NPS Form 10-900

VLR Listed: 12/9/2021 NRHP Listed: 3/23/2022

OM8 Control No. 1024-0018 expiration date 03/31/2022

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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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.

1. Name of Property Historic name: Clovelly	
Other names/site number: DHR #127-7767	***
Name of related multiple property listing:	
N/A	
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple prop	perty listing
2. Location Street & number: 337 Clovelly Road	
City or town: Richmond State: VA	County: Independent City
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A	ooung: <u>macponatin on</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Histo	ric Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination requestive documentation standards for registering properties. Places and meets the procedural and professional requestions.	s in the National Register of Historic
In my opinion, the property X meets does no recommend that this property be considered significately level(s) of significance:	
national statewide Xle Applicable National Register Criteria:	ocal
A B X C D	
	95.00
Julio & Kangar	2/9/2022
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Go	vernment
In my opinion, the property meets does criteria.	s not meet the National Register
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
X entered in the National Register	
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	
Signature of the Keeper	3/23/2022
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private:	
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	
Category of Property (Check only one box.)	
Building(s) X	
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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ovelly		City of Richmond, VA
me of Property		County and State
Number of Resources with		
(Do not include previously l Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instru- DOMESTIC: Single Dwell LANDSCAPE: Garden		
Current Functions (Enter categories from instru DOMESTIC: Single Dwell LANDSCAPE: Garden		

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7. Description	
Architectural Classification	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
LATE 19th and EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Georgian Rev	ival
Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)	
indicination (circulation in circulation in circula	

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; STONE: Slate; WOOD

Summary Paragraph

Clovelly stands near the southeast end of Clovelly Road in Windsor Farms, a neighborhood in the west end area of the City of Richmond, Virginia. The house is sited on a 1.4-acre parcel that occupies a 200-foot elevated knoll overlooking the James River to the west. The two-and-a-halfstory, Flemish-bond Georgian Revival-style house was designed in 1935 by Richmond-based architect Carl Max Lindner, Sr., and enhanced with gardens designed by landscape architect Charles Freeman Gillette. The designs were completed for Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. (Marie Celeste) Stranahan of Toledo, Ohio, as a seasonal home. Although Mr. Stranahan visited the house, it was most often the enclave of Mrs. Stranahan during the spring and fall seasons. Clovelly is a masterpiece of Georgian Revival design and is one of Lindner's best in any style. Even when compared to contemporary designs by such noted period architects in Richmond as William Lawrence Bottomley and W. Duncan Lee, Clovelly is notable for its symmetry, balance, proportion, and elegant detailing. The house assuredly was influenced by such historic Virginia examples as Wilton (NRHP 1976; DHR #127-0141), then recently moved from eastern Henrico County and re-erected in the nearby Ampthill neighborhood, and Carter's Grove (NHL 1970; DHR #047-0001) in James City County near Williamsburg. These influences are readily apparent on the exterior of the house in its three-part composition, the use of brick laid in a Flemish bond, rubbed and gauged brickwork, and elaborate land- and river-side entrance surrounds. The interior reflects these influences in the use of classical pilasters, paneled public rooms, multi-part cornices, and

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other woodwork. Gillette's garden designs include an azalea garden on the north end of the house and a grass-covered terrace on the house's river front. A contributing site, the landscape is embellished with brick walls and piers, cast stone urns and ornaments, brick walkways, wrought iron railings and gates, and a small pond with a fountain. The house and property retain a very high level of historical integrity.

Narrative Description

Setting

Clovelly, located at 337 Clovelly Road in Richmond, Virginia, stands in the southeastern section of the Windsor Farms neighborhood in the city's near West End.¹ The neighborhood, initially a part of Henrico County, was developed by Thomas C. Williams, Jr., a Richmond businessman and tobacconist. Williams envisioned a residential development that evoked the character and appearance of a "typical English village" surrounding the recently moved and reconstructed 15^{th-century} English manor houses of Agecroft Hall (DHR #127-0223) and Virginia House (DHR #127-0255). Most of the early houses erected in Windsor Farms consisted of Tudor- and Georgian Revival-style houses and English vernacular-inspired cottages.

Although erected in the county, Windsor Farms was conveniently located to the city, making it an ideal residential community for businessmen seeking to move their families away from the urban downtown. The development differed from the earlier Richmond suburbs of Ginter Park (DHR #127-0201) and Forest Hills (DHR #127-6027), which arose along the City's trolley lines, since Windsor Farms residents tended to be automobile owners. In 1926, landscape architect and city planner John C. Nolen of Boston completed the plan for Windsor Farms, which took advantage of sweeping views of the James River to the south and integrated natural features of the 440-acre property into its gridded, horseshoe-shaped plan of curving and intersecting streets.

When first completed, Clovelly stood in a secluded area of the Windsor Farms neighborhood with only four other residences on the street.² Clovelly Road's circular terminus was just outside the gates to the property and the house site encompassed six separate parcels that included the present parcel and parcels on the northeast, southeast, and southwest sides.³ The feeling would have been one of a country estate at the time, although the paved roadway led quickly to the Windsor Farms community center and beyond to the main thoroughfare of Cary Street Road. In the late twentieth century, after the Stranahans' ownership, the parcels surrounding the house lot were sold individually and Clovelly Road was extended to accommodate three additional residential sites. Despite the reduction in the property's size, the current owners retain the original house site parcel and parcels to the north and west. In this way, the heavily wooded slopes on the south and east sides of the house and the view of the river have been preserved.

Clovelly is sited on the western side of the parcel with a flat terrace to the west and a sloping hillside to the east. The gravel-surfaced driveway entrance is marked by tall brick piers topped by cast-stone caps and pinecone finials that support wrought iron gates. A tall hedge edges the driveway, framing the view as the drive extends along the garden. The drive passes through a set of brick piers topped by urns and enters a forecourt where the drive widens at the house's landside entrance. The house is raised above the driveway level with a brick coping wall, and brick and

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stone steps leading to the entrance door. The drive then passes through another set of piers to a lower parking area and the entrance to the below-grade garage. On the south end, the basement level of the house is above grade and has the basement level carport and the original garage bay openings. Wrought iron grates formerly covered the French drains on the east and west sides of the house, which also serve as light wells for the basement windows. Glass coverings now enclose the openings.

The property is heavily wooded on the east side and on the edges of the parcel. The azalea garden stands north of the house with access from the north wing and from the driveway through a wrought iron gate and brick walkway. A boxwood-lined brick walkway extends from the west side of the north wing to a low wrought iron gate that opens onto the grassy terrace, which is edged by a low, curving brick wall extending along the entire western edge of the property. Beds landscaped with shrubs and annual flowering plants are present on the west side of the house.

Dwelling (Contributing Building)

Both Carl Lindner's architectural drawings (August 1935) and Charles Gillette's landscape drawings (April and June 1936) for Clovelly are extant. The architectural drawings differ in some slight ways from the house as built, and those differences are noted in the following description. The gardens appear to have been executed following the original plans, although not all planting beds (e.g., the rose bed) survive.

Exterior

This three-part, Georgian Revival-style house consists of a two-and-a-half-story, five-bay-wide center block (47' wide by 30' deep) and one-and-a-half-story, two-bay-wide end wings (22' wide by 19'5" deep). The house stands on a high basement, is clad with red brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern, and is covered by a slate-covered hipped roof with tall interior end chimneys on the north and south slopes. Three hip-roofed dormers are located on the roof's west slope. A basement level extends beneath the south wing and approximately half of the center block. The exterior brick walls are 12" thick on the house's center section (and basement) and are 9"-thick on the end wings.

The east elevation consists of a centrally located wooden paneled entrance door with a four-light transom above. The entrance bay is flanked by nine-over-nine wooden sash windows on the first floor-level and five windows on the upper level. The west elevation is identical in its composition. Both elevations are distinguished by elaborately detailed entrance surrounds. On the east elevation, the frame surround consists of fluted Ionic pilasters supporting a full entablature topped by a pediment with modillions. On the west elevation, the opening is embellished with a rubbed brick surround detailed with crossettes, a multi-part entablature, and an imposing segmentally arched pediment above. The architectural drawings for the house presented plans for the brick surround to be installed on the east elevation and a simple rubbed brick surround on the west elevation with a wrought iron balcony above. In the end, a frame surround was installed on the east entrance and the elaborate rubbed brick surround placed at the west entrance. The balcony was not built.

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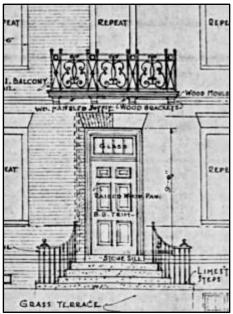




Figure 1. West entrance door surround as presented on Lindner drawings (August 1935) (left) and as built (right).

The finely detailed exterior brickwork on all sections of the house includes a molded water table, a rubbed and slightly projecting (3/4") three-brick belt course, rubbed brick window jambs, gauged jack arched lintels, rubbed corner dressings with queens closures, and corbeled chimney caps. In addition to the east door frame, exterior woodwork includes wooden sash windows with wide muntins and a modillioned cornice.

The one-and-a-half-story end wings match the center block in materials and details. Both are clad with red brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern, have a molded water table, and a modillioned cornice with contoured eave ends. The end wings are covered by side-facing gable roofs clad with slate shingles and have exterior end, double-shouldered chimneys. The north end wing holds two nine-over-nine windows on the east elevation and a door and window on the west elevation. The two hip-roofed dormers on east and west slopes of the roof hold nine-over-six wooden sash windows. The north end elevation features the centrally located exterior chimney flanked by nine-over-nine windows on the first floor-level and by six-pane wooden casements on the upper level.

The east elevation of the south end wing also has two nine-over-six windows on the first floor-level and two hip-roofed dormers. The south end of the wing holds a centrally located exterior end chimney. At the basement level, which is above ground here, the chimney is pierced by an opening with a six-over-six wooden sash window. A nine-over-six window and a door into the kitchen flank the chimney on the first floor-level, and six-pane casements are located on the upper floor. Originally, the basement level of the south wing held two vehicle bays that were fireproofed with a concrete floor and brick walls. The wooden overhead doors on each bay opened onto the service court to the west. These bays have been converted for use as a mechanical room (south) and for interior living space (north). The service court was covered in 2000 when the bespoke frame-and-glass conservatory and slate-covered patio were added to the west side.⁴

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Interior

Clovelly's interior detailing reflects the Georgian Revival style in its use of multi-part wall cornices, molded door surrounds and baseboards, paneled door reveals, chair rails, and paneled walls. Other stylistic elements are seen in the living room and dining room mantels and the staircase with carved scroll stringers. Most of the flooring is of oak. The floorplan is a modified center passage, facilitating the house's use as a second home used extensively for entertaining larger groups. Original iron H- and L-hinges are present on the paneled doors and original service call buttons are located on the door jambs of several rooms.

First Floor

The house is entered from the east (land side) through a paneled door into the main stair hall. The door is set within an opening with paneled reveals and is outfitted with an elaborate wrought iron doorbell pull on the south side. The stair hall has a high ceiling with a four-part cornice, a molded chair rail, and a beaded baseboard. The plastered walls are papered above the chair rail. The elegant staircase with its rectangular balusters, rounded handrail, and carved scroll ends extends along the west wall, then returns on itself as it rises to the second floor-level. The elegantly tapered, square newel post at the bottom of the stair is set beyond the line of the handrail. The cased openings on the west (dining room) and north (drawing room) walls are detailed with heavily molded surrounds with crossettes, a bolection molding, and a crown molding. The extant stair hall differs from the architectural drawings which show a vestibule connected to the stair hall through a case opening and accessing a powder room on the south side. Flooring and other interior elements do not show signs of alterations in this location, so it is assumed that the vestibule was deleted from the plan and the powder room relocated further south. The stair hall, therefore, gained about four feet in depth. An arched opening to the south leads through a passage to two powder rooms, a vanity area, and a coat closet. With this arrangement, guests had access from the stair hall to comfortable amenities as well as the public rooms in the house.





Figure 2. Wrought iron bellpull at left, opening surround from stair hall to dining room at right.

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The drawing room, entered from the north side of the stair hall, extends the full depth of the house (17'6" x 32'). The focal point of the room is the projecting chimneypiece that is centrally located on the fully paneled north wall. The marble-faced fireplace has a wooden cornice shelf and a paneled overmantel, all of which is framed by full-height, fluted pilasters that extend to support a dentiled entablature. Placing the fireplace on the long wall both emphasized the length of the room and provided a dramatic "first look" for visitors.⁵

The drawing room's south and end walls (east and west) are plastered and have a chair rail with raised-panel wainscoting. The end walls feature centrally located recessed panels above the chair rail that were ideal for displaying artwork. The window openings and door openings in the room exhibit the crossette enframement seen in the stair hall. In the drawing room, and throughout the public rooms, the window openings have paneled reveals and deeply set window sills.

The existing drawing room differs from the architectural drawings for the house in some ways. On the drawings, all walls are plastered with a chair rail and raised panel wainscoting. The current owners were told by a previous owner that the paneling on the north wall was an alteration by the architect who purchased the discarded paneling from a house on Grace Street (Richmond). The details of the mantelpiece also differ from the drawings, which show vertically oriented raised panels framing the fireplace.

The north end wing of the house, entered from the drawing room by going down one step, is denoted as a "sun room" on the architectural drawings with a brick paved floor, plastered walls, and a brick hearth and fireplace on the north end wall. The room, currently used as an informal den, has wide wooden flooring (possibly reused floorboards), plaster walls with a molded chair rail, and enframed window openings. The mantelpiece on the north wall, said to have been brought from an early tavern, is animated with reeding, a centrally located carved panel, a puncheon dentil molding, modillions, and a molded shelf. The overmantel is framed by fluted pilasters with a wall of Troy molding. The woodwork in the room is varnished but unpainted. The current owners installed built-in shelving on the south wall. Although the room's woodwork and trim appear to match the Lindner drawings, the mantel with its naïve composition is an obvious addition. The room was intended as a less formal, rustic space and the current finishes continue the feeling.

The dining room, accessible from the stair hall or the drawing room, is detailed with a beaded baseboard, molded chair rail, and multi-part, dentiled cornice. The west wall holds two framed window openings and a paneled door that opens outside to the west side terrace. The south end wall is fully paneled and holds a marble fireplace that is framed by fluted pilasters on paneled bases that support the articulated entablature above. The marble-faced opening has a round molding and a raised, rectangular wooden panel above. A cornice shelf and paneled overmantel complete the mantelpiece. A paneled door to the kitchen is on the left (east) side of the fireplace and a window is on the right (west) side. Window and door surrounds match those in the stair hall and drawing room.

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Figure 3. Dining room mantelpiece.

