Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

# NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES [NATIONAL PICCIPALIST INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

THEME:	ARCHITECTURE
STATE:	
Virgi	nia
COUNTY:	
Indep	endent City
F	FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DAT	re

بر	ANDMALAGE			1	TRY DATE		
	(Type all entries	s - complete app	olicable section	ns)			
1	NAME						
	COMMON:						
	Kenmore						
	AND/OR HISTORIC:	10.70					
9	LOCATION Kenn	ore					
	STREET AND NUMBER:						
	1201 Washin	gton Avenue					
	CITY OR TOWN:			CONGRESSION	AL DISTRICT:		
	Fredericksbur	'g		007			
			CODE	COUNTY:		-	CODE
3.	Virginia CLASSIFICATION		51	Indep	endent City		630
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	(Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	TO THE PU	1
	☐ District 🔀 Building	Public	Public Acquisition	on:	X Occupied	Yes:	
	☐ Site ☐ Structure	<b>⊠</b> Private	☐ In Proc		Unoccupied	☐ Restrict	ed
	Object	☐ Both	Being C	Considered	Preservation work		cted
					in progress	□ No	
	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	More as Appropriate)				······································	
	☐ Agricultural ☐ G	overnment [	Park		Transportation	Comments	
			Private Resider	ice [	Other (Specify)		
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•	DESCRIPTION							
		(Check One)						
	CONDITION	🔀 Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed	
	CONDITION		(Check Or	ıe)		(Che	eck One)	
		⊠ Alte	red	Unaltered	d	Moved	💢 Original Site	
1	DESCRIBE THE PE	ESENT AND OR	IGINAL (if kno	wn) PHYSICA	L APPEARANCE			

Millbrook was built by Fielding Lewis in about 1752 for his bride Betty Washington, sister of George Washington who laid out the original survey of Fredericksburg where the house is located. Its name was changed in 1859 to Kenmore.

A fine period house of two-storeys with jerkinhead roof and a pair of stack chimneys at either end, the transcending importance of Kenmore derives from its extremely rich interior decoration and, to a lesser extent, from its superbly executed dwarf portico at the east front. It has been surmised that since it is one of the few Virginia mansions without a trace of either rubbed or gauged brick, it might have been intended to be stuccoed. According to Morrison, the group of plastered rooms at the ground level of Kenmore are, as a group, unparalelled anywhere in the country for their richness. They were executed ten to twenty years following the construction of the house, and tradition has it that they were done by intinerant French craftsmen, although all but one can be traced directly to the English pattern book by Batty Langley, Treasury of Designs, published in 1740.

The four stucco duro ceilings and overmantels at Kenmore are decidedly late-Georgian in style and may profitably be compared with the ceilings executed for George Washington at Mount Vernon. The latter are the earliest examples of the new style following the designs of the Adam brothers, and are markedly more attenuated, delicate, and light. The Kenmore comparison shows those, on the other hand, to be much heavier, thereby illustrating the development of taste in the middle of the century. Assuming that the decoration within is roughly contemporary with the house, Kenmore represents the first time that a Virginia mansion appears with its major rooms plastered.

The superb design of the great room ceiling has a center plan of ovals. A medallion of leafage is bordered by circular patterns formed of rosettes, in which each small circle contains baskets of fruit and flowers. The design outside the circles is covered with ornament of vines and leafage in an intricately graceful form. In the corners outside the frame are four spandrel panels with cornuacopiae, leaves and ribbons. The ceilings in this room, according to Waterman, in beauty of design and execution, may perhaps be the very finest piece of American plasterwork.

The library ceiling is also closely related to that of the Drawing room, with a leaf medallion in the center, bordered by a series of circles formed of rosettes and enclosing baskets of fruit and flowers. These circles are tied to the design by concentric festoons of husks and pendants. The design of the motif was derived from Langley's plates in Builder's and Workman's Treasury of Designs. The corner compartments display plant symbols of the four seasons: palms for spring, grapes for summer, acorns for fall, and mistletoe for winter.

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	🔀 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known) c. 175	2	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	□ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kenmore was erected about 1752 and contains probably the most richly decorated plaster interiors of any Georgian house in the country. Curiously, this superb elaboration is contained within a house of modest proportions and considerable restraint, although it is of such a standard to suggest that it was designed, rather than simply built. The extraodinary richness of the rooms on the ground floor are without peer in 18th century American architecture. The dwarf portico too on the East facade is executed with a superb sense of proportion and beauty.

