

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
OCT 17 1978
DATE ENTERED
NOV 29 1978

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

Mount Hope

AND/OR COMMON

Gast house; Crestlawn

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1 Cheverly Circle

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cheverly

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fifth

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

24

COUNTY

Prince George's

CODE

033

3 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
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Heirs of Fred W. Gast

John Gast
1 Cheverly Circle
Cheverly, Md. 20785 ✓

STREET & NUMBER

Contact through Mayor Robert W. O'Connor, 6401 Forest Road

CITY, TOWN

Cheverly

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 20785

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Prince George's County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

14735 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

STATE

Maryland 20870

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mount Hope is located at Number 1 Cheverly Circle just east of Cheverly Avenue, the main north-south thoroughfare in Cheverly, Maryland. It stands on a two-acre lot on a prominent ridge in central Cheverly facing south with a view, now somewhat obscured, of northeast Washington, D. C.

The Town of Cheverly, founded in 1918 and incorporated in 1931, is a residential suburb of Washington. It is 1.2 square miles in extent and has some 8,000 inhabitants. The Town occupies much of the original 716-acre tobacco plantation of Fielder Magruder, Jr., who built Mount Hope circa 1839. The house is the town symbol appearing on the official town seal and town flag.

The main part of the two-story, five-bay frame house was built in two stages, the three-bay west half in the 1830's and the two-bay addition to the east in the 1860's. The 20 x 20 foot one-story wing, now containing a circa 1950 kitchen, appears to date from the 1830's as well.

There is some evidence that a house stood here earlier, possibly by the late 18th century. There is a 20 x 20 foot, stone cellar under the northeast corner of the house, adjacent to the crawl space under the kitchen, which appears to be from an earlier building. A stone outbuilding, probably a dairy, stands just behind the house. It has walls two feet thick and is ventilated; it appears to date from the late 18th century.

The south facade of the house has a central entrance flanked by four French doors with transoms above installed in the 1920's. The doorway consists of a door with two glass panels, transom, and sidelights. In all of these openings is one light of thick, beveled glass, added circa 1920. On the second floor are five windows with six-over-six light sash. The one-story porch which extends across the entire front was added as part of Robert Marshall's renovations of 1919-1922 (See #8). The gable roof has a very shallow pitch and is covered with asphalt shingles.

The west gable end has two exterior chimneys, while the east has two interior ones. All are of stuccoed brick. Two small, four-light windows flank the southwest chimney on the first floor. The northwest chimney has a doorway to the north and a large square window containing one sheet of glass to the south. In the east end there is a 6/6 sash window to the north of the southeast chimney and a small, horizontal stained-glass window with a "C" in the center to the south. The latter was put in by Marshall, and the "C" stands for Crestlawn, his name for the house. There are no windows above the first story on the gable ends.

The north facade has had several narrow, one-story additions made to it, to provide bathrooms and a small kitchen. There are five windows on the second floor. The house is covered with clapboard for the most part, with aluminum siding on the east, and some asphalt siding on the rear (north).

The kitchen wing joins the house at the northeast half of the east gable end. It has two 6/6 sash windows on the south, a door on the east, and two windows on the north.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Circa 1839; 1860's; 1919 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Fielder Magruder, Jr.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mount Hope is the focal point of the town of Cheverly, a suburb of Washington, D. C. founded in 1918. It is a frame farmhouse built circa 1839 and added to in the 1860's by Fielder Magruder, Jr., member of the prominent Magruder family who first settled in Maryland in 1652.¹ Part of the house sits on the stone foundations of an earlier structure, and a possibly circa 1800 outbuilding also remains on the property.

The house was renovated from 1919 to 1922, as the home and office of Robert Marshall, founder of Cheverly. He lived here until 1929. Cheverly's first mayor owned Mount Hope from 1941 to 1977. The house is the official town symbol and appears on the town seal and the town flag.

