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PG 81B-4

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME				
HISTORIC Wyoming	3			
AND/OR COMMON	<u> </u>			
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	<u> </u>	VICINITY OF	Fourth COUNTY	CODE
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DISTRICT	PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X_UNOCCUPIED	-COMMERCIAL	PARK
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SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
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STREET & NUMBER	Marbury Estate, c/ö reet, S.E.	Gerard Dunphy	женик Э	
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4.7.1 	Upper Marlboro		Maryland 2	20870
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7 DESCRIPTION



CONDITION

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X_ORIGINAL SITE

F

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Wyoming is located on the south side of Thrift Road, about 125 yards southeast of its junction with Tippett Road in the vicinity of Clinton, Prince George's County, Maryland. The rear of the house commands a magnificent view of Piscataway Creek valley.

Wyoming is a frame house consisting of three separate and distinct sections: the main block built in the third quarter of the 18th century, a circa 1800 kitchen and a connecting two-bay section of circa 1850.

The $2\frac{1}{5}$ -story main block is five bays wide and two deep and sits on a raised brick basement with molded watertable. On the front (north) facade, the basement is lighted by two rectangular, diamond-barred windows aligned in the fourth and fifth bays; on the rear (south) facade a vertical board door (a 19th century replacement) in the first bay leads to a basement below, while another diamond-barred window is located in the second bay. Of frame construction, this section is sheathed with 7" weatherboarding fastened with rose head nails. Windows are 9/9 double-hung sash, with later window shutters. A post-1850's four-panel front door, hung on reused 18th century hinges, is in the center bay, reached by a set of wooden steps. The central doorway on the front facade is surmounted by a four-pane transom. The rear facade no doubt had a similar treatment, but it is now covered.¹ There are three shed-roofed dormers with 6/6 doublehung sash on both the front and rear of the shingled gambrel roof. This section retains original one-story porches across the five bays of the front and rear facades. One of the most interesting features is a brick chimney pent with small four-pane casement window between the double freestanding chimneys on the east and of the main block. Bonding fiere, as in the water table, is common bond, with one course of headers to five courses of stretchers.

A number of structural features indicate that the house may have begun as a threebay structure, and was later expanded in the last quarter of the 18th century with the addition of two other bays. A seam or interruption in the brickwork is visible in the basement on the rear, between the second and third bays, and a complete basement is only found under the first three bays of the east elevation. A hole has been broken in the southwest corner of the basement wall, giving access to the crawl space under the next two bays. Here, half-trees, roughly fashioned, are used as joists, each supported by modern cinder blocks. These features, as well as others on the interior indicate the main block may have been built in two sections. (This will hopefully be substantiated through a historic structures report to be undertaken in the near future.)

The first floor plan consists of a central hall flanked by two double parlors. The central hall is subdivided by a Federal-style transverse arch. Beautifully designed, the arch consists of a classical plinth, reeded pilasters, capital and molded arch with keystone (see HABS drawings, Sheets 2 and 4). Architrave trim and chairrail are also original. The stairway, with Victorian newel post, balusters and heavy bannister, was installed in the mid to late 19th century.

Close inspection of the hallway and southeast parlor indicate that the stairway may have originally been placed off the central hall, and not in the hall, as it exists today. Ghosts of the original chairrail (which extended from the left side of the hall arch to the stair) in the hallway and on the north wall of the southeast parlor may indicate that the hall was actually at right angles to its present position. A six-inch

8 SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DAT	ES circa 1750	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY INVENTION	X_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X_OTHER (SPECIFY) Maryland history
X _1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X _1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	X_ AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wyoming, a well-preserved example of Maryland's gambrel-roofed colonial architecture, is more specifically noteworthy as an excellent example of southern Maryland tidewater architecture. Its exterior double chimneys with pent represent a distinctive design feature it has in common with other regional houses, such as The Retreat (AS-10), Mt. Tirzah (CH-81), and La Veille House (CT-43). Its interior holds some of the finest Federal mantelpieces and woodwork extant in an early Prince George's County house. Wyoming is also representative of the logical evolution or expansion of a house in sections, commonly known as the "telescope." Lastly, with the exception of Mt. Pleasant (PG 79-4), the house may have the oldest boxwood in the county planted on its grounds.

