

Olney Manor Farm  
M:23-102  
Montgomery County, Maryland

Olney Manor Farm is a grand two-story brick Georgian Revival-style manor house built in 1937. Located on a sizeable three-acre lot off of Prince Philip Drive, south of Olney, it is now well-shielded, but surrounded by a contemporary residential subdivision. Originally part of a large 114-acre estate, Olney Manor Farm occupies the site of a mid-to late 19th-century frame house, known as "Menden." The property also includes a tenant house, a large bank barn, a crib barn, several equipment sheds, and several domestic outbuildings, most of which survive from the 19th century period of construction.

Olney Manor Farm was constructed on the site of "Menden", the late 19th century home of Charles Farquhar, Jr. Charles Farquhar, a Quaker and a doctor, was the first of many generations of Farquhars--locally active residents and prominent members of the Olney-Sandy Spring community. Olney Manor Farm was constructed by John Beane, a businessman who ran a wholesale supply company in Washington, D.C., and operated dairy farms on his Montgomery County property. Despite its compromised setting, Olney Manor Farm meets Criterion C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties as an excellent example of mid-20th-century Georgian Revival-style country architecture.



=====  
6. Function or Use  
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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling; Secondary Dwelling  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE Barns; Smokehouse; Well; Garden Freezer;

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Georgian Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick  
roof Slate shingles  
walls Brick  
other \_\_\_\_\_

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

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

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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)

- 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.
- 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.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties  
Olney Manor Farm  
Montgomery County, Maryland

Inventory No. M-23-102  
Page 4

=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance mid 19th century-1937  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates mid 19th century  
circa 1937  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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

Clem, Mike "Beane Manor House Offered as a Community Center," *The Montgomery County Gazette*, May 3, 1985.

Clem, Mike "Olney Civic Association Rejects Beane Mansion Offer," *The Montgomery County Gazette*, May 24, 1985.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke, *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD*. Silver Spring, MD., 1952, 1962.

MacMaster, Richard K. and Ray Eldon Hiebert, *A Grateful Remembrance: The Story of Montgomery County, Maryland, 1776-1976*. (Rockville, MD: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976).

Montgomery County Land Records, Montgomery County, Maryland.

Sandy Spring Museum, Vertical Files.

Maps and Drawings and Photographs

Hopkins, G.M., *Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland*, 1879.

Martenet and Bond, *Map of Montgomery County*, 1865.

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10. Geographical Data  
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Acreage of Property 3 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)** Olney Manor Farm occupies Parcel 23 on Montgomery County Tax Map HT 561.

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

This parcel has been associated with Olney Manor Farm since the construction of the present house on the site in circa 1937.

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11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Kimberly Williams/Michele Naru, Architectural Historians  
organization M-NCPPC date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3403  
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910  
=====

12. Property Owner  
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name William J. and A.J. Boyko  
street & number 17510 Prince Philip Drive telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Olney state MD zip code 20832  
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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Inventory No. M-23-102

Olney Manor Farm

name of property

Montgomery County, MD

county and state

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Olney Manor Farm is a grand and impressive two-story brick Georgian Revival-style manor house built in 1937.<sup>1</sup> It is located on a large three-acre lot off of Prince Philip Drive, south of Olney, and is now surrounded by a contemporary residential subdivision. Originally part of a large 114-acre estate, Olney Manor is located on the site of a mid-to late 19th-century frame house, known as "Menden." Mendon was owned, during the 19th century by the Farquhar family, Quakers and active members of the Sandy Spring community. The property also includes a tenant house, a large bank barn, a crib barn, several equipment sheds, and several domestic outbuildings, most of which survive from the 19th century period of construction.

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

Built in 1937, Olney Manor Farm is designed in a mid-20th century Georgian Revival style. It is a three-part brick structure, consisting of a 2-1/2-story, five-bay center block with lower 1-1/2-story flanking wings. The house, which faces west to Georgia Avenue, is covered with a gable roof with slate shingles and grand end chimneys. The house is characterized by a double-story, pedimented portico.

Exterior:

The west elevation of the central block is divided into five bays consisting of a central entry and flanking 6/6 windows. The door features a classic, Colonial Revival style broken pedimented surround. The windows feature flat-arched brick lintels with stone keystones, stone sills and louvered shutters. The double-story portico has paired Doric columns which support a plain frieze board and a tympanum decorated with a round window. The cornice and raking cornice of the pediment is articulated with modillions.

The east elevation consists of the five-bay central block and end wings. The center block is characterized by a projecting central pavilion, articulated with a central entry featuring an engaged pediment surround and, above that, a round-arched window.

