United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form  

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking “x” in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter “N/A” for “not applicable.” For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name  Charles F. R. Ogilby House
other names

2. Location

street & number  17 Primrose Street
not for publication

city or town  Chevy Chase
vicinity

state  Maryland  code  MD  county  Montgomery  code  31  zip code  20815

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:
☐ entered in the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.  
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other (explain):  

Signature of the Keeper  
Date of Action
Charles F. R. Ogilby House (M: 35-13-5)  
Name of Property  
Montgomery County, MD  
County and State  

5. Classification

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Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter “N/A” if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

6. Function or Use

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Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  

Charles F. R. Ogilby House (M: 35-13-5)  
Name of Property  

Montgomery County, MD  
County and State  

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Description Summary:  

Built in 1911, the Charles F. R. Ogilby House is an outstanding example of early twentieth-century Colonial Revival residential architecture. It is a two-and-a-half-story frame house with a symmetrically composed front façade. Exterior details include a modillion cornice, a belt course, and a fanlight and sidelights around the front door. On the interior, Colonial Revival-style features include fireplace surrounds with classical decorative details, wainscoting, and a prominent half-turn stair with turned balusters and a volute newel. Although the house has undergone alterations since its original construction, the front façade strongly reflects the original design and key interior features remain intact.  

General Description:  

Exterior  
The Ogilby House is a two-and-a-half-story frame house with a brick foundation. It is clad with cypress shingles and sheltered by a hipped roof pierced by three pedimented dormers. Projecting from the roof are two interior chimneys and one exterior chimney. The house has copper gutters and downspouts. The cornice includes modillions on its underside on the front façade and part of the side facades. Approximately two-thirds of the way up from the base is a belt course that stretches around the house. The most notable exterior feature is the front porch, which projects from the front façade and features finely crafted Colonial Revival detailing.  

The house’s three-bay front (south) façade is characteristically Colonial Revival in its composition and decorative program. The front façade is symmetrically arranged with pairs of windows on either side of the central bay. In the central bay is a first-floor entry porch topped by French doors with flanking wood windows on the second-floor level. The entry porch features an entablature supported by two sets of paired Ionic columns and two pilasters. Latticework connects the columns and pilasters on the east and west ends of the porch. On top of the porch is a wood railing. The porch has a wood floor and is accessed from the ground by stone stairs with brick cheek walls with stone coping. Wood stairs originally led to the porch, but were replaced with stone stairs in 1987. The front door has an elaborate surround that features wood paneling, sidelights, pilasters, a semi-circular fanlight, and a pediment. The front façade is lit by six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows with louvered shutters. Piercing the roofline are three pedimented dormers with wood windows with six-over-six, double-hung sash.  

On the west façade, the northernmost bay projects at both stories. The central bay projects only at the first story and is capped by a shed roof. The modillion cornice from the front façade terminates before the northernmost bay. Lighting the façade are six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows, which take the form of single windows, except for a set of three windows in the second floor of the northernmost bay. Originally, the northernmost bay consisted of a single-story porch supported by paired Doric columns. A photograph from
1916 shows a railing on top of the porch. Between 1916 and 1919, a second floor was added above the porch, and the porch was enclosed during a 1950s building campaign.

The east façade has two bays that project at the first-floor level. The façade’s southernmost bay features a shed projection, while the northernmost bay includes a bay window. The modillion cornice runs across the entirety of the east façade. The façade is lit by six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows. The bay window replaced an earlier fenestration pattern that included a door with a small shed porch and a set of three six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows. The door, porch, and set of three windows were removed in 1987.

The rear (north) façade features two projecting end bays. The westernmost bay extends farther north than the easternmost bay. The easternmost bay and central bay are fronted by a porch, which is supported by Doric columns and, at the corners, by squared, paneled columns. The porch has a brick floor. The westernmost bay is lit by a Palladian window at the second story and by French doors with sidelights at the first story. The doors open onto a stone patio. Fenestrating the central bay are French doors with sidelights flanked by six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows and topped by a fanlight on the second floor and French doors on the first floor. Lighting the easternmost bay are six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows on the second floor and a single-leaf, glazed door on the first floor. The center bay also features a pedimented dormer lit by a pair of six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows. There have been at least three iterations of the rear porch. Historic photos indicate that the house was originally built with a back porch across the western bay. By 1919, a room was added above the porch. The porch was enclosed in the 1950s, and a new porch was constructed that extended across the central bay and terminated at the exterior chimney on the rear façade. This porch was supported by Doric columns, which were likely salvaged from the old porch, as was the railing. At some point, the porch was screened. In 1987, a building campaign altered the rear façade once again. The first floor of the central bay was extended slightly to the north. A set of three windows on the second floor of the westernmost bay were replaced with a Palladian window. The screen was removed from the porch, and the porch was extended to be flush with the eastern end of the façade.

**Interior**
The interior of the house is organized around a central hall plan. A staircase in the main hallway connects the first and second floors. There are also two sets of service stairs, one connecting the first floor and basement and a second connecting the second and third floors. Social and service rooms are found on the first floor, while private living space occupies the second and third floors. Nearly all of the rooms of the house have wood floors and plaster walls.

