Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Political & Military Affairs: THEME:

American Presidency
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**INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM** DATE ENTERED

SEE IN	STRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES 0			S		
NAME						
HISTORIC	Grover Clevelar	nd Home, "Westlan	d"			
AND/OR COMMON	Westland					
LOCATION	wescialid					
STREET & NUMBER	15 Hodge Road		NOT FOR BURLICATION			
CITY, TOWN			NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	RICT		
	Princeton	VICINITY OF	5	CODE		
STATE	New Jersey	34	county <b>Mercer</b>	CODE <b>21</b>		
CLASSIFICA	TION					
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE			
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM		
XBUILDING(S)	<b>X</b> PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK		
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE		
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS		
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC		
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION		
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:		
OWNER OF	PROPERTY					
NAME	Mrs. John Tayl	or Woodward				
STREET & NUMBER		OI WOOGWALA				
	15 Hodge Road					
CITY, TOWN			STATE			
	Princeton —	VICINITY OF	New Jers	ey		
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ET	Mercer County	Courthouse				
STREET & NUMBER	Market Street					
CITY, TOWN	Trenton		STATE New Jersey	7		
REPRESENT	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS				
TITLE						
NONE						
DATE		EEDERAL	STATE COUNTY			
DEPOSITORY FOR		FEDERAL _	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	_		
SURVEY RECORDS						
CITY, TOWN			STATE			

XEXCELLENT

\_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

#### CONDITION

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS

\_\_UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

\_\_UNALTERED

**CHECK ONE** 

X\_ORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Westland was built in 1854 by Commodore Robert F. Stockton and inhabited by Grover Cleveland from 1897 to 1908. The rectangular stone house is covered with stucco and is two and a half stories high, covered with a gable roof with a bracketed cornice, with four chimneys, centrally placed.

Cleveland was responsible for the construction of the two-story wing on the east side of the house. This wing has a flat roof and its own entrance, which in Cleveland's time, was sheltered by a small portico.

Although Westland is still employed as a private residence, many changes have been made both outside and within the house. The front facade retains the closest resemblance to the historic appearance. The facade is five bays wide, with four windows and a central doorway on the first floor, and five windows on the second floor. A single story portico, with a flat roof, with a dentillated cornice supported by four Doric columns, covers the central three bays of the first floor. The door in the center bay is flanked by sidelights, and topped with a transom light, all of which are framed by rounded pilasters supporting an entablature. Aside from the removal of the portico on the side wing, the front facade possesses the features of the historic period. On the west of the house, the open veranda has been removed and replaced by a one-story dependency. The roof, which was covered with sheet metal during Cleveland's occupancy, is now shingled with asbestos tiles; and the Gothic or Italianate arcade which enclosed the four chimneys has been removed, leaving the chimneys freestanding.

Inside the house, only the two front rooms have retained an historic appearance. The interior is characterized by the high-ceilinged and spacious rooms. The first floor of the wing is no longer used as the billiard room, as it was in Cleveland's time. There are no Cleveland furnishings in the house.

The grounds are maintained in garden and lawn, as in the historic period, although the house was originally on a larger plot of ground. There is a modern swimming pool on the grounds. Westland presently retains only the facade of the house inhabited by Cleveland. During Cleveland's occupancy, the house was added on to in the rear (north). Servants' quarters and stables formed an extension which reached all the way to Cleveland Lane. In 1950 the central portion of this wing was removed, and Westland received a new rear face. The northern portion of the wing was converted from a carriage house into a separate house, which faces on Cleveland Lane. The middle area is divided by a brick wall.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES 1837-1908		BUILDER/ARCI		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRYINVENTION	X_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
1700-1799 X_1800-1899	ARTCOMMERCE	ENGINEERINGEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	MUSIC PHILOSOPHY	THEATERTRANSPORTATION
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grover Cleveland's earnestness and incorruptibility impressed his contemporaries even more than his girth did. Those qualities continue to characterize his two presidential terms, his best biographer describing the man's career as "an example of courage that never yields an inch in the cause of truth, and that never surrenders an iota of principle to expedience." I

Upon leaving Washington in 1897, after serving his second term in the Presidency, Cleveland settled at "Westland," Princeton, New Jersey, where he enjoyed 11 years of retirement, before his death on June 24, 1908. The two-and-a half story, stuccoed stone house appears much the same today as it did during Cleveland's occupancy. It is privately owned.

