

CAPSULE SUMMARY
5000 Moorland Lane (M:35-85)
Bethesda, Montgomery County, MD

The single-family dwelling at 5000 Moorland Lane was constructed in 1926 by the National City Real Estate Corporation in the Edgemoor subdivision of Bethesda. The Edgemoor subdivision, promoted by the arrival of the streetcar and paving of roads, was one of the first residential neighborhoods in Bethesda to support the population influx spurred by the Depression and advent of World War II. The dwelling at 5000 Moorland Lane stands as a marker to that suburban development, displaying the fashionable architectural trends of the early 20th century.

The two-story dwelling is stylistically Italian Renaissance with the traditional stucco finish, parapets, hipped roofs, and rusticated voussoirs. The hollow tile structure, consisting of a two-story main block with one-story wings, is clad in stucco. It has a side gable roof with stylistic red asphalt shingles and low parapets at the edges. The wings have hipped roofs, also with red asphalt shingles. An interior end chimney, clad in stucco, stands on the west elevation. A one-story ell extends from the south elevation. The ell stretches to the northwest corner of the freestanding garage, creating a forecourt to the east between the main block, east wing, rear ell, and garage. A wood frame porch with screens was constructed on the south elevation of the west wing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. M:35-85

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1. Name of Property

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historic name _____
common/other name _____

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2. Location

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street & number 5000 Moorland Lane not for publication _____
city or town Bethesda vicinity _____ state Maryland code MD
county Montgomery code 031 zip code 20814

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

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4. National Park Service Certification N/A

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

_____ private
 X public-local
_____ public-State
_____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

X building(s)
_____ district
_____ site
_____ structure
_____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 2 </u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u> 2 </u>	_____ Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes _____ Name of Listing _____
No X

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Italian Renaissance

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete Block

roof Side Gable/Hipped: Asphalt Shingles

walls Masonry: Hollow Tiles with Stucco

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1926-1948

Significant Dates 1926

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation Unknown

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Montgomery County Land Records, Montgomery County Judiciary Building, Rockville, Maryland.

Offutt, William, *Bethesda: A Social History*, Bethesda: The Innovation Game, 1996.

Sween, Jane C., *Montgomery County: Two Centuries of Change*, Woodland Hills, CA: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1984.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The dwelling is situated on parts of Lot 5 and Lot 6 in Block 11 of the Edgemoor subdivision.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are historically associated with the construction of the property in 1926.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title L.V. Trieschmann & R.J. Weidlich, Architectural Historians
organization Traceries date August 14, 1998
street & number 5420 Western Avenue telephone 301/656-5283
city or town Chevy Chase state Maryland zip code 20815

=====

12. Property Owner

=====

name Montgomery County Board of Education
street & number 850 Hungerford Drive, Department of Facilities
Management, Room 200 telephone 301/279-3425
city or town Rockville state Maryland zip code 20850

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Section 7

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5000 Moorland Lane
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

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The building at 5000 Moorland Lane was constructed in 1926 in the Bethesda subdivision of Edgemoor. The single-family dwelling draws from the then-fashionable architectural style of the Italian Renaissance. The hollow tile structure, consisting of a two-story main block with one-story wings, is clad in stucco. It has a side gable roof with stylistic red asphalt shingles and low parapets at the edges. The wings have hipped roofs, also with red asphalt shingles. An interior end chimney, clad in stucco, stands on the west elevation. A one-story ell extends from the south elevation. The ell stretches to the northwest corner of the freestanding garage, creating a forecourt to the east between the main block, east wing, rear ell, and garage. A wood frame porch with screens was constructed on the south elevation of the west wing.

The façade of the main block is three bays wide with a side-passage plan. The main entry, located in the westernmost bay, is accentuated by a recessed semi-circular arched opening edged with rusticated voussoirs. The asymmetry of the elevation is visible in the single and paired, six-light casement windows, the latter of which are capped by two-light transoms. The basement level is pierced by a below-grade window opening now covered in Plexiglas. Above the boxed cornice of the façade is a shed roof dormer with a single six-light casement window flanked by paired six-light casement windows. The dormer is wood frame construction, clad in stucco and weatherboard with an asphalt shingle roof.

Augmenting the façade, to the west, is the L-shaped wing projecting beyond the plan of the main block. The wing is pierced by numerous openings with single and paired six-light casements with two-light transoms. A shallow shed roof dormer with a louvered vent projects from the west elevation of the roof. A one-story screened porch with wood frame supports and a concrete foundation extends from the south elevation of the wing. The porch has a single screen door that provides interior access to the building from the rear.