The south end service wing, which is on level with the rest of the house and houses the kitchen, has direct access to the dining room or can be entered discreetly from the front passage off the main stair hall. The wing connects to a rear stair hall leading to the basement level and the former servants' quarters above. The wing formerly held the kitchen, a servants' dining room (with exterior access via the south end door), a butler's pantry, and a storage pantry. Those spaces have been combined into a single-spaced kitchen and a fireplace has been inserted into the former stove opening on the south wall. Floors are clad with terra cotta tiles and the walls are plastered. Built-in cabinetry, paneled wall reveals, and wall moldings are compatible modern additions. The addition of the conservatory on the west side of the wing necessitated the conversion of two window openings into door openings with pairs of wooden multi-pane doors that open onto the glass-and-frame enclosure.



Figure 4. View from kitchen through doors into conservatory.

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Second Floor

The second floor is accessed by the main stair that rises to a landing and a transverse hallway with an arched opening on the north end that leads to the bedroom corridor. The original two bedrooms and shared bath on the west side of the house have been combined into one large master suite. Another bedroom with *en suite* bath is located on the east side of the corridor. A fourth bedroom at the north end of the corridor occupies the upper floor of the north end wing. The room, which is one step below the corridor, includes an adjoining bathroom. Although smaller than the other bedrooms, it holds the only fireplace on the upper floor, and retains the original mantel. The bedrooms are simply but elegantly detailed with baseboards, chair rails, plaster walls, wall moldings, and simple window surrounds with original windows. At present, most of the wooden floors are partially or fully carpeted.

A door on the south end of the transverse hallway opened to a hall and the rear stair landing. A linen room (now an office) stood on the east side of the hall. A door on the south side of the hall enters the upper floor of the service wing, which formerly held two maids' rooms and a bath. The two bedrooms have been combined into one guest room.

Basement

From the interior, the partial basement is accessed by the rear stair hall. The downstairs hall accesses the boiler and laundry room on the east side and a storage space on the north end. The former chauffeur's room and adjoined bath on the west side of the hallway is now a home gym. At the south end, the stair hall turns to the west towards the service court (now carport). As noted, one of the two garage bays was converted for interior use as interior living space; that bay is accessed from a door on the south end of the hallway.

Garden (Contributing Site)

In June 1936, Charles F. Gillette provided designs for Clovelly's surrounding landscape and gardens. Plantings around the house included boxwood hedges, crape myrtles, holly trees, and brick-edged beds for annuals and perennial flowers. In his role as the property's caretaker throughout the 1940s and 1950s, Gillette seasonally updated the plantings at Clovelly to include pansies, daisies, chrysanthemums, marigolds, myosotis, primula, petunias, weeping lantana, ageratum, begonias, and tulips. He also oversaw the fertilizing and seeding of the lawn and cleanup of the grounds after storm damage.

A brick wall encloses the north end azalea garden and the curving brick walkways that are laid in a herringbone pattern. A pond with a fountain stands at the center of the garden that Gillette labeled a "Naturalistic Garden." This garden replaced a more elaborate and more formal landscape design offered by Gillette in April 1936, which included a wider, paved forecourt entrance on the east side of the house, a formal "Evergreen Garden" on the north consisting of concentric elliptical pathways and planting areas, and a rectilinear parterre garden northwest of the house. Gillette selectively retained some of the existing trees on the site (oaks, elms, hickories, and pines) and enhanced the woods with flowering native trees and flowering shrubs.⁷

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Figure 5. Early spring view of azalea garden looking south.

Embellishments in the garden include cast stone urns and wrought iron gates. The semi-circular grassy terrace on the west side of the house, edged by a curving brick wall, overlooks the James River. By 1942, roses were planted in the bed along the terrace wall; at present, the bed is planted with a low, manicured boxwood hedge. On the east side of the property, Gillette's drawings show brick steps and walkway leading to a pine tag footpath meandering through the heavily wooded sloping hillside. The hillside remains wooded, but it is not certain that the pathway was ever completed. The present owner enlisted landscape architect Charles J. Stick to assist with designing some additional landscape elements, including the holly hedge along the entrance drive.



Figure 6. Wintertime photograph of the western terrace with the James River in view.

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Alterations and Additions

Minimal alterations and variations between the architectural drawings and existing conditions have been noted above. Most interior renovations have been made to upgrade spaces and systems for modern use. Because the garage bays were not sized for modern automobiles, they have been modified for other uses but the original outside openings remain intact. The former multi-room arrangement in the kitchen wing has been renovated into a single space, but no change was made to the exterior appearance or the footprint of the wing. Part of the attic space has been finished for use as a family room. Some interior doors between public and private or service spaces have been removed and stored for modern convenience. Those that remain in place are the original raised six-paneled doors with brass box locks. All systems in the house have been updated within the past 20 years. None of the above-mentioned renovations have altered the exterior appearance of the house or its original footprint. The sole addition to the house is the frame-and-glass conservatory located on the west side of the south end wing. The structure, however, has been designed for maximum transparency and is elegantly detailed to be compatible with the house. The addition necessitated the conversion of two openings in the kitchen from windows to doors.



Figure 7. View from outside conservatory looking east with original house wall visible in background.

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8. Sta	tement of Significance	
Applic	able National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for	National Register
	A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant broad patterns of our history.	contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in ou	ır past.
X	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, peri- construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses hi or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose con- individual distinction.	gh artistic values,
	D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important history.	at in prehistory or
	ta Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
	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 old or achieving significance within the past	t 50 years

Architect/Builder

Lindner, Sr., Carl Max (architect)

Gillette, Charles Freeman (landscape architect)

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Areas of Significance	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
ARCHITECTURE	
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	
Period of Significance 1935-1936	
Significant Dates N/A	
Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A	
Cultural Affiliation N/A	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Clovelly, located at 337 Clovelly Road in Richmond's Windsor Farms neighborhood, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The two-and-a-half-story, Georgian Revival style house stands on a rise overlooking the James River to the southwest and retains its wooded and secluded setting. The property is significant at a local level as a masterwork designed in 1935 by architect Carl Max Lindner, Sr., as a seasonal home for Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Stranahan of Perrysburg, Ohio. In 1936, the Stranahans engaged Charles Freeman Gillette to design the landscape for the property, including the walled azalea garden north of the house. Mrs. Stranahan (the former Marie Celeste Martin) occupied Clovelly regularly in the fall and spring months and opened the gardens for tours. The period of significance is 1935-1936, encompassing the construction of the house and the installation of the garden. There are no secondary resources on the property.

The Richmond-based architect Carl M. Lindner, Sr., is noted for his designs for apartment buildings, commercial buildings, churches, and numerous residences, most of which are in Richmond. Many of his designs were executed in the Tudor Revival or Georgian Revival styles, but his work reflects dexterity in most revival styles and even the modern movements of Art Deco and the International Style. The Georgian Revival design for Clovelly exemplifies Lindner's complete grasp of the architectural language of the style, its details, proportions, scale, and massing. Although the 1926 plan of Windsor Farms envisioned an English village to be populated by Tudoresque or English vernacular-style houses and cottages, that vision was soon overtaken by the Georgian and Colonial Revival styles that were popular with many of the region's wealthy patrons at the time. The Clovelly design met with the approval of Windsor Farms' architectural review committee and, thus, became one of the neighborhood's early influential houses. Complementing the architecture are the refined gardens and river-view terrace designed by landscape architect Charles Freeman Gillette.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion C: Architecture and Landscape Architecture

Clovelly is locally significant under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture as an excellent example of Georgian Revival architecture designed by architect Carl Max Lindner, Sr., with gardens designed by landscape architect Charles Freeman Gillette. The two had collaborated on projects since the 1920s and both had previously completed projects in Windsor Farms. Clovelly is a two-and-a-half-story, three-part, Georgian Revival-style dwelling that exhibits the prominent stylistic characteristics of massing, scale, and proportion enriched with accurate detailing. The handsome exterior brickwork is laid in a Flemish bond pattern on all sides of the house. The exterior walls feature a molded water table, projecting belt course, and rubbed and gauged brick treatments at the door and window openings, and corner dressings. The two large interior brick chimneys that rise from the side slopes of the slate-clad hipped roof feature corbelled

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caps. Two exterior end brick chimneys also have corbelled caps and slanted shoulders. The most elaborate exterior details, however, are the two door surrounds on the east and west elevations of the house. On the land side (east), the paneled door and four-light transom are deeply set within a frame surround that features fluted Ionic pilasters, a cornice, a bolection molding, and a triangular pediment with modillion blocks. Modillion blocks also are present along the house cornice. The river side (west) entrance door is embellished with a molded and rubbed brick surround with crossettes, bolection molding, and a segmentally arched pediment. Lindner was a careful student of stylistic details and is likely to have consulted period examples for accuracy. Inspiration for such surrounds can be found on many of Virginia's Georgian buildings, including Wilton, Carter's Grove, and Berkeley, and Christ Church in Lancaster County. No correspondence has been located to identify the builder or craftsmen involved in the construction of the house. It is possible that Allen J. Saville was the contractor for Clovelly since he and Lindner had worked together on several other projects in Richmond and Saville was the engineer of record for the Windsor Farms development. Lindner also had worked with builder Joseph F. Black in 1929 on another house in Windsor Farms.



Figure 8. East elevation detail showing brickwork.

Used as a seasonal home, Clovelly's interior is set up for entertaining and in plan can be described as a modified center passage. The entrance hall, which holds the elegant stair to the second floor, provided ample space for guests to congregate, pass off coats, and refresh themselves before being escorted into the expansive drawing room. The room's focal point was the projecting fireplace on the fully paneled north wall. Windows on three walls provided glimpses of the landscaped gardens beyond and provided cooling breezes when open. From the drawing room, guests could enter the sun room, a less formal space housed in the north end wing. Guest could move through an opening in the drawing room's south wall into the dining room. A paneled door on the west side of the

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dining room and on axis with the front door, opened onto the curving grassy terrace that overlooked the James River. As they dined, guests were afforded views of the wooded landscape and the river through the west and south dining room windows.



Figure 9. Detail of scrolled stair stringers.

The second floor comprised all private family spaces including four bedroom suites arranged along a transverse hallway. The west side bedrooms held a shared bath between them, while private baths adjoined the east side bedroom and the bedroom in the north end wing. The spacious rooms are simply detailed with baseboard, chair rail, and wall moldings.

The spaces related to the domestic operations and maintenance of the house were separated from the public rooms and the owners' private rooms. The basement level contained the laundry and chauffeur's quarters and led to the service court and garage. The first floor of the wing housed the kitchen and pantry areas and discreetly connected to the front powder room area and the dining room. The wing's upper level held two maid's rooms accessed from the rear stair. This concentration of services was intended to keep the domestic workforce out of sight, yet the owner could quickly summon those workers through the series of electric call buttons placed into door jambs in several rooms. Such call systems were typical in aristocratic homes of the period and reflect the nonverbal control exercised by homeowners over their domestic staff.¹⁰



Figure 10. Call button located in drawing room door jamb.

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The house's interior detailing matches the exterior in quality and exhibits fine craftsmanship. Baseboards, chair rail, and wall cornices are finely molded, and the door surrounds feature molded jambs, crossettes, and multi-part cornices. The main stair is detailed with an elegant, round handrail, rectangular balusters, and a tapered square newel post set outside the line of the handrail. Carved scrolls decorate the ends of the stair stringers. Walls are finished with wooden paneling or plaster and the floors are primarily of oak. The effect is one of restrained elegance that is formal but inviting.

Drawings for the house and gardens are extant, although no correspondence between the owner and architect has been located. Therefore, how the Stranahans of Perrysburg, Ohio, ended up building a home in Richmond, Virginia, is a matter of speculation. At the time Clovelly was built (1935) Frank D. Stranahan was vice president and treasurer of the Champion Spark Plug Company, which he co-founded with his brothers in Boston. In 1910, the company moved to Toledo to be closer to Detroit's automobile industry. The company's success was bolstered by exclusive contracts with auto producers and the brothers soon accumulated significant personal wealth. Over the years, the Stranahans became well-known for their philanthropy and supported numerous educational, arts, and civic organizations. In 1944, the brothers established the Stranahan Foundation, which today continues to provide assistance to "individuals and groups in their efforts to become more self-sufficient and contribute to the improvement of society and the environment." One history of the family stated that the Stranahans "arguably did more for the citizens of Toledo and northwest Ohio than any other single family before, or after."

In 1925, Frank and his wife, Marie (also, Mary) Celeste, built a home in Perrysburg, a suburb of Toledo. The Tudor Revival-style house was designed by Cleveland-based architect Charles Sumner Schneider and the grounds were landscaped by Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts. The Stranahans' relationship with the Olmsteds may have provided a link to Windsor Farms, which was designed by landscape architect and city planner John C. Nolen, of Boston. A longtime associate of Frederick Law Olmsted, the firm's founder, Nolen designed the plan for Thomas C. Williams, Jr.'s Windsor Farms development in 1926. The Olmsted firm may have suggested that the Stranahans consider Nolen's Windsor Farms as a suitable location for a vacation or seasonal home. Marie Celeste Stranahan also had Richmond friends who she often visited, traveled with, and met in Boston and New York.¹³

The Stranahans, however, had another connection to Richmond. In 1922, Robert A. Stranahan, Frank's younger brother and business partner, married Page Selden Ellyson, who was born in Danville, Virginia. In the early 1900s, the Ellysons moved to Richmond, where her father was a real estate agent. Page Stranahan, whose trips to visit her Virginia family were noted in newspapers, may have introduced her in-laws to Windsor Farms.

How the Stranahans selected Carl M. Lindner, Sr., as their architect and the Georgian Revival style for their new home again are matters of speculation. Lindner had completed designs for several Richmond homes, including substantial commissions in the West End and Windsor Farms. Perhaps the Stranahans wanted something different from their Tudoresque mansion in Toledo and felt the Georgian Revival style was more "Virginian." Certainly, a number of the houses for

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wealthy clients being constructed in Richmond, and in Windsor Farms, at the time were examples of Georgian Revival. The style was made popular by such period architects as William Lawrence Bottomley and W. Duncan Lee, both of whom were at the height of their careers. Lindner, though not strictly a residential architect, had completed designs for relatively large homes as well as more modestly sized, but no less architecturally distinguished, in Windsor Farms and along Richmond's Monument Avenue. The selection of Charles F. Gillette as landscape architect may have been on Lindner's recommendation. The two had already collaborated on several projects, and Gillette was well-known for his designs at Agecroft Hall, Virginia House, and other Windsor Farms properties.

