NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form may also be used for entering properties into the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and the Maryland Register of Historic Properties.

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 an 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). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Primrose Hill

other names/site number Primrose Farm, Young's Inn AA-169

2. Location

street & number 3 Milkshake Lane ☐ not for publication

city or town Annapolis ☐ vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Anne Arundel code 03 zip code 21403

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO Date 7-26-10

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 the property is:

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

☐ 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:)

Primrose Hill — Name of Property
AA-169 — site/inventory number
Anne Arundel County, MD — County and State

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	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	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)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Georgian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Brick
roof Metal/tin
other

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

PLACE NARRATIVE ON CONTINUATION SHEETS

Primrose Hill — Name of Property
AA-169 — site/inventory number
Anne Arundel County, MD — County and State

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 patterns of our history.
- ☒ B Property is 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.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Art

Period of Significance

c. 1763-1778

Significant Dates

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

John Hesselius (1728-1778)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Not known

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 file (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: _____

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Name of Property

Anne Arundel County, MD
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2 acres

UTM References South River, MD quad
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	369760	4313250
2			
3			
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 Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant date 11/30/99

street & number Cedar Hill P. O. Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover state MD zip code 21871

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 Michael Allen and Mary ~~Michaels~~ Allen

street & number 3 Milkshake Lane telephone 410-263-2728

city or town Annapolis state MD zip code 21403

Paperwork Reduction Act 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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Primrose Hill is located at 3 Milkshake Lane in the City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Situated on a two-acre parcel, the c. 1760 two-and-a-half story, four-room plan brick dwelling faces southwest with the principal gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis. The house stands near the crest of a knoll with the grade sloping downward on three sides. On the southwest side the front yard shows distinct signs of intentional grading for two tiers of terraces. The two-and-a-half story, four-bay, double-pile brick house is extended to the rear by a two-story common bond brick kitchen dating from the second quarter of the nineteenth century, and early twentieth century porches are attached to the front and rear elevations. Extending to the southeast is a 1986 hyphen and single-story wing addition also built in brick. The entire house is painted white. Joining the house on the lot is an early twentieth- century rusticated concrete block garage.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The two-and-a-half story, four-bay by two-bay main block is supported on a raised foundation of three-course common bond, whereas the exterior walls are laid in a combination of header, Flemish and common bonds. The medium pitched gable roof is sheathed with seamed tin.

The southwest (main) elevation is a four-bay facade with the first story sheltered by the early twentieth-century shed roofed porch supported by Tuscan columns. The porch is enclosed. A side-lighted porch door is flanked by paired windows. The edge of the roof has exposed rafter feet. The front wall of the brick house is defined by a molded brick watertable, and the header bond rises to the height of the beltcourse. The header bond wall is pierced by an off-center double door entrance in the second bay from the southwest corner, and nine-over-nine sash windows mark the remaining bays. Jack arches span each of the window opening and each arch is undercut with a segmental arch. The entrance is a double door opening which was reworked during the early nineteenth century. The split leaf doors are defined by three shallow panels to each leaf and the outside corners of each panel are distinguished by quarter round cut. The door reveals are similarly finished, and a diamond pane transom tops the double doors. Louvered shutters flank the adjacent windows. The second floor is lighted by four nine-over-six sash windows flanked by louvered shutters as well. Finishing the top of the wall is a bold, plastered cove cornice. Fixed atop the metal roof are a pair of nineteenth-century gable roofed dormers filled with six-over-six sash windows. The dormers are trimmed with second quarter of the nineteenth-century moldings.

(Continued)

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Description (Continued)

The northwest gable end is defined by two nine-over-nine sash windows on the first story, and two four-over-four sash windows on the second story. Lighting the attic is a pair of six-over-six sash windows. The windows on each floor are flanked by louvered shutters. Rising in the center of the wall against the interior end chimney stack is a later furnace flue. The tops of the chimney are finished with corbelled caps. Finishing the edge of the roof is a later bargeboard molding.

The northeast (rear) wall of the main block is partially covered by a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing covered by a shed roof. The wing is laid in common bond with a beltcourse and six-over-six sash windows define each floor. The windows are framed by half-round molded surrounds, and each opening is flanked by louvered shutters. Rising through the end is a single flue stack. The balance of the rear wall is defined by an entrance and adjacent nine-over-nine sash windows topped by finely crafted jack arches. The rear entrance is sheltered by a single-bay porch. The top of the wall is finished with a bold cove cornice, also executed in plaster. There are no dormers on the northeast slope of the roof.

The southeast gable end is partially covered by the single-story hyphen addition. Nine-over-nine sash windows topped by jack arches define the outer bays, and a narrow four-over-four sash window pierces the southeast corner of the second story. The southwest corner is defined by a bank of three nine-over-six sash windows. Brick beltcourses define the second and third floor levels. A pair of six-over-six sash windows light the attic and flank the interior end brick chimney. Finishing the top of the stack is a corbelled cap.