The wings, to the north and south of the main block, are both 1-1/2-stories in height. They are both covered with gable roofs, framed on the east elevation and glassed-in on the other three sides.

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<sup>1</sup> In his book, Historic Montgomery County, MD: Old Homes and History, Roger B. Farquhar claims that Olney Manor Farm was designed by a Washington, D.C. architect. No further information regarding the architect has been found.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-102

Olney Manor Farm

name of property

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The south and north elevations of the main block feature brick end chimneys flanked by quarter-round windows. The east elevation has a central, 15-light door flanked by 6/6 windows with flat-arched brick lintels and stone keystones. A round-arched window with 14/8-light sash is located in the second story of this elevation, above the central entry door.

**AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND DOMESTIC OUTBUILDINGS**

In spite of its location in a contemporary residential subdivision, Olney Manor Farm occupies a large lot and retains many of its original, 19th-century farm buildings behind the house.

Immediately behind the house in the rear garden are two brick structures with gable roofs and cupolas. One of these buildings holds a well, while the other was a garden freezer.

A drive next to the house extends past a range of four large farm buildings, including a long frame barn and a group of three smaller barns, the center one being a drive-in crib barn. These three structures are frame, clad with vertical boards and are covered with gable roofs. Beyond this grouping at the rear of the lawn is a three-bay, gable-roofed barn with silo.

Another drive, leading off of the main drive leads past this barn to another group of three, small gable-roofed frame buildings. The center building was originally the "tack room," converted in the 1980's into a playhouse. The others served as storage sheds. Finally, at the edge of the lot is the late 19-century tenant house--a two-story, frame, L-house at the end of the lane.

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Olney Manor Farm, a grand Colonial Revival manor house built in 1937, was constructed on the site of "Menden", the late 19th century home of Charles Farquhar, Jr. Charles Farquhar, a Quaker and a doctor, was the first of many generations of Farquhars-- locally active residents and prominent members of the Olney-Sandy Spring community. Olney Manor Farm was constructed by John Beane, a businessman who ran a wholesale supply company in Washington, D.C. and operated dairy farms on his Montgomery County property until his death in 1941. The farm remained in Beane family hands for forty years. Olney Manor Farm meets Criterion C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties.

PROPERTY HISTORY

The property on which Olney Manor Farm was constructed in 1937 was part of a large tract of land owned by Roger Brooke V in the early 19th century. In the 1840s, it was inherited by his daughter, Sarah Brooke Farquhar, who was married to Dr. Charles Farquhar, Sr., an English professor and medical doctor. Sarah and Charles Farquhar had earlier moved to Mechanicsville (Olney) from Alexandria in the 1830s, where they lived at "Olney House."<sup>2</sup> The Farquhars owned several hundred acres of land in the region.

Charles Farquhar died in 1844, leaving Sarah a widow for over 20 years. At Sarah Brooke Farquhar's death in 1866, her property was divided amongst her several children. Her son, Dr. Charles Farquhar, Jr. received the 121-acre Olney Manor Farm. Dr. Charles Farquhar, Jr., also a doctor, was county coroner and president of the Montgomery County Medical Society. On his inherited land, Charles, Jr. built "Menden" a small frame house, where he lived for many years as a bachelor.<sup>3</sup> Around 1898, Farquhar married, and moved with his wife to "Olney House," where they raised a son, Roger Brooke Farquhar. Roger Brooke Farquhar was well noted in his lifetime as a local historian and author of the invaluable book, *Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD*.

In 1900, Farquhar sold Menden, including the frame house and 121 acres, to George E. Nicholson. Nicholson, at one time county

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<sup>2</sup> The house was named "Olney" by Farquhar, and was later, in 1851, adopted as the new name for the town of Mechanicsville. The name Olney is thought to have been inspired by the homeplace of William Cowper (1731-1800), a poet and hymn composer, whom Farquhar admired and who was from Olney, England.

<sup>3</sup>Sandy Spring Museum, Vertical Files

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Inventory No. M-23-109

Olney Manor Farm

name of property

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county and state

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sheriff, retained ownership of Menden until 1934, when he defaulted on his mortgage. John and Mary Beane purchased the property in 1935 from the Farmer's Banking and Trust Company. John Beane demolished the old frame house called "Menden" and built, in its place, an impressive Georgian Revival style house which he called "Olney Manor." Mr. Beane, who ran a wholesale supply business in Washington, D.C. ran dairy farms on his several properties until his death in 1941. His son, John Beane Jr. operated a cattle farm on the property after his father's death. The estate remained in the Beane family until Mary Beane died in 1977. Following her death, Olney Manor Farm came under the ownership of the American Security Bank. During the 1980s, the property was subdivided and developed into the residential community known as Hallowell Subdivision. After having stood vacant for several years, and been proposed for various uses, including community center of the subdivision, Olney Manor Farm, along with 3 surrounding acres was purchased by current owners, William and A.J. Boyko. The Boycos have renovated the house and all of its outbuildings.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-102