Fielder Magruder built his house facing south on a prominent ridge over Washington, a 13-acre portion of the 500-acre, 1686 land grant Hudson's Range. Although the precise chain of ownership of the 13-acre tract is not certain, it was owned in 1836 by U.S. Senator Joseph Kent, the former Governor of Maryland², who acquired parts of Hudson's Range once owned by Benjamin Stoddert, first Secretary of the Navy and builder of nearby Beall's Pleasure.³

Architectural evidence suggests Mount Hope was built on the foundations of a late 18th/early 19th century structure of undetermined origin. Fielder Magruder, Jr. acquired the 13 acres known as "Part of Hudson's Range" from Joseph Kent in August 1836⁴, paid him again for the same tract in June 1837⁵, and immediately sold the land to Howerton Cross⁶, who sold it back to Magruder in November 1838 as part of a 217-acre transaction which included two adjacent tracts, the 129-acre parcel known as Mitchell's Adventure and 75 acres of Crawford's Adventure and Columbia.⁷

Magruder was shown as a head of household in the 1840 Federal Census of the Bladensburg District in Prince George's County⁸, suggesting he had already settled on the land, and in the 1842 Tax Assessment the name Mount Hope is first applied to the tract, then listed at 200 acres.⁹ Magruder gradually acquired additional property, and by 1861 Mount Hope consisted of 639 acres¹⁰ and the 1860 Federal Census showed him owning 25 slaves.¹¹ Architectural evidence and the Federal Census of 1870 indicate the main house was extensively modified and enlarged in the late 1860's, probably to accommodate seven blacks shown as residing in the dwelling in addition to Magruder and his wife, Ann.¹² By 1888, the year of Magruder's death, Mount Hope consisted of 716 acres.¹³ In his will of December 16, 1886, proven on May 22, 1888, he left the home place consisting of "the tract of land which I purchased of Howardin [sic] Cross, now deceased, and upon which I now reside, being two hundred and seven (207) acres, more or less" to Ann T. G. Magruder, his wife.¹⁴ As they were childless, she left the property at her death in 1894 to her nephew, George Beall Sheriff.¹⁵

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PRIMARY SOURCES

Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.
 Prince George's County Land Records.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.97 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1 8	3 3 4	1 5 0	4 3 0 9	6 8 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C						D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This house stands on Lot 19, Block Eye, Section 1 of Cheverly, Maryland.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Raymond W. Bellamy, Jr., Town Historian/Member

ORGANIZATION

Town of Cheverly/P.G. County Committee of Maryland
Historical Trust

DATE

March 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Belmar, 2819 Cheverly Avenue

TELEPHONE

Off: 688-7979/Home 773-5439

CITY OR TOWN

Cheverly

STATE

Maryland 20785

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

[Signature]

10-6-78

TITLE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature]

DATE

11/29/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: Bill Labovich
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE

DATE

Nov 29, 1978

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Prince George's County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The first floor plan of the house consists of a central hall with double parlor on one side and two rooms on the other, with a few variations. The 1830's section contains the entrance hall and double parlor. The stair in the hall rises from south to north. It has a large, turned newel post and appears to date from the time of the 1860's addition. The original wide floorboards in the hall show a patch at the foot of the stair. A wide opening between the rooms at this end once held a set of sliding, paneled doors; these are now stored elsewhere on the property. The doors leading into these rooms from the hall are six-panel ones. The mantels in both rooms appear to be later replacements. There is a bathroom at the rear of the hall with a six-panel door. A doorway below the stair leads to a stair hall in the 1860's section, which contains an earlier stair, running up from north to south.

The rooms on the east, added in the 1860's, consist of one room across the front (south) and a smaller room and narrow stair hall in the rear. The mantels here are very plain. A built-in cupboard stands just to the south of the mantel in the north room. The doorways from the front room to the main hall and between the two rooms date from the 1920 remodeling, being paired French doors, though wider than those replacing the front windows. In the kitchen and northeast room there are both four and five-panel doors and several different types of architrave.

On the second floor, there are two rooms above the double parlor on the west and a small room at the south end of the hall. This part of the house retains its original wide flooring. Closets have been added. There is a fireplace in the south-west room; the architraves are flat. A doorway in the east wall of the room at the end of the hall was cut through when the addition was made. It has corner blocks & a reeded architrave. The other doorways in this last half have wide flat trim, although one or two also have corner blocks.

