

M: 26/16/11

Claude Prather House

200 Martin's Lane, Rockville

Private

Built: 1948

This 1948 house is situated on land which once belonged to Margaret J. Beall, then to the Hatton family, and then to the Carroll-Ross-Powell-Prather family. There appear to have been at least two dwelling houses on the property. This house is a fine example of a small, well-proportioned, moderately-priced eclectic house which combines several different architectural styles into a traditional house reminiscent of many but of no particular style.

Survey No. M:26/16/11

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

 NR eligible:  yes  no  
 Contrib. element in H.D. 

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Claude Prather House

and/or common

### 2. Location

 street & number 200 Martin's Lane  not for publication

 city, town Rockville  vicinity of congressional district 8th

state Maryland county Montgomery

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes; restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes; unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Claude N. Prather, Jr. and B.A. Prather

street &amp; number 200 Martin's Lane telephone no.:

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20850

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 1016

street &amp; number folio 420

city, town Rockville state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

 date Historic Sites Inventory 1976 federal  state  county  local

repository for survey records Park Historian's Office

city, town Derwood state Maryland

# 7. Description

Survey No. M326/16/11

<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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This late 1940s house is a fine example of the small, well-proportioned 1-1/2 story moderately-priced eclectic houses built in the 1940s and 50's which combined several different architectural types into a traditional house reminiscent of many but of no particular style. This house combines English cottage and Cape Cod influence with fine details in the entryway and masonry walkway. The stucco house has synthetic siding in the gables, the rear porch has been enclosed, and a new rear screened porch added.

The subject house faces north on Martin's Lane directly across from Bickford Avenue. It sits on a wide, deep lot well above street grade, its front yard supported by high concrete retaining walls. The lot elevation declines to the south, exposing the foundation at the rear of the house where a carport has been built partly roofed with an enclosed rear porch and a screen porch. Its neighbors range from mid-nineteenth century 2-1/2 story vernacular houses to recent brick ranch houses.

This 1-1/2 story L-shaped frame rambler has an entry ell on the north creating a tri-gabled roof which is clad with composition shingles. The exterior finish is stucco with a brick foundation and synthetic siding in the gable ends. A brick chimney is on the east facade. The exterior finish is stucco with a brick foundation. A brick chimney is on the east facade. Windows are 6/6 singly and in pairs with shutters on the front and surrounds of plain mitred stock.

The three-bay north (front) facade consists of a pair of 6/6 windows flanked by louvered shutters decorated with a horse and carriage motif in the west bay, and a central entry ell. The ell's front gable is clad with synthetic siding and has one central smaller 6/6 window. Six concrete steps rise from the lower public sidewalk to an ornamental flagstone and pebble walkway to six concrete steps up to the stoop and door. The stairs have a wrought-iron railing on the east side. The exterior wood hollow-core door with three staggered vertical lights, is deeply set into a recessed archway and is flanked by glass blocks which slant out to meet the surface of the facade. A pair of 6/6 shuttered windows is in the east bay. Large arborvitae flank the entryway, and evergreens and roses landscape the front.

Continued on Attachment 7.1

# 8. Significance

Survey No. M; 26/16/11

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				local history

<b>Specific dates</b>	1948	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	None
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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This 1948 house is situated on land which once belonged to Margaret J. Beall, then to the Hatton family, and then to the Carroll-Ross-Powell-Prather family. There appear to have been at least two dwelling houses on the property.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA: Attachment 8.2  
ROCKVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN DATA: Attachment 8.2

### HISTORIC CONTEXT

Margaret J. Beall, heir to the Beall-Dawson house and lands in Rockville, conveyed four separate parcels totalling 1-1/2 acres to William Hatton and his son Isaiah Hatton in the late 19th century. While two of the parcels were sold "with buildings and improvements", Miss Beall did not retain "supervision and control" over them as she had in previous conveyances to blacks who had worked for her. 1/

By 1898 Isaiah Hatton, who lived in Washington City, D.C., had taken title to all four parcels and perhaps, like some Haiti residents, lived and schooled his children in the City and came to the country in the summer. Isaiah Hatton sold the 1-1/2 acres to Edward Scott, also of Washington for \$600 in 1905. 2/ Scott had married Maria Eliza Ross of Haiti.

