MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-35-110

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Butterfield House
common/other name

## 2. Location

street & number 4312 Leland Street not for publication X
city or town Chevy Chase vicinity __ state Maryland code MD
county Montgomery code MO zip code 20815

## 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 | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | ____ | buildings |
| ____ | ____ | sites |
| ____ | ____ | structures |
| ____ | ____ | objects |
| 1 | ____ | 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 (Concrete)
roof Asphalt
walls Stucco
other

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

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

Designed in the Colonial Revival style with elements of the four-square plan, the elegant Butterfield House, built c1898-1901, sits on a spacious lot in Norwood Heights with a generous setback from Leland Street.

The two-story two-bay residence has 1/1 sash windows at the first and second stories. Walls at both levels are clad with stucco and the hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Outstanding features include projecting eaves, garland cornice swags, and polygonal bay windows. The one-story wrap-around porch with balustrade is supported by classical columns.

A two-story rear addition, built in the early 1980s, was stuccoed to match the exterior of the existing house. The original front section of the residence retains much of its architectural integrity.

The house remains at its original location, described as part of Lot 3, Block 5, consisting of 25,738 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture
Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance c1898-1901

Significant Dates c1898-1901

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

One of the earliest and grandest residences in Norwood Heights, a subdivision platted by Edwin W. Haight in 1893, the Butterfield House was probably built by John B. Lybrook between August 1898, when he acquired the lot from the Norwood Heights Improvement Company, and 1901, when he took out a mortgage of $2,500 from Sandy Spring Bank for Lot 3, Block 5.[1] Recent owners have found that cellar pipes were insulated with newspapers from 1898.[2]

Lybrook, who is listed in directories as a resident of Washington, D.C. from 1896 to 1902, was a federal employee working for the Department of Interstate Commerce. Lybrook sold the property to Warner Lewis, of Essex County, Virginia, in 1902. The house was assessed at $2,200 in 1907, the earliest date for which tax assessment records have been found.[3]

The house is best known historically for residents Benjamin Franklin and Julia Butterfield, who purchased the property from Warner and May Temple Lewis and resided here through the 1920s. Benjamin Butterfield worked for the federal government, serving as auditor for the War Department.[4]

By 1931 the property was owned by Viola Offutt, daughter of William G. and Bettie Offutt, and was sold to Godfrey and Helen Huber in 1946.[5]

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[1]Sales Plat for Norwood Heights, 1893; Deeds TD 6:111 (8/2/1898); TD 21:336 (4/27/1901).

[2]Barbara Mathias, "Footnotes from the Archives,þ Chevy Chase Historical Society records.

[3]Boyds Directories, 1896-1915; Deed 182:449 (10/1/1902, recorded 8/8/1905); Tax assessment records, Annapolis, Maryland.

[4]Deed 198:423 (6/15/1908); Boyds and Caldwell Directories; 1917 Deets and Maddox Atlas.

[5]Deed 1023:243 (6/26/1946). Also see MHT Form M-35-109.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-35-110

Butterfield House
name of property
Montgomer, Maryland
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

**Historic Environment:** Suburban

**Historic Function (s):** Domestic/Single Dwelling

**Known Design Source:** Unknown

## 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.

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*, 1916.
Hopkins, G.M. *Northern Virginia and Bethesda*, 1894.
Klinge *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 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.

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.

Wyatt, Barbara (Editor) þSurveying and Evaluating Vernacular Architecture.þ Midwest Vernacular Architecure Committee. National Register Bulletin 31, Draft. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1987.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 25,738 Square Feet

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

Part Lot 3 Block 5

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Clare Lise Cavicchi, Historic Preservation Planner
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 David W. Debruin and Elizabeth G. Taylor
street & number 4312 Leland Street telephone
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815

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35/110 Butterfield House
4/312 Leland

April 1999
Lateefah Bryant