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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

PG:73-16

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered 7/9/87

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

1. Name

historic Mount Lubentia; Norway

and or common Mount Lubentia (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 603 Largo Road N/A not for publication

city, town Largo N/A vicinity of Fifth Congressional District

state Maryland code 24 county Prince George's code 033

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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

name Mrs. Forrest D. Bowie (Frances S.)

street & number 601 Largo Road

city, town Upper Marlboro N/A vicinity of state Maryland 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title See Continuation Sheet No. has this property been determined eligible? yes no

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Section number 6 Page 1

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS:

1. Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory
State
1974
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland
2. Historic American Buildings Survey
Federal
1936
Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>see below</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

(Dairy moved ca. 1970)

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> buildings	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> Total	

Original and historic functions and uses: agriculture, residential

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

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Mount Lubentia is a large hip-roof brick Federal style dwelling built ca. 1798 possibly on the foundation of an earlier dwelling. It consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block with a two-story kitchen wing attached on the north. The main block is five bays by four bays and has entrance in the central bay of the five-bay facade. The doorway exhibits elegant Federal detail in its fanlight, keystone arch, and pedimented and fluted Ionic pilasters. Interior detail includes particularly fine wooden mantels, crossetted door and window surrounds, and a graceful curved staircase. The immediate grounds of the mansion include a nineteenth century corncrib and stable, and later shed/garage, as well as an eighteenth century octagonal dairy which was moved to its present location from the nearby "Graden" plantation.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Mount Lubentia is a large hip-roof brick dwelling of the Federal style; it consists of a two-and-one-half story main block, with a two-story kitchen wing attached on the north. The house stands on a slight knoll, on wooded landscaped grounds, and faces east toward the old Bladensburg-Marlboro Road (Maryland Route 202). West of the house are the remnants of a formal garden.

The main block is five bays by four bays, 48 by 37 feet. Entrance is in the central bay of the five-bay facade, east elevation, through a door with elegant Federal style detail. The door itself has eight panels, framed by panelled jambs and soffits, and flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters. Above the door is the original fanlight with seven radiating sections defined by delicately curved muntins. The fan is outlined by a molded arch with keystone and enclosed by a pediment with dentil decoration inside a crown molding. This formal doorway is approached by a stone threshold with convex nosing. Sheltering the three inner bays of the main east facade is a one-story hip-roof porch supported by four wooden Tuscan columns; it rests on brick piers. A photograph which dates from before 1895 shows a Victorian porch with jigsaw brackets sheltering the three central bays. It was probably built circa 1883.

The entrance on the west, or garden elevation is similar but less formal. It has identical pilasters, fanlight, and molded arch, but no pediment. Like the formal entrance, the west entrance is sheltered by a three-bay, one-story hip-roof porch, supported in this case by chamfered posts with capitals and bases. The plain balustrade railing on the north and south sides of the porch were brought to Mount Lubentia from nearby Woodlawn, a property owned by the same family in the nineteenth century.

Mount Lubentia is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. It rests on a brick foundation which encloses a full cellar, and has a molded water table. Windows are surmounted by flat gauged-brick arches, deeper in the first story than on the second. All windows have louvered shutters, now removed. The cellar has shallow three-pane single-sash windows, with plain wooden lintels and concrete slab sills.

The hip roof is covered with standing-seam metal painted red. In the east plane of the roof are two small gable dormers, each with plain flared bargeboards enclosing a 6/6 double-hung sash window. There is one similar dormer in each of the north and south planes of the roof. The largest and earliest dormer is centered in the west plane of the roof; it also encloses a 6/6 window. (Photographs dating from circa 1912 and 1918 show only the west dormer; by 1930 the two east dormers had been added, as was the cresting.) There are two wide interior chimneys, one rising from each end of the ridge, and aligned with the second and fourth bays

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

of the long facades. A balustraded "widow's walk" defines the area between the two tall chimneys. The eaves of the hip roof are ornamented with a boxed cornice; with bed and crown molding, beneath which is a plain frieze painted white.

All interior spaces are decorated with fine Federal style detail finished circa 1799; the details differ in each space. The interior plan incorporates an asymmetrical four-room plan that was particularly popular in eighteenth century Annapolis. In this plan, a large rectangular stairhall occupies the center and two north bays of the front portion of the house, with a formal parlor in the two south bays. A pilastered arch opposite the front entrance joins the front stairhall to a rear passage flanked by a library on the left (south) and a dining room on the right (north). In contrast to the similar and more traditional Georgian plan, this plan allows for a grander stair and reflects the roll of the stair hall as the primary public space in the house. The rear passage, though of lesser significance, provides circulation to the parlor and dining room as well as the rear entrance without conflicting with a traditional central stair. In concert with the hip-roof form of this house, the chimneys are placed on the interior longitudinal axis so that one chimney is shared by the parlor and library to the south and a second chimney serves the dining room; the stair hall is unheated. The first run of the staircase rises along the west wall of the stairhall and turns 90 degrees onto a landing along its north wall, then turns 90 degrees again and continues the second run along the east wall. The window which lights the stairway (fifth bay of the east facade on second story) has a curved interior surround, to accommodate the turn in the staircase. The staircase has plain railing and plain square balusters, which form a spiral around the slim newel. Stair-ends are bracketed, and below them is a plain plastered spandrel. On the wall side of the staircase below the rail is panelled wainscoting.

Below the landing on the north wall of the stair hall are two low arched doorways: the easterly leads into a cupboard, and the westerly into a secondary passage into the dining room. The two doors are identical; each has six panels, and its casting consists of fluted pilasters and a molded elliptical arch.

An elliptical arch divides the central hallway, the easterly section of which is part of the stair hall, while the westerly gives access to the library and dining room. The handsome cross-arch divides the hallway immediately west of the foot of the staircase; the arch is highlighted by a molded keystone on each side, and has a panelled soffit. The opening is flanked by fluted pilasters, the capitals of which are embellished with egg-and-dart molding. The central hallway connects the principal formal (east) entrance to the rear (west) entrance; the framing of these doors is identical on the interior, and highlighted by the delicately molded fan-light and keystone arch.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The foundation of the main block encloses a full cellar. In the northwest space underneath the wide dining room fireplace is a large fireplace which probably served the original kitchen. A 12 inch by 12 inch hand-hewn beam, 96 inches in length, forms the lintel over this fireplace. The arch support of the southwest fireplace has a beaded wood surround, which indicates the presence of a built in cabinet at one time. Heavy hand-hewn joists support the floor above; two diagonal joists in the south half of the basement were installed in this century to reinforce the first floor framing. The foundation walls are laid in English bond, possibly reused from an earlier structure. A section of the northeast corner, however, is laid in all-stretcher bond, where this section of wall was reconstructed circa 1880. There is a bulkhead entrance to the basement in the second bay of the south facade.

