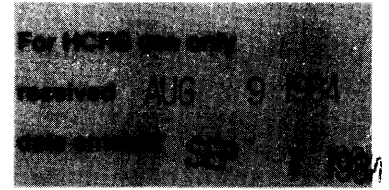


United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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 Gresham

and/or common Gresham

2. Location

street & number 784 Mayo Road (MD Route 214) n/a not for publication

city, town Edgewater n/a vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Maryland code 24 county Anne Arundel code 003

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Leon C. Johnson (Beverly)

street & number 141 Riverside Road

city, town Edgewater n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21037

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse

street & number Church Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

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Condition
 excellent deteriorated unaltered original site
 good ruins altered moved date n/a
 fair unexposed

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 1 </u> buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 1 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 3 </u>	<u> 2 </u> Total

Number of previously listed
National Register properties
included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions
and uses: residential; agricultural

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Gresham is a large frame dwelling located near the town of Edgewater in southern Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The present appearance of the house is the result of several building campaigns: it appears that a late 18th century 5 bay 1½ story dwelling was raised to 2½ stories in the second quarter of the 19th century and a two bay, 2½ story wing constructed at each end shortly thereafter, resulting in a 9-bay facade. The metal-clad gable roof is asymmetrical; the rear catslide covers a transverse stair passage and extends to shelter an open porch. The building is sheathed in weatherboards, and rests on a partial foundation of granite. A deteriorated Colonial Revival portico spans the five central bays of the principal (south) facade, sheltering a Greek Revival, two-vertical-panel door set within a beaded surround with a paneled frieze. Windows are predominantly wood 6/6 double-hung sash; a few have been replaced with 2/2 sash. A simple boxed cornice occurs on the south facade only. Two broad brick chimneys with corbeled caps rise from the roof ridge between the central block and the end wings. The interior block has been altered somewhat, most recently around the turn of the 20th century, but retains significant second-quarter-19th century detailing, including eight mantels (two of marbleized stone), paneling under the south windows of the central section, and window and door architraves of broad, symmetrically-filleted molding with plain corner blocks. Also on the property are a 19th-century tobacco house and corncrib which contribute to the significance of the resource, and a recent frame storage building and severely deteriorated greenhouse which do not contribute. These buildings are located on a landscaped tract of approximately five acres, surrounded by woods and a planned residential subdivision.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Gresham Anne Arundel County, MD Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The dwelling house at "Gresham" stands on a slight hill, surrounded by a wooded area and overgrown fields. It is approached by a long narrow lane and is barely visible from Route 214. The house is a 2½ story, rectangular, wood frame structure, part of which may date to the late 1700s; the dimensions of the central section correspond to those of a 1½ story frame dwelling which appears in the 1798 direct tax assessment.

The house has apparently been built in several stages. The center portion, a 2½ story rectangular area approximately 16' deep x 28' long and flanked by a pair of brick chimneys, appears to incorporate the earliest part of the building; presumably a five-bay, 1½ story, late 18th century dwelling was expanded in the mid-19th century to form this 2½ story central block. It consists of 2 rooms at each floor and one room at the attic which is accessible from two steep, narrow stairs adjacent to the chimneys. The floor steps down at the rear, or north, end of each room on the first floor, indicating the possibility that a porch was enclosed at some time to enlarge the house. Also at the rear of the center portion an early 2-story addition with porch was constructed. At the first floor, it includes a stair well and vestibule area, and enlarges one of the two main rooms. At the second floor this addition includes a hallway, stairwell, and small room formerly used as a bathroom, but now abandoned. There is a 10' by 28' portico with dirt floor on the south side. This appears to be an early 20th century addition, is in poor condition, and is currently used as a goat shed.

The portico is centered on the front entry door, a Greek Revival, 2-vertical-panel door which is slightly recessed, and has a wide wood trim surround with a paneled frieze and molded top. It is flanked by two windows on each side. The second floor has 2 rooms corresponding to those on the first floor, each also with 2 windows, which are not aligned above those below, but are placed in toward the center to space more or less evenly across the south face of the center portion. The attic room has 2 dormer windows located above the "outer" 2 windows below. The east and west wings, each 2½ stories tall, and approximately 18' wide x 22' deep appear to have been added shortly after the expansion of the main center block, as the roof pitch and height are all matched to those at the rear addition. Each wing consists of one main room at each floor, with a small rear area that may have been a porch. Each has its own later addition; at the east wing this is in the form of a 1 story 18' wide x 8' deep covered porch on the north side, and at the west end of the west wing there is a 1 story shed-roofed room used currently as a kitchen. A small stair connects to the 2nd floor at the rear of the west wing. Ceilings throughout are approximately 7' high.

