MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes X
no ___

SURVEY DISTRICT

Property Name: Church Road and Sylvan Lane ~~Pro~~ Inventory Number: HO-609

Address: Church Rd., & Sylvan Lane City: Ellicott City Zip Code: ___

County: Howard USGS Topographic Map: Ellicott City

Owner: Numerous

Tax Parcel #: SEE Tax parcel Map Number: ATTACHED ~~Tax~~ Account ID Number: ___

Project: Emergency Communications Tower Agency: DGS & DBM

Site visit by MHT staff ___ no X yes Name: Anne E. Bruder Date: 12/22/2000

Eligibility recommended X Eligibility **not** recommended ___

Criteria: ___ A ___ B X C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ None

Is the property located within a historic district? ___ no X yes Name of District: Ellicott City

Is district listed? ___ no X yes District Inventory Number: H-

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Project Review and Compliance Files

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

MHT staff members have reviewed the materials provided by residents of the Church Road/Sylvan Lane area of Ellicott City, and have determined that a portion of this area appears eligible for the National Register as a historic district under Criterion C. The Church Road area was subdivided in 1888, and the residential neighborhood embodies the distinctive characteristics of "suburban" development of the period in its respect for the existing topography and vegetation, and in the architectural character of the buildings. Several properties on Sylvan Lane also reflect this trend, while other resources are more closely associated with the earlier phase of Ellicott City's development as a mill town.

Prepared by: Anne Bruder & Peter Kurtze Date Prepared: 01/08/2001

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended X **Eligibility not recommended** ___

Criteria ___ **A** ___ **B** X **C** ___ **D** **Considerations** ___ **A** ___ **B** ___ **C** ___ **D** ___ **E** ___ **F** ___ **G** ___ **None**

MHT Comments:

Anne E. Bruder	**January 08, 2001**
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	**Date**
	1/30/01
Reviewer, NR Program	**Date**

→ prepared 1989 apparently to support expansion of local HD — was this ever adopted by the local govt?

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HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DATA ON THE PROPERTIES INCLUDED IN THE AREA PROPOSED FOR INCLUSION IN THE ELLICOTT CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Before beginning the architectural and historical background for the upper Church Road and Sylvan Lane areas, there are a few terms that need to be defined to fully understand the following description. A historic district is important because it is a grouping of buildings, sites, structures and objects that posses historical, architectural and cultural value. Although the district is significant as a whole, it may be composed of buildings or sites that lack individual distinction. For this reason there are some buildings in this area which are described as not contributing to or being an intrusion in the historic district. This simply means that they were constructed later than the majority of the properties and do not posses the architectural and historical characteristics of the rest of the area.

The majority of the upper Church Road and Sylvan Lane area which is proposed for inclusion in the Ellicott City Historic District was originally part of Linwood Farm. Today much of the original rural feeling of the area still exists even with its close proximity to U.S. Route 40 and Ellicott City. The estate consisted of approximately 260 acres. The land was subdivided in 1888 on the Lynwood Farm Plat which was surveyed and platted by W. J. Robinson at the request of the Howard County Equity Court. The owners of Linwood died unexpectedly leaving the land to their eight children who were not able to maintain the house and the farm. As a part of the subdivision the Merrick children retained ownership of the house and 40 acres, the rest of the land was sold. The first lot sold was parcel number 4 to S. Francis Miller for $125 per acre.

All land fronting on Sylvan Lane, between Church Road and the Sucker Branch was part of the property known as the Vineyard. Beyond the creek, the land was originally the eastern portion of the Oaks Farm. The houses along Sylvan Lane are more typical of the homes built in a mill town, whereas the homes along Church Road are the second houses of the merchants and mill managers of the town as it grew and prospered.

Parcel 247 Dr. & Mrs. R. Gary Hollenbeck
1135/738 3405 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

On this property is a frame cottage at the very end of Sylvan Lane at the edge of the Patapsco State Park.

Parcel 171 Mr. & Mrs. John S. Reiter
1131/696 3645 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

A frame cottage sits tucked into the hillside, showing the rural traditions of the area.

Parcel 272 Mr. & Mrs. Philip A. Burns
1157/400 3420 Sylvan Lane

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Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This is one of three very similar Victorian houses constructed c. 1890 on Sylvan Lane. Each of the Victorian houses is situated high on the hills overlooking the Patapsco River Valley. This is a contributing structure in the historic district.