Wyoming is also important historically as the ancestral home of the Marburys, a family which produced many of Maryland's political, professional and judicial leaders through the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The house has been owned by members of the family until just recently, when it was sold in February, 1973.

Wyoming was part of an original land grant known as Appledore, patented by Robert Middleton in 1688. Francis Marbury, prominent in early 18th century Maryland as a vestryman of St. John's, Broadcreek, the oldest parish in Prince George's County; a Tobacco Inspector for the Piscataway district; a Land Commissioner for Prince George's County; and a Judge of Survey in Charles County, acquired the property in 1698. Upon his death in 1734, his landholdings were divided between his sons, Eusebius, Leonard, Luke, and William.²

Little is known about Luke Marbury (d. October, 1758), second son of Francis Marbury, other than that he held positions as an Inspector of Tobacco at Piscataway, a commissioner of the county, and Justice of the Peace. He left an only son, Luke Marbury (II), to whom his property was transferred.³ (Luke Marbury I is the presumed builder of Wyoming.)

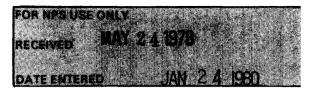
Luke Marbury (II) attained real distinction during the Revolutionary War. As he came to be called, Colonel Luke Marbury served on various Committees of Observation and Correspondence. He was chosen as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1775, and participated in framing Maryland's first constitution. When war appeared imminent, he was commissioned a captain of the local militia company. He fought in the Battle of Germantown, where he was captured and imprisoned. Col. Marbury was exchanged in 1781. He returned to Prince George's County, where local tradition records that he was carried through the streets of Upper Marlboro on the shoulders of the crowd. He served as a member of the State Legislature until he died in 1809.⁴

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE SEPARATE SHEET

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



Wyoming Prince George's County CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

shift of the original south door jamb and door (with its original HL hinges) off a wooden base also may indicate a shift in the original stair location. Again, investigation through a historic structures report may provide the information to substantiate the stair's original location.

Double parlors flank the central hallway and are notable for their fine Federal mantelpieces. In the northeast parlor, the mantel is embellished with convex fluted panels on the pilaster shafts, oval starbursts on raised side and central panels, and a fine mantel shelf. To the right of the mantel is a late 18th century door which leads into the pent closet, where brickwork is now exposed. A similar mantel is found in the northwest parlor although here on the mantels, again with oval starbursts, are further decorated with a thin, beaded band around the fireplace opening, reeded chevrons in the pilasters, and a thin reeded band below the shelf. Simpler Federal mantels are also found in the southwest and southeast parlors. Except for the 18th century door leading to the hall in the northeast parlor, most other doors are replacements dating from the mid 19th century or later. These have 19th century box locks covering earlier lock outlines.

The southeast parlor was subdivided in the early 20th century to create a bathroom to the extreme southeast, and a kitchen section near the central hall. A bath tub, toilet and kitchen sink appear to be 1930's or 40's additions.

The stairway leads to a second floor landing, where it divides on the left leading to the attic and by a dogleg to the right, leading to four bedrooms. On this floor four rooms flank the hallway. Baseboards, chairrail and the majority of doors appear original, with the exception of a mid-19th century board and batten door in the southwest bedroom which gives access into the central addition.

The roof framing system appears to date from the last quarter of the 18th and 19th centuries. Rafters are butt jointed, pegged, and numbered with Roman numerals.

What appears to be the second oldest section of the house is a one-bay, one-story frame section on the west end, probably built circa 1800 as a detached kitchen. It was built with heavy post and beam construction with brick nogging, which is visible on the first floor. Entrance is gained through a centrally placed, vertical board on the rear facade. The interior chimney has been altered. A 19th century door with string latch has been added to the southwest corner and offers access into the central section. A vertical board door and tight winder stair in the northeast corner lead upstairs. The attic is divided by a partition running east to west. A two-panel plank door opens at the partition wall. To the right of the stair, another 19th century door opens into a second room, here with plastered walls to the north and west. The building is sheathed on the exterior with 7" beaded clapboard.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Mary] and	ITEM NUMBER	7	PAGE	2	

(DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

Circa 1850, a two-bay, $2\frac{1}{2}$ -story, gable-roofed frame section was added to connect th kitchen to the main block. Access is gained through a vertical board door in the first bay of the rear facade. Fenestration on both facades consists of 6/6 double-hung sash. A hallway runs from west to east on the south side and connects the kitchen to the main house. A stair in the southeast corner leads to the second floor. A board partition, punctuated by two doors, runs west to east and creates a storage room. Notable features here include re-used board and batten doors and standing corner cupboards.