The central hall features paneled wainscoting, cornice molding, and an elliptical arch that terminates at paneled pilasters. The arch functions as a dividing element, sectioning the hall into a reception hall and stair hall. Access to the second floor is provided by a half-turn staircase, which is fitted with turned balusters, a stained handrail, and a volute newel that is capped by a decorative ivory button. A closet is located under the stairs. At the south end of the hall is the front door, which is surrounded by sidelights and a fanlight with a decorative molding that
features a keystone and swags. The fanlight breaks the cornice molding and extends into a shallow recession in the ceiling. Two closets are located on the west side of the hall and a bathroom is found on the east side. The original plan for the house shows a bathroom in the location of the northwestern closet. The southwestern closet was accessed from the threshold between the hall and living room. When the house was extended in the 1950s, a new bathroom was built along the east side of the hall, and the old bathroom became an additional closet. A door opening was added to access the southwestern closet from the hall and the old opening was sealed. A building campaign in 1987 extended the hall to the north. The 1950s-era bathroom was removed and a new bathroom was added to the east side of the hall. The shallow recession for the fanlight above the front door was also created in 1987. Originally, the fanlight molding was cut off midway by the ceiling.

East of the hall is the dining room, which is also decorated with cornice molding and paneled wainscoting. At the center of the ceiling is a floral medallion. A fireplace with a paneled mantel with Doric columns is located on the north wall. There is an alcove with a window along the east wall. West of the hall is the study, which originally functioned as the living room. It is the only room in the house that has its original wood floor. In 1987, the wood flooring in other first- and second-floor rooms was replaced with wood floors with wider planks. The walls of the study are covered with wood paneling and built-in shelving. On the north wall is a fireplace with a wood mantel that features fluted, Doric columns and bas-reliefs depicting angels in the center and ends of the mantel. The room is lit by recessed lighting in the ceiling. In the original plan, a doorway in the north wall provided access to the current living room (originally the den).

The living room in the northwest corner of the floor plan is the largest room in the house. The room has plaster walls, wood baseboards, and crown molding. On the south wall is a fireplace with a decorative mantel with Doric columns. On either side of the fireplace are niches finished with decorative molding. On the north wall are French doors with brass knobs and flanking sidelights. The room is lit by three windows along the west wall and by recessed lighting in the ceiling. In the southeast corner of the room is a built-in wet bar that is hidden behind a jib door. The bar is in the location of an elevator that was installed when the house was built. The elevator was operated manually, which required pulling ropes to lift its weight. The elevator shaft extended from the basement to the second floor. Because it was difficult to operate, however, the family did not use the elevator, but instead placed boards horizontally through the elevator shaft on the second floor to use the space as an extra closet. On the first floor, the elevator cab was nailed in place and used to store tools. The elevator was removed and the bar was installed in the 1950s. The living room was roughly doubled in size in the 1950s, when the rear porch was enclosed. The westernmost niche was installed at this time, in the location of an original passageway between the study and living room. Photographs from the 1960s show the room with a painted finish. The walls were either paneled or featured applied frame moldings (to replicate a paneled finish) and a chair rail. The paneling and chair rail were removed in 1987.

1 Remsen Ogilby, oral history, July 12, 1990, Chevy Chase Historical Society.
The kitchen occupies the northeast corner of the house. It features wainscoting, built-in shelving, and a fireplace with a stone surround. Lighting the room are recessed lights in the ceiling and a bay window in the east wall. The room is divided into two sections—the kitchen and an informal dining area. Separating the two spaces is an arched doorway and a segmental-arched opening above the kitchen counter. Originally, the kitchen was smaller, and a large pantry separated it from the dining room. In 1987, the stairs between the kitchen and second floor were removed, and the pantry became part of an expanded kitchen. Today, the only remnant of the original service stairs connects the second and third floors.

On the second floor, the central hall is divided into two spaces by two Ionic columns arranged beneath a robust strip of ceiling molding. Along the west wall is molded wainscoting and, at the wall’s south end, built-in shelving. The hall is lit on the north wall by French doors flanked by sash windows and topped by a fanlight. Lighting the south wall are French doors with sash windows on either side. The walls are plaster covered with wallpaper. The columns in the hall denote the location of a partition wall that was removed in 1987. The wall created a small room at the south end of the hall that was labeled as a sewing room. It was later converted into a bedroom for the Ogilbys’ youngest child.

East of the second-floor hall is a bedroom. Along the north wall of the room is a brick fireplace with a wood surround, which is finished with decorative swag details and Doric columns. The room has plaster walls with cornice molding. Wallpaper covers the walls. North of the room is an attached bathroom. Originally, the bathroom accessed a long closet that led to a back hall. The closet was removed and the bathroom was enlarged in 1987. North of the bedroom and attached bathroom is another bedroom with an attached bathroom. The room features plaster walls and cornice molding. In the original plan for the house, the space was divided into two rooms for service staff. At some point, the partition wall between the two rooms was removed to create a larger, L-shaped room. The date for this alteration is not known. West of the bedroom is a hall that contains the remnants of the service stair, which ascends to the third floor, and a closet.

West of the second-floor hall is the master suite, which consists of a bedroom, sitting room, and bathroom. Access between the hall and master suite is through a narrow hall, on either side of which is a closet. The hall accesses the sitting room, which connects with the bathroom on the north. Both rooms are covered with wood paneling. The sitting room features a brick fireplace with a wood surround and cornice molding. South of the sitting room is the master bedroom. The room features plaster walls, a cornice molding, and a brick fireplace with a wood surround with decorative details. The master suite is the result of a renovation in 1987. Both the sitting room and bedroom were originally bedrooms, but the room that serves as the bathroom was added over the rear porch between 1916 and 1919 as a recreation room, what the family called a “gymnasium.” The function of the room between 1919 and 1987 is not clear.