The south elevation of the main block is dominated by the one-story rear ell, covered by a sloping roof of asphalt shingles. Following the stylistic detailing of the main block, the ell has six-light casement windows with two-light transoms. To provide additional natural light for the interior spaces, the walls are pierced with a quadruple casement on the west and with two pairs of casements on the south. The east elevation of the ell, facing into the forecourt, has square, four-light casement windows. Like the façade, the roof of the south elevation on the main block is pierced by a shed roof dormer with a single six-light casement window flanked by paired six-light casement windows. The dormer is wood frame construction, clad in stucco and weatherboard with an asphalt shingle roof.

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The east wing, similar in style to the west wing although not in form, has a square plan. The one-story wing is pierced on its three exposed sides with square casement windows with four-lights. The east elevation of the main block, visible in the northernmost bay only, contains a single opening on the first story that has been enclosed with plywood. Above, at the second story of the gable end, the elevation is pierced by a single six-light casement. All of the openings identified on the main block, rear ell, and wings are framed with narrow cavetto casings and brick sills.

Interior

The interior of the main block of the building has a side-passage, two-room plan, augmented by the wide wings. The main spaces are connected by semi-circular arched openings devoid of applied trim. The narrow wood floorboards, covered with wall-to-wall carpeting in the front entry and wings, is edged by four-inch high baseboards with an intricate ogee molded cap and quadrant bead. The first floor bedrooms, located in the wings, have two-paneled doors framed with multi-beaded casements and baseblocks.

The living room, running the width of the main block to the rear, has a replacement mantel composed of ceramic tiles on the west wall. The tall mantel has a narrow molded shelf, tiled hearth, and applied medallions. Flanking the chimney breast are semi-circular recesses in the wall, one of which contains a single entry door to the rear porch, while the other has built-in shelves. The quarter-turn stair is located along the east wall of the living room. Originally enclosed, the stringer of the stair has been opened, exposing the studs. The modest stair has a circular-end starter step and segmentally arched entry opening.

To the south of the living room, in the rear ell, is a single rectangular room. Set two steps below the main block, the room has similar detailing with narrow wood floorboards, four-inch high baseboards with an intricate ogee molded cap and quadrant bead, and no casings. The ceiling is finished with plasterboard set between the partially exposed joists.

At the southeast of the east wing is the modern kitchen, pantry, and half-bath. The spaces have vinyl flooring, modern appliances, and replacement cabinets and counters. A semi-circular opening, connecting the bedroom to the kitchen has been enclosed, creating shelves on either side.

The second floor of the main block is similarly detailed with narrow wood floorboards, four-inch high baseboards with an ogee cap and quadrant bead, baseblocks, and mitered casings with beveled edges.

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This upper story consists of two bedrooms, numerous closets, and a bath. The attics created by the hipped roofs of the wings are unfinished storage space with wood flooring and circular sawn rafts with a ridge board. The basement, also an unfinished space, has a poured concrete floor, exposed concrete block walls, and exposed joists. Brick piers are randomly located throughout the space for additional support. The full-height basement is located under the main block of the building only.

Garage

The one-story garage, architecturally mimicking the main dwelling, is constructed of hollow tiles with stucco cladding. The structure has a front gable roof, marked by parapets of concrete. The west elevation is pierced with paired window openings, filled with four-light fixed panes. The east elevation leads to Arlington Road, sheltering the automobile with a double-wide garage door of wood with six-lights and three vertical panels. The siting of the structure at the southeast corner of the rear ell presents the appearance it is attached rather than freestanding. This illusion aids in creating the forecourt.

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The single-family dwelling at 5000 Moorland Lane was constructed in 1926 by the National City Real Estate Corporation in the Edgemoor subdivision of Bethesda. The two-story dwelling is stylistically Italian Renaissance with the traditional stucco finish, parapets, hipped roofs, and rusticated voussoirs. The Edgemoor subdivision, promoted by the arrival of the streetcar and paving of roads, was one of the first residential neighborhoods in Bethesda to support the population influx spurred by the Depression and advent of World War II. The dwelling at 5000 Moorland Lane stands as a marker to that suburban development, displaying the fashionable architectural trends of the early 20th century.

