United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

BA-643
For HCRS use only
received
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic: Wester Ogle

and or common: Wester Ogle

2. Location

street & number: 8948-8950 Reisterstown Road — n/a not for publication

city, town: Pikesville — X vicinity of — congressional district: Second

state: Maryland — code: 24 — county: Baltimore — code: 005

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name: 1. Mr. and Mrs. William F. Lyon (8948)
2. Dr. and Mrs. Ferdinand E. Chatard (8950)

street & number: 1. 8948 Reisterstown Road
2. 8950 Reisterstown Road

city, town: Pikesville (Baltimore) — vicinity of — state: Maryland — 21208

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: County Courts Building

street & number: 401 Bosley Avenue

city, town: Towson — state: Maryland — 21204

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory — has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date: 1965 - Ongoing — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland — 21401

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date ___ n/a
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	Buildings
2	0	Sites
0	2	Structures
0	0	Objects
4	2	Total

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: agriculture, residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Wester Ogle is a large Federal-influenced house constructed ca. 1842, located near Pikesville in Baltimore County, Maryland. The house, which faces east, is constructed of stucco-covered stone, and stands three stories high over an excavated basement, three bays wide by one room deep. An original ell, two bays wide extends from the northwest corner; a one-bay frame addition was made to the west end of this ell ca. 1890. The main block has a hipped roof, with two interior chimneys and two pedimented dormers on its east slope; a single chimney rises from the end of the gable-roofed ell, and a pair of similar dormers lights each slope. The entrance, located in the central bay, consists of paneled double-leaf doors flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a rectangular transom, set within a paneled surround. The flanking bays are defined by tripartite jib windows, with 6/6 sash above paneled jib doors flanked on either side by vertical 2/2 sash, surmounted by a segmental-arched recess. A similar jib window occupies the central bay on the second story; the flanking bays hold 6/6 sash. All the openings have granite sills. On the north elevation, a side entrance opens into the stair hall. The south side of the ell is spanned by a two-story gallery. A frame addition of ca. 1890, clad in German siding, extends the ell by one bay. The interior is laid out in a center-hall plan, with large parlors flanking the entrance hall; the ell functions as a service wing and holds the stair hall. The interior decorative detailing remains largely intact, including stair and balustrade, symmetrically-molded archtraves with corner blocks, doors with two narrow vertical panels, original mantels in most rooms (including an outstanding black marble mantel in the south parlor), and molded plaster ceiling decoration. Also on the property are a 1½ story stone and frame tenant house, contemporaneous with the main house, and the stone foundations of a 19th-century barn and a stable. Two small frame utility sheds of recent date do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Wester Ogle is located on the edge of the Green Spring Valley northwest of Baltimore City approximately 3/8 mile west of Reisterstown Road (MD 140), 1/4 mile south of McDonogh Road, 1½ miles northwest of the Baltimore beltway (I-695). The property consists of two contiguous lots bounded on the north by a ridge with roughly an east-west orientation. The lots extend to the south and west in a gradual slope, the lower portion of which is predominantly wooded with a first generation of regrowth on what had been pasture and hayfield. Larger, mature trees and shrubs surround the two dwellings situated on the northern ridge. There is a large estate house to the east and a smaller tenant house to the west. The stone foundations of a dairy barn and a stable still exist southwest of the tenant house. Small utility sheds are located on the south lawns of each of the dwellings. Portions of the property are used for flower and vegetable gardens, and a chicken yard.

The Estate House

The Estate House, built in 1842, is a three-story, ell-shaped stone structure finished in roughcast, three rooms wide across the east-facing front, and roughly three rooms long on the back leg of the ell. The western-most rooms of the house are a German-sided frame addition built about 1890.

The front of the house has double leaf doors with a large rectangular transom and sidelights. All doorways and windows in the original structure have granite sills. The front porch is a recent flagstone deck with wooden steps. the rooms flanking the front entrance have full-length windows and jib doors. Sidelights flank each of the large first-floor front windows. Small basement windows are built at grade.

The front doors enter into a center hallway which accesses a parlor with a black marble fireplace to the immediate left (south), and a dining room, also with a fireplace, to the immediate right (north). The parlor has one six-over-six double hung window facing south, two more of the same facing west, and the already described window and jib-door arrangement facing east. All front rooms have eleven foot ceilings.