Millbrook was built for Fielding Lewis and his wife Betty, the sister of George Washington who had laid out the original survey of Fredericksburg, about 1752 when Lewis acquired 861 acres of land at that site. The 53 X 41 foot house is a handsome period structure with jerkinhead roof, brick string course, and well proportioned modillion cornice among its more interesting architectural features. After a succession of owners, Kenmore (so-called since 1859) became available for sale in 1922 and through the efforts of a special chapter of the D.A.R., was purchased by the newly-organized Kenmore Association. The dependencies to the North and South were reconstructed on original foundations by the Association, while the gardens were restored and a brick wall built around the property by The Garden Club of Virginia.

The house is maintained by the Association in excellent condition and is open to the public daily. The site itself suffers seriously today from a highly-intrusive brick block building being built in the front yard.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(NATIONAL	HISTORIC
LANDA	1821

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	·· -·
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Independent City	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entrie	(a

#### 7. Description second page

Finally, the Dining room ceiling is a net of strands formed of leafage and circles of daisies framing a nimbus radiating from a sculptured face. There is a concentric series of circles enclosing rosettes, forming a band, then a field of interlacing festoons beyond which the circles and rosettes reappear as a border.

The decoration of the mantels at Kenmore is in wood, except in the two north rooms which again are in stucco duro, or decorative plasterwork. The drawing room overmantel is famous as containing the bas-relief of Aesop's fable of the fox. the crow, and the cheese.

Kenmore is located today within an entirely developed residential area of Fredericksburg, on two lots of land owned by The Kenmore Association. Only this minute portion of a once extensive holding remains around the house, unfortunately. The Association added a pair of flanking dependencies to the house during the 1920's, based upon the original foundations. Today they contain, respectively, a kitchen in which to prepare gingerbread for the tourists, and the offices of The Association. They were executed in a manner of Georgian-Revival architecture not out of character with the house, although they are in very close proximity to the house. On the other hand, under construction now, in the very front-yard of Kenmore, is a museum and visitor center-- a brick block-like building, without windows, of two storeys one of which is below ground. It is of such a size and location to seriously compete with and distract from the Landmark:

Fortunately, the essence of the Landmark status at Kenmore lies with the interiors, which are of unparalelled quality and true national significance for this period. The East elevation too may be experienced without intrusion, including the delicate and beautiful dwarf portico there. The only reasonable boundary for the Landmark today is that of the ownership lines of the Kenmore Assoication. Extending from the corner of Washington and Fauquier Streets 331 feet south, then 209 feet east, then 65 feet north, then 94 feet 6 inches east, then again north 28 feet, and then 110 feet 8 inches east, then 237 feet North, and finally 412 feet 3 inches to the starting point at Washington and Fauquier Streets. A sketch map is attached with this form to illustrate those lines.



## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A1619-DOS

APR 1 3 1970

Memorandum

To:

Secretary of the Interior

Through: Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife,

Parks, and Marine Resources

Acting

From:

Director, National Park Service

Subject:

National Historic Landmark recommendations, 61st meeting

of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites,

Buildings and Monuments

Enclosed herewith is the memorandum of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments summarizing its findings and recommendations on the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings partial theme study of "Colonial Architecture." This memorandum makes two principal recommendations: (1) That 77 sites encompassed by this study be declared eligible for National Historic Landmark status. These are listed under Sections A, B, C, and D of the memorandum; (2) That 41 of these sites be given further consideration in long range plans for addition to the National Park System.

We recommend that you approve the Advisory Board's memorandum, and that it be returned to this office to become a part of the permanent record of actions recommended by the Board and approved by you.

Harthon L. Bee

Enclosure

Approved:

ADD 1 5 1970

Secretary of the Interior



## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 8, 1969

#### Memorandum

To:

Secretary of the Interior

From:

Chairman, Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites,

Buildings, and Monuments

Subject:

National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings: Partial

study of "Colonial Architecture" comprising sites in

eighteen States and the District of Columbia

The Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments, at its 61st meeting in Washington, D. C., October 6-9, 1969, having carefully evaluated the partial study of "Colonial Architecture," submits the following statements with recommendations:

A. Of the sites included in the study, the following are recognized as nationally significant in illustrating or commemorating the history of the United States, and it is recommended that they be declared eligible for designation as Registered National Historic Landmarks with boundaries, as appropriate, described in attachments:

#### Alaska

- 1. Church of the Holy Ascension, Unalaska
- 2. Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Kenai

