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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Plumb Grove
other names Nesbitt-Warner Farmhouse; MIHP #WA-V-015

2. Location

street & number 12654 Broadfording Road not for publication
city or town Clear Spring vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Washington code 43 zip code 21722

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

[Signature] 10-21-11
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
 - entered in the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
 - Determined not eligible for the National Register.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other (explain): _____

[Signature] 12-7-11
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson H. Beall

Plumb Grove (WA-V-015)
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID 19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

roof Wood/shingle

other Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

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Description Summary:

Plumb Grove, a ca. 1831 Greek Revival style farmhouse of brick construction, occupies an approximately 1-acre tract within what was once a large farm belonging to Jonathan Nesbitt. The surrounding lands belong to the Washington County Board of Education, but aside from a school complex to the south of the house, the land is still farmed and the setting retains its agricultural character. In addition to the house and its fenced lot, the nominated property contains three support buildings constructed recently. The L-shaped house has five bays with a central entrance sheltered with a temple form porch. The interior plan consists of a central stair and entrance hall, with two rooms on each side, and a kitchen in the rear wing. Exuberant Greek Revival style woodwork characterizes the interior.

General Description:

Plumb Grove, a ca. 1831 Greek Revival style brick farmhouse sits on a .95-acre plot of land subdivided from a parcel belonging to the Washington County Board of Education. The farmland now contains the Clear Spring School Complex, athletic fields, barns and agricultural land. The Plumb Grove house property is enclosed on three sides with a white picket fence and on the fourth side by a post and rail fence. The entire property, including the school's land, was once part of the Plumb Grove (Nesbitt) farm. Aside from the school buildings and playing fields, the landscape retains its agricultural character.

Plumb Grove faces southeast toward Broadfording Road. (For the purposes of this nomination, the front elevation will be referred to as "east".) A gravel lane leads approximately 1/4 mile from Broadfording Road to the Plumb Grove house. The lane parallels Draper Road, just to its northwest. The house stands on a fairly level plot of land with Fairview Mountain behind to the west and the rolling floor of the Cumberland/Hagerstown Valley extending to the east. The Town of Clear Spring is approximately 1/2 mile to the southeast. Plumb Grove is one of three Nesbitt Farms that stand in close proximity to each other. The Otho Nesbitt Farm (WA-V-013) is about 1/4 mile to the east, and the Nesbitt Farm (WA-V-012) is about 1/4 mile to the northeast.

Plumb Grove is a two story L-shaped brick dwelling resting on limestone foundations. The front elevation is formal with five bays and a central entrance. Bricks are arranged in Flemish bond at the front elevation, with splayed brick jack arches over the openings. Sawtooth brickwork and corbelling finish the cornice at the front elevation. Side and rear walls are laid in common bond with five stretcher courses to each row of headers. Double inside end chimneys joined with a parapet complete the masonry work. The rear L-extension continues seamlessly from the south

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end wall of the front section. On the north side a recessed double porch spans the length of the L. The porch side of the L has two bays, a door and a window at the first story, and an upper level with three bays, two windows and a central door. Doors also open onto the lower and upper porches from the front section of the house. All of these doors have six panels. The absence of a window at the west end of the L's north elevation is the result of an interior boxed stair in that corner. The porch has square posts and is enclosed with a balustrade.

A Greek Revival style entrance porch dominates the front elevation. It has a low hipped roof with a plain entablature below and four large Doric columns, two pair, one pair each placed on either side of the three steps leading to the porch deck. A balustrade links each pair of columns. Plumb Grove has a trabeated entrance with a broad transom and sidelights. These surround an eight-panel door with a vertical molding suggesting that the door is bi-fold, but no evidence is present to suggest that the door was ever hinged in the middle. Attached columns flank the door.

Windows have six over six light sash within narrow rounded frames with mitered corners. At the front elevation replacement paneled shutters have been added to the windows. Windows in the rear extension are smaller than those in the front section, but all have six-pane sash. The wide south gable end of the main section of the house has three windows at each level, one at the forward side of the chimneys and two to the west of the chimneys. This arrangement allowed two windows in the southwest rooms of the front section of the house. The north gable end is arranged more symmetrically with one window on each side of the chimneys at each level. The west elevation of the front section, within the angle created by the extension has one window at each level. Thus the northwest and southwest rooms each have two windows and the northeast and southeast rooms each have three.

The roofing material is wood shingles, a relatively recent replacement covering.

Interior:

The front entrance opens into a formal stair and entrance hall with two rooms on either side. The floor plan layout has large rooms diagonally opposed in the northeast, a parlor, and in the southwest, the dining room. The northwest and southeast rooms are significantly smaller. The same is true of the second floor. At the first floor, wide doorways separate the front and rear rooms.

The staircase rises against the north wall of the entrance hall and appears strangely out of character with the other woodwork in the house. While the mantelpieces, door and window trim are very bulky and heavily molded, the staircase has a graceful, delicate round railing that

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sweeps in a single curving form from the top to the base of the steps where it bends in a scroll to alight on top of a narrow turned newel. Balusters, two per step, are turned and tapered. Scroll carvings decorate the spandrel along the edge of the stairs.

Contrasting with the staircase is the robust and massive door and window trim and mantels. Architraves have large symmetrical moldings and decorated corner blocks. Each mantelpiece is different, but the two most prominent are very elaborate. The northeast parlor mantel has Doric colonnettes, a frieze with central projecting tablet, protruding semi-elliptical bolection moldings and a three part projecting mantel shelf. The dining room mantel has fluted Doric colonnettes, and a frieze with large Greek Key molding running its length. The mantels in the smaller rooms are much simpler, with architraves around the fireboxes and narrow shelves.

The building also includes a cellar with a cooking fireplace.

The wing to the rear (backbuilding) contains the kitchen with a large service fireplace in the west end wall and an enclosed winder stair adjacent to the fireplace in the northwest corner. The upper story room reportedly housed the Nesbitt slaves/servants.

Additional buildings:

In addition to the house there are three service buildings in the rear yard, all of fairly recent construction. A brick summer kitchen/wash house was added to the landscape just behind the house and in the traditional work yard. A frame, board and batten covered restroom and storage building with an attached shed stands immediately behind the house's kitchen wing. Behind that is a small frame shed, also covered with board and batten. All of these accessory buildings have been constructed since the 1980s.

Resource Count:

1 contributing building

3 non-contributing buildings

Evaluation of Integrity:

Plumb Grove is an excellent example of a Greek Revival style farmhouse from west central Maryland. It remains highly intact with key components – design, layout and woodwork – all present. Although the setting has been altered by the addition of non-historic support buildings, these newer constructions are compatible in materials, scale and design to the 1830s period of the house. The .95-acre plot of land is part of the original Nesbitt land, and aside from the school

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development to the south of Plumb Grove, the surrounding land remains in agricultural use, preserving the setting. Therefore, Plumb Grove retains a high level of integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association. The Maryland Historical Trust holds a preservation easement on the property.

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

Ca. 1831

Significant Dates

Ca. 1831

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

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Summary Statement of Significance:

Plumb Grove (Nesbitt-Warner Farmhouse, MIHP #WA-V-015) is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as a particularly fine example of a vernacular adaptation of the Greek Revival architectural style, significant for its degree of stylistic elaboration not commonly found in rural examples. Built ca. 1831 at the marriage of Jonathan and Ann (Meixsell) Nesbitt, the large five-bay house with its elegant Greek temple-form porch and soaring paired chimneys gracefully represented the status of the successful Nesbitt family in its rural setting. Though Plumb Grove was located on the edge of the western Maryland mountains, the nearby town of Clear Spring was a booming National Pike town active with artisans and regular deliveries of merchandise from the port at Baltimore. The Nesbitts had ready access to the state-of-the-art Greek Revival moldings and mantelpieces found throughout the interior of Plumb Grove. The period of significance is ca. 1831 representing the date of construction of Plumb Grove.

Resource History and Historic Context:

Historic Context

Plumb Grove represents an important slice of regional history rooted in the rich soil cultivated and developed into prosperous farms by German husbandmen. A few pioneering farmers and fur traders initially settled the area in the 1730s and 1740s. At that time Lord Baltimore had just opened Maryland's frontier or "back country" for settlement, and Germans were migrating through the area to create settlements in Virginia. Seeking to develop the back portions of Maryland, Lord Baltimore began to encourage settlement on his colony's frontier. Speculators from eastern Maryland responded by acquiring large tracts for subdivision and resale to German farmers. As settlement progressed, political divisions of the frontier occurred. Until 1748, the land was part of Prince George's County. Afterward it was Frederick County until 1776 when Washington County was formed.

