

Cloverly
M:28-65
Montgomery County, Maryland

Historically known as Sherwood, Cloverly is a 2-1/2-story Greek Revival-style brick house built between 1849 and 1852. The house is set upon an expansive lawn and located on the north side of the Olney-Sandy Spring Road, just east of Sandy Spring. The property includes the main dwelling, with several additions, an historic carriage house/stable and a contemporary, non-contributing stable/barn towards the rear of the property.

Cloverly was originally part of the larger Bloomfield estate owned by the Bentley family, but was sold off from it in 1849 by then-owner Caleb Bentley to Benjamin Rush Roberts, who built the Greek Revival-style house on the site. In 1888, Cloverly was repurchased by Caleb Bentley's son, Richard T. Bentley, and later became the home of John Bentley, elected to the House of Delegates in 1912.

Cloverly has strong ties to the Bentley family--leading residents of the larger Sandy Spring area, and active members of the Quaker community who have made significant contributions to our past. Cloverly meets Criteria B and C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties.

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

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling
SUBSISTENCE/AGRICULTURE Stable

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Gable: Asphalt shingles
walls Brick: Flemish bond and 5-course American
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
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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.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1849-1852

Significant Dates 1849-1852

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
John Bentley

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.)

Annals of Sandy Spring, Vols. I-V, Sandy Spring, MD.: Privately Printed.

Barrow, Healan and Kristine Stevens, *Olney: Echoes of the Past* (Westminster, MD.: Family Line Publications), 1993.

Boyd, T.H.S., *History of Montgomery County*, 1879.

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

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. "Old Home in Sandy Spring Looks Back Over 150 Years," *The Record of Montgomery County*, December 7, 1950.

Farquhar, William Henry. *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, 1863.

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).

Lehman, Florence. "Bloomfield-A House Important In Annals of Sandy Spring," *The County Courier*, November 1, 1978.

Malloy, Mary Gordon and Marian W. Jacobs, compilers. *Genealogical Abstracts, Montgomery County Sentinel, 1855-1899* (Rockville, MD: The Montgomery County Historical Society), 1986.

Maps and Drawings:

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 approximately 11 acres

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

Cloverly is located at 321 Olney-Sandy Spring Road in Ashton. It occupies an 11-acre parcel of land between Olney-Sandy Spring Road and Bentley Road.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This parcel has been associated with Cloverly since the construction of the house on the property between 1849 and 1852.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Kimberly Williams/Michele Naru, Architectural Historians
organization M-NCPPC date June 30, 1999
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3403
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910
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12. Property Owner
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name Richard Edsall
street & number 321 Olney-Sandy Spring Road telephone _____
city or town Ashton state MD zip code 20833
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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Inventory No. M-28-65

Cloverly

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Cloverly is a 2-1/2-story brick house set upon an expansive lawn and located on the north side of the Olney-Sandy Spring Road, just east of Sandy Spring. Built between 1849 and 1852, the house is a five-bay, gable-roofed brick dwelling designed in a vernacular Greek Revival style. The property includes the main dwelling, with several additions, an historic carriage house/stable and a contemporary, non-contributing stable/barn towards the rear of the property.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Cloverly is a 2-1/2-story brick house set upon a stone foundation and covered with a gable roof. It is five bays wide, with a central entry and a three-bay front porch. The front elevation of the house is laid in Flemish bond, while the other three walls are laid in five-course American bond. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles and features two exterior end chimneys of brick. The house measures 40' x 34'.

Exterior:

The south elevation, facing the expansive lawn leading to the main road, is laid in Flemish bond and divided into five equal bays. The center bay is occupied by a six-paneled door, recessed into the brick, and featuring four-light sidelights and transom, indicative of the period. To either side of the center door are two 6/6 windows. The second story has five equal bays of 6/6 windows. All of the windows have wood sills and brick jack-arched lintels, painted to look like stone. Above the second story windows is a sawtooth brick cornice, dividing the wall surface from the roof. Two gable dormers in the front slope of the gable roof are later additions. A three-bay wide porch with square wood posts is set upon a brick foundation and extends across the three central bays of the house. Based upon the brick piers, it does not appear to be the original porch.