Olney Manor Farm

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

Modern Period, 1930-Present

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):**

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

**RESOURCE TYPE(S)**

**Category:** Standing Structure

**Historic Environment:** Rural

**Historic Function (s):** Domestic

**Known Design Source:**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-23-102  
Olney Manor Farm  
name of property  
Montgomery County, MD  
county and state

=====  
**Chain of Title:**

May 9, 1840 Roger Brooke V conveys to his daughter Sarah Brooke Farquhar and her husband Dr. Charles Farquhar parts of "Shepherds Hard Fortune" and "Berry's Neglect". Containing 167 acres and 82 acres. (Deed Book BS 10 Folio 180)

November 5, 1866 Deed of Partition of the property of Charles Farquhar and Sarah B. Farquhar, his widow. Their son Charles Farquhar was allotted the tract on the left side of the Brookeville to Washington Turnpike. Containing 121 acres. (Deed Book EBP 3 Folio 244)

August 31, 1888 Sarah B. Farquhar died. (Sentinel, p128)

1898 Dr. Charles Farquhar (Jr.) rented Mendon to J.W. Jones and moved to Olney (House), which he bought from heirs of H.C. Sherman. (Annals III p. 96)

1899 Confirmation of the Deed of Partition of the property of Charles Farquhar, deceased by his widow Sarah B. Farquhar, whereby Charles Farquhar (son) was allotted 121 acres. (Deed Book TD 12 Folio 211)

April 10, 1900 George E. Nicholson bought Mendon from Dr. Charles Farquhar (Jr.) (Deed Book TD 14 Folio 87)

May 18, 1934 George E. Nicholson conveys to Farmers Bank and Trust Co. (Default on Mortgage) (Deed Book 572 Folio 93)

February 4, 1935 Farmers Banking and Trust Co. conveys to Percy B. Pain. (Deed Book 584 Folio 257)

February 4, 1935 Percy B. Pain conveys to Ensillio B. Lambert. (Deed Book 588 Folio 211)

June 10, 1935 Ensillio B. Lambert conveys to Grace E. and Edward T. Jones. (Deed Book 594 Folio 211)

June 11, 1935 Grace E. and Edward T. Jones convey to

John M. Beane. (Deed Book 594 Folio 212)

c. 1935 John M. Beane tore down the house at Mendon and built Olney Manor. (SSM House Files)

November 10, 1977 Mary Estelle Beane died. She appointed John T. Beane and American Security bank to be her will's personal representatives. (From 6077/13)

April 22, 1983 John T. Beane and American Security Bank to American Security (Parcel 1--178.5 acres Parcel 2--5.66 acres, Parcel 3--3.39 acres)  
(Deed Book 6077 Folio 13 and 17)

December 29, 1983 American Security Bank, Trustee under will of Mary Estelle Beane to the Hallowell Corp. Containing 307.127 acres (Deed Book 6273 Folio 307)

Hallowell Corp. subdivided the land and built several single family homes on the property in a subdivision called "Hallowell."

September 6, 1985 The Hallowell Corp to William and Ann Boyko. Present Owners. 3 acres. (Deed Book 6856 Folio 706)