The first floor is divided into a four-room plan with a stairhall fixed between the rear two rooms. The southwest room served as the original entrance hall and is served by a corner fireplace. A portion of a later partition remains to partially divide the space in an effort to create a formal center passage plan during the early twentieth century. Original to the space is a built-in cupboard located in the southwest corner. The two-part corner cupboard is distinguished by raised-panel doors and flanking pilasters. The arched doors that enclose the top portion have three raised panels to each leaf, and fluted pilasters are fixed to each side. The interior is filled with a series of curved front shelves. The single-panel doors to the lower cupboard are framed by plain pilasters. Between the two sections is a mid eighteenth-century bolection molding. The arched header above the upper cupboard doors is enhanced by a molded key block. To each side of the cupboard are Federal nine-over-nine sash windows framed by early nineteenth-century surrounds featuring a narrow ovolo and cove backband profile. The projecting window seat

(Continued)

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Description (Continued)

survives with a raised-panel front and a second raised panel below the window opening. A portion of the mid eighteenth-century chair rail remains in place as well. The fireplace is distinguished by a mid nineteenth-century Victorian mantel with chamfered pilasters and a bracketed shelf. Along the inside hall wall are two doorways; the door into the rear stairhall survives with a mid eighteenth-century door surround framing a mid nineteenth-century four-panel door, whereas a twentieth-century door surround frame an eighteenth-century six-panel door that opens into the southeast room. The hall/parlor wall is pierced by a widened door opening that survives with sections of mid eighteenth-century door moldings.

The parlor is distinguished by a combination of eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and twentieth-century woodwork as well. A Colonial Revival mantel frames the brick fireplace. Fluted Ionic columns rise to a molded entablature and broken profile shelf. Fixed in a niche to the right (east) of the chimney stack is an eighteenth-century, two-part cupboard with decorative shelving and a shell carved back within the arched opening, and a single raised-panel door covering the lower cabinet. Raised-panel window seats combine with Federal window moldings around each window opening. The door between the parlor and the northeast room (library) has been widened.

The library is served by a corner fireplace framed by a plain mid nineteenth-century mantel. Raised-panel window seats survive in this room as well, and the windows are framed by early nineteenth-century Federal surrounds. The interior door from the library to the hall retains its mid eighteenth-century ogee profile backband surround, six-panel door, and wrought-iron H-L hinges.

Distinguishing the rear passage is a closed stringer, turned baluster staircase that appears to date from the second quarter of the eighteenth century. Square posts topped by molded caps anchor a molded handrail. A row of turned balusters, one of which was inserted upside down, is fixed between the handrail and the closed stringer, which is trimmed with a bold ogee molded front and accompanied by a triangular raised panel below. The closed stringer staircase rises with winder steps to another straight flight to the second floor. Beneath the main stair is a cellar stair accessed through a one-over-one paneled door. The cellar stair door is installed on an odd diagonal angle to the staircase. On the second floor a turned baluster railing stretches across the second floor hall. This section of railing has a slightly different molding than the handrail molding of the main staircase.

The final first floor room, located in the southeast corner, is served by a corner fireplace framed by a mid nineteenth-century bracketed mantel. The room is lighted by a single window

(Continued)

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Description (Continued)

that is trimmed with Federal moldings, and it retains its eighteenth-century, raised-panel window seat. A turn of the century beaded, tongue-and-groove board cabinet is fixed in the northeast corner of the room.

The second floor is partitioned like the first floor with two large front rooms and two smaller rooms in back that are separated by the staircase and second floor hall. The staircase rises to the attic with a turned baluster railing on one side and a beaded board partition on the other. The vertical board partition separates the staircase from a narrow hall that provides access to the chambers on the north side of the house. Vertical board partitions also serve as a partition between the hall and chambers on the north and south side of the staircase. Raised panel doors opens into the various chambers, which are finished with a combination of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century features.

The northwest front chamber, like the parlor below, is served by a square fronted chimney stack. The firebox has a segmental arch and is framed by a bracketed mantel shelf. The plaster has been removed from the stack. A built-in beaded board Victorian closet in located in a corner. The perimeter of the room is trimmed with a beaded edge baseboard. The northeast chamber is entered through a raised six-panel door, and the room is served by a corner fireplace. A built-in Victorian beaded board closet in fixed in the corner opposite the fireplace.

The southwest front chamber is entered through a one-over-one raised-panel door. The room is distinguished by a square fronted chimney stack pierced by a segmental arched firebox opening. The firebox is framed by a nineteenth-century bracketed mantel.

The southeast chamber has been subdivided with mid to late nineteenth-century partitions to enclose a bathroom and closets. A raised six-panel door has been rehung on a later closet door opening. Victorian surrounds frame the door openings in the partitioned chamber as well as the second floor of the rear wing.

The attic is divided into several rooms with later partitions. Exposed on the east side of the attic is a principal rafter, butt-purlin roof system with the original wide pine nailers. The room partitions date from the twentieth century.

(Continued)

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Description (Continued)

A full cellar is only found beneath the northern half of the brick house. A brick partition divides the space into two rooms. A corner support for the chimney stack is located in the northeast room, while a square front stack support distinguishes the northwest room. Each stack support has a round arched opening.

Standing behind the house is a single-story rusticated concrete block garage topped by a pyramidal slate roof. The north wall is pierced by a garage door and six-over-six sash windows light the interior. A small frame appendage is attached to the west side, and it shelters a former well.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Primrose Hill is architecturally significant on account of its mid eighteenth-century Georgian design and construction, and the property is historically important with its direct association to the American portraitist, John Hesselius (1728-1778), who resided in this house between c. 1763 and his death. The two-story, four-room plan brick dwelling, dating around 1760, was built on an elaborate scale in line with other gentry houses in Anne Arundel County. Larken Hill's (1753) near Harwood and the Tilton House (c. 1760) on Maryland Avenue in Annapolis are contemporaneous Georgian dwellings exhibiting related plans and construction features.