The north elevation of the house is similarly divided into five bays, with an entry in the center, and with a one-story shed roof brick addition extending off of the east end. The windows of this elevation are similarly 6/6 with jack-arched lintels and wood sills, but here, the lintels are not painted. A shed roof porch extends across the rear, abutting an enclosed room of the porch, and the rear wing. A dormer window on the rear slope of the roof is also a later addition. The sawtooth brick cornice of the front elevation is also found on this rear elevation.

Both end walls have brick end chimneys flush with the wall surface and a random grouping of windows, including a pair of 6/6 windows

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in the attic level of the gable end. While all of the windows are 6/6 and appear to be original, there has been substantial alterations in the brickwork around several of the openings and rebuilt or repointed jack arches at the lintel. A bulkhead entry to the cellar is located on the east end wall at the rear bay, while a frame pent addition is located on the west end wall. This pent addition is set upon a stone foundation and has weatherboard walls.

Outbuildings:

Carriage House/Stable: a one-story frame carriage house/stable is located east of the main dwelling at the end of the long drive leading to the house from the Olney-Sandy Spring Road. The building has weatherboard walls and a gable roof with a shed extension spanning the entire front. A hanging trolley door leads into the carriage house which occupies the western end of the building. Horse stalls occupy the east end of the building. A cupola sits upon the gable roof of the one-story structure.

Contemporary Barn/Stable: A concrete block barn and stable building is located at a short distance behind the carriage house. It is a non-contributing structure.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Historically known as Sherwood and located at 321 Olney-Sandy Spring Road in the Ashton-Sandy Spring area of Montgomery County, Cloverly was built by Benjamin Rush Roberts between 1849 and 1852 and survives as an excellent local example of the Greek Revival style. The property was originally part of the larger Bloomfield estate owned by the Bentley family, but sold off from the larger tract in 1849 by then-owner Caleb Bentley. In 1888, Cloverly was re-purchased by Caleb Bentley's son, Richard T. Bentley, and later became the home of John Bentley, elected to the House of Delegates in 1912. Cloverly remained in the Bentley family hands until 1941.

As such, Cloverly has strong ties to the Bentley family--leading residents of the larger Sandy Spring area, and active members of the Quaker community, who have made significant contributions to our past. Cloverly meets Criteria B and C of the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties.

Historic Context

The parcel of land upon which Cloverly was built in 1852 was part of the larger tract of land known as Bloomfield, and owned in 1809 by Caleb Bentley. Caleb Bentley, a Quaker born in Pennsylvania, moved to Montgomery County in 1795, becoming one of the county's most influential and prominent residents. Originally a clock maker, Bentley eventually became a leading area farmer, and entrepreneur. Upon coming to Montgomery County, Bentley settled first in Brookeville, where he lived in what is today known as the "Madison House,"¹ and where he became proprietor of the town's first store, and postmaster of that village. Bentley was part of the trio of men (Thomas Moore and Isaac Briggs were the other two) who, in 1809, established the now submerged factory town of Triadelphia, located on the Patuxent River.

In October of 1849, Caleb Bentley sold a 43-7/8-acre parcel of his Bloomfield estate to Benjamin Rush Roberts.² Mr. Roberts, a native of the Eastern Shore, apparently moved to Sandy Spring because of its reputation for congenial society and for the longevity of its residents. By 1852, he and his wife, Mary Needles, whom he married in 1836, had built a 2-1/2 story, Greek Revival-style brick house

¹ The Madison House refers to the house in Brookeville which served as a place of refuge to President James Madison and his staff in 1813 when British troops burned the Capitol, White House and Navy Yard.

²Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book STS 4 Folio 285

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on the property which they called Sherwood. This house was insured by the Mutual Fire Insurance Company in 1852 for \$2,625.00 against fire.³

The Roberts became active members of the Society of Friends and residents of Sandy Spring. During the Civil War, the Roberts made their home a recuperation center for Federal Hospital nurses. Mr. Roberts is most known for his 26-year tenure as Director of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company, while Mary Needles Rush was the founder of the local Women's Association, the second women's association established in America.⁴ During their ownership of the property, Benjamin Rush Roberts held several fire insurance policies on the dwelling and its many associated buildings, no longer standing.⁵

Following the death of Benjamin Roberts on November 28, 1880 and Mary Needles Roberts death in 1888, the heirs of Benjamin Roberts sold the house and property to Richard T. Bentley, who within weeks, transferred ownership to John and Cornelia Bentley, who had been living at Oakleigh on the Bloomfield estate. Richard T. Bentley's acquisition of the property in 1888 returned the property to Bentley family hands.⁶

John and Cornelia Bentley moved into the brick Greek Revival house in 1888 and changed the name to Cloverly. John Bentley was active in a number of local organizations. He was a director of the Savings Institution of Sandy Spring, belonged to the Montgomery County Agricultural Society, was a member of the Montgomery Farmers' Club and was elected to the House of Delegates in 1912.⁷

During John Bentley's ownership, Cloverly was the scene of both happy and unhappy events, including several births and deaths of Bentley children, recorded in *The Annals of Sandy Spring*. Other

³ The Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Montgomery County, Policy # 613, 1852.

⁴Farquhar, p 132-133

⁵ In 1869, Benjamin Rush Roberts consolidated his various policies into one. This 1869 policy, numbered 4057, states, "this application is made to cover all the various applications made by the subscriber (being seven in number) since 1852--and embodied in Policy No. 613."

⁶Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book JA 11 Folio 387

⁷Farquhar, p 132-133

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noteworthy events written about in *The Annals of Sandy Spring* include the 15-year wedding anniversary of John C. and Cornelia Bentley at Cloverly in 1897. The Annals reported, "A throng of relatives and friends enjoyed the hospitality of the beautifully decorated house, and the grounds illuminated by a brilliant moon and many Japanese lanterns..."⁸ In the summer of 1904, the *Annals* record that, "So far has the fame of Sandy Spring and its farmers gone abroad, that the son of the President of Peru, no less, spent the summer at Cloverly in pursuit of practical agriculture!"⁹ And in 1906, the *Annals* inform us that Cloverly narrowly escaped destruction by fire.¹⁰

In 1910, Cloverly was the scene of a "beautiful home wedding" when Edith Dawson, daughter of John C. and Cornelia H. Bentley married William John, "according to the rites of Friends."¹¹

On December 27, 1913 John C. Bentley died, an event that was remembered in the *Annals*: "Though the family at Cloverly bravely and wonderfully kept the spirit of Christmas...the approaching doom of our beloved friend John C. Bentley was all over. On the evening of December 27, the Silent Messenger came, and found him ready and waiting."¹²

Following John Bentley's death, Cornelia Bentley remained at Cloverly until her own death in 1940. Following her demise, the heirs of John Bentley sold the house and property to Mr. Charles T. Lucey, a newspaper correspondent for the Scripps-Howard Syndicate.¹³ Mr. and Mrs. Lucey resided at Cloverly for nineteen years. In 1960, they sold the house and land to Thomas Ladson.¹⁴ In 1977 Mr Ladson conveyed the house and land to Richard A. Edsall, the present owner.¹⁵

⁸ *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, Vol. III, 1895-1909, 64.

⁹ *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, Vol. III, 1895-1909, 260.

¹⁰ *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, Vol. III, 1895-1909, 368.

¹¹ *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, Vol. IV, 1909-1929, 41.

¹² *The Annals of Sandy Spring*, Vol. IV, 1909-1929, 168.

