

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Green's Inheritance; Green Park

AND/OR COMMON

GREEN'S INHERITANCE

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Maryland Route 227, <sup>(Pomfret Road)</sup> 1/4 mile southwest of its inter-  
section with Maryland Route 228<sup>A</sup>

CITY, TOWN

Pomfret

---NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF  
CODE  
24

COUNTY  
Charles

CODE  
017

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- |                                        |                                                       |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE   | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL    | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL    | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY      | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:                       |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Drs. Julian N. and Nancy Carsey

STREET & NUMBER

Green's Inheritance

CITY, TOWN

Pomfret

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 20675

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CH-61

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Green's Inheritance is located on the north side of Maryland Route 227, one-quarter mile southwest of its intersection with Maryland Route 228, in Pomfret, Charles County, Maryland. Formerly known as "Green Park," it is a simple but dignified, two and one-half story, gable-roofed house of common bond brick, 56 feet wide and 36 feet deep. Built circa 1850, it has a basic Georgian plan, incorporating an interesting combination of late Federal and Greek Revival features.

The five-bay principal facade faces southeast. The centered, double-leafed entrance door, with over and side lights, has a simple, Greek Revival-style wood enframingent. The proportions and simplicity of a one-story porch with shallow pedimented roof and square posts sheltering the entrance suggest a Greek Revival influence. The four windows of the first floor and five of the second frame six-over-six sash and have plain wood sills and flat wood lintels. On the latter, at both floor levels, are flat pieces of wood applied in a manner to suggest recessed flat arches within the rectangular lintels, a rather curious treatment that is apparently original. A second interesting feature is a four-course brick belt or panel below the stepped brick roof cornice that extends to within eighteen inches of the ends of the house.

The north, or rear, elevation repeats the same fenestration and door placement of the front. However, the wood lintels of the windows are unornamented, and there is no belt course or panel below the eave cornice, and no porch sheltering the door. The door, fronted by a semi-circular brick stoop, is framed in the same basic manner as that of the front but has a simulated, all wood overlight. In 1941 a one-story porch extending the full width of this elevation was removed and replaced by the existing brick stoop and brick terrace.

The east end of the house is unbroken except for a window at the attic level. On the west side there is a centered window at the second floor.

The roof has two flush gable chimneys at each end. On the front and back slopes of the roof are three pedimented dormer windows, each of six-over-six sash. There is no watertable at the base of the house, although at one time the first several courses up from ground level were painted black. Small metal grided openings at the base of the building serve to ventilate a crawl space beneath the first floor joists.

In 1941 a one-story, three-bay kitchen addition of old brick with a shallow gable roof was built against the west end of the house, replacing an older frame wing.

The first floor room configuration of the main block consists of a center stair hall with a double parlor on the east side. On the opposite side of the hall are two smaller rooms separated by a second stair hall (see enclosed plan).

see continuation sheet #1

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

All of the woodwork in the house is extremely simple but attractive. Applied plaster rosettes on the upper corners of the flat window and door surrounds, and a dining room mantel with a vaguely Adamesque urn and small sunbursts on the frieze, are the only known original ornamentation.

In later, post 1941, renovations, floor to ceiling bookcases were built on the west wall and in areas flanking the fireplace of the northeast parlor, the latter areas formerly occupied by cupboards. In the dining room two Queen Anne-style cupboards were added to both sides of the fireplace. A shallow ogee cornice in the double parlor appears to be contemporary with moldings applied to the walls to simulate paneling. Both are suspected to have been introduced during the 1941 renovations. The mantels in these two rooms, both almost severely plain, are of a basic Greek Revival design.

The main stair has a turned walnut newel and rail with square painted balusters and shaped spandrels. The stair closet below is decorated with applied moldings in a pattern of vertical panels.

It appears that the side hall with its auxiliary stair was added after the initial construction of the house. The stair, although with a newel and rail similar to that of the main stair, has round, tapered balusters and a stair closet sheathed with four-inch beaded boards, two features more commonly found to date after about 1860-70.

The existing west wing houses a modern kitchen, eating area and utility rooms. Built about 1941 and renovated by the present owners, it replaced a two-story frame wing.