On the second floor, access to the main room is gained through a mid-19th century vertical panel door with box lock. The stair landing leads to this main room as well as to a narrow stairway leading to a four-panel 19th century door with box lock, and to the attic. Here, apparently original $9\frac{1}{2}$ " clapboard sheathing on the main block is exposed for view on the east side of the wall. Also exposed is the roof framing for the circa 1800 addition, consisting of butt jointed and pegged rafters.

A number of outbuildings are located nearby. These include: a board and batten, one-story, gable-roofed tool shed; a shed-roofed animal pen/shelter; a four-bay, early 20th century garage; a two-bay 20th century garage; an early 20th century caretaker's house; a gable-roofed barn with shed addition; a corn crib; and a large, gable-roofed barn.

A small Marbury family cemetery is located seventy-five yards south of the main house in a small grove of locust trees. Modern concrete walls and iron gate form the boundaries of the graveyard. A number of stones bear inscriptions. These include: a small stone with the initials G.A.F.; a small stone with initials B.T.F.; a small stone with initials C.T.M.; one larger stone, illegible, with weeping willow and obelisk iconography; one larger stone, illegible, with weeping willow and urn iconography; a large obelisk, with the inscription, "In Memory of Catharine Taylor Marbury, daughter of AJ and Maria R. Marshall of Warrenton, Va. and wife of Fendall Marbury. Born at Warrenton V. December 18th 1832 died at Wyoming March 27th 1866. One of the brightest, noblest, truest, best of women."

Wyoming is also notable for its great planting of boxwood, forming a walkway leading to the front of the house. With the exception of Mt. Pleasant, Wyoming's boxwood may represent the oldest left in Prince George's County.

 $^{^{1}}$ This alteration must have taken place after 1936, as the transom is shown intact in the 1936 HABS drawing of the house. See sheet #1.

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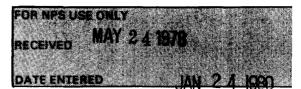
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CONTINUATION SHEET	Prince George's	County ITEM NUMBER	7	PAGE	2a	
	Wyoming	a .				

ADDENDUM TO DESCRIPTION.

The outbuildings at Wyoming are described in the third to the last paragraph of the description and labeled on the enclosed sketch map. Most of these are frame structures dating from the late 19th or early 29th century. The animal barns and tobacco barn are concrete block structures with corrugated tin roofs. None of these outbuildings is significant architecturally.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



Wyoming		
Prince Geor	ge's County	
CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland	ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE	3

(SIGNIFICANCE CONTINUED)

Col. Marbury's eldest son, who was known as Captain William Marbury because of his service in the War of 1812, served in a number of positions of authority during his lifetime. Like his father, he served in the State Legislature from 1798 to 1800, and was elected several times as Clerk of the County Court. Shortly after his marriage to Susan Fendall, his health began to fail and he died of tuberculosis at the age of 34.⁵

William Luke Marbury, eldest son of Capt. William Marbury, inherited Wyoming at his father's death. He devoted himself to agriculture and care of the family's large landholdings. It is his daughter, Cora, who is credited with the creation of the name Wyoming for the family home. According to a Marbury family history, it was not until 1809, when Thomas Campbell published a poem called "Gertrude of Wyoming," that the name was changed. The poem dealt with a famous Indian massacre in the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania, and was a favorite of Cora's. At her insistence, her parents changed the name of the homestead to Wyoming.⁶ William Luke Marbury, who died about 1836, and his widow, Susan Fitzhugh Fendall Marbury, who died August 25, 1871, are both buried in the family graveyard on this property.