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2 Remsen Ogilby, oral history, July 12, 1990, Chevy Chase Historical Society.
3 Remsen Ogilby, oral history, July 12, 1990, Chevy Chase Historical Society.
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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Charles F. R. Ogilby House (M: 35-13-5)
Montgomery County, MD

Name of Property
County and State

On the third floor are two bedrooms, a bathroom, a sitting room, and ample closet space. The rooms have pitched ceilings determined by the form of the roof.

Site
The Charles F. R. Ogilby House is located at the center of a 1/3-acre residential lot. Access to the front door from the street is granted by a brick path. The grounds include a lawn and garden. An herb garden and fountain are located on the east side of the house. The rear garden, which is planted with perennials, is supported on its south end by a stone, serpentine retaining wall. The rear garden has long been a fixture of the Ogilby House. The current garden was designed and installed in 2000. At the northeastern corner of the lot is a three-car garage, which features a side-gable roof with exposed rafter tails, a Colonial Revival-style cupola, and wood shingle siding to match the house. According to Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, the garage was built sometime between 1916 and 1927. It is accessed from the street by a brick ribbon driveway.
8. Statement of Significance

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 pattern of our history.
- □ B Property 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)

Property is:

- □ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- □ B removed from its original location.
- □ C a birthplace or 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.

Period of Significance
1911-1949

Significant Dates
1911

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Arthur B. Heaton, Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- □ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- □ previously listed in the National Register
- □ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- □ designated a National Historic Landmark
- □ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- □ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- □ State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- □ Federal agency
- □ Local government
- □ University
- □ Other

Name of repository:
The Charles F. R. Ogilby House in Chevy Chase, Maryland, is a Colonial Revival-style, single-family house completed in 1911 to a design by architect Arthur B. Heaton. Heaton was a well-known architect in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region during the first half of the twentieth century, and the Ogilby House ranks among the most important Colonial Revival residential buildings designed by Heaton over the course of his career. At the time of its construction, the house was recognized by the architectural press as an important work. In 1911, it was featured in a full-page spread in the *American Architect*, bringing it national attention. The Ogilby House was Heaton’s only detached dwelling in the Washington region to appear in the publication’s pages. The Ogilby House meets National Register Criterion C at the local level as a notable example of Colonial Revival architecture by one of its best-known practitioners in the Washington region. Three Heaton-designed properties are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, yet no Colonial Revival-style residence, which comprised the bulk of his work, has been listed. This nomination recognizes Heaton’s important contributions to residential building within the early twentieth-century suburbs of Washington, D.C.

Still displaying its front façade as originally composed and key architectural details, the exterior of the Ogilby House demonstrates a moderate to high level of integrity and remains an accurate reflection of Heaton’s original design intent. The cypress shingle siding, front porch, and front door surround remain intact. Significant interior architectural details such as those found in the study and dining room are also extant, and other significant interior spaces have remained relatively unchanged since their construction. Exterior alterations to the building include changes to the fenestration on the east elevation and to the porch on the rear elevation, and interior alterations encompass changes to room volumes in three rooms and the removal of part of the service stair. The Ogilby House is highly intact to its original architectural design, period of significance, and historic character and retains a high level of integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association and a moderate level of integrity of materials and workmanship.

**Resource History and Historic Context:**

**Nineteenth-Century Suburbanization and the Development of Chevy Chase**

National trends in suburban development in the nineteenth century can be linked to the evolution of transportation systems and technologies that established both intra- and intercity connections and fostered residential growth outside the urban center. The earliest suburban communities were developed during the railroad era, when railroad companies, seeking new sources of revenue, built passenger stations along their routes to connect cities with small rural villages. The residential communities that developed around the stations became semirural enclaves where the upper and upper-middle classes built fashionable villas on large lots, finding reprieve from overcrowding and other issues afflicting America’s rapidly industrializing cities. This

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4 *American Architect*, no. 1873 (November 15, 1911).
new suburban ideal manifested itself in the separation of residences from workplaces. Railroad commuting was well established in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and other major urban centers before the Civil War. Horse-drawn streetcars, also known as horsecars, were developed in the early 1830s and offered another mode of transportation to the early commuter class.

Washington, D.C., lacked several key conditions that drove early suburban development in other cities across the United States. With a population in 1860 of a little over 60,000 – less than one-tenth the population of New York City at the time – the District had yet to confront many of the issues afflicting larger metropolitan areas. Manufacturing existed within a narrow range of foundries, breweries, and mills, and heavy industry was scant. The city’s poor air quality was primarily due to its topography and local climate rather than a proliferation of smokestacks. In 1860, only one line of horsecars operated in Washington, D.C. These omnibuses did not run on rails, however, and offered a primitive form of transit given the condition of the city’s streets.

After the Civil War, however, living conditions within the city began to change, creating greater impetus for suburban development. The population of Washington expanded as migrants relocated to the city from surrounding rural communities and from the South. By 1870, the population had increased to over 109,000 inhabitants. Washington was located in a topographic bowl, and its low-lying areas suffered from drainage and sewage problems that were exacerbated by the city’s growing numbers. In 1871, Alexander “Boss” Shepherd began a comprehensive public works project that included tearing up the streets to lay sewers, leveling and paving the streets and avenues, removing abandoned buildings and other nuisances, and burying the long-abandoned Washington City Canal. The prospect of semirural living offered a compelling alternative to the urban upheaval that would soon overtake the District.

