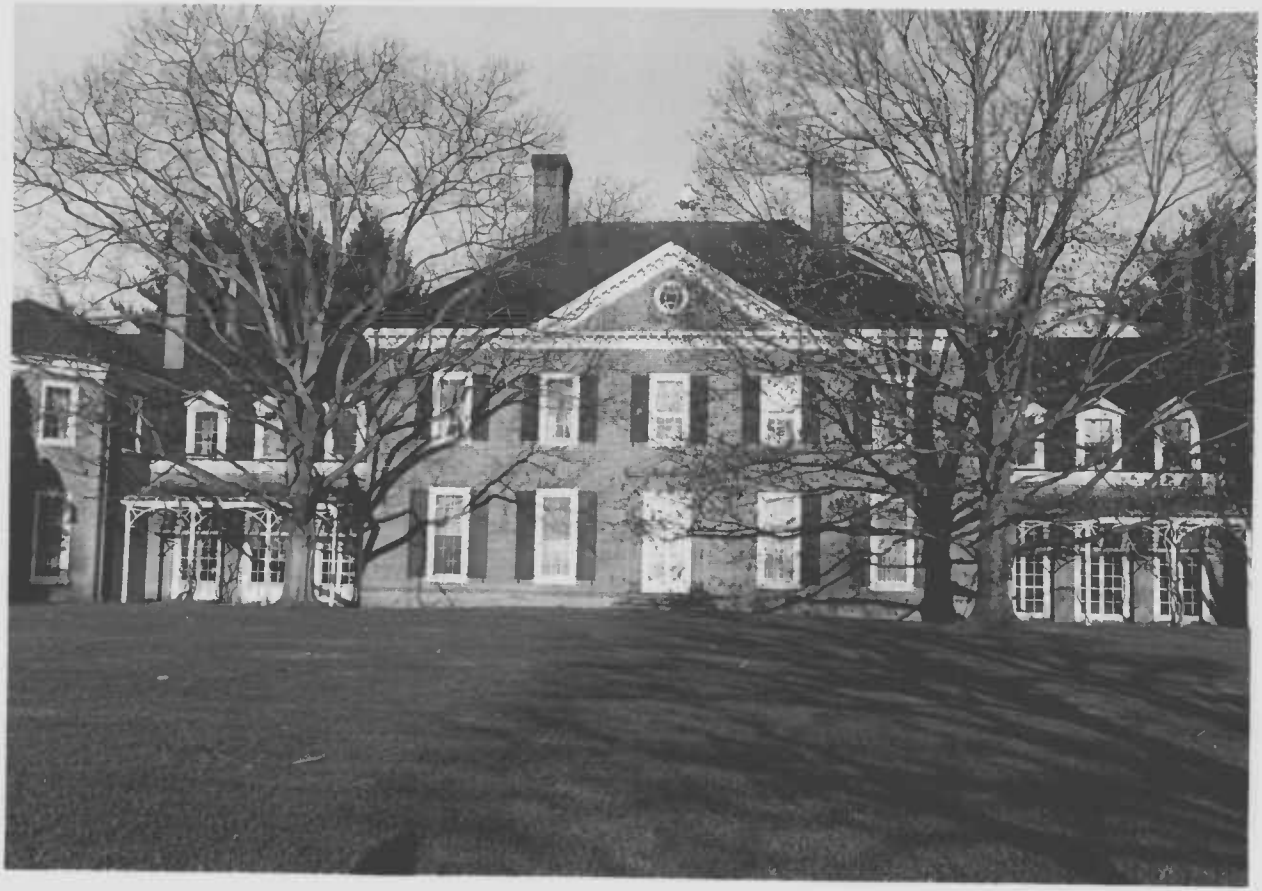
CE-1438 Twentieth century

Mt. Ararat (II) Public
(Donaldson Brown Center, University of Maryland)
Near Port Deposit A

With an unrivaled view of the Susquehanna River, Mt. Ararat was built on a scale virtually unequalled by any other house in Cecil County. The form is along the lines of the classic Maryland five-part plan, with a two-story, five-bay, hipped-roof center section flanked by two-bay gable-roofed wings and connecting hyphens. The brickwork is also typical of the Colonial Revival period, and features the use of Flemish bond, a molded water table and rubbed brick pilasters. One eclectic note is the two-story portico on the east end with curved stairway leading to the sunken garden. The interior is similarly rich in classical detail and features fully panelled walls and a dentilled cornice in several of the rooms, along with carved decoration over the mantel in the manner of the seventeenth century English master Grinling Gibbons.

In 1966, the residence, greenhouse, stable and 20 surrounding acres were accepted for use by the University of Maryland. Named for the property's last owner, the "Donaldson Brown Center" now functions as the University's headquarters for student retreats and small conference groups.



CE-1438
Mt. Ararat (II)
(Donaldson Brown Center-U of MD)
Port Deposit
Ellen Coxe 12/79

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