Continued on Attachment 8.1

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M: 26/16/11

Montgomery County Land and Assessment Records. Interview with Claude N. Prather, Sr. by Jeannine Jeffs (1984).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_ 14,009 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_ Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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### Verbal boundary description and justification

South side of Martin's Lane.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eileen McGuckian / Judy Christensen

organization Peerless Rockville date May, 1988

street & number P.O. Box 4262 telephone 762-0096

city or town Rockville state Maryland, 20850

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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

Architectural Description  
200 Martin's Lane

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On the three-bay east facade, the attic gable has synthetic siding and a central smaller 6/6 window. The first story has a window in the north and south bays and a smaller double sash window in the center. There are two exposed basement windows in the foundation.

The three-bay south (rear) facade has a two-light shed-roofed dormer and one window in the east bay. There is a stairwell under the window leading to a four-light wooden basement door. The former porch, now enclosed with synthetic siding connects the house to a screened open porch. The porch deck serves as roof to a one-bay carport underneath, accessed by an asphalt drive from the lane to 22 and 22A Martins Lane.

The two-bay west facade has artificial siding in the attic story and stucco on the first. It has a rectangular louver in the attic peak and one window in the attic story. One window is in the north and south bays, and there are two three-light basement windows in the foundation.

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
200 Martin's Lane

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Footnotes:

1. Montgomery County Land Records EBP32/2 (1883); JA2/344 (1885); JA53.362 (1896); TD6/251 (1897); In the 1860 census, Isaiah Hatton was listed as a free mulatto, age 15.
2. Montgomery County Land Records, 180/320.
3. Ibid., 758/245 (1939) and Assessment Records, 1939.
4. Mrs. Claude Prather, Sr., July, 1988.

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
200 Martin's Lane

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Flora Ross Powell was the daughter of Jane Carroll Ross and Alfred Ross and the sister of Maria Eliza Ross Scott; her mother had been a slave in the Beall household, and her father had purchased the house in which he resided in 1871 from that family. (See MHT form M26/16/1, 22 Martin's Lane) Flora Ross was born in 1856 and married Adam Powell in 1882; they lived at 22A Martin's Lane (See MHT form M:26/16/10). The Ross-Powell land was adjacent to the Hatton's so it was natural for Flora Powell to purchase the 1-3/4 acre Scott property when it became available at tax sale in April, 1937. (Maria died in 1925.) Assessment Records indicate that the Hatton dwelling was gone by then but that an outbuilding remained. The cost of the property was \$33.93. 3/

Flora Powell's daughter Gertrude married George Prather from Etchison, with whom she had two children, Frances (who married Henry Crutchfield from Middle Lane) and Claude. Claude N. Prather, Sr. was born in Haiti in 1915. His father worked at Hicks' store in Rockville and the family grew or raised most of their food at home. They had pigs, hogs, chickens, fruit trees, and a large vegetable garden. From his early years he was an enterprising person, selling fruits and garden products from the family property to people in the West End, caddying at the local country clubs, and for a brief period working for the Federal Government. During World War II, he went into business for himself, driving a taxicab and substitute teaching.

His pool hall on North Washington St., which he operated from 1946-56, when it was purchased for a shopping center, was a home to returning black World War II veterans. Mr. Prather then went into the ice business, delivering and selling 40 tons of ice daily to the local country clubs and Catholic churches; the ice plant operated until the 1960s when a fire put it out of business.

When Claude Prather built his house on Martin's Lane in 1948, the street was unpaved. There were no street lights or city water. The basic house was typical for its time but shows many individual touches and details to distinguish it, such as the fine masonry walkway of flagstone and pebbles, and an unusual glass-block arched entryway. Mr. and Mrs. Prather saw similar details on houses on a trip to California and incorporated them into their house on Martin's Lane. Mr. Prather constructed the masonry walk and glass-block entry.

Claude Prather Sr, died in 1986. His son, Claude Jr., lives in the house.

