Description:

The Alloway Site and Cemetery, constructed in 1945-1946 with some nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings, was previously surveyed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 1973, 1976, and June 1994. The property was removed from the Montgomery County Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in October of 1994. Access to survey the property was denied on February 14, 1996. However, the main building is currently unaltered from its appearance and condition at the time of the most recent survey. The condition of the outbuildings and cemetery are presently unknown.

National Register Evaluation:

The Alloway Site and Cemetery, constructed in 1945-1946, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an unusual example of mid-20th century modern design in residential architecture in eastern Montgomery County. It is unclear whether any of the outbuildings should be considered contributing, as they pre-date the house. In addition, the cemetery is unlikely to contribute to the significance of the property, as it is not significant under Criterion C and does not appear to meet Criteria Consideration C. The property is not eligible under Criteria A or B, as it has no known association with historically significant persons or events. In addition, it has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundary of the Alloway Site and Cemetery follows the current property lines of 16301 New Hampshire Avenue (Tax Map JS 563 and KS 123, P600 and P809). This 10.1 hectare (25 acre) parcel is bounded on the north by an adjacent tax parcel and Timber Ridge Drive, on the east by adjacent tax parcels, on the south by adjacent tax parcels and Parrs Ridge Drive, and on the west by New Hampshire Avenue (Route 650). The boundary includes the main house and four outbuildings, and the remnants of the Stabler-Miller family graveyard. It is unclear whether any of the outbuildings should be considered contributing, as they pre-date the house. In addition, the cemetery is unlikely to contribute to the significance of the property, as it is not significant under Criterion C and does not appear to meet Criteria Consideration C. According to deed research, the property was originally part of a 40.47 hectare (100 acre) parcel which was owned by Caleb Stabler in the nineteenth century.
Property Name: Alloway Site and Cemetery
Survey No.: M:15-49 (PACS D4.7)

Property Address: 16301 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, Montgomery County
Owner Name/Address: Sunni Varkey P.O. Box 8607 Dubai, U.A.E.
Year Built: Late nineteenth century - 1946

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:

Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
October 1996
CAPSULE SUMMARY

FOR

ALLOWAY SITE AND CEMETERY

16301 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, SPENCERVILLE

Montgomery County Survey Prefix & Site Number: M-15/49
Approximate Building Date: 1945 & 19th century outbuildings
Town or Vicinity in which Resource is Located: Spencerville
Access: Private

The Alloway Site and Cemetery is a twenty five acre farmstead which includes a 19th century family cemetery site, a 1945 eclectic Art Moderne house with Neoclassical influences, and a collection of 19th and early 20th century outbuildings that reflect the property's evolution from a working farm to suburban residence. The Alloway Site and Cemetery once had significance as a farmstead with historical associations with the settlement and agricultural development of Montgomery County. However, the main house burned to the ground in 1940 and later was replaced by a modern 1945-46 residence. Only a deteriorated 1907 garage and four deteriorated late 19th century outbuildings remain as reminders of the period that the property was a farm. The main residence is an unusual example of mid-20th century modernistic residential architecture in eastern Montgomery County, but it would not possess the exceptional architectural importance of a property that has achieved significance with the last 50 years.
1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 16301 New Hampshire Avenue __ not for publication

city, town Silver Spring __ vicinity of congressional district 8

state MD county Montgomery

3. Classification

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4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name D.L. Woody et. al.

street & number 16301 New Hampshire Avenue
telephone no.: 

city, town Silver Spring state and zip code MD 20904

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 7670

street & number 51 Monroe Street folio 11

city, town Rockville state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Montgomery County Locational Atlas of Historic Sites

date 1976 __ federal __ state __ county __ local

repository for survey records M-NCPPC

city, town Silver Spring state MD
Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Alloway Site and Cemetery is a twenty five acre farmstead just off New Hampshire Avenue near Spencerville. The property comprises a nineteenth century family cemetery site, a 1945 eclectic modernistic house with Neoclassical influences, and a collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings that reflect the property’s evolution from a working farm to suburban residence.

Main House

The two-story main house was built in 1945-46 and is a basically symmetrical pale yellow brick structure reflecting an eclectic design with Art Moderne and Neoclassical influences. The most prominent facade of the building is viewed from the driveway approach from the southwest. The four bay facade is divided in half by a set back on the west. On the second story there are ranks of single steel roll out sash with horizontal muntins on the west and double steel sash on the east. On the first floor is a decorated iron wrought veranda with a raised copper roof (west) which covers a double French door and is inset in the facade's setback. Two projecting bay windows with copper roofs and tripartite steel sash windows ornament the east half of the first level.

The house’s main entry, located on the north facade, has a pronounced semi-circular porch supported by steel poles. The doorway has a decorative steel grill surround and is flanked by octagonal windows. Above the main entry is a three-part window that reflects a Neoclassical style influence. The remaining fenestration of this facade repeats the window pattern of single and double steel sash found on the south facade.