Settlement was sparse until the close of the French and Indian War in 1763 and the end of Pontiac's rebellion the following year. Thereafter, settlement progressed rapidly as transportation routes improved and word of the rich farmland in the Cumberland and Shenandoah valleys spread. The land was made fertile by numerous limestone outcrops, which give special visual character to the landscape as well as providing material for buildings and fences. The English speculators who had acquired large grants of land as investments began to subdivide and sell into smaller lots of 100-300 acres which were ideal for a profitable family farm. These farms were divided into fields of 20-40 acres and planted with small grains and corn

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or clover. Other lands were left in pasture and woodlots, as the process of clearing the land was slow. Woodlot and pasture functions were often combined in areas where rock outcrops made cultivation difficult. Allowing cattle and hogs to forage through woodlands helped to keep them open and clear.

While the valley lands of Washington County were easily converted to the general/grain farming traditions carried on by German and Pennsylvania-German immigrants, the mountains bordering the valleys on the east and west provided different opportunities for development. Covered with old growth trees and laden with iron ore, the mountains were soon home to several iron furnace operations. The Green Spring Furnace, nestled within the North Mountain ranges to the west, was established in 1765 by Lancelot Jacques and Thomas Johnson.¹ The insatiable need for wood to provide charcoal for the furnaces ensured that previously forested mountain land was eventually cleared.

Through the first half of the 19th century, the west-central region of Maryland became known for grain production. Grain was sold in bulk, or processed into flour and meal, or distilled into whiskey. These commodities were shipped to markets in Baltimore or Philadelphia. Shipping from western Maryland was a problem, and hindered the growth and prosperity associated with grain production. There was no reliable inland water route to the farming areas, although navigation of the Potomac River was seasonally available from the 1790s through 1828. Road transportation served as the primary artery for the freight hauling needs of the region. Maryland, therefore promoted turnpike development, although most of these toll routes were privately funded. The output and growth in population in the western areas of Maryland encouraged construction and improvement of roads.

In 1806 the Federal government began the construction of a highway that would lead to the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase lands comprising much of the central portion of the United States. The "National Road" began in Cumberland, Maryland partly following the old Braddock Road, a rough wagon track established by explorers and traders, and led to Wheeling in Virginia (West Virginia) and later on to Terre Haute, Indiana. The main wagon road from Baltimore to Cumberland, a collection of privately owned and operated turnpike segments that ran through the heart of Washington County was eventually upgraded and consolidated to become part of the National Road system. The National Pike, as it became known, was one of the most heavily traveled east-west routes in America with traffic passing all hours of the day and night.

Construction of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal along the Potomac River as an alternative transportation system began in 1828 and reached the western districts of Washington County by

¹ Scharf, p. 1295.

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1839. Not only did the canal open a new avenue of transportation for agricultural products but it also became a source of employment for many who lived nearby. The “canal towns” of Washington County, as well as throughout the adjoining rural areas, were full of men whose occupation was listed on the census as “boating on the canal” or “boatman.” Other common occupations in rural Washington County included farmer, farm laborer, and – in areas around the several active iron works – miner, collier, and “works at furnace.”

The Clear Spring Districts in Washington County benefited from both the National Pike and the C&O Canal in close proximity. Although highway transportation waned as the canal and railroad peaked through the second half of the 19th century, the district ranked among the higher rural district populations in 1880.² Still, the west-central Maryland “bread basket” saw a slow decline in the dominance of grain production and milling, largely due to the advances in steam powered mills and the railroad. As mid-western farms began to concentrate on wheat, the farms of Washington County developed a more diversified product list, eventually shifting to dairy products, fruit, and vegetable production. By 1900, the “General Farm” designation was commonly found on the census in Washington County.

The advent of the automobile in the first decades of the 20th century briefly revived the aging National Turnpike. However, the urbanization and industrialization process of the late 19th century gradually transformed the economy of Maryland. While agricultural pursuits continued in the rural parts of the state, their relative importance as the driving force of the economy declined.³ In 1920, Maryland had become 60% urban with slightly over half the state’s population in Baltimore.⁴ Meanwhile suburban residential districts and recreational areas spread outward from Washington D.C. and Baltimore into Montgomery and Baltimore Counties, a trend that has continued to the present. The conversion of farmland use to dairy and orchards led to the decrease of traditional agricultural industries particularly milling and attendant businesses and industries.

After World War II with the advent of the post war booming manufacturing economy and the emerging Cold War, population began to shift once again. This time with the encouragement of the government’s new interstate highway system, the defense highways developed in the Eisenhower administration, upwardly mobile and automobile owning city dwellers left the urban environments of Washington DC and Baltimore to create suburban neighborhoods on the edges of the cities. Since the late 1940s, suburban development has sprawled outward into and

² Scharf, p. 974.

³ Bruchey in Walsh and Fox, p. 483, 484.

⁴ Crooks in Walsh and Fox, p. 590.

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throughout mid-Maryland substantially reducing agriculture and profoundly altering the rural scene.

Architectural Context

Farmhouses from the 18th century through the mid-20th century exhibit great variety in mid-Maryland, yet all are readily identifiable to the region. Little housing remains from the settlement period. Dwellings that do survive represent the more durable buildings and not the general population of houses. Log was the preferred building material, although probably a disproportionate number of early period survivors are of stone construction. These very early stone houses use the type of stone found in the nearby landscape, often limestone in the Cumberland Valley section of Washington County.

Later farmhouse builders introduced brick and light weight framing systems with various milled sidings or shingles. Brick houses were much less common on mid-Maryland's farms in the 18th century than they were in urbanized areas. When 18th century brick farmhouses do occur they are distinguished by the presence of water tables, Flemish bond facades and common bond secondary walls with three or four courses of stretcher rows to each header row. Much more common among mid-Maryland brick farmhouses are those from the 1820-1900 period. Those constructed before approximately 1850 display Flemish bond facades and thereafter, common bond or all-stretcher facades.

Farmhouse form followed several traditional paths. Among the earliest buildings were Germanic central chimney dwellings with one or two stories and three or four rooms clustered around a massive group of fireplaces. British settlers more frequently constructed one or one and a half story buildings with a hall and parlor plan, one room deep with inside or exterior end fireplaces. Generally farmhouses spanned three to five bays, sat on cellars and had side gables.

By the second quarter of the 19th century typical floor plans consisted of center passages with one or two rooms on either side, or a two or four room plan where the main entrance opened directly into a room. A common arrangement attributed to Germanic traditions exhibits two central front doors, side by side, which open directly into two front rooms. Porches began to appear with frequency, either across the entire front or recessed in an inset containing two or three bays along the front elevation at the kitchen wall. Another variation is an L-extension to the rear of the main part of the house, almost always with a recessed double porch along one side. This L configuration accommodates a kitchen wing, and these rear wings were consistently referenced in 18th and 19th century records as "back buildings," even though they were attached to the main part of the dwelling.

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Houses were almost universally roofed with wooden shingles, often long and double-lapped, top to bottom and side to side. This shingle type seems to be associated with German traditions. Otherwise, top-lapped thin wooden shingles prevailed with staggered joints and there is evidence that thatch was used, along with "cabbin" or clapboard roofs. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries roofs of slate or standing seam metal appear.⁵

Within Washington County, Plumb Grove stands out as an exceptionally elaborate vernacular adaptation of the Greek Revival architectural style. Area farmhouses built through the mid-19th century commonly adapted Greek Revival features to familiar house plans, but unlike Plumb Grove, only selected style elements were applied. The Lehman's Mill House (MIHP #WA-I-211), built in 1837, is a good example of a more common Greek Revival-influenced farmhouse in the county. Although symmetry in the style was an important feature, the Lehman's Mill House was constructed with four bays, leaving the main entrance in an asymmetrical location. The main entrance consists of an unadorned door with transom. Laid out in a German three-room plan, the stairs are boxed (enclosed) and only one mantelpiece, located in the large parlor, exhibits the typical Greek-styled molding. Few houses in the county are comparable to Plumb Grove in the level of stylistic detail applied. The Sherrick House (MIHP #WA-II-334), built in 1834 near Sharpsburg, like Plumb Grove, is a more formal farmhouse, with five bays providing a symmetrical central entrance and center stair hall. Prominent Greek Revival features include the tripartite door with a Greek-styled portico, highly stylized interior mantels, moldings, and stairway.

