7 DESCRIPTION

HO-47

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

TEMORA is located on the southwest corner of the junction of Columbia Pike (Rt. 29) and St. John's Lane, about one-half mile southwest of Ellicott City, in Howard County, Maryland. Its setting is enhanced by a small pond adjacent to the house, and lofty trees that include 200 year old American and English lindens, a ginko tree, and several varieties of evergreens.

Temora is a "T" shaped, two-story and cupola, Tuscan-style Victorian house of stuccoed tongue and groove boards. The house was built in 1857 after a design prepared by Nathan Gibson Starkwether.

The symmetrically arranged principal facade faces southeast and features two projecting gabled pavillions joined by a one-story porch. Centered between the pavillions is the main entrance, one of the most outstanding features of the house. Elegant in its simplicity, it has a double, semi-circular headed architrave framing narrow side lights, a large fanlight, and a heavily paneled double leafed door. Above this door on the second floor level is a three-part hooded window in a Palladian motif. On the front of both pavillions are double windows at both floor levels. Those of the first floor are flat headed and extend down to within one foot of the porch floor. Those of the second floor have rounded upper sash, molded hoods and also extend down to within a short distance of the porch roof. Both pavillions have shallow pitched gables and deep eaves decorated with carved brackets. The porch fronting this elevation has four sets of double posts, bracketed eaves and a balustraded roof.

On both ends of the house, the rear half of the building projects out in a manner similar to the front pavillions. Each has, on the first floor level, a projecting five-sided bay window with balustraded roof. Above these are triple, Palladian style windows with molded hoods.

The rear elevation of the house has a centered gabled pavillion with a first floor entrance that opens into the main hall which is now covered by a later wood vestibule. The north half of this elevation is covered by a two-story kitchen wing. With the exception of those already discussed, the first floor windows of the house have bracketed hoods and skills.

The shallow-pitched, tin-sheathed, multi-gabled roof has deep bracketed eaves and four paneled chimneys with decoratively corbelled caps. Centered on the roof is a square cupola with a triple, elliptically arched and hooded window on each of its four sides. Its Queen Anne-style roof, repeating the arched entrance and second floor windows, adds continuity and grace to the total composition.

The room arrangement of Temora consists of a wide centered hall flanked on both sides by two large rooms (see plan). At the end of the hall stands a

(See Continuation Sheet No. 1)

DESCRIPTION #7

gracefully proportioned stair which rises in two flights to the second floor. The two rooms on the southwest side of the hall (the front parlor and rear drawing room) have white marble mantels with arched openings. Both mantels are embellished with carved triangular shaped panels and a centered, cartouche-like bracket beneath the shelf. On the northeast side of the hall, the front library and rear dining room have mantels executed in a much more simpler taste, each having a Greek Revival-style pointed arch over the fireplace opening.

The rectangular shaped rear rooms are further differentiated from the square front rooms by bay windows at their outside ends. Sliding paneled doors can be used to shut the bays off from the rest of the room and similar doors on the front walls of both can be used to close the front rooms off from the rear rooms. On the ceilings of all four rooms and the hall is an elaborate plaster medallion.

The rear wing houses a small back stair, as well as a kitchen and breakfast room. Beneath the wing is the original basement kitchen. It contains an expansive fireplace and small pantry. The arrangement of rooms in the brick floored cellar of the main block is the same as that of the first and second floors.

On the second floor of the main block are five bedchambers arranged like those rooms of the first level, but with an additional small bedroom over the first floor kitchen and breakfast room. At the front of the second floor hall is a stair providing access to a storage area over the hall and to the cupola. Throughout this level, as on the first floor, the simple but handsome woodwork is consistently Greek Revival in style.

Temora is in an excellent state of preservation and, with the exception of the addition of plumbing, electricity, and heat, remains unaltered from its initial appearance.

As stated in the beginning of the description, the grounds are attractively landscaped. Although most of the remaining acreage is to the northwest and southwest sides of the house, the abundance of large shade trees shields the house from the two busy roads bordering the property on the northeast and southeast sides. Several hundred yards northwest of the house stands a large wood framed stable and carriage house that is probably contemporary to the main house in its date of construction.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

HO-47

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		local history

SPECIFIC DATES 1857 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Temora was designed by Nathan Gibson Starkwether, a little known but accomplished architect from Oxford, England, who also designed the First Presbyterian Church on Park Avenue in Baltimore. The house was designed and built for Dr. Arthur Pue, a prominent mid-nineteenth century Howard County physician. Dr. Pue had inherited the Temora property from his grandmother, Mary Dorsey Pue. Mary Dorsey Pue was a daughter of Caleb Dorsey of Belmont, an illustrious member of an old, prominent Maryland family. Caleb Dorsey's home, Belmont, is one of Maryland's most significant early eighteenth century landmarks, well known for its architecture and historical associations.