A doorway at the west end of the entrance hall leads to a brick terrace built into the junction of the ell, which is covered by a roof supported by five columns. The terrace replaces the original two-story porch.

To the immediate right of the entrance hall doorway to the brick terrace is a door to two smaller hallways split by a vertical division containing a stairway to the second and third floors. The short hallway to the right leads to a doorway to the outside; this is where the original carriage porch was

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

located and a small stone porch now stands. Halfway down the hallway to the right is a door to the dining room; at its end to the left is a stairway to a full, earthen-floored basement extending beneath all rooms in the original structure. The longer hallway to the left of the stairway passes a south-facing door to the brick terrace, a recessed window and a door to a combination pantry-closet and a lavatory on the right. At the end of this hall is a "winter Kitchen," which contains a large fireplace (thought to be used originally as a cooking fireplace) and six-over-six double-hung windows on the north and south (overlooking the brick terrace) sides. The first floor in the c. 1890 frame addition behind the winter kitchen contains a "summer kitchen" with four-over-four windows facing north, west and south, and a door going to a small porch.

The stairway rises to a landing with a window and splits right and left to the second floor. To the left is a short set of stairs which goes to a service wing, through a small hallway with a six-over-six window, a bathroom, a sitting room with a fireplace, and a bedroom. This last room is in the frame addition over the summer kitchen and has four windows, two on the west and one each on the north and south. In the sitting room, there is a window/jib-door arrangement, similarly configured to those on the first floor but smaller, which faces south. (This portal at one time was used to access the second-floor of the original porch there.) There is a typical window on the north side. Going right from the landing leads up yet another stairway to three second-floor bedrooms and two bathrooms in the main block, and to a continuation of the stairway to the third floor. The closetless bedrooms, which have ten foot ceilings, and the bathrooms connect to a long hallway. The north and south bedrooms, which are over the dining room and parlor respectively, have fireplaces; the center bedroom, which is over the entrance hallway, does not. This bedroom does have a window/jib-door arrangement like those in the first floor rooms, sugesting that the original porch on the front of the house had two stories. The fenestration in the end bedrooms and in the bath inserted in a small dressing area off the south bedroom conforms to that on the first-floor rooms beneath them.

The third floor contains an unfinished room in the frame addition and two semi-finished rooms in the west end of the original structure. There are two large unfinished rooms in the front portion of the ell. The part of the stairway leading to the third floor is identical to that which goes to the second.

The hipped roof on the original structure has six dormers: two facing north, two facing east and two south. Eaves featuring an unusually wide fascia and soffit accent the roof. There are three stone chimneys finished in roughcast which are built up through the house as inside walls; two are located in the east section of the ell, the third is in the west section. The roof over the frame addition is gabled.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

There are wide-planked, hardwood floors in all rooms of the original structure. Thinner planked floors are in the frame addition.

The stone used to build the house was probably taken from quarries on the original estate or nearby; outside walls are stuccoed. The inside walls are plaster; those in the front portion of the first floor have decorative cornice moldings, and a plaster medallion survives in the parlor ceiling. The dining room mantel is of an earlier Federal period design, and was installed in the 1950s; the south parlor retains its original black marble mantel. Original mantels also survive in the bedrooms throughout the house; these are wooden, and reflect typical mid-19th-century designs. The stair, with heavy walnut newels and handrail, square balusters, and simple scroll-decorated step ends, is original, and most of the symmetrically-molded architrave trim (with bull's-eye corner blocks), two-vertical-paneled doors, and paneled interior shutters remain intact.

The tenant house located behind the main dwelling faces south and consists of a small 1½-story stone section with two rooms on each floor. There are two-room frame additions on the north and west side which were added in 1890. There is a large living room with a fireplace in the original structure's first floor, which is entered from the south. In the frame addition to the west there is a kitchen with a fireplace. (The original kitchen was expanded with a fireplace. A stairway to the second floor runs along the wall on the north end of the living room. It leads to a hallway connected to two south-facing bedrooms in the original section (thought to have been a loft) and a bedroom and bath in the western addition. Halfway down this hall to the right is a small hall leading to a bathroom and a fourth bedroom in the north addition.

There are two one-story, shed-roofed porches on either side of the northern addition. A shed porch on the south side of the original structure contains a small furnace/tool room. The roof of the house is gabled and there are three brick chimneys: one each on the north and east ends of the house, and one built into the house for the kitchen fireplace. The house has no basement.