The combination of wealthy clients and astute designers resulted in one of Richmond's significant Georgian Revival houses. Clovelly represents a studied and accurately detailed example of the style with notable characteristic elements on the exterior and interior. Completed during the Great Depression, the Stranahans provided the necessary financial backing for the construction of the house, which was executed in high-quality materials by knowledgeable craftsmen. Clovelly possesses additional significance from its location in Windsor Farms, which has been identified as a prospective National Register of Historic Places historic district but has not yet been listed. The development, as envisioned by owner and subdivider T.C. Williams, Jr., was to evolve like a small English village. To control the quality of construction and to achieve the desired effect, Windsor Farms established an architectural review committee to approve proposed designs. The board soon expanded its range and agreed to include Georgian and Colonial Revival designs. Regardless of its Windsor Farms association, however, Clovelly possesses individual significance for its architectural design and as an outstanding example of the collaborative work of architect Charles M. Lindner, Sr., and landscape architect Charles F. Gillette.

Frank Duane Stranahan and Marie Celeste Martin Stranahan

Frank D. Stranahan (1876-1965) was born in St. Louis, but his family soon moved to Buffalo, New York, then to Boston where his father was manager at the Tremont Hotel. Frank followed his father into the hospitality industry and became the manager of the Hotel Savoy, where he was working in 1902 when he married Marie Celeste Martin. By 1905, Frank left the hotel business, and he and his younger brother, Spencer, opened the Tremont Garage. The brothers continued to work there until 1907, when they joined Albert Champion in his self-named company, which occupied space in the same building as the Tremont Garage. By 1908, the youngest Stranahan, Robert, received his A.B. degree from Harvard after just one-and-a-half years, and joined his brothers at Champion's shop.

Albert Champion (1878-1927), a native of France, was a professional bicyclist who immigrated to the United States in 1899. Champion helped promote motorized bicycles (motorcycles) and eventually started his own bicycle shop in Boston. Champion soon began manufacturing and importing parts for automobiles. Assisted by the Stranahan brothers, who were early stockholders and officers in his company, Champion developed a porcelain spark plug that outperformed existing units. Either through agreement or in dispute, Champion left Boston for Flint, Michigan, to work with the Buick Motor Co. In Flint, Champion founded the Champion Ignition Company, which in 1922 became the AC Spark Plug Company (now known as ACDelco). The Stranahans

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retained the name of "Champion" for their company, which continued to manufacture and improve their spark plugs. 18

In 1909, Spencer Stranahan died, and the next year Frank and Robert Stranahan moved the company to Toledo. The move was precipitated by an offer from the Willys-Overland Motor Company that would ensure a market for the brothers' spark plugs. A couple of years later, Champion also received a contract with the Ford Motor Company. Company reports claimed that in 1912, three of every four cars in the United States were equipped with Champion Spark Plugs. 19 The company became one of the most prosperous in Toledo history and the Stranahans realized significant financial success. Both brothers built stately mansions for their families, but also were widely known for their philanthropy, much of which was done anonymously. Frank Stranahan remained active in the company until his death in 1965.²⁰

Mrs. Frank D. Stranahan (1876-1954), the former Marie Celeste Martin born in New York City, was engaged in musical training when her father died. She began acting in a traveling stock company and became a singer and actress in light opera and comedic opera. By period accounts, Ms. Martin attained measurable success in her field.²¹ In 1902, Ms. Martin married Frank D. Stranahan in a small ceremony in Boston, where the two had met. The marriage notice that followed the ceremony announced that Mrs. Stranahan would be retiring from the stage.²²

When the Stranahan brothers moved their company to Toledo, the couple moved, as well. Over the years, Mrs. Stranahan became a prominent Toledo social figure and supporter of the arts. She was a member of the Toledo Woman's Club and a founder of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. In 1925, Frank and Marie Celeste commissioned a house from Charles Sumner Schneider (1874-1932), FAIA, a Cleveland-based, Ecole des Beaux-Arts-trained architect and former protégé of George B. Post.²³ Schneider's design was a three-story, stone- and brick-clad confection combining Tudor, Norman, and chalet-style elements including a stair hall tower, grouped chimneys with decorative pots, and half-timbered walls.²⁴ Known as "Wamston," the house stood on a 12-acre estate overlooking the Maumee River in Perrysburg, a suburb of Toledo.²⁵ The Stranahans complemented their expansive mansion with equally impressive landscapes designed by Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts.²⁶ A walled terrace extended from the north side of the house to provide views of the river, while a formal rose garden and a cutting garden were located on the east end of the house. The firm also provided designs for greenhouses (accessed by a pleached allee), a large swimming pool and bath houses, tennis courts, the meandering driveway, and car turnaround, among other estate amenities. Wamston was the home of a wealthy industrialist whose financial status allowed him to build a large, sprawling estate for his family's home and for entertaining. It was a house that would have been appropriate in Windsor Farms.

While letters show that Frank Stranahan was heavily involved in the design and construction of the couple's Perrysburg house, the house in Virginia appears to have been the domain of Mrs. Stranahan. Lindner's drawings are titled "Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan" and Gillette's drawings are similarly labeled "Property for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan." In letters written by Mr. Stranahan to Gillette concerning a proposed city water line, he also refers to the property as "Mrs.

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Stranahan's" property. Although several newspaper articles and city listings identified Clovelly as the property of Mr. and Mrs. Stranahan, Marie Celeste most often was the seasonal resident.

In July 1935, Howard Aumend of the Toledo Trust Company, acting as an agent for the Stranahans, purchased Lot 14 of Block 54 from Windsor Farms, Inc., a 1.3-acre parcel that would become the site of Clovelly.²⁷ The property, located then in Henrico County and annexed into the City of Richmond in 1942, was described as fronting onto Clovelly Road and included a list of 13 stipulations, restrictions, and conditions on the property. The first stipulation stated that one private dwelling could be erected on the lot along with any necessary outbuildings for use by "one family only, and by white persons only, but not excluding bone fide servants of any race." This racial restriction on ownership and occupancy was not unlike those included on deeds in other residential areas of Richmond, and throughout Virginia, at the time. In 1948, such exclusionary clauses, however, were deemed unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.²⁸ Other requirements included approval in writing of plans and specifications of all construction. A \$60.00 per annum maintenance fee per lot was included for the corporation's upkeep and provision of neighborhood amenities.²⁹

In early 1936, Mrs. Stranahan added to her Windsor Farm landholdings by purchasing Lot 15 of Block 54, then added Lots 15, 16, and 17 of Block 53. These parcels, all adjoining or across the road from the house, secured the southeastern end of Clovelly Road for the Stranahans, ensuring their house would retain its wooded surroundings and no other owners could build on adjoining lots or within their James River viewshed.³⁰

Construction of Clovelly was completed by May 1936. Carl M. Lindner's drawings for the Stranahan House are dated August 1935 and a social news item published in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* on April 8, 1936 noted that the Stranahan house was nearly completed:

Mrs. Frank Duke, who has been in Boston for several days, having joined Mrs. Frank Stranahan of Toledo there recently, will return to Richmond tonight.

Mrs. Stranahan who is a frequent visitor of Mrs. Duke and Mrs. John Kerr Branch, will shortly be established at her new home on Clovelly Road in Windsor Farms.

Notices in the Richmond newspapers during the late 1930s and early 1940s announced Mrs. Stranahan's arrivals and departure from the Clovelly house, where she spent "several months each year" most often in the spring (April through May or June) and late fall months (October through December), while spending summers in Toledo.³¹ In May 1938, the gardens at Clovelly were opened for the first time as part of the All Saints Episcopal Church Guild's garden tour.

Among the gardens which will be open at this time will be Clovelly, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Stranahan in Windsor Farms. This garden, although small, is formal and beautifully planned, overlooking the river. The interesting Georgian house recently was built by Mr. and Mrs.

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Stranahan of Ohio, who spend much of their time in Richmond. This is the first time the garden has opened to the public.³²

In Virginia, Mrs. Stranahan was involved in numerous charitable and civic organizations including the Virginia Historical Society, the Woman's Club of Richmond, Richmond Theatre Guild, and was the Ohio Regent of the Kenmore Association in Fredericksburg. In 1940, she traveled with the Garden Club of Virginia to Mexico. She maintained ties to Boston and was a member of the city's Chromatic Club, a performing arts organization.

The Stranahans' visits to Clovelly were less frequent, or less reported, during the 1940s and correspondence from the early 1950s indicates that the house was rented to tenants. During this period, a caretaker maintained the dwelling and Charles Gillette oversaw caretaking services for the grounds and handled negotiations with the City concerning an easement through the property for a new water line. In poor health and having suffered with heart problems, Mrs. Stranahan died in 1954 at the age of 78.³³ Although Frank D. Stranahan lived another 11 years after his wife' death, Clovelly was sold out of the family by 1959.³⁴

Ownership after the Stranahans

A letter dated March 14, 1956 (about 15 months after Mrs. Stranahan's death), from Louis G. Korn of the Toledo Trust Company to Charles Gillette provides insight into how the next phase of Clovelly's ownership transpired. At the time, the house was being rented to Oswald M. and Carol Bradley for \$200 a month, a rate which Mr. Korn noted "pays only a portion of the expense involved in maintaining this fine property." He noted that the agreement was one "created during Mrs. Stranahan's lifetime and in accordance with her wishes," but suggested that in the interest of the trust, Bradley would either need to pay a higher rental rate or consider purchasing the property. The Bradleys were the owners and operators of Bradley Brothers Cleaners and Launderers in Richmond. The 1954 Richmond City Directory lists the Bradleys as living at 339 Clovelly Road (the original number for the house). According to additional correspondence in Gillette's papers, the rental arrangement was negotiated through Mrs. Stranahan's friend, Mrs. Frank Duke. Gillette's response to the trust hints at the future of the Clovelly property (typographical errors retained):

...your best plan would be to sell and relieve all of us the details of supervision etc., To rent is not so good as no renter ever takes proper care of rented property. I doubt that anyone would buy the property at a fair return on the investment as the house is inadequate for most families, and the real estate is over abundant. Land now available in Windsor farms is at a premium, there is nothing left that is owned by the Windsor Farms Co. and only a few vacant lots that folk are selling from purchase made some while ago and never developed.

With all of this land, I believe much can be earned by a subdivision, then a disposal of the house to someone and the land to a developer for several new houses.³⁶

In July 1956, Gillette received a letter indicating that his services, though sincerely appreciated by the owner, were no longer required at Clovelly. Frank Stranahan and his son Duane had visited the

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property, missing Gillette who was on vacation, and had negotiated with the Bradleys to take on the maintenance of the property themselves. At the same time, the trust distributed the Clovelly property to Duane Stranahan and his wife, Virginia. The Bradleys continued to rent the property and then in 1957, the Stranahans sold the property to the couple as officers of the "Lafayette Corporation." ³⁷

The Bradleys retained ownership of the property until 1975, when they conveyed the six parcels to Anne Sloan Thompson, excepting a portion of Lot 15, Block 53, that the Bradleys sold to the City of Richmond as part of the water treatment plant located on the James River. In the 1980s, Ms. Thompson sold off the individual parcels of the Clovelly landholdings and Clovelly Road was extended to its present cul-de-sac terminus. The house lot and a portion of the adjoining lot to the north were conveyed to Thomas and Rebecca Allen; the deed indicated that a 30-foot easement existed for the new roadway, and that Windsor Farms had approved a restrictive covenant on development on Lot 15, Block 53 (across the road) "to afford an adequate and suitable view of the James River from the property." The property remains in the ownership of Thomas and Elizabeth Allen. ³⁹

Windsor Farms⁴⁰

The Windsor Farms community, planned by John Nolen and Philip Foster from 1924 to 1926, was Richmond, Virginia's first professionally-planned suburb. Nolen's plan for developer Thomas C. Williams, Jr., included a centralized community service area of genteel recreational facilities with winding streets that converged on the two relocated 15th-century English manor houses Agecroft Hall (NRHP 1978; DHR #127-0223) and Virginia House. The church, school, police and fire stations, and shop in the community service area exhibited half-timbering, stucco-cladding, and other details associated with the vernacular Elizabethan era, thus setting the tone for the desired architecture in the development. The subtitle of the sales booklet drove home the point, referring to Windsor Farms as "hauntingly reminiscent of old England."

The plan for Windsor Farms fused Nolen's skills in planning and landscape architecture and his interests in English garden suburbs. The curvilinear, gridded plan incorporated existing landscape elements of Williams' 440-acre farm, known as Windsor, including ravines, hilltops, and even Confederate-era entrenchments. The view of the James River, called "Arthur's Seat," was a central feature of the plan. Street names in Windsor Farms used English place or house names or the names of Williams' nieces, nephews, and cousins. ⁴³ Bands of plantings between the road and the sidewalk blocked views of automobiles, which were becoming commonplace. Lots in the community varied in size from one-half-acre to five-acres. Gardeners could be hired by homeowners on an hourly basis to cut grass, trim hedges, spray trees, and clear debris. The Windsor Farms corporation staff also looked after homes while owners were away and prepared the houses for the owner's return. ⁴⁴ The Stranahans appear to have taken advantage of these services. In one of his letters to Mrs. Stranahan, Charles Gillette noted that the Windsor Farm workers had removed the blinds from Clovelly to air out the house in anticipation of her return, and another letter noted that unless the gardener was at the house the gates were locked. ⁴⁵

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Thomas C. Williams, Jr. (1864-1929) was a "well-educated and philanthropic businessman, with a deep allegiance to his Confederate roots. He inherited substantial wealth from tobacco production and banking in 1889 and made even more in 1904 when he sold his company to American Tobacco Company." A devout Anglophile, Williams was also a philanthropist and made substantial contributions to his alma mater, Richmond College (now the University of Richmond), and local churches.

To ensure the quality of the architecture and the presumed quality of residents, restrictive covenants and stipulations accompanied deeds for Windsor Farms' lots. Architectural drawings and specifications for any building proposed in the community required written approval by the Windsor Farms architectural review committee. Another requirement stipulated white-only occupancy in the neighborhood with an exception for "bona fide servants of any race," which acknowledged that the residents of Windsor Farms depended on day servants or live-in domestics to maintain their homes. Many of these workers traveled to work from the center city, which was accessible by public transportation.⁴⁷

The suburb, which was in Henrico County and remained so until annexation by the City of Richmond in 1942, was near private schools and the Country Club of Virginia and convenient to the city's urban core. This and the other West End neighborhoods that soon developed along the River Road corridor attracted some of the City's wealthiest businessmen and those who found Richmond to be a pleasant location for a seasonal home, such as the Stranahans. Windsor Farms was distinct, however, in its historicist character.