The house is built on a crawl space, except for a small cellar below that portion of the west wing that may have been a rear porch. The foundation of the east wing only is built of uncut granite.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

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Continuation sheet Gresham Anne Arundel County, MD Item number 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The exterior is clad in horizontal wood lapped siding consisting of boards approximately 8"-10" wide, and has mostly wood double-hung windows with 6 over 6 panes. Most windows have, or appear to have had, hinged louvered shutters. The existing asymmetrical gable roof has a seamed metal roofing (in poor condition) installed over wood shingles. The roof sheathing is a "spaced board" type of sheathing, and the roof rafters are pegged together at the ridge. The interior of the building, including the attic, is finished with plaster on wood lath. Most of the lath is hand-split, and some of the floor beams (where visible) show adze and pit-saw marks. There is wood trim at the windows and doors, mostly a beaded wood type, although in some areas it varies. At the south windows of the first floor of the center portion, there is panel molding below and around the windows, which are recessed slightly into the walls.

The 2 main center rooms of the first floor are the most formal, with the aforementioned panel molding at the windows, and each with a working fire box with plastered brick lining and a dark greenish, heavily veined marbled surround. The other 6 main rooms of the house have formally styled wood mantels (5 of which appear to match), whose design is typical of the second quarter of the 19th century.

Electrical service has been provided to recepticals at most rooms, but there are a few light fixtures.

Plumbing service at the first floor is provided to one sink at the east wing, and to the west end addition which serves as the current kitchen. The second floor has an abandoned bathroom at the center rear, and a very small room with water closet and lavatory and tub tucked in the northwest corner of the west wing.

Heating is provided by the 2 functioning fireplaces and 1 wood stove at the first floor, and by a small portable electric radiator in the west bedroom upstairs.

All utilities are inadequate for present day use, and will have to be replaced in order to bring the house up to current health and safety code standards.

Outbuildings associated with the property include a 19th century barn, which is in fair condition and has recently been partially re-roofed; a corn crib which is in poor condition, but which may be salvaged; a greenhouse in extremely poor condition; a garage or storage building in good condition, but of comparatively recent construction.

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Gresham

Continuation sheet Anne Arundel County, MD

Item number

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The property, consisting of about 5 acres immediately surrounding the house, is accessible from Mayo Road by a long, tree-lined drive. The house sits facing south on a knoll above an old but still flowing spring. Although surrounded by trees and shrubbery, there is no recognizable trace of the exotic planting Commodore Mayo is reported to have brought home from his travels abroad. Approximately 100 acres of abandoned farmland around the property is planned to be developed in the near future as a residential community of about 200 single family homes.

8. Significance

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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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates early 19th C. - 1861 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: B
Applicable Exceptions: none
Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Gresham derives significance primarily from its association with Commodore Isaac Mayo, who occupied the property beginning in the early 19th century until his death in 1861. A highly regarded and decorated officer in the U. S. Navy, his 53-year career ended in disgrace in 1861 when he attempted to resign in protest of Abraham Lincoln's blockade of seceded states; Lincoln refused to accept his resignation and dismissed him "with prejudice."

9. Major Bibliographical References

AA-232

McWilliams, Jane. "A Clean Record for Isaac Mayo" Annapolis, Maryland
Evening Capital, August 19, 1977.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 5.005 acres

Quadrangle name South River, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>1</u> <u>8</u>	<u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state		code	county	code
-------	--	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara A. Norman, Associate

organization Bignell & Wilkes, P.A., Architects date April 30, 1984

street & number 44 West Street telephone (301) 263-8880

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

[Signature] 8-1-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>[Signature]</i> Keeper of the National Register	Entered in the National Register date <u>9/7/84</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Gresham
Anne Arundel County, MD Item number 8 Page 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The following is an edited version of an article by Jane McWilliams which appeared in the Annapolis Evening Capital, August 19, 1977:

"Isaac Mayo was born in All Hallows Parish, Anne Arundel County, about 1795, the son and grandson of local planters. His father died in 1797, and the following year his mother re-married. Isaac, his two brothers, and sister probably grew up in Montgomery County in the home of his step-father and guardian, Jonathan Waters.

But Isaac, who had inherited land near West River from his father and from an uncle who died in 1802, thought of Anne Arundel as home. Over the years he added to his uncle's land until by the 1850's he owned almost 1,000 acres covering most of the peninsula that now bears his name.