Thus, by the early 1870s, suburban communities emerged as nodes along the major railroad lines entering Washington. In 1883, New York Congressman Benjamin F. Gilbert purchased a 90-acre tract in Montgomery County about 6 miles outside the District, which he subdivided and platted as the suburb of Takoma Park. Gilbert capitalized on the existence of convenient and affordable commuter service on B&O’s Metropolitan Branch, and Takoma Park quickly attracted buyers.

The first electric streetcar (or trolley) system began operations in Richmond, Virginia, in February 1888. The technology proved safe and reliable and was quickly adopted by cities across the country as a replacement for horse-drawn streetcars. In fact, the first electric streetcar in the District – the Eckington and Soldiers’ Home Railway – was chartered in June 1888 and operations began that October. Suburban streetcar lines soon followed, providing connections to nascent residential developments such as Tenleytown, Glen Echo, and

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6 King, 17.
other. Streetcar suburbs attracted a wide range of socioeconomic groups from the working to the upper-middle class.

While the physical plan of most early railroad and streetcar suburbs conformed to a gridiron street system, landscape designers and landscape architects such as Andrew Jackson Downing, Calvert Vaux, and Frederick Law Olmstead, Sr., were strong advocates for a more naturalistic approach influenced by the English Picturesque landscape tradition. One of the most influential planned railroad suburbs inspired by the Picturesque movement was Riverside, designed by Olmstead and Vaux in 1868-69. Located outside Chicago, Riverside featured public parks and gracefully curved and sunken roads that preserved and enhanced the natural features of the land. Chevy Chase, a southern Montgomery County streetcar suburb that bordered the District, also embraced the traits of picturesque suburban planning promoted by Olmsted.

Chevy Chase was the project of lawyer Francis G. Newlands and U.S. Senator William M. Stewart. Newlands in the late nineteenth century was an attorney for William Sharon, a senator from Nevada from 1875 to 1882 who made a significant fortune revitalizing the Nevada Comstock Lode, a lode of silver ore in Virginia City, Nevada. Newlands married Sharon’s daughter Clara in 1874. Following her death in 1882 and William Sharon’s death in 1885, Newlands became a trustee to the Sharon estate and one of its heirs. In 1892, he was elected to Congress where he served for a decade. He was elected as a senator in 1902, serving for fourteen years. Stewart was a lawyer and senator from Nevada, who had made his fortune investing in prospecting for gold in California. He was a leading political figure in the West and had helped carve out the Nevada Territory. Having both been involved in large-scale real estate ventures, Newlands and Stewart were confident in the future growth of Washington.

Newlands founded the Chevy Chase Land Company, with Stewart acting as partner, and, in 1887, the company set out an ambitious plan to buy any parcel that touched an extension of Connecticut Avenue proposed by Newlands. At the time, the area consisted of well-settled farmland populated with country estates and farmhouses. Newlands quietly acquired farmland that amounted to more than 1,700 acres across the entire

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10 Robinson, 297.
proposed length of Connecticut Avenue from Boundary Street in Washington to what is now Jones Bridge Road in Maryland. This included a 305-acre tract known as Chevy Chase, which straddled the line between Maryland and the District of Columbia. Chevy Chase was once part of a larger plot known as “Cheivy Chace” that was patented to Colonel Joseph Belt from Lord Baltimore in 1725.¹¹

Newlands was pioneering in his understanding of the development potential of the electric streetcar. As architectural historian Judith Robinson writes, “Chevy Chase may be one of the first suburban neighborhoods nationwide that was intentionally planned and built to take advantage of this mode of transportation.”¹² To connect his burgeoning development with Washington, Newlands launched the construction of Connecticut Avenue well beyond the streets of the city into the countryside along the route of land he had purchased. Trestle bridges were built over the deep gorges of what is today Rock Creek Park. The land company also built an electric railway, the first segment of which opened in 1892. At the north terminus of the line, the land company built a water reservoir to generate electric power with steam turbines.¹³ Under New York landscape architect Nathan Barrett, a gracious landscape plan of curved streets, ornamental shrubbery, and shade trees was devised and partially executed.¹⁴ The landscape plan included a roundabout named Chevy Chase Circle.

The first section of Chevy Chase, known as Section 2, was platted in 1892. It had an informal, sylvan character that featured curvilinear parkways and landscaped parklets. There were also broad streets and large lots. Strict building regulations, however, restricted what future residents could build. Apartments, alleys, and row houses were forbidden, and no commercial enterprises could be operated in the new development. Instead, single-family homes were built on the lots. The regulations also stipulated that no house could be built within 25 feet of the front line of any lot, and ancillary structures were relegated to the rear of the lot in order to preserve the neat and sanitary appeal of the suburb.¹⁵

The first houses were built by or for officers of the Chevy Chase Land Company and concentrated around the circle. Three of the original four houses are extant.¹⁶ The house constructed for the family of Herbert Claude,

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¹¹ Robinson, 298.

¹² Robinson, 299.

¹³ Robinson, 299-300.

¹⁴ Robinson, 303.

¹⁵ Elizabeth Jo Lampl and Kimberly Prothro Williams, Chevy Chase: A Home Suburb for the Nation’s Capital (Crownsville, MD: Maryland Historical Trust Press, 1998), 56.