Windsor Farms' English country aesthetic and City Beautiful scale were promoted by the corporation's magazine, "The Black Swan." The magazine's name was adopted from the nickname given to Virginia colonist William Byrd. It combined nostalgic commentary on the reconstruction of Williams' own house, Agecroft Hall, with descriptions of a genteel community and lifestyle intended to attract buyers. The magazine featured articles on houses constructed in the community and gave prospective owners advice on suitable architectural styles. 48 Most were by notable local architects and builders and closely followed the architectural aesthetic Williams' desired. Among these were Henry G. Morse, a New York architect who also redesigned and rebuilt Williams' Agecroft Hall and Ambassador Weddell's Virginia House; Allen J. Saville, an engineer who had been Richmond's former Director of Public Works and had recommended Nolen to Williams; and Carneal & Johnston, J. Ambler Johnston being a Windsor Farms resident. Dwellings based on historical models were among some of the first houses completed. Somersby House, built on Clovelly Road for Mr. and Mrs. T. Kirkpatrick Parrish, was based on the English birthplace of Lord Tennyson. Another house was built to resemble Anne Hathaway's Stratford-on-Avon cottage, complete with bent steamed shingles to resemble a thatched roof. Only a few non-Tudor house designs (including two designs by William Lawrence Bottomley) were approved before 1930. After Williams' death in February 1929 and the October stock market crash, the Windsor Farms board concentrated on selling lots rather than promoting and building cultural institutions on the reserved community lots. More Georgian, Colonial Revival, and Cape Cod houses were approved. In 1935, a newspaper article reported that only 48 houses had been built in the nine

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years since the community was laid out. Five houses were currently under construction, including the Stranahans' house, which was cited.⁴⁹ The corporation sold the final lot in 1953.

Carl Max Lindner, Sr. (1895-1973)

Carl Max Lindner, Sr. was born into an extended family of architects. The son of Maximilian Lindner (1863-1918) and Katherine Ebell Ruehrmund (1866-1933), Carl was born in Richmond. His mother was the sister of Carl August Ruehrmund (1855-1927), a German émigré who had studied architecture at the Royal Academy of Architecture in Berlin. Ruehrmund immigrated to the United States in 1881, arriving in Richmond in 1882, at which time he formed a partnership with Albert Lybrock and later with Albert Huntt. One of his most notable designs was for the 1896 Henrico County Courthouse.⁵⁰ Through his marriage to Rosa Heiss, Ruehrmund became associated with the Phillips family, who were "among the city's most active real estate developers." This connection provided Ruehrmund, and later his son, Max Ruehrmund, and nephew, Carl Lindner, with many architectural commissions and opportunities.⁵¹

Lindner trained at the Virginia Mechanics Institute, a local trade school, but gained most of his architectural knowledge through his apprenticeship in his uncle's architectural office. Beginning in 1919, Lindner practiced independently, and from 1921 to 1926, he was in partnership with his cousin Charles Phillips, who generally served as a developer for the firm. The partners executed designs for many of Richmond's notable apartment buildings, such as the Lord Fairfax Apartment Building and the Cecil Apartment Building, as well as over a dozen houses on Monument Avenue, and the 12 residences in Byrd Park Court (VDHR #127-6755, listed in 2016). Through these designs, Lindner proved himself to be fluent in several revival styles, including Colonial, Georgian, Tudor, French, and Mediterranean Revival—all of which were highly popular during the early twentieth century. Lindner also was capable of designs in a more "modern" vein and executed a few of his commercial and apartment house projects in the Art Deco and Stripped Classicism styles. His 1928 design for St. John's United Church of Christ, located at the prominent northeast corner of Stuart Circle on Richmond's Monument Avenue, was completed in collaboration with Bascom Rowlett and is an example of the Neo-Gothic Revival style executed in limestone.

Like Bottomley and other architects of the period, Lindner drew inspiration from existing period precedents to enliven his designs but did not produce exact copies. His buildings are examples of what one historian describes as "literate traditional design," that is, a design knowledgeable of the essential stylistic elements and placing them together to create an aesthetically pleasing and balanced result.⁵² Robert Winthrop, Richmond architect and historian, notes that Lindner was "prolific, talented and imaginative" and was "capable of designing fine buildings in several styles."⁵³ Lindner's work was not strictly single-family residences, but rather encompassed a variety of property types (commercial, multi-family, religious). Perhaps for this reason, he is not as well remembered for his house designs as his contemporaries Bottomley and Lee. Research shows that Lindner's clientele included upper-class patrons, like the Stranahans, who discerned the architect's talents and knew they would receive a well-designed building that was built to the highest standards.⁵⁴

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As an indication of Lindner's status within his profession, it is notable that in 1931, his design for William Clark's house won honorable mention in the Richmond Tournament of Arts and Crafts awards for residential designs. W. Duncan Lee won the top prize in the category for the Ellerson residence; Baskerville & Lambert also received an honorable mention for the Larus house.⁵⁵ Ranking among such colleagues suggests that Lindner's work was well received and respected at the time.

It is Lindner's dexterity within a range of styles that is one of his most enduring legacies. His own home at 4300 Stuart Avenue, completed in 1926, was a Tudor Revival example, which Grace Bailey Lindner, his daughter-in-law, noted was the architect's "favorite" style. In 1928, he designed a Tudor Revival-style house for paper manufacturer J.P. Hummel, known as Hill Crest by the James (5103 Cary Street Road). In 1929, he provided tobacco executive Edward Victor Williams and his wife Kate with the stately Georgian Revival-style design for Kenwyn, located in the Paxton neighborhood (NRHP-listed, DHR #127-7147).

The architect's name begins to appear on designs for Windsor Farms houses in the 1930s. In 1936, the same year that Clovelly was completed, Lindner completed the two-and-a-half-story, Colonial Revival-style house at 3810 Dover Road in Windsor Farms. Lindner is also named as the architect for the re-constructed house at 201 Virginia Avenue, known as "Fair Oaks," located in the Westmoreland Place community on the west side of Windsor Farms. The house reportedly was built in the late eighteenth century in Hanover County and in 1938 was moved to its current location. Lindner likely provided designs for additions or alterations to existing rooms with Muhleman and Kayhoe, Inc., as the builders. Lindner also designed and built the one-and-a-half-story, Colonial Revival cottage at 3901 Exeter Road in 1949, and moved there in 1950.

Eight sheets of blueprint drawings of Lindner's designs for Clovelly have been located, including a site plan, and have been used to analyze the extant building. The drawings, which indicate that the building underwent only minor refinements in the final execution, contain numerous details for interior cornices, stair details, and fireplace details with notes stating that full-sized details would be provided. Grace Lindner recalls that her father-in-law greatly enjoyed drawing trim details for his designs. Such details account for the accuracy and elegance found throughout Lindner's work in different architectural styles. No other drawings or specifications have been located.⁵⁷

Charles Freeman Gillette (1886-1969)

To enhance the highly detailed architectural design of the house, Lindner teamed with the celebrated landscape architect Charles F. Gillette. Gillette must have seemed omnipresent in Windsor Farms from the 1920s through the 1950s. His work there included gardens for Agecroft Hall and Virginia House, the two focal estates in the community, and for notable properties by Bottomley, Lee, and others, including Lindner. If William Lawrence Bottomley's name was synonymous with Colonial Revival architecture in Virginia, then Gillette's name too was synonymous with the Colonial Revival style landscapes that accompanied these buildings. As Meade Palmer, FASLA, who worked in Gillette's office upon graduating from Cornell University, noted, Gillette's designs set a high standard of quality and he "established a regional style

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identified by an understated classicism and attention to detail.... He integrated architecture and the landscape in a manner that present day landscape architects profess but seldom achieve."58

Drawings for the Clovelly gardens from 1936 and his subsequent correspondence with Mrs. Stranahan, her trustees, and family show that Gillette not only designed the landscape for the house, but later supervised the maintenance and care of the grounds, along with yard and maintenance man G.W. Huber, when the owner was away.⁵⁹ In the winter of 1943, Gillette wrote to Mrs. Stranahan to update her on the condition of the property following a local storm:

You have probably heard of the heavy ice storm in Richmond and thru part of Virginia and are wondering what damage has been done at Clovelly. Well you must be paying your preacher pretty well, for while hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage has been done all around you and scarcely a tree left unscathed, with many, many entirely ruined, you have hardly had a scratch. Two small limbs on the magnolias, and one or two tiny limbs on a small elm are all I could find.⁶⁰

Gillette's correspondence during the 1940s conveyed business concerns to the owner and her secretary, but also described the seasonal beauty of the property and Gillette's personal delight in it. In more than one letter, the designer noted that "Clovelly looks lovely now" and expressed his regret that Mrs. Stranahan could not see the foliage that was then in bloom. In November 1942, Gillette began setting the rose fence lining the western curved terrace and provided details in his letters on its construction, specimens to be planted, and continued growth. In 1944, perhaps indicating a lengthy absence by Mrs. Stranahan, Gillette closed his report with a winsome note: "It would be nice if you could come for a while to Clovelly. The place looks lonesome."

Out of Clovelly's wooded, sloping terrain, Gillette created a grassy terrace that overlooked the western view to the James River. On his June 1936 drawings, Gillette did not depict a curving brick wall at the edge of the terrace, but rather allowed the landscape to naturally cascade down. The wall, however, does appear to be an original element and shares the same brick and details of the other garden walls. When Clovelly Road was extended to the south in the late twentieth century, a secondary brick retaining wall was built below the terrace level along the roadside.

Construction of the house resulted in some grading so that the house is raised above the road level and provides a dramatic view of the east elevation from the forecourt entrance. In April 1936, he proposed a relatively formal garden on the north side of the residence that included concentric elliptical paths and planting beds with no water feature. This garden gave way in June 1936 to a more picturesque garden design with curving pathways and centrally located pond and fountain, a design Gillette labeled a "Naturalistic Garden." Hallmarks of the designer's style can be seen in his selected plant material, including boxwoods, azaleas, and magnolia trees, as well as his use of brick hardscapes and decorative cast stone ornaments.⁶¹

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Figure 11. Garden gate entrance, brick wall and walkway at Clovelly.

Integrity

Clovelly retains a very high level of integrity with regard to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. No significant alterations have occurred to diminish the building's exterior or interior historical appearance or character. The footprint of the house has been modified only minimally with the addition of a conservatory on the southwest corner. Interior alterations have not affected the exterior elevations, primary public spaces, or the private spaces in a significant way. On the first floor, walls between the kitchen, pantry, and servants' dining space were removed to create one large kitchen, but resulted in no change to the footprint of the service wing. Likewise, the alterations to the master bedroom retained the location of the original bath between the two chambers and retained the central corridor arrangement. The current owners have maintained the house and gardens in an excellent condition.

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Clovelly	
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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Other State agency			
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	Virginia Department	of Historic Resources, R	ichmond, VA;
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Historic Resources Survey	y Number (if assigne	d): <u>DHR #127-7767</u>	
10. Geographical Data			
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3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property encompasses the parcels identified as W0220350014 (1.4 acres), known as Lot 14, Block 54 of the Windsor Farms Subdivision, and W0220350015 (.4 acres), known as Part of Lot 15, Block 54 of the Windsor Farms Subdivision. The true and correct

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historic boundary is depicted on the attached City of Richmond, Virginia, tax parcel map, as obtained from the Office of the Real Estate Assessor and the City's GIS website.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property corresponds to the historic house and garden site historically associated with Clovelly. The property's historic setting and all known associated historic resources have been included within the historic boundary.

11. Form Prepared By					
name/title: Debra A. McClane Architectural Historian					
organization:street & number: _4711 Devonshire Road					
city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23225	_				
e-mail: <u>dmcclane1@verizon.net</u>					
telephone: <u>804/233-3890</u>					
date: September 16, 2021					

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Clovelly City or Vicinity: Richmond

Clovelly

Name of Property

City of Richmond, VA
County and State

County: N/A State: VA Photographer: Debra A. McClane

Date Photographed: February, April, September 2021

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_01 East elevation, looking southwest
Photo 2 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_02 East elevation, looking west
Photo 3 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_03 East elevation, looking northwest
Photo 4 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_04 East entrance, detail
Photo 5 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_05 West elevation, looking east
Photo 6 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_06 West entrance, detail
Photo 7 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_07 North wing, looking west
Photo 8 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_08 North wing, looking east
Photo 9 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_09 South wing, looking north
Photo 10 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_10 West side terrace, looking west towards river
Photo 11 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_11 View through forecourt looking north
Photo 12 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_12 Garden entrance, looking west
Photo	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_13

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13 of 25	Azalea garden, looking south	
Photo 14 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_14 Water feature in azalea garden	
Photo 15 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_15 Stair hall, looking southwest	
Photo 16 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_16 Stair hall, looking northwest	
Photo 17 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_17 Drawing room, looking northwest	
Photo 18 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_18 Sun room, looking north	
Photo 19 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_19 Doorway from drawing room to dining room with kitchen beyond,	looking south
Photo 20 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_20 Dining room, looking southwest	
Photo 21 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_21 West door (interior), looking west	
Photo 22 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_22 Bedroom corridor, second floor, looking south	
Photo 23 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_23 East side bedroom, second floor, looking northeast	
Photo 24 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_24 Bedroom, second floor, north end wing, looking north	
Photo 25 of 25	VA_CityofRichmond_Clovelly_25 Bedroom, second floor, south end wing, looking south	

Figures

1. West entrance door surround as presented on Lindner drawings (August 1935) (left) and as built (right). Carl M. Lindner, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico CO,VA. Photograph by author.

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- 2. Wrought iron bellpull at left, opening surround from stair hall to dining room at right. By author.
- 3. Dining room mantelpiece. By author.
- 4. View from kitchen through doors into conservatory. By author.
- 5. Early spring view of azalea garden looking south. By author.
- 6. Wintertime photograph of the western terrace with the James River in view. By author.
- 7. View from outside conservatory looking east with original house wall visible in background. By author.
- 8. East elevation detail showing brickwork. By author.
- 9. Detail of scrolled stair stringers. By author.
- 10. Call button located in drawing room door jamb. By author.
- 11. Garden gate entrance, brick wall and walkway at Clovelly. By author.

Historical Images

- 1. Frank D. Stranahan (left) and Robert A. Stranahan (right), brothers and co-founders of Champion Spark Plug Company. Source: Stranahan Foundation.
- 2. Marie Celeste Martin in her role as "San Toy," ca.1900, which won her distinction at Daly's Theatre in New York. Source: Wikidata.
- 3. Frank D. Stranahan Home, Perrysburg, Ohio, 1935, Ray Bossert, photographer. Source: Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Local History and Genealogy, Toledo, OH.
- 4. Sketches of the Frank D. Stranahan House, Perrysburg, Ohio. Source: Courtesy of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site.
- 5. View of the Maumee River from the Stranahan's estate, Wamston, in Perrysburg, Ohio, 1925. Source: Courtesy of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site. Accessed on Flickr, Album: Job #7401, Frank Stranahan, Toledo, OH (Photos) Item No.7401-01-ph001 (by E. C. W. Aug 1925).
- 6. Wilton, Richmond, Virginia. Source: Wilton, Media File, #127-0141, Archives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.
- 7. Windsor Farms Plat. Copy from David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, Stanford University.
- 8. Carl M. Lindner, East Elevation, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.
- 9. Lindner, West Elevation.
- 10. Lindner, South Elevation.
- 11. Lindner, North Elevation.
- 12. Lindner, First Floor Plan.
- 13. Lindner, Second Floor Plan.
- 14. Lindner, Foundation and Basement Plan.
- 15. Lindner, Situation Plan.
- 16. Charles F. Gillette, General Grading Plan for Estate of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Richmond, VA, April 27, 1936. Copy located in Charles F. Gillette, Papers, ca.1880-1985. Accession 34472, Business records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.
- 17. Charles F. Gillette, General Grading Plan for Estate of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Richmond, VA, June 11, 1936. Copy located in Charles F. Gillette, Papers, ca.1880-1985. Accession 34472, Business records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 - 60-100 hours

Tier 2 - 120 hours

Tier 3 - 230 hours

Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

¹ The house was originally numbered 339. The date of the change to 337 is not known.