Site History

The property on which 5000 Moorland Lane now stands was historically a part of a larger tract of land owned at the turn of the 20th century by Oscar K. Seddicum. The land was originally part of two tracts of land, *Friendship* and *Prichett's Purchase*, nestled between the Rockville and Georgetown Turnpike and Old Georgetown and Rockville Road. In 1910, Seddicum sold the entire tract to the National City Real Estate Corporation for the sum of \$123,190. The property was then subdivided by the real estate company to create the suburban development of Edgewood, one of the first residential neighborhoods in Bethesda forged by local development companies.

During this period, when development of suburban communities was increasing, the subdivision of Edgewood was renamed Edgemoor following confusion at the post office regarding the name. The National City Real Estate Corporation, the original development company of the neighborhood, was also renamed, becoming the Edgemoor Land Company. The real estate firm, presided over by company president Walter R. Tuckerman, was the major developer of the newly created subdivision, although other development companies, such as the Security Land Company and Maddux, Marshall and Company, also played a role in the establishment of Edgemoor.

The subdivision originally encompassed approximately 250 lots and four large undivided plots of land. Tuckerman's original advertising brochure for Edgemoor stated,

Those of refined taste, demanding a better social atmosphere than surrounds the usual suburb; a more picturesque environment for an all-year-round home out of the city, without the expense and responsibility of a large estate; will find these qualities happily realized and united in *Edgewood*.¹

¹ William Offutt, *Bethesda: A Social History* (Bethesda, MD: The Innovation Game, 1996), p. 301.

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The advertisement also guaranteed that each home would be equipped with water, sewage, gas and electric, paved roads, and sidewalks. Many of these earlier houses in the subdivision were essentially small mansions, which were constructed on large lots. However, economic stresses later led to the building of smaller houses, many of which were built in the brick Colonial Revival style. Construction, including the selection of architectural styles and building forms, was directed by the development companies.

Building History

Following the fashionable trends of architecture for the period, the development company chose the Italian Renaissance style for the house at 5000 Moorland Lane, with its traditional stucco finish, parapets, hipped roofs, and rusticated voussoirs. From its completion in 1926 on part of Lots five and six of Block eleven, the company utilized the dwelling as rental property. In 1930, the Security Land Company sold the house to Erwin A. Morse, who in turn sold the property to Elizabeth Burlingham. Burlingham owned the house for two years before she sold the Italian Renaissance style dwelling to the Saratoga Building and Land Corporation in 1932 for use as rental property. The building was sold in 1943 to Robert H. Best by the corporation, which had placed a restriction on the deed that the property could not be sold to any persons of African descent.

Best and his wife sold the property seven months later to John and Anna Dunbar, who lived in the house for nearly twenty years. In 1962, Walter and Marjorie McKee purchased the property from the widowed Anna Dunbar. After her husband's death, Marjorie McKee continued to live in the Italian Renaissance style dwelling until 1996. The Montgomery County Board of Education, with an elementary school located on the adjacent Block 2, came into possession of the property at that time, utilizing the building at 5000 Moorland Lane as rental property until 1998.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M:35-85

5000 Moorland Lane
name of property
Montgomery County, MD
county and state

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Modern Period, 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and
Community Planning

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function (s): DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. M:35-85

5000 Moorland Lane
name of property
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Chain of Title:

June 9, 1910: Oscar K. Seddicum to National City Real Estate Corporation
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 214 Folio 57

October 16, 1930: The Security Land Company to Erwin A. Morse
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 512 Folio 116

October 23, 1930: Erwin A. Morse and Georgie M. Morse to Elizabeth V. Burlingham
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 512 Folio 148

September 24, 1932: Elizabeth V. Burlingham to The Saratoga Building and Land Corporation
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 542 Folio 282

March 25, 1943: Frank B. Ober, Trustee, The Saratoga Building and Land Corporation to Robert H. Best
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 905 Folio 232

October 29, 1943: Robert H. Best and Delma P. Best to John T. Dunbar and Anna C. Dunbar
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 923 Folio 188