Extending north from the north facade of the building is a two-story hip-roof kitchen wing, three bays wide, approximately 21 by 18 1/2 feet. Like the main block, the wing is constructed of brick, laid in Flemish bond. Photographs taken before 1895 show that the wing was at that time one-and-one-half stories high, with two dormers in the east plane of its gable roof. The wing was raised to its present two-story height in 1911; the second story bricks are laid in common bond, six stretcher courses to each header course. Entrance is in the central bay of the three bay east facade through a five-panel door with plain board surround and outer molding. Windows are 9/9 double hung sash on the first story, smaller than the windows of the main block; they have narrow surrounds, flat gauged-brick arches, and molded wooden sills. Windows of the upper story are 6/6 double hung sash. A one-story hip-roof porch supported by Tuscan columns shelters the east and north facades of the wing; it is enclosed with lattice and screen on the east, and with vertical wainscoting on the north. The hip roofs of the wing and porches are covered with standing seam metal painted red. There is an interior brick chimney at the ridge at the north gable end. There is no cellar under the wing.¹

The interior of the wing consists of a kitchen space and a small pantry space which was partitioned off and created in the southeast section of the wing in the early twentieth century. A two-flight boxed staircase in the southwest corner of the kitchen leads to two small bedrooms on the second story. The two westerly windows of the kitchen have interior shutters. In the north wall of the kitchen is a Federal style wooden mantel, considerably plainer than those in the main block. It has crossetted shoulders and plain frieze; above the frieze is a course of incised and dentilled molding.

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Section number 7 Page 5

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Mount Lubentia has a complex of farm buildings. Southeast of the house, on high ground south of the unpaved drive is a gable-roof twentieth century non-contributing shed, once used as a garage; it is sided with vertical board, has a corrugated metal roof, and rests on stone piers. Entrance is through a double door in its wiest gable end.

Southwest of the house is a tall gable-roof corncrib, built before 1895, and incorporating heavy hand-hewn beams, as well as vertical circular-sawn board cladding. Attached to the corn crib on the south is a long open shed with a 20 foot wide open space for parking of cars. This open passage, covered with a tin roof, connects the large corn crib with a storage shed and smaller corncrib.

To the west of and at right angles to the old corncrib is a large two-story nineteenth century stable which stands on heavy hand-hewn sill beams. Its gable roof is covered with green asphalt shingle. A double batten door provides entrance into the north end of the east facade. The main entrance is centered in the south gable end. The substructure rests on piers of concrete and of rough iron-bearing stone. Some boards of the superstructure are circular sawn. 1/1 double hung sash windows light the upper story. A board fence forms a corral around this stable building, and encloses also a twentieth century shed. This shed-roof structure is clad with vertical board siding, has a corrugated tin roof, and opens on the south.

Approximately 200 feet north of the mansion is an eighteenth century octagonal dairy, which was moved, for the purpose of preservation, from the Graden plantation, circa 1 1/2 miles north of Mount Lubentia, in the early 1970s. (All other buildings in the Graden property, including the plantation house, were at that time demolished.) This dairy, a unique surviving example of its type in Prince Georges's County, is about to undergo restoration, and will be relocated on an octagonal brick foundation which has been identified 20 yards north of the Mount Lubentia mansion. The Graden dairy is circa 12 feet in diameter; it has heavy hewn sill beams joined with mortise and tenon. The structure is fully nogged to the eaves, and is clad with wide riven horizontal boards. The door in the south face is constructed of wide vertical boards, and has plain jambs and surround. Unglazed windows have vertical boards-and-batten shutters hanging on original HL hinges. The structure has a deep boxed cornice, and the pyramidal roof is now covered with green asphalt shingles.

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

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Section number 7 Page 6 Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The interior of the dairy exhibits original wooden grillwork; the unglazed windows are filled with riven oak lattice work joined with wrought nails. Hanging from the center of the plaster ceiling is an original interior shelf, constructed of riven boards joined by wooden pegs. The dairy stood from the late eighteenth century as a part of the Graden plantation, a property which was closely related to Mount Lubentia.² During the nineteenth century, Graden was the home of George W. Berry, first cousin of Washington J. Beall of Mount Lubentia.

The complex of buildings at Mount Lubentia is approached by an unpaved drive which runs west from Largo Road. This drive originally formed a circle on the east lawn of the house, but its course was altered in this century. It now bends to the south before reaching the east lawn, then bends west again at the garage, and continues west circa 200 feet to the farm buildings.

Notes:

¹Floor plans drawn in 1936 as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey show the foundations of the original kitchen wing, circa 32 feet from the north elevation of the main block.

²cf. Federal Direct Tax of Prince George's County, 1798, Collington and Western Branch.

8. Significance

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 type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration-settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1798 Builder Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
 Applicable Exceptions: B
 Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

As an elegantly detailed Federal style brick house of grand proportion, Mount Lubentia represents the residence of a successful planter of the late eighteenth century in Prince George's County. It is one of four houses built in the county in this period that were valued at \$1500 or more. Of these four, only Mount Lubentia remains significantly unaltered. Architectural features of particular note include a graceful turned staircase in the entrance hall and elaborately decorated mantels and cabinets in the principal rooms. The other three houses were extensively renovated in the nineteenth century. Also on the property and of significance in and of itself is an octagonal frame dairy which was moved onto the property in the 1970s. The dairy is the best surviving example of an architecturally conscious domestic outbuilding of the eighteenth century in the county and possibly the state.

For History and Support, see Continuation Sheet No. 7.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7 Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The land on which Mount Lubentia stands is part of a tract called Norway which is part of an early tract known as Largo. This land belonged in the mid-eighteenth century to Enoch Magruder and on it stood his dwelling.¹ This house was leased from Magruder by the Reverend Jonathan Boucher while he was Rector of St. Barnabas, 1771-1775. Boucher conducted a school in this house, named by his students "Castle Magruder." His most illustrious pupil during these years was John Parke Custis, stepson of Washington. Washington recorded in his diary several visits to "Castle Magruder" while Jacky was a student there. Boucher, a passionate Tory, sailed to England on the eve of the Revolution, and in 1779, Enoch Magruder conveyed this land, over 900 acres "whereon my dwelling house now stands" to his son, Dennis Magruder; it was Dennis Magruder who built the present house in 1798.²

The Federal Direct Tax of 1798 records a two-story brick dwelling house, 48 by 37 feet, and a brick passage and kitchen adjoining the house 32 feet square. The owner is listed as Dennis Magruder and the occupant, listed as superintendent, Hiram Drane. The tax assessor also noted that "the above dwelling house is not finished inside."³

It is not certain what happened to the older "Castle Magruder" but it is clear that Dennis Magruder was in the process of building the present house in 1798, possibly on the foundations of the earlier house. In any case, the house which he completed at the end of the eighteenth century was a model of Federal style elegance. It had a handsome entrance with fluted pilasters, fanlight and pediment, a wide stairhall and curved staircase, fine carved wooden mantels, and crossetted window and door surrounds throughout the house.