Callahan's authoritative naval register lists the military service of Isaac Mayo as:

'Midshipman 15 November 1809;
Lieutenant, 4 February 1815;
Commander, 20 December 1832;
Captain, 8 September 1841;
Dismissed, 18 May 1861'

For over half a century Mayo's service paralleled that of the U. S. Navy itself. He fought the British, the Spanish, the Seminole Indians; and a variety of pirates. He was wounded twice. And decorated for valor.

For his patriotism and valor in the War of 1812, Mayo had been awarded a silver medal by the U. S. Congress and a gold-mounted sword by the General Assembly of Maryland. In 1839 he captained the steamship 'Poinsett' in action against the Florida Indians.

Six years later he had been appointed president of the special board that ultimately chose Annapolis as the site for the proposed Naval Academy.

Mayo had seen action in the Mexican War as commander of the 10-gun steamer 'Mississippi' attached to Commodore Perry's squadron during the bombardment of Vera Cruz.

During one of his brief respites from sea-duty, Isaac courted Sarah Battaile Fitzhugh Bland, daughter of Theodorick Bland, chancellor of Maryland. They were married in 1833 and had at least five children, only two of whom survived childhood.

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

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Continuation sheet Gresham Anne Arundel County, MD Item number 8 Page 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

In all of the military records there is no hint of any dereliction of duty, no stain upon Mayo's name or career. Why then was he cashiered out of the Navy he had served so well?

The explanation for this lies in the events of those ominous days in the spring of 1861, when the United States was rushing headlong into a civil war.

Abraham Lincoln took office as President on March 4, 1861, refusing in his inaugural address to recognize the right of states to secede and ignoring the existence of the month-old Confederate States of America.

He could not, however, ignore the fact that all but two U. S. Military installations in the seceded states were then occupied by the Confederates. Lincoln ordered supplies sent to the relief of Ft. Sumter in the Charleston harbor, the Confederates opened fire on the fort, and the war officially began. It was April 12, 1861.

With the surrender of Ft. Sumter, Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers "to enforce the laws" and declared a blockade of all seceded states. On April 19, Northern soldiers were mobbed as they marched through Baltimore on their way to Washington; and on the 21st, U. S. General Benjamin Butler arrived in Annapolis with more federal troops.

For Isaac Mayo, his conscience troubled by what he believed to be the injustice of Lincoln's actions, the only honorable reaction was resignation. On May 1, from his home 'Gresham,' on the South River, he wrote the President: 'Sir:

I hereby most respectfully tender to you my resignation of the office of Captain in the United States Navy.

For more than half a century it has been the pride of my life to hold office under the government of the United States. For twenty-five years I have been engaged in active sea service and have never seen my flag dishonoured or the American Arms disgraced by defeat. It was the hope of my old age that I might die, as I had lived, an officer in the Navy of a free government. This hope has been taken from me.

In adopting the policy of Coercion you have denied to millions of freemen the rights of the Constitution - in its stead you have placed the will of a sectional party, and now demand submission in the name of an armed force! As one of the oldest soldiers of America, I protest - in the name of humanity - against this 'war against brethern.' I can not fight against the Constitution while pretending to fight for it.

You will therefore oblige me by accepting my resignation.

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

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Gresham

Continuation sheet Anne Arundel County, MD

Item number 8 and 10

Page 6

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Most respectfully,

Isaac Mayo

Captain U. S. Navy'

Lincoln, angered by the criticism and perhaps suspecting that Mayo might join the Confederacy, scrawled across the letter, 'Dismissed with prejudice.'

On May 18, 1861, the day Lincoln rejected his resignation, Isaac Mayo died. Whether he knew of the dismissal or died believing his career was still unmarred is unknown. He was buried quietly in the family vault in St. Anne's Cemetery in Annapolis on May 20. No monument marks his grave."

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are depicted on the attached map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property, approximately 5 acres, comprises the resource within its immediate landscaped setting. Heavily overgrown and wooded areas lie to the south, west, and north; to the east is abandoned farmland slated for development as a residential community of approximately 200 units.

PLAT IS APPROVED FOR RECORDING WITH A DEED
 PART OF SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO PLAT SITE.

