

PH0005169

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Baltimore
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JUL 26 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Prospect Hill

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Prospect Hill

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
~~West side of~~ Kane's Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Long Green

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Second

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Baltimore CODE: 005

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Mrs. Howard A. Kelly, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Prospect Hill, Kane's Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Baltimore

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:  
St. John's College Campus

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

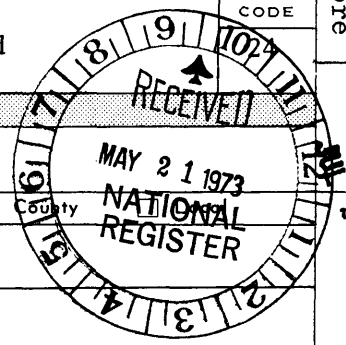
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Baltimore

ENTRY NUMBER: 261913

DATE: JUL 26 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	Exterior (Check One)			Interior (Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

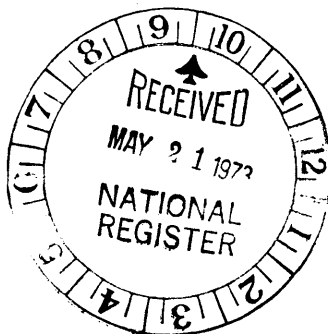
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Prospect Hill is located on the east side of Kane's Road northeast of Long Green, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story brick house is three bays long on the north (entrance) facade and four bays long on the south. The brick is laid in common bond and is not carefully pointed. Originally the house was covered with stucco which the present owner removed.

The centrally placed double door on the north facade has a semi-circular leaded fanlight. Two pilasters flank the door and support a wooden arch over the fanlight. A pair of rectangular, leaded sidelights are located near the door. The entrance porch has a round arch within the pediment which is supported by two pairs of columns. On the south facade a one-story porch runs the length of the building. Access to the porch is gained through a jib door. There is an enclosed chimney on both the east and west gable ends. A semi-circular, leaded window is located in the center of the west facade at the attic level. The windows have six-over-six sashes with plain sills and short arches. It is probable that when the house was stuccoed the window arches were treated more elaborately.

The interior of Prospect Hill is arranged next to a hall which runs from east to west along the north facade. The stair and passage to the wing exist at the east end and a small library is at the west end. The two principal rooms open off the hall and occupy the southwest and southeast (original dining room) corners of the house. These two rooms have deep, elaborate plaster cornices and mantles executed in an Adam-inspired style. The low chair rails are reeded as is the mantle in the library. The quality of the interior has led to speculation that it may be the work of William Thornton. The tall proportions of the rooms and the details associate this building with the Federal style.

A two-story wing extends from the east facade of the main house. It is stone covered with stucco. The wing has lower ceilings and more modest proportions than the Federal block. The first floor windows have six-over-six sashes while those on the second are three-over-three, resembling "eyebrow" windows. A chimney protrudes from the center of the roof ridge. The wing contains a dining room with plain wood trim and a kitchen.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 26 1973

(Number all entries)

Prospect Hill

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Historic American Buildings Survey

Federal - 1969

Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C. Code: 11



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1796-1798**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <b>Maryland history</b>                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Prospect Hill is an early example of the Federal style in Maryland. Built between 1796 and 1798, it equals, if not rivals, later Federal buildings, e.g., the Carroll Mansion, Baltimore City, especially in the interior detailing and proportions. The builder, Thomas Ringgold, had the financial resources as well as the cultural background to construct a house in the most current tastes. He was the grandson and eldest son of two wealthy and politically prominent Chestertown merchants, both named Thomas Ringgold. His family home, the Hynson-Ringgold House, is one of the architectural monuments of Chestertown.

Tragedy surrounds the early years at Prospect Hill. Thomas Ringgold, by twentieth century standards, was an alcoholic and within a year of the construction of Prospect Hill became incapable of managing his and his family's finances. He became hopelessly in debt and spent some time in the Baltimore City jail for failure to pay his debts. His mother and brothers reacted to the situation by having him declared legally insane.<sup>1</sup> Ringgold's brothers, Samuel Ringgold of Fountain Rock and Tench Ringgold of Washington, D. C., managed his property. They sold Prospect Hill in 1812 to pay their brother's debts.

Before Ringgold bought the tract it had belonged to George Hunter who had farmed it since the mid-eighteenth century. Hunter received title to the land from the State of Maryland. Hunter's farm was a part of Gunpowder Manor, a proprietary manor owned by the Lords Baltimore. During the American Revolution Maryland confiscated all British property, and often, as in Hunter's case, the tenants received full title.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<sup>1</sup>Commission of Lunacy, 1804. Ringgold v. Ringgold, Chancery Papers 4421-A.

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Primary Sources; Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland  
 Chancery Papers 4421-A.  
 Baltimore County Land Records  
 Gunpowder Manor, plat of Confiscated British Property.  
 Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1798.  
 Tax Assessment of 1783.  
 A List of Tenaments on His Lordship's Manor of Gunpowder in 1767.  
 Calvert Papers (microfilm #1234).

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39 ° 28 ' 53 "	76 ° 30 ' 58 "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	39 ° 28 ' 57 "	76 ° 30 ' 40 "				
SE	39 ° 28 ' 43 "	76 ° 30 ' 36 "				
SW	39 ° 28 ' 38 "	76 ° 30 ' 52 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 50 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Nancy Miller, Historian

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust      DATE: Jan. 31, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis      STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV  
 Orlando Ridout IV  
 Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland  
 Date February 8, 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert G. Utley  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/26/73

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date 7/24/73