# OLNEY MANOR FARM (M: 23-102)



Casual User Application

MANPCPC

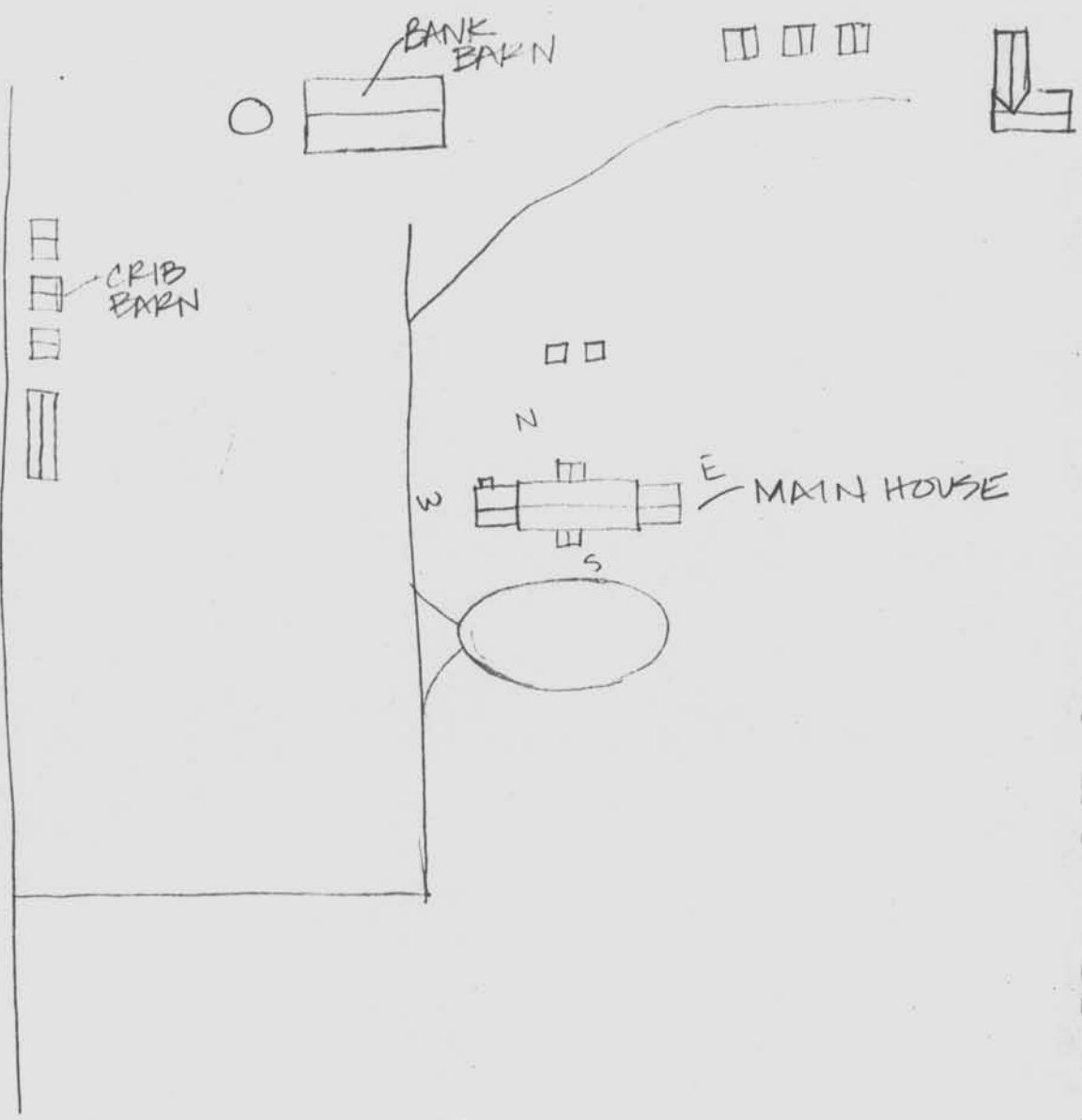


MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING  
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760



Scale 1" = 300'





OWNER MANOR  
M: 23-102

↙

# MECHANICSVILLE DIST.

## No. 8.

Mont. Co.

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile

# MECHANICSVILLE OLNEY P.O.

Scale 600 feet to the Inch

## BUSINESS NOTICES

**J. D. Barnsley**, Dealer in all kinds of Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Mechanicsville, Md.  
**Williams & Boyer**, Dealers in Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Mechanicsville, Md.  
**Joseph L. Wagner**, Manufacturer and Dealer in Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Mechanicsville, Md.