10-26-83

PLANNING & ZONING OFFICER R.R. CO. MD. DATE
 MAJOR #1073 GRANTED 10/26/83 TO LEGALITY, NO IMPROVEMENTS,
 DIRECT ACCESS TO RIE, PIA AND O.S.D. AND RECREATION FOR
 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE R.R. CO. HEALTH DEPT.
 HAVE BEEN MET. (PRIVATE SYSTEMS)

10/21/83

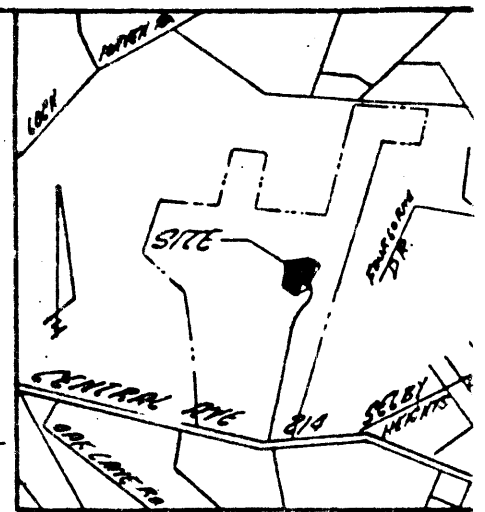
COUNTY REGISTER OFFICER DATE

OWNERS DEDICATION

I, WILLIAM H. MATTER JR., MANAGING PARTNER, HEREBY ADOPT THIS PLAN OF
 SUBDIVISION AND ESTABLISH THE MINIMUM BOUNDING RESTRICTION
 LINES. THERE ARE NO SUIITS, LEINS, MORTGAGES, ETC. AFFECTING
 THIS PROPERTY. FOR TITLE SEE LIBER 3039 FOLIO 876

10-25-83

WILLIAM H. MATTER JR., MANAGING PARTNER DATE



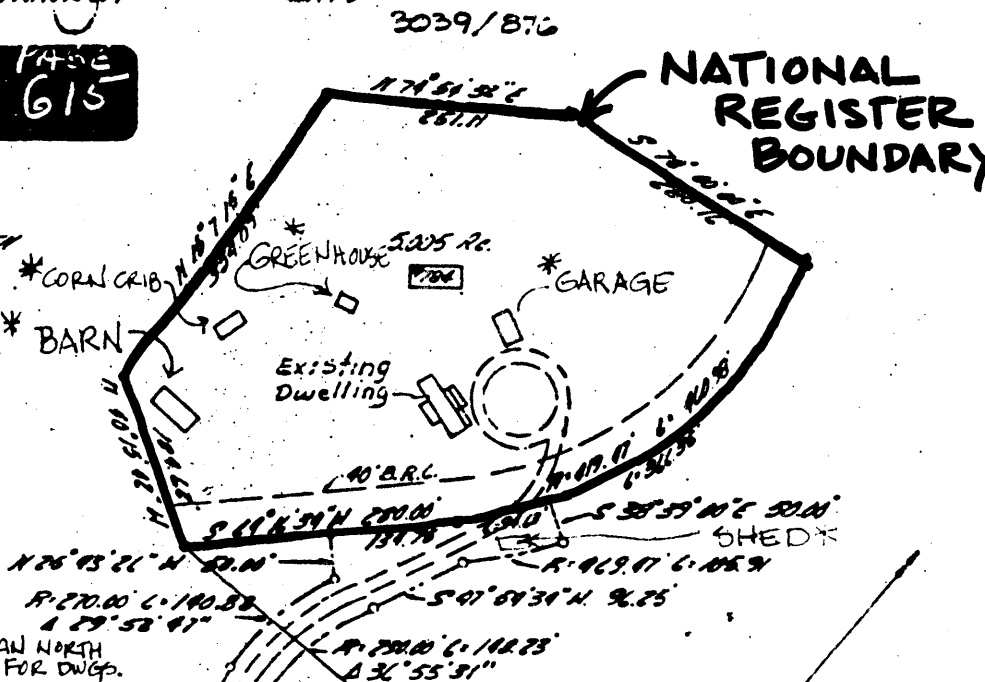
VICINITY MAP
 1" = 8000'

BOOK - PLAT
 3653 - 615

SPECIAL NOTE:

THE 5.005 AC. LOT HAS BEEN FILED WITH
 THE MARYLAND HISTORIC TRUST, AND
 FURTHER SUBDIVISION IS PRECLUDED.

GRESHAM
AA-232
ANNE ARUNDEL CO.,
MARYLAND



* PLAN NORTH
 FOR DWGP.