Assembled with a combination of header, Flemish, and common bond walls rising to boldly executed cove cornices, Primrose Hill was designed after a version of the "Annapolis plan," a room disposition defined by four principal spaces on the first floor. Reflective of the four-room plan is the four-bay southwest (main) elevation, which like the Tilton House, incorporates an off-center entrance. The brick elevations are defined by standard masonry conventions for the time with a molded watertable at the foundation level and beltcourses at the second and third floor levels. A front entrance hall, served by a corner fireplace, is distinguished by an original built-in architectural corner cupboard with arched doors and flanking pilasters. The two windows boast raised-panel window seats, and original moldings frame several door openings. The hall is flanked on the left (north) by a large parlor, which is also distinguished by a built-in display cupboard highlighted by a shell-carved back. The windows in the parlor are also enhanced by raised-panel window seats. The hall and parlor front two smaller back rooms which are separated by a rear stair hall. In contrast to the original Georgian finishes, the staircase follows a closed stringer, turned baluster form that is more characteristic of the second quarter of the eighteenth century. The staircase surviving at the Charles Carroll Barrister House on the St. John's Campus is a close parallel. Due to some idiosyncratic finish aspects of the stair construction, it may have been salvaged from a second quarter of the eighteenth-century structure and reinstalled here. Also atypical of c. 1760 dwellings are several one-over-one panel doors that were probably salvaged and reused as well.

John Hesselius occupies an important place in the history of colonial American painting as the country's first native born artist. He worked principally in the field of portraiture, depicting wealthy individuals and families. Living and working in Maryland and traveling to adjacent colonies of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and possibly New Jersey, John Hesselius attained regional prominence as a portraitist, and his surviving body of work reflects his acceptance by the colonial gentry as a skilled painter for the period. His paintings of the Calvert family are some of the best known and often reproduced examples of his work. John Hesselius also served as an early instructor for artist Charles Willson Peale, who dominated mid-Atlantic painting after the Revolution.

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Significance (Continued)

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Primrose Hill served as the principal residence of John Hesselius and his wife, Mary Young Woodward, and their family. The large plantation descended through Mary Hesselius's family, from her grandfather Samuel to her father Richard until her acquisition of the plantation during the mid eighteenth century. The specific building date of Primrose Hill is not known, but architectural details place its construction around 1760. Henry Woodward (1733-1761), Mary's first husband, may have built the house prior to his death, or construction may have coincided with Mary Woodward's marriage to John Hesselius in 1763. It is also conceivable that the Primrose Hill house was under construction in 1761 and not finished until some time afterwards. Despite this uncertainty, the house was complete by 1769 when a violent hail storm passed through the Annapolis area.[1] The *Maryland Gazette* announced on August 3rd:

> *On Sunday Evening last, a very black Cloud arose from the Westward, which broke in the Neighborhood of this City, at Mr. Hesselius's, and from thence to London-Town: A great Quantity of Hail-Stone fell, or rather Cakes of Ice, as they were flat and oblong, many of them Five or Six Inches in Circumference, Every Pane of Glass on the West Side, and upper Story of Mr. Hesselius's House, were beat in, and many Windows in London-Town greatly damaged. On several Plantations, the Corn was cut, so that it is now withering away.*

John Hesselius, America's first native born artist, resided at Primrose Hill, and the property comprised over 500 acres bordering Spa Creek southwest of Annapolis. Identified in the land records as "Youngs Inn," the plantation passed from Samuel Young to his son Richard Young, and then to his daughter Mary by 1748.[2] On the occasion of Mary's marriage to Henry Woodward in June 1755, the *Maryland Gazette* states that Miss Mary Young is the daughter and heiress of the late Richard Young and granddaughter of the late Hon. Samuel Young, Esq. who had a "pretty fortune."[3] Henry Woodward's untimely death in September 1761, at age 28,

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[1] *Maryland Gazette*, August 3, 1769.

[2] Richard Young died intestate in 1748. His wife Rebecca served as his administratrix and witnessed an inventory recorded 7 November 1750.

[3] Green, Karen Mauer, *The Maryland Gazette, 1727-1761: Genealogical and Historical Abstracts* (Frontier Press: Galveston, 1989), p. 150.

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Significance (Continued)

left Mary a widow with four young children.

Less than two years later, on January 30, 1763, Mary Woodward married John Hesselius, and the coupled resided at Primrose Hill. By the testimony of the room-by-room inventory assembled at the time of John Hesselius's death fifteen years later, the two-story brick dwelling was furnished in a high style with a large quantity of expensive, imported furniture including mahogany and walnut chests and tables, a harpsichord valued at L 35, and a large assortment of prints and paintings. Also included among his goods and chattels were 194 ounces of silver plate, assessed at L 77..12..0. Listed under his ownership at Primrose Hill were nine slaves valued at L 480. Another plantation, known as "St. Carys" or "Bellfield," was assessed with 22 slaves and an extensive assortment of oxen, cattle, sheep, lambs, young as well as mature horses, and mules. Altogether John Hesselius's movable estate topped an impressive L 3400.[4] In his will, executed in 1778, he identifies himself as a "limner," and he bequeaths substantial sums to his wife and children.