Temora was bequeathed by Dr. Pue to his granddaughter, Miss Eleanor Harrison. Miss Harrison sold the property in 1915 to Mrs. Varina Hanna. At Mrs. Hanna's death, the property was inherited by her daughters, Mrs. V. H. Breckenridge and Mrs. Laura Hanna, the present owners.

Temora is a particularly fine example of its architectural type, reflecting in a restrained, sophisticated manner the tastes of the period. It is especially important in that it was designed by an architect contract specifically for that purpose and because it remains today much the same in appearance as it did when built.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

HO-47

Mrs. Varina Hanna Breckinridge, Miss Laura Hanna, owners (2nd generagion of second owners of the house.

"Origin and History of Howard County, Maryland" by Charles Francis Stein, Jr. (Published by Author in cooperation with the Howard County Historical Society 1972)

G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Howard County 1878

Martenet's Map of Howard County 1860

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 19 acres

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A				B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Acreage Justification: The setting with its trees, pond and barn are important...it could be on smaller acreage but would certainly lose a great deal.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Frances Wellford Mason (cs)

ORGANIZATION
Howard County Committee-Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
January 21, 1975

STREET & NUMBER
9725 Old Annapolis Road

TELEPHONE
301-267-1438

CITY OR TOWN
Ellicott City

STATE
Maryland

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

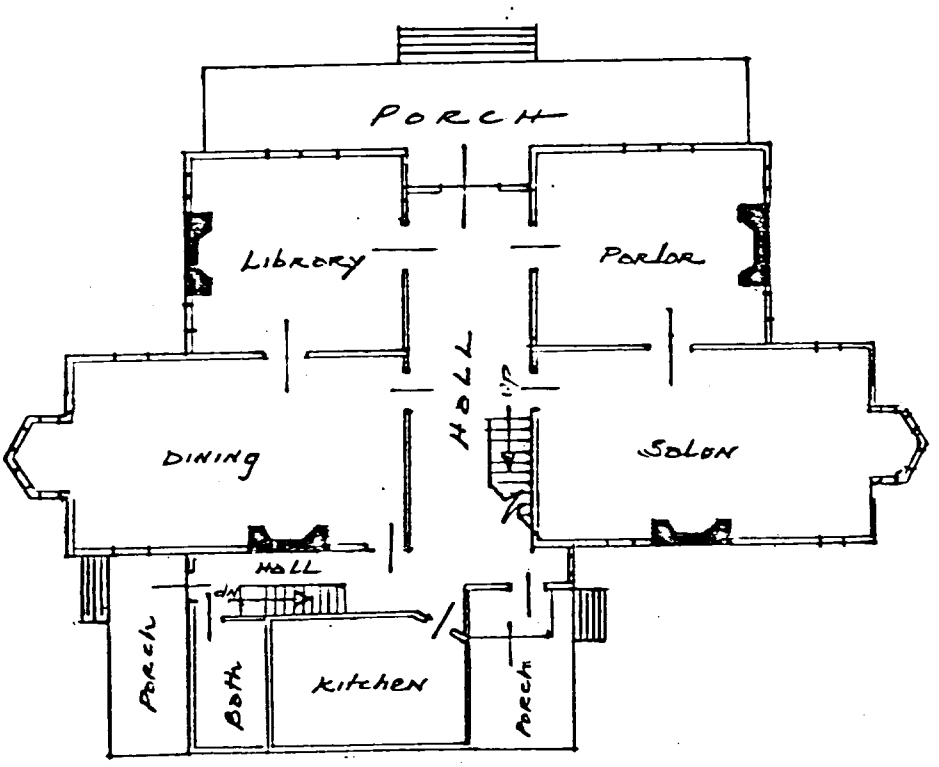
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