## **Biography:**

Before settling in Buffalo, New York, Cleveland experienced an almost Bedouin-like existence. Born in Caldwell, New Jersey, on March 18, 1837, his father a Presbyterian minister, moved to Fayetteville, New York, in 1841. Here Cleveland began his schooling, but in 1850 he and his family moved to Clinton, where they lived for two and a half years. In 1852, the Clevelands moved to Holland Patent, near Utica. Three years later, the future president began to work in Buffalo.

The frequent moves impaired Cleveland in no way, and he achieved fame and power in Buffalo. He became a lawyer and a plitician. After holding several offices, he was elected mayor in 1881. Honesty personified, he banished graft and initiated reform. His achievements in Buffalo won favor throughout New York, and he was elected governor in 1882.

Characteristics other than that of brilliance enabled Cleveland to gain the ultimate American political success. Courageous and honest, he also persevered. Once he adopted a course, he followed it to its logical end. Furthermore, he knew men, discerning dedication in one and opportunism in another with equal ease.

The Democratic Party, apprised of Cleveland's popularity, chose him as their standard bearer in 1884, 1888, and 1892. He won in 1884 and 1892. While president, Cleveland generally eschewed the unusual as he pursued precedent in both domestic and foreign policy. Nevertheless, his bold plea for tariff reform in his message to Congress in 1887 and his strong condemnation of American imperialistic tendencies during his two terms indicate the sincerity and morality that pervaded his actions as president.

<sup>1.</sup> Allan Nevins, Grover Cleveland, A Study in Courage (New York, 1934), 766.

9 MA1	OR BIBLIOGRA	<b>APHICAL</b> R	EFERENCES

S. S. Bradford, "Structures Asse Northeast Region, January 29 Robert McElroy, Grover Cleveland Horace S, Merrill, Bourbon Leade Allan Nevins, Grover Cleveland,	, 1965). d, The Man and er: Grover Cle	the Statesman, 2 veland and the Der	vols. (New York,1923).
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA  ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.2  UTM REFERENCES			
ZONE EASTING NORTHING C VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION		ZONE EASTING D	NORTHING
Beginning at the northwest inter 140' along the west curb of Baya Hodge Road, thence south 140' to point of origin. These boundaris lot boundaries. The post-histornon-contiguous, and altered carresignificance of the landmark.  LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES	ard Lane, then the north cu es enclose the ic features co iage house do	ce west for 345' irb of Hodge Road, e original main ho ontained with thes not contribute to	thence east 345' to the ouse within its present se boundaries and the other national
STATE	CODE CO	DUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE CO	DUNTY	CODE
Richard E. Greenwo		al Park Service	3/12/75
STREET & NUMBER 1100 L Street Bu	ilding	TE	523-5464
CITY OR TOWN  Washington			ATE
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESE			ICATION
NATIONAL	STATE	_ LOC	CAL
As the designated State Historic Preservation hereby nominate this property for inclusion in criteria and procedures set forth by the Nation FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE	the National Registe		
TITLE		D	To Herse Finning 8/1/17
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGYAN	IS INCLUDED IN THE	D)	ATE 8/16/77
ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	*	<u>/</u> D,	ATE /
(JANIONAT TITUL ATTI LELAMILIAS)		(NAT)	OMAE VICTORIC ANDMATKS)

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FOR NPS USE	ONLY				
RECEIVED		•			
DATE ENTERS	'n				

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Grover Cleveland Home, "Westland," Princeton, New Jersey

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

Cleveland, upon leaving Washington in 1897, established his residence at "Westland," Princeton, New Jersey. He lived there until his death on June 24, 1908.

The Clevelands purchased a house in Princeton because they had decided before leaving the White House that they wanted to live in that college community. Mrs. Cleveland apparently selected the house, but the president named it, honoring his great friend at Princeton University, Professor Andrew F. West.

Cleveland enjoyed his retirement immensely. He assumed, with pleasure, an active role in the college, carried on an active correspondence with friends, and engaged in a stimulating social life. He perhaps felt more at home in Princeton than he had in any other house he had occupied.

"Westland," with its spacious, high ceilinged rooms, is essentially the same as Cleveland left it. There are no Cleveland furnishings in the house.