¹⁶ Robinson, 300.
the railway engineer and officer of the Chevy Chase Land Company, was designed in the Shingle Style and featured a prominent half-timbered gable. Land company secretary Howard Nyman built a house with the low massing and broad roof with bracketed eaves that recalled the Prairie-style houses designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Newlands’ house was built in the Queen Anne style with a multi-gabled roof.\textsuperscript{17} Suburban houses were intended to be the antithesis of the urban dwelling. In opposition to their urban counterpart, suburban homes were freestanding, surrounded by trees and shrubs, and embraced massing not possible in the city.\textsuperscript{18}

Although the land company constructed a few homes, it was never their intention to build numerous houses nor to make speculative sales. The company, instead, sold unimproved lots to individual buyers who planned to improve them immediately by building their own homes.\textsuperscript{19} From its beginning, Chevy Chase attracted talented architects who designed in a variety of architectural styles. House styles at the turn of the twentieth century included Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Shingle Style, and Arts and Crafts.\textsuperscript{20} The quality of residential architecture in Chevy Chase was partly a result of building regulations that stipulated a high minimum price for houses. One early architect working in Chevy Chase was Philadelphia-based Lindley Johnson, who was known for his Beaux-Arts-style country houses and resorts.\textsuperscript{21}

By 1897, approximately twenty-seven houses had been built and occupied. Although the Spanish-American War in 1898 stalled sales, the Chevy Chase Land Company's fortunes improved considerably by the turn of the new century.\textsuperscript{22} By December 1901, Chevy Chase was home to forty-nine families. The suburb gained local attention and acclaim. In 1903, the \textit{Washington Times} referred to Chevy Chase as “a beautiful village of palatial homes.”\textsuperscript{23} Based on the success of Section 2, which became known as Chevy Chase Village, additional sections were planned in both Maryland and the District of Columbia. Section 3, east of Connecticut Avenue and north of Bradley Lane opened in 1905; Chevy Chase, D.C., located immediately southeast of Chevy Chase Circle, in 1907; Section 4, west of Connecticut between the Chevy Chase and Columbia country clubs, in 1909; Chevy

\textsuperscript{17} Lampl and Williams, 58. The house was later remodeled in Tudor Revival style by Arthur Heaton.

\textsuperscript{18} Lampl and Williams, 62.

\textsuperscript{19} Lampl and Williams, 56.

\textsuperscript{20} Lampl and Williams, 64-67.

\textsuperscript{21} Robinson, 303.


\textsuperscript{23} Lampl and Williams, 61.
Chase Heights, west of Connecticut Avenue approximately a half mile from the circle, in 1910; and Section 5, east of Connecticut Avenue above Section 3, in 1923. Chevy Chase benefited substantially from a period of expansion outside Washington after World War I. From 1918 to 1931, sales totaled more than $7.5 million.\textsuperscript{24}

**Colonial Revival Architecture**

Colonial Revival is the term used to describe buildings, landscapes, furniture, and decorative arts, as well as a host of other artistic media, that reference a storied American past. In high demand since the nineteenth century and continuing well into the twenty-first century, the style builds off of Americans’ long-standing fascination with their early history. Architectural historian Richard Guy Wilson argues that Colonial Revival is best understood as an attitude, which mines the past for references, forms, and motifs in order to recreate them in contemporary building. Wilson calls the style the United States’ “most popular and characteristic expression.”\textsuperscript{25}

Colonial Revival-style houses typically consist of a rectangular block with symmetrically arranged façades. At the center of the front façade is often an entry porch, at times pedimented and supported by columns, that shelters a door accented by sidelights or a fanlight. Variations on the Colonial Revival house form range from two-story, Georgian-style houses to one-and-a-half-story Cape Cods. While some examples were nearly identical to earlier colonial homes, others took more liberty or adapted them to suit modern needs, such as attaching a garage.\textsuperscript{26}

The *colonial* the revival refers to is itself vague, but generally encompasses the period from initial European settlement in North America to the end of the American Revolutionary War in 1783. The colonial period that became so celebrated could also include, however, buildings constructed after the war, through what has been termed the Federal period (1780-1820) and into the Greek and Roman revivals of the 1820s through the 1860s. Later, Americans built scores of houses and churches based on these colonial prototypes. Sources included antebellum plantation houses, homes of famous Americans like George Washington, or noted public buildings like Independence Hall. Federal, state, and local governments adopted the style for courthouses, post offices, and other public buildings.\textsuperscript{27} Other stylistic variations included the Dutch Colonial Revival, with houses characterized by their gambrel roofs, and Spanish Colonial Revival, which covered a variety of styles including Spanish Baroque and Moorish.\textsuperscript{28}

\textsuperscript{24} Robinson, 304, 306. 


\textsuperscript{27} Wilson, 6. 

\textsuperscript{28} Wilson, 144.
In the 1920s and 1930s, the restoration/reconstruction of Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, fostered a sense of stability and connection to the past as the Great Depression upended American life. The project encompassed the restoration or reconstruction of colonial-era buildings, while some 400 later buildings were demolished. In the decades to come, Americans in large numbers built imitations of the houses at Colonial Williamsburg. Another important American tastemaker that promoted Colonial Revival home design was Sears, Roebuck and Company. From 1908 to 1940, Sears published house plans in their catalog, *Modern Houses*, from which customers would choose from a series of models. The company offered mail-order kits that contained all the materials needed to construct a house. The popular housing styles of the day were represented, including Craftsman bungalows, English cottages, and a variety of Colonial Revival-inspired forms. The Colonial Revival-style model known as the Magnolia, for instance, was said to be based on the home of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Although the exact number of Sears houses is not known, it is estimated that there were between 50,000 and more than 100,000 built.