Resource History

Nathaniel Nesbitt was among the earliest settlers in the west-central mountain and valley region of Washington County, then still part of Frederick County, when he acquired several land patents in the 1750s. By 1776, when Washington County was formed, Nesbitt owned over 1,400 acres on the eastern edge of Fairview Mountain. His land was located in an area known for its iron ore deposits and plentiful supply of wood for charcoal production. His valley land was underlain with limestone bedrock, the soil known for its fertility and well-suited to grain production. By the late 18th century, wheat production on Washington County farms, then part of the "bread basket" of the young United States, placed some area farmers among the wealthiest property-owners.

⁵ Paula S. Reed & Assoc., "Mid-Maryland: An Agricultural History and Historic Context," draft, Frederick, MD: Catoctin Center for Regional Studies, 2006, Chapter 5.

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By 1790, Nathaniel Nesbitt had nine children, including five sons. His eldest son John was already living in his own household in 1790. Perhaps in preparation for his sons' inheritance, in 1791 Nesbitt had his land resurveyed as *Nesbitt's Inheritance*, by then down to 708 acres.⁶ By 1800, two sons, John and Jacob, had separate households while Nesbitt and his remaining three sons worked the land along with three slaves.

Up to the turn of the 19th century, the Nesbitt plantation was served by several early transportation routes that proved seasonally unreliable. The Potomac River, just to the south of the Nesbitt land, was used to move farm produce from as early as the middle of the 18th century. In the 1790s, George Washington's Potomac Navigation Company opened channels through the rapids along much of the upper Potomac and began skirting canals around the Great Falls and Little Falls above the port at Georgetown. The river was unreliable however, as winter ice, spring floods, and summer droughts all negatively affected boating. The east-west road, today's Broadfording Road, which ran between Elizabethtown (Hagerstown) and Jacque's Green Spring Furnace where it joined the road to Hancock and beyond (today's Rt. 56), remained a crude and rutted wagon road impassible in bad weather. But with the construction of the National Road, beginning at Cumberland in 1806, sections of road leading from the port at Baltimore to Cumberland were improved as turnpike roads, including a section west from Hagerstown, becoming part of the National Turnpike system, better known as the National Pike. The National Pike was an invaluable improvement in transportation through western Maryland and brought dramatic changes to the rural landscape.

Nathaniel Nesbitt died in 1807 knowing that his lands would soon be more valuable by their proximity to the National Pike. According to his will, the land was divided among his five sons – Peter, Jonathan, Nathaniel, John, and Jacob.⁷ Peter Nesbitt died in 1809 and by 1820 all the remaining brothers except Jonathan had removed to Ohio, Indiana, or western Pennsylvania.⁸ Jonathan Nesbitt, who inherited Lot 2 of *Nesbitt's Inheritance* including the homeplace, was the only Nesbitt listed in the 1820 census. His household included four sons, one daughter, three slaves, and three free blacks.

The National Pike section west from Hagerstown was completed in 1823, passing through the recently platted town of Clear Spring (platted in 1821, recorded in 1825).⁹ Located 11 miles west of Hagerstown, Clear Spring was a natural stopping place for travelers on the Pike to rest

⁶ Washington Co. Patented Certificate #647, MSA S1208-697, Maryland State Archives. The tract was surveyed in May 1791. Neighbors Samuel and Harry Prather contested the survey in September but then withdrew their caveat in October 1791 and the patent was issued in 1794.

⁷ Washington Co. (WC) Will Book B, page 142.

⁸ "Dennis Family Genealogy Pages," Nesbitt/Witmer Group, <http://pjdennis.com/familygroup>.

⁹ WC DB HH, p. 741.

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themselves and their horses, buy provisions, or repair wagons. The small town of 74 lots stood on part of Nathaniel Nesbitt's *Resurvey on Locust Thicket*, just a short distance southwest of the Nesbitt homeplace by then occupied by Jonathan Nesbitt [I] (Otho Nesbitt House, WA-V-013). By 1825, Clear Spring included five tavern-keepers, four stores, fifteen carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, wagonmakers and other craftsmen, and a school:

The number of tradesmen related to building crafts indicates the demand for such skills in the growing town. In addition, the number of tradesmen related to the business of travel (wheelwrights, wagonmakers, tavern keepers, etc.) provides some indication of the economic importance of the National Pike to the town. The road continued in this important role, as seen by the steady increase in the number of establishments serving travelers – by 1836, Clear Spring had seven hotels.¹⁰

The building boom was not limited to just the town as nearby farmers embarked on their own improvements.

In 1826, the young widow of Jacob Meixsell of Frederick, Mrs. Frances Meixsell, moved her family to the new town of Clear Spring – the occasion noted by Jacob Engelbrecht in his Frederick diary.¹¹ By 1831, Mrs. Meixsell's daughter Ann was preparing to marry into the Nesbitt family, among the most prominent families in the area. The marriage of Jonathan Nesbitt, Jr. to Ann R. Meixsell took place on March 23, 1831.¹² The newlyweds moved into a new brick farmhouse on a 157-acre section of the Nesbitt plantation, built using distinctive features from the lately popular Greek Revival style. By 1840, the household included three young children and two free-black laborers. The Nesbitt's named their farm "Plumb Grove," as noted in the Clear Spring Academy ledger of the 1840s where the Nesbitt children attended school.¹³

Several of the farms located on the Lots that made up the former *Nesbitt's Inheritance* had undergone similar transformations. The log Nesbitt homeplace, located on Lot 2 and still occupied by Jonathan Nesbitt Sr., appears to have been significantly enlarged, first with a stone addition and later, probably after about 1825, with a brick addition. One of the additions is said to have included a ballroom.¹⁴ The neighboring house located on *Nesbitt's Inheritance* Lot 3, was probably built by Daniel Gehr ca. 1830. Gehr purchased the tract from Nathaniel Nesbitt (Jr.) in 1813 for \$5,000, indicating there was likely an earlier house on the property. Gehr's new

¹⁰ "Town of Clear Spring," WA-V-414, MIHP documentation, 1992.

¹¹ "The Diary of Jacob Engelbrecht," CD-ROM, Historical Society of Frederick County, 2001, p. 232

¹² WC Marriage Records 1799-1860, p. 148.

¹³ David Wiles, President Clear Spring District Historical Association, personal communication, March 2011.

¹⁴ David Wiles, President Clear Spring District Historical Association, personal communication, March 2011. See also "Otho Nesbitt House," WA-V-013, DOE and MIHP documentation.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-V-015
Plumb Grove

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 8

house combined elements of the outgoing popular Federal style with Greek Revival features strikingly similar to those found at Nesbitt's Plumb Grove. In 1837 Gehr sold his house and land to Tobias Johnson.¹⁵ (see 1859 Taggart map)

The elegant Greek Revival styling of Jonathan Nesbitt Jr.'s Plumb Grove reflected the social standing of Nesbitt who, in addition to his successful farm operation, represented Washington County in the Maryland House of Delegates in 1842. This house too appears to have replaced an earlier dwelling. Located on Lot 4 of *Nesbitt's Inheritance* devised to John Nesbitt in 1807, Jonathan Nesbitt Sr. purchased the 137-acre tract from his brother John in 1816 for \$6,000.¹⁶

In May 1855, one year before his death, Jonathan Nesbitt Sr. conveyed the Lot 4 farm to Jonathan Nesbitt Jr., in exchange for "the support, maintenance and comfort, of the said Jonathan Nesbitt Sr. for and during the term of his natural life."¹⁷ The tract included 20 additional acres, for a total of 157 acres. Jonathan Nesbitt Jr.'s Plumb Grove farm was valued at \$10,000 on the 1860 census, while the Nesbitt homplace, occupied by his brother Otho Nesbitt, was valued at \$12,650. (see 1859 Taggart Map).