¹³Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 819 Folio 150

¹⁴Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 3045 Folio 471

¹⁵Montgomery County Courthouse, Deed Book 4494 Folio 126

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification, 1815-1870

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

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Standing Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s): Single Dwelling

Known Design Source:

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Chain of Title:

October, 15, 1849 Benjamin Rush Roberts bought a parcel of land from Caleb Bentley et ux. "That property part of Bloomfield, part of Charley's Forest and part of Addition to Charley's Forest." (Deed Book STS 4 Folio 285)

1852 Sherwood (now named Cloverly) built by Benjamin Rush Roberts.

November 28, 1880 Benjamin Rush Roberts died (Sentinel p.321)

1888 Mary Needles Roberts died

November 5, 1888 Benjamin Rush Roberts Heirs sell the house and property to Richard T. Bentley. 43 7/8 acres of land located adjacent to turnpike from Olney to Ashton. (Deed Book JA 11 Folio 289)

November 28, 1888 Richard T. Bentley to John C. Bentley, brother. "Land situated on south side of turnpike between Olney and Ashton." (Deed Book JA 11 Folio 387)

March 23, 1896 Richard T. Bentley's Heirs convey to John C. Bentley. "Part of Charley's Forest and part of Addition to Charley's Forest." (Deed Book JA 53 Folio 183)

December 27, 1913 John C. Bentley died. (Annals IV p168)

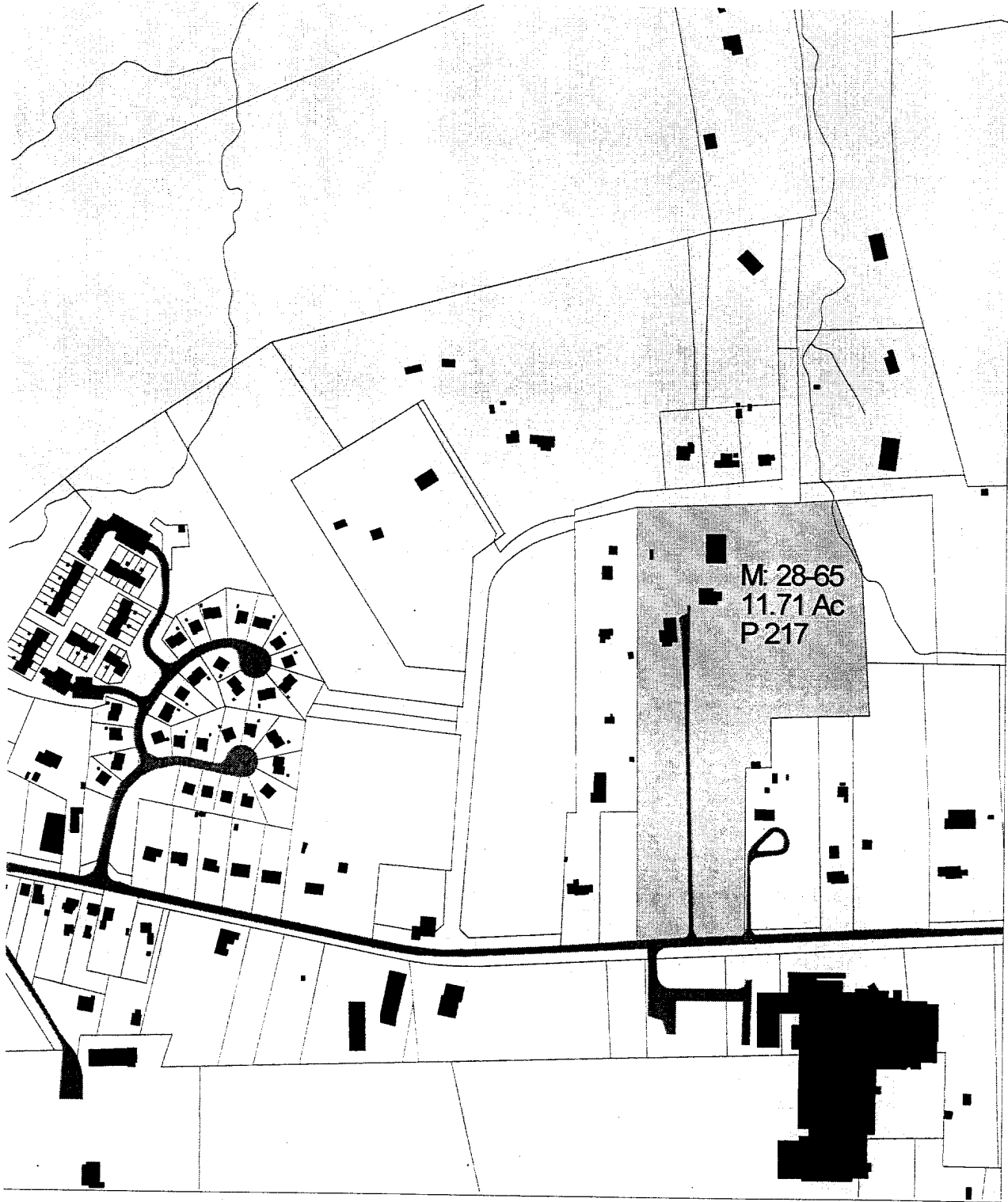
August 6, 1938 Cornelia H. Bentley died. (Annals V p146)

