MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

F-4-140

Property Name: Appalachian National Scenic Trail Inventory Number: WA-III-180, ~~F-IV-140~~

Address: ___ Historic district: X yes ___ no

City: Boonsboro Zip Code: 21769 Counties: Washington, Frederick

USGS Quadrangle(s): Keedysville, Middletown

Property Owner: ___ Tax Account ID Number: ___

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): ___ Tax Map Number: ___

Project: Lambs Knoll Addendum Agency: Department of Budget and Management

Agency Prepared By: EHT Traceries, Inc.

Preparer's Name: Gerald M. Maready, Jr. Date Prepared: 4/7/2004

Documentation is presented in: ___

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: X A X B X C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: ___

Inventory Number: ___ Eligible: ___ yes Listed: ___ yes

Site visit by MHT Staff ___ yes X no Name: ___ Date: ___

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Appalachian National Scenic Trail, on its approximately 2100-mile journey from Georgia to Maine, passes along Lambs Knoll on South Mountain in Maryland. The Appalachian Trail (AT) was first proposed by Benton MacKaye in his October 1921 article in the Journal of the American Institute of Architects, titled "An Appalachian Trail: A Project in Regional Planning." Benton MacKaye was a forester, a nature enthusiast, and a prominent member of the Regional Planning Association of America (RPAA). The RPAA was associated with prominent twentieth-century architectural thinkers such as Lewis Mumford and Clarence Stein, and was devoted to improving the physical and social landscape of the United States. This significant group was heavily influenced by the ideas of Ebenezer Howard, who promoted the idea of the garden city. MacKaye's biographer, Larry Anderson, states: "over the next decade [the 1920s], in their individual and joint writings, MacKaye and Mumford produced the most comprehensive expressions of the RPAA's regionalist ideas and ideals." MacKaye's vision of the AT was energetically embraced by the RPAA, since, as conceived, it would be a transformative force upon the social and physical landscape of the East Coast of the United States.

The AT is a contrived wilderness, designed by MacKaye to fulfill the outdoor recreational needs of the American populace, providing "the breath of a real life for the toilers in the bee-hive cities along the Atlantic seaboard and elsewhere." Anderson, describing this idea of the AT, states: "MacKaye came to envision a reconstituted wilderness along the Appalachian Mountain range, where the original wilderness no longer existed -- at least not on the scale or in the character that [Aldo] Leopold had

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Eligibility recommended X **Eligibility not recommended** ___

Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D **Considerations:** ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments: Recommendation is for 4-mile segment from roughly Turner's Gap to the crest above Locust Valley.

[signature] 4/7/04
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

[signature] 4/7/04
Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

experienced on federal lands in the Southwest. The Appalachian Trail would represent a conceptual wilderness, traversing numerous political jurisdictions, environmental habitats, and human cultures across thousands of mountainous miles."

Integral to this idea of a constructed wilderness, and indeed to the idea of this type of trail, is that constant routine maintenance is necessary. The Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC), founded in 1925 by a group that included Benton MacKaye, is the coordinating organization for thirty-one local or regional clubs who volunteer to maintain the Trail. The routine maintenance performed by these volunteers is comprised of various tasks, among which is the shifting of the trail if necessitated by natural or man-made intrusions into the constructed wilderness of the AT. Dr. Rotenstein, in his Review, acknowledges this movement of the trail, describing the "sometimes-shifting alignment" of the AT as it crosses South Mountain.

Given the history and cultural status of the Appalachian Trail, Dr. Rotenstein is correct in his assertion that it should have been evaluated in November 2003 by the State of Maryland and its consultant. The nature of the AT, however, particularly the manner in which it shifts, renders a determination of its eligibility complex. Criteria Consideration B allows for a moved property to be considered for eligibility if "it is significant primarily for architectural value or it is the surviving property most importantly associated with a historic person or event." Unlike moving a building or structure, however, shifting the AT involves constructing a new route, and abandoning the old one. In fact, the AT route over Lambs Knoll itself has changed within the past twenty-five years. While the current incarnation of the AT over Lambs Knoll does serve as a bearer of cultural and historical meaning, as asserted by Dr. Rotenstein in his Review, it is not the same Trail that was finished in 1937, and more than likely is not the same Trail that will be in use in 2037. However, since this shifting is intrinsic to the concept of the Trail, the location of the Trail could be said to be over the spine of the Appalachians, through the "wilderness." Thus, the fact that the AT has shifted its actual path over Lambs Knoll does not affect its integrity.
The Appalachian Trail, in its entirety, is eligible as a district for the National Register under Criterion A, for its association with the regional planning and garden city movement, under Criterion B, for its association with Benton MacKaye and other members of the RPAA, and under Criterion C, in its role as a designed and constructed wilderness. Individual portions of the Trail have no inherent significance beyond their association with the entire Trail, or as fundamental and contributing resources to another district. Thus, individual portions of the Trail, in addition to its associated shelters and structures, can be evaluated to be contributing or non contributing to the District, depending upon their integrity. In the absence of a large-scale evaluation of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, the contributing status of the portion of the Trail crossing Lambs Knoll cannot be definitively established. However, the existing telecommunications towers visible from the Trail, in addition to the shifting nature of the Trail's route, are insufficient to question the integrity of this portion of the AT. The location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association of the Appalachian Trail as it crosses Lambs Knoll are intact.