The west and east sides of the building are less ornate and have symmetrical ranks of single and double steel roll out sash on each level. The exceptions are three part picture windows that have been placed on the north and south halves of these facades on the first floor. There is an unadorned double door ground level entry on the southeast corner and a basement door accessed by concrete stairs on the northeast corner of the house. The structure is finished with Neoclassical style brick quoins, cornice dentils and balustrade and

(Continued)
### 8. Significance

#### Period
- prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

#### Areas of Significance—Check and justify below
- archeology-prehistoric
- archeology-historic
- landscape architecture
- community planning
- conservation
- law
- agriculture
- economics
- literature
- architecture
- education
- military
- art
- engineering
- social/
- commerce
- exploration/settlement
- science
- industry
- humanitarian
- communications
- philosophy
- invention
- transportation
- art
- engineering
- sculpture
- humanitarians
- theater
- invention
- other (specify)

### Specific dates
- 1810, 1860, 1876, 1945

### Builder/Architect
Unknown

### Applicable Criteria:
- A
- B
- C
- D

### Applicable Exception:
- A
- B
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

#### Summary:
The Alloway Site and Cemetery once had significance as a farmstead with historical associations with the settlement and agricultural development of Montgomery County. However, the main house burned to the ground in 1940 and later was replaced by a modern 1945-46 residence. Only a deteriorated 1907 garage and four deteriorated late nineteenth century outbuildings remain as reminders of the period that the property was a farm. The main residence is an unusual example of mid-twentieth century modernistic residential architecture in eastern Montgomery County, but it would not possess the exceptional architectural importance of a property that has achieved significance with the last 50 years.

Alloway was a 100 acre farm purchased by Caleb Stabler in 1837 from John Barcroft. Soon thereafter Stabler acquired a large tract of 475 1/2 acres adjacent to the Barcroft land and built a two-story log house in 1841 that became his homestead Drayton (Atlas Resource 15-51) and the center of a flourishing group of family-related farms in the Spencerville area. As his sons married, Caleb gave them land from his 472 1/2 acres and helped them establish their own farms. The farmhouses of Stabler's sons, Charles, Frederick and Robert, were built in the vicinity contiguous to Drayton including Sunnyside (Atlas Resource #15-50), Oak Hill (Master Plan Site #15-53) and Edgewood II (Master Plan Site #15-53).

Stabler's only daughter Mary married Warwick P. Miller in 1838 and later in 1857 they settled on the Barcroft farm which they named "Alloway." The Millers remodeled a frame and log house (1836) built

(Continued)
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property ________________

Quadrangle name ____________________________

Quadrangle scale ____________________________

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

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</tbody>
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title William Bushong

organization M-NCPPC

date June 1994

street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue

telephone (301) 495-4570

city or town Silver Spring

state MD

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023

PS-2746
has a flat roof with a distinctive canopy that is most visible from the north and west sides of the building. Farquhar, who wrote a historical sketch of Alloway, referred to the building as a “modern Georgian” house.¹ The octagonal windows, simplified door surround, and plain roof-wall junctions are typically found in mid-twentieth century modernistic Colonial Revival style buildings.

Cemetery

On the west side of the property near New Hampshire Avenue is the remnants of the Stabler-Miller family graveyard. All that remains is an overgrown clearing in a wooded area that has an irregularly coursed stone wall surrounding the site.

Smokehouse

Directly to the north of the main house is a mid-nineteenth century square brick smokehouse with a pyramidal wood shingle roof.

Garage

Northwest of the house is a 1907 Dutch Colonial Revival style carriage house with a servant’s quarters on the second level. The building was remodeled as a automobile garage in 1945-46.

Tenant House

Directly north of the garage is a small rectangular frame, clapboard tenant house. The late nineteenth century structure is side gabled with a center gable over the entrance and a raised tin roof.

Sheds

Just north of the tenant house are two end gabled outbuildings that are connected and have been converted for use as sheds. The buildings are clapboard and have raised metal roofs.
by Barcroft in 1860 and further substantial modifications were made in 1876. Later in 1907 a stucco house (no longer extant) was built near the old house and connected to it by a covered walkway. In 1940 Mary Janet Miller sold the family’s farm to Lofton S. Wesley who had married Isabel Stabler, the daughter of Albert and Helen Stabler of Edgewood. Soon thereafter the old log and frame house was destroyed by a fire. The Wesleys lived in the stucco house during World War II and built the new residence in 1945-46. Lofton Wesley died in 1955 and his widow continued living at the house until the 1960s. When the property was sold and left the Stabler-Miller family’s ownership, the bodies in the family cemetery were moved and reinterred in the Sandy Spring Cemetery.
Preservation Planning Data:

a) Geographic Organization: Piedmont

b) Chronological/Development Periods:

c) Historic Period Themes: Architecture, Agriculture

d) Resource Type: Farmhouse

Endnotes


Unpublished Sources

Interview with Stanley Stabler, June 30, 1994.