According to Dr. H. Chandlee Forman who briefly discusses the house in Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland, the frame wing was built circa 1700-30. Initially a dwelling, it stood not far from the front of the house and was moved and attached to it, presumably soon after the house was built.

Dr. Forman shows a sketch plan of the frame wing that apparently reflects its plan after it was relocated. Although he does not say so, the plan suggests that the frame wing began as a one-story, two-room dwelling to which an extension of one end and a full second story was subsequently added (see enclosed illustration). When the wing was added to the main house, its exposed end was rebuilt of brick in the same bonding pattern of the main block, and its floor plan was somewhat modified.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CH-61

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) regional history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES                      1850                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Green's Inheritance is an important landmark, regionally significant architecturally and historically. Its architecture and date of construction very nearly make it unique within the lower Southern Maryland region. In about 1825 the counties of Charles, Calvert, St. Mary's and lower Prince George's began feeling the accumulated effect of a series of economic depressions, the last caused in large measure by the over-cultivation of tobacco, changing agricultural practices, industrialization and the shifting of a rural society to one more urban. During the two decades preceding and following the Civil War almost all building activity ceased within the region.

Green's Inheritance is therefore one of only a handful of extant buildings dating from this period in this area. It is, in fact, the only brick house in Charles County dating between the years 1835 and 1880. Considering the critical economic situation of the region at the time, it is remarkable that anyone could afford such an extravagance, particularly when many families of greater wealth and social prominence were crumbling. The house should then be recognized as a testament to the builder, who by all accounts was a quiet, honest yet resourceful and imaginative "gentleman farmer.

The significance of Green's Inheritance, however, lies not only in its architectural value, but also in the history of the property and the Green family.

Green's Inheritance is believed to have been built about 1850 by Francis Caleb Green. Formerly known as "Green Park," the name currently used is derived from the 2,400-acre tract of land granted in 1666 to the three surviving sons of Thomas Green, second Provincial Governor of Maryland. The original tract, described as "lying in the woods on the west side of the main fresh or run that falls into Port Tobacco or St. Thomas Creek," was granted to Leonard, Robert and Francis Green "in right of their father" for transporting himself and others into the province, beginning as early as 1634.

Thomas Green, an Englishman descended from an *enfant d'amour* of Sir John Morton of Kent, left his ancestral home of "Bobbinge," County Kent, to sail to the Maryland province with his good friend, Leonard Calvert. Having invested in the expedition, he had more than a casual interest in the success of the colony. From his arrival in 1634 until his death in 1651, he played an important role in its affairs. A Roman Catholic and staunch Royalist, he was appointed to succeed Calvert as second Provincial Governor in 1647, a position he held for three years.

see continuation sheet #2

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SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

During his life in Maryland, Thomas Green was granted extensive landholdings, most of which he apparently allowed to escheat to the Proprietorship because of the burden of paying taxes on property he had neither the time nor resources to make self-supporting. He did, however, retain his dwelling plantation, "Green's Rest," in St. Mary's City and a tract of 2500 acres in Charles County.

In his will Governor Green bequeathed his estate to be equally divided among his sons as each attained the age of eighteen years. Accordingly, in 1664, Francis, Robert and Leonard Green (a fourth son, Thomas, died earlier) received a warrant for the resurvey of the Charles County lands initially awarded to their father in 1648. A patent was issued to them in 1666 and appropriately named Green's Inheritance. In 1694, in compliance with the will of Leonard Green, it was divided into three equal parcels of 800 acres each.

Francis Green (1648-1707) was the recipient of the westernmost third of the tract and, in fact, was already residing there when the 1694 survey of division was made. At his death he divided his personal property, valued at 230 pounds 11 shillings and including a surprising amount of monogrammed silver, jewelry and "8 pictures," among his five children. The land he requested to be equally divided between his three sons; his youngest sons Giles received that part including Green's Inheritance.