Jonathan Nesbitt Jr. died in 1877, followed by his wife Ann in 1885. Of their five children, three had moved to Missouri. Allen Nesbitt bought out his siblings' interest in the farm and remained until 1893 when he sold it to Rosa Warner.¹⁸ Rosa Warner was the wife of Clear Spring hotel owner Fred Warner, who used the farm to produce food for his hotel while the house was tenanted. The Warner family retained Plumb Grove until it was sold in 1967 to the Washington County Board of Education.¹⁹

The Plumb Grove house remained vacant from 1967 through 1981 when it was sold, along with just under one acre of land, to the Clear Spring District Historical Association.²⁰ The house was in deteriorated condition and the Association embarked on a restoration of the building using Maryland Historical Trust Capital Grant funds.

¹⁵ WC DB Y, p. 830 (1813, Nesbitt to Gehr) and DB SS, p. 675 (1837, Gehr to Johnson). This house, known locally as "Poplar Hall," was recorded as the "Nesbitt Farm," WA-V-012, MIHP documentation, 1978. Local lore states that the house was built by John Nesbitt, brother of Jonathan Nesbitt, Jr., and sold to Tobias Johnson. No deeds from Nesbitt to Johnson were found to confirm this.

¹⁶ WC DB BB, p. 487.

¹⁷ WC DB 10, p. 455.

¹⁸ WC DB 87, p. 425 (1885, Nesbitts to Allen Nesbitt) and DB 99, p. 517 (1893, Nesbitt to Warner).

¹⁹ WC DB 456, p. 785.

²⁰ WC DB 712, p. 583.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland
County and State

Section 9 Page 1

Major Bibliographical References:

"Nesbitt Farm." WA-V-012, MIHP documentation, 1978, www.mht.maryland.gov.

"Nesbitt-Warner Farmhouse." WA-V-015, MIHP documentation, 1978,
www.mht.maryland.gov.

"Otho Nesbitt House." WA-V-013, DOE, 2003, and MIHP documentation, 1978,
www.mht.maryland.gov.

Reed, Paula S. & Assoc. "Mid-Maryland: An Agricultural History and Historic Context." Draft manuscript, Catocin Center for Regional Studies, Frederick, MD, 2006.

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Western Maryland*. (Baltimore: 1882), reprint Regional Publishing Co., 1969.

"The Diary of Jacob Engelbrecht." CD-ROM, Historical Society of Frederick County, Frederick, MD, 2001.

"Town of Clear Spring." WA-V-414, MIHP documentation, 1992, www.mht.maryland.gov.

Walsh, Richard and William Lloyd Fox, eds. *Maryland, A History*. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1974.

Washington County Estate and Marriage Records, Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD.

Washington County Land Records, <http://mdlandrec.net>.

Plumb Grove (WA-V-015)
Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1	8	2	4	8	0	4	0	4	3	9	4	0	6	0
	Zone			Easting			Northing								
2															

3															
	Zone			Easting			Northing								
4															

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, Ph.D., Architectural Historian; Edie Wallace, M.A., Historian

Organization Paula S. Reed & Associates, Inc.

date June 2011

street & number 1 W. Franklin St., Suite 300

telephone 301-739-2070

city or town Hagerstown

state Maryland

zip code 21740

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Clear Spring District Historical Association

street & number P. O. Box 211

telephone _____

city or town Clear Spring

state Maryland

zip code 21722

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-V-015
Plumb Grove

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of the nominated property are recorded among the Land Records of Washington County, Maryland in Liber 712, folio 583, and further shown as Parcel 242 on Washington County Tax Map 34.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property, .95 acres, encompasses the remnant of the acreage historically associated with the resource, including the historic house and domestic yard.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
Name of Property
Name of Property

Washington County, MD
County and State

Section PHOTO Page 1

Index to Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs which accompany this documentation:

WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
Washington Co., MD
Photo by Paula S. Reed & Associates, March 22, 2011
Digital files located at MD SHPO

HP 100 Gray Photo Cartridge
HP Premium Plus Photo Paper

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0001.tif: West view, east and north elevations
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0002.tif: NW view, east (front) elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0003.tif: SW view, north (side) elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0004.tif: SE view, west (rear) elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0005.tif: E view, west and south elevations
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0006.tif: NE view, south (side) elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0007.tif: N view, south and east elevations
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0008.tif: Window detail, east elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0009.tif: Front door detail, east elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0010.tif: Backbuilding, SW view, north elevation
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0011.tif: Kitchen/wash house (foreground) and
restroom/storage building, SW view
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0012.tif: Setting, view E toward Otho Nesbitt House
(WA-V-013)
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0013.tif: First floor, stair and entrance hall, view NW
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0014.tif: First floor, dining (southwest) room, view E
toward stair and entrance hall
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0015.tif: First floor, dining (southwest) room, south
wall, mantel
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0016.tif: First floor, view SE from dining (southwest)
room into southeast room
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0017.tif: First floor, kitchen, view N showing service
fireplace in north end wall

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

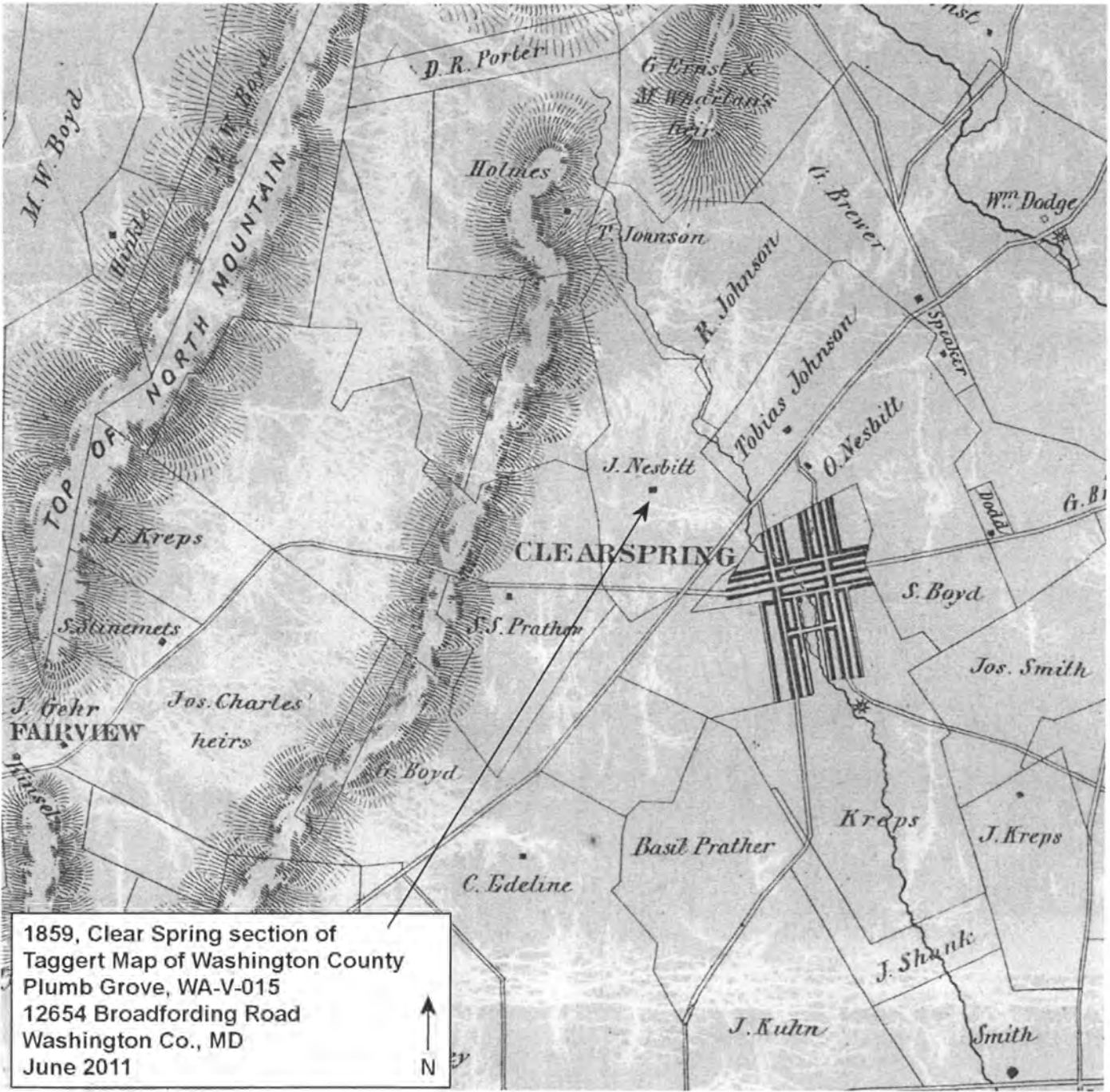
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
Name of Property
Name of Property

