

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. M:35-68

### 1. Name of Property (Indicate preferred name)

historic Mills House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 3717 Bradley Lane  not for publication

city, town Chevy Chase  vicinity of

state Maryland county

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district)	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Carol D. Bugg

street & number 3717 Bradley Lane telephone no:

city, town Chevy Chase state and zip code Maryland 20815

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse Tax Map and Parcel HN341- Pt. Lots 19 & 20, B12

city, town Rockville state Maryland Liber and Folio Liber and Folio

### 6. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Individually Listed in the National Register
- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- HSR or Research report at MHT
- Other:

**7. Description**

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- Condition
- excellent     deteriorated
  - good         ruins
  - fair          altered

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count:

See attached

## CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35/68 Mills House (1914)  
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The Mills House, built in 1914, is located on the north side of Bradley Lane in Section 3 of Chevy Chase. A semi-circular drive frames a large magnolia tree located on axis to the house and provides direct access to the house from Bradley Lane. The two-story, three-bay structure is designed in an Italian Renaissance Revival style, characterized by a low hipped roof with wide, overhanging, boxed eaves, arched window openings, a classically framed entry door and a single-story closed porch with a balustrade above. The house is constructed of hollow tile and clad with a stucco finish.

The primary elevation, facing Bradley Lane, is three bays wide with a central entry flanked by windows on the first story, and three window openings on the second story. The entry, raised above ground level and reached by a set of stairs, consists of a double wood door above which projects a bracketed architrave. The 24-light casement windows to either side are set beneath an arch, formed by a projecting arched, hood mold. Narrow shutters extend from the water table to the bottoms of the hood mold, elongating the window openings and giving them the appearance of French doors. The second story tri-partite windows have 8-light sash and shutters.

The single-story porch projects off of the west side elevation and is one-bay wide and two bays deep. It is lit by long and narrow casement windows and has a balustrade atop it. The second story has three openings: a central window and two french doors opening onto the porch roof.

A hipped roof, now clad with asphalt shingles, is low lying with overhanging, boxed eaves and an eyebrow dormer on each elevation. The roof was originally covered with tile, as shown on the 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

# 8. Significance

Survey No.

M:35-68

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian	
	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

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Specific dates	1914	Builder/Architect
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check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D		
and/or Applicable Exceptions:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> F

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Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> state	<input type="checkbox"/> local
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## HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

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

Resource Type: Individual

Category: Residential

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Residential

Known Design Source:

## CONTINUATION SHEET

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Architecturally, the Mills House is an outstanding example of a Italian Renaissance Revival style residence. The house represents a period of transition in the development of Chevy Chase Land Company land. While the houses immediately east of Connecticut Avenue (3807, 3803) were built with a greater setback in line with the Taylor-Britton House/Boxwood (3815) which was subdivided before Section 3 was platted, the Mills House represents the early Section 3 development, with the required 30-foot setback, corresponding with setback of Section 2 (Village) houses facing directly across Bradley Lane.

The Mills House was built in 1914. In December 1908, the Chevy Chase Land Company sold the equivalent of two lots to Walter Scott Abraham who took out a mortgage for \$4,861.32, the same amount as the cost of the land. William A. Mills, in June 1914, acquired the eastern portion of Abraham's property, consisting of the present portions of lots 19 and 20. One month later Mills insured the property for \$8,000, indicating that a house had been built or was in the process of being built. The property was assessed in 1915 with improvements valued at \$8,000.<sup>1</sup>

By 1915, the Mills family was in residence at this address, according to the Caldwell Directory which lists Mr and Mrs W A Mills and two children. The house, seen in a 1919 photo of Bradley Lane, shares the setback of facing Bradley Lane houses at 3810, 3804, and 3800.<sup>2</sup>

When the Mills House was constructed, Bradley Lane, the only paved cross street in the area, was a highly desirable location for a residence. The road had long been the main east-west connection between Brookville Road and Wisconsin Avenue. By 1915, the section of Bradley Lane contained a higher concentration of houses than any other block in the Chevy Chase area. Of these houses, the Mills House is one of the earliest and finest architecturally.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Abraham bought lot 19, and part lots 18 and 20 for \$4,861.32. The deed included the restriction that the minimum cost of a house was to be \$3,000, Deed 202:50 (12-9-1908); Deed of Trust 203:330 (12-14-1908). Deed 242:481 (6/20/1914). No Abraham is listed in 1911 or 1912 Directories, nor are Della and George Smallwood from whom Mills acquired the property. Tax Assessment Records 1914-1915, District 7 (Vol 1910-1918).