Dennis Magruder, also the owner of Harmony Hall at Broad Creek, was to spend the rest of his life at his Norway plantation. In the summer of 1814, during the British invasion of Washington, his home was the temporary repository for Prince George's County records, carried there for safe keeping before the British soldiers reached Upper Marlboro: "upon an alarm that the enemy was approaching the town of Upper Marlboro, the records and papers were removed by the Register of Wills and the Clerk of the County Court to a house in possession of Dennis Magruder about eight miles from Upper Marlboro."⁴

In 1832 Dennis Magruder deeded to his son, Dennis Magruder, Jr., at the time of his marriage, this plantation "on which are built the family dwelling, barn, stable, corn house, shed and overseer's house, also the garden orchard and meadow, and outhouses attached thereto." Dennis Magruder, Sr., retained for himself a life estate and provided that his wife and daughter should have a home in the dwelling after his death. It was at approximately this time that the plantation began to be called Mount Lubentia, from the Latin meaning "delight." It has retained that name to the present time.⁵

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 8Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Dennis Magruder, Jr., immediately mortgaged the land and within two years, before paying his debt, decided to remove from Prince George's County to the new state of Missouri. His creditors brought suit in Chancery Court and a decree was passed ordering the property sold. Mount Lubentia was sold in June 1835 to the mortgagees, John Contee of nearby Pleasant Prospect and John B. Mullikin, father-in-law of Dennis Magruder, Jr. Dennis Magruder, Sr. and his wife, Mary Ann, continued to live in the Mount Lubentia mansion even after Contee and Mullikin sold the land to DeWit Kent. Kent was the son of Governor Joseph Kent of neighboring Rose Mount.⁶

Dennis Magruder Sr., died in 1836, and his widow remained at Mount Lubentia. In 1839, together with DeWit Kent, she sold her life estate in Mount Lubentia to Otho Berry Beall, her immediate neighbor at "Westphalia" to the south, soon to be related to her by the marriage of her daughter. The next year her daughter, also Mary Ann, married Washington Jeremiah Beall (son of Otho Berry Beall) and the Mount Lubentia plantation of the bride's family became their home.⁷

Washington J. and Mary Ann Beall did not spend all of their married life at Mount Lubentia. In the mid-1850s, they built the Greek Revival style frame house "Woodlawn" on their adjoining property to the southeast, and made it their home. They conveyed the 311-acre Mount Lubentia to their daughter and son-in-law, Rosalie and William John Bowie.⁸

William John Bowie died at a young age at Mount Lubentia in 1886. It is likely that the Victorian porch which shows in the 1895 photograph of Mount Lubentia was built just before his death; his estate file includes a bill by carpenter Erasmus Warring for work on the front porch, paid by widow Rosalie Beall Bowie after her husband's death.⁹ Rosalie Beall Bowie resided at Mount Lubentia until her death in 1921. In 1911, just before his marriage, her son Washington Beall Bowie, undertook several alterations of the house: the raising of the one-and-one-half-story gable-roof kitchen wing to a full two stories with hip roof, and the installation of central hot water heating.¹⁰ Later, circa 1927, the attic of the main block was finished and the two east dormers and cresting were added.

Mount Lubentia still remains in the Bowie family. Forest D. Bowie, son of W. Beall Bowie, was very prominent in the preservation movement in Maryland. He worked on the Historic American Buildings Survey in the 1930s, and was instrumental in the establishment and organization of the Maryland Historical Trust in the 1960s. It is largely through the efforts of Mr. Bowie and his wife that Mount Lubentia has been preserved in its present fine condition.

See Continuation Sheet No. 9

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 9Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

The buildings at Mount Lubentia stand on a 6.69 acre parcel, surveyed for the express purpose of preserving the mansion, its immediate outbuildings and its historic setting. Most of the acreage which belonged to the plantation has been sold off, and residential development is close around it. The house, however, is set back from Largo Road in wooded grounds sheltered by mature trees. At the time of its construction it was one of only four brick mansions in central Prince George's County (Collington and Western Branch Hundreds) which was valued at \$1500 or more.¹¹ Of the other three, only Pleasant Prospect (PG:74A-6) can be compared with Mount Lubentia; new in 1798, Pleasant Prospect (National Register) has, however, been altered by the installation of a Victorian staircase. Concord (PG:75A-1) and Partnership (PG:74A-15), the other two comparable brick houses, differ substantially from Mount Lubentia, Concord (National Register) was constructed circa 1797 but extensively renovated in the mid-nineteenth century. Partnership reflects several building phases from its early Georgian foundation and shell to interior Victorian renovations of the mid-nineteenth century.

A closer parallel is Beall's Pleasure (National Register), five miles northwest of Mount Lubentia, the entrance at Beall's Pleasure is framed by pilasters, fanlight and pediment, the central hall is divided by an elliptical arch, and some of the interior architraves are crossetted; unlike Mount Lubentia, its bricks are laid in common bond, the chimneys are at the gable ends, and the house stands in an area of multifamily residences and industrial zoning.

Mount Lubentia is somewhat later and slightly more subdued in style than the County's elegant late Georgian mansions of the 1780s (Montpelier, His Lordship's Kindness, and Compton Bassett, all National Register). It is an important and rare surviving example of its type, outstanding late eighteenth century domestic architecture with particularly fine Federal style decorative detail. An important element contributing to the significance of the Mount Lubentia property is the Graden dairy. It is a carefully preserved dairy building. The Riven Lattice work is possibly a unique survival in Maryland, and the siding, nogging, shutters and hanging shelf are all significant features.

See Continuation Sheet No. 10 for footnotes.

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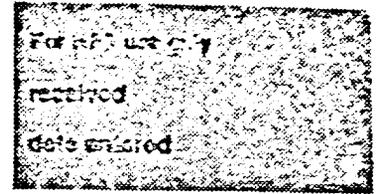
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 10 Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (footnotes)

- ¹Prince George's County Rent Rolls; Prince George's County Deed TT:373.
- ²Prince George's County Deed CC #2:644; Fitzpatrick, John C., The Diaries of George Washington, 4 September 1772, 4 October 1772, 10 October 1772, Boucher, Jonathan, Reminiscences of an American Loyalist, 1925, pp. 74, 75.
- ³Federal Direct Tax, 1798, for Prince George's County, Collington and Western Branch Hundreds.
- ⁴Prince George's County Court Records, 25 June 1814.
- ⁵Prince George's County Deed AB #7:349; Maryland Republican, March 10, 1835; Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1835-1850.
- ⁶Prince George's County Chancery Records B#153:412; Prince George's County Chancery 549; Prince George's County Deeds AB #7:354; and AB #9:406; Maryland Republican, March 10 1835.
- ⁷Prince George's County Deed AB #12:362, 364; Prince George's County Will PC #1:54; Prince George's County Marriage licenses.
- ⁸Prince George's County Deed JWB #1:636.
- ⁹Prince George's County Estate file #1340.
- ¹⁰Letters and photographs of Washington Beall Bowie, 1911, in possession of Bowie family.
- ¹¹Federal Direct Tax for Prince George's County, 1798, Collington and Western Branch Hundreds. The other three surviving buildings are Concord (PG:75A-1) in Capitol Heights, Partnership (PG:74A-15) in Mitchellville, and Pleasant Prospect are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Mount Lubentia Prince George's County, MD Item number 10 Page 11

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Prince George's County Land Records, Book 5546, Pages 148 and 149

Being part of the property acquired by Forrest D. Bowie under the Last Will and Testament of Washington Beall Bowie recorded among the Will Records of Prince George's County, Maryland, in Liber WDA-6 at Folio 284, said property being situated in the Thirteenth (Kent) Election District, being designated as Parcel 33 on Tax Map 75 and being more particularly described as follows:

Being for the same at an iron pipe set where the above referenced property is crossed by the easterly or South 02° 17' 00" East, 661.08 feet outline Parcel C as shown on a plat of subdivision entitled "Plat 2, Lots 1 thru 31, Block A and Parcel C, KINGS CREEK ESTATES", and recorded among the aforesaid land records in Plat Book NLP-109 at Plat 74, the aforesaid iron pipe set being North 02° 17' 00" West, 432.66 feet from the end of said easterly outline; proceeding thence across the subject property herein with said easterly outline reversed.