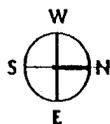
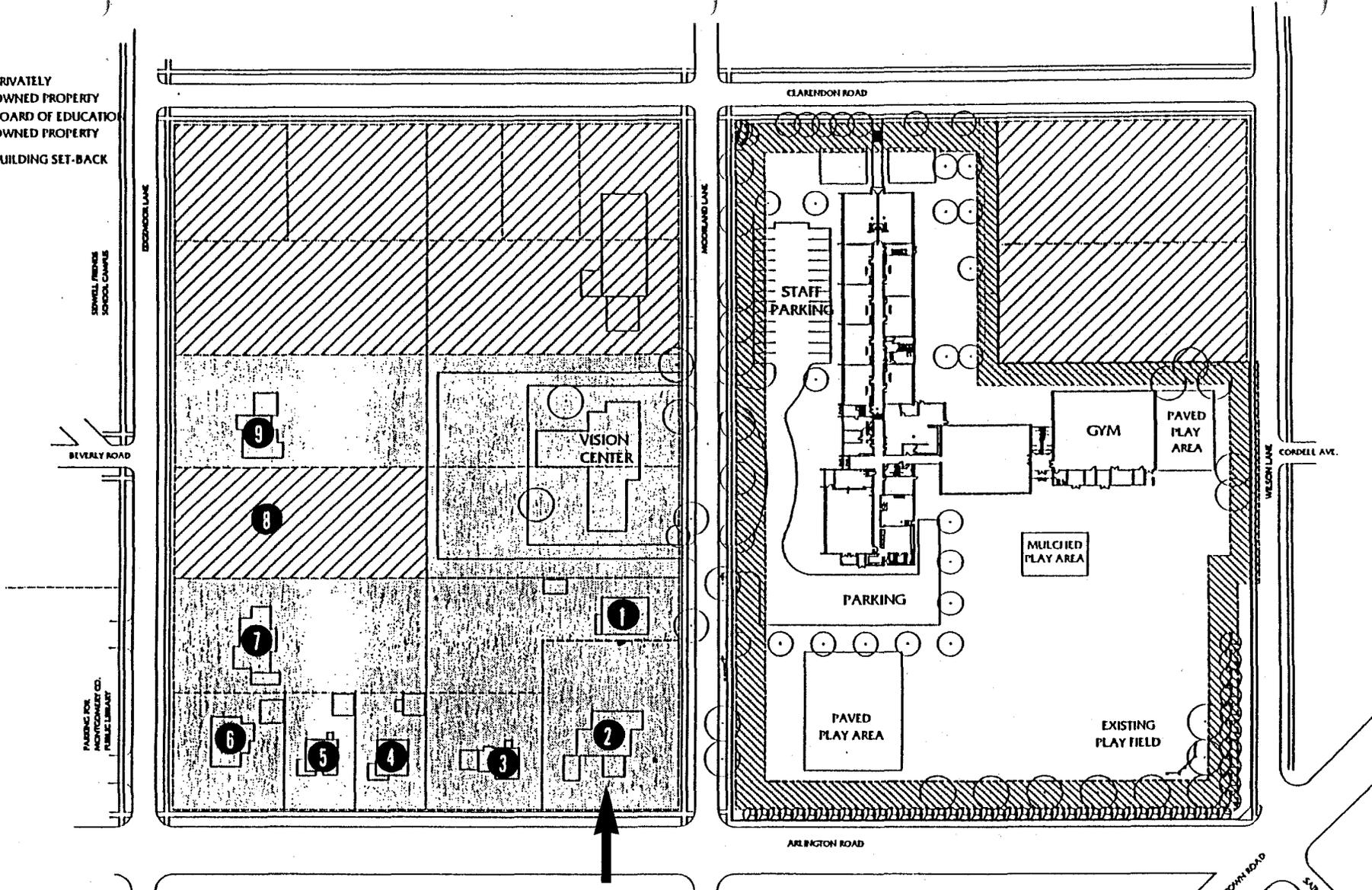
August 2, 1962: Anna C. Dunbar to Walter S. McKee and Marjorie C. McKee
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 2994 Folio 82

September 29, 1992: Marjorie C. McKee to Marjorie C. McKee Living Trust
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 10732 Folio 17

January 22, 1996: Marjorie C. McKee Living Trust to Board of Education of Montgomery County
Montgomery County Land Records
Liber 13926 Folio 14

EXHIBIT "C"

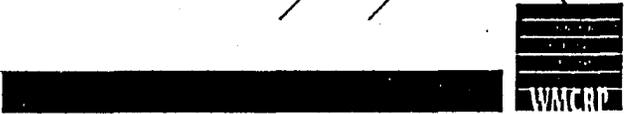
-  PRIVATELY OWNED PROPERTY
-  BOARD OF EDUCATION OWNED PROPERTY
-  BUILDING SET-BACK