Dwyer, Michael. Maryland Historical Trust Form for the Alloway Site and Cemetery, 1973. (MHT)


Published Sources


Maryland Historical Trust

Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey

1. Name
   Historic
   Alloway Site & Cemetery

2. Location
   Street & Number
   Rte. 198 & New Hampshire Ave.
   City, Town
   Spencerville
   Vicinity of
   (Brown's Corner)
   State
   Maryland
   County
   Montgomery

3. Classification
   Category
   District
   Buildings
   Structures
   Site
   Object
   Ownership
   Private
   Public
   Both
   Public Acquisition
   Present Use
   Agriculture
   Museum
   Commercial
   Educational
   Entertainment
   Government
   Industrial
   Military
   Other
   Status
   Occupied
   Unoccupied
   Work in Progress
   Accessible
   Yes: Restricted
   Yes: Unrestricted
   No

4. Owner of Property
   Name
   Contee Sand & Gravel Co.
   Telephone #:
   Street & Number

   City, Town
   Prince George's Co.
   Vicinity of
   Maryland
   State, Zip Code

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
Apparantly, the old log and frame house shown in Farquhar's book burned and was replaced by the present stucco, estate-type mansion in the 1940's. There is, however, an old bank barn and several other farm buildings still intact. Members of the original Quaker family, the Miller's, are buried in a wooded cemetery to the left of the driveway on Rte. 198.
# SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD
- **PREHISTORIC**
- **1400-1499**
- **1500-1599**
- **1600-1699**
- **1700-1799**
- **1800-1899**
- **1900-**

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW
- **ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC**
- **ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC**
- **AGRICULTURE**
- **ARCHITECTURE**
- **ART**
- **COMMERCIAL**
- **COMMUNICATIONS**
- **COMMUNITY PLANNING**
- **CONSERVATION**
- **EDUCATION**
- **ENGINEERING**
- **EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT**
- **INVENTION**
- **LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**
- **LAW**
- **LITERATURE**
- **MILITARY**
- **MUSIC**
- **PHILOSOPHY**
- **POLITICS/GOVERNMENT**
- **RELIGION**
- **SCIENCE**
- **SCULPTURE**
- **SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN**
- **THEATER**
- **TRANSPORTATION**
- **OTHER (SPECIFY)**

## SPECIFIC DATES

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY
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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, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438
The only daughter of Caleb and Ann Stabler of Drayton was Mary M. Stabler who in May, 1838, married Warwick P. Miller, a son of Robert H. and Anna J. Miller of Alexandria. Giving up his nine-year-old crockery and china business in St. Louis, Missouri, Warwick brought his wife and two children, Annie and Robert, to a farm of one hundred acres located just west of Mary's birthplace. The farm, including a small house partly of logs said to have been built about 1836, was purchased from John Barcroft. They moved to the farm about 1857. Sometime after they were settled, the name “Alloway” was chosen for the place at the suggestion of a relative, apparently because it had a pleasant sound and was suggestive of Scotland.

Alloway is situated on the east side of the Ashton-Colesville highway, Route 29, two miles south of Ashton and eighteen miles north of the Zero milestone. It is just to the west and adjoining Drayton and Sunnyside.

Mary M. Stabler was born in 1828. From one of her daughters the author received a hint of a possible romance with a Barcroft son. According to this tradition young Barcroft was a playmate of Mary M. Stabler of Drayton. He was invited to go to England and, while there, was offered a title and an estate if he would remain and become expatriated. He decided that a title of nobility could not make up for the pleasure of living in Maryland.

The children of Warwick and Mary Miller, in addition to Annie, were Robert H. Miller, born in St. Louis in 1851, who married Mariana Stabler of The Cottage. They lived at The Highlands until his death in September, 1920. He was a model farmer and for a number of years was the Director of the University of Maryland Experimental Station. He was a director of the Savings Institution and Laurel National Bank. Cornelia Stabler, born at Alloway in 1854, married Charles F. Brooke and lived to an advanced age at Brooke Grove. Isabel Miller, born at Alloway in 1856, made it her life-long home until her death in 1940, and Mary Janet, another daughter, also made her home at Alloway until the time the house was burned.

Two other sons were Caleb S. and Warwick P. Miller, Jr., both of whom left the neighborhood and were employed in the insurance business in Washington and Philadelphia, respectively, until they passed away at advanced ages a few years ago. Warwick P. Miller, Sr., died
in December, 1911; and Mary M., his wife, in June, 1892; both are buried in the Sandy Spring Friends Cemetery. After the death of Isabel Miller, her sister, Mary Janet, in 1940, sold the farm to Lofton S. Wesley, who married Isabel Stabler, a daughter of Albert and Helen Janney Stabler of Edgewood. The Wesleys built a modern Georgian house which has some unusual features, is very attractive, and is quite different from any other house in the county. Lofton Wesley died May 23rd, 1955. His widow, continues to live in the new, modern house they built there.