In the 1830's section there is a carpenter lock on an original door in the first floor hall, hand-adzed beams under the first floors and mortise and tenon joint construction in the roof. A massive, hand-adzed beam provides the center support for the kitchen wing. In the 1940's a cellar was excavated under the west half of the house

Immediately north of the stone dairy is a two-car frame garage built in 1919, with an attached shed of slightly later construction. The shed was used until 1925 to house a small DELCO electric plant, which supplied power to the residents in the early days of Cheverly.

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Prince George's County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

In a deed of 30 January 1919,¹⁶ Sheriff's heirs sold " the Fielder Magruder tract," surveyed in November 1918 and found to consist of 193½ acres, to the late Robert Marshall, an Ohio land developer and former stockbroker. Marshall named his purchase Cheverly and used Mount Hope, renamed "Crestlawn", as his residence and field office from 1919 to 1929 while he was building the Town of Cheverly. Around the house, on which he spent \$8,640 in a renovation and modernization, Marshall preserved a 1.97 acre lot, designating it No. 1 Cheverly Circle.¹⁷

In 1931, when the Town of Cheverly was incorporated, the first Mayor, the late Fred W. Gast, chose Mount Hope as a symbol to appear on the official town seal, which continues in use.¹⁸ In 1941 Gast purchased the property which had been in the hands of a number of owners during the thirties.¹⁹ He left it to his children after his death in March 1977. The Town of Cheverly is presently attempting to acquire the property from the Gast heirs to be preserved as a town historic site.

¹Bellamy, Raymond W., Jr., "Mount Hope: A Magruder Plantation Home and a Town Symbol, 1977 Yearbook of the American Clan Gregor Society Containing the Proceedings of the 1976 Annual Gathering (Washington, D.C.: American Clan Gregor Society, 1977), p. 64.

²Prince George's County Land Records: AB#10/400; cf. AB#11/217 and 213; Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland (MHR).

³Prince George's County Land Records: AB#10/394, MHR.

⁴Prince George's County Land Records: AB#10/400, MHR.

⁵Prince George's County Land Records: AB#11/217, MHR.

⁶Prince George's County Land Records: AB#11/213, MHR.

⁷Prince George's County Land Records: AB#12/62, MHR.

⁸Sixth Federal Census (1840), M704, Roll 169, Prince George's County, Bladensburg District, Prince George's County Library, Oxon Hill Branch.

⁹Prince George's County Tax Assessment, 1842, Bladensburg Second District, Account #11042, MHR.

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Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

¹⁰Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1842, Bladensburg Second District, Account #11047, MHR.

¹¹Eighth Federal Census (1860), M653, Roll 485, Prince George's County, Bladensburg District, Prince George's County Library, Oxon Hill Branch.

¹²Ninth Federal Census (1870), M593, Roll 592, Prince George's County, Bladensburg District, Prince George's County Library, Oxon Hill Branch.

¹³Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1888, Bladensburg Second District, Account #12216, MHR.

¹⁴Prince George's County Wills: WAJ JR. #1/525, MHR.

¹⁵Prince George's County Wills: JBP#1/175, MHR.

¹⁶Prince George's County Land Records: 137/466, Prince George's County Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland (PGCC).

¹⁷Prince George's County Land Records: Plat Book RNR#2, Plat 38, PGCC. Bellamy, p. 65. H.C. Ball, Letter of August 11, 1919, Town of Cheverly Archives, Cheverly, Maryland.

¹⁸Ibid.

¹⁹Prince George's County Land Records: 620/188, PGCC. See also 472/455; 418/51; 385/130; and 305/304.

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Mount Hope
Prince George's County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland . ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 4

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1842, 1861, 1888.

Prince George's County Wills.

Prince George's County Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Prince George's County Land Records

Prince George's County Memorial Library, Oxon Hill Branch, Oxon Hill, Maryland

Sixth Federal Census (1840) - M 704, Roll 169.

Eighth Federal Census (1860) - M 653, Roll 485.

