

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 24 1978
DATE ENTERED	SEP 24 1979

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

Tammany

AND/OR COMMON

Mount Tammany

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

End of Tammany Lane, north of U.S. Route #11

CITY, TOWN

Williamsport

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

024

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

043

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Vincent R. Groh

STREET & NUMBER

153 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21740

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown,

STATE

Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

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 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Mount Tammany" or "Tammany" is located at the end of Tammany Lane, north of U.S. Route 11, just northeast of Williamsport in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on an area of level ground and faces south.

Mount Tammany is a two-part brick structure resting on low fieldstone foundations. The main block is a two-story, three-bay structure with a side hall entrance. Attached to its north gable wall is a two-story, five-bay structure also of brick, but much lower in height than the main section. Apparently the wing was originally one and a half stories high.

The walls of the main section of Tammany display Flemish bond brickwork at the front or south elevation and the east end wall. American or common bonding is used at the north and west elevations. A water table of quarter round bricks extends along the south and west walls. The entire surface of the house has been painted white. Prominent wall decoration at the front elevation consists of flat arches of cut stone with large keystones. Flat arches of brick are present above other windows.

Windows at the first story of the front elevation have been enlarged into French doors. Above them are openings with twelve-over-eight light sash held within wide frames. A twelve-over-twelve pane sash is used at the first story in the east end wall. A small circular window is set in each gable. Original windows in the wing have nine-over-six light sash. In both sections most windows are flanked by louvered shutters.

The main entrance is located in the easternmost bay of the front elevation. It has trim similar to that of the windows and is topped with a broad, four-light transom. Extending across the front elevation is a one-story porch with a low hipped roof. It is supported by round Doric pillars.

The roof of each section of the house is sheathed with sheet metal and terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls. The eaves at the front elevation of the main section are finished with modillions under which runs a course of small dentils. At other elevations the eaves treatment is more simple. A large brick chimney is located inside the east gable end. A smaller, more recent furnace flue is attached to the west end wall. Another brick chimney is located inside the east end of the wing.

The interior of the main section of the house at the first story level consists of a wide entrance and stair hall and a large double parlor, each section having a fireplace. The woodwork is elaborate, some appearing to date from the late 18th century and some from the mid or late 19th. Door architraves displaying crossettes or "ears" at their upper corners are among the 18th century details of the house. Later work includes the French doors and arched fireplace openings trimmed with acanthus leaf cartouches.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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Tammany
Washington County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

In the main section most of the architectural fabric is of the last quarter of the 18th century. The major renovations occurred during the third quarter of the 19th century when the parlor fireplaces were redesigned and the front parlor windows were made into french doors. During the late 19th century, the 1½-story wing was enlarged to two stories. There are two barns near the Tammany house, but they are owned separately and do not appear to date from the 18th century. Near the house is a spring, but no domestic outbuildings survive.

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Tammany
Washington County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

When he settled at Tammany, Matthew ended his commercial ventures and became a successful farmer. He died in 1823, leaving a sizable estate, which was not settled until 1862, but was administered by several of his sons, who kept a common fund for support and education of all the Van Lear children.

Matthew Van Lear's wife was Mary Irwin, who was born near Mercersburg in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. One of her sisters married William Findley, Governor of Pennsylvania and later U.S. Senator. Mary Irwin's brother, Archibald, had a daughter who married a son of William Henry Harrison and served briefly as mistress of the White House. Another daughter of Archibald Irwin married another Harrison son and became the mother of Benjamin Harrison. Sophia Van Lear, youngest child of Matthew and Mary Irwin, married Archibald Irwin Findley, a lawyer from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania and son of William Findley.

The Tammany mansion today is part of a housing subdivision which dates from the 1950s. It is visually separated from the more recent dwellings by its large lot screened with old plantings.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 3

(VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION)

BEGINNING at an iron pipe in the west margin of the private roadway leading to the farm buildings of W. Preston Howard and his wife, said pipe being north 67 degrees 14 minutes west 224.85 feet from the concrete monument on the northwest corner of Manor Road and Hampton Road west, and running thence along or near the margin of the said roadway by a curve to the left for a distance of 83 feet, more or less, the chord being north 0 degrees 27 minutes west 82.31 feet to a stake, thence continuing along the said margin of said roadway by a curb to the left for a distance of 97.5 feet, more or less, the chord being north 23 degrees 47 minutes west 96.17 feet to a stake, thence continuing along said roadway by a curve to the left for a distance of 139 feet more or less, the chord being north 57 degrees 45 minutes west 137.5 feet to a stake, thence continuing along said road north 70 degrees 06 minutes west 66.49 feet to an iron pipe, thence north 15 minutes west along the west side of the present fence line 277.0 feet, thence along the south side of another fence line south 60 degrees 08 minutes east 324.88 feet to a stake alongside a post in the bed of Ritchie Road, thence leaving the fence lines and running north 58 degrees 00 minutes east 125.54 feet to a stake, thence north 8 degrees 33 minutes east 177.65 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2.6 acres.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1780s

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Known throughout its history as a "Country Mansion", Tammany is a relatively high-style building, a rarity in 18th century western Maryland. The brickwork, woodwork, and architectural detail are typical of the late 18th century in general, exhibiting Georgian stylistic influences. However, these details are unusual for 18th century Washington County. Brick was not often used as a building material, log and stone being favored before 1800. Typical 18th century structure in western Maryland tend to be vernacular in character, lacking stylistic embellishments such as modillions and an elaborate stair.

The interior of Tammany retains much 18th century interior detail. The alteration of the parlor fireplaces and front parlor windows in the late 19th century are typical of that period and continue the tradition of interest in style begun here in the 18th century.

The Van Lear family that built this house and also owned it when the 19th century changes were made was a prominent one in Washington County, as suggested by the quality of their home.

HISTORY

Tammany, a two-part brick house near Williamsport, Maryland, is believed to have been built during the 1780s by Matthew Van Lear, a prominent early resident of Washington County. The property remained in the hands of his descendants until 1928. The Van Lear family was related to William Findley, Governor of Pennsylvania, and President Harrison, President of the United States.

Additional information on the history of the Van Lear family is to be found in the attached excerpts from The History of Western Maryland by Thomas Scharf and T.J. C. Williams' History of Washington County.

The Van Lear family is one of the oldest in Western Maryland. The branch that came to Williamsport consisted of two brothers, Matthew and William, who, according to local histories, engaged in trade with the West. They later purchased a large tract of land near Williamsport where Matthew built this brick house shortly after the close of the Revolution. He named it Tammany after a well-known indian chief of that time. Tammany is said to have been built of bricks made on the property.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scharf, Thomas J. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia, Pa: Louis H. Everts, 1882.
 Washington County Land Records.
 Washington County Probate Records
 Williams, T.J.C. History of Washington County. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing Co., 1906.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.60 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	2 6 0 0 0 0	4 3 8 8 0 9 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Sites Survey

DATE

March 1977

STREET & NUMBER

County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street

TELEPHONE

(301) 791-3065

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

8-15-79

TITLE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

William H. Bradman
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 9-24-79

ATTEST: Anna Jane Saxe
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9-21-79

Tammany Manor (Approximate 1st floor plan)

N →