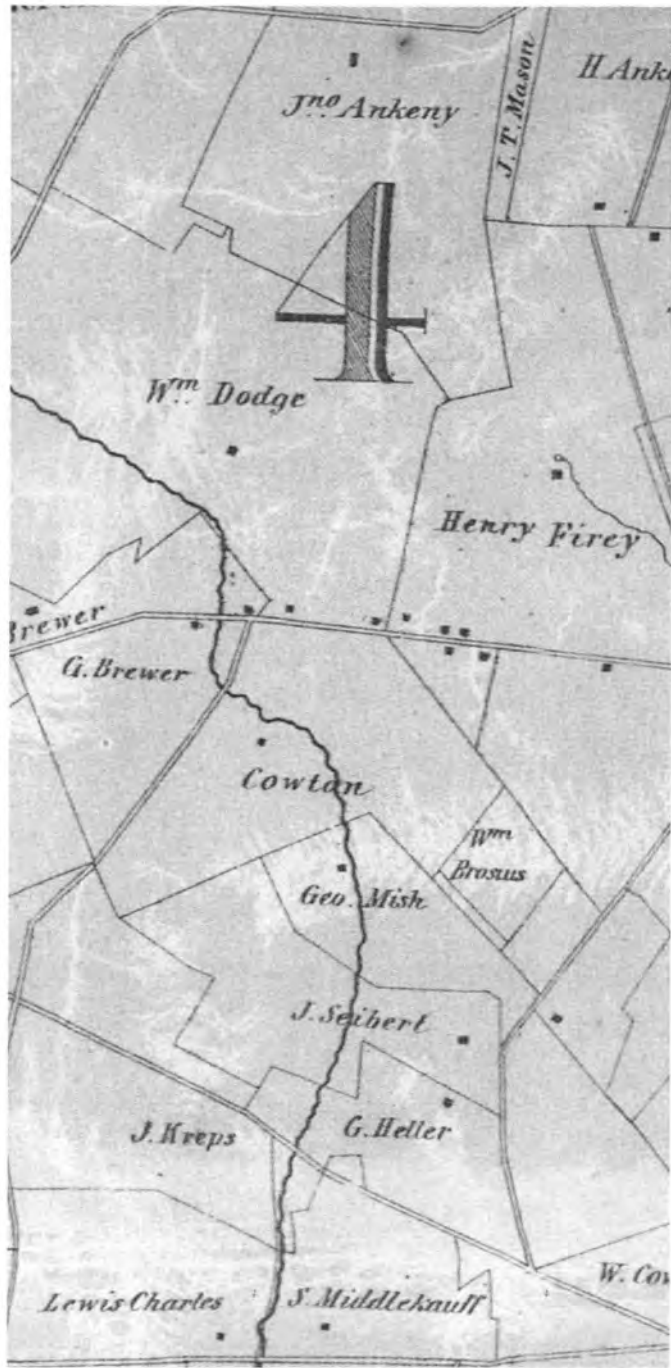
Washington County, MD
County and State

Section PHOTO Page 2

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0018.tif: First floor, parlor (northeast room), view S toward entrance hall
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0019.tif: First floor, parlor (northeast room), view N showing north wall mantel and west wall doors
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0020.tif: First floor, northwest room, view E showing north wall mantel and recessed cupboard
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0021.tif: Second floor, northeast chamber, view N showing north wall mantel
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0022.tif: Second floor, northwest chamber, view E showing north wall mantel
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0023.tif: Second floor, southwest chamber, view SW showing south wall mantel
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_PLUMBGROVE_0024.tif: Second floor, southeast chamber, view SW showing south wall mantel



1859, Clear Spring section of
 Taggart Map of Washington County
 Plumb Grove, WA-V-015
 12654 Broadfording Road
 Washington Co., MD
 June 2011