Parcel 169 Mr. & Mrs. O'Neal Smith
206/225 3649 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

A pink aluminum sided remodeled Dutch Colonial that does not contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the neighborhood.

Parcel 246 Miss Agnes Mae House
728/574 3531 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

A one and one half story vernacular frame house. There is a porch running the length of the house overlooking the river valley.

C Parcel 245 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Harman 3641 Sylvan Lane
1983/287 9933 Evergreen Avenue
Columbia, Maryland 21046

A c. 1900 frame vernacular two family residence on the hillside overlooking the Patapsco River Valley.

C Parcel 167 Miss Susan Jean Hall
1199/350 3541 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This frame house sits below the street in the river valley.

Parcel 19 Mr. & Mrs. Fred Goldsmith
333/465 3530 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house was not constructed during the period when the majority of the houses in the area were developed and is considered an intrusion in the historic district.

C Parcel 242 Mr. Hugh I. Gibb 3570 Sylvan Lane
1856/107 11212 Green Dragon Court
Columbia, Maryland 21044

One of the three Victorian homes. This house constructed c. 1890 is a frame house with a front porch running the length of the building. The front porch posts have decorative brackets.

C Parcel 244 Mr. & Mrs. Chester A. Parks 3581 Sylvan Lane
306/556 3578 Jay Em Court
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

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This is a two story frame vernacular house overlooking the Patapsco River Valley.

C Parcel 243 Mr. Hugh I. Gibb 3621 Sylvan Lane
1892/657 11212 Green Dragon Court
Columbia, Maryland 21044

This is an undeveloped piece of property.

C Parcel 241 Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Suter
570/412 3578 Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This Victorian home has been stuccoed and the front porch was slightly modified at the time the stucco was applied. This is one of the three Victorian houses which contribute to the architectural and historical significance of the area.

C Parcel 213 Mr. & Mrs. William F. Devine
478/645 3611 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

The house was originally constructed in the mid 1870's as a one and one half story summer cottage on which a second story was later added. This property is commonly known as "The Vineyards."

This name was given to the property by John F. Reus, a German winegrower from Rhineland. Mr. Reus purchased this section of Linwood from Richard Merrick. Mr. Reus terraced and planted the land with grapes for wine production. His vineyard was not successful because Americans at the time were not wine drinkers.

After his death, Mr. Reus' widow rented the house during the summer months to Baltimore families escaping the heat. During the time the main house was leased the Reus family resided in a cottage to the north of the main house. The most famous tenants of the house was the family of Mr. & Mrs. August Mencken, whose son was Henry Louis Mencken. The Mencken family came to The Vineyard because Mr. Reus' oldest son was married to August Mencken's half-sister. Ellicott City, the Church Road area and the Vineyards in particular were described by H. L. Mencken in his book Happy Days in the chapter "Rural Delights." The following are some descriptive excerpts from the chapter:

The family was moved to Ellicott City for the summer, but his father had to commute daily to Baltimore. "The head of each house, of course, had to come to town every day to look after his business, for it was not usual, at that time, for males with any sense of responsibility to take holidays, but no one ever mistook this round trip for a pleasure jaunt; on the contrary, it was regarded as heroic, and mentioned with praise. The only feasible way to get to our first Summer retreat in Howard county, Maryland, was by Baltimore & Ohio train to the ancient village of Ellicott City, and then up a steep zigzag road in the village hack. My father and my uncle Henry, whose family shared the house with us, made the round trip every day, but its second half always left them hot, dusty and worn-out, and I doubt that they could have endured it if the ground rules had not allowed them a couple mint juleps when they finally reached the front porch."

"The house above Ellicott City was a double one, with a hall down the middle. We occupied one side, and the family of my uncle Henry had the other. It had been built by a German named Reus, a winegrower from the Rhineland, and he had chosen the site because the hillside that swept down to the upper Patapsco, there a placid country stream, seemed perfect for vineyards. In the eighties his terraces were still visible, but their vines were in a sad state of decay, for Mr. Reus had discovered too late that Americans were not wine drinkers." pp. 77-78.