Two uncles of Warwick P. Miller, brothers of his father, Robert H. Miller, of Alexandria, were Uncle John and Uncle Sam Miller. Both spent a few of their declining years at Alloway. Uncle John lost his wife, Susan, when he was thirty-seven years of age and never re-married. He became a student of spiritualism. He lived alternately in Philadelphia and in New York just off Fifth Avenue near Washington Square. When he moved to the serenity of Alloway in 1876, he had his own body servant, horse and carriage. He gave Caleb Stabler a fund of $1,000, which was maintained intact for years, to help improve the abominable road from Laurel to the Colesville Pike through The Manor.

After Uncle John’s residence at Alloway for a while, Uncle Sam decided to join the family there in 1876. When Uncle Sam died in September, 1876, Uncle John built a two-story addition to the house, which included an elevator. That addition is shown to the right-hand or east side of the house shown left. Both being without children and quite well-to-do, they left generous legacies to nieces and nephews when they passed away. Uncle John died in December, 1878, and both were buried in the stone-walled enclosure of the family plot near the entrance to Alloway.

Many of the Janney, Miller, and Brooke heirlooms which furnished the two Alloway houses are scattered far and wide. Among treasured heirlooms were two silver goblets believed to have been brought to Maryland in 1650 by Robert Brooke when he settled at De La Brooke Manor in St. Mary’s County. One of the best pieces saved was a portrait of John Miller by Sully.

According to a pamphlet left to his children by Warwick P. Miller, the first Miller came from Wales about the time of William Penn and settled in Chester County, Pennsylvania. (Penn landed first at New Castle, Delaware, October 27, 1682.) This booklet gives the names of the first American ancestors of the family as Guion and Margaret Miller; and those in the direct line of descent from Guion to Warwick P. Miller of Alloway are given as Robert, Warwick, Modena, and then Robert H. Miller of Alexandria.

The author has just received an attractive booklet entitled Bi-Centennial of Old Kennett Meeting House, 1710-1910. (In Chester County, Penn.) The old Kennett records state that “Gayen Miller came from Ireland with his wife Margaret and bought 200 acres in Littia’s Manor, of Staineing, now Kennett Township, by deed of August 17, 1702.”

Following this statement appear the names of Gayen and Margaret’s nine sons and three daughters, the third son being “Robert, B. 3-3-1763, D. 1752; married Rachel Haines, 1725.” The death of Gayen is recorded as in 1742 and Margaret 1743/4.

The original house built of logs (shown at the top), had a dining-living room on the first floor with a kitchen and outside kitchen; on the second floor were two bedrooms. This original house was retained with the house shown here, and joined it directly in the rear.

The addition shown to the east, which was built for Uncle John about 1877, had a living room on the first and a bedroom on the second floor. The elevator on the north side was reached from a back porch and adjoined the second floor bedroom.

The magnificent lawn at Alloway covering several acres in the post Civil War period was a delight. It was shaded with many large oak trees, some evergreens, and a huge linden tree, one of the largest anywhere in the county.

“All nature is but art unknown to thee,
All chance, direction which thou canst not see.
All disord, harmony not understood;
All partial evil, universal good.”

—Pope

“Let me live by the side of the road, and be a friend of man.”
15-49, Alwood Farm Cemetery, Mont Co, MD May 1994, WM. Bushong

View NE (South Elev.)

Main House

Neg.: MD SHPO

1 of 6
M-15-49, Alloway Farm & Cemetery, MontCo, MD
May 1994, Wm. Bushong

Detail of Entry

View SE (north/east)

Neg.: MD S4PO

2 of 4
NAME  #15-49 ALLOWAY SITE - BARN
LOCATION  N.H. AVE + RTE. 918, BROWN'S CORNER (ASHTON) MD.
FACADE  SW
PHOTO TAKEN  1/23/73 W. Owyer
15-49, Alloway Farm & Cemetery, Montco, MD
May 1994, Wm. Bushong

VIEW WEST
Cemetery Wall

NEG.: MD SHPO
5 of 6
M-
15-49, ALLOWAY FARM & CEMETERY
Mont Co. MD
MAY 1994, WM. Buschow

VIEW NE (SND ELEU.)
GARAGE/APARTMENT

NEG. (MD. SHPO)

3 OF 6
15-49, Alloway Farm Cemetery, May 1994, William S. Thomas

Frame out buildings

View NE (West elevation)

NE 61 W 1 MD Shpo

4 of 6