

WILSON ESTATE, TREE TOPS  
(Wilson Estate, Building 15K)  
9100 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda  
Montgomery County  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-1105-A

HABS  
MD  
16-BETH  
2A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
WILSON ESTATE, TREE TOPS (BUILDING 15K)

HABS  
MD  
- 16-BETH,  
2A

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- Location: 9100 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland  
USGS Kensington, Maryland Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 18.317900.4319075.
- Present Owner: United States Government, Department of Health and Human Services
- Present Occupant: Section on Development Psychology and Developmental Traumatology.
- Present Use: Offices
- Significance: Constructed in 1926 to the design of architect Edward Clarence Dean, Tree Tops served until 1942 as the main residence for Luke I. and Helen W. Wilson and the focal point of a large estate that included several cottages and outbuildings. Tree Tops was the name originally given to the entire estate, but has come to be associated specifically with the main house over time. Building 15K is the name NIH has applied to the building. Tree Tops was one of several large estates that once lined Rockville Pike, and as such it is important for the role it played in the development of Montgomery County. It is also significant for the role it played in the establishment of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, as the Wilsons donated numerous acres over a period of time from 1935 to 1993, including Tree Tops itself in 1942.

## PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

### A. PHYSICAL HISTORY:

1. **Dates of erection:** Tree Tops was first designed and constructed in 1926. Additions were probably completed shortly thereafter, again after donation to NIH in 1942, and again sometime in the 1970s.

2. **Architect:** The design of the principal buildings of the Wilson estate, including Tree Tops, is attributed to Edward Clarence Dean, a native Washington, D.C., architect. Educated at Yale, Columbia, and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, Dean also trained with architect John Russell Pope in New York. Dean practiced in New York, Washington, and Connecticut, and was known for designing many large country estates reminiscent of the English vernacular. Washington, D.C., architect Arthur B. Heaton may have worked in concert with Dean, and may have served as the local architect for the construction of Tree Tops, or he may have been retained to design upgrades or additions to the original structure.

3. **Original and subsequent owners:** The original owners and the builders of Tree Tops were Luke I. and Helen W. Wilson. They had purchased the land along Rockville Pike known as the Britton farm in 1923 and shortly thereafter developed the site. Tree Tops served as their residence from 1926 until 1942, when it was donated and became the property of the United States Government, National Institute of Health.

4. **Builder, contractor, suppliers:** None known.

5. **Original plans and construction:** Tree Tops (Building 15K), is one of several buildings comprising the Wilson estate; This name Tree Tops, while originally referring to the entire estate, later came to be applied solely to the main house. There is only one original plan of the house known to exist, a blueprint drawing of the basement level by architect Edward Clarence Dean, which is located in the Arthur B. Heaton papers in the Library of Congress. It is dated February 1926 and was corrected in April 1926. Heaton may have served as the local architect in charge of the construction of Tree Tops.

6. **Alterations and additions:** Tree Tops has had many alterations and additions over the years, although the original floor plan and the majority of original materials and architectural exterior and interior features seem to remain.

a. **First alterations, 1926-1930s:** Apparently shortly after the initial construction in 1926, a large two-story addition was added to the north facade, along with a stone front entrance vestibule, into which was incorporated a decorative crest of an oak tree featuring the original date of the building, 1926. It is conceivable that this decorative feature was part of the original entrance facade and moved to this vestibule. The western facade of the addition included a double-bay garage opening, which was shortly thereafter filled in with a four window and door configuration, when the garage was built

into the ground below. This flat-roofed, two-bay garage was built into the slope of the ground at the northwestern corner of the house, connecting into the house at the basement level. The bays face north, and the western and eastern walls are mostly below ground level.

b. **1942 alterations:** A recessed porch on the south facade was enclosed-- most likely around the time Tree Tops was donated to NIH in 1942. Interior lighting fixtures were probably removed to allow the installation of office lighting at the same time. Some doors and windows have been altered.

c. **Recent alterations:** There are also more recent additions, such as the metal staircase leading to the second floor of the entrance vestibule on the north facade and a chain link fence encircling the yard on the south facade. Several metal-casement windows have been removed to allow for the installation of window air-conditioning units. The former garage, partly recessed into the ground on the north facade was most likely converted into a day care center in the 1970s, with the garage bays being replaced with large, fixed, wood-frame picture windows.