Southeast of the tenant house are the stone foundations of a 19th-century barn and stable.

Two small frame utility sheds of recent date stand to the south of the main house; these do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

8. Significance

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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	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates c.1840-1842 **Builder Architect** John Orum, builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: B, C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Wester Ogle is significant for its architecture, and for its association with the Lyon family, prominent in Baltimore County and City since the mid-18th century. Architecturally, the c. 1842 "estate house" represents a well-preserved example of a country residence of the period reflecting both Federal and classical influences. Characteristic features include the symmetrical plan and elevation, hipped roof, and smooth stucco finish, and such details as the tripartite jib windows set within recessed segmental arches. On the interior, the house retains the majority of its original decorative detailing, including the stair and balustrade, architrave trim, paneled doors and interior shutters, mantels, and plaster ceiling ornament. A surviving tenant house, contemporaneous with the main dwelling, contributes to the significance of this rural property. The resource derives additional significance from its association with the Lyon family, whose members were among the first settlers in the area in the mid-18th century and went on to achieve prominence in local commercial, political, and military affairs through the 19th century. The property upon which Wester Ogle is located has remained in the Lyon family since approximately 1745; the house has been occupied by five continuous generations of Lyons since its construction.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Dr. William Lyon, the first member of the Lyon family to settle in Baltimore County, was born in Scotland in 1715 and arrived in Maryland about 1735, soon after he had received his medical degree. In approximately 1745 he began to accumulate property in the Green Spring Valley, and by 1760 he owned about 2,300 acres. Before moving to the county in 1752, Dr. Lyon lived in the city, where he contributed materially to the development of the town. In 1746, he established the city's first "drugstore," eventually known as "Lyon and Philpot," at the corner of Market (now Baltimore) and Calvert Streets. When he moved from the city, Dr. Lyon was listed as the only physician within the town limit. Once in the county, he became professionally active there as well. In November, 1754, he was one of several doctors to be appointed by the Baltimore County Court to visit county patients; he was later appointed county doctor for the parishes of St. Paul's and St. Thomas'.

Dr. Lyon built the original Lyon house near the Old Lyons Mill Road (now McDonagh Road) probably between 1754 and 1760. In the late 1750s, he built Wester Ogle Mills nearby. He is also thought to have built a warehouse on the east side of the Coewaga or Packed Horse Road (now Reisterstown Road) to take advantage of the heavy daily trafic traveling on it between Baltimore and Pennsylvania.

Dr. Lyon was one of the few valley residents who did not belong to St. Thomas' Church. On Sundays, he attended services at the First Presbyterian Church in Baltimore which he helped to establish in 1763. An advocate of religious toleration, he rented one acre of his property in 1785 to the trustees of Stone Chapel for the purpose of erecting ther a Methodist Church of the same name.

In 1791, Dr. Lyon transferred ownership of his 2,300 acres and his personal property to his son Robert, who continued to operate the mill, to farm the land and to care for his father until he died in 1794. When the first house and Lyons Mills were partly destroyed by fire in about 1792, the family moved to a frame dwelling near Stone Chapel. Robert and his wife Susan (Susanna) Hall Lyon of Cecil County, married in 1783, had nine children. In 1815, he conveyed to a group of men acting as trustees a small parcel of real property near Stone Chapel on which was erected the Garrison Forest Academy. In 1836, Mr. Lyon distributed the 1,500 acres then in his possession to his children. Two of his bachelor sons, Charles Graham Lyon and Edward Dorsey Lyon, received 183 acres and 186 acres respectively. In 1840 the two brothers began to build Wester Ogle on Charles' land. John Orum was the builder and construction of the estate house and a tenant house nearby took two years and cost $450. A carriage house was added in 1846 and a stone barn in 1847.

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

With their nephew Charles Lyon Rogers, Edward and Charles farmed the property for a number of years and so well that it became a model for agricultural practices in the county. Edward was an extremely active member of St. Thomas' Church. He died in 1865; Charles died two years later leaving Wester Ogle to be divided equally between his nephews Samuel Hall and James William Lyon, sons of his deceased brother, James Elisha Lyon.