- ² According to the City of Richmond's real estate records, three houses were built on the southwest side of Clovelly Road: 312 Clovelly Road (1929), 316 Clovelly Road (1928), and 328 Clovelly Road (1932) and the house at 329 Clovelly Road was completed in 1936.
- ³ The Stranahans owned Lots 15, 16, and 17 of Block 53 (southwest side of Clovelly Road) and Lots 13, 14, and 15 of Block 54 (northeast side of Clovelly Road) of the 1926 Windsor Farms subdivision.
- ⁴ The current owners engaged Oak Leaf Conservatories in York, England, to design and construct the conservatory. The owners traveled to England to inspect the fabricated members prior to its delivery and construction at Clovelly.
- ⁵ The placement of the fireplace on the long wall of the drawing room recalls that used by Bottomley in his design of the drawing room at Nordley (1923), 4203 Sulgrave Road. See William B. O'Neal and Christopher Weeks, *The Work of William Lawrence Bottomley in Richmond* (Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1985), 120-121.
- ⁶ Thomas and Elizabeth Allen, Personal Communication, February 2, 2021.
- Oracles F. Gillette, "Property of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico County, Virginia, Revised General Grading Plan & Construction Layout, Plan 519-11," June 11, 1936. Located in the Charles F. Gillette Papers ca. 1880-1985, Library of Virginia, Client Control #790.
- 8 Doug Childers, "Carl Lindner Sr.: 'We're still discovering his work'," Richmond Times-Dispatch, February 16, 2019.
- ⁹ Herbert Claiborne, of Claiborne & Taylor, was another prominent contractor and builder in Richmond at the time Clovelly was constructed and is cited as the builder for several of the early houses in Windsor Farms. At the time Clovelly was built, Claiborne was engaged with the reconstruction of Wilton and may not have been available.
- Lindner used a similar call system in his design for Reveille (DHR #008-5036). Wendy Danielle Madill, "Noiseless, Automatic Service: The History of Domestic Servant Call Bell Systems in Charleston, South Carolina, 1740-1900." Graduate School of Clemson University and College of Charleston, 2013. This document provides a good history on the historical use, installation, and technological changes in call bell systems up to the twentieth century and the social implications of the systems in aristocratic homes.
- ¹¹ Stranahan Foundation, "History and Purpose," 2021. Accessed online at https://www.stranahanfoundation.org/about-us/history-purpose/.
- ¹² Don Radebaugh, "The story of the Stranahans, Champion Spark Plug and the preservation of a world class park." History Mystery Man Website, May 15, 2017. Accessed online at https://historymysteryman.com/the-story-of-the-stranahans-champion-spark-plug-and-the-preservation-of-wildwood/.
- ¹³ Social news item, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, April 8, 1936:12. This item notes that Mrs. Stranahan and Mrs. Frank Duke traveled together, and other documents indicate that they were close friends. Mrs. Duke's husband was a former superintendent at Richmond's Virginia Mechanics Institute (where Carl Lindner studied) and was chief accountant at the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad. Robert Winthrop, "Architects of Richmond: Bascom J. Rowlett," Architecture Richmond, 2010. Accessed online at: https://architecturerichmond.com/2012/12/10/architects-of-richmond-bascom-i-rowlett/.

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Mrs. Stranahan also was friends with Mrs. John Kerr Branch, whose husband (who died in 1930) had been president of the Merchants National Bank. After her husband's death, Mrs. Branch continued to travel internationally while maintaining her Tudor Revival-style home on Monument Avenue, which was designed by John Russell Pope, and a home in her native New York. "The Branch Family," The Branch Museum of Art and Architecture. Accessed online at: https://branchmuseum.org/branch-family-history/.

- ¹⁴ City directories list Robert Selden Ellyson living at 1644 W. Grace Street in 1909, at 2323 W. Grace Street in 1915, and on N. Boulevard during the 1920s. In 1930, he and his wife, Ida, are listed at 2021 Monument Avenue. Robert Selden Ellyson (1852-1939) is buried in Hollywood Cemetery.
- ¹⁵ Richard Guy Wilson states that Bottomley was the "acknowledged master" of the Virginia country house form that, while recalling Virginia's past, also accommodated modern requirements. *The Colonial Revival House*, 148. Wilson also notes that Bottomley's name is "virtually synonymous with Colonial Revival architecture in Virginia" and that "he was simply the most successful in producing strongly evocative houses that recalled Virginia's past" Charles E. Brownell, Calder Loth, William M.S. Rasmussen, and Richard Guy Wilson, *Making of Virginia Architecture* (Richmond, VA: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 2001), 370. See also Davyd Foard Hood, "William Lawrence Bottomley in Virginia: The 'Neo-Georgian' Houses in Richmond," (master's thesis, University of Virginia, 1975), 5-10. Hood details Bottomley's role in popularizing the Georgian Revival style in Virginia. The study also describes the evolution of the style from the Colonial Revival, noting that the Georgian Revival was a more "formal, academic and Palladian phase."
- ¹⁶ In 1929, Lindner completed the sizable "Kenwyn" for Edward Victor Williams at 6 Ampthill Road. The Georgian Revival style house. In 1931, Lindner designed the stately two-story, three-bay-wide Georgian townhome at 1536 Park Avenue, a more modest sized example of the architect's design capabilities.
- ¹⁷ "Windsor Farms (#127-0390)," Virginia Department of Historic Resources Architectural Survey Form, 1985. Copy on file at Archives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.
- ¹⁸ In 1911, a lawsuit was filed by Albert Champion and others against the Champion Spark Plug Company over the Champion name. The case was later settled in the 1920s in Champion Spark Plug's favor. Richard Street, "Albert Champion: The Boston Years," 2006. Spark Plug Entrepreneurs of the Early Twentieth Century website, accessed online at: http://www.rstreet.us/sparkplugs/AC/Champion_boston.htm. Richard Street "Champion Spark Plug: The First 20 Years" 2010. Spark Plug Entrepreneurs of the Early Twentieth Century website, accessed online at: http://www.rstreet.us/sparkplugs/CSPC/Champion_X.htm.
- ¹⁹ In 1911, Ford bought 200,000 spark plugs from Champion and by 1919, Ford was purchasing 3,500,000 from Champion. Street, 2010. Barbara Floyd, ed. "Wholly Toledo: The Business and Industry that Shaped the City." Catalog for an Exhibition at the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, University Libraries, The University of Toledo, November 17, 2010-August 12, 2011:20-21. Available online at https://toledosattic.org/exhibits/virtual-exhibitions/whollytoledo.
- ²⁰ "Frank D. Stranahan Dies at 89; Champion Spark Plug Founder," Obituary, *New York Times*, November 12, 1965:47. Frank's son Duane became a vice-president at Champion, and Duane's sons Duane, Jr., and Stephen also served on the company's board. Robert A. Stranahan died in 1962. His son, Robert, Jr., served as chairman of the company. Robert's son, Frank, also worked at the company, but was best known as a top amateur golfer winning 50 amateur tournaments in the 1940s and 1950s and six PGA Tour events.
- In 1989, Cooper Industries, Inc., of Houston, acquired the Champion Spark Plug Company for \$800 million. At the time, Champion was the largest manufacturer of spark plugs in the world. "Champion Sets Cooper Deal," *New York Times*, February 22, 1989:79. In 1991, Cooper closed the last of Champion's Toledo manufacturing plants. Floyd 2011:21, 55.
- ²¹ Lewis C. Strang, *Famous Prima Donnas* (Boston: L.C. Page & Company, 1900), 156-171. Accessed online at Project Gutenberg, https://www.gutenberg.org/files/36215/36215-h/36215-h.htm#Page 156.
- ²² Alfred Klauber, "Stray Bits from Stageland," *New York Times*, June 8, 1902:49; "Maire Celeste A Bride," *Boston Post*, June 3, 1902:8.
- ²³ City of Cleveland Landmarks Commission, "Cleveland Architects Database." No date. Accessed online at https://planning.clevelandohio.gov/landmark/arch/pdf/CLC architects.pdf.
- ²⁴ C. Robert Boyd, *Perrysburg Historic Architecture* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2005), 121-122.
- ²⁵ Beginning in the 1910s, Toledo industrialists moved to Perrysburg and built large riverside mansions. Frank's brother, Robert, however, remained in Toledo where he owned a 750-acre estate. Robert's mansion, built in 1937 and now owned by the city and operated as the Wildwood Manor Preserve, was a rambling 30,000-square foot

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Colonial Revival house designed by Mills, Bellman & Nordhoff of Toledo with gardens by New York landscape gardener and designer Ellen Biddle Shipman. Metroparks Toledo, "Ellen Biddle Shipman; The Beginnings of a Legacy," September 25, 2020. Accessed online at https://metroparkstoledo.com/discover/blog/posts/ellen-biddle-shipman-the-beginnings-of-a-legacy/. Mills, Bellman & Nordhoff also designed the Toledo office building (the Willys-Overland Building) where Champion had its early offices.

The original address for Frank and Marie Celeste Stranahan's Perrysburg house was 29917 East River Road but has since been changed to 30209 Morningside Drive. The house stands at the north end of the road about .25-mile from the main highway of East River Road (S.R. 65). In addition to the dwelling, Schneider's design also included the stylistically similar gate house that stands at the main road. The gate house, now a private residence, contained an eight-car garage and living quarters for the estate manager. In the late 1980s, the Stranahan estate subdivided as the "Morningside" development. The house is included in the NRHP-listed East River Road Historic District.

- Olmsted Associates, Olmsted Associates Records: Job Files, -1971; Files; 7401; Stranahan, Frank D.; [Perrysburg] Toledo, Ohio; 1927, Oct. 1927. Manuscript/Mixed Material. Accessed online at https://www.loc.gov/item/mss5257105045/. The firm's files contain correspondence with Frank D. Stranahan through December 1928 and the completion of the Perrysburg project. At the same time, Olmsted Brothers designed gardens for Robert A. Stranahan's estate in Westport, Connecticut (Job #7845).
- ²⁷ Henrico County Deed Book (HCDB) 261A:145-147; HCDB 262A:449-453.
- ²⁸ Today, Windsor Farms remains an predominantly white, upper-class neighborhood. See https://statisticalatlas.com/neighborhood/Virginia/Richmond/Windsor-Farms/Race-and-Ethnicity. In 2001, a newspaper article reported that more than half of Richmond's homes then assessed at \$1 million or more were in the Windsor Farms area. Gary Robertson, "Living in the Comfort Zone," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, July 2, 2001:A1, A7.
- ²⁹ The list of "maintenance expenses" included "lighting, improving, and maintaining the streets, sidewalks, bridle paths, parks, and parkways, including all grass and planted areas, and improving and maintaining the sewers and water lines, within the boundaries of said streets, sidewalks, and parks; for collecting and disposing of garbage, ashes rubbish, and the like; for employing policemen and watchmen; and for fire protection..."
- ³⁰ HCDB 262A:449-450 and HCDB 264B:78
- 31 "Clovelly to be Opened for Winter," Richmond Times-Dispatch, October 19, 1937:10; "Personal Intelligence," Richmond Times-Dispatch, December 5, 1937:6; Richmond Times-Dispatch, May 17, 1939:10; "Mrs. Stranahan Returns," Richmond Times-Dispatch, October 10, 1939:14; "Mrs. Stranahan Will Return to Toledo, Ohio This Month," Richmond Times-Dispatch, November 7, 1939:14; "Mrs. Stranahan Will Arrive Here Monday, She Will Open Her Home in Windsor Farms," Richmond Times-Dispatch, April 17, 1942:20; Social item, Richmond Times-Dispatch, June 2, 1942:12.
- ³² "Pilgrimage of All Saints Guild Headed by Mrs. John Green Hayes," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, April 3, 1938:4.
- ³³ "Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Toledo Civic Leader," Obituary, New York Times, December 18, 1954:15.
- ³⁴ Frank D. Stranahan died in 1965 at his home in Perrysburg, Ohio.
- ³⁵ Letter from Louis G. Korn, Assistant Secretary, The Toledo Trust Company, Toledo, Ohio, to Charles F. Gillette, Richmond, Virginia. March 14, 1956. Located in the Charles F. Gillette Papers *ca.* 1880-1985, Library of Virginia, Client Control #790, Folder "Correspondence-Stranahan, Mrs. F.D., 1950-1956."
- ³⁶ Letter from Charles F. Gillette, Richmond, Virginia, to The Toledo Trust Company, March 17, 1956. RE: Mrs. Stranahan property "Clovelly" Att: Mr. L.G. Korn. Located in the Charles F. Gillette Papers *ca.* 1880-1985, Library of Virginia, Client Control #790, Folder "Correspondence-Stranahan, Mrs. F.D., 1950-1956."
- ³⁷ City of Richmond Deed Book (RDB) 573A:604; RDB 578B:621; City of Richmond Chancery 595D:51, No. 5921. The latter cause reissued the deed from the Stranahans to the Bradleys (Lafayette Corporation) because the charter of the corporation had been revoked in 1948 and was no longer viable.
- ³⁸ RDB 699A:248.
- ³⁹ RDB 811:526-531. Rebecca Allen died in 2004. In 2007, a Deed of Gift between Mr. Allen and his wife, Elizabeth, was recorded, Richmond Land Record 070002336 (January 22, 2007).
- Much of the Windsor Farms history is taken from Mary Anne Caton's essay "Virginia Encounters: John Nolen and The English Revival in Windsor Farms, Richmond, VA" [1994]. Libby Howlett, Curator of Collections, Agecroft Hall & Gardens, kindly provided a copy of the manuscript to the author.
- ⁴¹ Windsor Farms is John Nolen's only Virginia suburb. He completed housing and city plans for Roanoke, Reedville, Clinchfield, and Charlottesville.