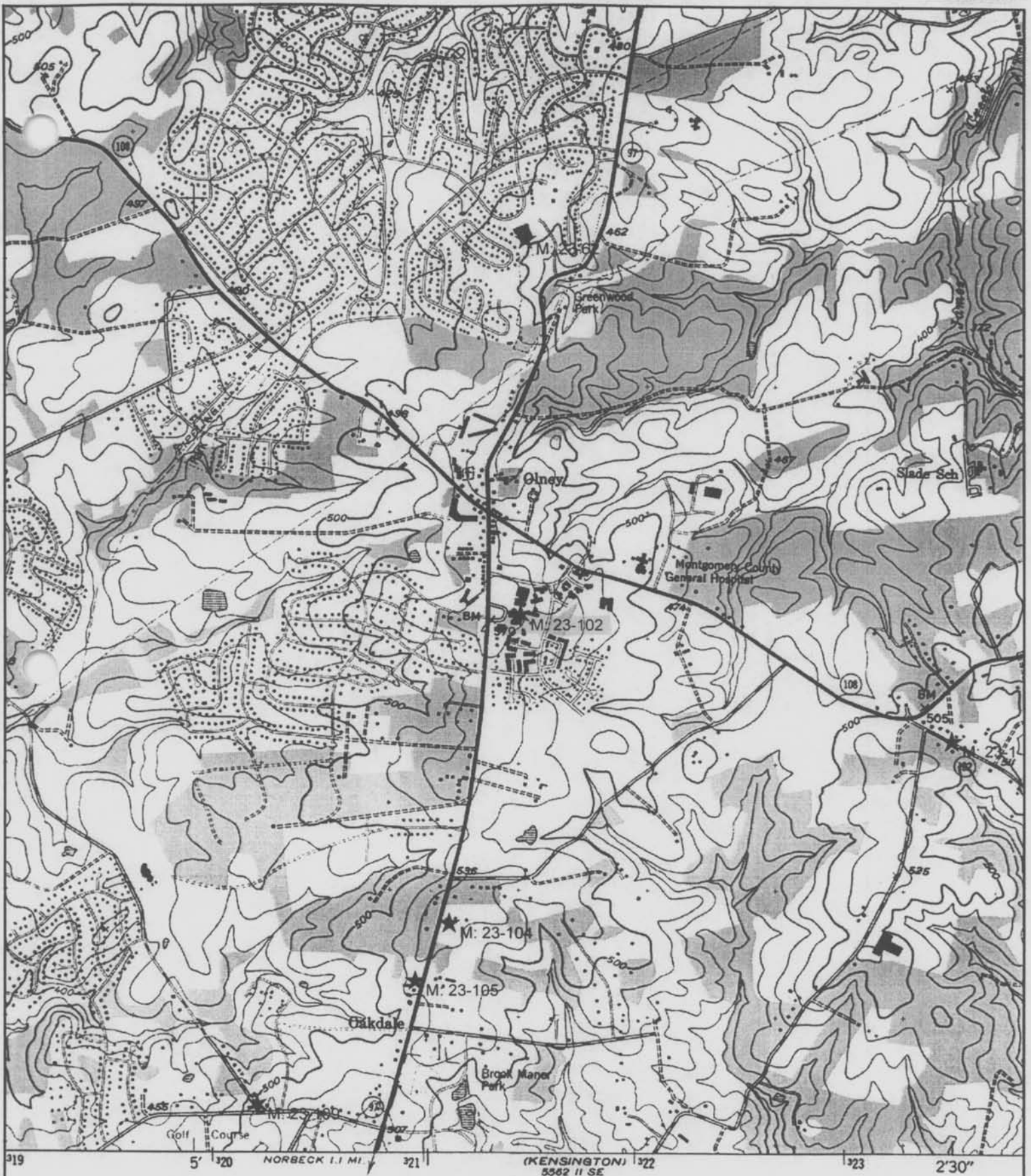
**BUSINESS NOTICES.**  
**BRIGHTON.**  
**Isaac Hartshorn**, Agent for The Three Mutual Life Co. of Philadelphia. Incorporated 1867. Assets \$1,000,000. Dividends paid in full. Annually.  
**E. Perce & Co.**, Dealers in Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Brighton, Md.  
**Henry Stabler**, Dealer in Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Brighton, Md.

**MT. ZION.**  
**J. S. Snowden**, Dealer in Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Mt. Zion, Md.  
**Thos. Brown**, Dealer in Groceries, Dry Goods, &c. in Mt. Zion, Md.

M. 23-102

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1879 by G.M. Hopkins, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington D.C.

Hopkins, G.M., comp. Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington, including the County of Montgomery, Maryland, 1879. Reprint. Rockville, MD.: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.



SCALE 1:24 000

Name: SANDY SPRING  
 Date: 7/13/99  
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 039° 08' 54.7" N 077° 03' 56.4" W  
 Caption: OLNEY MANOR FARM (M: 23-102)  
 17510 Prince Phillip Drive



23-102

OLNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-10-99

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION

1 OF 8



M:  
23-102

OLNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-19-99

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION

20F8



M:  
23-102

OLNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-19-99

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST OUTBUILDINGS, BEHIND MAIN HSE

30FB



M.  
23-102

OLNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-19-09

MARYLAND SHPO

WEST ELEVATION OF TENANT HOUSE

4 OF 8



23-102

ONEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-10-99

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF OUTBUILDINGS; LOCATED WEST  
OF TENANT HOUSE

5 OF 8



M<sup>23</sup>-102

OLNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-10-09

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF BARN BUILDINGS LOCATED WEST  
OF MAIN HOUSE

Lot 8



M:  
23-102

OWNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-10-09

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF BARN BUILDINGS LOCATED WEST  
OF MAIN HOUSE

7 of 8



M:  
23-102

OLNEY MANOR

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

4-10-99

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF BANK BARN, LOCATED NW  
OF MAIN HOUSE

