

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Prince Georges
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

(NATIONAL HISTORIC INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
LANDMARKS)

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
His Lordship's Kindness or Poplar Hill

AND/OR HISTORIC:
His Lordship's Kindness

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
3.5 miles northwest of Rosaryville, .8 miles off Rosaryville Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
5th

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Prince Georges CODE: 033

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <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	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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:
Mr. and Mrs. John Walton

STREET AND NUMBER:
P.O. Box 455, Route 2

CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Prince Georges County Court House--Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET AND NUMBER:
14735 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Upper Marlboro

STATE:
Maryland

CODE:
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (17 photos)

DATE OF SURVEY:
1936 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress/Annex

STREET AND NUMBER:
Division of Prints and Photographs

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D.C.

CODE:
11

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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
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

His Lordship's Kindness is a five-part composition with brick walls laid in a variety of bonds. The central block is 56 feet wide and 48 feet deep, with a hipped roof dormered in the rear and two large interior chimneys. The two balanced end-wings, one and a half stories high measure 15 by 20 feet. They are built at right angles to the main axis and are covered by hipped roofs. The kitchen was located in the east (left) wing with the chapel in the west wing. This was remodeled into a study in the 1920's but the narrow interior balcony was left intact. The two connecting hyphens are one-story structures with gable roofs; the east curtain is 14-1/2 by 10 feet in size. The north (front) elevation of each end wing has one rectangular first floor window over which is a small semi-circular window that is set under a brick arch. The two hyphens each have center doors that are flanked by a pair of larger fanlights, similar to those in the upper stories of the end wings.

The north facade of the central block is dominated by a narrow projecting pavilion. The pavilion is crowned by a pediment containing a large single fanlight set under a brick arch which matches the semicircular windows of the wings and hyphens. A low flight of stone steps leads up to the elaborate entrance portal, which is flanked on either side by a tall, narrow window. The center door, with fanlight above it, is recessed and the entire opening is framed by pilasters and a richly carved pediment. Above the doorway, in the second story, is a large Palladian window which is topped by round brick arches. The other windows of the facade are wider and have stone lintels below and flat brick arches above. First and second story windows are of equal size. The cornice and pavilion pediment are ornamented with finely carved dentils. The south or garden facade lacks the central projecting pavilion of the front elevation, but has a similar Palladian window set in the same position in the second story. The rear center door also has a fanlight above, but the entrance-way is framed only by a brick arch and piers.

A center hall, the width of the front pavilion, extends through the house from front to rear. At midpoint the main hall is intersected by two narrow lateral halls that lead to the two wings. The four rooms on the first floor are located in each corner of the house and separated from each other by the main and cross halls. The main hall is divided at the halfway point by a wide sweeping arch. The wide stairway with carved balustrade and mahogany handrail is set in the rear half of the main hall and is located against the east wall. The two doorways adjacent to the north door, leading into the dining room on the east and parlor on the west have finely carved frames and are surmounted by elaborate pediments. The two other main hall doors, set south of the arch and leading to the wings, also have carved frames and are topped by delicately leaded fanlights. The walls and cornices are of plaster and the wooden chair rail and baseboards are carved. The main rooms of the first floor have carved wooden mantels.

(continued)

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9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1731-35

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The central block of His Lordship's Kindness, located in Prince Georges County, 3-1/2 miles west of Rosaryville, was built about 1735. Possibly designed by a professional English architect, it is a superb example of an elegant, correct, and carefully detailed early Georgian country house. With wings and hyphens added near the end of the 18th-century, His Lordship's Kindness is also an excellent example of a late Georgian five-part plantation house composition. The roof shape of this house is a rare survival of the transitional form between the gable and the full hip, or hip on hip roof. Several of the old plantation outbuildings exist intact and the foundations of others are being gradually excavated by the current owners. Still run as a working farm, the entire estate of His Lordship's Kindness provides a valuable suggestion of the working plantation of the mid-eighteenth century.