Boundary Map

Washington County Tax Map 34, Parcel 242

Plumb Grove, WA-V-015

12654 Broadfording Road

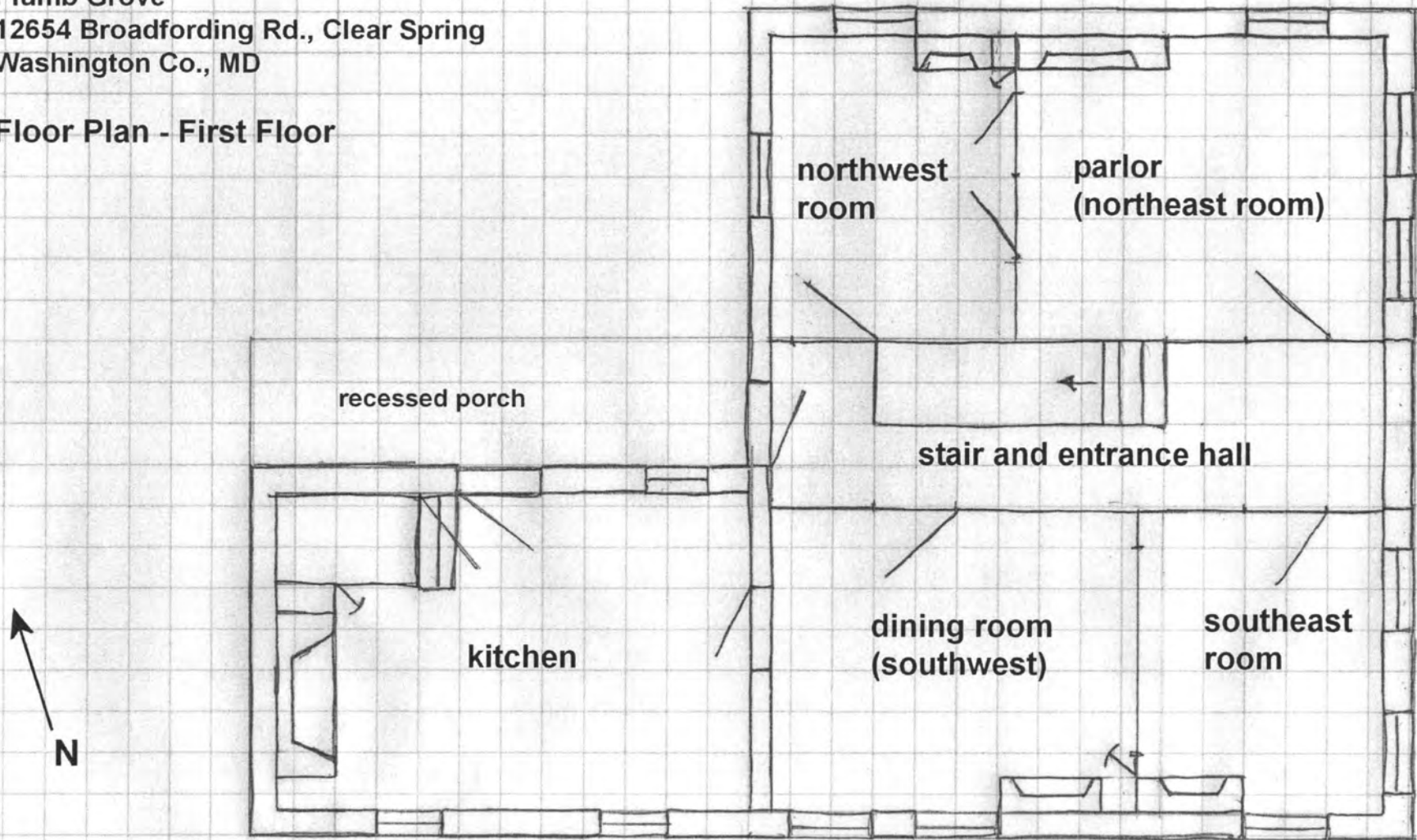
Washington Co., MD

June 2011



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

Floor Plan - First Floor

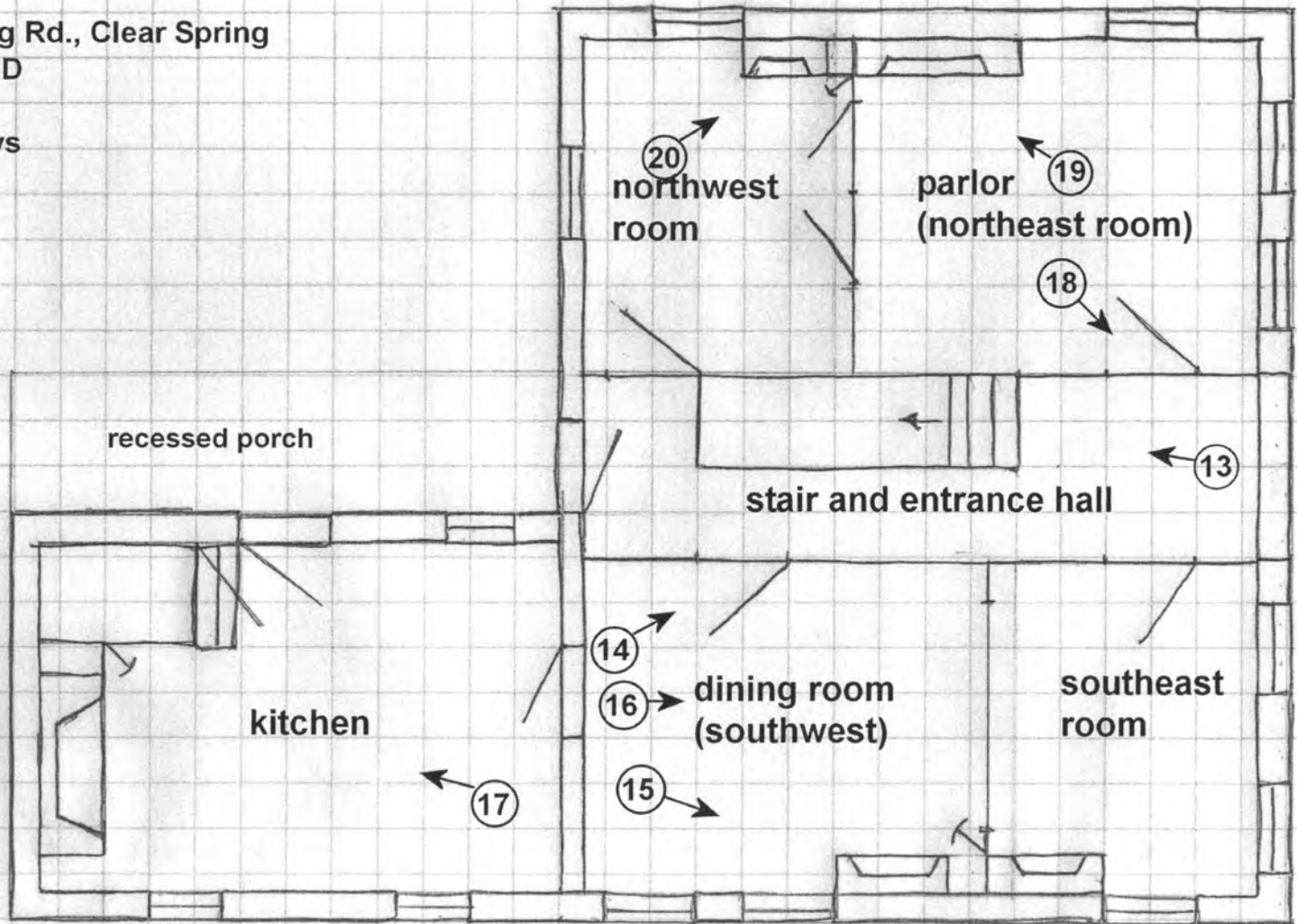


WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

Interior Photo Views

Key:

- ③ photo number
- photo direction



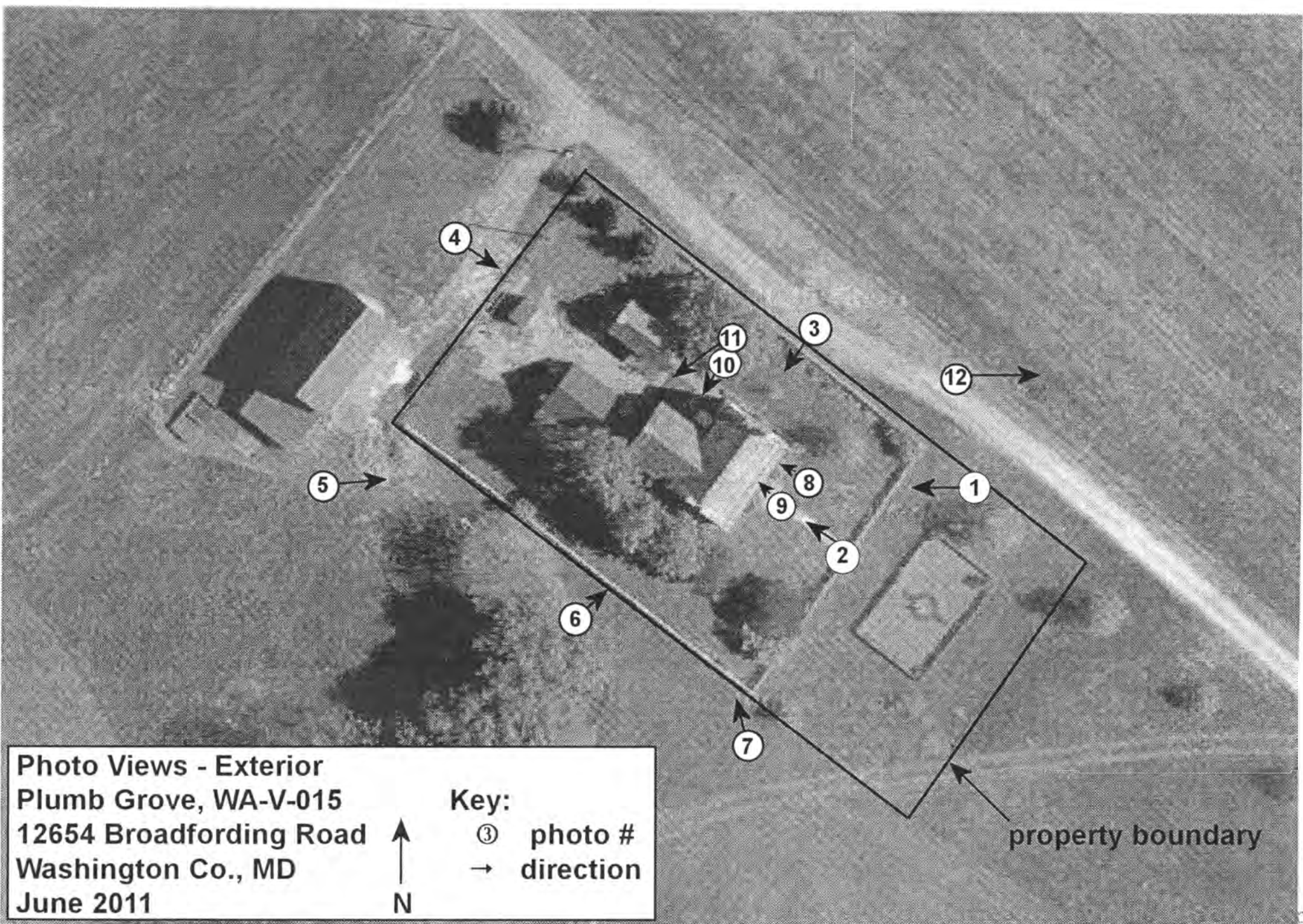


Photo Views - Exterior
Plumb Grove, WA-V-015
12654 Broadfording Road
Washington Co., MD
June 2011



Key:
③ photo #
→ direction

property boundary



Site Map
Plumb Grove, WA-V-015
12654 Broadfording Road
Washington Co., MD
June 2011



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Plumb Grove
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MARYLAND, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 10/28/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/21/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/06/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/13/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000882

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12-7-11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD
Paula S. Reed

3/2011

MDSHPO

West view, east + north elevations

1 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_01.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

Paula S. Reed

3/2011

MDSHPO

NW view, east (front) elevation

2 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_02.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

Paula S. Reed

3/2011

MDSHPO

SW view, north (side) elevation

3 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_03.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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3/2011

MDSAPO

SE view, West (rear) elevation

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_04.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

E view, west and south elevations

5 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_05.tif



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

Paula S. Reed

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MDSHPO

NE view, south (side) elevation

6 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_06.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