Colonial Revival architecture flourished well into the mid-twentieth century as the antithesis of the modern house, which some saw as a radical departure in how homes should be organized and decorated. As such, architects and academics, many of whom embraced modernism, regularly dismissed Colonial Revival houses as unimaginative and mired in the past. Nevertheless, the American public’s enthusiasm for the Colonial Revival style persisted. Ranch houses and split-levels, though modern in their form, at times incorporated Colonial Revival-style decoration, such as dentil courses or cupolas.

In the early twentieth century, Washington, D.C., was home to a number of skilled practitioners of Colonial Revival residential architecture. This group included Arthur B. Heaton, Thomas J.D. Fuller, Edward W. Donn, Clarence Harding, Porter & Lockie, and Waddy B. Wood. Wealthy Washingtonians hired this cohort of architects to design their private homes in new city neighborhoods like Kalorama and new suburbs like Cleveland Park and Chevy Chase.

Among the most prolific of this group was Waddy Wood (1869-1944), an architect who was responsible for the designs of many residences, commercial buildings, and government buildings, as well as churches, schools, and

29 Wilson, 167-72.

30 Wilson, 101-03.

31 Wilson, 225.

32 Robinson, 308.

Wood studied engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute for two years, and continued his study of architecture by spending extensive time perusing the architectural collections of the Library of Congress. Wood began his career in Washington, D.C., in 1892, working as a construction architect on a few large commercial buildings. In 1903, he formed an architectural firm, Wood, Donn and Deming. The partnership became well-known for its designs of large traditional residences and elegant office buildings. When the firm was dissolved in 1914, Wood started his own practice, where he continued to design large residential, commercial, government, and institutional buildings. His works included the stripped classicist-style U.S. Department of the Interior building on C Street between 18th and 19th streets, N.W., and the Beaux-Arts-style Union Trust Company building at 15th and H streets, N.W. Architectural Record summarized Wood’s design approach as “simple, dignified, and of fair proportion.”

Wood’s design for a house for Henry Fairbanks in the Kalorama neighborhood of Washington exemplified his approach to Colonial Revival-style architecture. The three-story, brick building was designed in the Georgian Revival style. Its symmetrical front façade featured a central portico with a concave entablature at its sides. Supporting the entablature were Doric columns. The second floor was denoted by Palladian windows capped by fluted, stone archivolts. Near the top of the facade was a cornice featuring modillions. Wood’s design was elegant, but modest and restrained, while adhering to classical proportions.

Architect Arthur B. Heaton

Arthur B. Heaton (1875-1951) was a prolific architect based in Washington, D.C. From the beginning of his career in 1897 until his retirement in 1947, he designed over 1,000 buildings, including lavish apartment buildings, commercial buildings, banks, theaters, and stately private homes in the Washington metropolitan area. Heaton’s body of work is significant for its contribution to Washington’s architectural heritage. Three Heaton-designed projects, the Bunker Hill Elementary School at 1401 Michigan Avenue, N.E., the Augusta Apartments at 1151 New Jersey Avenue, N.W., and the Babcock-Macomb House at 3415 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. All three nomination forms note Heaton’s status as a master architect. In addition, two campus buildings designed through collaboration with architect Albert L. Harris at George Washington University — Corcoran Hall and Stockton Hall — are in the National Register. The Highlands Apartments at 1914 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., and the Altamont at 1901 Wyoming Avenue, N.W., are listed in the D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites.


36 In 1920, the house was purchased by President Woodrow Wilson and became his post-presidency home.
Born in Washington, Heaton worked after high school as a draftsman for the architectural firms of Paul J. Peltz, Frederick B. Pyle, and Marsh & Peter. He received his formal training in architecture in France at the Sorbonne and toured the great cathedrals of Europe. Upon his return from Europe in 1897, Heaton partnered with architect George A. Dessez for seven houses located between 1712 and 1720 22nd Street, N.W.\textsuperscript{37}

Heaton opened his own office in 1898. He was immediately successful, receiving an early commission for four high-profile apartment homes in his first two years of practice. From 1900 to 1940, he designed twenty-eight apartment buildings, including the Altamont in 1917, located at 1901 Wyoming Avenue, N.W., and the August at 1151 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.\textsuperscript{38} From 1908 until 1928, Heaton was the supervising architect on the construction of the Washington National Cathedral. He designed a number of private homes for prominent individuals in the Washington area, including for banker and businessman William S. Corby and Gilbert Hovey Grosvenor, former President of the National Geographic Society and editor of the \textit{National Geographic} magazine. Heaton also provided plans for more than 500 more modest homes in the Burleith neighborhood, just north of Georgetown, for the Shannon and Luchs development company between 1917 and 1932. He continued to receive a number of commissions in Washington. In 1911, Heaton provided plans for the National Geographic Society building at 16th and M streets, N.W., and designed the Capitol Garage (demolished in 1974) at 1320 New York Avenue, N.W., in 1926.\textsuperscript{39} In 1936, he provided a Colonial Revival-style design for the Bunker Hill Elementary School at 1401 Michigan Avenue, N.E.\textsuperscript{40}

Partnering with Shannon and Luchs brought Heaton a unique opportunity to design a neighborhood shopping center for Washington’s Cleveland Park. The Colonial Revival-style shopping complex was L-shaped in plan with stores lining two sides of a large forecourt that was devoted to automobile parking. With its emphasis on the automobile, Heaton’s design for the shopping center was the first of its kind in the country and placed him “in the front rank of Washington architects devising innovative responses to the demands of the automobile,” writes architectural historian Richard Longstreth.\textsuperscript{41} Heaton was an enthusiastic car owner and secured one of the

\textsuperscript{37} Paul Kelsey Williams, “Scenes from the Past: Arthur B. Heaton,” \textit{InTowner} (June 2012).