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- ⁴² Mary Newton Standard, "Windsor Farms, Hauntingly Reminiscent of Old England" (Richmond, VA: Windsor Farms, Inc., 1926).
- ⁴³ The name "Clovelly" is presumed to refer to the picturesque fishing village in North Devon on England's southwestern shore. The entire settlement is privately owned. Buildings cascade down the terraced cliffside to the ancient fishing harbor. Donkeys, rather than automobiles, are the local mode of transportation. "Clovelly" Visit North Devon & Exmore website. Accessed online at https://www.visitdevon.co.uk/northdevon/things-to-do/clovelly-p2286053.
- ⁴⁴ Stanard 11; Marcus Binney, "An English Garden Suburb on the James, Windsor Farms, Richmond, Virginia," Country Life April 4, 1985:912-914.
- ⁴⁵ Letter from Charles F. Gillette to Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, August 28, 1942. Located in the Charles F. Gillette Papers ca. 1880-1985, Library of Virginia, Client Control #790, Folder "Correspondence-Stranahan, Mrs. F.D., 1941-45."
- ⁴⁶ Caton 7.
- ⁴⁷ As Caton notes, "Williams shared with many of his contemporaries a concern for the erosion of white, Anglo-Saxon culture in the face of continued immigration, labor unrest, and changing politics. By creating an English suburb a mile and a half from the Country Club of Virginia and other established elite institutions, and four miles from downtown, Williams continued the geographic isolation of the upper and middle classes that began in Richmond and other cities in the 1890s." Caton 1994:8-9. The racial segregation of the neighborhood is alluded to in Stanard's sales booklet (17), which states "Homes at Windsor Farms are surrounded with every protection both from the standpoint of livability and the assurance of value."
- ⁴⁸ Thomas Beverly Campbell, ed., *The Black Swan: the Magazine of Virginia* (Richmond, VA: Windsor Farms, Inc.), Volumes 1-6 (Dec 1926-Jan 1931). Copies in the collection of the Library of Virginia, Richmond.
- ⁴⁹ "48 Residences Constructed at Windsor Farms," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, November 3, 1935:7. As noted in Binney 1985:913, the 1920s-1930s reconstruction of Colonial Williamsburg created a huge regional demand for the "colonial" styles.
- Fichard Guy Wilson, ed., et als. Buildings of Virginia: Tidewater and Piedmont (New York: Oxford University Press, 2002), 195-195. See also Robert P. Winthrop, "Richmond Architects: Carl Ruehrmund," 2013. Architecture Richmond website. Accessed online at https://architecturerichmond.com/2013/10/14/architects-of-richmond-carl-ruehrmund/.
- John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton. *The Virginia Architects*, 1835–1955 (Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1997), 392-393; Sarah Shields Driggs, Richard Guy Wilson, and Robert P. Winthrop, *Richmond's Monument Avenue* (Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 2001), 221, 224.
- ⁵² Calder Loth, Foreword in Susan Hume Frazier, *The Architecture of William Lawrence Bottomley* (New York: Acanthus Press, 2007), 14-15.
- ⁵³ Robert C. Winthrop, "Carl Lindner," Accessed online at www.architecturerichmond.com, 2013.
- ⁵⁴ See discussion of Lindner's diverse body of work in Childers, 2019.
- 55 "Prizes are Awarded in Three Displays of Art Tournament," Richmond Times-Dispatch, April 12, 1931:6.
- ⁵⁶ Brandon Shuleeta, "The Homes Issue: 201 Virginia Avenue," Style Weekly, February 5, 2019.
- ⁵⁷ Carl M. Lindner, "Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico County," August 1935 (8 sheets of blueprints). Located in the Robert W. Stewart Collection, Virginia Commonwealth University Special Collections, M242, Drawer 57.
- ⁵⁸ Meade Palmer, Foreword in George C. Longest, *Genius in the Garden: Charles F. Gillette & Landscape Architecture in Virginia* (Richmond, VA: Virginia State Library and Archives, 1992), ix.
- ⁵⁹ Longest notes that Gillette's acceptance of "maintenance supervision work" was a necessity due to the shortage of major landscaping contracts following the Great Depression and the onset of World War II. Longest, 150.
- 60 Letter from Charles F. Gillette to Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, February 4, 1943. Located in the Charles F. Gillette Papers ca. 1880-1985, Library of Virginia, Client Control #790, Folder "Correspondence-Stranahan, Mrs. F.D., 1941-45." Gillette notes that his property was devastated, suffering the loss of a live oak tree and two huge elms. He also mentions the difficulty in travel at the time, possibly a reference to wartime restrictions.
- ⁶¹ Early photographs of Windsor Farms show that much of the tree cover on the farm was removed for the establishment of Nolen's plan. Numerous street trees were planted as part of the development, which have matured and presently give the neighborhood its shady character. The Clovelly property does not appear in

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Name of Property	County and State	

photographs reviewed for this nomination, but Gillette's drawings seem to indicate that certain specimen trees on the property were to be retained. Charles F. Gillette, "Detail Plan for Formal Garden for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Richmond, Virginia (sic), Plan 519-6," April 22, 1936, "General Grading Plan for Estate of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Richmond, VA (sic)," Plan 519-7, April 22, 1936," "Property of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico County, VA, Revised General Grading Plan & Construction Layout, Plan 519-11," June 11, 1936, and "Detail Layout-Brick Walls and Paving for Property of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico, VA, Plan 519-12" June 17, 1936. Located in the Charles F. Gillette Papers *ca.* 1880-1985, Library of Virginia, Client Control #790. Copies of the April 1936 garden plans also are in possession of the current owners.

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1. Frank D. Stranahan (left) and Robert A. Stranahan (right), brothers and co-founders of Champion Spark Plug Company. Source: Stranahan Foundation, https://www.stranahanfoundation.org/about-us/history-purpose//



2. Marie Celeste Martin in her role as "San Toy," ca.1900, which won her distinction at Daly's Theatre in New York. Source: Wikidata, Image: "Q100878050." https://www.wikidata.org/w/index.php?title=Q100878050&oldid=1474395770.

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3. Frank D. Stranahan Home, Perrysburg, Ohio, 1935, Ray Bossert, photographer. Source: Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Local History and Genealogy, https://ohiomemory.org/digital/iiif/p16007coll33/186413/full/full/0/default.jpg

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4. Sketches of the Frank D. Stranahan House, Perrysburg, Ohio. The top image is a rendering of the house's land side (south) by architect Charles S. Schneider. The bottom image of the house is by Olmsted Brothers showing the river side of the house, embellished with gardens and landscape. The setting is notable for its similarities to the setting of Clovelly in Virginia.

Source: Courtesy of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site. Accessed on Flickr, Album: Job #7401, Frank Stranahan, Toledo, OH (Plans) Item Nos. 07401-12-sh1 and 07401-z1-sh2. https://www.flickr.com/photos/olmsted_archives/30302432216/in/album-72157671735036353/

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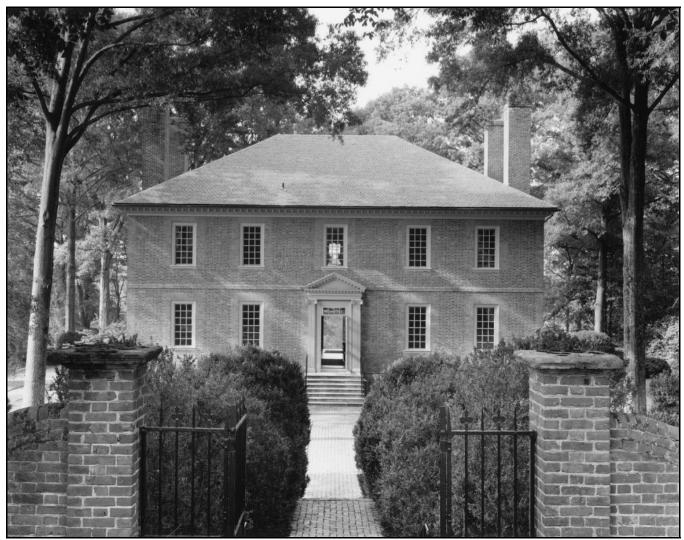
5. A 1925 view of the Maumee River from the Stranahans' estate, Wamston, in Perrysburg, Ohio. The view is similar to the view of the James River from Clovelly's western terrace.

Source: Courtesy of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site. Accessed on Flickr, Album: Job #7401, Frank Stranahan, Toledo, OH (Photos) Item No.7401-01-ph001 (by E. C. W. Aug 1925.) https://www.flickr.com/photos/olmsted archives/14857180897/in/photolist-oCSWgk

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6. Wilton (1750-1753), formerly located in Henrico County and moved to Richmond, Virginia, by the Colonial Dames of America in 1933, appears a likely source of inspiration for the design and details of Clovelly. Source: Wilton, Media File, #127-0141, Archives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

NPS Form 10-900-a (Rev. 8/2002) OMB No. 1024-0018

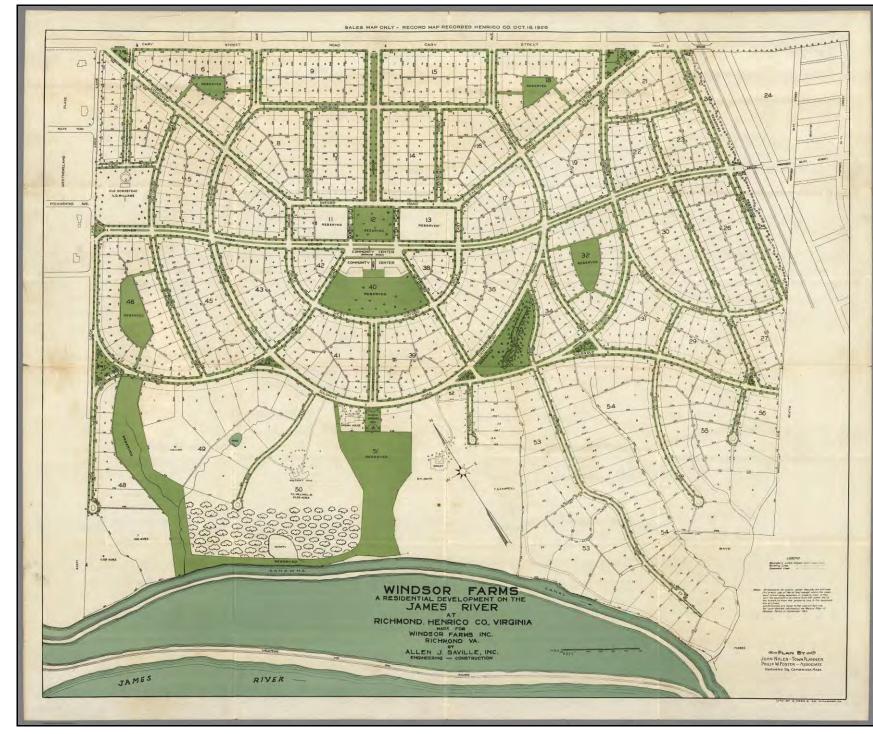
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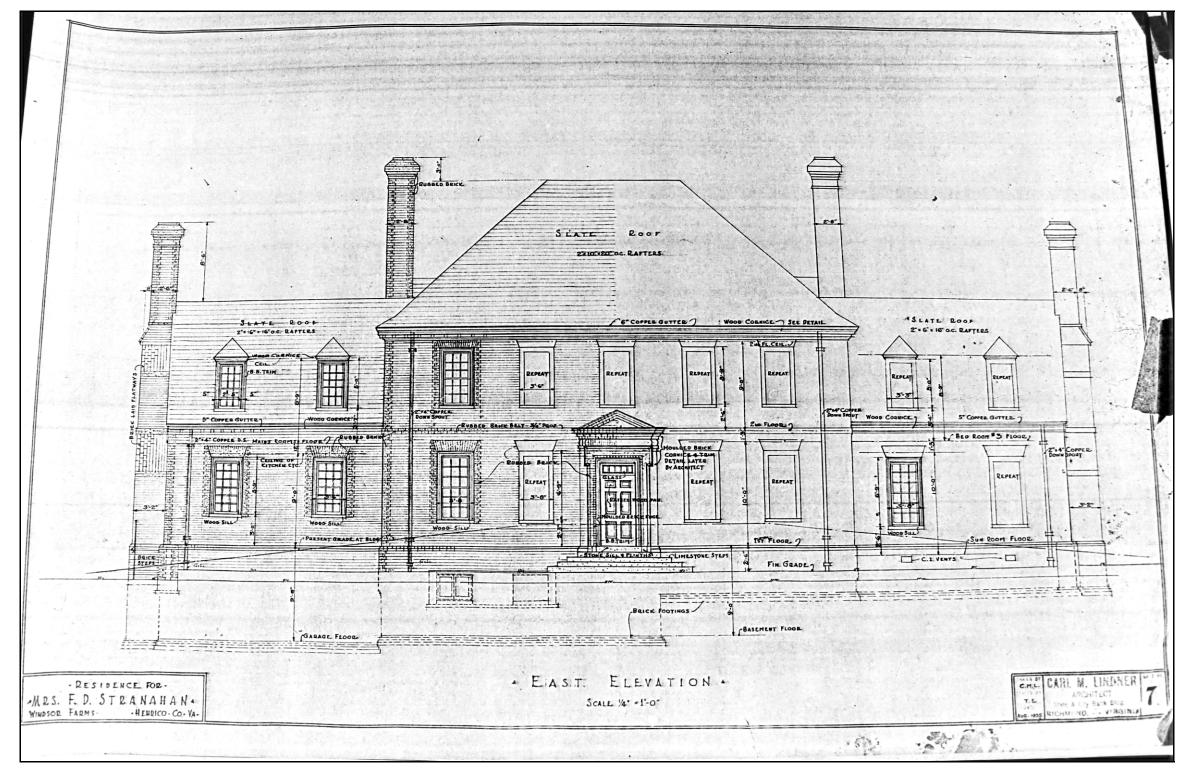
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9. Carl M. Lindner, West Elevation, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.