8 OF 8

## ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:23-102  
(date entered 5-12-80)

1. Name: Olney Manor Farm
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 23/102 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 16  
G-2
4. Address: 17401 Georgia Avenue, Olney
5. Classification Summary
- |                    |  |                           |                               |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Category           | <u>building</u>  | Previous Survey Recording | <u>M-NCPPC</u>                |
| Ownership          | <u>private</u>   | Title and Date:           | <u>1976 Inventory of</u>      |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u>   |                           | <u>Historical Sites</u>       |
| Status             | <u>tenant house (occupied) - main house (unoccupied)</u> |                           |                               |
| Accessible         | <u>no</u>  | Federal                   | <u>State x County x Local</u> |
| Present use        | <u>private residence; agriculture</u>                    |                           |                               |
6. Date: 1937 7. Original Owner: John and Mary Beane
8. Apparent Condition
- a. excellent b. altered c. original site
9. Description: Olney Manor Farm sits back from Georgia Avenue facing west. It is a Georgian Revival style house with a two-and-a-half story, five bay central section flanked to the north and south by symmetrical one-and-a-half story wings. The house is constructed of flemish bonded brick. There is a two story pedimented pavilion which projects forward on the west elevation and is supported by four gigantic columns. There is a pavilion on the east elevation which corresponds to that on the west. There are six-over-six double-hung windows flanked by black wooden louvered shutters. The house has a gable roof with slate shingles.
10. Significance: Olney Manor Farm is a 20th century mansion built on the estate of an old Montgomery County family. The building is on the site of Menden, the late 19th century home of Dr. Charles Farquhar, Jr., grandson of Roger Brooke V. Charles was county coroner and president of the Montgomery County Medical Society. When he moved to Olney, his parent's home, in 1898, he sold Menden to George Nicholson, who sold it to John and Mary Beane in 1935. The estate remains in the Beane family; John Beane, Jr. raises cattle. Some of the numerous outbuildings probably are from the Farquhar era.

11. Researcher and date researched: Roberta Hahn-8/79 Candy Reed  
Arch. Description
12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock 13. Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation  
Approval
15. Acreage: 121.11 acres

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Olney Manor Farm

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

17401 Georgia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Olney

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT,

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED (tenant house)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED (main house)	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Estate of Mary E. Beane

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

17401 Georgia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Olney

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20832

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 594

Folio #: 309

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

—FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:23-102

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Olney Manor Farm sits back from Georgia Avenue facing west. This is a Georgian Revival style house. It has a two and a half story central block of five bays with symmetrical one and a half story wings constructed of Flemish bonded brick.

A two story pediment pavilion porch projects forward from the west (front) facade and is supported by four massive columns. A small round window is set in the pedimented gable of the pavilion. The west door is paneled and flanked by faceted sidelights and surmounted by a broken pediment. There is a pavilion on the east elevation which corresponds to that on the west. This contains a narrow 15-light door and a six-over-six double-hung window. At the second level there is a fourteen-over-eight round headed double-hung window. This is surmounted by a small round window. The north and south symmetrical wings are one and a half stories high and are framed on the east elevation and glassed in elsewhere.

There are six-over-six double-hung windows throughout the house. These have white stone sills and flat arches with stone keystones. Each window is flanked by black louvered wooden shutters. There are quarter round windows flanking the gable end chimneys. There are two six-over-six gabled dormer windows on (west elevation) each of the symmetrical wings. There are two six-over-six gabled dormer windows over the central block, on the west elevation. The house has a gable roof over the central and symmetrical wings with slate covering and a denticulated cornice.

The house is surrounded by boxwood, flowering trees and bushes. It is in excellent condition. There is a tenant house, barns and a shed on the property.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-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 checked="" 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"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<b>Local History</b>

SPECIFIC DATES 1937

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Olney Manor Farm is a 20th century mansion built on the estate of an old Montgomery County family. The site of this building was the site of Menden, the home of Dr. Charles Farquhar, Jr., during the last years of the 19th century. The land had come to Charles from his mother, Sarah Brooke Farquhar, in 1866. Sarah and her husband, Charles Farquhar, Sr., had received a total of 250 acres, including this property, from her father, Roger Brooke V, in 1840.<sup>1</sup> Charles Jr. was for some time county coroner and president of the Montgomery County Medical Society. He moved to Olney, his parents' home, in 1898, and sold Menden in 1900 to George Nicholson.<sup>2</sup> Nicholson, at one time county sheriff, retained ownership until 1934.<sup>3</sup> It was purchased by John and Mary Beane in 1935.<sup>4</sup>