\textsuperscript{38} The Altamont is included in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites. The Augusta was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.


\textsuperscript{40} The Bunker Hill Elementary School was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2014.

first driver’s licenses in the District. He designed a number of buildings that either incorporated space for cars or were solely devoted to them (i.e., garages).

In his experience with different building types, Heaton worked to give each its appropriate architectural expression. For a bank design, such as the Washington Loan & Trust in 1924, Heaton chose an Italian Renaissance palazzo as his model. For the Capitol Garage in 1926, however, he executed a Streamline Moderne design. Nevertheless, Heaton was largely committed to historicist styles. According to Longstreth, Heaton was “a staunch traditionalist in his academic approach to design, but equally a pragmatist in his concern for changing programmatic requirements.” Prolific in the Colonial Revival style, Heaton was particularly interested in Georgian architecture and often visited Williamsburg to study its eighteenth-century buildings. He was also an admirer of the architecture of Thomas Jefferson and made frequent trips to Monticello.

In 1926, he designed the Chevy Chase Savings Bank, an Italian Renaissance-style building in the District’s Chevy Chase neighborhood at the corner of Connecticut Avenue and Morrison Street, N.W. The limestone building had large arched openings articulated by voussoirs and a cornice supported by fluted brackets. Corners were noted by quoining.

As was the case with many local architects at the time, Heaton received a great deal of work in the newly developing suburban areas of the city where building was booming. Heaton was responsible for a number of houses and other buildings in these areas, including Chevy Chase, which was rapidly being developed in the 1910s through the 1930s. A majority of Heaton’s residential projects in Chevy Chase were built in Colonial Revival or Tudor Revival styles. A Colonial Revival-style residence at 3810 Bradley Lane in Chevy Chase had a symmetrically composed front façade, save a small window on the second floor. At the center of the front elevation was a gabled entry porch. The front door was flanked by six-over-six, double-hung sash windows, while windows of the same type lit the second floor. Heaton designed a Tudor Revival-style house located at 11 West Lenox Street. The front elevation was composed of two overlapping front gables and a side-gabled bay. The middle front gable featured half timbering on its upper floors and irregularly cut stone cladding its first floor. A Colonial Revival-style house that evoked Georgian architecture was constructed to Heaton’s design at


101 East Kirke Street. Although the fenestration was in alignment across the front façade, the front door was off center. The front door was surrounded by a fanlight and sidelights, and access to the door was sheltered by a gabled porch supported by paired columns. Piercing the side-gable roof were three gabled dormers. A stand-out example of Heaton’s Colonial Revival-style houses in Chevy Chase is the Ogilby House at 17 Primrose Street, built in 1911. The house was featured in a 1911 issue of the American Architect, which included a photograph of the front façade and first- and second-floor plans.

Heaton’s career continued to flourish until his retirement in 1947. He served as president of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and was a founder and president of the Washington Building Congress. Heaton died in 1951 at age 76.

**History of 17 Primrose Street**

Charles Fitz Randolph Ogilby (1879-1962) was born in 1879 in New Brunswick, New Jersey. In 1906, he married Elizabeth Hoehling of Washington. After working in Boston and New York, Ogilby moved to Washington, D.C., in 1910 to study at George Washington University Law School, where he received his degree three years later. He was convinced by his father-in-law, a lawyer and, later, judge, Adolph Hoehling, to attend law school. After graduation, Ogilby went to work at his father-in-law’s firm and eventually became a partner at what was known as Hoehling, Peele, and Ogilby. Eventually, Hoehling and Ogilby left and started a new firm under their names. In his later years, Ogilby worked at a firm named Ogilby, Huhn & Barr.47

In April 1909, Adolph A. Hoehling purchased lot seventeen and part of lot sixteen, totaling 13,750 square feet, in Section 2 of Chevy Chase from the Chevy Chase Land Company.48 Hoehling purchased the land to enable his son-in-law, Charles Ogilby, to construct a house. Ogilby was just entering law school and was not yet able to afford such a large purchase.49 Ogilby and his wife Elizabeth would share the house with Hoehling and his wife Louise. Eventually, the Ogilbys’ four children would also occupy the house. The Ogilby children were Randolph, Elizabeth, Isabelle, and Remsen. Each child was born at the Ogilby residence at 17 Primrose Street.50

In March 1910, the lot was deeded to the Ogilbys.51


49 Remsen Ogilby, oral history, July 12, 1990, Chevy Chase Historical Society.

50 Remsen Ogilby, oral history, July 12, 1990, Chevy Chase Historical Society.

51 Montgomery County Land Records, Deed Book 206, page 80.
The Ogilbys hired Washington-based architect Arthur B. Heaton, a well-regarded local architect known for his highly-successful residential designs, to design their home. Hoehling granted Ogilby a loan to pay for the house’s construction. The Ogilbys lived in the house from the time it was completed in 1911 until 1949, when it was sold to Dermot and Antoinette Nee.\(^\text{52}\)