John Hesselius's life as a painter and his place in American art history have been well established. The son of Gustavus Hesselius, a Swedish immigrant and painter in his own right, John Hesselius grew up in Philadelphia and moved to Maryland around 1760 following his father's death in 1755. [5] In 1761 he is listed in the records of St. Anne's Parish as a "batchelor" with an estate worth "L 300 or upwards." [6] John Hesselius's four paintings of Benedict Calvert's children are dated 1761. [7] Scores of portraits executed by Hesselius during his working career from c. 1750-1778 support the assessment that he was a major figure in mid-Atlantic American painting prior to the Revolution.[8] During his residency in Anne Arundel County at Primrose Hill,

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[4] Anne Arundel County Inventory, John Hesselius, Box 1A, Folder 9, appraised by Robert Cowden and William Thomas, July 1778.

[5] Doud, Richard Keith, *John Hesselius: His Life and Work*, (University of Delaware Master's Thesis, 1963) p. 12

[6] Doub, p. 14

[7] Doub, pp. 6

[8] Wilmerding, John ed. *The Genius of American Painting*, (William Morrow & Co., New York, 1973) p. 60.

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Significance (Continued)

Charles Willson Peale visited there in an early effort to learn how to paint portraits. In an exchange for one of Peale's best saddles and fittings, Hesselius painted one half of a face, leaving the other half to be painted by Peale. Peale then watched Hesselius paint two portraits.[9]

Following John Hesselius's death in 1778, Mary remained at Primrose Hill with her children. By record of the 1783 tax assessment Mary owned "Young's Inn," totaling 556 acres, thirteen slaves, 194 ounces of "silver plate," and an assortment of horses, cattle and sheep. Her property at the time was assessed at L 2100. [10] During her residency at Primrose Hill, Mrs. Hesselius was inspired by the Methodist teachings of Reverend George Whitefield with whom she corresponded. She opened Primrose Hill to early followers of Methodism who resided in the area.

Sometime after the turn of the nineteenth century, Mary Hesselius relocated to Baltimore, and the Primrose Hill plantation was offered for sale by her son John. In an advertisement placed in the *Maryland Gazette* in 1797, the paper stated:

> *To be Sold on or before the 10th of April next, about two miles from the city of Annapolis A Tract of Land, containing 686 acres, with a commodious brick dwelling-house, two stories high, four rooms on a floor, a new brick kitchen adjoining, all is good repair, also a new stable, with their convenient out houses and an excellent garden, containing a choice collection of fruit trees & c. Great part of the said land is well timbered and lies convenient to the town. There are two tenements, one of them situated on a hill about a mile from the city, commanding a beautiful prospect, and would answer to be sold separate from the other dwelling, with any number of acres that may best suit the purchaser...*[11]

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[9] Richardson, Edgar P., Hindle, Brooke, Miller, Lillian B., *Charles Willson Peale and His World*, (Harry N. Abrams, Inc. New York, N. Y., 1983) p. 26.

[10] 1783 Tax Assessment, Mary Hesselius, Middle Neck Hundred, Maryland State Archives.

[11] *Maryland Gazette*, January 19, 1797.

Primrose Hill, AA-169
Significance (Continued)

Despite the declaration that the property would be sold by April 1797, Primrose Hill remained in Hesselius family hands until the early nineteenth century. On October 15, 1806, Mary Hesselius, listed of "Baltimore County, widow," sold 544 acres of "Young's Inn" and "Keith's Landing" to Robert McGill for L6370..9..6., the mortgage for which was assumed later by William Kilty. Due to McGill's failure to make good on the debt, Primrose Hill was officially sold to William Kilty on June 11, 1811.[12] William Kilty retained ownership of the plantation a short time, transferring title in 1815 to Lewis Neth, a prominent Annapolis merchant who also owned the Paca House during the early nineteenth century.

During the mid to late nineteenth century, Primrose Hill was occupied by a number of individuals. At the time of the 1878 atlas map printed by G. M. Hopkins, the farm was held by Frank H. Stockett, who held title to 435 1/4 acres. [13] Following Stockett ownership, Primrose Hill was held by a handful of families. The farm comprised over 400 acres until the early twentieth century. In 1917 the old brick house and 207 acres were acquired by Kenneth R. Corner of Cleveland, Ohio.[14] The Corners were long-term owners of the farm. During the mid to late twentieth century the house and reduced acreage was held by Dr. Walter Earl Landmesser, Jr., who acquired ownership in 1956 and sold it to the present owners in 1998.[15]

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[12] Anne Arundel County Land Record, NH 16/611, Mary Hesselius, Baltimore County, widow to William Kilty, Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

[13] Anne Arundel County Land Record, GEG 2/526, 6 March 1867.

[14] Anne Arundel County Land Record, GW 139/31, 22 August 1917.

[15] Anne Arundel County Land Record, 1031/298, 24 May 1956, and 8223/324, 22 December 1998.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated house is situated on a 2.0 acre parcel delineated in a location drawing entitled Lot 1A-R of the Landmesser Property located at 3 Milkshake Lane in the City of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The 2.0 acre parcel, as delineated, borders Milkshake Lane on its northwest side for a distance of 91.72 feet, and then follows by and with the delineated boundary as shown in the directions and courses thereby indicated.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property, 2.0 acres, represents the remnant of the property historically associated with the resource. The property is surrounded on all sides by mid-20th century residential development.