In 1937 the Beanes had their massive brick Georgian style home constructed. Mr. Beane, who ran a wholesale supply business in Washington, D.C., ran dairy farms on his several properties until his death in 1941. The estate remains in the Beane family, and John Beane, Jr. raises cattle on the 121 acre property. Some of the numerous outbuildings on the property, including the tenant house, appear to predate the present manor house. One small frame shed is constructed of hand hewn beams and may date to the time of the Farquhars.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 R.B. Farquhar, Historic Montgomery County, Md., Old Homes and History, 1952. p. 244.
- 2 Land Records of Montgomery County, TD 14/87 (4/10/1900).
- 3 Ibid., 572/93 (5/18/1934).
- 4 Ibid., 594/309 (6/21/1935).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records of Montgomery County

R.B. Farquhar, Historic Montgomery County, Md., Old Homes and History,  
1952.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 121.11 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Roberta Hahn

Candy Reed, arch. description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

August 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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  
The Shaw House, State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 277-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Menden

AND/OR COMMON

Olney Manor Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Rte. 97 & Old Baltimore Road

CITY, TOWN

Olney

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. John M. Beane

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Olney

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

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

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:23-102

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

**CONDITION**

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This present house is a 20th Century replacement for the old farm house "Menden." It is the focal-point of one of the finest estates in the County. The farm is the handsomest property to survive on rapidly-developing Georgia Ave. The structure is a five-bay, classic revival, brick house that faces west. The central door is framed by a two-story, pedimented portico. There are identical, one-story wings on the north and south ends of the house.

Behind the main house there are a number of older farm buildings. These include a tenant house, and a large frame barn with a shingle roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

M:23-102

- |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>PERIOD</b>                                 | <b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b> |   |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" 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"/> COMMUNICATIONS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES Built in 1937 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

See Farquhar's OLD HOMES AND HISTORY OF MONT. CO., MD.  
 (1961) pp. 243, 244.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

1975

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

for a number of the eleven years he lived there, was the postmaster. Letters to his son in Alexandria bear his signature, "A Farquhar, P. M. Free." When the name was changed to Olney, it is reported that the widow, Sarah B. Farquhar, did not desire to have the name of her home thus publicized.

The Farquhars and Elgars were great admirers of poetry, especially that of William Cowper, and the name "Olney" given the home was so designated after the village of that name in Buckinghamshire, England, where Cowper lived for many years. Charles Farquhar, Sr., left a number of poems of some merit written in his own hand.

It is believed that Whitson Canby, an ancestor of that well-known Montgomery County family, built the Olney house about the year 1800. Before 1836, Roger Brooke V, bought Olney and wrote his daughter Sarah in Alexandria, "The little house in Mechanicsville is now vacant." He suggested that she and Charles come to Mechanicsville to live. They moved to the Olney home in 1837, and remodelled the place with some additions.

In a deed recorded June 12, 1840, Roger Brooke V, conveyed to his daughter, Sarah, and son-in-law, Charles Farquhar, for a consideration of ONE DOLLAR, (\$1.00) one tract of 167 acres, another containing eighty-two acres, and a "lot on which the said Sarah and Charles now reside," a total of over 250 acres. These tracts were parts of "Shepherd's Hard Fortune," and "Charles and Benjamin," and "Brother's Content."

The large chimney on the extreme left was built in 1841. The stone in its corner shows the initials "C. F.," and the date. In the kitchen a large fireplace was included with bake oven and crane, and above this was the "carding" or "spinning" room with its rafters left exposed. The whole right half of the house, to be seen between the two main chimneys, was built at a cost of \$400. It had a parlor on the first floor, a bedroom on the second floor, each with a fireplace, a cellar, and an attic. A front hall with a stairway was included.

A year or more after the above additions, a rear "T" was added. This contained one room on the first and second floors, each with a fireplace. This wing was occupied by Dr. Farquhar's mother, Mary (Elgar) Farquhar, where she continued to live until her death in 1853.

While in Alexandria, Dr. Farquhar wrote a letter to his brother, "Granville Farquhar, druggist, Washington City," asking where he could obtain "The whole apparatus, including a handsome slab and silver fountain, as I have been thinking it would be an advantage to keep soda water."

The massive cast door knocker, showing the face of Juno with a bright brass plate inscribed "Dr. Farquhar," which he brought from Alexandria over a century ago, is now on the front door of his great-grandson, Roger B. Farquhar III's home Riverton.

In 1844 Dr. Farquhar's life was cut short at the age of forty-four. Death was due to pneumonia which he contracted on a trip to Baltimore. His young widow was left with five children and a large farm to care for, but her father took charge of her affairs, and she continued to live at Olney for forty-four more years, and raised all her children to maturity. A sixth child was born shortly after the death of the father. Sara B. Farquhar died in August, 1888, at the age of eighty-three. In her will, probated in September, 1888, the daughters were devised seventy acres of land on Rock Creek, and equal shares in the home and furnishings.