## B. HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

1. **The purchase of the site:** The area that eventually developed into the Wilson Estate known as Tree Tops had previously served as a farm, with a nineteenth-century masonry farmhouse, owned for a long period of time by Alexander T. Britton. The 94-acre farm was later transferred at an unknown time to Jessie N. Hunt. On July 23, 1917, the land was sold to Carolyn H. Cobb and her husband Murry A. Cobb (Montgomery County Deeds, Liber 268, Folio 321). The Cobbs were from Westmoreland County in Pennsylvania, and apparently rented the farmhouse to Flora Britton, up until 1923. According to an interview with Ruth Ferguson Wilson conducted by Dorothy Pugh, Flora Britton lived in the farmhouse when Mrs. Helen Woodward Wilson purchased the property from the Cobbs on November 8, 1923, for the consideration of \$37,500.

2. **The design of Tree Tops:** Architect Clarence Dean designed the main house in the winter of 1926, according to the only extant architectural drawing for the house, which is of the basement and is dated February 1926, corrected to April 1926. The plan lists his address on Park Avenue in New York at the time, and is currently part of architect Arthur B. Heaton's office records in the Library of Congress. Heaton may have been the local contact for Dean, and may have been the architect on site during the construction phase of the building; alternatively, he may have been retained by the Wilsons afterward for additions and minor alterations. His role is unknown, since no documentary evidence has been found other than the job number Heaton assigned to the project in 1926.

3. **Life at Tree Tops:** Tree Tops served as the main house of the Wilson family and therefore was designed to serve as the epicenter of the large county setting. Its Tudor Revival aesthetic, not uncommon in the early 1920s, was typical of Dean's work in other commissions. His design reflected the rural country setting by utilizing rustic elements and finishing techniques

throughout the design. In addition, outdoor spaces became an important theme throughout the estate, with numerous open porches, patios, and orientations designed to capture the natural vistas inherent in the varied topography of the site.

The design of the Wilson estate speaks for the social life that the family maintained, with ample room and guest cottages for extended visits in the English and American country house tradition. The main house had a formality in its large rooms and sophisticated finishes appropriate for entertaining, while the smaller houses of the estate had a more rustic flavor. In Bethesda, the Wilsons were close to family and friends who maintained part-time homes nearby, and they were prominent members of Washington society. While the scale of the estate and the main house certainly befitted their social standing, its design was consciously rustic, and at home the Wilsons appear to have enjoyed a fairly informal lifestyle. The Wilsons made several alterations to the house. Apparently, one was a large addition placed on the north facade of the house creating additional bedroom space, and a two-car garage.

The Wilsons continued to reside and entertain at Tree Tops from the time of its construction until several years after Luke I. Wilson's death in July of 1937. Helen W. Wilson donated Tree Tops, the main house, to NIH in 1942, as they had donated other parcels of the property in 1935 and 1938. She moved then to the Lodge nearby, where she continued to reside until her death in 1960. NIH probably altered the main house from its residential use to office and storage use shortly after the transfer. It remains dedicated to office use today.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. GENERAL STATEMENT

1. **Architectural character:** In landscaping and architecture, the Wilson estate illustrates the evolution of a wealthy country retreat of the early twentieth century. The maintenance of a naturalistic landscape punctuated by rustic stone walls, and the informal arrangement of buildings on the topography, reflect the rustic and picturesque aesthetic often used at the time. The buildings are a fine example of the use of English vernacular sources in the Arts & Crafts tradition, consistent with the overall romantic design of the estate. Design elements, such as the flared bargeboards of the gables, are carried throughout the buildings of the estate, creating a cohesive unit or district.

2. **Condition of fabric:** The overall condition of the building is good. The exterior has been well maintained, and with the exception of the early north wing addition and enclosed porch on the south facade, remains much the same as it did upon its completion. The interior of the building has been retrofitted to accommodate the various needs of office space, but remains in good condition.

## B. DESCRIPTION OF EXTERIOR

1. **Overall dimensions:** The building is approximately 65' x 69'. The building is composed of two full stories above ground, an attic story, and full basement. It has a modified central hall plan, with the primary entrance located on the north facade. Each elevation is asymmetrical, repeating the pattern of an end gable on the right and a side gable extending left.

2. **Foundations:** The foundation of the building is poured concrete with brick pier footings.