0201695104
AA-26-W-a
(169)
(map 24)

AA-169

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Primrose Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: South side of Hilltop Lane, at Milkshake Lane

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Anne Arundel

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Dr. and Mrs. Walter E. Landmesser, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 214

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland 21404

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Anne Arundel County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Annapolis, Maryland

CITY OR TOWN: Map #85, AD #6, Primrose Acres Subdivision

STATE:

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

AA-169

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed	
	(Check One) ☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered	(Check One) ☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (*If known*) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Primrose Farm" is a large 2 1/2 story brick house located on the outskirts of Annapolis. The building, almost a cube, has an A-roof, end chimneys and a four-bay facade. A 2-story brick wing with a shed roof and an end chimney has been added to the rear of the house. The brick on both sections has been painted white. The main section stands on a high, chamferred, water table and there are two belt courses. Under the eaves on the north and south sides there is a plain, coved cornice. The windows all have louvred shutters and, except those on the ends of the third floor, are set in segmental arches. The 1st floor windows have 9/9 panes; the second floor: 9/6 panes, with narrow 4/4 pane openings in the end walls. The 6/6 pane openings on the end walls of the third floor are probably enlargements. There are two 6/6 pane, segmentally arched, dormers on the south side of the roof. The screened porch across the south side of the house is a 20th century addition. The front entrance is on the south side, in the second bay from the east end of the house.

Some alterations were made to the interior of the house in the early 1900's but little has been changed since. The windows on the first floor have seats under them. There are two cabinets, one a corner cabinet in the south east room, the other, a shell cabinet in the south-west room, which appear to be original. The two fireplaces on the east end of the first floor are set on the diagonal. The others in the house are parallel to the wall. The stair is without intermediate landings, having windows instead. The balusters are ornately turned. The stair is enclosed in vertical, beaded panels which go up to the third floor. Most of the moldings, hardware, doors and glass in the house appear original. The two story wing contains the present kitchen. There is a basement under the west half of the main section.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

AA-169

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - ☐ Prehistoric
  - ☐ Historic
- ☒ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Primrose Farm" is believed to have been built in 1732 by a member of the Hesselius family. It is said that John Hesselius, the painter, who died in 1778, was buried on the farm. Another claim is that John Hesselius was buried at "Belfield" near Whitehall in an unmarked grave).

"Primrose Farm" consisted of about 850 acres in the early 1900's. It has gradually been subdivided. The house is pictured in the Life and Times of the Reverend Walter Addison, 1769-1848, compiled by Elizabeth Hesselius Murray, Philadelphia, George W. Jacobs and Co., 1895.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY							OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

ORGANIZATION | DATE

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: | STATE

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

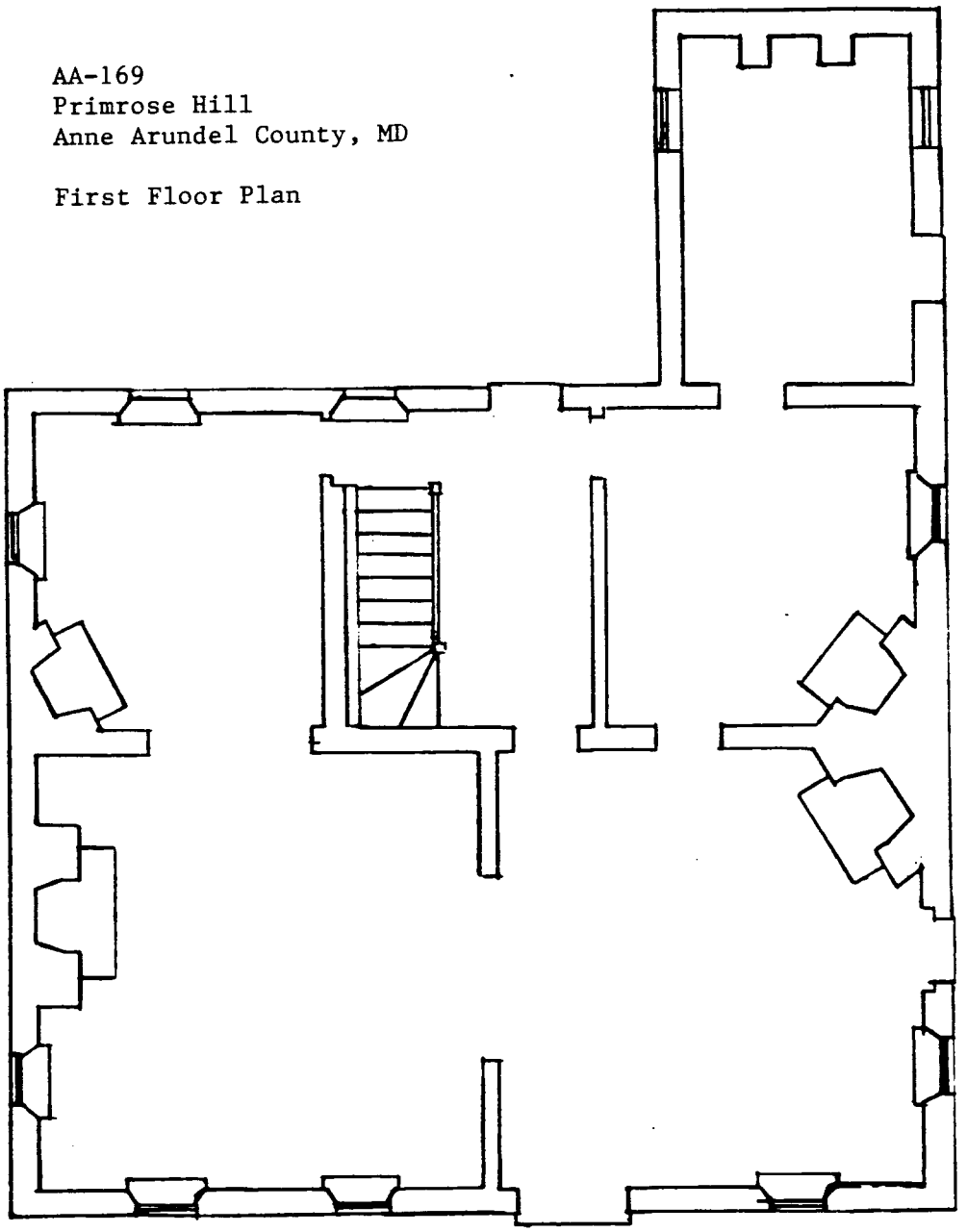
Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