<sup>2</sup>1915 Caldwell Directory. Photograph by Dr. Irving C. Gardner, 12/3/1919, #296, Chevy Chase Historical Society collection.

<sup>3</sup>Martenet and Bond Map, 1865. George W. Stone, Jr. "Reminiscences, 1909-1930," (1990). Caldwell Map of Bethesda District, 1915.

CONTINUATION SHEET

M35/68 Mills House (1914)  
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The property was sold by William Mills in 1921. In 1925, it was acquired by William A. II and Margaret Rogers who lived here, and owned the property until after 1941. The adjoining property, on parts of 18 and 19, originally part of the 1908 purchase from the Chevy Chase Land Company, was developed in 1926 when the house at 3719 was built.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Deeds 302:403 (3-4-1921) and 374:12 (1925).

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M: 35/68

See attached

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 16,120 Sq. Ft.

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

## Form Prepared By

name/title	Clare Lise Cavicchi, Historic Preservation Planner	Architectural description by Kim Williams
organization	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission	date 4/98
street & number	8787 Georgia Avenue	telephone 301-563-3400
city or town	Silver Spring	state Maryland 20910-3760

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35/68: Mills House (c1914)  
3717 Bradley Lane  
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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.

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

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Maps:

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CONTINUATION SHEET

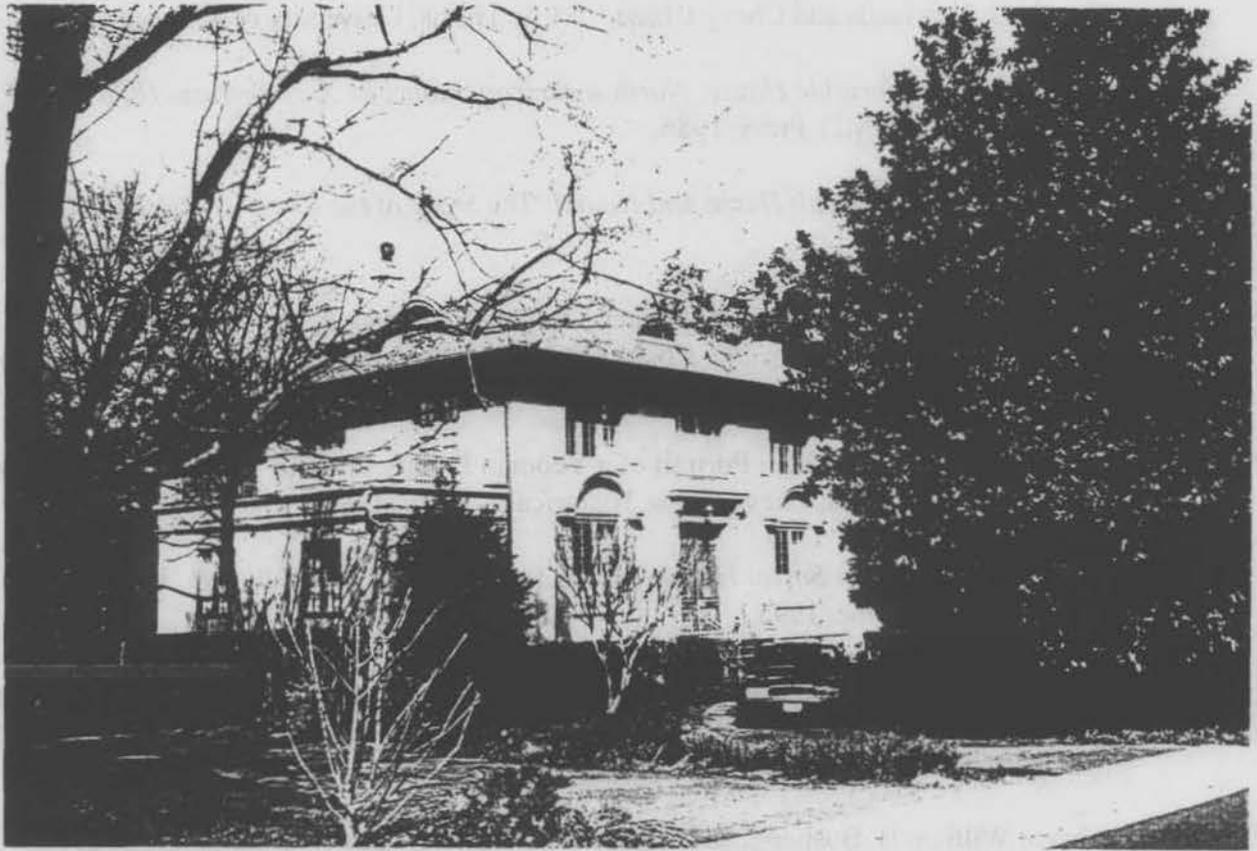
M:35/68: Mills House (c1914)  
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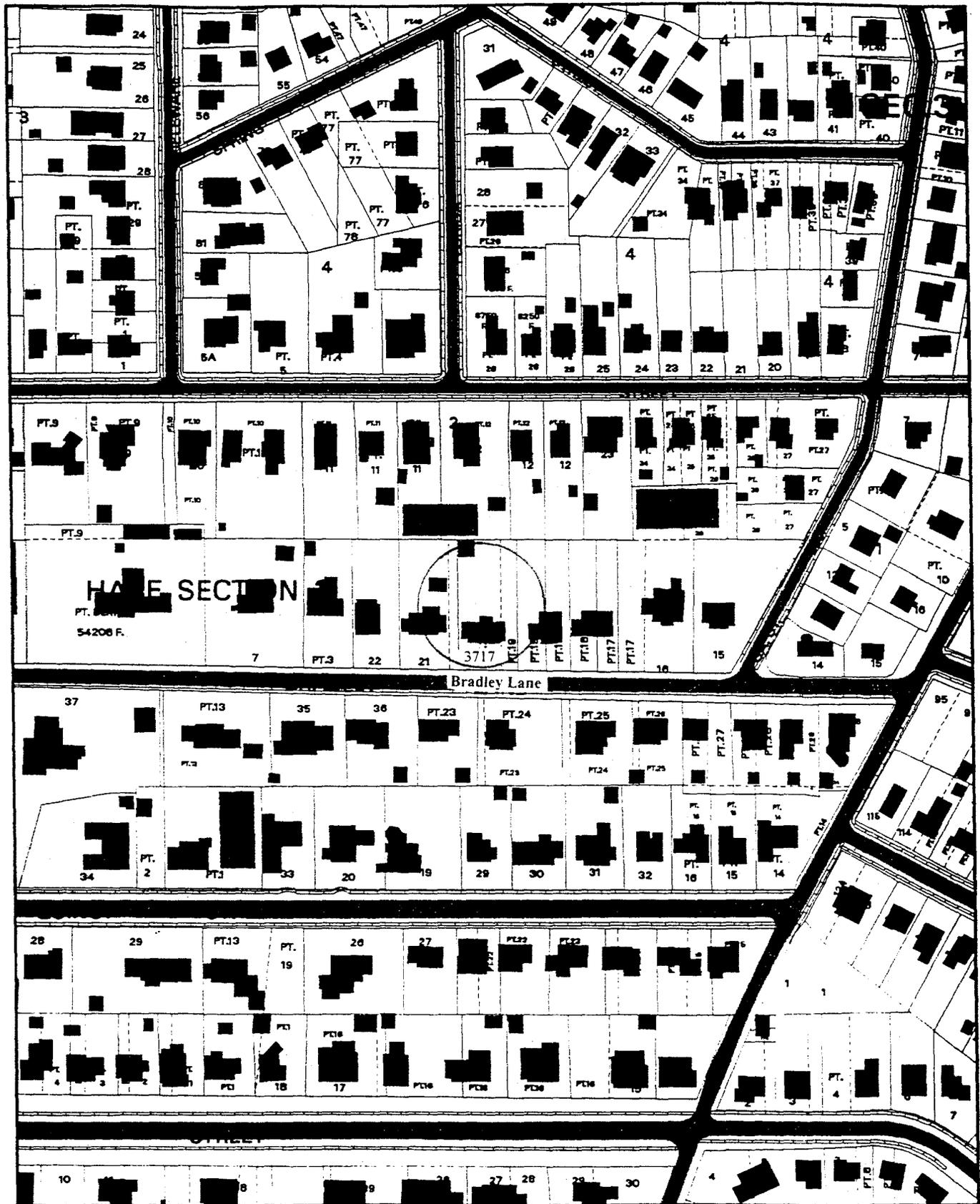
CONTINUATION SHEET

M:35/68: Mills House (c1914)  
3717 Bradley Lane



# VICINITY MAP FOR MILLS HOUSE 35/68

M:35-68



Map compiled on April 02, 1998 at 2:49 PM

## DISCLAIMER

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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING**  
 THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
 127 George Brown Blvd., Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-6700