After a brief residence at Wester Ogle by Samuel and his wife, James William and his wife, Fanny Moncure Nelson Lyon, moved in. After the Civil War, in which both brothers served, Samuel and James operated an extensive general merchandise business under the name Lyon Brothers. It had offices up and down the east coast. They also operated Wester Ogle Dairy until about 1900, making huge shipments of milk into Pikesville and Baltimore.

After James' death in 1907, his wife Fanny lived at Wester Ogle until her death in 1936. Since she died intestate, and none of her six children wished to claim ownership, the house was vacant from 1936 to 1956.

In 1956 Robert Bentley Lyon and his family moved into Wester Ogle and renovated it. Mr. Lyon was the son of Moncure Nelson Lyon (one of James William and Fannie Moncure Lyon's four sons) and Constance Bentley Lyon, who had moved to Loudoun County, Virginia about 1910. He and his wife JoAnn Vestal Lyon had five children and lived there until 1984, when their second son, William Floyd, and his wife Anne Michals Lyon, bought it. Mr. William F. Lyon represents the seventh successive generation of Lyons to live on the property at Wester Ogle, and the fifth successive generation to live in the estate house. The new owners intend to continue to restore the original part of the estate house and renovate the 1890 frame addition.

Many Lyons have served in local, state and national affairs. Dr. William Lyon was a gentleman justice of the Baltimore County Court in 1754 and was a member of the Committee of Observation before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War. His son Robert was appointed an "overseer of roads" in the county. On May 31, 1794, he enrolled in the Baltimore County Militia, made captain that year and major on 13 February 1812 (in the Sixth Regular Cavalry District). He served as a gentleman volunteer with Captain Plunkett's Company.

In the War of 1812, Robert Lyon's son, Robert Lyon, Jr., was a private in Captain Moale's Company, Columbian Artillery. Another son, William, was commissioned a lieutenant on 5 August 1814 in Captain Rowe's Company, Fifth Regiment. Robert and William's brother, Charles Graham (a builder of Wester Ogle) was commissioned a second lieutenant on Jue 26, 1812 in Captain Carnan's Company, Sixth Regular Cavalry District. On July 8, 1814, he was commissioned a first lieutenant and served as an aide to General Smith.

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

In the Civil War, the sympathies of the Lyons lay with the Confederate cause. In a letter to his cousin, dated 18 January 1908, Samuel Hall Lyon wrote: "In (the) Civil War, nine first cousins of whom I was one, fought in the Southern Army, not for gain, but because we believe it to be right. Three of us were killed in battle and two were maimed for life and one has a disabled hand by a bullet. My brother (James William Lyon), half-brother (Owen Norris) and myself were three of those cousins." Mr. Lyon was a Confederate prisoner at Fort Warren in 1862. A diary which he kept during his imprisonment mentioned the arrest of his mother, Mary Hawksworth Owen Lyon Norris on March 6, 1862 allegedly for her "use of disrespectful language in a letter to Lafayette (sic)."

James Lyon was a sergeant in Company H, First Maryland Infantry, C.S.A. James W. Lyon was a major and commissary sergeant, and Samuel H., his brother, was a private in Company C, First Maryland Cavalry, C.S.A.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundaries are depicted on the attached plat.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property, approximately 7.5 acres, comprises the resource within its immediate landscaped setting. To the north, east, and southeast lie open agricultural fields; a densely wooded area defines the southwest and west boundaries.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Dawn F. Thomas, Robert Barnes, The Green Spring Valley. (Baltimore, 1978), Vol. 1: pp. 20, 39-40, 366-373, 430-431; Vol. 2: pp. 56-59, 123-124.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 7.5 acres

Quadrangle name Reisterstown, Maryland Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	349 310	4361620
B	18	349 400	4361490
C	18	349 150	4361440
D	18	349 140	4361580
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

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

state	n/a	code	county		code
state		code	county		code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	William F. Lyon, Robert B. Lyon, Jr.
organization	n/a date 7/31/84
street & number	8948 Reisterstown Road telephone (301) 363-0549
city or town	Pikesville state Maryland 21208

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mark R. Edwards for J. Rodney Little