3. **Walls:** The building is composed of several different wall treatments and materials. The majority of wall construction is frame, with applied half-timbering on the facade and corners and in the gable ends of all facades. It is covered with a heavy layer of stucco that is painted light yellow. The gable peaks contain wide, natural-finished wood siding of rustic design. A large random-width stone masonry entrance vestibule is located on the north facade, topped by an ashlar stone parapet. The parapet features a carved shield above the door, with an oak-tree design and the Roman-numerical date "1926" inscribed upon its surface. Stonework similar to that of the vestibule is used for the ground floor of the northeast corner of the house and in the low walls of the terrace. The basement walls, including the garage addition, are of poured concrete.

4. **Structural systems, framing:** The house is constructed of wood frame with interior brick load-bearing walls and brick piers. The exterior half-timbering appears to be decorative and not integral to the structural system.

5. **Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads:** The north or main facade of Tree Tops is dominated by a stone entrance vestibule with a stone parapet that also serves as a large, square, second-floor patio above. The vestibule has a rectangular flagstone patio that extends from the eastern entryway, with a stairway that leads to the driveway below. With the addition of the garage structure partially located below ground on the northern level, a patio was created at the ground-floor level that is comprised of the garage roof. The easternmost half of the south facade was designed with a large recessed porch of three bays, separated by massive brick piers. The entranceway was incorporated into the center bay of the facade, and all openings have been enclosed with windows. The western facade features a rectangular patio that appears to have been a portion of the driveway leading to the garage bays in the northernmost section. A stone retaining wall extends beyond this along the southernmost portion on the west facade, creating a shallow enclosed area within the yard. A fire-rated metal staircase has been recently installed above the front door vestibule.

6. **Chimneys:** Tree Tops has three large rectangular brick chimneys that extend beyond the roof line: one rising along an exterior wall on the southern portion of the west facade, one rising within the gable centered in the east facade, and one centered between the two gables of the northern facade. Each has a simple brick string course and top ridge, and each has been retrofitted with a metal chimney vent.

## 7. Openings:

a. **Doorways and doors:** The main door of Tree Tops faces north and is located underneath the stone vestibule. It is a solid paneled wooden door with square lights set under a low segmental arch. The vestibule opening facing east has been enclosed with a contemporary metal storm door, wood frame and sidelight prefabricated unit. Other exterior doors have been replaced with metal, single-light doors, such as in the west facade of the northern addition, or with wood doors and jalousie windows as found on the south facade entryway and in the southern porch enclosure.

b. **Windows and shutters:** The majority of windows throughout Tree Tops can be characterized as double or triple metal casement with eight lights set between natural finished, wood-timbered lintels and sills. A large bay window, situated on the westernmost two bays of the south facade, is comprised of four metal-casement windows with eight lights on the front, under four fixed metal windows with four lights each. They are flanked in the sides of the bay by a pair of metal-casement windows with fixed, square, steel windows above, with four lights each. The former recessed open porch on the southern facade has been enclosed with a series of fixed, single-light windows with simple wood frames and square, single-light windows above. The bay window that takes up the southernmost two bays on the east facade matches the bay window configuration on the southern facade. The western facade of the northern addition features a row of four, square, fixed wood windows with sixteen lights each, set apart by turned columns. A door comprises one bay to the south, and the configuration is capped by a heavy timber at the lintel and a shallow stone sill. This appears to have been originally a double-bay garage opening which was later filled in. A number of the windows have been removed to allow for the installation of air-conditioning units, and retrofitted with a surrounding panel of plexiglass.

## 8. Roof:

a. **Shape, covering:** The roof is a highly pitched, gable-end configuration, entirely covered with cedar-shake shingles designed to enhance the rustic atmosphere of the overall setting. Bay windows on the first floor of the south and east facade are covered with standing-seam copper sheeting.

b. **Cornice, eaves:** The eaves of the roof structure are very shallow, with little or no overhang. Barge boards of simple design appear on the gable ends, and contemporary copper gutters and downspouts have been added to the structure. The eave treatment between the gable peaks of the north facade, and on the bay windows on the south and east facades is composed of a galvanized metal or tin, stamped with a repetitive fleur-de-lis design at the edge with rosettes set below.

c. **Dormers, cupolas, towers:** Several small dormers exist on the house. A small rectangular dormer with a shed roof and double, square, metal-casement windows

appears above the center bay in the south facade roof at the attic level. A recessed dormer at the attic level with four, square, metal-casement windows is centered between the two gables of the north facade. The center bay of the west facade features a second-story wall dormer with shallow shed roof above a triple metal-casement window configuration. The slope of the northernmost roof on the west facade holds a large frame gable-end dormer. It features four, vertical, metal-casement windows with four, square, fixed metal-frame windows above, under a peak finished with rough-sawn, natural finished siding. The dormer cheek is composed of natural finished wood set in vertical panels. The east facade features an elongated shed-roof dormer with a pair of square, metal-casement windows set apart by a series of vertical wood paneling.