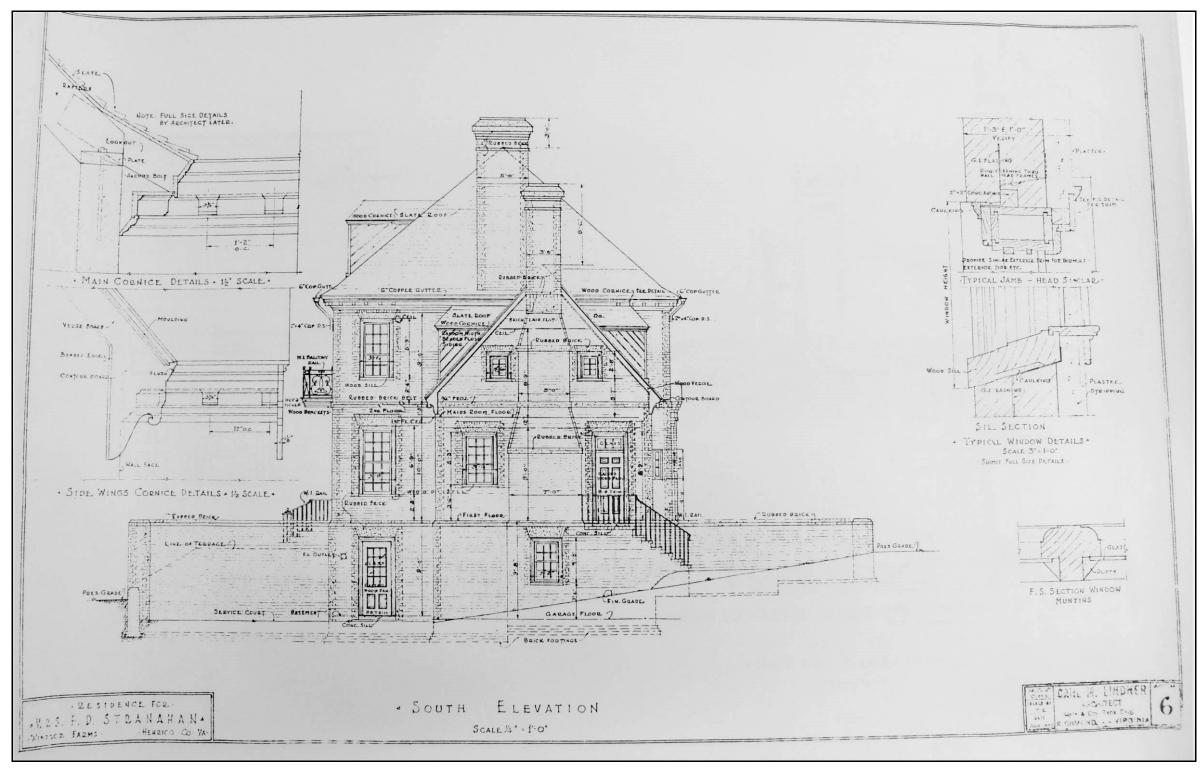
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10. Carl M. Lindner, South Elevation, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.

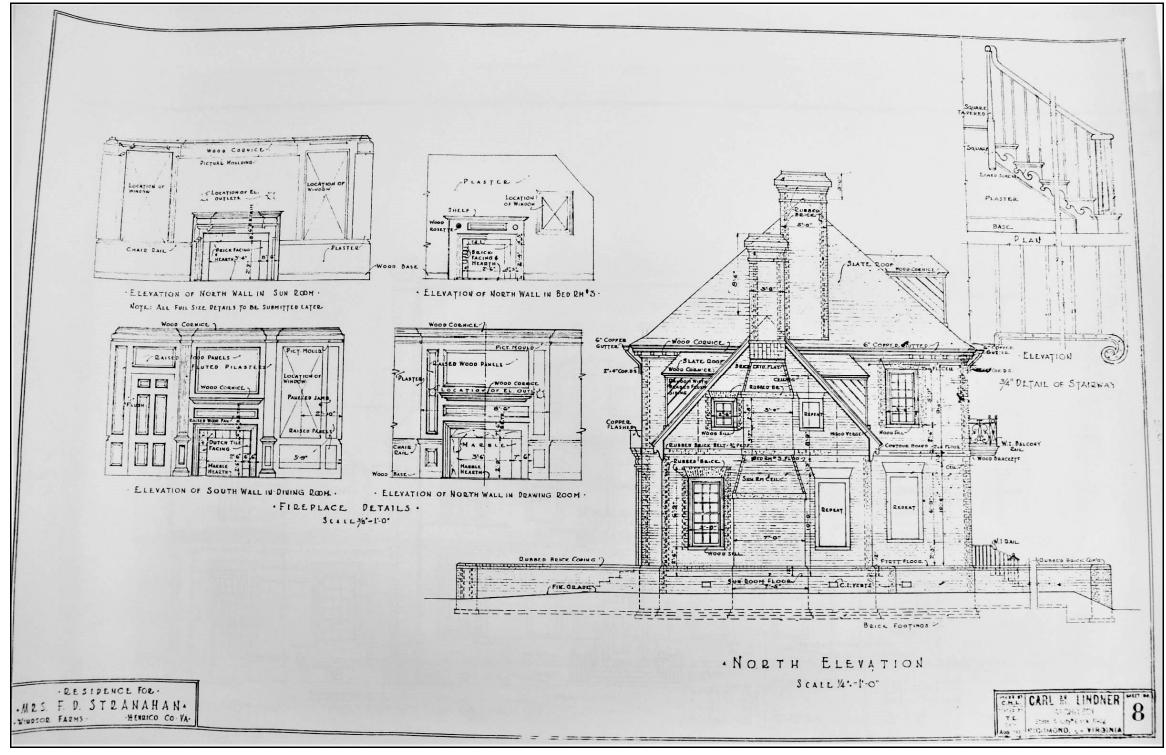
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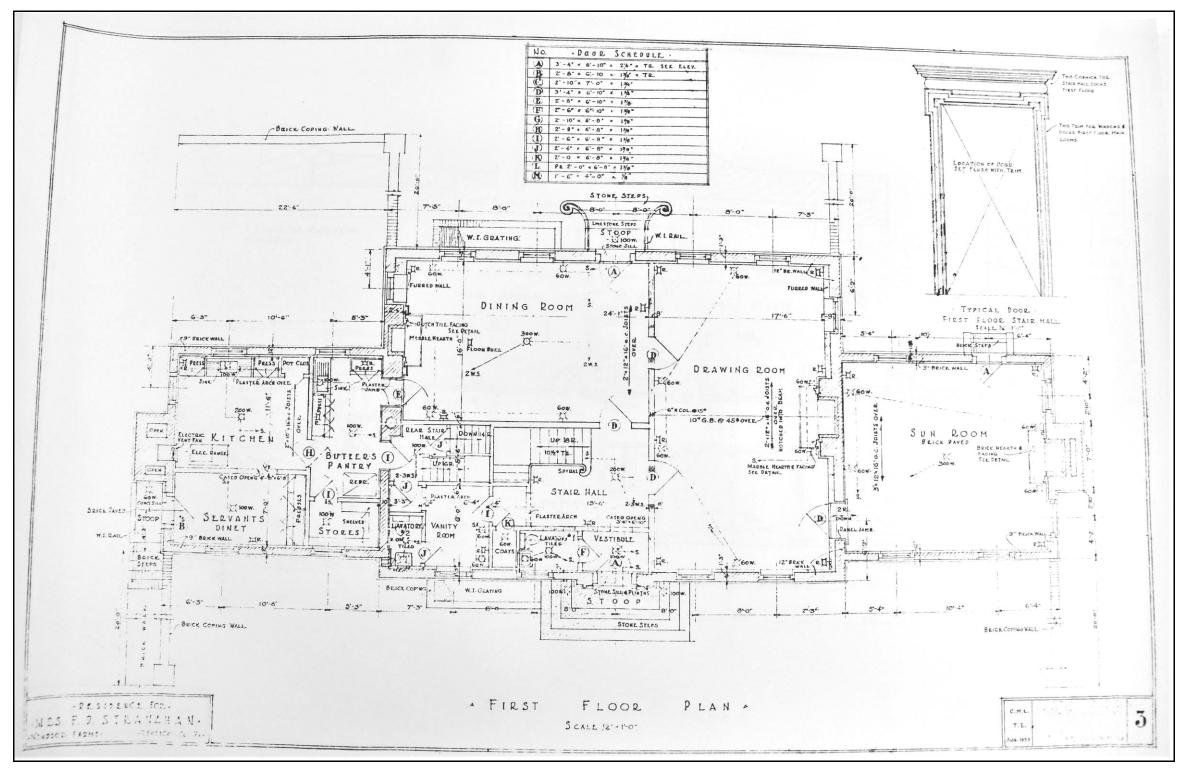


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12. Carl M. Lindner, First Floor Plan, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.

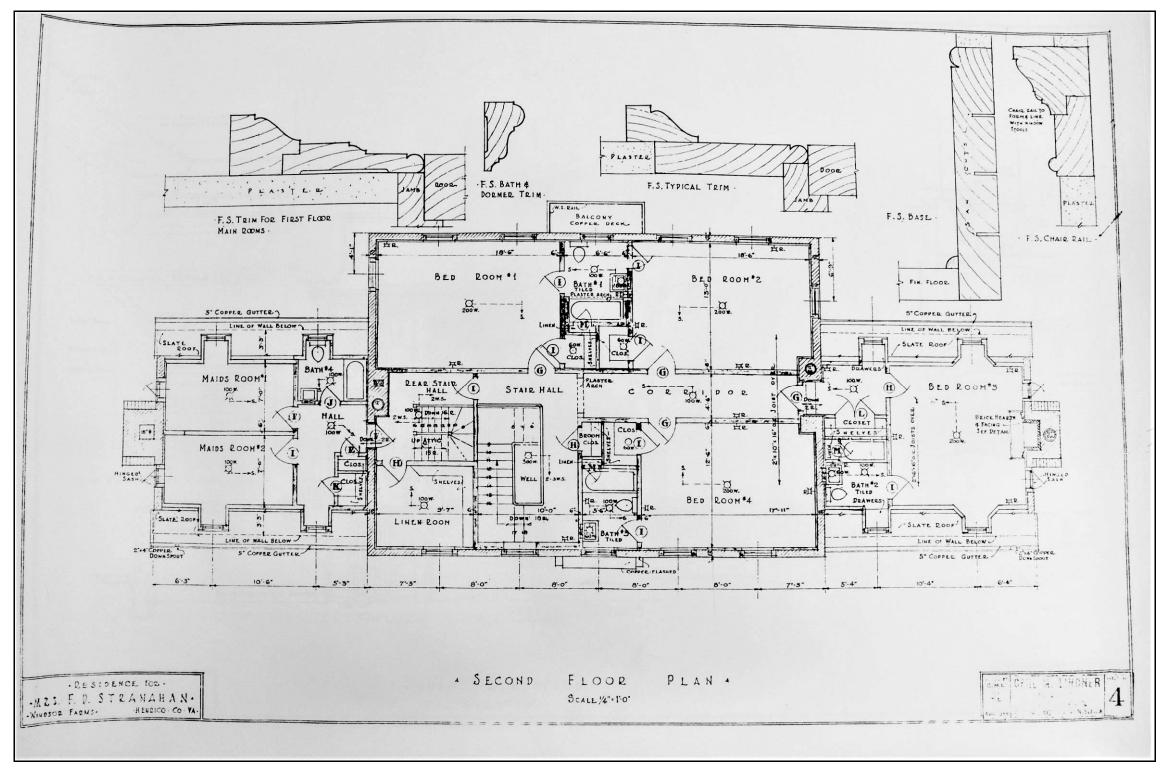
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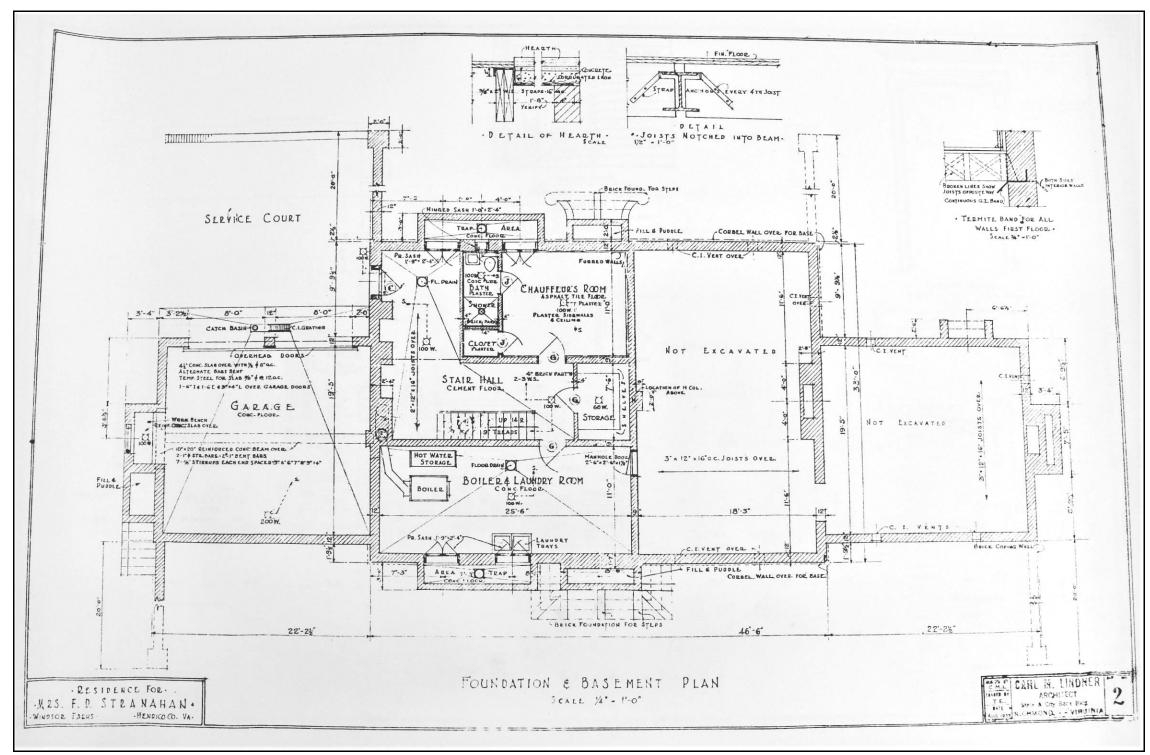
13. Carl M. Lindner, Second Floor Plan, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.

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14. Carl M. Lindner, Foundation and Basement Plan, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.

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15. Carl M. Lindner, Situation Plan, Residence for Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Windsor Farms, Henrico Co., VA, August 1935. Copy located in Robert W. Stewart Papers, M242, Drawer #57, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University.

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MES F. D. STEANAMAN. PLANTE Y MES F. D. STEANAMAN. PROSMOVO - VA.