NOTES:

TRV MAP. CO. BLOCK 9
 PARCEL 19
 ZONING: R-1
 R.R. CO. TRV. SHEETS: U30, U31
 DEED REFERENCE: 3039, 812
 SETBACKS: FRONT: 40'
 REAR: 35'
 SIDE: 15'
 40' COMBINED

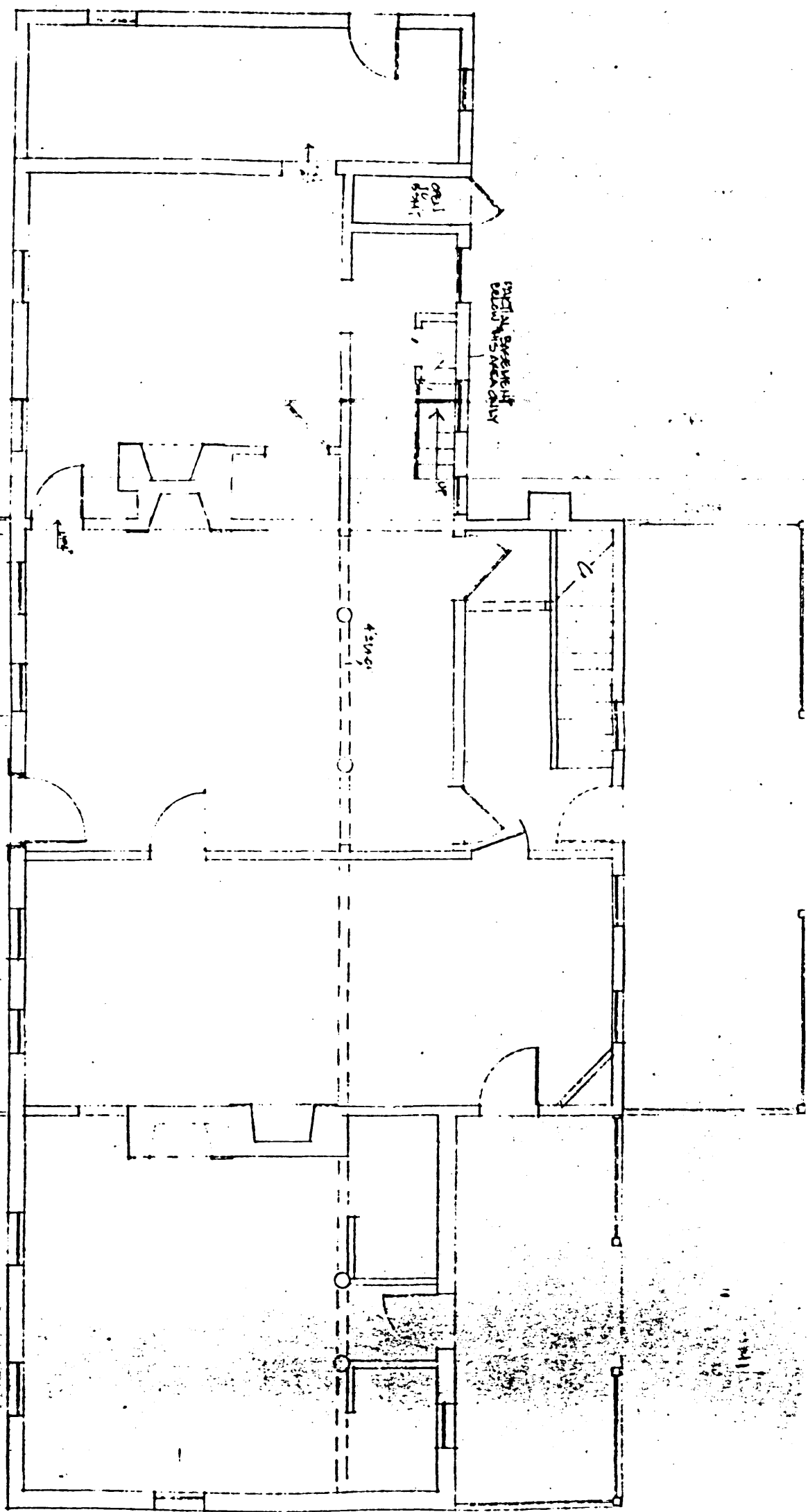
* REMAINDER OF
 PROPERTY
 109.982 AC.
 3039/876

* NOT BOUNDARIES

PRIVATE ROAD STATEMENT

THE TEMPORARY 40' EASEMENT
 SHOWN HEREON IS FOR THE USE OF
 THE 5.005 AC. LOT. IT SHALL NOT BE
 ACCEPTABLE FOR PARTITION AND IS
 A MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY
 OF THE OWNER OF THE 5.005 AC. LOT.
 WHENEVER THE REMAINDER OF THE
 TRACT IS SUBDIVIDED, THE EASE-
 MENT SHALL BE ABANDONED.

GRESHAM
ANNE ARUNDEL
COUNTY,
MARYLAND



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



5/11/45