

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M-35-107

1. Name of Property

historic name Monroe Warren House common/other name _____

2. Location

street & number 7320 Meadow Lane Not for publication _____
city or town Chevy Chase vicinity X state Maryland code MD
county Montgomery code MO zip code 20815

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing		
<u>2</u>	_____	_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	_____	_____	objects
_____	_____	_____	_____	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes X Name of Listing Chevy Chase Historic District No _____

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Residential Sub: _____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Residential Sub: _____

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
roof _____
walls _____
other _____

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

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

=====

The Monroe Warren House, built c1926, is architecturally significant as an outstanding example of a high-style Tudor Revival residence. With its rich detail and variety of building forms and materials, the house is a compendium of early English architecture. The house is prominently located on Meadow Lane, the street that perhaps best exemplifies the influence of Frederick Law Olmsted on the over-all layout of Section 4, which generally follows the natural contours of the terrain.

The substantial two-and-a-half story, three-bay house has a dominant hipped roof with front facing cross gable. The assymetry of the front facade is accented by a wide variety of window treatments, including a projecting bay with polygonal roof on the first level, a wall dormer with parapet gable on the second, and a ribbon of casements in a hipped roof dormer on the third level. Round arched door openiongs are echoed in a small round arched window in the front gable.

Wall and roof surfaces include textured stucco, half-timbering, stone quoins, and slate shingles.

The house remains on its original site, described as Parcel 428, consisting of 11,305 square feet of land.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
(Name of Property)
Montgomery County, Maryland

Inventory No. M-35-107
Page 4

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

Period of Significance _____

Significant Dates c 1926

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
MONROE WARREN

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder _____

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

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

Inventory No. M-35-107

name of property
Montgomery County, MD
 county and state

=====1=====

Built as the residence of developer Monroe Warren and his wife Dorothy B. Warren on land acquired from Lansing and Mildred L. Valk, this striking Tudor Revival house was constructed c1926 on a prominent lot on Meadow Lane.

Monroe Warren (1895-1983) was the founder and senior partner of the prolific construction company of Monroe and R. B. Warren, Inc., which began in 1920 and quickly became a success. One of four sons of B. S. Warren, a former assistant surgeon general of the United States Public Health Service, Monroe Warren planned to enter the medical profession until a summer job working for his uncle, local builder Bates Warren, turned him toward the construction industry.²

Monroe Warren's second firm, known as Meadowbrook Inc., existed from 1932 to 1966. During the 1930s Warren became one of the most active builders of low-cost housing on a grand scale in the Washington area. Local projects include Leland and Meadowbrook, both in the Town of Chevy Chase. Warren was an organizer and president of the Home Builders Association of Washington, Inc., established in 1924.³

The Warren brothers are best known regionally for pioneering the construction of cooperative apartments in Washington, such as Tilden Gardens, and the Kennedy-Warren, which was developed by Monroe Warren in partnership with Edgar S. Kennedy.⁴

Monroe and Dorothy Warren defaulted on a deed of trust in 1932 and the property was purchased from American Security and Trust Company by Maynard Owen Williams and his wife Daisy Woods Williams in 1933. The Williamses continued to own the property into the 1940s.⁵

¹Deed 392:378 (1/20/1926) Montgomery County Land Records; Polk Directory 1927-28.

²Goode, *Best Addresses*, pp. 258-59; 345-46.

³ibid.

⁴Press release dated 9-9-1931, *Evening Star* clippings file, Martin Luther King, Jr. Library.

⁵Equity Case 6406; Deeds 540:180, 554:458; 1941 Klinge map.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M-35-107

name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s):
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

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

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Individual

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function (s): Residential

Known Design Source:

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Primary Sources:

Census, U. S. 1910 and 1920.

Directories:

Boyd, *Washington City Directory*, 1900, 1905, 1912, 1913.
Caldwell, S. D. *Directory of Bethesda District* (Bethesda, Md), 1911 and 1915.
Nelson, Justus C. *Nelson's Suburban Directory* (Washington, D.C.), 1912-1913.
Polk, R. L. *Polk's Washington Suburban Directory* (Washington, D.C.) 1927-1928.

Equity Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.

Fisher, Thos. J. *Chevy Chase for Homes*. Washington, D.C.: Thos. J. Fisher & C., 1916.

Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.
Deeds and Plats.

Maps:

Caldwell, S.D. *Map of Bethesda District*, 1915
Deets and Maddox. *Real Estate Atlas*, 1917.
Fava Naeff. *Real Estate Map of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad*, 1890.
Hopkins, G.M. *Northern Virginia and Bethesda*, 1894.
Klingé. *Real Estate Atlas*, 1931 and 1941.
Maryland Geological Survey Map. Bethesda & Vicinity, 1910.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. 1916, 1927, 1927-1959.

Proctor, John Clagett. *Washington, Past and Present: A History. Including Biographical Sketches of Prominent Citizens*. New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1930.

Prominent Personages of the Nation's Capital. Washington, D.C.: The Washington Times Co, 1924.

Who's Who in the Nation's Capital. Washington: W.W. Publishing Company. 1923-24.

Secondary Sources:

The American Institute of Architects, *A Centennial History of the Washington Chapter, 1887-1987*. Washington, D.C.: The

Washington Architectural Foundation Press.

George, Mary Roselle. "Developer Influence in the Suburbanization of Washington, D.C.: Francis G. Newlands and Chevy Chase." M.A. Thesis, University of Maryland, 1989.

Gowans, Alan. *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930.* Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 1986.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. *A Grateful Remembrance: The Story of Montgomery County, Maryland.* Rockville, Md: Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Lapl, Elizabeth Jo. and Kimberly Prothro Williams. *Chevy Chase: A Home Suburb for the Nation's Capital,* Crownsville, MD: Maryland Historical Trust Press, 1998.

Linehan, John. Editor. *The Town of Chevy Chase: Past and Present,* Montgomery County, MD: The Town of Chevy Chase, 1990.

Offutt, William. *Bethesda: A Social History of the Area Through World War II.* Bethesda, Md: The Innovation Game, 1995.

Smith, Kathryn Schneitder. Editor. *Washington at Home: An Illustrated History of Neighborhoods in the Nation's Capital.* Northridge, California: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1988

Wright, Gwen; William B. Bushong; and Clare Lise Cavicchi; "Chevy Chase, Maryland, Survey District: Survey Report: Phase Two," Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, June 1997.

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property 11, 305 sq ft

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

Parcel 428

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Clare Lise Cavicchi, Historic Preservation Planner
organization M-NCPPC date 10-1999
street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone 301/563-3402
city or town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20910

=====
12. Property Owner
=====

name Timothy P and P. L. Fowler
street & number 7320 Meadow Lane telephone _____
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815



M:35-107



M:35-107

7320 Meadow Lane