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date 12/3/84

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

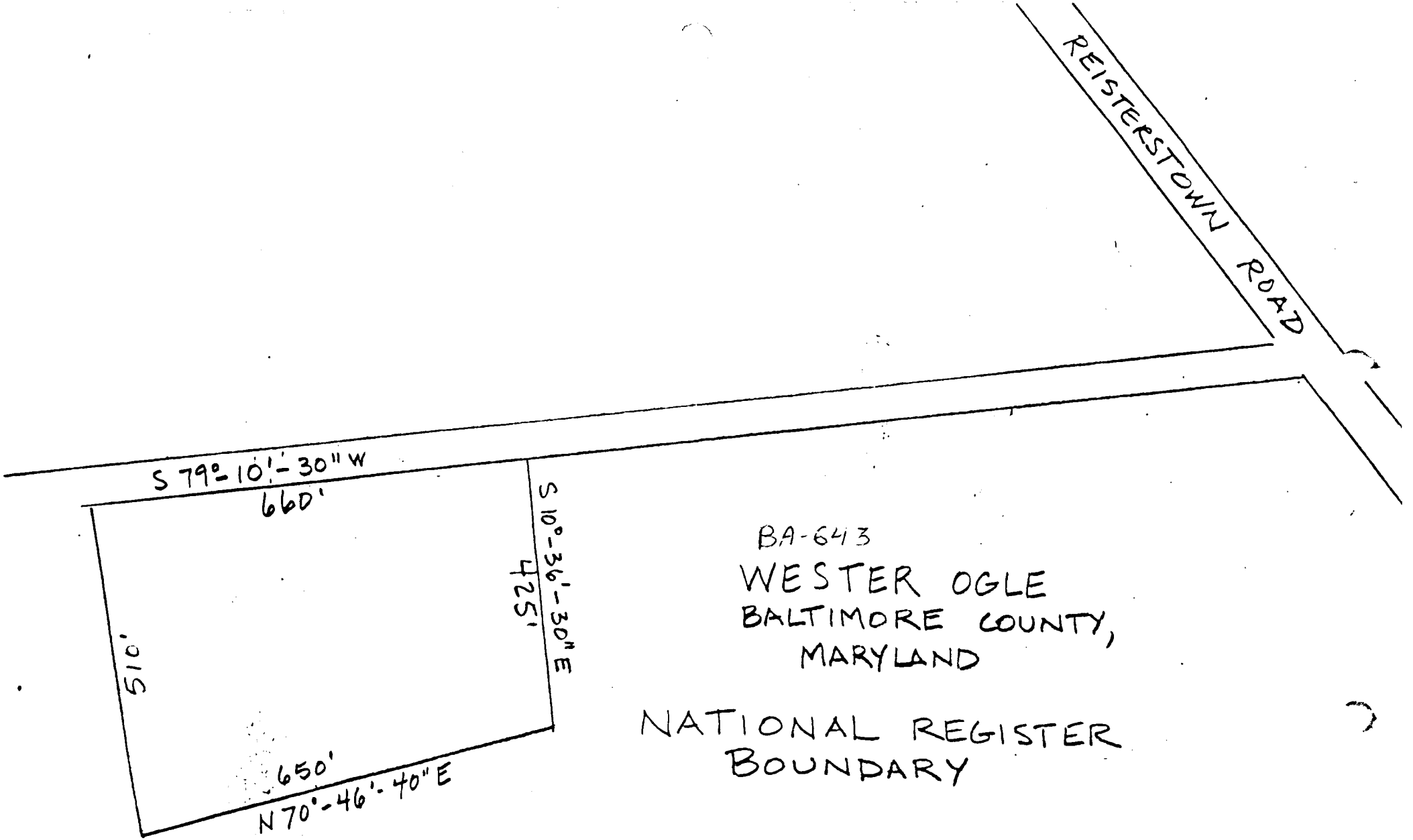
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