Ninth Federal Census (1870) - M 593, Roll 592.

Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861 in: Van Horn, R. Lee,
Out of the Past, Prince George's County Historical Society, Riverdale, Md., 1976.

Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George's,
Maryland. Philadelphia: C.M. Hopkins, 1878. Prince George's County
Historical Society, Riverdale, Maryland, 1975. p. 15.

Town of Cheverly, Archives, Cheverly, Maryland.

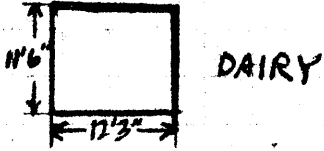
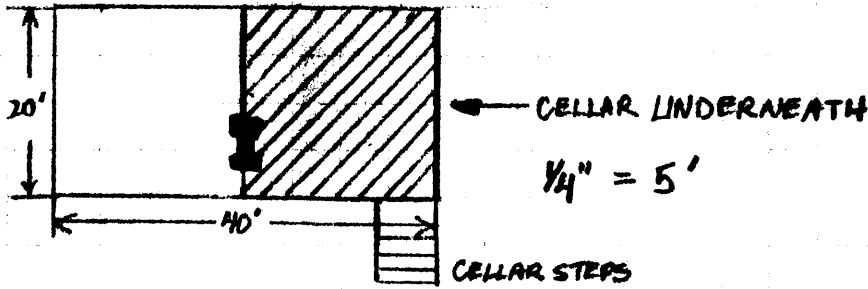
Letter of H.C. Ball, Builder, August 11, 1919 (certifies he remodeled a
residence for Mr. Robert Marshall at Crestlawn, Cheverly, Maryland, at a cost
of \$8,640.13).

SECONDARY SOURCES

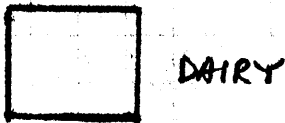
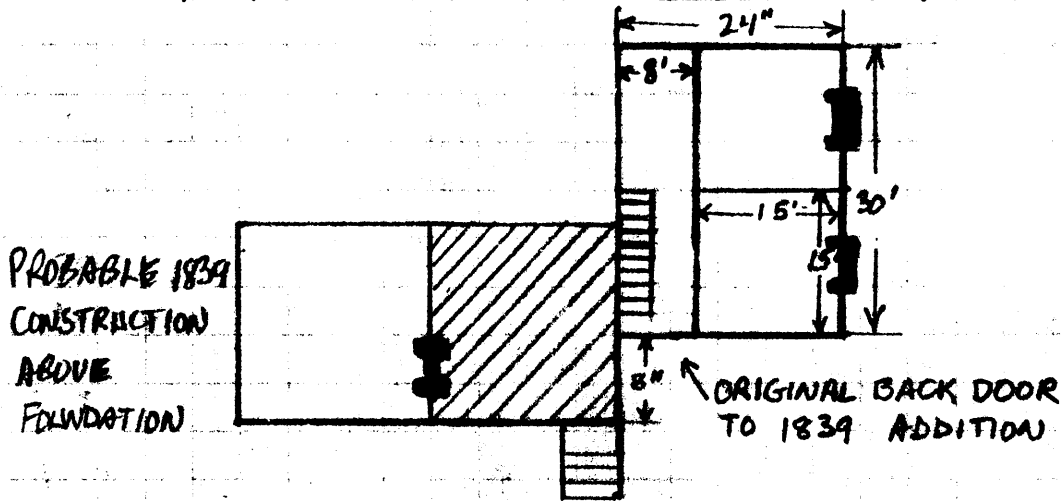
Bellamy, Raymond W., Jr. "Mount Hope: A Magruder Plantation Home and a Town
Symbol." 1977 Yearbook of the American Clan Gregor Society Containing the
Proceedings of the 1976 Annual Gathering. Washington, D.C.: American Clan Gregor
Society, 1977.