- (1) North 02° 17' 00" East, 186.34 feet to an iron pipe set, said iron pipe set being South 02° 17' 00" East, 42.08 feet from an iron pipe found marking the beginning of the aforesaid easterly outline of Parcel C; thence crossing the subject property herein for seven new lines of division:
- (2) North 43° 18' 10" East, 226.62 feet to an iron pipe set; thence
- (3) North 80° 04' 58" East, 250.94 feet to an iron pipe set; thence
- (4) South 50° 12' 51" East, 321.62 feet to an iron pipe set; thence
- (5) South 03° 46' 32" East, 209.63 feet to an iron pipe set; thence
- (6) South 43° 55' 30" West, 187.15 feet to an iron pipe set; thence
- (7) South 89° 19' 32" West, 387.83 feet to an iron pipe set; thence
- (8) North 40° 52' 49" West, 211.64 feet to the point of beginning, containing 6.6590 acres if land.

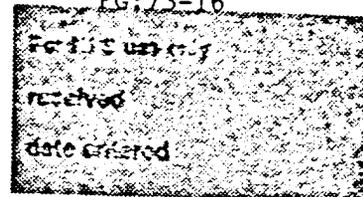
Together with a 30 foot wide right of way for ingress and egress, the centerline of said 30 foot right of way being more particularly described as follows:

Being for the same at a point in the fourth or South 50° 12' 51" East, 321.62 feet course as described above, 47.16 feet from the end thereof, and proceeding thence across the aforementioned property of Forrest D. Bowie (Liber WDA-6, Folio 284) with the following two courses and distances:

- (1) 73.09 feet along the arc of a curve deflecting to the right, said curve having a radius of 100.00 feet and a long chord bearing and distance of North 61° 28' 40" East, 71.47 feet to a point of tangency; thence North 82° 24' 59"

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

PG:73-16



**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet Mount Lubentia Prince George's County, MD Item number 10 Page 12

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (continued)

East, 407.35 feet to a point in the westerly right of way line of Maryland Route 202, Largo Road, 48 feet from and radially opposite Station 287+13 in the Base Line of Right of Way thereof as shown on Maryland State Highway Administration Plat #23487.

Being the land devised under ITEM III of the Last Will and Testament of Forrest Dodge Bowie.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property consists of 6.69 acres, plus a 30-foot right-of-way to Largo Road (Maryland Route 202), all of that parcel of land described in Prince George's County Deed #5546:148. This parcel of land includes the Mount Lubentia mansion and all of the immediate outbuildings to the north, south and southwest, as well as the remnants of the formal garden directly west of the mansion. The property includes all of the knoll on which the mansion stands, and the old trees which frame the mansion; it includes four contributing buildings (the mansion, the corn crib and stable, and the Graden dairy) and one non-contributing building, (the twentieth century garage). The property also includes the unpaved lane which leads west from Largo Road, bends to the south around the east lawn of the mansion, and west again toward the farm buildings. This 6.69 acre parcel was surveyed and deeded for the express purpose of preserving the mansion, its immediate outbuildings, and its historic setting.

9. Major Bibliographical References

PG:73-16

See footnotes under section 8, Continuation Sheet No. 10.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 6.69 acres

Quadrangle name Lanham, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>118</u>	<u>342</u> <u>4210</u>	<u>430</u> <u>51810</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>118</u>	<u>342</u> <u>61510</u>	<u>430</u> <u>1491610</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>118</u>	<u>342</u> <u>2910</u>	<u>430</u> <u>1491910</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Susan G. Pearl, Principal Investigator, Historic Survey Project

organization Historic Preservation Commission
c/o County Planning Division, Rm 4010 date September 1986

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive telephone (301) 952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

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 [Signature] 5-21-87

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For NPS use only

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

Keeper of the National Register date

Attest:
Chief of Registration date

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Mount Lubentia (Norway)

and/or common Mount Lubentia

2. Location

street & number 603 Largo Road (Maryland Route 202) not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro Largo vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's County

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Frances S. Bowie

street & number 601 Largo Road telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro, state and zip code Maryland 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5546

street & number Main Street folio 148

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic American Buildings Survey/Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1936/1974 federal state county local

depository for survey records Library of Congress/Prince George's Co. Historic Preservation Comm.

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #73-16

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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.

Summary Description

Mount Lubentia is a large hip-roof brick dwelling of the Federal style; built ca. 1798 on the foundation of an earlier dwelling, it consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block with a two-story kitchen wing attached on the north. The main block is five bays by four bays, and has entrance in the central bay of the five-bay east facade. The doorway exhibits elegant Federal detail in its fanlight, keystone arch, broken pediment and fluted Ionic pilasters. Interior detail includes particularly fine wooden mantels, crossetted door and window surrounds, and a graceful curved staircase. The immediate grounds of the mansion include a nineteenth century corncrib and stable, and later shed and garage, as well as an eighteenth century octagonal dairy which was moved to its present location from the nearby "Graden" plantation.

Description:

Mount Lubentia is a large hip-roof brick dwelling of the Federal style; it consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block, with a two-story kitchen wing attached on the north. The house stands on a slight knoll, on wooded landscaped grounds, and faces east toward the old Bladensburg-Marlboro Road (Maryland Route 202). West of the house are the remnants of a formal garden.

The main block is five bays by four bays, 48 by 37 feet. Entrance is in the central bay of the five-bay principal east facade, through a door with elegant Federal style detail. The door itself has eight panels, framed by panelled jambs and soffits, and flanked by fluted Ionic pilasters. Above the door is the original fanlight, with seven radiating sections defined by delicately curved muntins. The fan is outlined by a molded arch with keystone, and enclosed by a broken pediment with dentil decoration inside a crown molding. This formal doorway is approached by a stone threshold with convex nosing. Sheltering the three inner bays of the main east facade is a one-story hip-roof porch supported by four Tuscan (wooden) columns; it rests on brick piers. A photograph which dates from before 1895 shows a Victorian porch with jigsaw brackets sheltering the three central bays; it was probably built circa 1883.

The entrance on the west (or garden) facade is similar but less formal; it has identical pilasters, fanlight, and molded arch, but no pediment. Like the formal east entrance, the west entrance is sheltered by as three-bay, one-story hip-roof porch, supported in this case by chamfered posts with capitals and bases. There is a plain balustrade railing on the north and south sides of the porch, brought to Mount Lubentia from nearby Woodlawn, a property owned by the same family in the nineteenth century.

8. Significance

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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1798 **Builder/Architect**

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.

Significance

Mount Lubentia is probably the best example of early Federal style brick architecture in Prince George's County. Built in 1798 by Dennis Magruder on the site and possibly the foundations of "Castle Magruder", it is a classic example of brick domestic architecture with elegant Federal style decorative detail. It is one of four surviving brick buildings constructed before 1800 in central Prince George's County, which were at that time valued at \$1500 or more. It served in 1814 as a temporary repository for County records during the British invasion. Ever since its construction in 1798, it has remained in the same family, passing through six consecutive generations of the Magruder, Beall and Bowie families.

History and Support

Mount Lubentia is probably the finest example in Prince George's County of Federal style brick domestic architecture. It has particularly fine decorative detail in the interior mantels, moldings and stair, and in the enframements of the two principal doorways.