GPO 938 835



BA-643

WESTER OGLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY,
MARYLAND

NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY

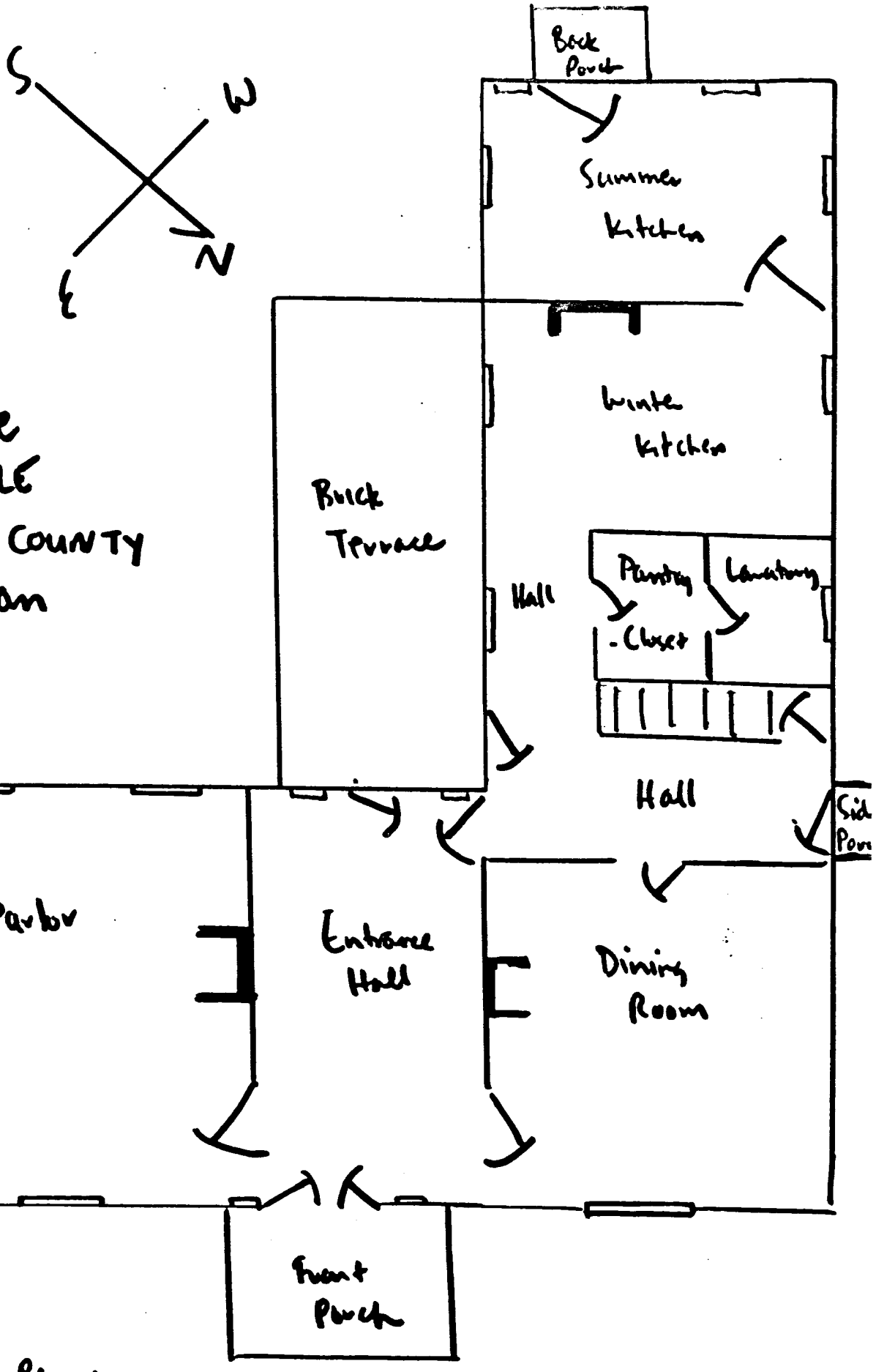
SCALE: 1" = 200'