Giles Green (1697-1792) remained on the 214-acre property left to him by his father. The 1783 tax assessment for West Port Tobacco Hundred, where it was located, lists as improvements "a middling good dwelling house, kitchen, two tobacco houses, cornhouse and stables." (It is possible that the house listed in the assessment is the frame dwelling which was later attached to the present brick house; see description). At his death Giles Green devised to his grandson, Joseph Green, son of Giles Green [jr.], "all the land I possess whereon my mansion house stands."

Joseph Green (1760-1826), who was active in county affairs and served several terms as "High Sheriff of Charles County," inherited extensive lands from relatives, including his father's dwelling plantation, "Durham." Later, he acquired several tracts contiguous to the inherited estate on which he lived. Joseph Green served in the Revolutionary War, attaining the rank of corporal in 1778. In his later years he was addressed as Col. Joseph Green. At his death he devised his estate to his daughter Eliza and his son, Francis Caleb Green. Eliza Green died intestate shortly after her father and her share of the property was awarded to her brother Francis.

see continuation sheet #3

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SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Francis Caleb Green (1795-1851) is believed to have been the builder of the existing brick house. He held the rank of Sergeant during the War of 1812-14, and, like his father, was actively involved in county affairs. Much of his time was devoted to his duties as a trustee of several charitable institutions and schools. The inventory of his personal estate, valued at \$18,603, lists articles of furniture appropriate to the present house in both type and number. The listing of various building materials, including roof shingles and window glass, indicates that the house had only recently been completed at the time of his death.

The next owner of the property was Francis Basil Green (1832-1907) who inherited his father's estate following the death of his mother. He also was active in local affairs, but especially in the concerns of nearby St. Joseph's Church. Contemporary accounts record his gifts of land for the expansion of the church property and the use of his home, then known as Green Park, for church-related activities. When he died, his estate passed to his three children, from whom the property was acquired by the late Major General DeWitt Peck, U.S.M.C., in 1941. It was during General Peck's tenure that most of the renovation work to the house occurred. The present owners acquired the property in 1975 from the heirs of General Peck.

Before Governor Green's death in 1651, he enjoyed considerable good fortune through his friendship with the Calvert family. He himself was the product of a comfortable family with close ties to the Crown. However, as a younger son he was not to inherit the family estates which instead passed to his eldest brother Robert.

When Governor Green died his estate was far from meager and he provided well for his sons. With the advantage of a relatively comfortable financial situation and, for at least two of them an education, the three sons, recipients of the inheritance, should have done well. Interestingly enough, however, only the branch of the family from which the builder of Green's Inheritance descended seems to have had the initiative and resources to provide comfortably for themselves. The rest of the family, with a few exceptions, seemed thereafter plagued by an incapacity for achievement; this despite the fact that they managed to long retain control and ownership of a major portion of the original tract and had the resources at hand with which to build a better life.

Fortunately for the social historian, few of the numerous male members of the family left their inherited lands, or the immediate vicinity thereof, until the nineteenth century. Consequently, there is considerable documentation pertaining to their day to day life, their births, marriages, deaths and legal and other

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SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

recorded affairs, providing more than a superficial glimpse into the life of an average Maryland family throughout a period of some 250 years. The house, as a part of this record, provides a valuable focal point on which a historical study of socio-economic conditions in Southern Maryland, as reflected by the activities of several generations of a single family, could be based.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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see continuation sheet #5

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 30 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	323850	4273040	B	18	324110	4273120
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	18	324210	4272670	D	18	323940	4272580
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the north side of Md. Rte. 227 300 feet west of Md. Rte. 228 and moving NNW 1,500 feet to a point, then SSE 1,500 feet to a point on the north side of Md. Rte. 227 1,200 feet SW of Maryland Rte. 228, then 900 feet to the point of the beginning.

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

J. Richard Rivoire, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 126

TELEPHONE

(301) 870-3318

CITY OR TOWN

Faulkner

STATE

Maryland 20632

**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

*John N. Pearce*

DATE

*1/6/77*

TITLE

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

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Maryland

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary sources:

Johnson and Semmes Genealogical Collections. Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland.