The land on which Mount Lubentia stands is part of a tract called Norway, which itself is part of an early tract known as Largo. This land belonged in the mid-eighteenth century to Enoch Magruder, and on it stood his dwelling.¹ This house was leased from Magruder by Reverend Jonathan Boucher while he was Rector of St. Barnabas, 1771-1775. Boucher conducted a school in this house, christened by his students "Castle Magruder." (His most illustrious pupil during these years was John Parke Curtis, stepson of George Washington. Washington recorded in his diary several visits to "Castle Magruder" while Jacky was a student there. Boucher, a passionate Tory, sailed to England on the eve of the Revolution, and in 1779, Enoch Magruder conveyed this land, over 900 acres "whereon my dwelling house now stands", to his son, Dennis Magruder; it was Dennis Magruder who completely rebuilt the house in 1798.²

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No.P.G. #73-16

Cf. Notes, Item #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 6.69 acres

Tax Map 75, Parcel 11

Quadrangle name Lanham, Section H

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

Cf. metes and bounds

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Principal Investigator, Historic Survey Project		
organization	Historic Preservation Commission	date	September 1986
street & number	c/o County Planning Div., Rm. 4010 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive	telephone	52-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro,	state	Maryland 20772

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

Mount Lubentia is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. It rests on a brick foundation which encloses a full basement, and has a molded water table. Windows are 9/6 on the first story and 6/6 on the second story, double hung sash with narrow beaded surrounds and molded wood sills painted white. The windows are surmounted by gauged-brick flat arches, deeper in the first story than on the second. All windows have louvered shutters, presently removed. The basement has shallow three-pane single-sash windows, with plain wooden lintels and pebble-concrete slab sills.

The hip roof is covered with standing-seam tin painted red, and each plane is pierced by at least one dormer. In the east plane of the roof are two small gable dormers, each with plain flared bargeboards enclosing a 6/6 double-hung sash window. There is one similar dormer in each of the north and south planes of the roof. The largest (and earliest) dormer is centered in the west plane of the roof; it also encloses a 6/6 window. (Photographs dating from circa 1912 and 1918 show only the west dormer; by 1930 the two east dormers had been added, as was the cresting.) There are two wide interior chimneys, one rising from each end of the ridge, and aligned with the second and fourth bays of the long facades. A balustraded "widow's walk" defines the area between the two tall chimneys. The eaves of the hip roof are ornamented with a boxed cornice; with bed and crown molding, beneath which is a plain board frieze painted white.

Interior plan of the main block is a central hall with two spaces on each side: parlor and library on the south, stairhall and dining room on the north. All spaces are decorated with fine Federal style detail, finished circa 1799; the details differ in each space. The central hall runs from front to rear door, but opens in the northeast space with a wide stairhall, dominated by a two-run open-string staircase. The first run of the staircase rises along the west wall of the stairhall and turns 90 degrees onto a landing along its north wall, then turns 90 degrees again and continues the second run along the east wall. The window which lights the stairway (fifth bay of the east facade on second story) has a curved interior surround, to accommodate the turn in the staircase. The staircase has plain railing and plain square balusters, which form a spiral around the slim newel. Stairends are bracketed, and below them is a plain plastered spandrel. On the wall side of the staircase below the rail is panelled wainscoting.

Below the landing on the north wall of the stairhall are two low arched doorways: the easterly leads into a cupboard, and the westerly into a secondary passage into the dining room. The two doors are identical; each has six panels, and its casing consists of fluted pilasters and a molded elliptical arch.

An elliptical arch divides the central hallway, the easterly section of which is part of the stairhall, while the westerly gives access to the library and dining room. The handsome cross-arch divides the hallway immediately west of the foot of the staircase; the arch is highlighted by a molded keystone on each side, and has a panelled soffit. The opening is flanked by fluted pilasters, the capitals of which are embellished with

egg-and-dart molding. The central hallway connects the principal formal (east) entrance to the rear (west) entrance; the framing of these doors is identical on the interior, and highlighted by the delicately molded fan-light and keystone arch.

The doors which lead from the hallway into the living spaces are framed by molded crossetted surrounds. These rooms contain exceptionally fine decorative detail in the Federal style, especially in the wooden mantels, cupboards, and door and window surrounds. The southeast space is highlighted by a mantel in its west (interior) wall, 77 inches wide and 61 inches high, with fluted pilasters, and plain frieze broken by a central projecting panel. The door and window surrounds are crossetted, and the windows have interior shutters. There is a fluted chair-rail below which is plain panelled wainscoting.

The southwest space (library) is highlighted by a more ornate mantel in its east (interior) wall, 88 inches wide and 63 inches tall; it has fluted pilasters with fluted frieze panels, a double fluted panel centered in the frieze, and a dentil molding beneath the molded courses of its cornice. On each side of the mantel is an ornate floor-to-ceiling china cupboard. The fluted pilasters which frame these cupboards carry a full molded entablature with returned cornices. Delicate muntins define geometric-pattern panes in the glazed doors of the cupboards, and curved sections in their arched fanlights; the shelves are scalloped. The doors and windows in this room have molded crossetted surrounds; the windows have panelled soffits and panelled interior shutters. The chair-rail is fluted, but not identical to that in the parlor; below it the wall is lined with molded panels.

The northwest space (dining room) is highlighted by the largest and most ornate of the mantels: 96 inches wide and 66 inches high, in its east (interior) wall. The opening is framed by fluted pilasters with arched fluting in their frieze panels; the frieze is embellished by continuous panels of arched fluting. Next to the mantel (on the south) is a small built-in cupboard with arched molding and keystone. North of the mantel is a door which leads to the basement stairs and connects with the westerly door under the landing of the formal staircase. Doors and windows in the dining room have crossetted surrounds, and have additional flared crossetting (unique to this room) at the floor. The windows have panelled soffits and panelled interior shutters. The pedestal chair-rail has a plain unfluted frieze, and the wall below it is covered with plain panelled wainscoting. A door in the north wall leads through the thick exterior wall into the kitchen, this doorway has panelled soffit and jambs.

There are second-story bedrooms over the southeast, southwest and northwest spaces. Each has a wooden mantel similar to but somewhat plainer than those in the first story rooms. The most ornate is in the southwest bedroom, 85 inches wide and 61 inches high. Its opening is framed by

lished by a projecting fluted panel in the center, and above the frieze is a band of egg-and-dart molding. Only one bedroom, the northwest, has interior shutters; there is a pedestal chair-rail, without wainscot paneling below, throughout the second-story rooms.

The foundation of the main block encloses a full basement. In the northwest space underneath the wide dining room fireplace is a large fireplace which probably served the original kitchen. A 12 inch by 12 inch hand-hewn beam, 96 inches in length, forms the lintel over this fireplace. Heavy hand-hewn joists support the floor above; two diagonal joists in the south half of the basement were installed in this century to reinforce the ceiling structure. The foundation walls are laid in English bond, possibly reused from an earlier structure. A section of the northeast corner, however, is laid in all-stretcher bond, where this section of wall was reconstructed (circa 1880). There is a bulkhead entrance to the basement at the second bay of the south facade.