### C. DESCRIPTION OF INTERIOR

1. **Floor plans:** The floor plan of the house is unusual and greatly segmented by the current partitioning of the interior. The front and back entrances are on a central, north-south axis, linked by a wide central hall that steps up from the main (north) entrance hall. The stair hall with a half elliptical stairway is located in the entrance hall, creating the circulation core directly off the main entrance. On the first floor, a living room and library are on the east side of the house, with the dining room, kitchen and service rooms on the west. The central hallway is continued on the second floor, off of which numerous bedrooms exist on the east and west of the axis. The attic space, the most original and preserved area of the house, utilizes a large central room at the top of the stairs, with several bedrooms leading off from it. The basement level features a series of large rooms along a north-south axis. While the original floor plan and functions are distorted by office partitions and by many original finishes that have been covered, the significant interior components appear to remain.

2. **Stairways:** The main staircase leading from the entrance hall to the second floor is an open half-elliptical configuration rising in a northeasterly direction. The adjoining wall has been curved to match the stair, which is partially filled below and finished with high quality, naturally finished wide wood paneling. The staircase has a natural wood finished handrail of simple design, and a balustrade newel post. The wood balusters are simple and round, set approximately six inches apart. The spaces between the balusters at the second floor landing have been filled more recently with square painted wooden posts, secured by metal, L-shaped brackets at the top and bottom.

A service stairway exists in the center of the house, behind a door leading off the central hallway. It is a closed configuration, a double-turn rise that serves all floors from the basement to the attic. A straight stairway leads from a small hallway in the northeastern section of the ground floor to the basement level for access to what was originally a garage.

3. **Flooring:** The entire floor space of Tree Tops has been covered with wall-to-wall, low-rise, shag carpeting, including the staircases. It is applied over vinyl flooring that was most likely installed during the office conversion in 1942, directly over the original hardwood floors. The attic retains the original hardwood floors.

4. **Wall and ceiling finish:** The majority of walls within Tree Tops are plaster and lath or plaster over brick. Several walls feature a mix of fine wood paneling, such as that found on the eastern wall of the entrance hall, underneath the stairs. More rustic, vertical, tongue-and-groove wood paneling exists on the south and west wall of the entrance hall, in the library, and around the mantel in the living room. The center hallway on the first floor features wood paneled wainscoting, which has been painted white. Acoustical tile has been applied to several walls in rooms on the second floor. Original, built-in shelves are extant throughout the house, specifically in the library and the upstairs hall, which is lined with linen cupboards. The library ceiling features natural finished wood, tongue-and-groove ceiling. The openings between the main stairwell and the central hall are wood paneled, painted white. Acoustical tile covers most of the remaining ceilings, especially those of the second floor, partially hiding but apparently not destroying the crown moldings. The attic wall surface is composed of brown board coated with plaster.

5. **Openings:**

a. **Doorways and doors:** With the enclosure of the southern porch, the original exterior door at the end of the central hallway currently lies on the interior. It is comprised of a wood-panel double French door with ten lights, flanked by metal fixed sidelights with ten lights each. The vast majority of doorway openings throughout Tree Tops are surrounded by simple wood molding of stock design. Doors can be characterized by solid wood paneling of stock design. Several doors have been removed to allow for conversion of the building into office space.

b. **Windows:** The windows of the first story lack vertical moldings, but rather feature a single window head molding that extends beyond the window opening to carry the building's Tudor Revival detailing to the interior. In order to install window-unit air conditioners, one window in each room of the ground floor and second floor has had casements removed and replaced with a surrounding plexiglass panel.

6. **Decorative features and trim:** Wood paneling and other features described in the above sections comprise the detailing remaining throughout the house. There are no other outstanding decorative features or trim.

7. **Hardware:** The hardware associated with the casement window rod and handle configurations as is composed of brass, as the door hardware on the extant original doors.

