

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Tanglewood				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Sandy Spring (Ashton)				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Montgomery		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: F. L. and E. B. Thomas				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Sandy Spring			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission				
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a 2-1/2 story Victorian frame farm house, with a large central gable and two dormer windows on the main (north) facade. A small porch covers the center of the three bay facade; it has square classical columns. On the west end is an addition including a bay window. Under the dormer pediments is a sawtooth trim. The double door has arched lights; there is a transom light over the door.

Other notable buildings on the property include a brick smokehouse, a board-and-batten workshed with stone foundation, and a corncrib with a center gable and bargeboards.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE (If Applicable or Unknown) 1871

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to Farquhar, the house became the family home of Alban G. and Susanna H. Thomas, son and daughter-in-law of Edward and Lydia Thomas Brooke in 1871. Alban Thomas was a banker and owner.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:15-37

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington, D.C.: Judd & Detweiler, Inc., 1962, pp. 300-1.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:		COUNTY:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 3/16/73

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

heritances from their eminent forebears of New England. Judge Prescott married E. Callander Minnick in 1917, and they have four children.

After Harry Beard died in 1929 and Daisy in 1946, the old home was left to four Beard children, Jocelyn, Harry, Jr., Dale, and Reginald. Since 1948 the other heirs were bought out by Jocelyn Beard who is the wife of Dr. Robert E. Moran, the eminent surgeon of Washington. In 1950, all of the farm except sixteen acres retained with the house was sold to a real estate developer.

The interesting house built of rubble stone walls two feet thick is three stories high, has a full basement and is about sixty-five feet square. It originally had a nearly-flat pyramidal roof, which was blown off in a wind-storm in 1896, and was replaced by the present Mansard roof. There is a hall about eight feet wide on each

floor, which runs through from north to south. There are two large square rooms on each side of the halls on each floor and two fireplaces in the whole house.

This unusual house was purchased in 1957, with 19½ acres surrounding it, by Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Morgan Grady. They are the pleased owners in 1961—in a lovely island of past glory—and have beautified the few acres with rustic fence, flowers, trees, and new driveway.

The rare care with which they have re-decorated the interior of the sturdy house of more than a century in age is indescribably lavish, parlor, dining room, hallway and basement rooms, with two eating units, trophy rooms and bar, tastefully furnished, like a club room. Trophies galore, won by their daughter Mrs. Theodore Kalli, a member of the Goshen Hunt Club, are features.

Tanglewood

ONE mile east of Ashton, on the highway to Ellicott City, an attractive and commodious house can be seen about one hundred yards back on the south side of the highway. It stands in a park-like lawn, surrounded by a forest of hardwood trees.

This house was built into a rare homestead, and occupied for fifty-seven years by one of the most valued and respected citizens of the County, Alban Gilpin Thomas. For thirty-five years of that time, his wife shared the home with him and they raised a family of two daughters and one son.

Alban G., son of Edward and Lydia Thomas, was born at Ashland in 1843. After establishing himself and his bride at nearby Tanglewood, on part of the parental estate, he began a career notable in the community so full of citizens of the finest type.

His bride was Susanna H. Leggett, born in Flushing, Long Island, in 1846. The Leggetts are an old and well-known Quaker family, still prominent in New York. In 1866 she came to Sandy Spring and lived with her sister Anna Leggett Moore, at Norwood, until her marriage in that old home on September 12, 1871. They moved into their new home in that year. The tract on which the house was built, a heavily wooded and well watered part of the Ashland

farm containing 60¼ acres. The deed dated September 25, 1871, executed by Edward and Lydia Thomas states that it is granted "In consideration for love and affection we have for our son Alban G. Thomas," and included a nominal sum of cash.

He built up a unique store and merchandising business which he operated for twenty years in the village of Ashton and was an organizer, director, vice president and later chairman of the board of the Citizens National Bank of Laurel, Maryland. He was Treasurer and then President of the Savings Institution of Sandy Spring. In 1900 he established the First National Bank of Sandy Spring, and directed its affairs as President until 1928 when he became Chairman of the Board. His son Frederic L. Thomas succeeded his father as president.

Alban Thomas left a record in his community that will long be remembered. It was said of him: "He was simple and sincere, held tenaciously to what was good of the old, and yet was well abreast of all that was new. He cultivated beauty at home and loved beauty abroad. He was active in every movement that was for the betterment of the community." He died at the age of 85 in October, 1928. His wife had succumbed on January 5, 1906. The death of Sue Thomas was a source of deep bereavement to

the whole neighborhood, where she had become universally beloved.