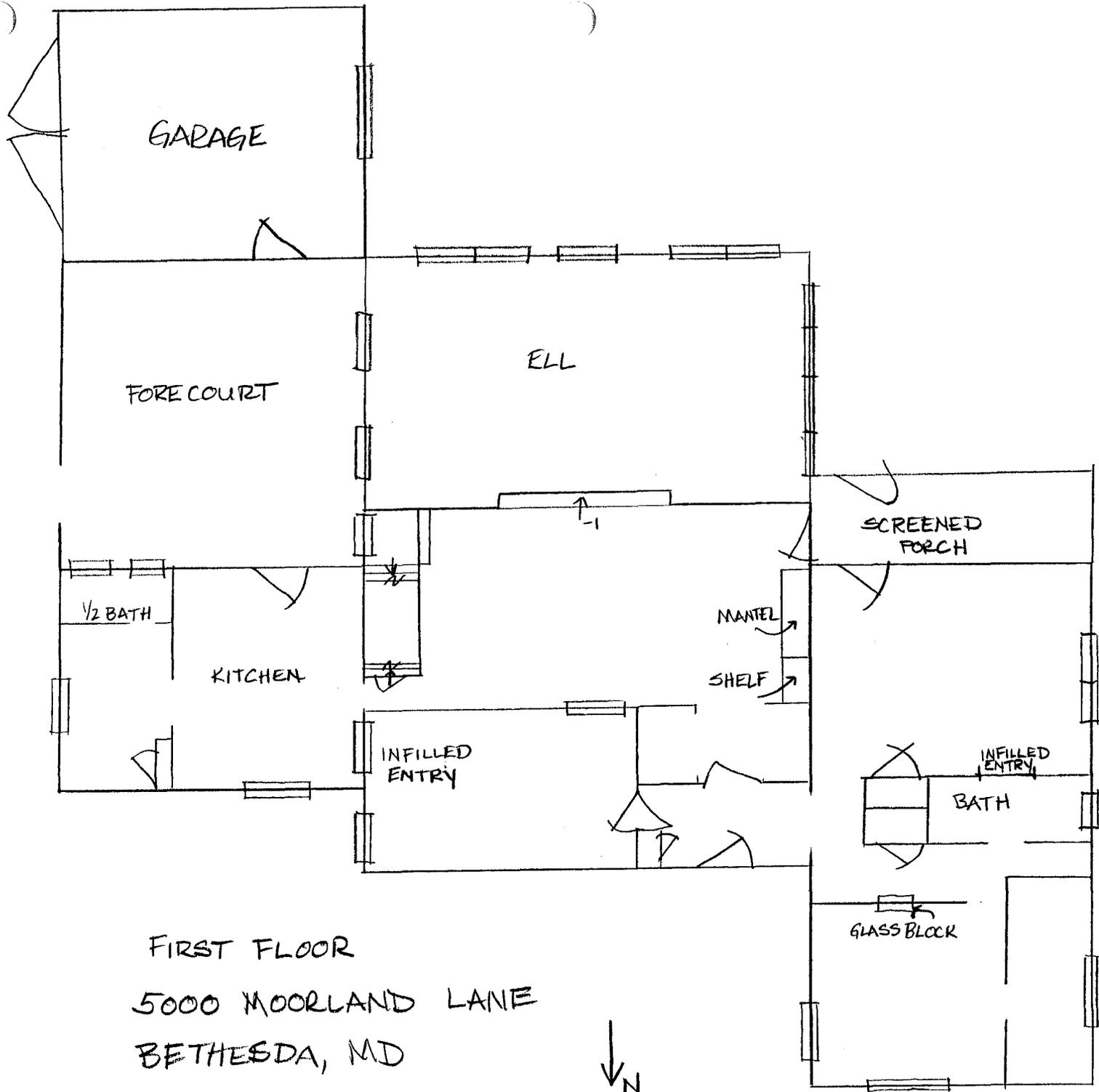
EXISTING SITE PLAN

SCALE : 0 20 50 100

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9/15/1997



M:35-85



FIRST FLOOR
5000 MOORLAND LANE
BETHESDA, MD



M:35-85

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

77°07'30"

