

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Grover Cleveland Home, "Westland"

AND/OR COMMON Westland

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 15 Hodge Road

CITY, TOWN Princeton VICINITY OF 5
--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE New Jersey CODE 34 COUNTY Mercer CODE 21

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mrs. John Taylor Woodward

STREET & NUMBER 15 Hodge Road

CITY, TOWN Princeton VICINITY OF New Jersey STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Mercer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Market Street

CITY, TOWN Trenton STATE New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE NONE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1837-1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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." ¹

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 politician. 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.

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

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- S. S. Bradford, "Structures Associated With Grover Cleveland," (National Park Service, Northeast Region, January 29, 1965).
 Robert McElroy, Grover Cleveland, The Man and the Statesman, 2 vols. (New York, 1923).
 Horace S. Merrill, Bourbon Leader: Grover Cleveland and the Democratic Party (Boston, 1957).
 Allan Nevins, Grover Cleveland, A Study in Courage (New York, 1934).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.2

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 528220 4466590
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B _____
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the northwest intersection of Bayard Lane and Hodge Road, proceed north 140' along the west curb of Bayard Lane, thence west for 345' in a line paralleling Hodge Road, thence south 140' to the north curb of Hodge Road, thence east 345' to the point of origin. These boundaries enclose the original main house within its present lot boundaries. The post-historic features contained within these boundaries and the non-contiguous, and altered carriage house do not contribute to the national significance of the landmark.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard E. Greenwood, Historian, Landmark Review Task Force

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

3/12/75

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street Building

TELEPHONE

523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D. C.

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

Landmark accepted to the
 Designated: JUNE 23, 1965
 date
 Boundary Certified:
 DATE FRANCIS J. JONES 8/12/77

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/16/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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.