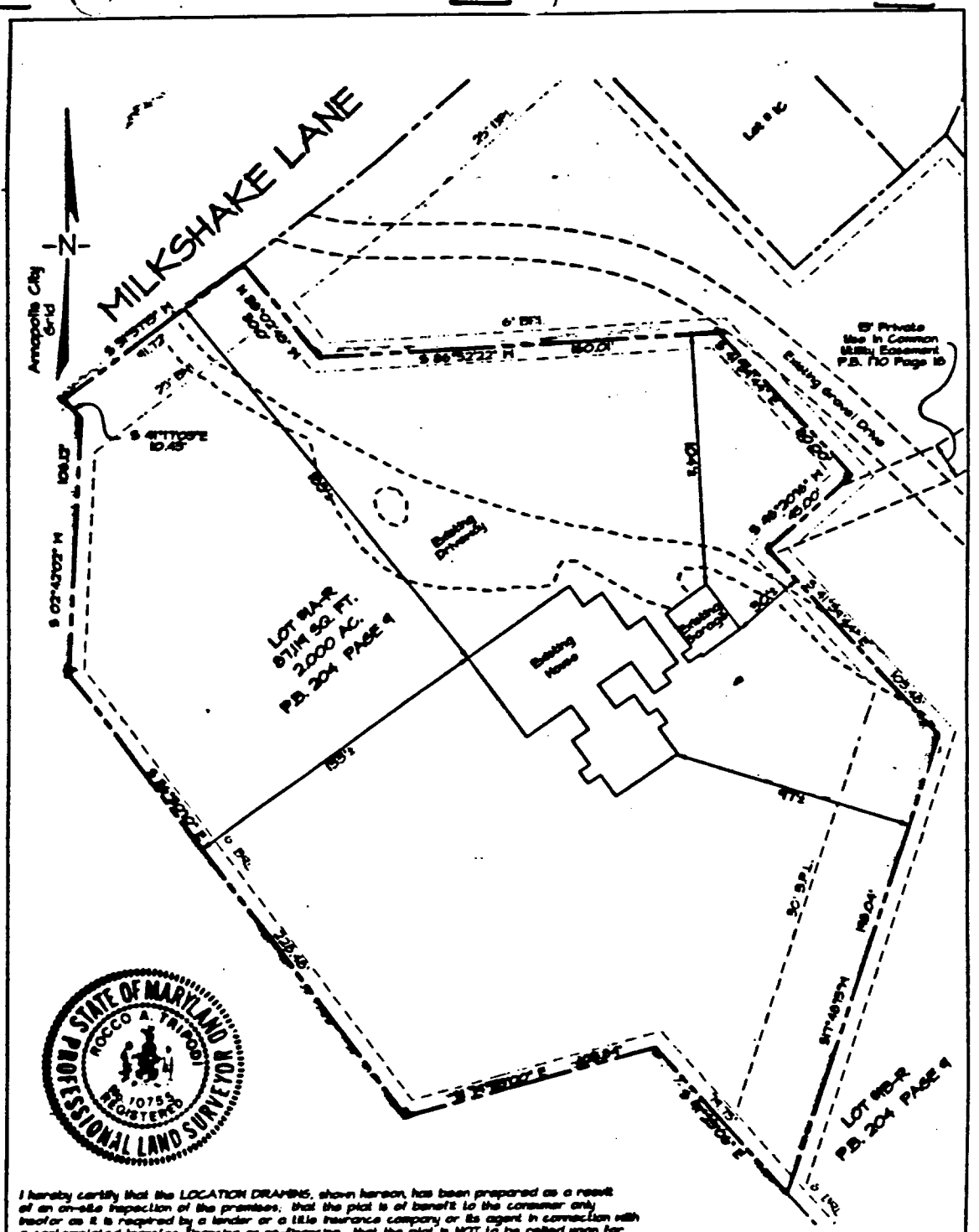
AA-169
Primrose Hill
Anne Arundel County, MD

First Floor Plan



AA-169 PRIMROSE HILL
ANNAPOLIS, MD
1/8" = 1' AFTER 1917 PLAN
BY WARD BROWN, ARCH.