16. This plan shows Gillette's initial design of an "Evergreen Green" garden on the north end of Clovelly. Note the concentric elliptical paths around the beds. Charles F. Gillette, General Grading Plan for Estate of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Richmond, VA, April 27, 1936. Copy located in Charles F. Gillette, Papers, ca.1880-1985. Accession 34472, Business records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

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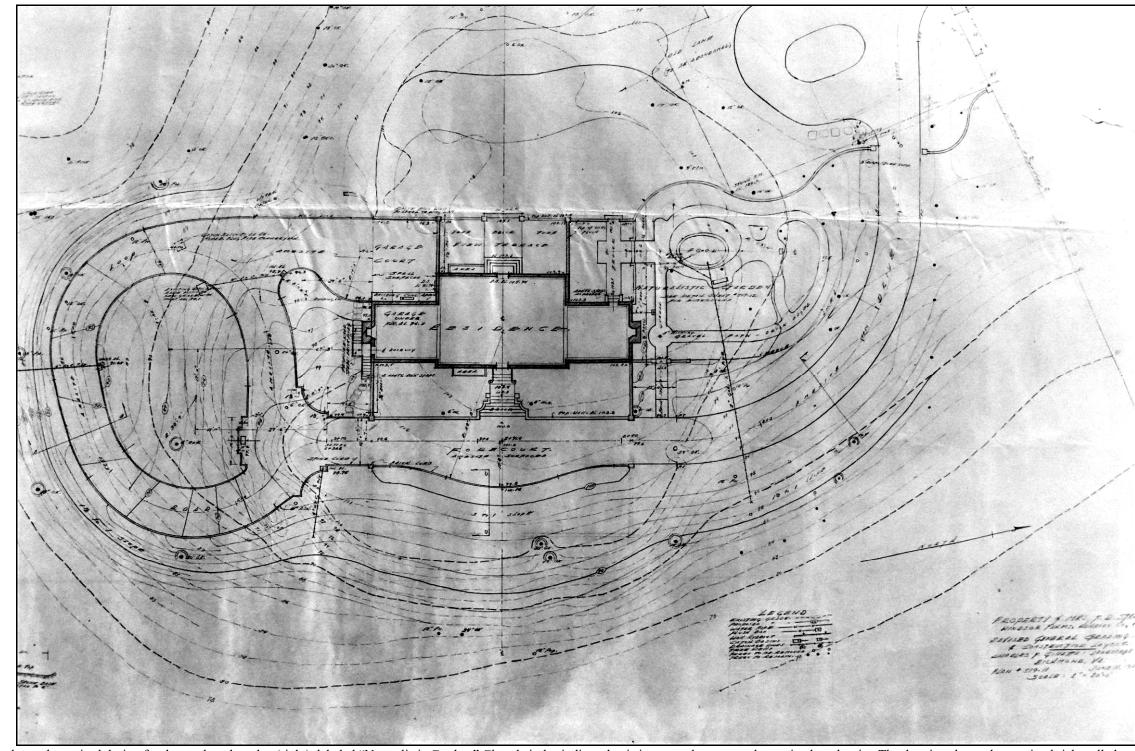
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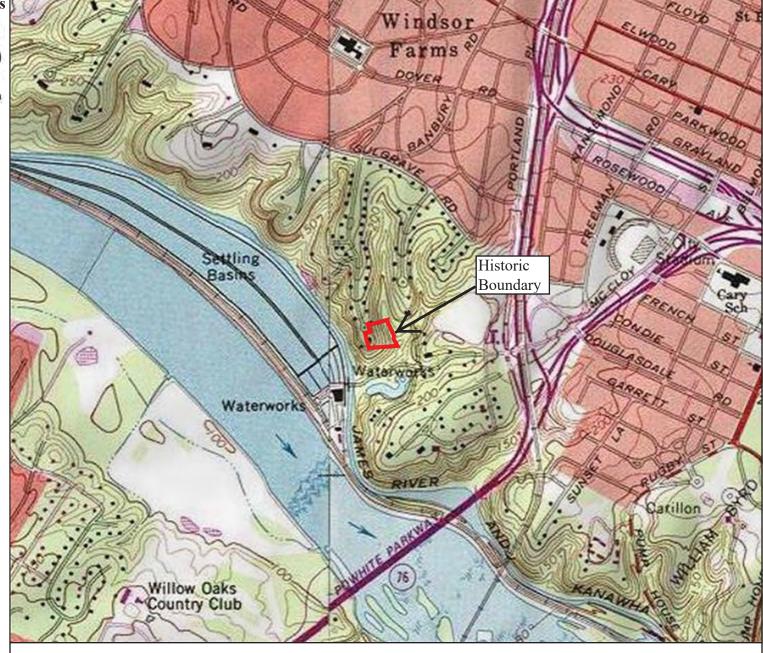
17. This drawing shows the revised design for the north end garden (right), labeled "Naturalistic Garden." Closed circles indicated existing trees that were to be retained on the site. The drawing shows the curving brick wall along the west side of the garden, but the curving wall of the terrace is not depicted. Charles F. Gillette, General Grading Plan for Estate of Mrs. F.D. Stranahan, Richmond, VA, June 11, 1936. Copy located in Charles F. Gillette, Papers, ca. 1880-1985. Accession 34472, Business records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.



Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Clovelly City of Richmond, VA DHR No. 127-7767





Feet

500 1000 1500 2000 1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet Title: Date: 10/15/2021

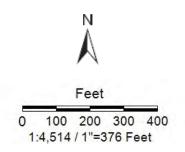
DISCLAIMER:Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

LOCATION MAP

Clovelly 337 Clovelly Road City of Richmond, VA

Latitude: 37.54639857 Longitude: -77.49785002





Title: Clovelly, City of Richmond, VA VDHR #127-7767

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Date: 3/1/2021



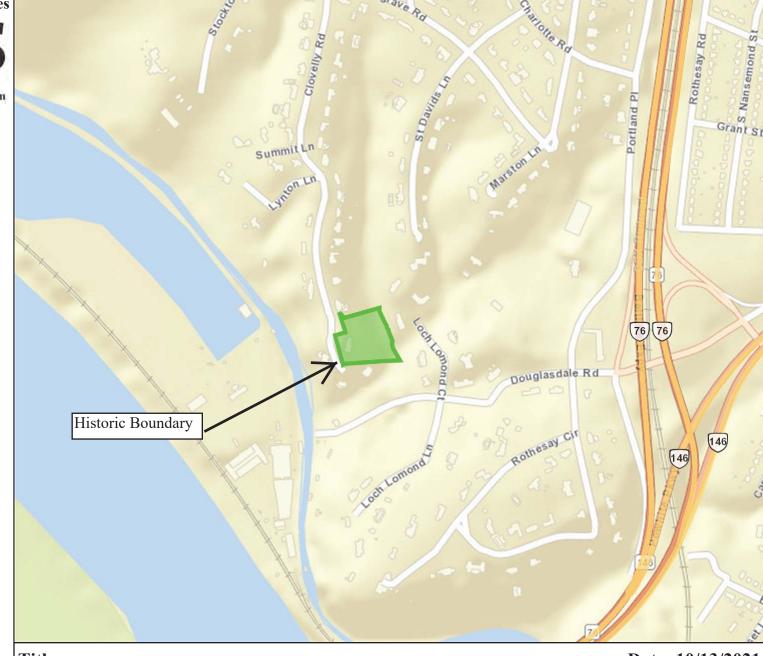
Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

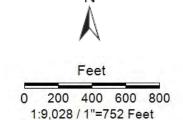
STREET MAP

Clovelly City of Richmond, VA DHR No. 127-7767

Location Coordinates

Latitude: 37.54639857 Longitude: -77.49785002





Title: Date: 10/13/2021

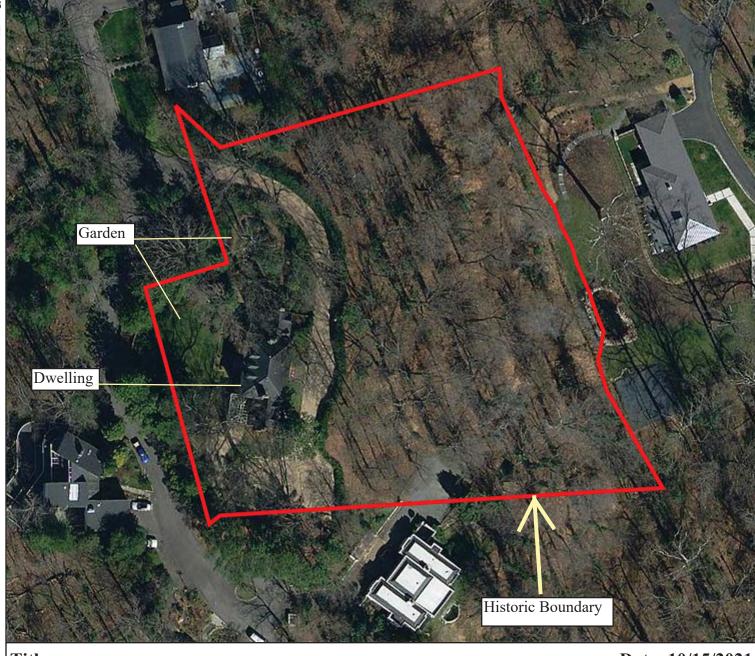
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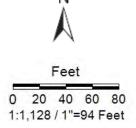
Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources CRIS

Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

AERIAL VIEW

Clovelly City of Richmond, VA DHR No. 127-7767





Title: Date: 10/15/2021

DISCLAIMER:Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Sketch Site Plan

Resource Name: Clovelly VDHR #127-7767 Location: 337 Clovelly Road NTS 02/2021

, City of Richmond, VA

- Contributing Resources
 1. Dwelling (contributing building)
- **2.** Garden (contributing site)

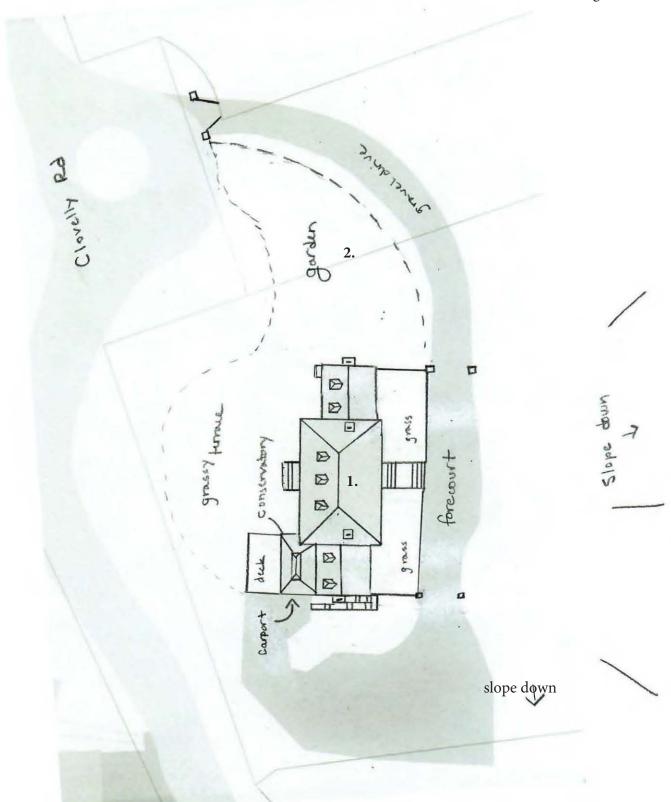
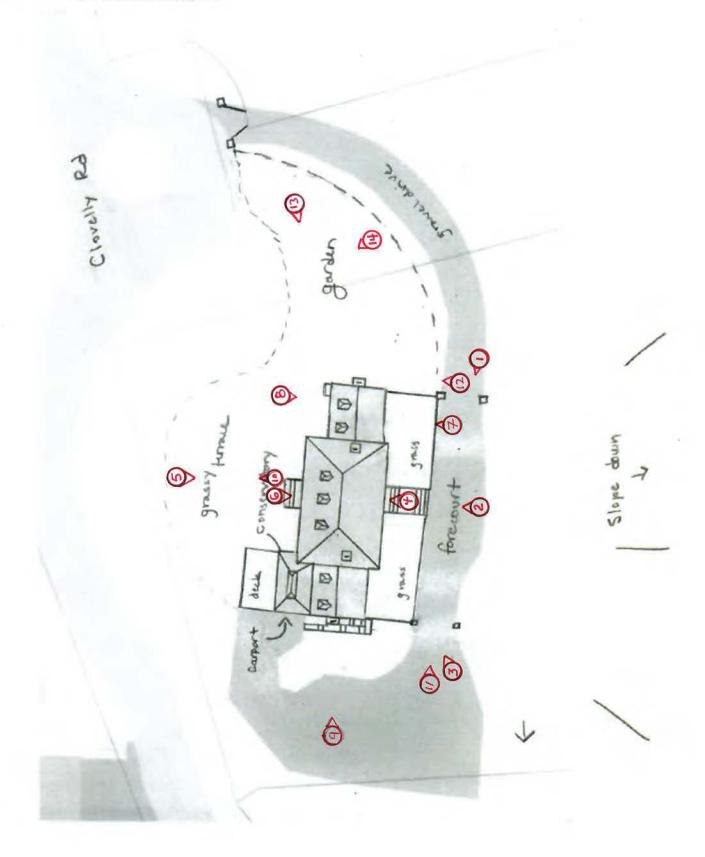


Photo Location Map - Exterior

Resource Name: Clovelly

VDHR #127-7767

Location: 337 Clovelly Road, Richmond, VA



CityBoundary

Parcels

Clovelly

DHR 127-7767 Richmond, VA

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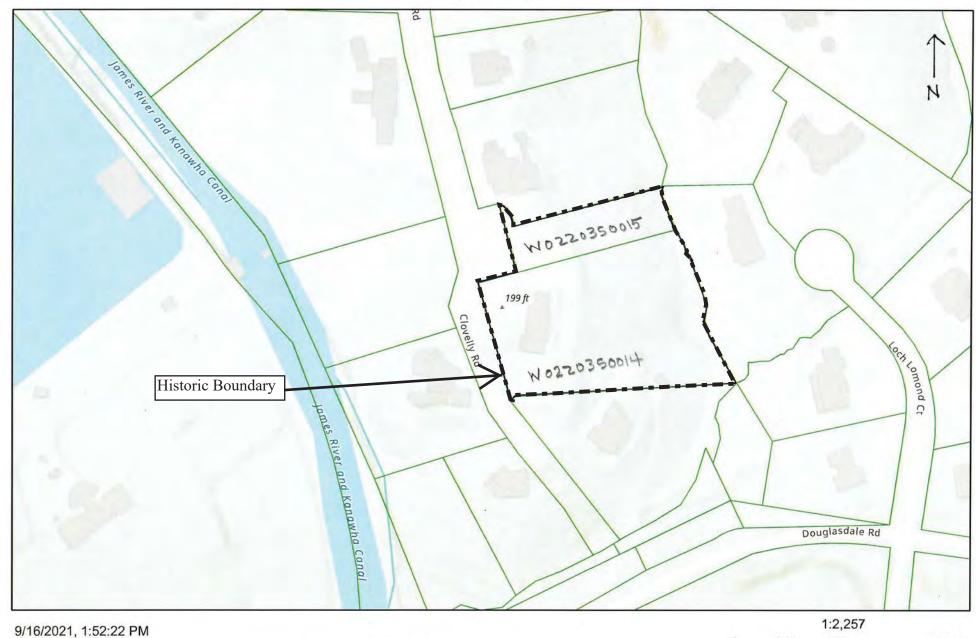
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Contributors,

0.06 mi

0.09 km

Henrico, VITA,



https://cor.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?

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