Extending north from the north facade of the building is a two-story hip-roof kitchen wing, three bays wide, approximately 21 by 18 1/2 feet. Like the main block, the wing is constructed of brick, laid in Flemish bond. Photographs taken before 1895 show that the wing was at that time one-and-one-half stories high, with two dormers in the east plane of its gable roof. The wing was raised to its present two-story height in 1911; the second story bricks are laid in common bond, six stretcher courses to each header course. Entrance is in the central bay of the three bay east facade through a five-panel door with plain board surround and outer molding. Windows are 9/9 double hung sash on the first story, smaller than the windows of the main block; they have narrow surrounds, gauged brick flat arches, and molded wooden sills. Windows of the upper story are 6/6 double hung sash. A one-story hip-roof porch supported by Tuscan columns shelters the east and north facades of the wing; it is enclosed with lattice and screen on the east, and with vertical wainscoting on the north. The hip roof of the wing and porches are covered with standing seam tin painted red. There is an interior brick chimney at the ridge at the north gable end. There is no basement under the wing.¹

Interior of the wing consists of a kitchen space and a small pantry space which was partitioned off and created in the southeast section of the wing in the early twentieth century. A two-flight boxed staircase in the southwest corner of the kitchen leads to two small bedrooms on the second story. The two westerly windows of the kitchen have interior shutters. In the north wall of the kitchen is a Federal style wooden mantel, considerable plainer than those in the main block. It has crossetted shoulders and plain frieze; above the frieze is a course of incised decoration in the shape of lower case i's.

Mount Lubentia has a complex of farm buildings. Southeast of the house, on high ground south of the unpaved drive is a gable-roof (twentieth century) shed, once used as a garage; it is sided with vertical board, has a corrugated metal roof, and rests on stone piers. Entrance is into a double door in its west gable end.

Southwest of the house is a tall gable-roof (nineteenth century) corncrib, built before 1895, and incorporating heavy hand-hewn beams, as well as vertical circular-sawn board cladding. Attached to the corn crib on the south is a long open shed with a 20 foot wide open space for the parking of cars. This open passage, covered with a tin roof, connects the large corn crib with a storage shed and smaller corncrib.

To the west of and at right angles to the old corncrib is a large two-story (nineteenth century) stable which stands on heavy hand-hewn sill beams. Its gable roof is covered with green asphalt shingle. A double batten door provides entrance into the north end of the east facade. The main entrance is centered in the south gable end; above the south door is a iron plaque depicting a running horse. The substructure rests on piers of concrete and of rough iron-bearing stone. Some boards of the superstructure are circular sawn. 1/1 double hung sash windows light the upper story. A board fence forms a corral around this stable building, and encloses also a twentieth century shed. This shed-roof structure is clad with vertical board siding, has a corrugated tin roof, and opens on the south.

[North of the house is an eighteenth century octagonal dairy, which was moved from the old "Graden" plantation in the 1970's. The owner's intent is to place this dairy on an octagonal foundation which has been identified 20 yards northeast of the house at Mt. Lubentia. The Graden dairy has heavy sill beams joined with mortise and tenon, and now rests on Steel I beams. Its structure includes brick nogging. It is clad with wide riven horizontal boards. The door in the south face is constructed of wide vertical boards, and has plain jambs and surrounds. Unglazed windows have vertical boards hanging on HL hinges. The structure has a deep boxed cornice, and its pyramidal roof is covered with green asphalt shingles.]

The complex of buildings at Mt. Lubentia is approached by an unpaved drive which runs west from Largo Road. This drive originally formed a circle on the east lawn of the house, but its course was altered in this century. It now bends to the south before reaching the east lawn, then bends west again at the garage, and continues west circa 200 feet to the farm buidings.

Notes:

1 Floor plans drawn in 1936 as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey show the foundations of the original kitchen wing, circa 32 feet from the north elevation of the main blocks.

The Federal Direct Tax of 1798 records a two-story brick dwelling house; 48 by 37 feet, and a brick passage and kitchen adjoining the house 32 feet square. The owner is listed as Dennis Magruder and the occupant (superintendent) Hiram Drane. The tax assessor also noted that "the above dwelling house is not finished inside."³

It is not certain what happened to the older "Castle Magruder", but it is clear that Dennis Magruder was in the process of building the present house in 1798, probably on the foundations of the earlier house. In any case, the house which he completed at the end of the eighteenth century was a model of Federal style elegance; it had a handsome entrance with fluted pilasters, fanlight and pediment, a wide stairhall and curved staircase, fine carved wooden mantels, and crossetted window and door surrounds throughout the house.

Dennis Magruder was to spend the rest of his life at his Norway plantation. In the summer of 1814, during the British invasion of Washington, his home was the temporary repository for Prince George's County records, carried there for safe keeping before the British soldiers reached Upper Marlboro: "upon an alarm that the enemy was approaching the town of Upper Marlboro, the records and papers were removed by the Register of Wills and the Clerk of the County Court to a house in possession of Dennis Magruder about eight miles from Upper Marlboro."⁴

In 1832 Dennis Magruder deeded to his son of the same name this plantation "on which are built the family dwelling, barn, stable, corn house, shed and overseer's house, also the garden orchard and meadow, and out-houses attached thereto." Dennis Magruder, Sr., retained for himself a life estate, and provided that his wife and daughter should have a home in the dwelling after his death.⁵ Magruder died in 1836; his widow remained in the house, and in 1839, sold the plantation to Otho Berry Beall, her immediate neighbor at "Westphalia" to the south, and soon to be related to her by the marriage of her daughter. The next year her daughter, Mary Ann, married Washington Jeremiah Beall (son of Otho Berry Beall) and the Norway plantation of the bride's family became their home.⁶ It was at approximately this time that the plantation began to be called Mount Lubentia, from the Latin meaning "delight". It has retained that name to the present time.⁷

Washington J. and Mary Ann Beall did not spend all of their married life at Mount Lubentia; circa 1858, they built the Greek Revival style frame house "Woodlawn" on their adjoining property to the southeast, and made it their home; they conveyed the 311-acre Mount Lubentia to their daughter and son-in-law, Rosalie and William John Bowie.⁸

William John Bowie deed at a young age at Mount Lubentia in 1886. It is likely that the Victorian porch which shows in an 1895 photograph of Mount Lubentia, was built just before his death; his estate file includes a bill by carpenter Erasmus Warring for work on the front porch, paid by

widow Rosalie Beall Bowie after her husband's death.⁹ Rosalie Beall Bowie resided at Mount Lubentia until her death in 1921. In 1911, just before his marriage, her son, Washington Beall Bowie, undertook several alterations of the house: the raising of the one-and-one-half-story gable-roof kitchen wing to a full two stories with hip roof, and the installation of central hot water heating.¹⁰ Later, circa 1927, the two east dormers and the cresting were added on the main block.

Today, Mount Lubentia is still owned by the family of Washington Beall Bowie's son. Most of the acreage which belonged to the plantation has been sold off, and residential development is close around it. The house, however, is set back from Largo Road in wooded grounds sheltered by mature trees. At the time of its construction it was one of only four brick mansions in central Prince George's County (Collington and Western Branch Hundreds) which was valued at \$1500 or more; today it is still an outstanding example of late eighteenth century domestic architecture with particularly fine Federal style decorative detail.

Notes:

1 Prince George's County Rent Rolls; Prince George's County Deed TT:373.

2 Prince George's County Deed CC #2:644; Fitzpatrick, John C., The Diaries of George Washington, 4 September 1772, 4 October 1772, 10 October 1772. Boucher, Jonathan, Reminiscences of an American Loyalist, 1925, pp. 74, 75.

3 Federal Direct Tax, 1798, for Prince George's County, Collington and Western Branch Hundreds.

4 Prince George's County Court Records, 25 June 1814.

5 Prince George's County Deed AB #7:349.

6 Prince George's County Deed AB #12:364; Prince George's County Will PC #1:54; Prince George's County Marriage licenses.

7 Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1840-1850.