In 1866 Sarah Farquhar divided her property among her children. Eight acres were retained with the Olney home, at the time appraised at \$2,000. Her son, Granville, received 121 acres immediately south of the home which he named Mt. Olney when he built a house there later. The latter is now the site of the Olney Inn. Charles, Jr., received the same acreage south of Granville's part, where he built a house he called "Menden." Roger, the oldest son, was assigned 229 acres along both sides of Rock Creek near Norbeck, which, with an addition made later, became known as "Rock Spring," containing 400 acres. The daughters received mortgage notes from their brothers to equalize the divisions.

Anna Farquhar, the oldest daughter married Charles H. Brooke, in 1865, and lived thereafter at Falling Green the old Brooke home inherited by Charles. The other two daughters Miss Eliza and Miss Edith, after the death of their mother and the sale of Olney, made their homes with the brothers.

The land in the Olney farm, when divided, extended from the village south along the east side of the highway toward Washington for

over a mile to the Old Baltimore Road. The old Menden farm south of the Olney Inn, was for many years owned by George ("Bud") Nicholson, a highly regarded county farmer, and one-time sheriff, and about twenty years ago he sold the place to John M. Beane, a successful business man of Washington. Mr. Beane removed the original frame farm house and built a handsome modern Colonial type brick house on the old site, one of the finest houses in the whole area, and has developed Menden into a really handsome estate.

During the War between the States, many stirring scenes were witnessed around the quiet village. Thousands of soldiers marched along the highways, horses by the score were taken, and supplies requisitioned. On one occasion General Hooker had dinner with Mrs. Farquhar in her home, and she reported him to be courteous and gentlemanly. On another day, her son Roger rode on horseback along with General McClellan from Norbeck to Olney and wrote in his diary that McClellan was "a fine looking man."

In 1898 the home was purchased by Dr. Charles Farquhar, Jr., who had married Cornelia Strain in 1892. He had been a farmer at his Menden farm for years, but late in life ob-

tained a medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and began to practice. He was for some time county coroner and president of the Montgomery County Medical Society.

Dr. Farquhar, Jr., died in 1916 at the age of seventy-five. In 1924 his widow sold the home to Estelle M. Gilmore (Mrs. Robert C.) of North Carolina whose husband was a retired Presbyterian minister. They completely modernized the house, added two bathrooms, heating, and put the whole place in excellent condition. The large central section to the left of the front hall contains large rooms on both floors, each with a fireplace, and an attic room.

In 1946 the Olney home was purchased by Mrs. Clara May Downey. Mrs. Downey has further beautified and improved the interior with tasteful decorations, furnishing the house with a wealth of antiques appropriate to its period. The old stone springhouse has been retained and adds its pleasing rustic touch as it nestles below the extensive box walks.

Mrs. Clara May Downey has continued to own the dear, cherished old Farquhar home, and has spent large sums in improving and beautifying the house and grounds. For a few years, it has been leased to the Catholic Diocese as a Rectory for the local priests.

## Olney Manor

THE land upon which this handsome Georgian Colonial manor house was built was part of the estate of Sarah Brooke Farquhar, wife of Dr. Charles Farquhar, Sr., of "Olney."

In the division of her lands which she inherited from her father, Roger Brooke V of Brooke Grove, this farm containing 121 acres was passed to Dr. Charles Farquhar, Jr., by a committee which met in June 1866 to divide the property of the widow, Sarah Brooke Farquhar. According to the Diary of Roger B. Farquhar, Sr., father of the Author, the Committee was composed of George E. Brooke of Brooke Grove, William Henry Farquhar of The Cedars, Richard Kirk of Fair Hill, and Henry C. Hallowell of Rockland.

Charles Farquhar's portion was valued at \$40.00 per acre. Granville, another son, was

assigned the same acreage valued at \$40.00 per acre; and Roger, the eldest son, was assigned 229 acres fronting on both sides of Rock Creek, valued at \$25.00 per acre. This last portion was developed by Roger into the Rock Spring farm where land recently has been sold at an alleged price of \$1,500 per acre.

The portion which Charles received ran along the east side of the Olney Pike from the portion Granville received—now the famous Olney Inn—to the Old Baltimore Road. He built a small frame house, where he lived for many years as a bachelor, called his home "Menden," studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, and practiced for some years. Late in life he married, and sold his Menden farm to George Nicholson, a highly regarded citizen, and bought Old Olney, home of his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. John M. Beane bought the place