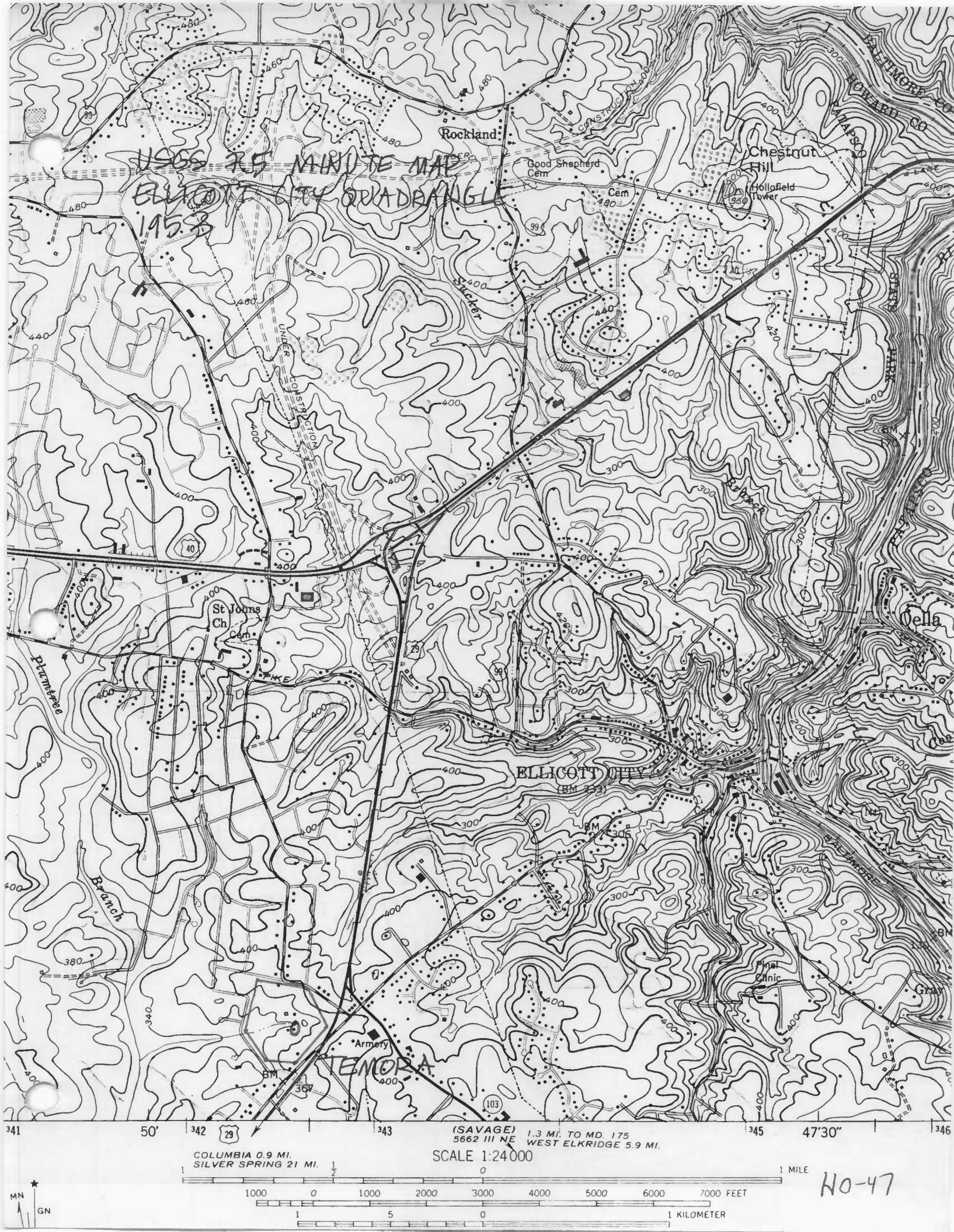
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



TEMORA, Howard County, Maryland
Sketch plan, first floor. Not to scale.


USGS 7.5 MINUTE MAP
ELLICOTT CITY QUADRANGLE
1953
Rockland
Good Shepherd Cem
Cem
Chestnut Hill
Hollofield Tower
BALTIMORE CO
HOWARD CO
PATAPSCO
Sucker
Branch
UNDER CONSTRUCTION
St Johns Ch
Cem
PIKE
Plumtree
Branch
ELLICOTT CITY
(BM 233)
Oella
Pinel Clinic
Gray
Armory
TEMORA
BM 367
BM 306
(SAVAGE)
5662 III NE
1.3 MI. TO MD. 175
WEST ELKRIDGE 5.9 MI.
COLUMBIA 0.9 MI.
SILVER SPRING 21 MI.
SCALE 1:24 000
1 MILE
7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER
MN
GN
50'
47'30"
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Tennessee Knoxville

HO 47

1850's