8 Prince George's County Deed JWB #1:636.

9 Prince George's County Estate file #1340.

10 Letters and photographs of Washington Beall Bowie, 1911, in possession of Bowie family.

(11/5/79)

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 73-16 Date c.1760 and c.1798
Building Name Mount Lubentia
Location 603 Largo Road (Rte.#202) Upper Marlboro, Largo vicinity
Open to Public yes no

Mount Lubentia is a brick house laid in Flemish bond, two-and one-half stories high, five bays wide, with two large interior chimneys at the ridge aligned with the second and fourth bays. The hip roof is covered with tin, and, in this century, has been ornamented with a balustraded "widow's walk" and two small dormers on the east slope. The doorway on the east front has a fanlight with delicately curved muntins, beneath a moulded round arch supported by paneled pilasters. The west doorway is similar.

The wing to the north is two stories high, three bays wide, and hip-roofed, with one interior chimney centered in the north end wall. Photographs before 1900 show the wing to be 1½ stories high, with a gable roof and two dormers.

The measurements of the main block of the present house are the same as those in the 1798 federal tax list, 48' x 37', "...not finished inside..!", with adjoining kitchen, valued at \$1500. Construction details indicate that the present building incorporates an older structure.

Mount Lubentia was built by the Magruder family, and in 1772 and 1773 was the home of Jonathan Boucher, the fiery Tory rector who preached (with loaded pistols close at hand) at St. Barnabas Church in 1775. George Washington visited Mount Lubentia during the time that his step-son, Jackie Custis, was studying with Boucher.

In 1814, as British troops threatened Annapolis and Upper Marlboro, State records were stored at Mount Lubentia. The estate later passed from the Magruders to the Beall family, and then to the Bowie family, in whose hands it remains today.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

P.G. #73-16

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Mount Lubentia

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER* 603 Largo Road

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro VICINITY OF Largo CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 5th

STATE Maryland COUNTY P.G.

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Forrest D. Bowie heirs Telephone #: 336-4554

STREET & NUMBER 601 Largo Road

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro VICINITY OF Largo STATE, zip code Md. 20715

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC P.G. County Courthouse

Liber #: Admin. papers: Folio #: #13561

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE HABS

DATE 1936 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

PG:73-16

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

Mount Lubentia is located on the west side of historic Bladensburg-Marlboro Road (Md.202) about 1½ miles south of Central Avenue (Md.214). It is a brick house laid in Flemish bond, two and one-half stories high, five bays wide, with two large interior chimneys at the ridge aligned with the second and fourth bays. The hip roof is covered with tin, and in this century has been ornamented with a balustraded "widow's walk" and two small dormers on the east slope. The main entrance on the east front is protected by a one story, three bay porch. The doorway has a fanlight with delicately curved numtins, beneath a moulded round arch supported by paneled pilasters. The west doorway is similar. The wing to the north is two stories high, three bays wide, ^{and} hip-roofed; one interior chimney is centered in the north end wall. There is a one story screened porch across the entire east facade of the wing. Photographs made before 1900 show the wing to be 1½ stories high and a gable roof with two dormers.

The measurements of the main block of the present house are the same as those in the 1798 federal tax list, 48' x 37', "not finished inside...", with adjoining kitchen, valued at \$1500. Only four other houses in Collington Hundred were valued at over \$1000. Construction details indicate that the present building incorporates an older structure.

No old outbuildings remain. There is a family cemetery northeast of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PG:73-16

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

SPECIFIC DATES c.1760 and c.1798 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Until recent years there were several historic houses in the immediate vicinity of Largo; today, only Mount Lubentia remains. It was built by the Magruder family, probably in two distinct stages. Just before Christmas of 1771, Reverend Jonathan Boucher, recently appointed rector of Queen Anne's parish, moved into Mount Luentia; it was here that he conducted a school for several young men, including Jackie Custis, step-son of George Washington. The house came to be known by the students as "Castle Magruder". On at least two occasions in 1772 and 1773, George Washington visited Boucher at "Castle Magruder".

In 1814, as British troops threatened Annapolis and Upper Marlboro, State records were stored at Mount Lubentia. The estate later passed from the Magruders to the Beall family, and then to the Bowie family, in whose hands it remains today.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

P.G.Co. Deeds: #D:83; #F:51; CC#2:644; AB#7:349.

Federal Direct Tax, 1798. P.G.Co. Wills: T#1:238; TT#1:28.

P.G.Co. Inventory: PC#3:239.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Margaret W. Cook

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE

October 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

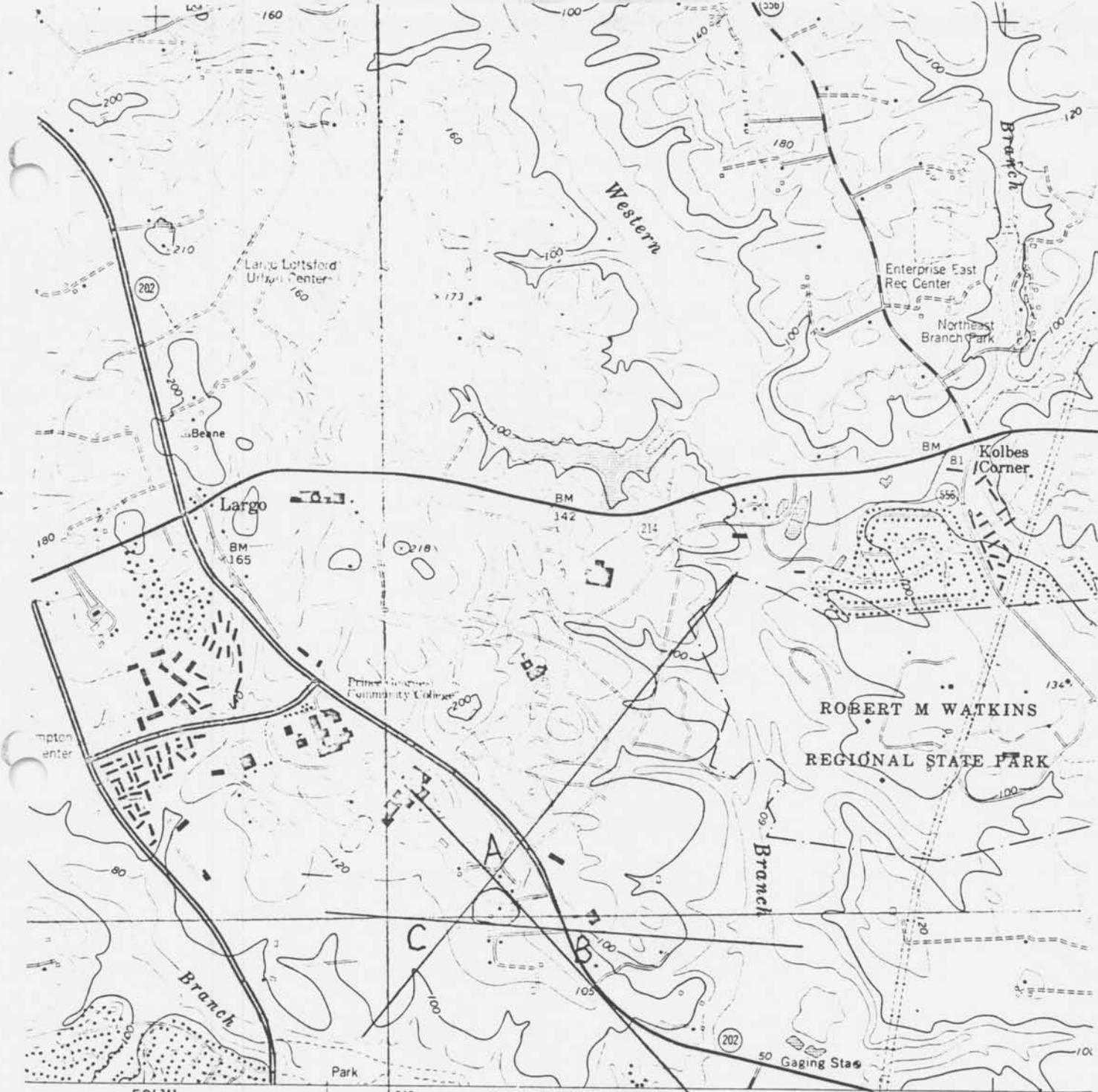
Riverdale, Md.