This resource is also known as WA-III-180.

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Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** ____

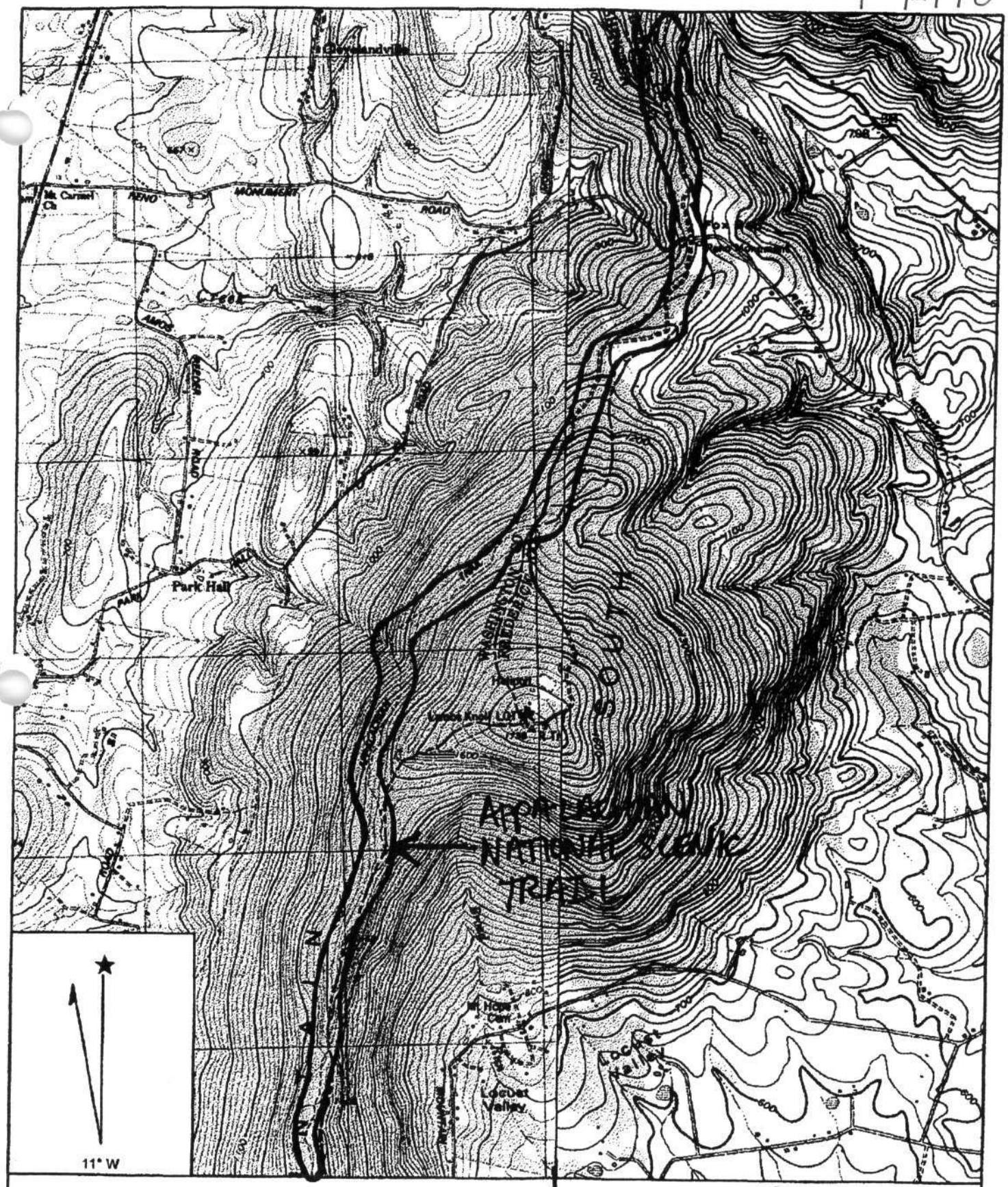
Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

F-4-140



Name: KEEDYSVILLE
Date: 4/6/2004
Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: ~~[illegible]~~

KEEDYSVILLE | MIDDLETOWN

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