11/84

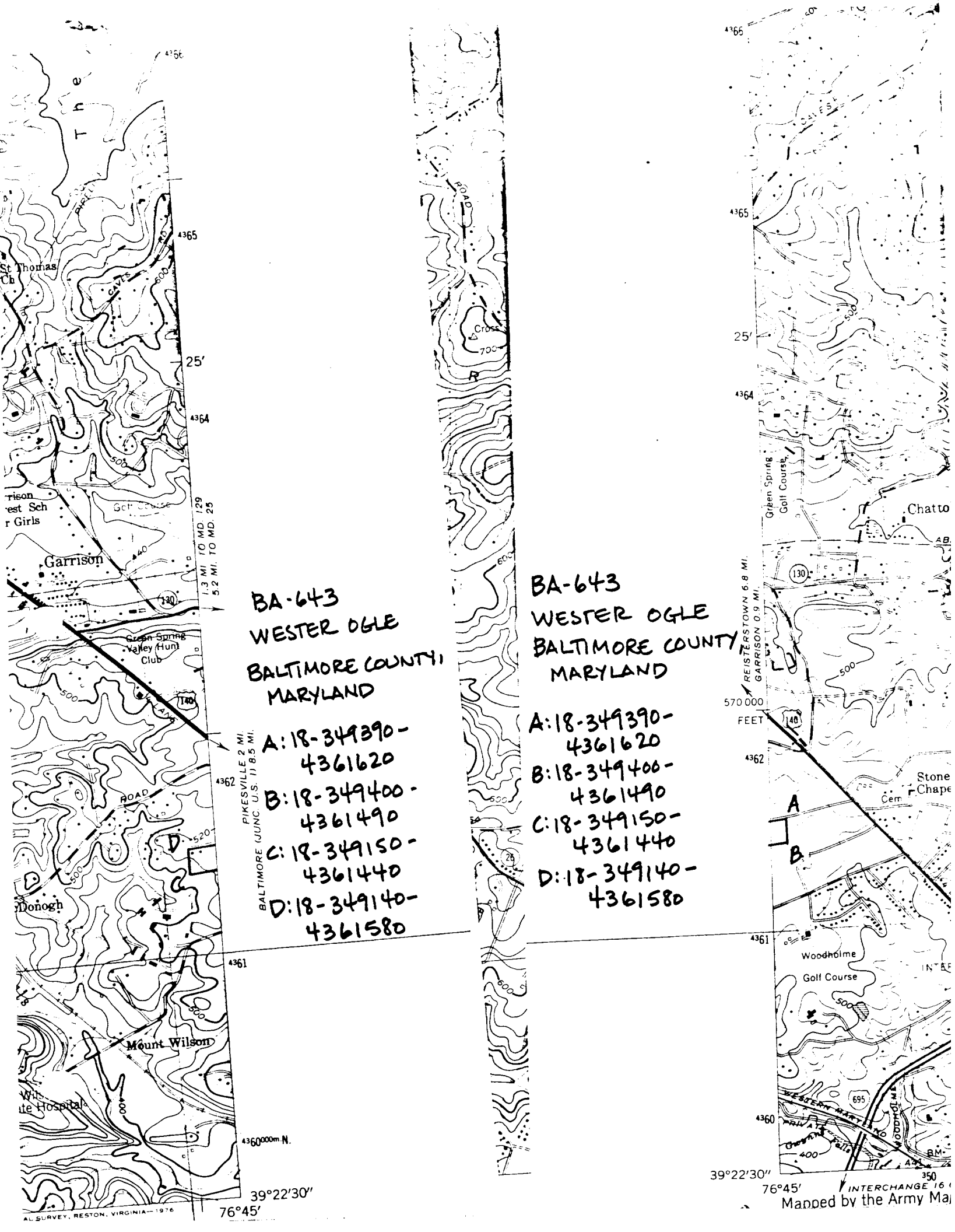
N

BA643

Estate House
WESTER OGLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
1st Floor Plan



Not to scale RL



BA-643
WESTER OGLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY,
MARYLAND

A: 18-349390-4361620
B: 18-349400-4361490
C: 18-349150-4361440
D: 18-349140-4361580

BA-643
WESTER OGLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY,
MARYLAND

A: 18-349390-4361620
B: 18-349400-4361490
C: 18-349150-4361440
D: 18-349140-4361580

Wester Ogle BA-643
Baltimore County, Maryland
photo by William Lyon, March 1984
Neg. at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis

East elevation

1/10

Wester Ogle BA-643
Baltimore County, Maryland
photo by William Lyon, March 1984
Neg. at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis

View from southwest

2/10

Wester Ogle BA-643
Baltimore County, Maryland
photo by William Lyon, March 1984
Neg. at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis

North elevation

3/10

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SOUTH FACING WINDOW
WINTER KITCHEN
LYON HOUSE
WESTER OGLE 9/84

BA-643 UPSTAIRS HALLWAY

2 DOORS ON RIGHT LEAD INTO NE & CENTRAL BEDS
CLOSEST DOOR ON LEFT WAS ACCESS TO 2ND FL. PORCH
WINDOW STRAIGHT AHEAD IS ON LANDING, LOOKING N.

LYON HOUSE WESTER OGLE 9/84