

HA-90  
Deer Park  
Ady Road  
Street, Maryland 21154

This two story frame dwelling is located on a hill overlooking the Deer Creek valley. The house faces south and is of the Georgian style.

Deer Park is known as the home of Ignatius Wheeler, Jr. and its measurements match those given on the 1798 Direct Federal Tax List. A date carved into the joist is 1741.

The house is rather plain on the exterior but inside, and especially in the southeast room, are fine examples of eighteenth century decorative wooden trim, including carved cornices in the "Wall of Troy" design.

The kitchen wing, shown in a floor plan of the house in Henry C. Forman's Old Manor Houses and Plantations, was razed in the middle of this century.

Deer Park has been closely connected with Roman Catholicism in this country. The Wheeler family was deeply religious and instrumental in the building of this county's first church, St. Ignatius at Hickory. It is believed that one room of Deer Park had been set aside for the celebration Mass for the Wheeler family and their neighbors.

RECEIVED

APR 19 1978

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA - 90  
NAEI # 1300907104

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Deer Park

AND/OR COMMON

Deer Park

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Ady Road

CITY, TOWN

Street

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Dr. and Mrs. Frederick H. Swahn

Telephone #: 452-8577

STREET & NUMBER

Ady Road

CITY, TOWN

Street

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 21154

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Harford County Courthouse  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: 811

Folio #: 499

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD 21014

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Deer Park is a two story, frame dwelling, located on a hill overlooking Deer Creek Valley. The original front faces south.

Presently five bays by two, Old Manor Houses of Maryland, published in 1931, has a picture revealing that, at the time of publication, the north side, at least, was the only three bays. The article states that the house had "small windows because there was a tax on glass at the time of the building." The new windows are six lights over six and so evenly spaced it is difficult to imagine this large house having had only three bays. But the 1931 picture does not completely solve the mystery of Deer Park's windows. The 1798 Federal Tax list mentions that there were four windows of 24 lights. The larger 12/12 sashes would account for the house being only three bays and the amount of windows is right for a three bay house with a center through hall. But there is little hope at this time of obtaining any information concerning this possibility.

The principle facade, as mentioned, faces south. The entrance on this side has been altered to include a six light transom and sidelights of four panes each. The door has six moulded panels. The corresponding door appears to be original. This door is shorter and wider and has four moulded panels.

The roof of this house is gable flank and covered with slate. It has box cornices and wide eaves. A corbeled brick chimney is located at each inside gable end. There had originally been double chimneys on the outside ends as well as a chimney on the demolished kitchen wing.

The present owner told us that when the former owners-the Webster family-removed and replaced the siding on the house in 1930, they discovered that the walls were packed with red clay. Mr. Webster told Dr. Swahn that they also discovered a date carved into one of the joists. The date carved into the joist was 1741.

A kitchen wing and passage had been located on the west side of the main house. This was of considerable size and was also mentioned on the 1798 Federal Tax list. Measurements given for this unit were 20' x 36'. This kitchen had had a massive cooking fireplace on its west wall and a dirt floor. The present owner informed us that while he was digging a ditch for the underground electrical wiring of his office located west of the house many articles of interest were encountered. Foundations of the kitchen and passage are covered but careful archeological inspection could possibly yield information concerning the local material culture of the eighteenth century.

Inside this house is two rooms deep with a center through hall. The hallway is said to still have the original floor. The hallway has wainscoting. There are modillioned cornices and moulded panelling on the underside of the second run of stairs. The stairway itself has a turned, pegged newel post, turned balusters, and ornamental brackets. The stairs have low risers. Doorways in the hall have shouldered architraves.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

**SPECIFIC DATES**

**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Deer Park is known as the home of Ignatius Wheeler, Jr., a large landholder in northern Harford County. Deer Park itself contained more than 1700 acres. Col. Wheeler had been an officer in the Harford Militia during the American Revolution and served in the Maryland Legislative as a delegate during the 1786 and 1787 terms. His home is said to have been built in 1742.