AA-169
Primrose Hill
Anne Arundel County
Maryland



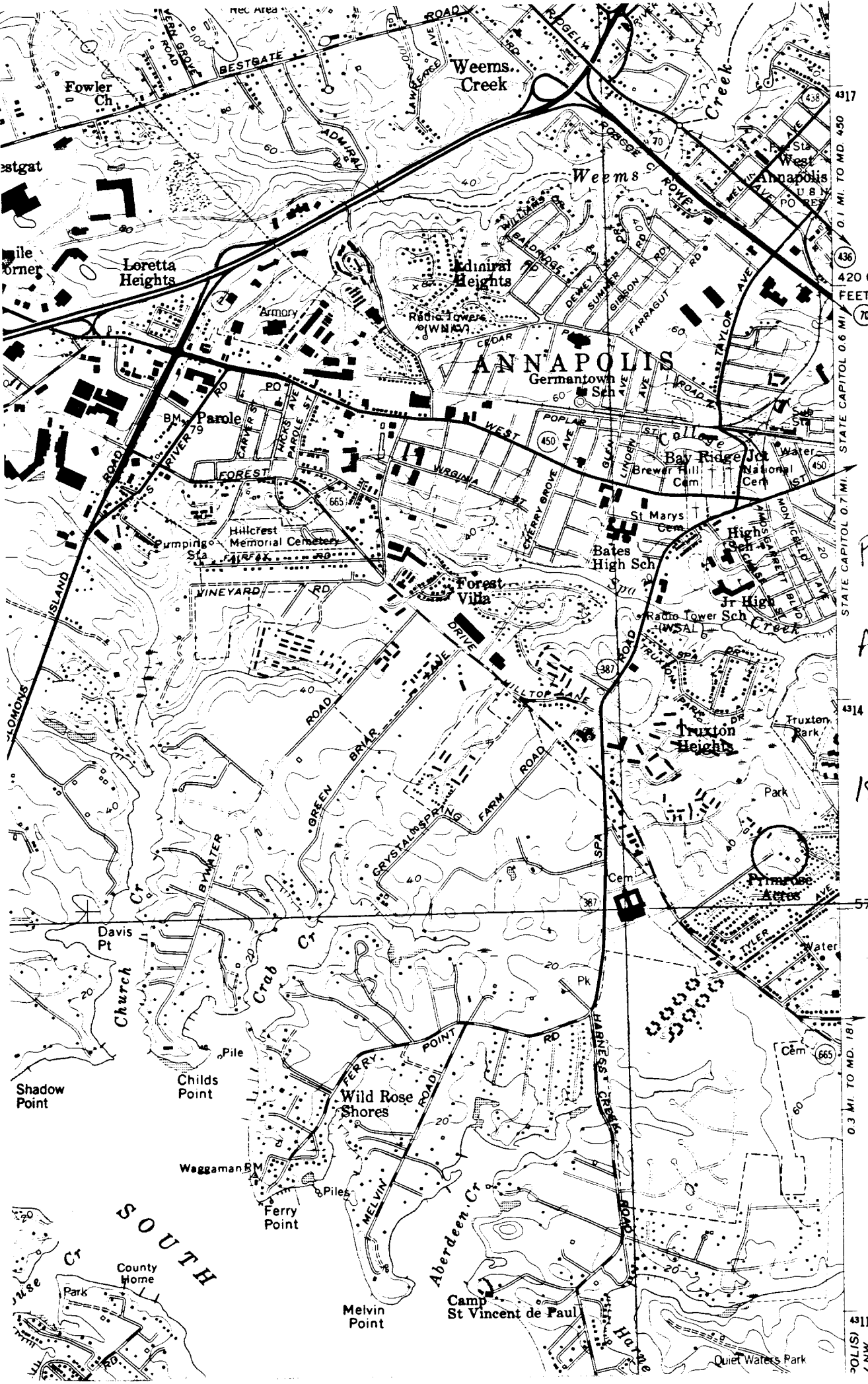
I hereby certify that the LOCATION DRAWING, shown hereon, has been prepared as a result of an on-site inspection of the premises; that the plat is of benefit to the consumer only insofar as it is required by a lender or a title insurance company or its agent in connection with a contemplated transfer, financing or re-financing; that the plat is NOT to be relied upon for the establishment or location of fences, garages, buildings, or other existing or future improvements; that the plat does NOT provide for the accurate identification of property boundary lines (such identification may not be required for the transfer of title or securing financing or refinancing); that any possible encroachments shown hereon were determined by a visual inspection of the property either way across the apparent property lines; that the minimum setback lines shown (if any) are based upon those provided by the requesting party; that this drawing is subject to a title report which may reveal additional conveyances, easements, covenants, rights-of-way or more stringent building restriction lines not shown hereon. If this drawing does not have an original seal and signature (the seal and signature are not copies), it is to be considered invalid.

12/17/97
Rocco A. Tripodi Date
Professional Land Surveyor #10753
Date of Latest Field Notes: 10-20-97

The property shown hereon appears to be located in the flood hazard zone "C", area of minimal flooding on the FIRM Flood Insurance Map #240001 0005 B dated Nov. 4, 1981 for said county and distributed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