#### California

- 3. Anza House
- 4. Jose Castro House
- 5. Estudillo House
- 6. Fort Ross Commander's House
- 7. Fort Ross Russian Orthodox Church
- 8. Guajome Ranchhouse
- 9. Los Alamos Ranchhouse
- 10. Los Cerritos Ranchhouse
- 11. Monterey Old Town Historic District
- 12. Petaluma Adobe
- 13. San Diego Mission Church
- 14. San Juan Bautista Plaza Historic District
- 15. San Luis Rey Mission Church
- 16. Vhay House

#### Delaware

17. Aspendale

#### Florida

- 18. Llambias House
- 19. Oldest House
- 20. St. Augustine Town Plan Historic District

#### Illinois

- 21. Church of the Holy Family
- 22. Pierre Menard House

#### Louisiana

- 23. Keller (Homeplace) Plantation House
- 24. Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop
- 25. Mayor Girod House
- 26. Madame John's Legacy
- 27. Parlange Plantation House
- 28. Presbytere

#### Maryland

- 29. Brice House
- 30. Chase-Lloyd House
- 31. Chestertown Historic District
- 32. His Lordship's Kindness
- 33. London Town Publik House
- 34. Montpelier
- 35. Mount Clare
- 36. Resurrection Manor
- 37. Tulip Hill
- 38. West St. Mary's Manor
- 39. Wye House

#### Missouri

40. Louis Bolduc House

#### New Mexico

- 41. San Estevan del Rey Mission Church
- 42. San Francisco de Assissi Mission Church
- 43. San Jose de Gracia Church

#### North Carolina

- 44. Chowan County Courthouse
- 45. Cupola House
- 46. Palmer-Marsh House
- 47. Single Brothers' House

#### South Carolina

- 48. Brick House Ruin
- 49. William Gibbes House
- 50. Hampton Plantation
- 51. Heyward-Washington House
- 52. Middleburg Plantation
- 53. Pompion Hill Chapel
- 54. St. James' Episcopal Church, Goose Creek
- 55. St. James' Episcopal Church, Santee
- 56. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

#### Texas

- 57. Mission Concepcion
- 58. Spanish Governor's Palace

#### <u>Virginia</u>

- 59. Brandon
- 60. Bruton Parish Church
- 61. Carter's Grove
- 62. Christ Church, Alexandria
- 63. Kenmore
- 64. Sabine Hall
- 65. James Semple House
- 66. Shirley
- 67. Waterford Historic District
- 68. Wythe House
- 69. Yeocomico Church

#### Washington

- 70. Fort Nisqually Granary
- B. Three sites included in the portion of Colonial Architecture that considered the Middle Colonies are recognized as nationally significant and it is recommended that they be declared eligible for designation as Registered National Historic Landmarks:
  - 1. William Trent House, New Jersey
  - 2. Christ Church, Pennsylvania
  - 3. Carpenters' Hall, Pennsylvania
- C. Two sites included in this study are recognized as nationally significant in Theme IV, "Spanish Exploration and Settlement." It is recommended that they be declared eligible for recognition as Registered National Historic Landmarks:
  - 1. La Purisima Mission, California
  - 2. Cathedral of St. Augustine, Florida
- D. Two sites not originally included within this study are recommended for designation as National Historic Landmarks within Theme XX, Subtheme, "Architecture."
  - 1. El Santuario de Chimayo, New Mexico
  - 2. Peyton Randolph House, Virginia
- E. Other Recommendations:
- 1. That the following sites be placed in the category of "Other Sites Considered:"

#### California

- (1) Avila House
- (2) La Casa de Cota de la Cuesta
- (3) La Casa de Eduardo de la Cuesta
- (4) Covarrubias Adobe
- (5) De La Guerra Adobe
- (6) El Cuartel
- (7) Guadalupe (Olivera) Ranch House No. 1
- (8) Hill-Carrillo Adobe
- (9) Ortega House

- (10) Plaza Church
- (11) Rocha House
- (12) San Diego Old Town Historic District
- (13) San Juan Capistrano Mission Church

#### District of Columbia

(14) Alva Belmont House

#### Illinois

- (15) Cahokia Courthouse
- (16) Cahokia Historic District

#### Louisiana

- (17) Darby Plantation House
- (18) Ormond Plantation

#### Maryland

- (19) Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church
- (20) Genesar
- (21) Hammond Manor House
- (22) Kilmarock (Burleane Hall)
- (23) Ogle Hall
- (24) Otterbein Church
- (25) Patuxent Manor House
- (26) St. John's Episcopal Church, Broad Creek
- (27) St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Kent County
- (28) Talbot County Court House
- (29) Third Haven Meeting House
- (30) Trinity Episcopal Church, Dorchester County