Susan Marbury transferred title of the Wyoming property to her son, Fendall, on March 31, 1860. Fendall Marbury studied law at St. John's College in Annapolis and practiced in Alexandria, Virginia. He married Katherine Taylor Marshall, the great-niece of Chief Justice John Marshall, on October 6, 1857, and they moved to Wyoming and made it their home. Fendall, like other Marburys, held many positions of responsibility, including member of the State Legislature, one of the State Presidential Electors, and a vestryman of St. Thomas Parish.

Until 1973 Wyoming was transferred from member to member of the Marbury family. It was recently purchased by a man who intends to restore the house to its former splendor. The Maryland Historical Trust will provide matching funds for a further study of the house and its restoration.

TSee <u>The Story of a Maryland Family</u>, by William L. Marbury (privately printed, 1966) for further history of the Marbury family.

²Effie Gwynn Bowie, <u>Across the Years in Prince George's County</u> (Richmond, Va.: Garrett and Massie, 1947), p. 549.

³Ibid., p. 550. ⁴Ibid., pp. 550-1. ⁵Will TT 1/14.

⁶William L. Marbury, The Story of a Maryland Family, pp. 6-7. ⁷Ibid., pp. 1-2.

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

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Wyoming Prince George's County ITEM NUMBER 9 CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland PAGE 4

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CONTINUATION SHEET	Maryland	ITEM NUMBER	10	PAGE	5

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

BEGINNING at a point on the south side of Thrift Road, thence, southwest about 500 feet to the drive to Wyoming; thence, northwest about 800 feet to the junction of Thrift and Tippett Roads; thence, southeast along the 200-foot contour line about 800 feet; thence, south about 300 feet to the source of a stream about 1,400 feet; thence, eastnortheast about 400 feet crossing the drive to a point on the Dunphy property line; thence, northwest along the property line about 1,900 feet to the point of beginning, containing approximately 31 acres.

ACREAGE JUSTIFICATION

The nominated acreage includes the house, Wyoming, the outbuildings, the entrance to the property and part of the lane below the house which leads to a barn and the cemetery. The north boundary follows the road, the east boundary the present (Gerard Dunphy) owner's property line, the west boundary the 200-foot contour line and then the creek; the south boundary connects the east and west boundaries below a barn. FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