N view, south and east elevations

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_07.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

Window detail, east elevation

8 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_08.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

Front door detail, east elevation

9 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_09.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12054 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

Backbuilding, SW view, north elevation

10 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_10.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

Kitchen/wash house (foreground) and
restroom/storage building, SW view

11 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_11.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

Setting, view E toward Otho Nesbitt House (WA-V-013)

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_12.tif



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

First floor, stair and entrance hall, view NW

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_13.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

First floor, dining (southwest) room, view E
toward stair and entrance hall

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_14.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring

Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

First floor, dining (southwest) room, south wall,
mantel

15 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_15.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

First floor, view SE from dining (southwest)
room into southeast room

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_16.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd., Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

First floor, kitchen, view N showing service
fireplace in north end wall

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_17.tif



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co. MD

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3/2011

MDSHPD

First floor, parlor (northeast) room, view S
toward entrance hall

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_18.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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MDSHPO

First floor, parlor (northeast) room, view N
showing north wall mantel and west
wall doors

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_19.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD

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3/2011

MDSHPO

First floor, northwest room, view E showing
north wall mantel and recessed cupboard

20 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_20.tif



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co., MD
Paula S Reed

3/2011

MDSHPO

Second floor, northeast chamber, view N
showing north wall mantel

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_21.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring
Washington Co, MD

Paula S Reed

3/2011

MDSHPO

Second floor, northwest chamber, view E

Showing north wall mantel

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_22.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring

Washington Co, MD

Paula S. Reed

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MDSHPO

Second floor, southwest chamber, view SW
showing south wall mantel

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WA-V-015_2011-03-22_23.tif



WA-V-015

Plumb Grove

12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring

Washington Co. MD

Paula S Reed

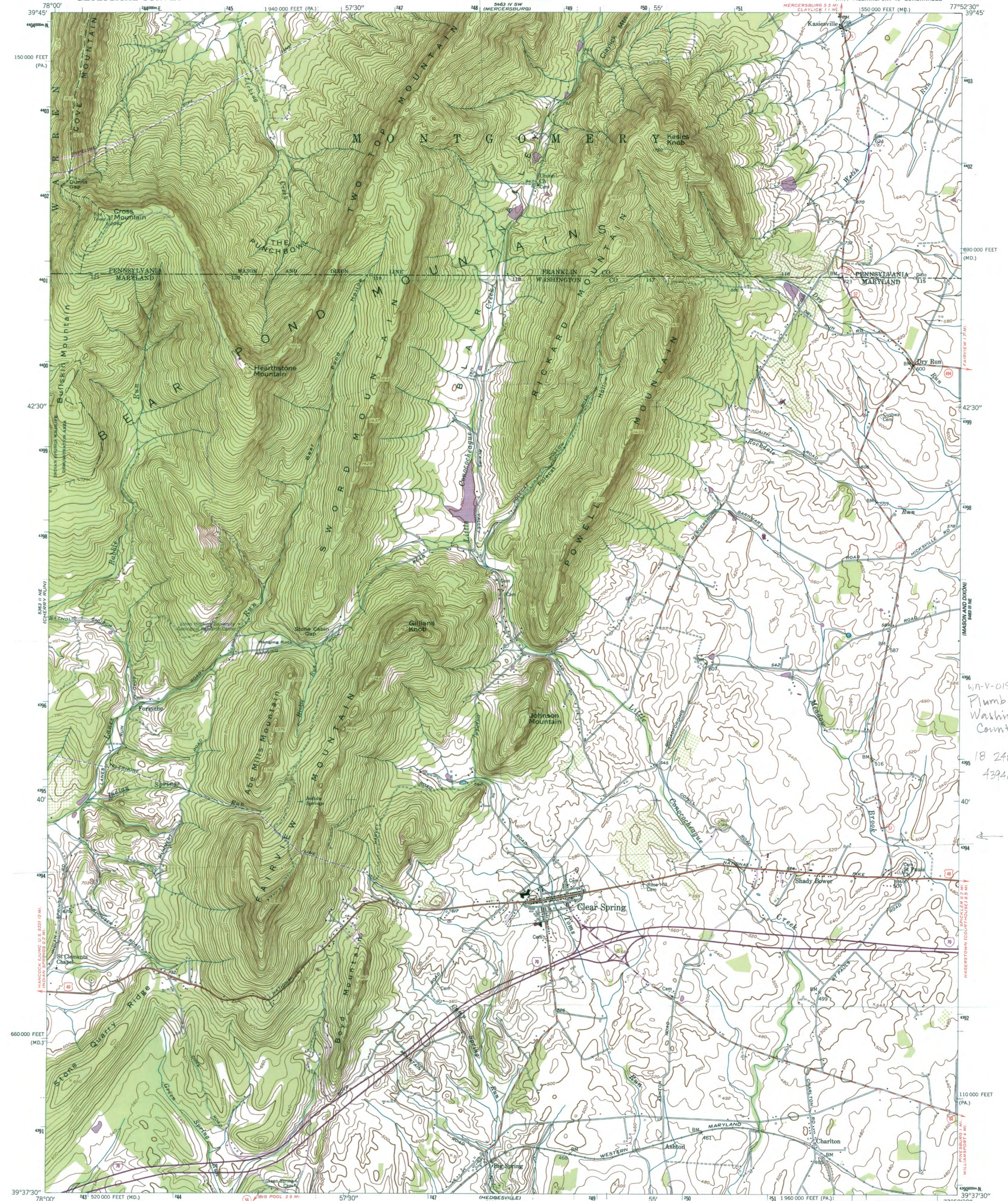
3/2011

MDSHPO

Second floor, southeast chamber, view SW
showing south wall mantel

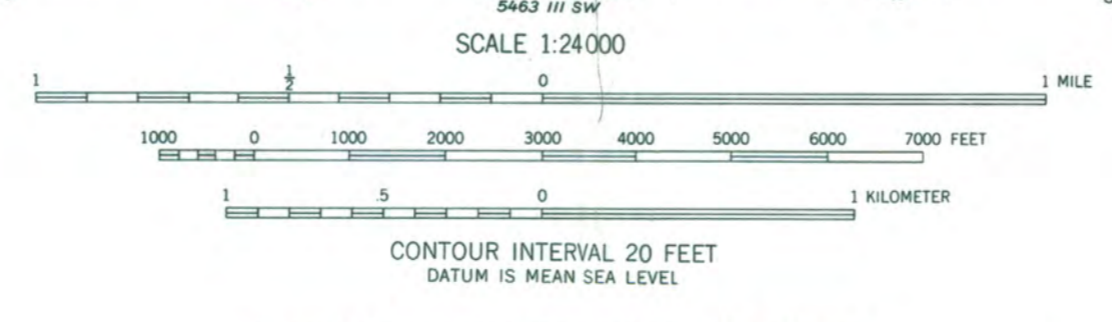
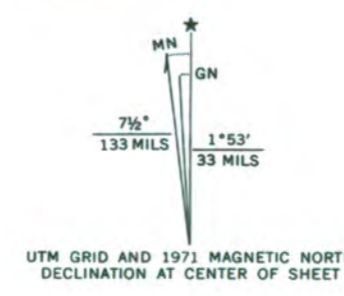
24 of 24

WA-V-015_2011-03-22_24.tif



WA-V-015
Plumb Grove
Washington
County, MD
18 248040
4394060

Maped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field check 1944
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1955
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Maryland coordinate system,
and Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1971. This information not field checked

CLEAR SPRING, MD.—PA.
NW/4 WILLIAMSPORT 15' QUADRANGLE
N 39°37.5'—W 77°52.5'
1955
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 5463 III NW—SERIES V833



Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall
Secretary

Matthew J. Power
Deputy Secretary

August 30, 2011

Mr. David Wiles, President
Clear Spring District Historical Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 211
Clear Spring, Maryland 21722

RE: PLUMB GROVE
Washington County, Maryland

Dear President Wiles:

Plumb Grove will be considered by the Governor's Consulting Committee for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on Tuesday, October 4, 2011. The National Register is the official list of historic properties recognized by the Federal Government as worthy of preservation for their significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. In Maryland, the nomination process is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust. Enclosed you will find a copy of the criteria under which properties are evaluated for listing. The meeting will be held at the Maryland State Archives, 350 Rowe Blvd., Annapolis Maryland, beginning at 10:00 a.m. You are welcome to attend this meeting.