Continued on attachment 8.2

Statement of Significance/ History (continued):  
200 Martin's Lane  
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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930  
Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Settlement/Political  
Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning  
Social/Educational/Cultural

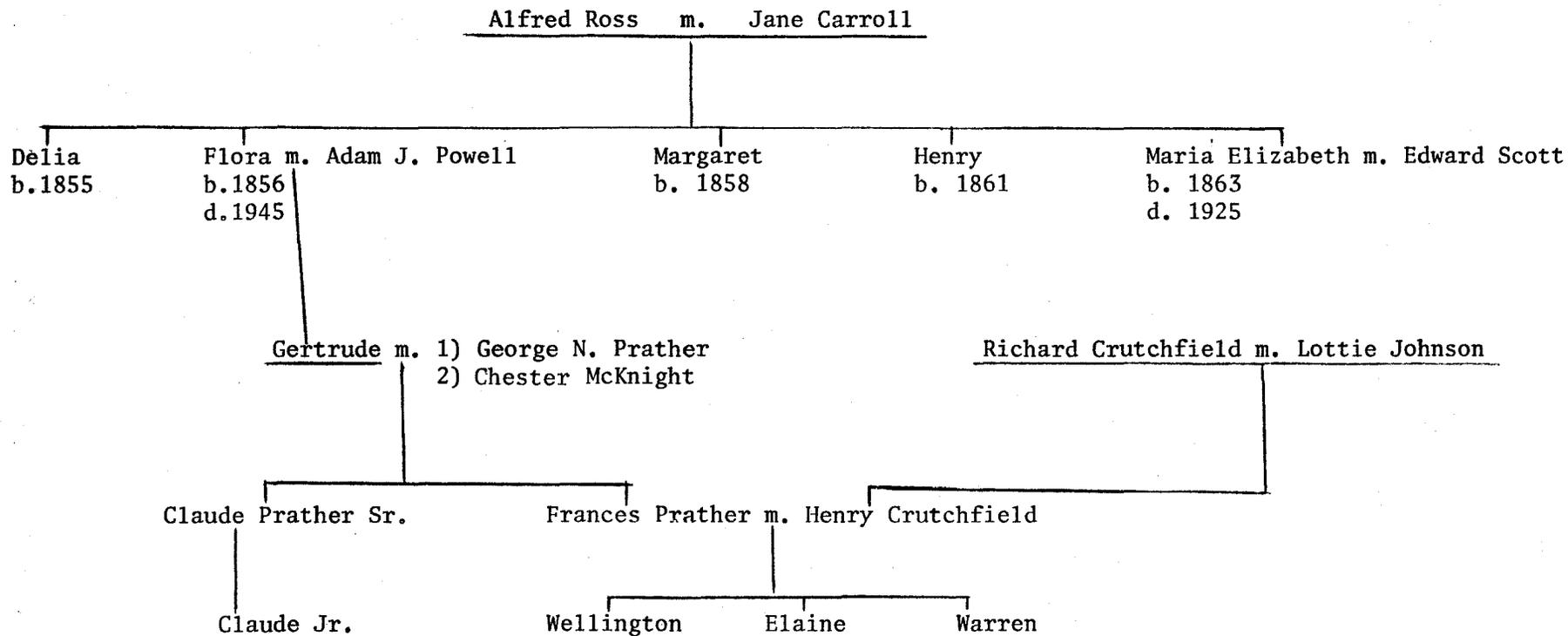
Resource Type:

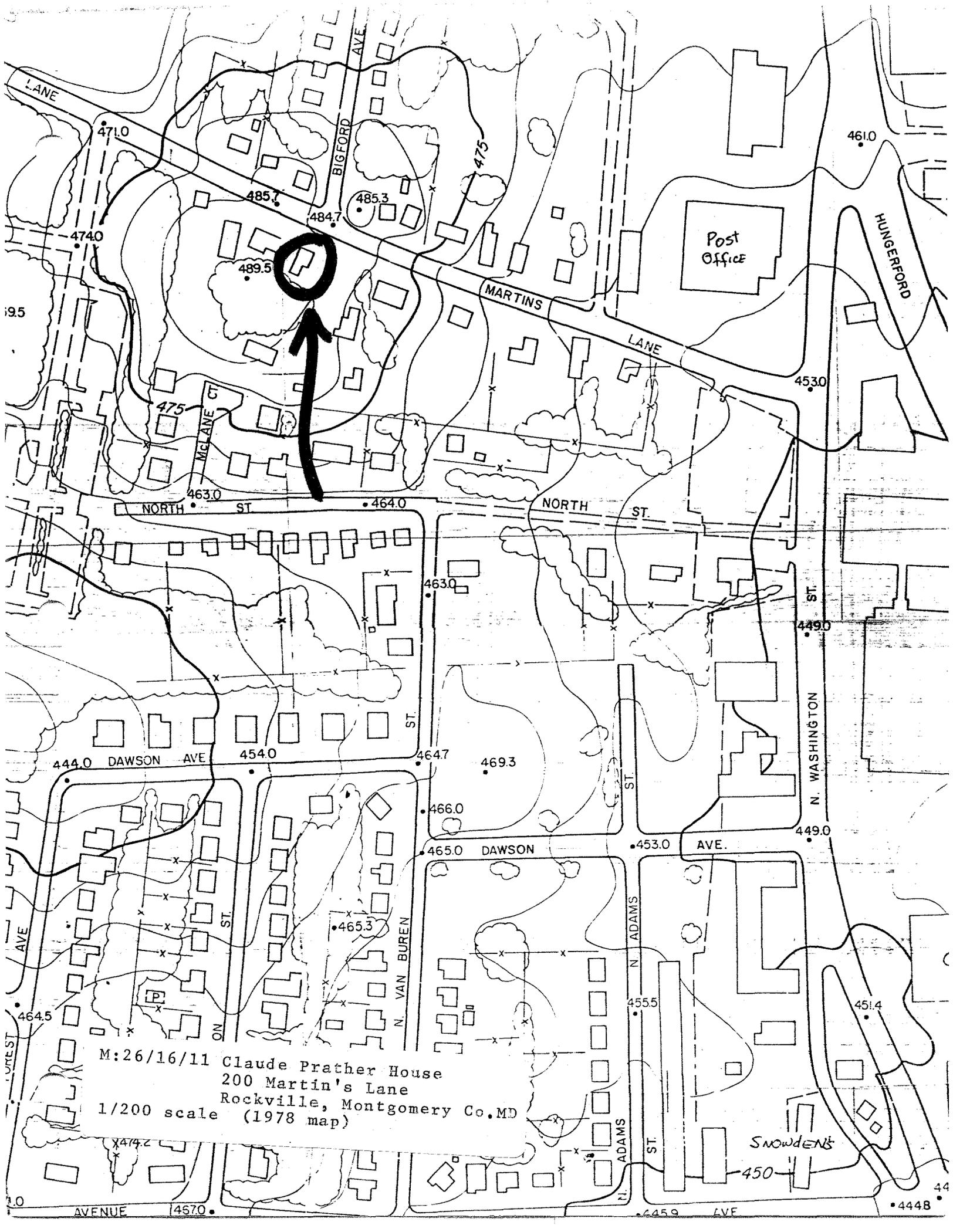
Category: Building  
Setting: Urban  
Historic Function(s) or Use(s): Domestic/Single Family/Residence  
Known Design Source: None

ROCKVILLE HISTORIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN DATA:

1. Geographic Organization: Piedmont, Montgomery County, Rockville
2. Chronological Period(s):  
County Seat to Satellite City: A.D. 1931-present
3. Historic Context Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture,  
Community Planning (Black History); Social/Educational/Cultural
4. Resource Type:  
Category : Building  
Setting: Urban  
Historic Function(s) or Use: Domestic/Single Dwelling/Residence  
Known Design Source: None

ROSS - POWELL - PRATHER - CRUTCHFIELD FAMILY





M:26/16/11 Claude Prather House  
200 Martin's Lane  
Rockville, Montgomery Co. MD  
1/200 scale (1978 map)

Post Office

SNOWDENS

HUNGERFORD

LANE

BIGFORD AVE

MARTINS LANE

MCLANE CT

NORTH ST

NORTH ST

DAWSON AVE

DAWSON AVE

AVE.

N. VAN BUREN

N. ADAMS ST

N. WASHINGTON ST

WEST AVE

AVENUE

AVE

471.0

474.0

489.5

485.7

484.7

485.3

475

475

463.0

464.0

463.0

444.0

454.0

464.7

469.3

466.0

465.0

453.0

449.0

464.5

465.3

455.5

451.4

470.0

4457.0

4459

450

4448

461.0

453.0

449.0

449.0

44



Prather house

m: 26/6/11

200 Martin's Lane

north elevation

J. Christensen

5/88