His Lordship's Kindness was erected at some date between 1731 and 1735 for Henry Darnall, III. It is said that the Earl of Shrewsbury sent an architect over from England to design the house as a present to his niece and ward, Ann Talbot, on the occasion of her marriage to Darnall. The two symmetrical end-wings and two connecting hyphens which now make the house a five-part composition, were probably added near the end of the 18th century, possibly during the period when Robert Sewall owned the plantation. The house remained in the family until 1929, when it was sold at a bankruptcy sale to Mrs. Chandler Hale. After passing through several ownerships, the property was bought by the current owners in 1955.

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(NATIONAL HISTORIC
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7. Description: (1) His Lordship's Kindness

The first floor plan is repeated on the second, where there are four bedrooms. The Palladian windows at each end of the second floor hall are framed by Corinthian pilasters and adorned with beading and scroll work. The house, gardens, and grounds are in good condition. Several original outbuildings, including the smoke house, wash house, the so-called slaves' hospital, pigeon cove, and privy are still in existence, as well as the rear gateway which led out to the plantation. The smoke house is a small, one room brick building with a gable roof. The wash house is a frame hipped roof structure with one window in each of the end walls. The slaves' hospital is a slightly larger brick building with a window in the front wall next to the door. All of these buildings are lined along the path leading from the house to the plantation gates. Foundations for the slaves quarters and for what appear to be overseers or managers residences are also evident and are currently undergoing excavation by the owner. The current excavation is located along this path as it turns to the south. A pigeon cove of frame construction is located east of this, just before the gates to the old plantation road. The original carriage house and spring house were removed by a previous owner and replaced with a modern structure to serve as a garage. There is also some intrusion of farm equipment but it is not evident from the house and is not out of keeping with the continuing function of the land as a working farm. A modern gateway and stable have been built at the entrance to the property. Although the stable has a somewhat adverse effect from the road it is completely removed from the house by winding, unpaved roadways which have been maintained in their original state, along with existing landscaping. These two features, to some extent, shelter the entire property from exterior intrusions and preserve the integrity of the house and its site.

The remaining 150 acres of the original estate is bounded on the east and south by the Piscataway creek, on the west by a cemetery and on the north by State Route 223, extending from the boundary of the cemetery to the point where it crosses the Piscataway creek, a distance of about .33 miles. The boundary is shown on the accompanying U.S.G.S. Map and with precision by the red line on the larger scale plat of the historic property.

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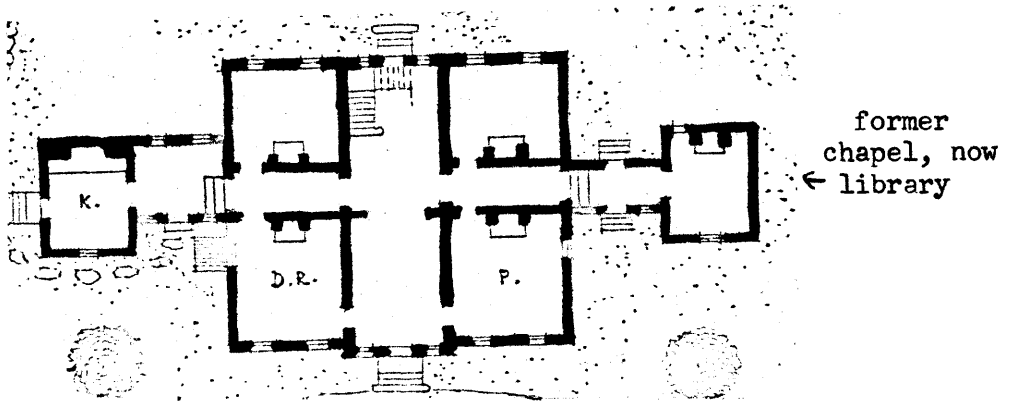
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7. Description: (2)



Floor plan for His Lordship's Kindness.