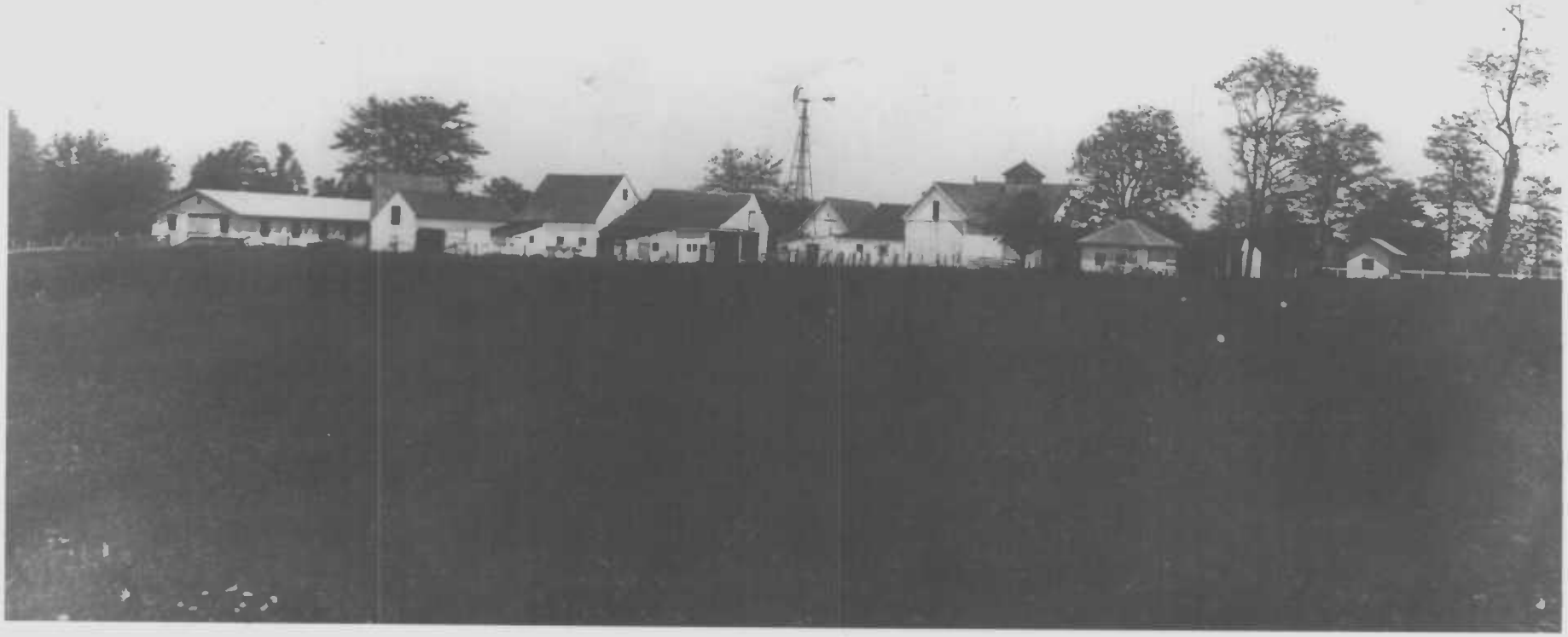
ALL TIE DISTANCES ARE WITHIN A MINIMUM OF ONE FOOT (1.0') OF THE DISTANCES SHOWN.

Location Drawing	McCRONE ENGINEERING · ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES LAND PLANNING & SURVEYING CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 20 Ridgely Avenue Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (410) 267-6643	DRAWN BY: D. Miller
Lot 1A-R - Landmesser Property		SCALE: 1"=50'
5 Milkshake Lane - City of Annapolis		DATE: 12-10-97
Prepared for Michael Allen		JOB NO.: C1970620
Sixth District Anne Arundel County, MD.		FOLDER Holler Landmesser
		REFERENCE: (Brown)
		CADD FILE: ALLEN02.PRO



AA-169
PRIMROSE HILL
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

18-369760
-4313250



AA-169

Primrose Hill

Annapolis, Anne Arundel Co., MD

Documentary photograph of farm complex, c. 1930

Collection of Michael and Mary Allen

2 of 17

AA-169

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] PAUL [illegible]

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9 of 17

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PRIMROSE HILL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD.

ENTRANCE TRANSOM

10/99, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

9 OF 17

AH. 169

PRIMROSE HALL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO. MD.

HALL - CORNER CUPBOARD

10/96 PAUL TOWERS, PHOTOGRAPHER

10 OF 17

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PRIMROSE THEA

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD.

PARKER

10/19, PARK TOWERS, PITTSBURGH

11 OF 17

AA-169
PRIMROSE HILL
ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO. MD
LIBRARY MANTEL
10/99, PAUL TOMER,
PHOTOGRAPHER
12 OF 17

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PRIMROSE HILL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO. MD

STAIRCASE

10/99, PAUL TOUART, PHOTO.

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AA-169

PRIMROSE HILL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD.

STARCASE

10/99 PAUL TOMART, PHOTOGRAPHER

19 OF 17

MASKED ROBINHOODS
OF THE FIERY
FEARLESS WEST !
TRAIL OF THE
VIGILANTES
FRANCHOT TONE
WARREN WILLIAM
BROD CRAWFORD
ANDY DEVINE
MISCHA AUER
PEGGY MORAN

AA-169

PRIMROSE HILL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO. MD

2ND HOUSE PURCHASE

10/99, PAUL TOWNER, PHOTOGRAPHER

15 OF 17

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PRIMROSE HILL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD.

NORTHWEST CHAMBER

10/99, PAUL TOUHEY, PHOTOGRAPHER

16 OF 17

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PRIMROSE HILL

ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD.

PRINCIPAL RAFTER ROOF SYSTEM

12/99, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

17 OF 17

AA-169
PRIMROSE HILL
ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD
NORTHWEST ELEVATION
DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPH c. 1930
COLLECTION OF MICHAEL AND MARY ALLEN

AA-169
PRIMROSE HILL
ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD
DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPH OF PARLOR c. 1930
COLLECTION OF MICHAEL AND MARY ALLEN

AA-169
PRIMROSE HILL
ANNAPOLIS, ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MD.
DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPH OF HALL, c. 1930
COLLECTION OF MICHAEL AND MARY ALLEN

A-
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(map 24)

AA-26-W-a
"Primrose Farm"
South Elevation

A-
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aa-26-w-a
"Primrose Farm"
S.E. Corner

(map 24)

HA-
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AA-26-W-a
"Primrose Farm"
West Elevation

(map 24)