Land and Probate Records and Equity Proceedings. Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

1783 Tax Assessment, Probate and Provincial Records. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

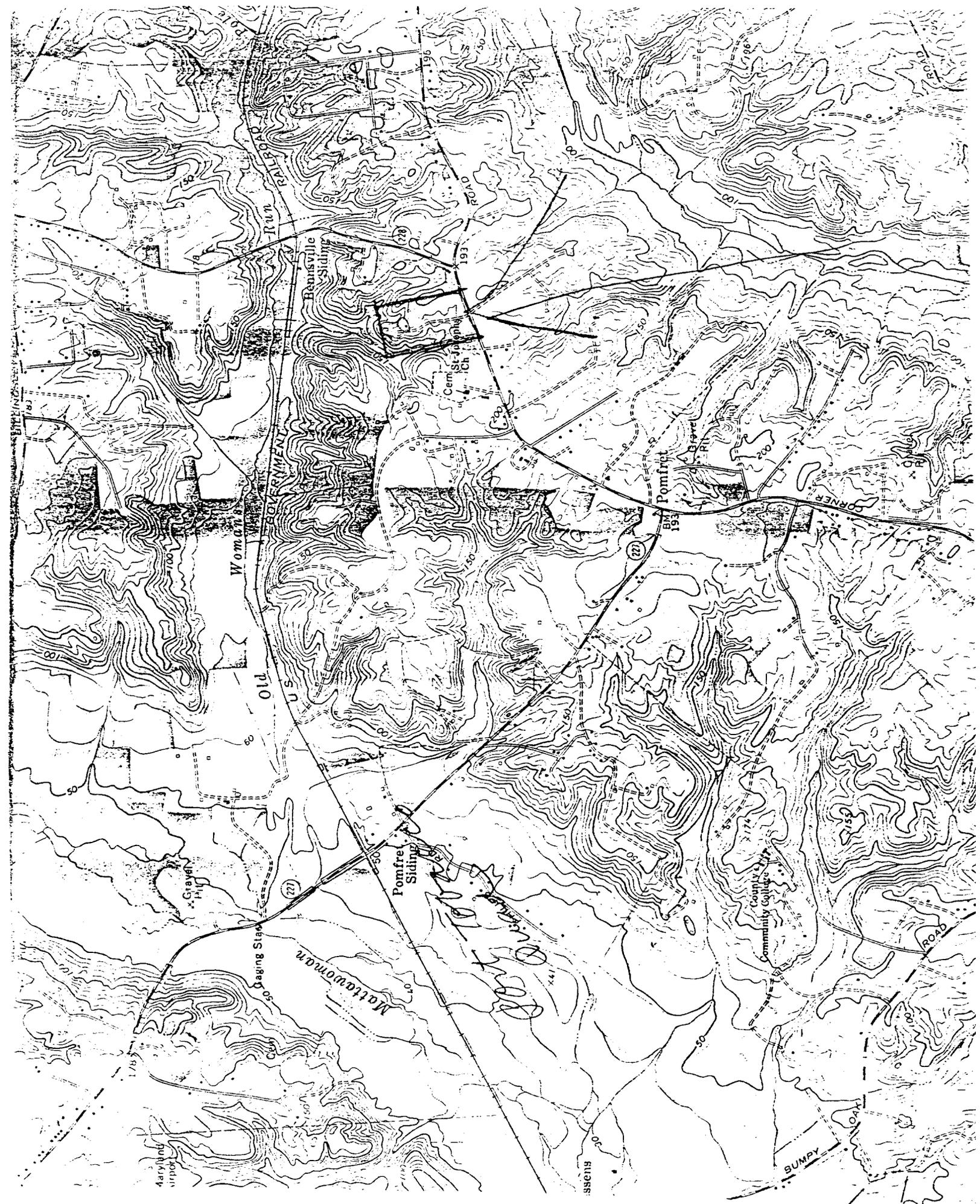
Secondary sources:

Forman, H. Chandlee. Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland. Cambridge, Maryland: Tidewater Publishing Company, 1967.

