Located between Canal Road and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal in
Washington, D.C., near "Pickett's Mill," this is near the
intersection of Reservoir Road and Canal Road.

One of the most outstanding of the historic structures along the
right-of-way of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, title to which was vested
the National Park Service in December 1937. The site is of historical
significance because it stands near the former little Falls Distric
tal (forerunner of the C & O Canal), which was one of the improvements
facilitate travel made by the Potomac Company of which George Washing-
was president. The site is also of significance because the Abner
and House is the oldest existing structure along the C & O Canal.

The site of the Abner Cloud House was included in an original patent
land dating back to 1669 and recorded in the Hall of Records at Anna-
lis, Maryland. On 10 December 1794, title to the land was vested in
an Thulkeid, a prominent landholder of Georgetown, who deeded it to Jesse
by (also known as "Bailey"). Bayly had married a daughter of Amos Cloud,
reported to have owned property on what is now Foxhall (formerly
ige) Road. Amos Cloud is believed to have also come here from Chester
ounty, Pennsylvania, with his father Abner Cloud, Sr., who, in addition
owning land in the then Montgomery County, Maryland, also owned property
nearby Virginia, where he is listed on the 1790 census. The whereabouts
ord of Abner Cloud, Sr., and of Amos Cloud is rather obscure thereafter.
Land records indicate, however, that Jesse Bayly deeded the land to his
other-in-law Abner Cloud, Jr., on 19 October 1795. This was the site of
a latter's home and mill. In 1796 Abner Cloud, Jr., married Suzanne
matt Smallwood of Virginia. The Clouds had two daughters, Artemesia
and Amsa. From 1801, when he built the house and mill that bears his name,
til his death in 1812, Abner Cloud resided in the structure with his
family. His widow, Suzanne, continued to live in the house until 1852.
ring the period 1801 to 1812, Abner Cloud used the basement of the house
ich now fronts on the C & O Canal at the south elevation for storage
the flour he milled and for grain.

When the property was sold to John P Frizzell in 1852, he continued
live at the site and to operate the mill. Sometime in the 1860's, the
property was reported to be owned by William A Clark, a Trenton miller,
continued to operate the mill as the Cloud's Mill. In 1862, it is
ported that D L Shoemaker, member of a prominent Trenton family,
evied the property and milled the locally popular variety of flour, milt
ership is sketchy thereafter for almost 75 years and there is dis-recent
among local residents concerning ownership of the house and mill. A
mes C Copperthite probably resided here and was owner in 1959. In 1957,
en the property was condemned by the U S Government, and Helen Keaton
pied the house, which by then was badly run down.

There have been some structural changes to the original building;
out 90 percent of the original structure still exists. Existing archi-
tural evidence shows an original door off the first floor of the south
evation near the east end of the wall. It is unclear how the door may
ve led to an outer stairway to the rear to provide access to the
. Later, a porch of undetermined date was added to the structure. By
V vandalism and the deleterious effects of the weather caused the col-
se of the porch on the west, north and east elevations and was removed.