STATE

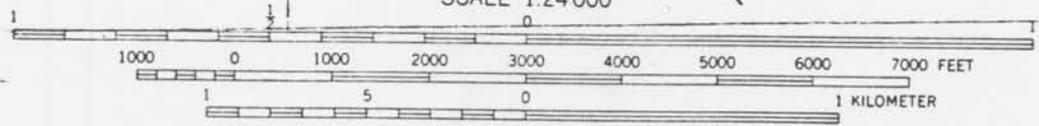
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



(UPPER MARLBORO) 5661 IV SE
 SCALE 1:24 000
 0.7 MI. TO MD. 556
 UPPER MARLBORO 4.9 MI.



1" = 10 MILES

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

Mount Lubentia
 Prince Georges Co.

PG: 73-16

- A 18/342420/4305180
- B 18/342650/4304960
- C 18/342290/4304990

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in pt
 taken 1977 and other
 not field checked. A
 Boundary lines shown
 information available

Maryland

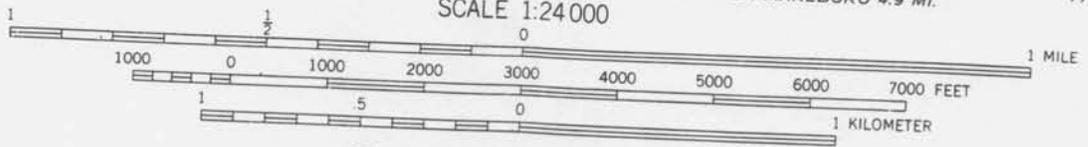
MAGNETIC NORTH
 CENTER OF SHEET



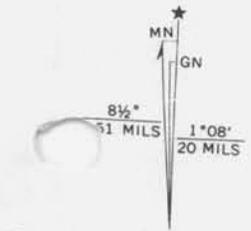
PG: 73-16
 Mount Lubentia
 (Norway)
 Lanham Quad, 1965, PR 1979

(UPPER MARLBORO)
 5661 IV SE
 SCALE 1:24 000

0.7 MI. TO MD. 556
 UPPER MARLBORO 4.9 MI.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



UTM GRID AND 1979 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in
 1977



PG#-73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
West elevation of wing
Neg. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
West elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Northeast 3/4 elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
South elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



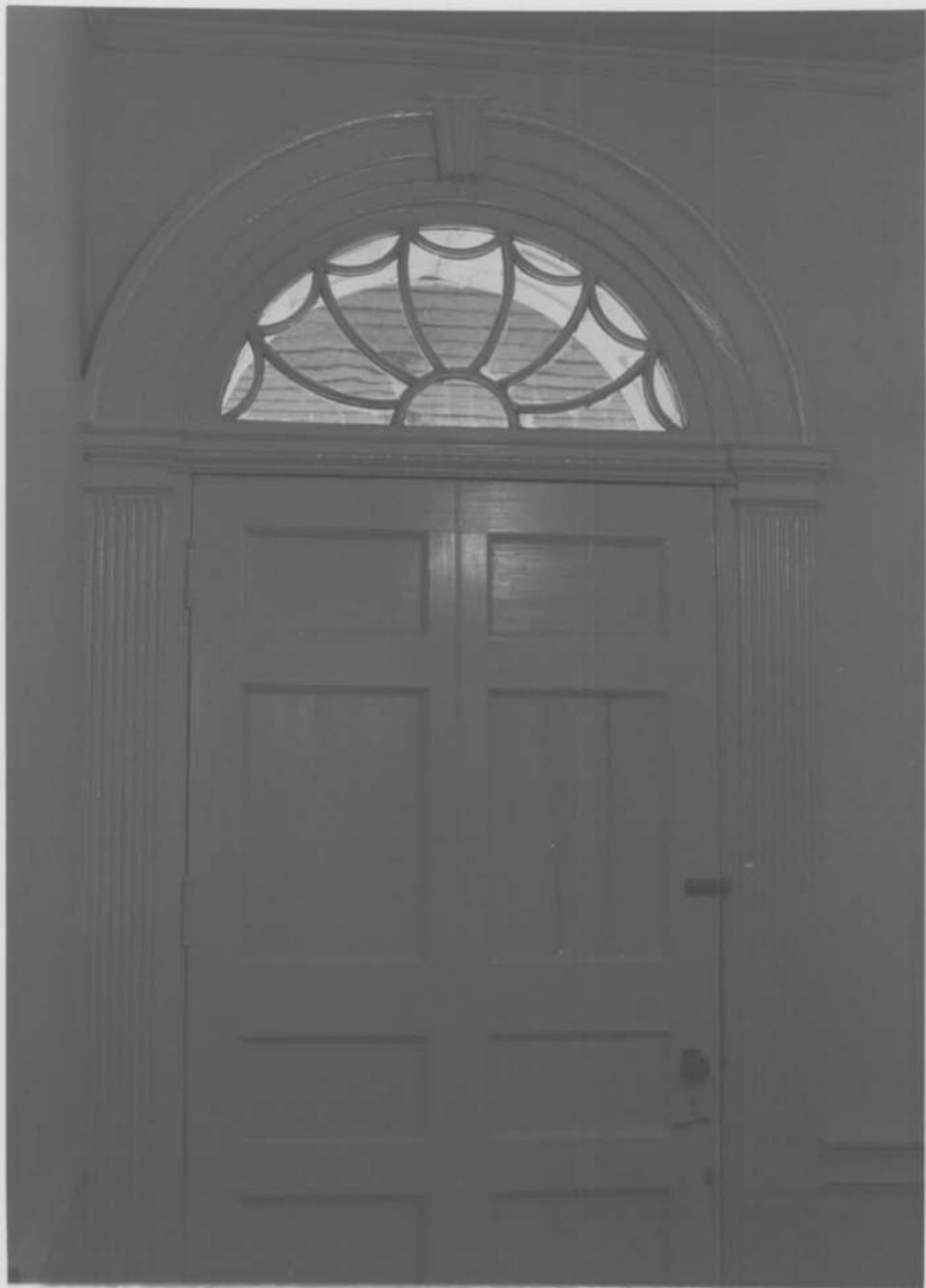
PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Southwest parlor mantel
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
East entrance
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Interior, west (rear) entrance
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Staircase
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Southeast parlor mantel
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
East cupboard door, stairhall
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust. Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Southwest parlor, china cupboard
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Shed & corn crib from east
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Stable, corn crib, shed, from
Southwest
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
Febraary 1986
Dining room door surround
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Dining room mantel
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Stable from east
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Graden Dairy, west elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#73-16

Mount Lubentia
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
February 1986
Graden Dairy, south elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD

3