February 14, 1941 Heirs of John C. Bentley to Charles T. Lucey. Containing 7 acres, part of the land conveyed in deeds recorded at JA 11/387 and JA 53/183. (Deed Book 819 Folio 150)


December 28, 1960 Charles T. Lucey to Thomas A. Ladson. (Deed Book 3045 Folio 471)

July 28, 1977 Thomas A. Ladson to Richard A. Edsall. 12 acres. (Deed Book 4494 Folio 126)

CLOVERLY (M: 28-65)



Casual User Application

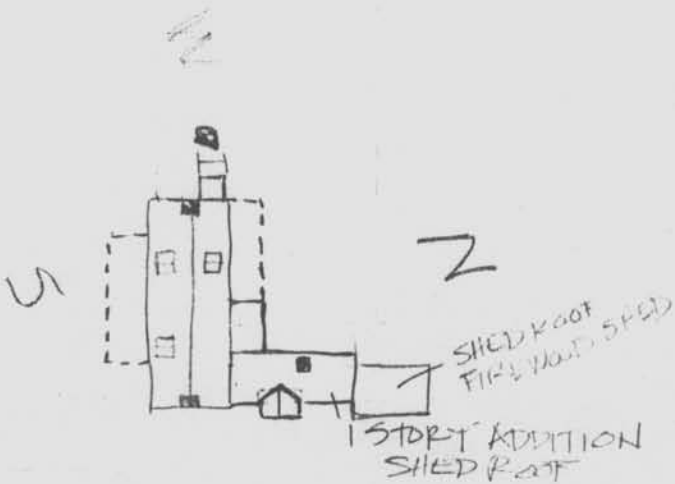
 M-NCPPC
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
8787 Georgia Avenue - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-5760


Scale 1" = 400'

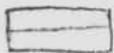

Technology
Research & Technology Center



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N

CLOVERLYT
M: 28/65



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

Location: 039° 08' 53.3" N 077° 01' 33.7" W
 Caption: CLOVERLY M: 28-65
 321 Olney-Sandy Spring Rd

M:28-65



28-05

CLOVERLT

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

5-19-09

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION

1 OF 5



28-65

CLOVERLT

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

6-10-99

MARYLAND SHPO

EAST ELEVATION

2 of 5



28-65

CLOVERLT

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

6-19-99

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION

30F5



28-105

CLOVERLY

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

6-19-99

MARYLAND SHPO

WEST ELEVATION

4 OF 5



28-65
CLOVERLY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD

KIM WILLIAMS

6-19-99

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF BARN; LOCATED NORTH OF MAIN
HOUSE

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