"From the big house there was a superb view of the valley of the Patapsco--a winding gorge with wooded heights on both sides." p. 78.

". . . and here {Ellicott City} was everything from wide and smiling fields to deep, dense woods of ancient trees, and from the turbulent and exciting life of the barnyard to the hidden peace of woodland brooks." p. 79.

"There was a brook down in the woods, called the Sucker branch, that seemed to me to encompass the whole substance and diameter of romantic adventure. My brother and I waded in it, dammed it, leaped over it, and searched under its stones for crayfish and worms. It rose in a distant field, ran down through the deepest part of the Vineyard woods, and disappeared toward the Patapsco in a thicket so dense and forbidding that my brother and I never ventured into it. Where the path from the house came to the brook there were the ruins of an old grist-mill, dating back to the first years of the century and maybe even beyond, but with its dam and the better part of the its wooden wheel still surviving. Under the wheel there was a little pool that seemed infinitely deep to my brother and me: we would heave stones into it, and were always sure that we could never hear them strike the bottom." pp. 80-81

" The Reus boys preferred a swimming-hole in the Patapsco itself, at the foot of the long hill stretching down from our house. They reported it to be full of bottomless pits and treacherous undertows, and refused loftily to let my brother and me come along." p. 81.

"Housekeeping at the Vineyard must have been something of an ordeal for my mother and my aunt, who fed their flocks separately. The best cookstoves available were poor things that burned kerosene, and they were set out in a sort of arbor behind the house. Down in the village there was a butcher whose family had carried on in one of the stone houses along the main (and only) street for the better part of a century, but I can recall no baker, and all the bread we ate was baked at home. Vegetables and fruits, such as they were, came from Darsch's market-garden, and fowl came from his barnyard. There must have been ice in the house, for I can't imagine my father drinking warm beer without alarming symptoms, and he and his brother often made mint juleps, especially when company took the long trail out from the city on a Sunday." pp. 85-86.

"The road down to the village was steep and rough, and the trip up was full of tribulation. It started off the main street at what must have been at least a ten per cent. grade, passed the county jail (bowered in flowers, and always showing a sad blackamoor or two at its barred windows), skirted a curious old house called the Chateau (it had towers and battlements, and clung to a steep crag overhanging the Patapsco), went by the columned portico of the Patapsco Female Institute, and finally brought up at our gate." pp. 86-87.

"We were at the Vineyard only two Summers, but it made so powerful an impression on me that I remember every detail of the place to this day--the wonderful adventures in the woods and along the brook, the fascinating life of beasts and birds, the daily miracles of the farm, . . ." p.87.

"Some time ago my brother August and I drove up to it on a Sunday morning, and found Carrie and her husband living in the big house. The main terraces of the vineyard had been converted into roads, the roads were lined with bungalows, and in the field that I roved for butterflies there were more bungalows and worse ones, but the woods down by the brook were now almost as large in fact as they seemed to me as a boy." p. 88.

Mencken's first introduction to the world of newspapers occurred during 1888, while spending the summer in Ellicott City. He wandered into the offices of the Ellicott City Times and became entranced by the hand press. He decided what he would like a little printing press of his own and received it that year for Christmas, along with a font of type. Mencken later announced that the press determined the whole course of his life. (Bode, p. 21.)

C Parcel 16 Mr. & Mrs. John W. Knight
499/393 3585 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house is a vernacular Carpenter Gothic Cottage constructed c. 1856 with wood that was originally part of an auxillary building at the Patapsco Female Institute. The cottage was built by the Institute for an unknown use.

C Parcel 15 Mr. & Mrs. Wallace L. Simon
281/450 3575 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house is one of the early houses constructed in the Lynwood Farm subdivision. It was built circa 1890 and is Victorian in design. The house is two and one half stories, it is a "L" plan in shape. It is a frame building that has been sided with aluminum and there is a large wrap around porch.

C Parcel 14 Mr. & Mrs. H. Stanley Cushing
194/256 3565 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

The original owners of this Victorian house circa 1890 were Mr. & Mrs. George Carr. Mr. Carr came to Ellicott City to be the comptroller of the flour mill on Frederick Road in Baltimore County. Later he went into the insurance business with Mr. Charles A. Hermann, creating the successful Hermann & Carr Insurance Agency that still exists long after the deaths of the founding partners.