MOUNT HOPE

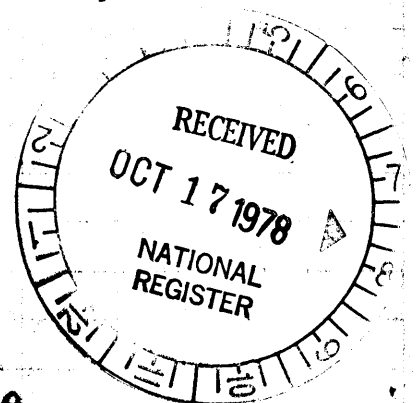
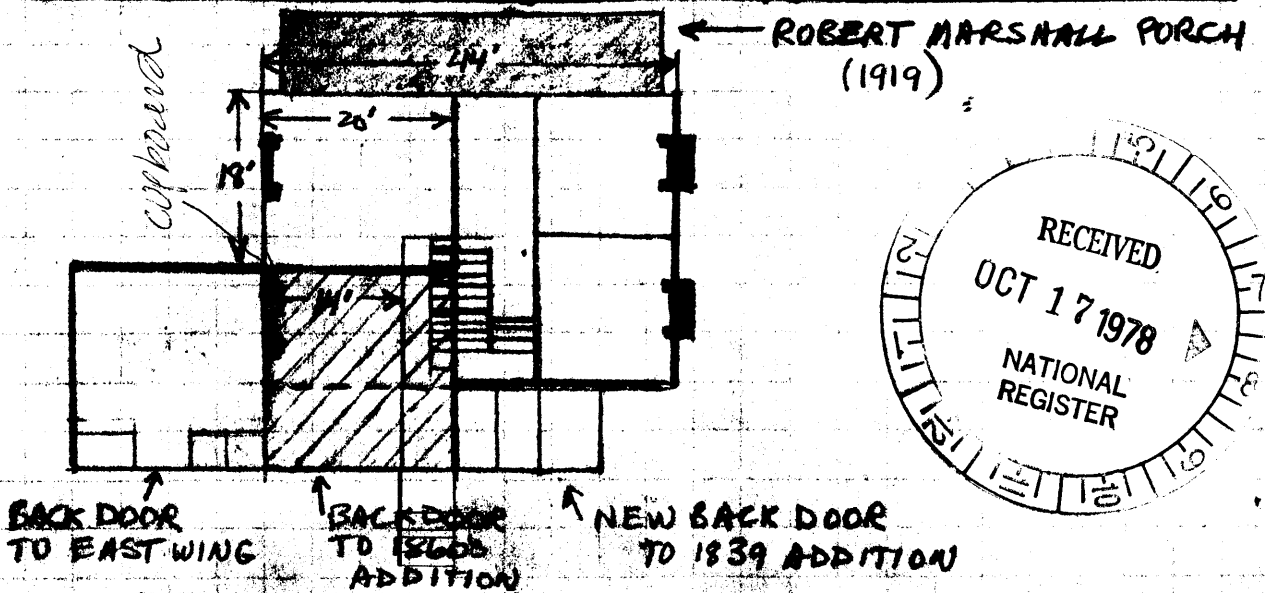
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
(FIRST FLOOR PLAN)



2. CA. 1839 FIELDER MAGRUDER TWO STORY ADDITION



3. CA. LATE 1860'S FIELDER MAGRUDER TWO STORY ADDITION



R. BELLAMY
MARCH 1978

Washington East Quad

17 197



4308
4312
4311
55'
4308
4307

Lucal town
Wilton
Dagers
rights
Seton Sch
Rogers Heights
Water Tank
Hudsonburg High Sch
Villa Heights
Water Tank
Prince Georges Hospital
Cheverly
Tuxedo
Beaverdam
Fairmont Heights
Chapel Oaks
Fairmont Heights
Fairmont Heights
St. Pleasant
Carmody Hills
Glen Hope High Sch
Woodawn
West Lanham Hills
Ardwick
Park
Bellemead
Recreation Center
Cooper Lane Sch
Dodge Park
Kent Village
Kentland
Palmer Park
Br Recreation Center
Kent High Sch
Columbia Park Sch
Huntsville
Highland Park
St. Pleasant Recreation Center
Carmody Hills