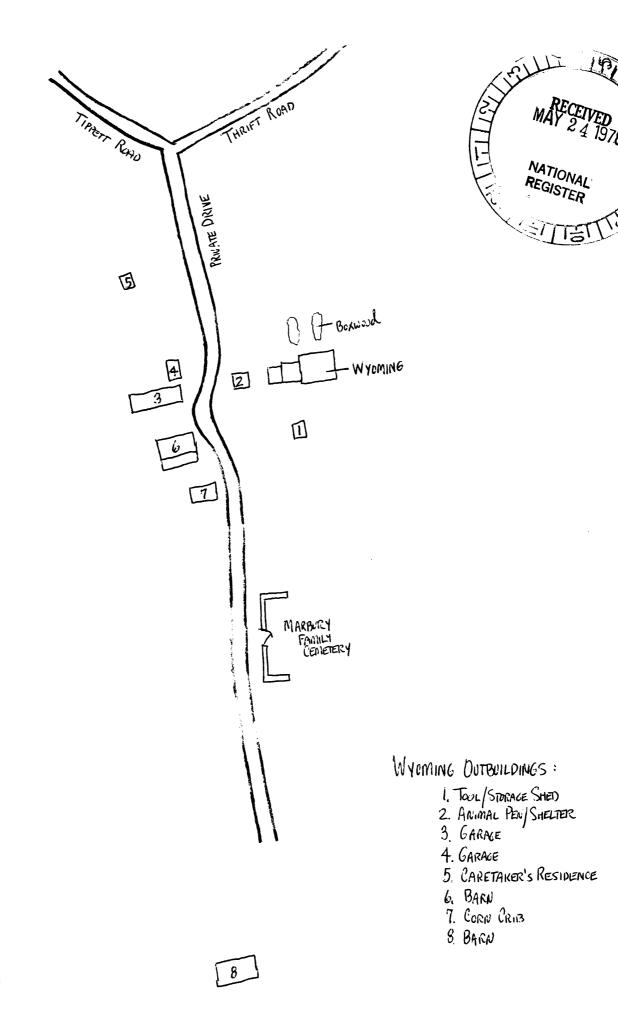
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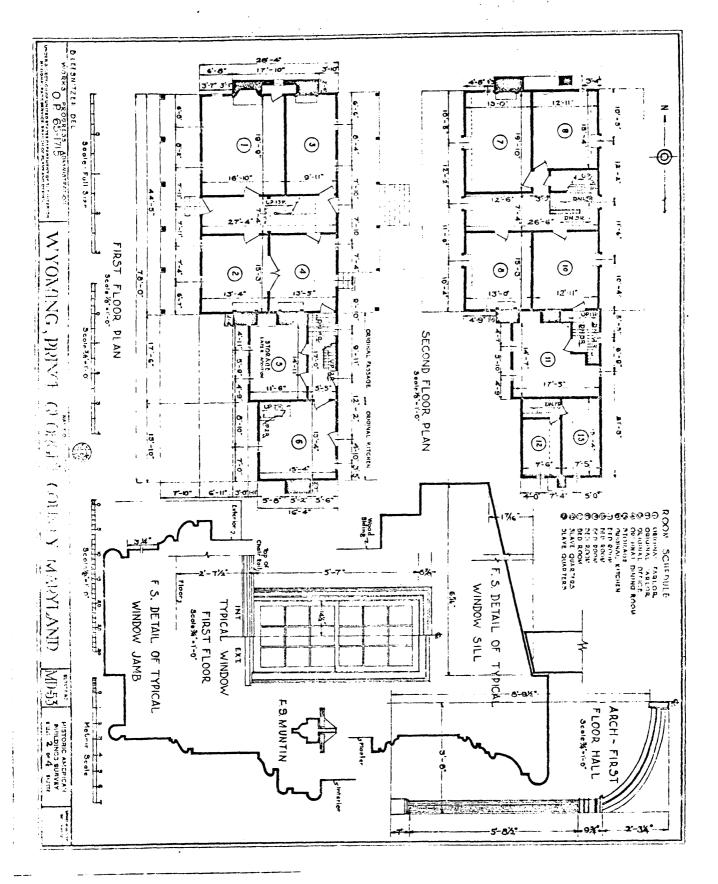
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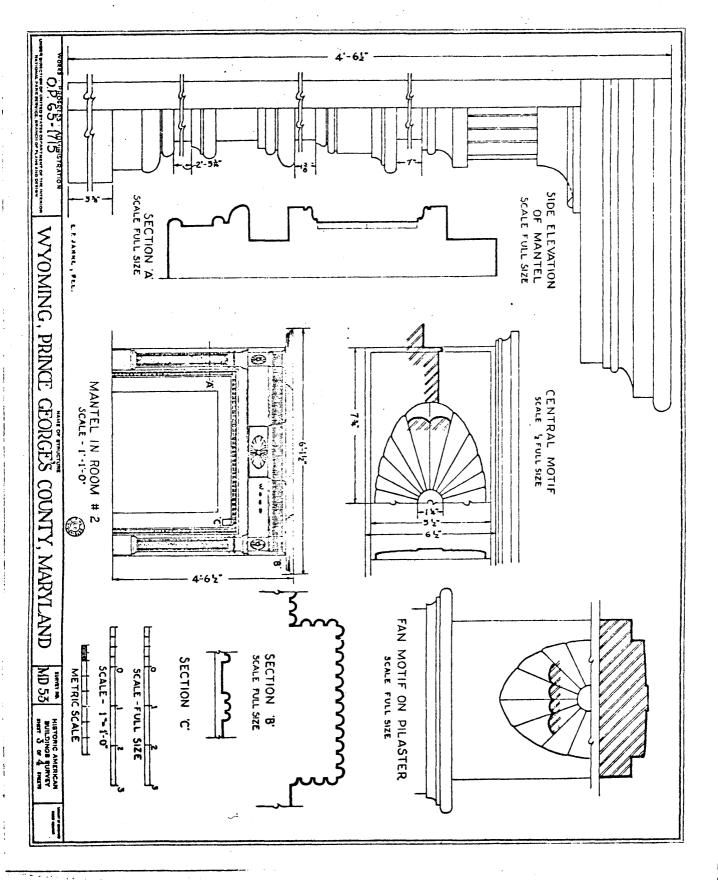
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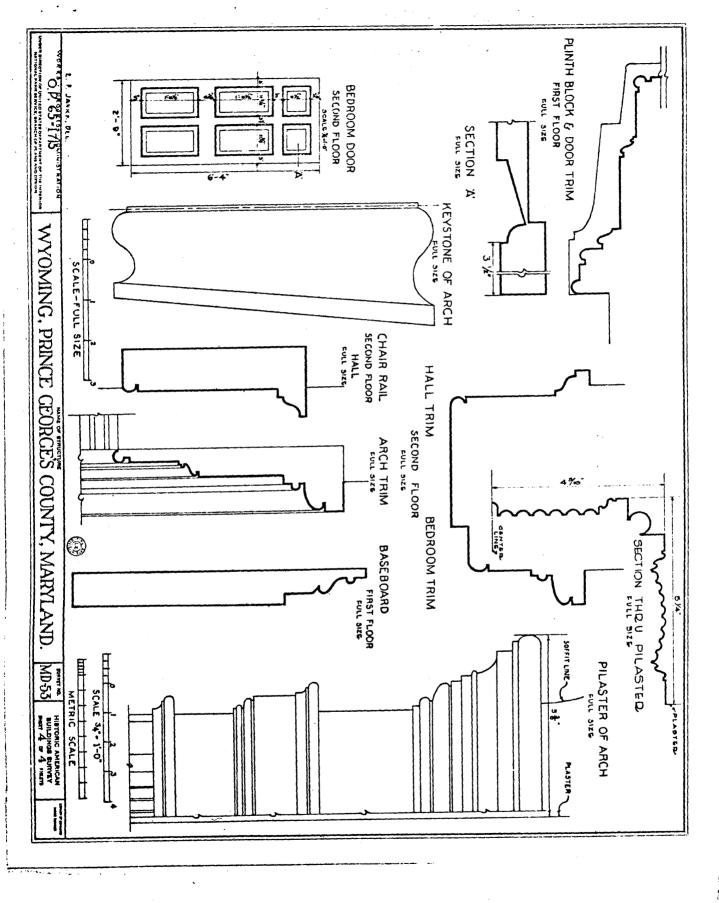