The second owners of this property are the current owners. The Cushings purchased the house from the Carrs and the address at the time of purchase was simply Merrick's Lane and later as Patapsco Heights.

C Parcel 265 Mr. Donald J. Schmidt

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590/657 3557 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house was constructed after the majority of the houses in the area were developed and is considered an intrusion in the historic district.

No Parcel 125 Mr. William M. Duffy & Ms. Margaret Prescott
3542 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house was constructed by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Taylor on land that was originally part of the Taylor's current property. The house is constructed in the Cape Cod style and is an intrusion in the historic district. It is not visible from Church Road and does not impact the historic streetscape.

C Parcel 206 Mr. & Mrs. Frank T. Taylor
227/341 3542 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house is a prefabricated house ordered by mail from the Sears, Roebuck and Company. Between 1908 and 1940 Sears was the place to find not only everything to fill an American home; it also manufactured and sold the houses themselves--approximately 450 ready to assemble designs from mansions to bungalows and even summer cottages. Ordered by mail and sent by rail wherever a boxcar or two could pull up, these popular houses were meant to fill a need for sturdy, inexpensive and, especially, modern homes--complete with such desirable conveniences as indoor plumbing and electricity. Sears houses were popular for several reasons including: 1.) they consciously reflected popular American taste of the period; 2.) designs were selected for their broad appeal and acceptance; 3.) the company had a reputation for quality at a reasonable price; and 4.) the houses could be constructed with speed and ease. The company provided precut lumber at a time when power tools were almost unknown, as well as a complete set of specifications and instructions to aid in construction. Because owners were directly involved with design selection and actual construction, they were especially proud of the Sears houses once they were erected.

The house was shipped to Ellicott City by railroad car and was transported up Church Road by a team of horses. The house appears to be Model Number 120 and was described in the catalog as follows: "This house has two full stories and an attic. It has a hipped-gable dormer on the front of the house. It is sided with clear cypress beveled siding. A large front porch supported by massive columns extends across the entire front. **Details and features:** Seven rooms and one bath. Full width front porch with shed roof supported by rectangular piers. Sliding doors between parlor and dining room, mantel in dining room; semiopen stairs. **Years and catalog numbers:** 1911 (120); 1912 (120); 1913 (120); 1916 (264P120); 1917 (C120). **Price:** $1,278 to $1,660."

The original owners were the Dennis' who sold The Oaks to live closer to town. The second residents were Hermoine Dennis Taylor and Lloyd Taylor. Mrs. Taylor's childhood home was The Oaks at the northern end of Church Road. As a child she attended a private Episcopal school in Catonsville and each day rode her pony to the

livery stable on Main Street. At the stable, Hermie would then board a buggy for the ride to Catonsville.

Mr. Lloyd Taylor was an engineer and worked in both Canada and England before returning to Ellicott City. After returning to the area Lloyd became the Clerk of the County Commission prior to the establishment of the charter form of government.

The home has been added to and the front porch was removed. It is still in the Taylor family and the current owners are Mr. & Mrs. Frank Todd Taylor, the son of Hermoine and Lloyd.

C

Parcel 255 Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Cooney
1468/674 3560 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This American Foursquare house was originally constructed in 1909 by Mr. and Mrs. William Kraft. Mrs. Edna Schotta Kraft owned and operated Dorthea Kraft's Meat Market on Main Street (the market was located in what is now the Source Unlimited Interior Design store). Mrs. Kraft before butchering some of the cattle would pasture them in the adjoining fields while they were being fattened. This field now has the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Bayless constructed on it.

NO

Parcel 13 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lacey
869/113 3538 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

The original house on this lot was destroyed by fire. The original barn is still on the property, the chicken coop has been rehabilitated into a small cottage and the a second house has been constructed. The original owners were Mr. and Mrs. Groener.
Mr. Groener was in the plumbing supply business and Hattie, his wife, was a department manager at one of the Baltimore department stores. Mr. Groener added a bomb shelter during the Cold War and it is currently used as a swimming pool. This house is still owned by members of the Groener family.

The existing house is an intrusion in the historic district.