The children of this union were Anna L., who became the wife of George F. Nesbitt in 1896, Helen L., who married Francis M. Hallowell of Rockland, in 1914, and Frederic L. Thomas, who married Elza Bentley of Cloverly in 1912. The children of Frederic and Elza B. Thomas are Sue Leggett, who married Robert C. Turner, Jean Hallowell, the wife of Dr. Thomas A. Ladson, and Miss Cornelia H. Thomas, who makes her home at Tanglewood.

George and Anna T. Nesbitt lived in Ashton during their married lives together. He was secretary of the Savings Institution of Sandy Spring for several years until his death in November 1902, also serving as Cashier, and for part of that time as Cashier of the First National Bank. His wife died in October 1928, one day before her father passed away. George F. Nesbitt, Jr., a son of this union, after several years spent in business in California where he married Martha Crary, was elected in 1950 to a seat on the County Council of Montgomery County. His sister, Helen T. Nesbitt became the wife of A. Douglas Farquhar of The Cedars where they have lived ever since their marriage in November, 1919.

Frederic L. Thomas graduated from Swarthmore College, in the class of 1898, and after a year or so in business elsewhere, returned to the County to become associated with the First National Bank of Sandy Spring when it was organized.

The home life at Tanglewood during the time that Alban and "Sue" Thomas lived there together, was unusual and quite ideal. During his lonely years as a widower, Alban Thomas spent a good deal of time travelling. Trips to the west coast, to Europe, as well as to seashore resorts in the east, satisfied his universal interest in people and places.



NO. 131 E-10 ALBAN G. THOMAS 1871
FRAME

The house built of frame construction has had many additions and changes made during the years it has been the home of the one family. The front of the house is toward the west. The front stair is in the entrance hall, and to the left or north is a parlor with fireplace, back of which is the dining room. To the south of the hall is a large living room with fireplace, and roomy conservatory.

Frederic L. Thomas, was for years head of both the First National Bank and the Savings Institution of Sandy Spring, until recently, when he retired from active management, and was still on the Board of Directors of both institutions, until his death.

His long and faithful services to these local institutions, was unexcelled, in competence, to their purposes, and loyalty, to the welfare of the community they served for half a century under his guidance.

The death of Elza B. Thomas, wife of Frederic, on June 12, 1961, left a great sorrow in this home, noted for many years for its generous hospitality and very happy family life. Frederic L. Thomas passed away on December 31st, 1961, aged 82 years.

The Briers

ONE mile northwest of Olney, on the right or north side of the state road to Laytonsville and twenty-one miles north of the Zero milestone stands the massive, square three-story brick house shown. Some of the land in the productive 500-acre farm has been

in possession of one of the county's outstanding families since 1841. Part of the house, which was originally built in the shape of an "L" and was known as Silent Retreat, is a century old.

Josiah Waters Jones, born in Prince George's

Coleman, Margaret Marshall and Anne Dennis Lewis
1984 Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Norfolk: Donning Company.



The Alban Gilpin Thomas family of Tanglewood in Sandy Spring (circa 1898) pose together.

Leg o' mutton sleeves and long skirts did not prevent these young Quaker ladies from riding bicycles and climbing trees at Tanglewood, the Thomas family home. Alban Thomas is standing fifth from the

right, and his wife, Susannah, is fifth from the left. Their son, Frederic L. Thomas, gallantly holds the bicycle handlebars for one young lady.

Mr. Thomas owned a store in Ashton, organized and directed the Citizens National Bank of Laurel, was president of the Savings Institution of Sandy Spring, and established

the First National Bank of Sandy Spring.

Alban and Susannah's granddaughter, Helen Thomas Nesbitt, was born at Tanglewood and moved just one mile away to The Cedars when she married Arthur Farquhar in 1919. Courtesy of Helen Thomas Nesbitt Farquhar



#15-37

NAME TANGLEWOOD

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md.

FACADE W.

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER



NAME TANGLEWOOD - ~~WORKSHOP / WOOD SHED~~ - DAIRY

#15-37

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER



NAME ~~ASHELAND BROOK~~ - CORN CRIB
TANGLEWOOD

#15-37

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md.

FACADE W.

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER



#15-37

NAME TANGLEWOOD - SHED

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md.

FACADE S.

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 H. DWYER



#15-37

NAME TANGLEWOOD - WORKSHOP/WOODSHED

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md.

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER



NAME TANGLEWOOD - STABLE/BARN

#15-37

LOCATION Rt. 108 ASHTON, Md.

FACADE W.

PHOTO TAKEN 3/16/73 M. DWYER