Listing in the National Register results in the following for historic properties.

1. Consideration in planning for Federal, federally or state funded, licensed and assisted projects. Federal and state legislation requires that Federal agencies allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and state agencies, including the Maryland Historical Trust, opportunity to comment on all projects affecting historic properties listed in the National Register. For further information please refer to Section 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800 and Annotated Code of Maryland, State Finance and Procurement Article, Section 5A-323 et seq. or call the Office of Preservation Services of the Maryland Historical Trust at (410) 514-7630.
2. Eligibility for Federal tax provisions. If a property is listed in the National Register, certain Federal tax provisions may apply. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 revises the historic preservation tax incentives authorized by Congress in the Tax Reform Act of 1976, the Revenue Act of 1978, the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, and the Tax Reform Act of 1984, and as of January 1, 1987, provides for a 20 percent investment tax credit with a full adjustment to basis for rehabilitating historic commercial, industrial, and rental residential buildings. The former 15 percent and 20 percent Investment Tax Credits (ITCs) for rehabilitation of older commercial buildings are combined into a single 10 percent ITC for commercial or industrial buildings built before 1936.

The Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 provides Federal tax deductions for charitable contributions for conservation purposes of partial interests in historically important land areas or structures. Whether these provisions are advantageous to a property owner is dependent upon the particular circumstances of the property and the owner. Because tax aspects outlined above are complex, individuals should consult legal counsel or the appropriate local Internal Revenue Service office for assistance in determining the tax consequences of the above provisions. For further information on certification requirements, please refer to 36 CFR 67 or the Office of Preservation Services of the Maryland Historical Trust at (410) 514-7630.

3. Eligibility for a Maryland income tax benefit for the rehabilitation of historic property. For further information on the Heritage Preservation Tax Credit, contact the Office of Preservation Services of the Maryland Historical Trust at (410) 514-7628.

4. Consideration of historic values in the decision to issue a surface coal mining permit where coal is located. In accord with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, there must be consideration of historic values in the decision to issue a surface coal mining permit where coal is located. For further information, please refer to 30 CFR 700 et seq.

5. Eligibility to apply for federal and state grants and state low interest loans for historic preservation projects. To determine the present status of such grants and loans, contact the Office of Preservation Services of the Maryland Historical Trust at (410) 514-7632.

Owners of private properties nominated to the National Register have an opportunity to concur in or object to listing in accord with the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 60. Any owner or partial owner of private property who chooses to object to listing may submit to the State Historic Preservation Officer a notarized statement certifying that the party is the sole or partial owner of the private property and objects to the listing. Each owner or partial owner of private property has one vote regardless of what portion of the property that party owns. If a majority of private property owners object, a property will not be listed; however, the State Historic Preservation Officer shall submit the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places for a determination of eligibility of the property for listing in the National Register. If the property is determined to be eligible for listing, although not formally listed, Federal agencies will be required to allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and state agencies, including the Maryland Historical Trust, an opportunity to comment before the agency may fund, license, or assist a project which will affect the property. If you choose to object to the listing of your property, the notarized objection must be submitted to J. Rodney Little, State Historic Preservation Officer, ATTN: Peter Kurtze, Maryland Historical Trust, 100 Community Place, Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023 by the date of the meeting given above.

Listing in the National Register does NOT mean that the Federal Government or the State of Maryland wants to acquire the property, place restrictions on the property, or dictate the color or materials used on individual buildings. Local ordinances or laws establishing restrictive zoning, special design review committees, or review of exterior alterations are not a part of the National Register program. Listing also does NOT require the owner to preserve or maintain the property or seek approval of the Federal Government or the State of Maryland to alter the property. Unless the owner applies for and accepts special Federal or state tax, licensing, or funding benefits, the owner can do anything with his property he wishes so long as it is permitted by state or local law.

Page 3

If you wish to comment on whether the property should be nominated to the National Register, please send your comments to J. Rodney Little, State Historic Preservation Officer, ATTN: Peter E. Kurtze, before the Governor's Consulting Committee considers the nomination. Copies of the nomination, regulations and information on the National Register and Federal and State tax provisions are available from the Trust. If you have questions about this nomination, please contact Peter E. Kurtze, Administrator of Evaluation and Registration, Maryland Historical Trust at (410) 514-7649.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter E. Kurtze for". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name.

J. Rodney Little
Director-State Historic
Preservation Officer

JRL/jmg

cc: Maryland State Clearinghouse
Hon. Andy Duyck
Mr. Brien Poffenberger
Mr. Douglass C. Reed
Mr. Steven Goodrich
Paula S. Reed & Assoc., Inc.



Maryland Department of Planning

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall, Secretary
Matthew J. Power, Deputy Secretary

October 6, 2011

Mr. J. Rodney Little
Director, State Historic Preservation Officer
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE RECOMMENDATION

State Application Identifier: MD20110719-0577
Applicant: Maryland Historical Trust
Project Description: Historic Nomination: Plumb Grove
Project Location: County(ies) of Washington
Approving Authority: U.S. Department of the Interior DOI/NPS
CFDA Number: 15.914
Recommendation: Consistent Including General Comment(s)

Dear Mr. Little:

In accordance with Presidential Executive Order 12372 and Code of Maryland Regulation 34.02.01.04-.06, the State Clearinghouse has coordinated the intergovernmental review of the referenced project. This letter constitutes the State process review and recommendation. This recommendation is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter.

Review comments were requested from the Maryland Department(s) of Natural Resources, Transportation, Washington County, and the Maryland Department of Planning.

The Maryland Department(s) of Natural Resources, and Transportation; Washington County; and the Maryland Department of Planning found this project to be consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives.

The Department of Transportation stated that "as far as can be determined at this time, the subject has no unacceptable impacts on plans or programs."

The State Application Identifier Number must be placed on any correspondence pertaining to this project. The State Clearinghouse must be kept informed if the approving authority cannot accommodate the recommendation.

Please remember, you must comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations. If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff person noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at mbarnes@mdp.state.md.us. Also please complete the attached form and return it to the State Clearinghouse as soon as the status of the project is known. Any substitutions of this form must include the State Application Identifier Number. This will ensure that our files are complete.

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**APPENDIX VI:
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL REGISTER RECOMMENDATION FORM**

Property Name Plumb Grove
Location 12654 Broadfording Rd, Clear Spring, MD 21722
Washington County, MD
County _____
CLG Name Washington County Historic District Commission

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Nomination recommended Nomination not recommended

Please check the applicable National Register criteria and/or considerations (exceptions) used in decision:

criteria: A B C D
considerations: A B C D E F G
Justification of decision: (use continuation sheet if necessary)

Plumb Grove is recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because it qualifies under Criteria C. It retains a high degree of integrity which enables it to represent an excellent example of the distinctive characteristics of vernacular Greek Revival architecture. Plumb Grove has also been witness to and can represent aspects of Clear Spring's and Washington County's developmental and agricultural history and displays the prominent Nesbitt family's prosperity.

Charles R. Stewart Charles R. Stewart / cjs 10/5/2011
signature of commission chairman date
Washington County Historic District Commission
name of commission

CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL RECOMMENDATION

I concur with the opinion of the historic preservation review commission.
 I do not concur with the opinion of the historic preservation review commission.
(Please justify disagreement on a separate sheet.)

Terry L. Baker 10-18-11
signature of chief elected official date
Terry L. Baker, President, Board of County Commissioners for Washington County, MD
title



Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor



Richard Eberhart Hall
Secretary
Deputy Secretary

October 21, 2011

Mr. J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 I (eye) St., NW
Mail Stop 2280
Washington, DC 20005

RE: PLUMB GROVE
Washington County, Maryland

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed is documentation for nominating Plumb Grove, Washington County, Maryland to the National Register of Historic Places. The state review board and the owners concur in my recommendation for listing. Should you have questions in this matter, please contact Peter Kurtze at (410) 514-7649.

Sincerely,

J. Rodney Little
Director-State Historic
Preservation Officer

JRL/jmg

cc: State Clearinghouse #MD20110719-0577
Enclosures: NR form and 22 continuation sheets
1 USGS map
24 - 5x7 b/w prints

Correspondence: letter, Little to Wiles, 30 August 2011
letter, Janey to Little, 6 October 21, 2011
CLG recommendation form, 18 October 21, 2011