8. **Mechanical equipment:**

a. **Heating, air-conditioning, ventilation:** The heating unit installed in Tree Tops consists of a gas-fired, cast-iron, hot water boiler with in-line circulating pump, installed in 1990. The new boiler feeds original cast-iron radiators set in typical locations under window openings throughout the house. The main entrance room is also equipped with a thru-the-wall heat pump, and an electric wall heater in an upstairs bedroom on the south

side. Individual air-conditioning units have been installed in each room of the first and second floors throughout the house.

b. **Lighting:** Lighting fixtures associated with the domestic use of Tree Tops have been removed. They have been replaced with fluorescent fixtures suspended from the ceiling. Most of the first and second floors are either pendant mounted, two-lamp, louvered types, or surface modular units with frosted plastic.

c. **Plumbing:** Fixtures and piping are original but are not of exceptional quality or design. Piping had been added to service the fire suppression system and additional bathrooms created as part of the office conversion in 1942, and is exposed, running along walls with electrical wiring. The domestic cold water service consists of a 5,000-gallon holding tank which serves this building and the Lodge. Several bathtubs have been removed.

d. **[Other]:** Tree Tops is equipped with two different fire alarm systems. The original system from 1942 consists of pull stations and bells, with the central control panel located in the basement. A complete smoke-detector system was added recently and consists of surface mounted detectors in each room with an annunciator in the first-floor entry hall.

9. **Original furnishings:** There are no original furnishings remaining from the Wilson occupation.

#### D. SITE

1. **General setting and orientation:** The main house, Tree Tops, occupies the most prominent position on the original Wilson estate, a knoll that commands a view to the north and east. The house is built at the height of a long, gentle slope that falls off to the south, and is set off from the landscape by two sets of stone terraces. The low terrace walls are built of random uncut stone with a blind mortar treatment that imitates the dry-stone walls of the English countryside. An axial walk and stairs approach the south entry of the building and an informal curving path steps up the hillside from the secondary estate buildings to the west. The secondary buildings of the estate (with the exception of Building 15A) are all sheltered in a hollow of the land. Although these buildings are isolated by a wood stave fence, the topography and a grove of large trees give them a natural sense of seclusion from the surrounding NIH campus.

The estate has a minimum of constructed landscape features. Two half-height stone piers built in the early 1960s flank the driveway at the entrance to the estate, near the Flat. These emulate the piers that originally flanked the driveway to the estate from Rockville Pike; those original piers were equipped with gas torches for night-time illumination. A small stone bridge that carried the original drive over a gully beside Rockville Pike still survives, though not within the boundaries of the property as defined herein. The stone retaining walls on the south side of the main house create the sense of a formal parterre; from early photographs, however, it is not clear whether

there was a formal garden on the south side of the house early in the history of the estate. The curvilinear stone retaining walls on the north and east sides were built more recently by NIH, emulating the use of stone in the original landscape design of the property. Several informal stone stepping paths link the buildings of the estate.

Patios were incorporated in the design of the main house to merge the indoor and outdoor spaces. A small brick patio with low walls is on the west side of the main house, accessed from a small vestibule. Some of the largest trees in the area are strategically placed around buildings, suggesting that they were preserved by conscious design. A screen of trees, allowed to grow up in the last 50 years, rims the remaining Wilson property and provides a sense of privacy from the NIH campus. The buildings of the estate were sited to take advantage of the picturesque topography, as well as to express a hierarchy of functions. The rustic stonework, the informal arrangement of the buildings on the site, and the utilization of existing topography and plantings achieve a naturalistic landscape that was much favored in the early twentieth century.

2. **Historic landscape design:** No plans specifying the historical landscape plan itself have been found. From early photographs of the estate, the effect of the landscaping appears to have been one of picturesqueness; no formal axial gardens are visible in the photographs. Given architect Clarence Dean's interest in landscaping and unusual plants [see HABS No. MD-1105], it seems likely that special attention was given to the early landscape plan of the estate.

3. **Outbuildings:** Two modest outbuildings, which sit west of the main house, beyond the Flat and along a driveway and parking area, do not exhibit design elements shared by the rest of the estate buildings. They appear to have been built to serve the main house and the estate in general at the time of the conversion of the Flat into living quarters in the early 1940s. They are both designed in a simple, rustic style to complement the estate's primary structures.

a. **Garage:** The garage building consists of a rectangular plan orientated on an east west axis, with a door and four large garage bays facing north. Its dimensions are approximately 19' x 50'. It is located close to the Flat, along the secondary driveway. It is constructed of wood 2 x 4's covered with pressed metal sheet siding meant to imitate traditional wood clapboard, and a ribbed metal roof with metal gutters and down spouts. It is a story and a half, with steeply pitched side-gable roof.