#### Missouri

(31) Jean Baptiste Valle House

#### New Mexico

(32) San Geronimo de Taos Mission Church

#### North Carolina

- (33) Bath Historic District
- (34) St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Edenton
- (35) St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Bath
- (36) Tryon Palace, Original (West) Wing

#### South Carolina

- (37) Branford-Horry House
- (38) Fenwick Hall
- (39) Medway Plantation
- (40) Thomas Rose House
- (41) Col. John Stuart House
- (42) Sword Gate House

#### Virginia

- (43) Berkeley Plantation
- (44) Brafferton Hall, College of William and Mary
- (45) The Glebe House
- (46) Noland's Ferry House
- (47) Pohick Church
- (48) President's House, College of William and Mary
- (49) Smithfield Plantation
- (50) Tazewell House

#### West Virginia

- (51) Crane (Lord Fairfax) House
- (52) Mordington (Happy Retreat)
- (53) Governor Tiffin House
- 2. That the following sites be given further study under this theme:

#### California

- (1) Olivas Adobe
- (2) San Gabriel Mission Church

#### Colorado

(3) Baca House

#### Connecticut

(4) Hatheway House

#### Delaware

- (5) Christ Church, Laurel
- (6) Prince George's Chapel

#### Florida

(7) Spanish Treasurer's House

#### Louisiana

- (8) African House, Melrose Plantation
- (9) Creole Cottage
- (10) Louis Arceneaux House
- (11) E. D. White Memorial Cottage
- (12) Voisin Plantation House
- (13) Spanish Custom House
- (14) Erariste Blanc House
- (15) Montegut House
- (16) Bank of the United States
- (17) Absinthe House
- (18) Cathedral of St. Louis

#### Maryland

- (19) Carroll Mansion
- (20) Providence Plantation
- (21) Queen Anne's County Courthouse
- (22) Horatio Sharp (Rideout) House
- (23) Scott House
- (24) St. John's Episcopal Church, Hillsboro
- (25) St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Church Hill
- (26) St. Luke's Episcopal Church or Tuckahoe Chapel, Queenstown
- (27) Old Wye Church
- (28) Doughoregan Manor

#### New Mexico - Florida

- (29) Pascual Martinez Ranch House
- (30) Santa Fe and Albuquerque and Pensacola town plans

#### North Carolina

- (31) Breezeway type of Colonial House
- (32) Edenton Historic District
- (33) Hayes Plantation House
- (34) Sycamore Plantation

#### South Carolina

- (35) Edward's House
- (36) Edisto Hall

#### Virginia

- (37) Battersea
- (38) Blandfield
- (39) Carlyle House
- (40) Dulaney House
- (41) Elmwood
- (42) Hanover Tavern
- (43) Hanover Courthouse
- (44) King William Courthouse
- (45) Long Bridge Ordinary
- (46) Marmion
- (47) Powhatan Courthouse
- (48) Powhatan Tavern
- (49) Three-story wooden row houses, south side of 200 block of Prince Street in Alexandria
- (50) Smithfield Courthouse
- (51) Washington Historic District
- (52) Wetherburn's Tavern
- (53) Fincastle Historic District

#### West Virginia

- (54) Harewood
- (55) Sweet Springs
- F. The National Park System includes the following structures that are Importantly Related to this study:
  - 1. Tumacacori National Monument, Arizona
  - 2. Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, Florida
  - 3. Fort Matanzas National Monument, Florida

- 4. Hampton National Historic Site, Maryland
- 5. Nelson House, Colonial National Historical Park, Virginia
- 6. San Jose Mission Church, Texas
- G. Forty-eight sites related to this theme have been classified as possessing national significance in other theme studies. These are:

#### Importantly Related to Colonial Architecture

- 1. Russian Mission Orphanage, Alaska
- 2. San Xavier del Bac Mission Church, Arizona
- 3. Carmel Mission Church, California
- 4. Larkin House, California
- 5. Old Custom House, California
- 6. Royal Presidio Chapel, California
- 7. Santa Barbara Mission Church, California
- 8. Sonoma Pueblo Historic District, California (with boundaries enlarged and defined in the attachments)
- 9. Savannah Historic District, Georgia
- 10. The Cabildo, Louisiana
- 11. Ursuline Convent, Louisiana
- 12. Vieux Carre Historic District, Louisiana
- 13. Jackson Square, Louisiana
- 14. Colonial Annapolis Historic District, Maryland
- 15. Hammond-Harwood House, Maryland
- 16. Maryland State House, Maryland
- 17. Whitehall, Maryland
- 18. Ste. Genevieve Historic District, Missouri
- 19. Palace of the Governors, New Mexico
- 20. Old Salem Historic District, North Carolina
- 21. Miles Brewton House, South Carolina
- 22. Robert Brewton House, South Carolina
- 23. Charleston Historic District, South Carolina (with boundaries enlarged and defined in the attachments)
- 24. Drayton Hall, South Carolina
- 25. Mulberry Plantation, South Carolina
- 26. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, South Carolina
- 27. Presidio de La Bahia, Texas
- 28. Alexandria Historic District, Virginia
- 29. Bacon's Castle, Virginia
- 30. Christ Church, Lancaster County, Virginia

- 31. Colonial Williamsburg Historic District, Virginia
- 32. Gadsby 's Tavern, Virginia
- 33. Gunston Hall, Virginia
- 34. Mount Airy, Virginia
- 35. Mount Vernon, Virginia
- 36. St. Luke's Church, Virginia
- 37. Stratford Hall, Virginia
- 38. Adam Thoroughgood House, Virginia
- 39. Tuckahoe Plantation, Virginia
- 40. Westover, Virginia
- 41. Wren Building, College of William and Mary, Virginia

#### Also Related to Colonial Architecture

- 42. Erskine House, Alaska
- 43. St. Michael's Cathedral, Alaska
- 44. Commandant's House, Presidio of San Francisco, California
- 45. Las Trampas Plaza Historic District, New Mexico
- 46. Salem Tavern, Old Salem, North Carolina
- 47. The Alamo, Texas
- 48. Rising Sun Tavern, Virginia
- H. The Board recommends that the Old State (Colony) House in Newport, Rhode Island, a Landmark previously placed in the category of Also Related to Colonial Architecture, be noted as being Importantly Related to Colonial Architecture.
- I. The following sites are judged of such prime significance as to merit further study for possible addition to the National Park System. It is recognized that many, such as Colonial Williamsburg, are being adequately preserved at present and are not available. Because unforeseen contingencies may change present circumstances, such sites should nevertheless be identified as potential units of the system and noted for long-range consideration in the evolution of the National Park System Plan.
  - 1. Russian Mission Orphanage, Alaska
  - 2. San Xavier del Bac Mission Church, Arizona
  - 3. Fort Ross, California
  - 4. Guajome Ranchhouse, California
  - 5. Los Alamos Ranchhouse, California
  - 6. Monterey Old Town Historic District, California

- 7. Petaluma Adobe, California
- 8. Royal Presidio Chapel, California
- 9. Santa Barbara Mission Church, California
- 10. Church of the Holy Family, Illinois
- 11. Parlange Plantation House, Louisiana
- 12. Vieux Carre Historic District, Louisiana
- 13. Colonial Annapolis Historic District, Maryland
- 14. Resurrection Manor, Maryland
- 15. Tulip Hill, Maryland
- 16. Whitehall, Maryland
- 17. Wye House, Maryland
- 18. Ste. Genevieve Historic District, Missouri
- 19. San Estevan del Rey Mission Church (Acoma), New Mexico
- 20. San Jose de Gracia Church (Las Trampas), New Mexico
- 21. Old Salem Historic District, North Carolina
- 22. Charleston Historic District, South Carolina
- 23. Drayton Hall, South Carolina
- 24. Mulberry Plantation, South Carolina
- 25. St. James Episcopal Church, Goose Creek, South Carolina
- 26. St. James Episcopal Church, Santee, South Carolina
- 27. Mission Concepcion (San Antonio Missions Park Proposal), Texas
- 28. Presidio de la Bahia (Goliad Complex), Texas
- 29. Alexandria Historic District, Virginia
- 30. Brandon, Virginia
- 31. Bacon's Castle, Virginia
- 32. Christ Church, Lancaster County, Virginia
- 33. Colonial Williamsburg Historic District, Virginia
- 34. Gunston Hall, Virginia
- 35. Mount Airy, Virginia
- 36. Mount Vernon, Virginia
- 37. St. Luke's Church, Virginia
- 38. Shirley, Virginia
- 39. Stratford Hall, Virginia
- 40. Adam Thoroughgood House, Virginia
- 41. Westover, Virginia

Concellerance Emil W. Haury

Approved: APR 1 5 1970

Secretary of the Interior