C

Parcel 283 Ms. Diana L. Cortes
1755/558 3552 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This elegant Victorian home was constructed circa 1890. It was originally owned by the Schillingers. The second owners were Mr. and Mrs. William L. Hood, who owned and operated a grocery store located in the "Old Opera House" on Main Street (this is now the Jonathan Ellicott Forget Me Not Factory).

C

Parcel 209 Mr. & Mrs. George W. Bayless
492/602 3574 Church Road
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This shingle sided American Foursquare house was constructed in 1910 by Mr. and

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Mrs. Richard Talbot, whose father founded the Talbot Lumber company. The lumber company is still located on Main Street in Ellicott City. Mr. Talbot purchased the land for his house from the Krafts just prior to constructing a "modern" house for his bride.

NO

Parcel 20	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Peach
394/99	3496 Church Road
	Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house is a new house and does not contribute to the historical and architectural significance of the area.

NO

Parcel 3	Foundation for Autism & Atypical Development Inc.
1313/356	8528 Blounts Lane
	Fulton, Maryland

This is an undeveloped piece of property.

NO

Parcel 306	Gary D. Maule & Evelyn A. Belshner
Lot 1	3431 Church Road
1297/620	Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

A small cottage sits on this property. It may be an expansion of an out building of the Linwood Farm. It appears to have been remodeled in the early 1900's as a residence.

NO

Parcel 306	Mr. & Mrs. William H. Scotti, Jr.	3435 Park Drive
Lot 2	1465 NE 123rd Street, Apt. 404	
935/300	North Miami, Florida 33139	

This cottage may also have been an outbuilding on the Linwood Farm. A stone spring house is located to the rear of this cedar sided cottage.

NO

Parcel 306	Mr. James F. Wendell
Lot 3	8390 Church Road
1816/647	Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This two story tenant house is shown on the 1888 plat of Lynwood Farm. It sits up on the hill to the north of Church Road and to the west of Park Drive. It is a frame structure with a front porch running the length of the house. This is the house into which Mrs. Peach moved after leaving Linwood.

NO

Parcel 306	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Poag
Lot 4	3425 Park Road
1895/513	Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

This house is set a distance back from Park Drive and is a new split level residence. It does not contribute to the architectural and historical significance of the area.

NO

Parcel 218	Linwood Children's Farms, Inc.
269/123	3421 Church Road

Over the years Linwood grew from a comparatively small house to its present size of seventeen rooms, an attic, full basement, and an outstanding "great hall." It is believed to have been constructed by a Mr. Hare whose family occupied the house for several years. At the time it was built, the house was a simple gabled stone house commonly found in the area. The stone was quarried locally.

In the mid-1800's, Major Washington Peter of Tudor Place, Georgetown, bought the beautiful estate so his daughters could attend the exclusive Patapsco Female Institute. During Major Peter's ownership the house underwent extensive remodeling including the addition of a wing and the mansard roof. The double door entrance opens into a the hall which runs the full length of the house. A magnificent spiral staircase ascends from the first floor to the attic. There are many features of great workmanship including, woodwork, fireplace mantels and windows. During this period Linwood became one of Ellicott City's most impressive mansions.

The Peters were related to many of the south's most notable families including the Washingtons, the Balls and the Lees. In 1870, while under the care of Baltimore physician-Dr. Thomas Hepburn Buckler, General Robert E. Lee stayed at Linwood between tests. Mrs. Peter was Mrs. Lee's cousin.

Linwood was also known for its boxwood gardens. The slips for these gardens were cut from the boxwoods at Mount Vernon, rooted at Tudor Place and then carried to Ellicott City in saddle bags.

The next owner of Linwood was Richard Merrick, a successful Washington attorney. The Merrick family is descended from the Calverts. It was the Merrick's summer house and their permanent residence remained in the nation's capitol. One of the Merrick's daughters, Mary Virginia is frequently associated with Linwood.

At the age of seventeen, Miss Merrick fell in the family playhouse and was severely injured and was confined to a wheel chair. Miss Merrick got around town on a specially designed horizontal cart drawn by a donkey.

Miss Mary Merrick was the founder of the Christ Child Society, in 1887, a non-profit organization of lay volunteers dedicated to expressing their love of Christ by personal service to needy children regardless of race or creed. Today that work continues through volunteer activities in the thirty-four chapters throughout the United States. One of the many volunteers to the Christ Child Society was Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, wife of the President.