Ignatius Wheeler's family came to Harford County in 1715. His grandfather, Benjamin Wheeler, built his home on what is known as Goat Hill; the location is southeast of U.S. Route 1 in the Kalmia section. He was the grandson of John Wheeler who arrived in Maryland from Debtford, England, in 1651.

There is reason to believe that Benjamin Wheeler's plantation house existed on Goat Hill when, together with 100 acres of Wheeler's and Clark's Contrivance, it was sold in 1920 to a doctor from Baltimore. An attempt by the owner to put a basement under one section of the old house caused some of the walls of the house to collapse, area residents claim. As a result, the house was razed completely and a new home erected on the site.

It is believed by many that the home that once stood on Goat Hill was used as a Mass House for the Catholic families of the area. Deer Park is also thought to have had a room set aside for the celebration of Mass as well. It is thought that the drawing room of this house had been used as a private chapel where Wheeler, his family and neighbors worshipped. Another room is said to have been set aside for the use of the priest.

The house has been altered on the exterior; windows have been added and the kitchen wing demolished but much of the amazingly fine interior wood work remains. The large hallway and drawing room are wainscoted and the ceilings are bordered with heavy, carved cornices in the "Wall of Troy" design. These are also modillioned.

Measurements for this house match exactly the measurements on the 1798 Direct Federal Tax List. The kitchen wing, demolished in the first half of the Twentieth Century, also matched the 1798 dimensions. Foundations of the kitchen and passage are covered but careful archeological inspection could possibly yield information concerning the local material culture of the eighteenth century. A weaver's shop and a blacksmith shop had also been present at Deer Park at the time of the 1798 Tax List.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Forman, Henry C., Old Manor Houses and Plantations of Maryland, 1931.

HR-90

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1783 Maryland Tax List  
1798 Federal Tax List  
1814 Maryland Tax List

Harford Directory, 1953.  
Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage, French Bray Press, Baltimore, 1967.

Preston, Walter W; History of Harford County, Press of the Sun Book Office, Baltimore, 1901.  
**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

Joerndt, Clarence V.; St. Ignatius, Hickory, And Its Missions 1972

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 90. Acres

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Deer Park is bounded by Ady Road on the east; Minebranch Road on the south; the property of Hugh J. Laird on the North; and the property of Hayes Street Associates, Ltd. on the west.

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic District Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000, ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Physical Appearance continued

Ceiling height on the first elevation of this house is 10'2"; on the second elevation, 7'.

The southeast room contains a fine example of eighteenth century, decorative, wooden trim. The diagonal, brick-lined fireplace, located in the northeast corner of the room, has fluted pilasters, a modillioned cornice, scrolled shelves, fasciated trim and dog ears. The room has paneled wainscoting and modillioned cornices. A closet in the south east corner has an arched opening. The bookcases on the north wall were added in the 1930-40's.

Much of the original woodwork has been removed from the northeast room. The room's moulded cornice is said to be original. A fireplace in the southeast corner has moulded paneling.

The southwest room has some of the original floor left. A fire destroyed much of the ornamental woodwork here. What remained after the fire was removed and is stored in the attic. The fireplace in this room, now diagonal, had originally been flush with the wall. The window in this room is recent. The door is very old and is thought to have been on another building of the estate. It is made of diagonal, beaded boards and has iron strap hinges.

The northwest room has been completely remodeled and has a new diagonal fireplace.

In the attic there are pegged beams. These are scored with Roman numerals. There is a four light casement window at each end.

The basement of this house is lighted. Diagonal fireplace supports are visible on the east end of the cellar. On each side of the support is an unusual rectangular indentation, approximateing the size of a basement window opening.