Charles Ogilby served as a member of the board of trustees of the Washington Cathedral beginning in 1936 and was a senior member of the cathedral building committee. He was also a longtime director of the National Metropolitan Bank in Washington and of the Potomac Insurance Company. Elizabeth Ogilby was involved in a variety of activities, including volunteering with the Cathedral’s All Hallows Guild, which was responsible for the planning and upkeep of the National Cathedral grounds. Charles Ogilby died in 1962.\(^\text{53}\)

In March 1941, Isabelle Ogilby was married to John Barr at the Primrose Street house.\(^\text{54}\) Randolph, born with a severe mental disability, suffered a nervous breakdown in the 1940s. In 1946, he was sent to a ranch in Vermont, where he was under the care of a nurse. After a few months, he left the ranch to live with his nurse, Antonia Salois. In 1949, Salois and Randolph Ogilby were murdered by her estranged husband in Vermont.\(^\text{55}\) Remsen Ogilby followed in his father’s footsteps and became an attorney. He attended Harvard University for his undergraduate degree and his father’s alma mater, George Washington University, for law school. He served in the Navy in the Pacific theater during World War II. Upon his return, Remsen joined his father’s law firm, where he stayed until retiring in the early 1990s. He married Martha Cloud in 1942. Remsen Ogilby died in 2000.\(^\text{56}\)

The Nees only occupied the house for five years, before selling it to Raymond and Rosalie Walsh.\(^\text{57}\) Rosalie Camalier (1915–2003) was a native of Washington, D.C. In the 1930s and 1940s, she worked in sales and was a buyer for Camalier & Buckley, a leather goods company her father founded. Until the early 1950s, she taught nutrition to nursing students at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. Rosalie married Raymond

\(^{52}\) Montgomery County Land Records, Deed Book 1221, page 407.


\(^{54}\) “Isabelle Ogilby is Married in Washington, D.C.,” The Hartford Courant, March 13, 1941.


\(^{57}\) Montgomery County Land Records, Deed Book 1905, page 332.

The Walshes oversaw a renovation of the house in the 1950s, which consisted of enclosing the rear porch, changes to interior finishes, and removal of the house’s elevator. In 1987, the house was sold to David and Nancy Morgan. The Morgans undertook another renovation project, which included reconfiguring the kitchen, removing the service stairs, creating a new master bedroom suite, and altering the rear porch and patio. With the exception of changes to the back porch and rear façade, the Morgans made few changes to the exterior of the house, which still largely reflects Heaton’s original design.

Figure 1. View of front façade and first-floor and second-floor plans. *American Architect* 100, no. 1873 (November 15, 1911)
Major Bibliographical References:


“Ensign Ogilby, Martha Cloud are Married.” Washington Post, March 1, 1942.


“Isabelle Ogilby is Married in Washington, D.C.” The Hartford Courant, March 13, 1941.


Montgomery County Land Records.


Williams, Paul Kelsey. “Scenes from the Past: Arthur B. Heaton.” InTowner (June 2012).


10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  
Less than 1 acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  
S. Michael Mitchell, Architectural Historian

organization  
Robinson & Associates

date  
October 18, 2019

street & number  
725 Fifteenth Street NW

telephone

city or town  
Washington

state  
DC

zip code  
20005

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items
(Complete with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name  
David and Nancy Morgan

street & number  
17 Primrose Street

telephone

city or town  
Chevy Chase

state  
Maryland

zip code  
20815

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Verbal Boundary Description:

The Charles F. R. Ogilby House at 17 Primrose Street is located on lot seventeen and part of lot sixteen in section two of the Chevy Chase Village. The boundary of the resource is defined by the south property line of 10 Quincy Street on the north, the west property line of 21 Primrose Street on the east, by Primrose Street on the south, and by the east property line of 15 Primrose Street on the west.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary corresponds to the legal parcel purchased by Adolph A. Hoehling in 1909 and deeded to Charles F. R. Ogilby in 1910. The Ogilby House has occupied this site since its construction in 1911.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 10  Page 2

Charles F. R. Ogilby House (M: 35-13-5)
Name of Property

Montgomery County, MD
County and State

17 Primrose Street
Coordinates: 38.975084°, -77.074749°
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Name of Property
Charles F. R. Ogilby House (M: 35-13-5)

Montgomery County, MD

Section  MAPS  Page  1

Charles F. R. Ogilby House
17 Primrose Street, Chevy Chase, MD
Scale: 1:24,000
Index to Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs which accompany this documentation:

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) Number: M: 35-13-5
Name of Property: Charles F. R. Ogilby House
Location: Montgomery County, Maryland
Photographer: S. Michael Mitchell
Date taken: August 16, 2019
Location of original digital files [or negatives]: MD SHPO

Photo captions:

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0001.tif
View of front façade, looking north.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0002.tif
View of rear façade, looking south.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0003.tif
View of east façade, looking west.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0004.tif
View of west façade, looking northeast.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0005.tif
View of garage, looking north.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0006.tif
View of first-floor hall, looking north.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0007.tif
View of dining room, looking northwest.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0008.tif
View of kitchen, looking west.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 2

Charles F.R. Ogilby House (M: 35-13-5)
Name of Property

Montgomery County, MD
County and State

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0009.tif
View of study, looking west.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0010.tif
View of living room, looking south.

MD_MontgomeryCounty_CharlesFROgilbyHouse_0011.tif
View of second-floor hall, looking south.