Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Elmer V. McCollum House

AND/OR COMMON
2301 Monticello Road

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
2301 Monticello Road — __NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore — __ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
7th

STATE
Maryland

CODE
02

COUNTY
Baltimore

CODE
510

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	XX OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
XX BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	XX PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		XX NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Marcus Auslander

STREET & NUMBER
3519 Over Brook Road

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore — __ VICINITY OF

STATE
Maryland 21208

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER
City Hall

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

75

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	XX ORIGINAL SITE
XX GOOD	__RUINS	XX ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

2301 Monticello Road, a residence of Elmer V. McCollum, is a two-and-one-half story frame house located in Baltimore, Maryland. The name of the builder is unknown as is the date of construction, but the section of Baltimore in which the house is located indicates that it was probably built around 1920. The house is a venacular example of domestic architecture. In itself the building is of no particular importance. Features of the house are a hip roof with dormer windows, an entrance with sidelights, and a columned full length porch at the front. The interior, a side hall plan, has been divided into apartments.

Elmer V. McCollum lived in the Windsor Hills area of Baltimore during most of his career at Johns Hopkins. 2301 Monticello Road was his home from approximately 1929 to 1939, when he moved to a nearby apartment. Although the ten year period is a relatively short association, it is as long as McCollum lived in any single residence.

The exterior of 2301 Monticello Road has undergone no significant alterations. The interior has been divided into three apartments. The building is relatively well maintained and there are no intrusions.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION	
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	XX SCIENCE	
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE	
__1600-1699	__ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER	
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION	
XX 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		__INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1929-1939 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Elmer V. McCollum was born near Fort Scott, Kansas, on March 3, 1879. After attending local schools he entered the University of Kansas in 1899 and graduated in 1903. McCollum remained at Kansas for his M.A. and then continued his graduate study at Yale, where he earned his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1906. During his years in graduate school McCollum was an outstanding student and early developed an interest in research. Upon receiving his Ph.D. he accepted an offer from the University of Wisconsin's Agricultural Experimental Station to become an instructor in agricultural chemistry.

By the beginning of the 20th century the State agricultural experimental stations had assumed an important role in American scientific research. Under the direction of William A. Henry the Wisconsin station had become the country's finest agricultural experimental organization and it served as a model for other such institutions. Although the major focus of attention at the State agricultural experimental stations was to increase the productivity of American agriculture, the stations also conducted significant pure science research especially in the areas of bacteriology, biochemistry, and genetics.[1] When in 1907 McCollum joined the faculty at the Wisconsin station, he became affiliated with an institution with an established research tradition. McCollum worked at the Wisconsin Agricultural Experimental Station from 1907 to 1917. By 1917 he had become a full professor and it was during these years that he began the research for which he is best known.

In 1917 William H. Welch at Johns Hopkins was busy putting together a faculty for the university's new school of Hygiene and Public Health. As was Welch's custom he hoped to attract to the school gifted researchers and teachers from across the country. Knowing of McCollum's work in nutrition, and recognizing the important link between nutrition and public health, Welch invited McCollum to join the faculty of the new school. McCollum accepted and moved to Baltimore. Johns Hopkins became his

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[1] Charles E. Rosenberg, "Science, Technology, and Economic Growth: The Case of the Agricultural Experimental Station Scientist, 1875-1914," 19th Century American Science, G. H. Daniels, ed., (Evanston, 1970), p. 203.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Erwin H. Ackerknecht, A Short History of Medicine, (New York, 1968)
Issac Asimov, Biographical Encylopedia of Science and Technology, (New York, 1972).
Elmer V. McCollum, From Kansas Farm Boy to Scientist, (Baltimore, 1964).
Richard H. Shryock, American Medical Research, Past and Present (New York, 1947).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	315,470	4,315,270
B			
C			
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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
Mr. James Sheire, Historian

ORGANIZATION
Historic Sites Survey - National Park Service

DATE
8/13/75

STREET & NUMBER
1100 L Street NW.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN
Washington

STATE
D.C.

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL XX 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Elmer V. McCollum House

academic home from 1917 until his retirement in 1946. The title of professor emeritus did not mean an end to McCollum's scientific interests. In addition to continuing his interest in research, McCollum in his later years turned to writing on the history of the study of nutrition. He remained active until almost the end of a long life, dying in November 15, 1967, at the age of 88.