Title Search

HA- 90

	811	499	5/5/1969	Grantor: Ruth E. McNabb, widow Grantee: Frederick H. Swahn and Sarah D., wife Acreage: "The Deer Park" 90 acres
GRG	622	165	6/28/1963	Grantor: Zero, Inc. Grantee: D. Paul McNabb and Ruth E., wife Acreage: "The Deer Park" 90 acres
GRG	622	163	6/28/1963	Grantor: D. Paul McNabb and Ruth E., wife Grantee: Zero, Inc.
GRG	313	438	2/23/1948	Grantor: Mary F. Webster, widow Grantee: D. Paul McNabb Acreage: "The Deer Park" 90 acres
JAR	162	274	3/1/1919	Grantor: Letcher M. Joines and Amy E., wife Grantee: W. Harry Webster and Mary F., wife
JAR	162	273	3/1/1919	Grantor: B. Frank Webster, single Grantee: Letcher M. Joines and Amy E., wife Acreage: "The Deer Park"
WSF	90	321	3/13/1897	Grantor: Thomas H. Robinson, trustee Grantee: B. Frank Webster
WSF	48	487	6/30/1894	Equity: Henry D. Farnandis, complainant Laura D. Ady and others, defendant Thomas H. Robinson, trustee
ALJ	63	503	4/23/1889	Grantor: Henry D. Farnandis, trustee Grantee: Laura D. Ady and others Acreage: "The Deer Park" 100 acres
WSF	77	94	12/10/1872	Equity: Henry A. Silver, complainant Laura Ady, administrator of William M. Ady and other were defendants
WHD	17	358	7/12/1866	Grantor: Henry D. Farnandis, trustee Grantee: William M. Ady Acreage: "Deer Park" 33 acres more or less

ALJ	9	439	7/11/1866	Equity:	Susan Scott and William G. Scott, complainants Daniel Scott, defendants Henry Farnandis, trustee
ALJ	6	363	11/16/1885	Grantor:	George H. Williams, trustee
				Grantee:	Otho Scott
				Acreage:	"Deer Park" 33 acres more or less
HD	7	49	5/31/1823	Grantor:	Samuel Brown
				Grantee:	Evan P. Ellicott, his heirs
HD	6	398	5/12/1823	Grantor:	Ignatius Wheeler, trustee
				Grantee:	Samuel Brown
				Acreage:	Deer Park
HD	6	436	5/12/1823	Grantor:	Samuel Brown
				Grantee:	Bennett Wheeler
HD	V	329	8/16/1810	Grantor:	Bennett Wheeler
				Grantee:	Samuel Brown
HD	3	180	4/16/1819	Grantor:	Ignatius Wheeler
				Grantee:	Samuel Brown
				Acreage:	"Deer Park"



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The plain exterior--- (- see enclosed sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1744

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architectural</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Deer Park is the home of Dr. Frederick Swahn and his wife and family. The veterinarian's office is on the place in a new frame building. ~~was~~ The land ~~originally~~ <sup>was</sup> farmed, by a nephew of Dr. Swahn's. ~~was~~ <sup>from 1940 to this year</sup> It ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> owned by Judge Paul Mc Nab and his wife. Professional people have made this ~~place~~ <sup>farm</sup> their simple country estate for thirty years. Col. Ignatius Wheeler is said to have built this house in 1744, and died here in 1793. Because St. Ignatius Church (HA 41) was several miles away, the southeast room of this house was used as a chapel.

There are sweeping views from the south and north sides of the house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Harford Directory p 303-4  
 Early Mann & Plantation Houses of Md. by H.C. Forman, 934

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 ONE ACRE								
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"		0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"		0	'	"	0	'	"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"		0	'	"	0	'	"
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"		0	'	"	0	'	"