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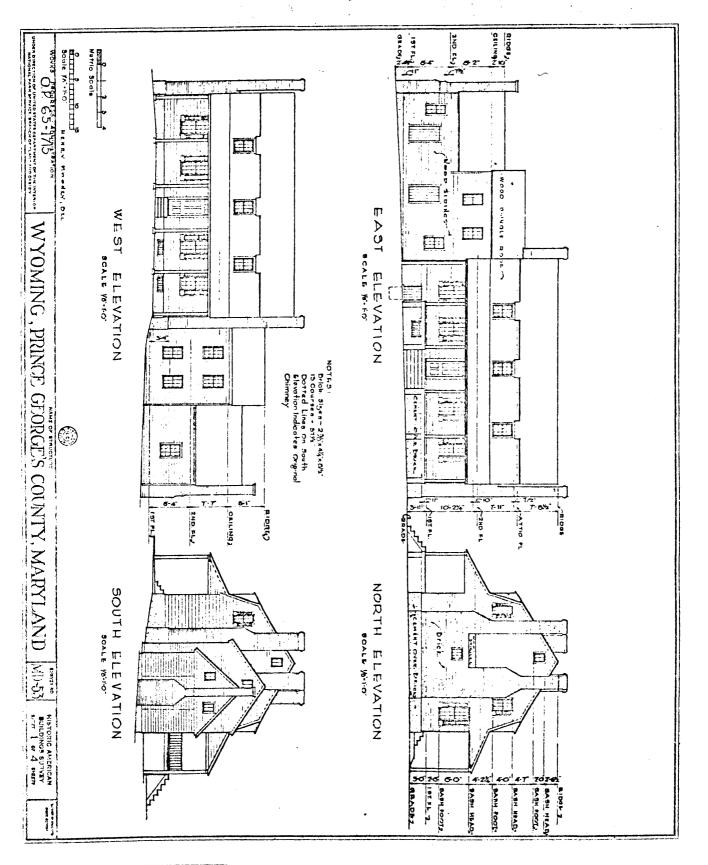
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