When Elmer V. McCollum began his career in research in 1907 at the Wisconsin Agricultural Experimental Station, researchers in this country and in Europe had already recognized that naturally occurring diseases can be caused by the absence of something in the diets of humans and animals. In 1897 Ehristiann Eijkman, a Dutch army surgeon who worked in Indonesia, discovered that he could cause berberi in chickens by feeding them a diet of polished rice similar to the diet of many Indonesians. Eijkman next demonstrated that the disease could be cured by including the rice polishings in the diet. He correctly concluded that there must be something in the rice polishings that the body required and without which it would develop berberi. At Wisconsin beginning in 1907 McCollum began research in the field of diet and nutrition. Using rats as his experimental animals McCollum fed various test groups carefully controlled diets. After a number of years McCollum was able to induce diet deficiency diseases such as alteration in the growth of bones and the inability of the eyes to adjust to dim light in the rats. After further lengthy experimentation he isolated a fat soluable alchol which when removed from the diet was responsible for the disorders. In 1913 McCollum announced his discovery and the fat soluable alcohol was designated vitamin A. (In the same year Yale's Thomas Osborne and Lafayette Mendel made a similar discovery.)

The discovery of vitamin A was an important step on the road to the investigation of vitamins and the role they play in the body's chemistry. Eventually a host of known diseases such as scurvy, rickets, pernicious anemia, and pellegra were traced to vitamin deficiencies. Later vitamins would be chemically explained and synthetically produced (resulting in a huge vitamin industry and in the case of some vitamins a cult.)

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After moving to Johns Hopkins in 1917 as a professor of biochemistry, McCollum continued his research on vitamins. In 1922 employing the same animal assay approach he had used at Wisconsin, McCollum identified vitamin D as a prime dietary requirement for the prevention of rickets. He was also responsible for an early identification of vitamin B, although later research indicated that a host of water soluable vitamins belong to what is today called the B complex group (among them B_1, B_2, B_6, and B_{12}). While at Johns Hopkins McCollum also performed important work in the field of trace minerals, another important factor in body chemistry.

McCollum's expertise in vitamins in particular and nutrition in general led to his appointment to several public bodies concerned with questions of diet and health. In 1931 he served as an American member of the International Committee on Vitamin Standards of the League of Nations. The committee was responsible for drawing up standardized vitamin units and determing the quantities necessary for good health. From 1928 to 1937 McCollum served as an advisor to the Department of Agriculture and during World War II he helped formulate guidelines for sound dietary practices in the armed forces.

McCollum received several awards, among them the American Institute of Nutrition's Osborne and Mendel Award (1955) and the Borden Award in Nutrition (1958). In 1965 a McCollum Award was established in his honor by the American Society of Clinical Nutrition. He belonged to several honorary societies and organizations and served as the president of the American Society of Biology Chemists from 1927 to 1929. McCollum authored numerous papers and books. Among his titles were: Text Book of Organic Chemistry for Medical Students (1916), The New Knowledge of Nutrition (1918), and The American Home Diet (1919). In 1957 he published a highly regarded history of the study of nutrition called a History of Nutrition. His final work, published in 1965 when McCollum was 85, was an autobiography, From Kansas Farm Boy to Scientist.

The career of Elmer V. McCollum and his work in the discovery of vitamins illustrates a major direction of medical research in America during the first decades of this century. Employing experimental methods such as McCollum's use of rats to identify vitamin deficiency diseases, researchers launched a systematic and highly specialized attack on disease in general. Diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, vitamin deficiences, endocrine disorders, and the like were identified and in many cases cured. The successes of the biochemists, nutritionists, pathologists, and their

colleagues across the discipline spectrum led to a very significant decrease in mortality rates and a significant increase in life expectancy (which in turn allowed medical research to direct its attention to the degenerative diseases such as heart disease and cancer). Elmer V. McCollum in his work on vitamins contributed to curing diseases such as night blindness (lack of vitamin A) and rickets (vitamin D deficiency) and his accomplishments in nutrition in general marked a significant improvement in human health.