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Sean S Ewing

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historic Trust DATE: Nov 69

STREET AND NUMBER: 50 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

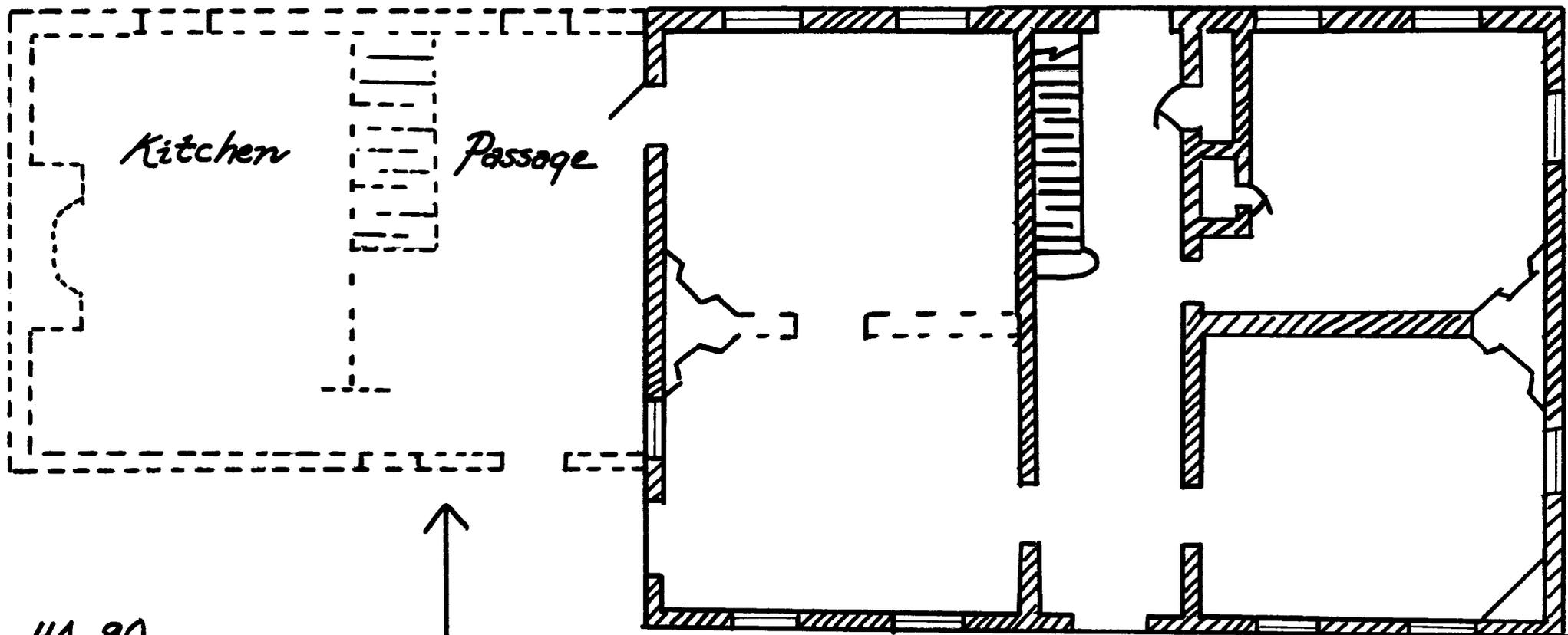
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

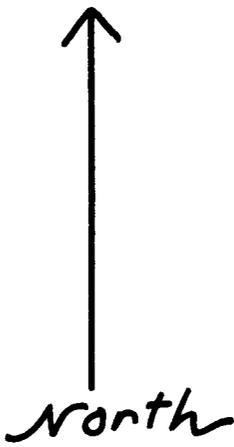
\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



HA-90  
Deer Park







Deer Park

HA-90

Street, Maryland 21154

Susan M. Deeney

10/77

South



Deer Park

HA-90

Interior: Hall stair & cornice  
Street, MD 21154

Susan M. Deeney

10/77

South



Deer Park

HA-90

Interior: Southeast room

Street, MD 21154

Susan M. Deeney

10/77

Northwest



Deer Park: Spring House

HA-90

Street, MD 21154

Susan M. Deeney

10/77

North



Deer Park

HA-90

Barn Ruins

Street, MD 21154

Susan M. Deeney

10/77

East