: Francis G. Newlands and Chevy Chase.þ M.A. Thesis, University of Maryland, 1989.

Gowans, Alan. *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930*. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1986.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. *A Grateful Remembrance: The Story of Montgomery County, Maryland.*

Rockville, Md: Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Lampl, Elizabeth Jo. and Kimberly Prothro Williams. *Chevy Chase: A Home Suburb for the Nation's Capital*, Crownsville, MD: Maryland Historical Trust Press, 1998.

Linehan, John. Editor. *The Town of Chevy Chase: Past and Present*, Montgomery County, MD: The Town of Chevy Chase, 1990.

Offutt, William. *Bethesda: A Social History of the Area Through World War II*. Bethesda, Md: The Innovation Game, 1995.

Smith, Kathryn Schneitder. Editor. *Washington at Home: An Illustrated History of Neighborhoods in the Nation's Capital*. Northridge, California: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1988

Wright, Gwen; William B. Bushong; and Clare Lise Cavicchi; þChevy Chase, Maryland, Survey District: Survey Report: Phase Two,þ Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, June 1997.

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 12,000 sq ft

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lot 10, Block 3

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Clare Lise Cavicchi, Historic Preservation Planner, and Constance Terry
organization M-NCPPC date 10-1999
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3402
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910

12. Property Owner

name Rita E Digiulian
street & number 3007 Oliver Street NW telephone
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20833

M-35-101

SHELTON HOUSE

3910 EAST-WEST HWY

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

MICHELE MARU

10-1999

M: 35-101

SHELTON HOUSE

3910 EAST-WEST HWY

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

MICHELE NARU

10-1999