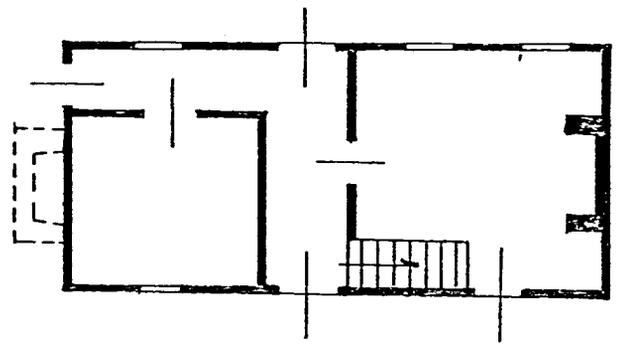
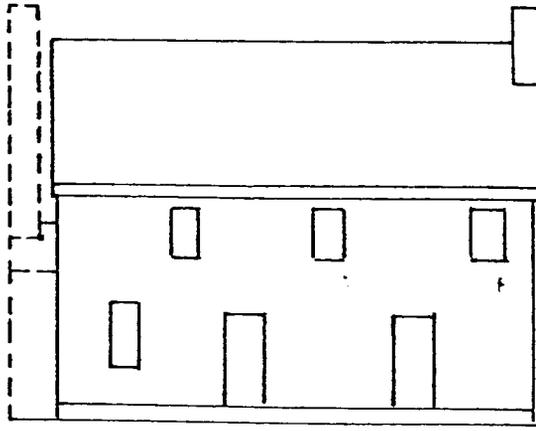
Newman, Harry Wright. The Flowering of the Maryland Palatinate. Washington, D.C.: Private, 1961.

Heraldic Marylandia. Washington, D.C.: Private, 1968.

The Maryland Semmes and Kindred Families. Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1956.