Miss Mary Merrick efforts to assist children in need started at the age of sixteen. Before the Christmas of 1884, Mary organized her sisters and friends to make a layette for a Christmas baby in need, in honor of the Christ Child. The layette was delivered to a grateful mother. This became a tradition for Mary and later the Christ Child Society.

Her second charitable act also occurred that Christmas. This child, a little boy named Paul, the son of the Merrick family laundress, was an inspiration. Paul was Mary's errand boy. As he stood by her couch one day, she asked him what he wanted for Christmas. He replied that he wanted a red wagon and added that there

CHURCH ROAD

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The upper part of Church Road was once called Merrick or Merrick's Lane; it led to the Merrick farm, "Linwood", past the grounds of Patapsco Female Institute. H. L. Mencken in his book Happy Days writes of Merrick's Lane and of the hill and its slopes down to Sucker Branch. As a young boy, Mencken came out from Baltimore in the summer to visit his aunt whose home was near Merrick Lane, the present site of "The Vineyard" (14). Later, in 1888, a plat shows "Lynwood Farm Divided". Four houses were built at that time, each having 3-5 acres of land (3, 5, 17, 8). One of these (3) later burned; three are still standing and one (17) is now occupied by the second family to own it (1946-).

In 1910 or 1911 William Kraft purchased another of the Linwood parcels, built on it (19), and sold a portion of it to Richard Talbott, second generation of the Talbott lumber business, who built a house for himself and his new bride (16). This house is also occupied by its second owners, who are related to the Talbotts.

In about 1920 E.P. Dennis, owner of "The Oaks" and a farm estate on the other side of Sucker Branch, purchased some of the Linwood land and constructed on it for himself a prefabricated Sears Roebuck house (6), now enlarged and occupied by the third generation of his family. Linwood itself, now a noted school for autistic children, remains a handsome mid-nineteenth century landmark of great architectural interest.

In the 1930's there were two additional houses built, one on the site of the burned 1888 house (3) and one across from Patapsco Institute, out of materials from dependencies and outbuildings on Institute grounds (12). This adjoins "The Vineyard", already mentioned. Closer to the Institute are three other houses dating from the 1920's and 30's. each set on a sizable plot of land (~~18, 19, 20~~).
13, 16, 33.

The huge Institute building (1834-37) was the commanding feature of the hill and of the Ellicott City landscape for a hundred and thirty years, and is now an imposing ruin. Designed by Robert Cary Long, Jr. it was built of local granite on land given by the Ellicotts, in the Greek Revival style. The site, with the ruin stabilized and an unequalled view of the valley, is being developed as a national park and arboretum by the Park Department. It has a rich history and a key place in the earliest higher education of women.

Going down to lower Church Road and the old boundaries of the town of Ellicott City we come to other historic landmarks: a house built in the last century by the Collier family and now occupied by the third generation (18); "Mt. Ida" (1828) an original Ellicott house in the southern manor style; and two early nineteenth

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century houses of local granite, "The Old Manse" (24) and the Mc Afee house (37). Also notable is Emory Methodist Church, built in 1837.

Later frame houses of the Victorian period include one that has housed the town's doctors for a hundred years (29). A three-story house known as the Kroh Building was saved from office-type development when two families of our neighborhood association bought and rehabilitated it as a handsome residence. A little back from the road but with Church Road its address and only access is "Angelo Cottage" (1831), a castle-like house which is (20) probably Ellicott City's best-known landmark, set up on a cliff overlooking the Patapsco River Valley. At the very foot of the hill is the county's first firehouse where a fire museum is currently planned.

Church Rd

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3542 – ?

3

3496 – recent

3546 – 4sq, altered

3552 – good vict

3557 – new

3565 – good vict

3560 4sq.

3574 ditto

opp 3560 – good vict

3585 board & bat

3611 The Vineyard – Col Rev

opp the Vineyard – Dutch Col Rev

3626 col rev

3630 Col Rev – 40s?

Sylvan Lane

3511 – integ prof

3530 – new

3641 – over restored?

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Stevenson, Katherine Cole and H. Ward Jandl. Houses by Mail: A Guide to Houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company. Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1986.

The Land Records, Howard County Court House, Ellicott City, Maryland.

