

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.2.24.0006	DATE 2/18/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Clifton Park Valve House (Lake Clifton Valve House)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lake Clifton Gate House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2801 Harford Road (Clifton Park)

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24** COUNTY: **Baltimore City** CODE: **510**

3. CLASSIFICATION

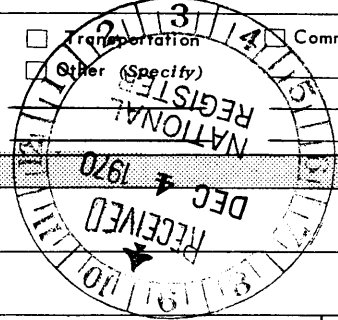
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mayor and City Council of Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall - 100 North Holliday Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Land Record Office of Superior Court of Baltimore City. Liber:JB 1393; Folio 6; and Liber:JB 105;**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Baltimore City Court House, / Folio 365 Room 610; Calvert & Fayette Streets**

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

DATE OF SURVEY: **1967** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Room 402, City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:
100 North Holliday Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Maryland**
COUNTY: **Baltimore City**
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

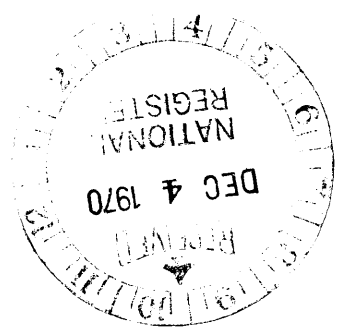
The Lake Clifton Valve House, or Gate House, is a massive octagonal stone structure. Large Romanesque archways alternate with Gothic style windows which once contained stained glass. Remnants of the colorful glass patterns may still be seen in the turret, atop an intricate tile roof supported by a complicated system of iron trusses. The interior contains the wheels by which the water gates were opened and closed. There is also a marble tablet inside which commemorates the completion of the Lake Clifton project in 1888.

The Valve House stands at the juncture of two tree-lined drives, constructed at the same time, to afford the Victorians a fine carriage ride around the lake and a vantage point from which to view the entire eastern section of the City.

A thorough search of City records has failed to reveal the name of an architect for the building, although the engineers for the project were Edward Heffner, Jr., Samuel W. Knapman and Charles A. Hook. In all probability, the style of the structure was copied from a similar building or a sketchbook of architectural studies, as was usual in those days. (A detailed description of the Lake Montebello Valve House, which closely resembles this one, is included in the Water Department report of December 31, 1878.)

The exceptional quality of this building results not only from its unique design and sturdy construction, but more from the fact that it is one of the few remaining relics of an era when men of imagination ventured to create a temple to fill a mundane need.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1887-1888

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | | <u>Water Supply</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Valve House (Gate House) at Clifton Park is one of several unique structures built by the Baltimore City Water Department during the period of its expansion in the late 1800's.*

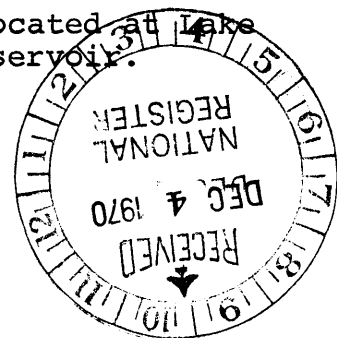
Following several periods of drought, the State Legislature appropriated \$4 million to dam the Gunpowder River at Loch Raven and bring water through a tunnel into the north-eastern section of the City. This project, begun in 1876, was scarcely underway when it became evident that the capacity of the distributing reservoir (Lake Montebello) was insufficient for the rapidly increasing needs of Baltimore City. A second reservoir was necessary and it was located at Clifton, the summer home of Johns Hopkins, less than a mile south of Montebello.

The new Lake Clifton and its gate chambers were completed in 1888. The Water Department annual report for that year states that water was let into Lake Clifton on December 27, 1888 and that the "gatehouse is completed and is now in working order."

In 1894, Clifton was purchased by the City for a park and the reservoir remained in service until it was no longer needed. In 1968, the lake was drained and filled as the site of a new senior high school. At the present time the only vestige of Lake Clifton remaining is the old Valve House, a remarkable Victorian structure still housing the machinery of a bygone age.

* Other interesting structures are located at Lake Montebello and at the Druid Hill Park reservoir.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bond, Allen Kerr, "The Parks of Baltimore," Baltimore, Its History and Its People, I. New York, 1912. PP. 444-445.

Quick, Alfred M., "Baltimore Water Works," Baltimore, Its History and Its People, I. New York, 1912. P. 418.

_____, "Baltimore's Busiest Sports Field," The Sun (July 14, 1957).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

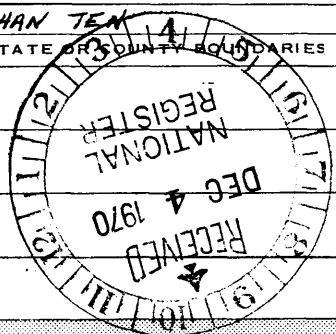
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES.		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 19' 07.647"	76° 35' 14.119"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: LESS THAN TEN

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust** DATE: **Nov. 10, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Post Office Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland** CODE: **24**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Orlando Ridout IV</u> Orlando Ridout IV</p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer for Maryland</u> State Liaison Officer for Maryland</p> <p>Date <u>DEC 2 1970</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Ernest A. Connolly</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FEB 18 1971</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>William J. Montague</u> Keeper of the National Register</p> <p>Date <u>JAN 19 1971</u></p>

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.2.24.0006	DATE 2/18/71

(Number all entries)

Clifton Park Valve House

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (continued)

1970 Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

Maryland Historical Trust

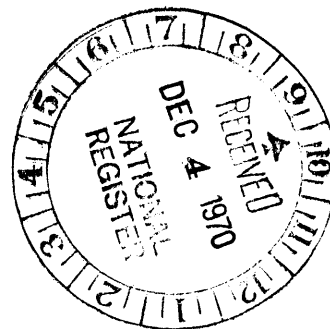
P. O. Box 1704

Annapolis, Maryland 21404 code: 24

#9. REFERENCES

Annual Reports of the Water Department to the Mayor and City Council 1880-1890. (Located in the Baltimore City Hall, Department of Legislative Reference Library).

Recorder: Catharine F. Black, Member, Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, 402 City Hall, 100 North Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland.



20'

LAUREL 20 MI
RC-AV 91 MI
(BALTIMORE WEST) SHAWAN 14 MI

Beaumont Park

BALTIMORE EAST QUADRANGLE
(MARYLAND)

USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1:24,000
1953



BALTIMORE
CEMETERY

St. Alphonsus
Cemetery