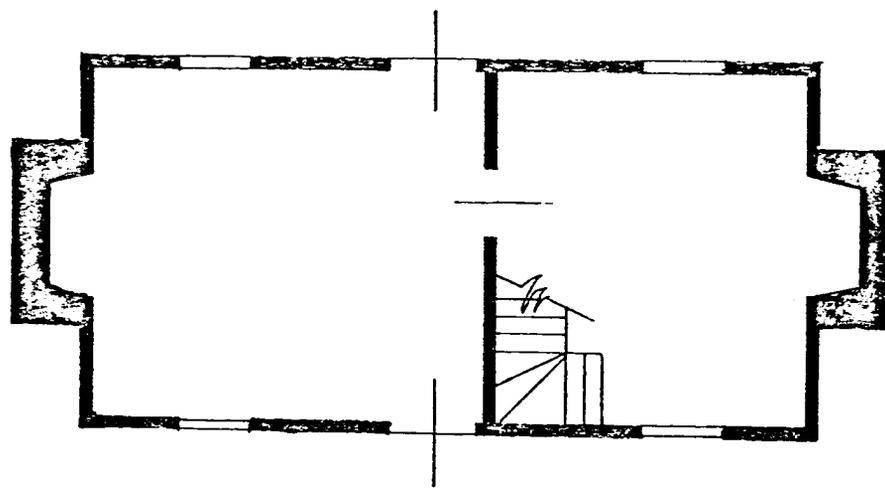


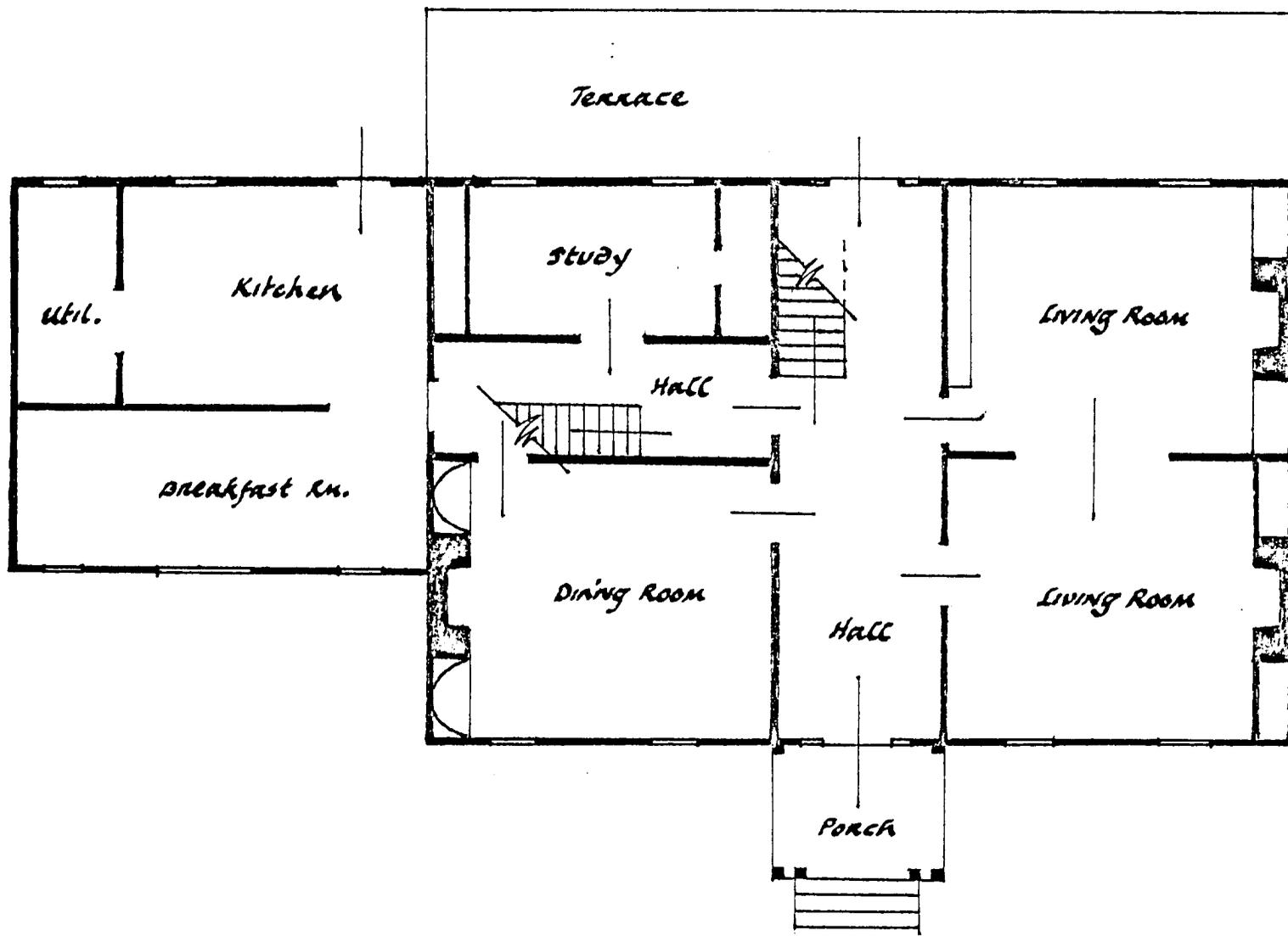
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GREEN'S INHERITANCE. Above and left, eighteenth century frame wing. Taken from Dr. Forman's sketch plan and elevation. Not to scale.

Below: Conjectured original plan of eighteenth century wing. Not to scale.





GREEN'S INHERITANCE. First floor plan. Not drawn to scale.

10/11



☆☆☆☆ SEP. 1978

Green's  
Inheritance

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Kitware

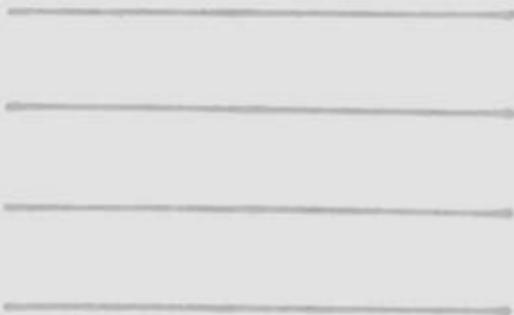
POST-A-PHOTO  
U.S. Patent No. 3,875,861

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

Kodak

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Post Card





☆☆☆☆ 郵。1970

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

**POST-A-PHOTO**  
U.S. Patent No. 3,875,851

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Corwin  
Inheritance

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Stewart

**Kodak**

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to produce this picture.

**POST-A-PHOTO**

U.S. Patent No. 3,876,601

Post Card

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