This report was compiled by Alice Ann Wetzel, Historic Preservation Planner, Howard County, Maryland, during the months of May through July 1989.

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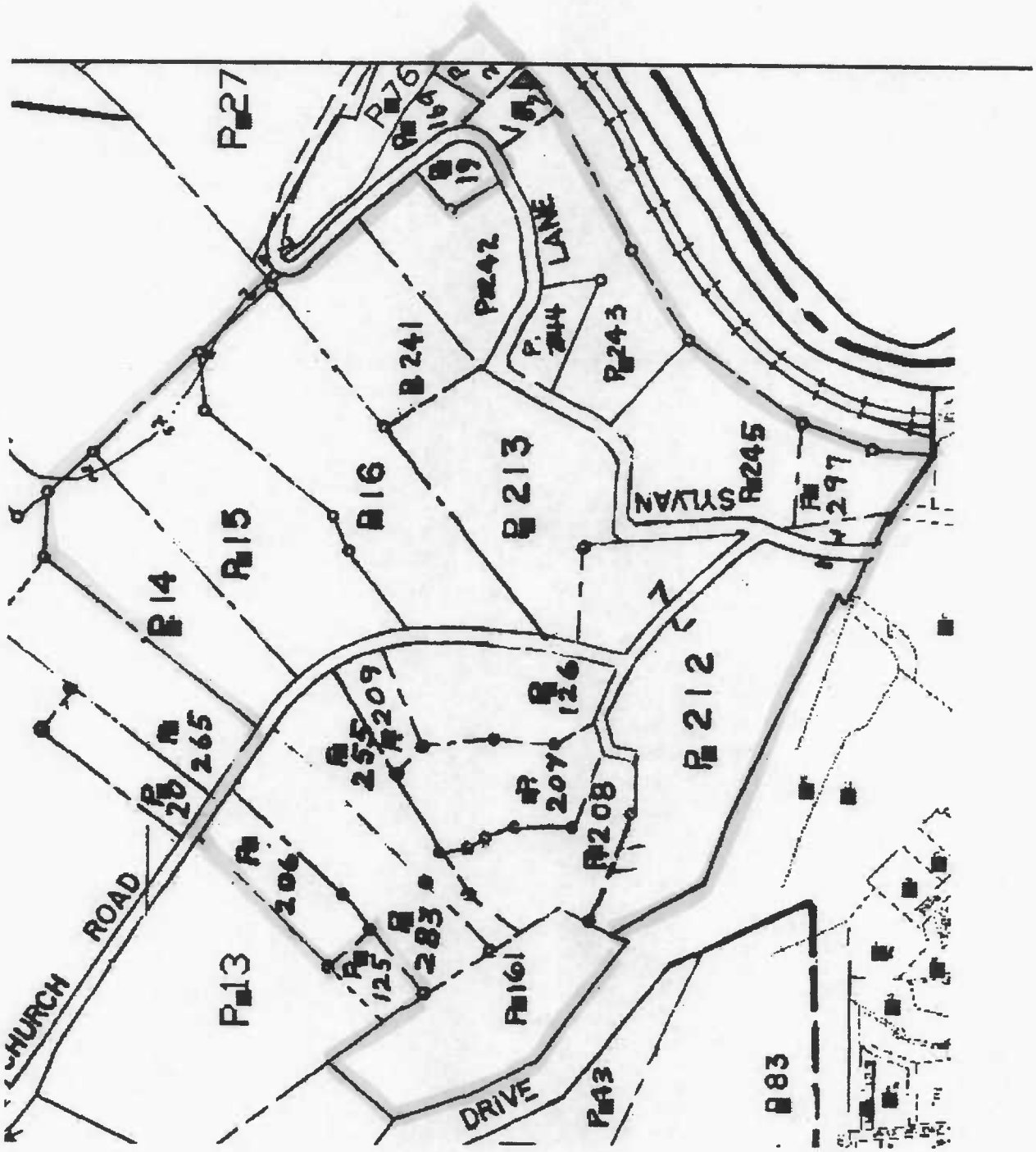
Church Road - Sylvan Lane
Ellicott City Quad



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CHURCH ROAD-SYLVAN LANE SURVEY DISTRICT

ELLICOTT CITY USGS QUAD.