A single wooden paneled entrance door with single light and wooden deck compose the easternmost bay on the northern facade, with the remaining four bays taken by large garage doors. Each garage door consists of a wooden paneled rolling overhead door with four lights near the top. The westernmost door had until recently an original garage door; a wooden Dutch split door hinged on the sides with six lights on each of the upper and lower halves.

The western facade consists of a single, centered, Dutch wooden door of solid vertical board-and-bead siding. Centered above is a small, centered, wood-frame opening vent for the attic space. The southern facade contains a single rectangular window centered in

the facade. The eastern facade adjoins the flagstone patio of the Flat, and features a single, rectangular, centered, wood-casement window. The half story consists of a small, single, centered, wood-frame opening serving as a vent to the attic space.

b. **Shed:** A small utility shed faces the garage diagonally northwest of it across the driveway. Its dimensions are 18'-0" x 18'-0". Like the garage, it is covered with pressed metal siding, meant to imitate traditional clapboards, and a metal ribbed roof. It is square and consists of two bays of doors, with a shallow shed roof. The two pairs of plain hinged doors are clad with metal. The right bay has a dirt floor and exposed 2 x 4 construction with a single window opening centered on the eastern facade. The left bay has solid wood panels and a poured concrete floor, with a six-light casement window centered in the rear.

### PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. **Architectural drawings:** The only extant drawing for Tree Tops is a basement plan located at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., in the architect Arthur B. Heaton office records. ADE-UNIT 469, no.1 Blueprint. "Edward C. Dean, Architect, 247 Park Avenue, New York, February 1926, corrected April 1/26, Basement Plan."

#### B. **Historic views:**

##### 1. **From the Montgomery County Historical Society:**

"Tree Tops from the south, 1930s."

"View From the south of Tree Tops in the Snow, 1930s."

##### 2. **From National Medical Library Collection:**

14948 "1959 view of Tree Tops"

#### C. **Interviews:**

Tom Cook, retired director of the NIH Buildings and Grounds Division, conducted by Tory L. Taylor, Robinson & Associates, Inc., August 1, 1991.

Ray Gauzza, historian conducting research Montgomery County estates, conducted by Judith Robinson, Robinson & Associates, Inc., December 7, 1984.

Dorothy Pugh, author of a history of NIH (recalling her 1987 interview with Ruth Ferguson Wilson), conducted by Tory L. Taylor, Robinson & Associates, Inc., June 12, 1991.

Catherine Woodward Tyssowski, sister of Helen Woodward Wilson, conducted by Tory L. Taylor, Robinson & Associates, Inc., July 26, 1991.

Luke Woodward Wilson, son of Luke I. and Helen Woodward Wilson, conducted by Judith H. Robinson, Robinson & Associates, Inc., 1985.

Michael William Woodward Wilson, grandson of Luke I. and Helen Woodward Wilson, conducted by Tory L. Taylor, Robinson & Associates, Inc., August 7, 1991.

Bert Zuckerman, historian researching "the Campong," the David Fairchild residence in Miami designed by Edward Clarence Dean (now the Fairchild Research Center), conducted by Tory L. Taylor, Robinson & Associates, Inc., June 4, 1991.

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#### c. Maps

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**E. Likely sources not yet investigated:** Additional information on the Wilson family use of the estate will be synthesized and deposited at the Historical Office on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. It will include information provided by Deborah Wilson, daughter-in-law of Luke W. Wilson, in an oral interview conducted in late summer of 1997, and copies of historic photographs currently owned by the Wilson family.

A large collection of papers, files, and general corporate history surrounding the establishment and history of the Woodward and Lothrop department store chain was recently donated to the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. It has not been fully indexed or organized by the society,

and may contain additional photographs or references to the Wilsons and the Wilson estate.

F. **Supplemental material:** None.

#### PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The National Institutes of Health plans to construct an 850,000-square-foot addition to the Clinical Center, the first step in a renovation of the original building, which was built over 40 years ago. As part of the Clinical Center expansion, a number of buildings of the Wilson Estate (including the Lodge, the Cabin, the Flat, and the garage and shed) will be demolished. These buildings were found eligible in 1996 as part of a historic district encompassing the Wilson Estate. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), the National Institutes of Health has consulted with the Maryland Historical Trust and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and have entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with those parties that requires completion of HABS documentation of the Wilson Estate before demolition. This documentation was conducted in May-June of 1997. Following the complete documentation of the estate, NIH intends to demolish several of the buildings associated with the site.

The photographs were taken by Walter A. Smalling, Jr.

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