17°00'00" E

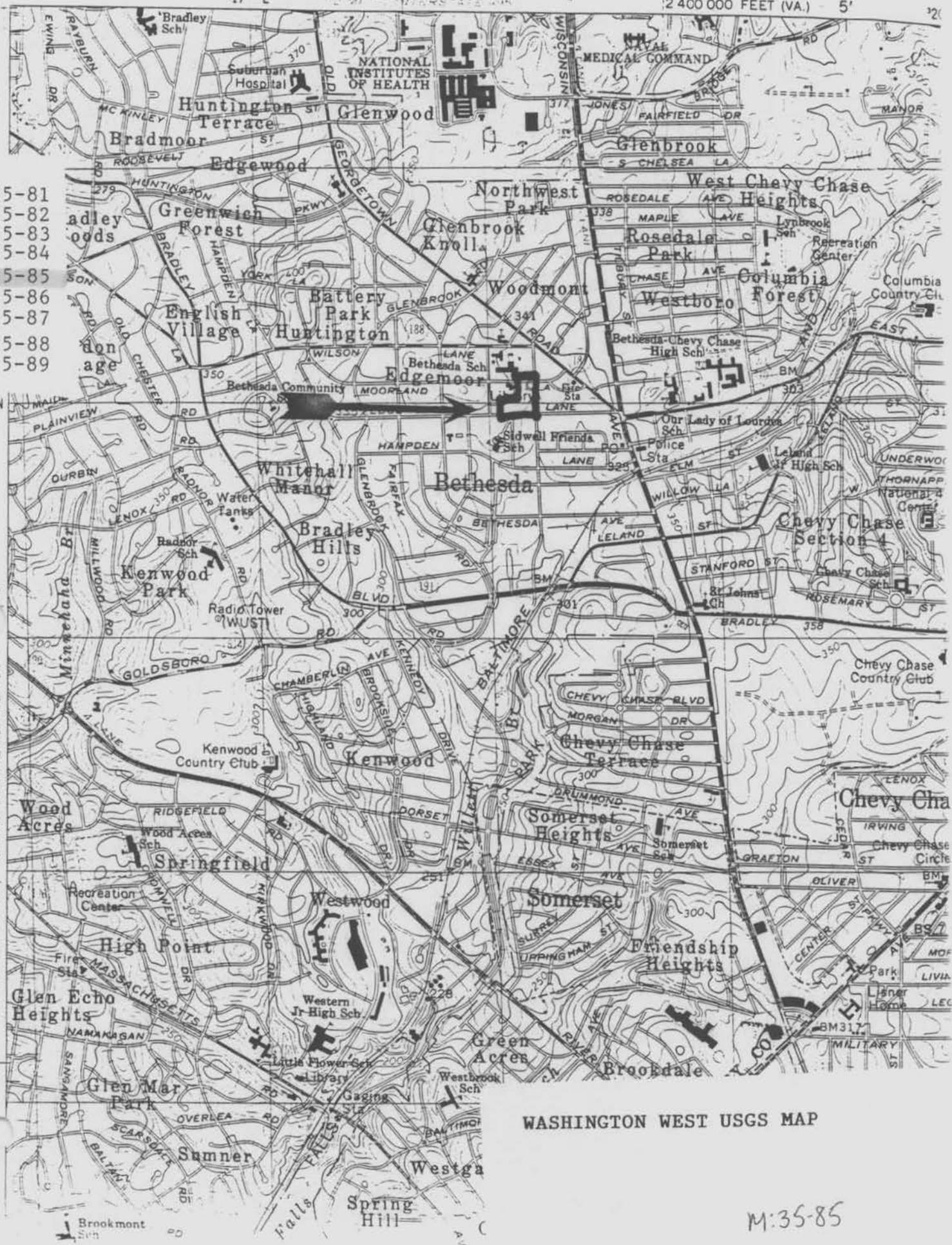
FREDERICK 2411

1.3 MI TO INTERSTATE 495

2 400 000 FEET (VA.) - 5'

39°00'

- M: 35-81
- M: 35-82
- M: 35-83
- M: 35-84
- M: 35-85
- M: 35-86
- M: 35-87
- M: 35-88
- M: 35-89



WASHINGTON WEST USGS MAP

M:35-85



M: 35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTH

1 OF 11



M: 35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

NE CORNER, LOOKING SW

2 OF 11



M: 35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRALERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

ATTACHED GARAGE, LOOKING NORTH

3 OF 11



M: 35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

SW CORNER, LOOKING NE

4 OF 11



M: 35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

NIN CORNER, LOOKING SE

5 OF 11



M:35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, STAIR, LOOKING SE

6 OF 11



M:35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, LIVING ROOM, LOOKING WEST

7 OF 11



M:35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, LOOKING NORTH

8 OF 11



M:35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

2ND FLOOR, LOOKING SW

9 OF 11



M: 35-85

5000 MOORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

ROOF DORMER, LOOKING WEST

'10 OF 11



M: 35-85

5000 MCORLAND LANE

BETHESDA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TRACERIES

7/98

MD SHPO

BASEMENT, LOOKING SE

11 OF 11