

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. ^{AC:} 66-37-39
Magi No.
DOE ___ yes ___ no

Maryland Historic Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)
historic The Nydeger House
and/or common

2. Location
Street & number: 4806 Harvard Road x not for publication
City, town: The City of College Park ___ vicinity of 5th Cong. District
State: Maryland County Prince George's County

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	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial ___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military ___ other:

1. Owner of Property (give names and mailing address of all owners)
Name: Ed and Dora Kennedy
Street & number: 4806 Harvard Road Telephone no: 301-277-9081
City, town: The City of College Park State & zip code: Maryland, 20740

5. Location of Legal Description
Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Located in Marlborough, MD Liber
Street & number folio
City, town State

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys: None
Title
Date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local
Depository for survey records
City, town State

7. Description

96.
Survey No. 66-37-39

Condition		Check One	Check One	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

The Kennedy's house located on 4806 Harvard Road was constructed of double-brick walls and real plaster, known as wet-wall plaster. The house was floored with maple, and remains in excellent condition today. From the front of the house, the front door is situated behind a porch that is located close to the right side of the house. Though the porch was originally constructed as an open-air space, the original owner of the house, Mr. Nydeger, glassed-in the porch making it a winterized room. Walking through the front door leads one to the living room, with a dining room off to the left. The dining room space was originally the house's kitchen space, but Mr. Nydeger added a kitchen onto the right side of the house. The installation of the new kitchen, which is accessed from the new dining room by a door cut into the original wall, is the major structural change that the house has undergone.

Also on the first floor, behind the living room is a small hall that has stairs to its immediate left that lead down to the basement. To the back right of the hall is a small bedroom with a full bathroom in front of the bedroom, also located off the hallway. The master bedroom resides in the back of the house to the far-left, again located off of the hallway.

The basement is a large space that is separated into two spaces by the staircase leading down to the basement. A working bathroom with a sink and toilet resides in the back right-hand corner of the basement.

The upstairs or second floor is a large attic space that is used as a third bedroom and as storage space. The Kennedys installed new walls in the attic, but no structural changes have ever been made to the attic.

Viewing the first floor of the house from the front yard, the house has one original window on its front, and four new windows in the winterized porch. Additionally, two new windows are located on the right and left sides of the new winterized porch. Moreover, two new windows, replacing the old windows with walls, are located on the front and right sides of the new kitchen. The small bedroom and the master bedroom on the first floor each have windows that face the back yard. The attic has a window looking to the front yard and another looking to the back yard of the house.

The house has a small front yard and a larger back yard upon which a winterized work room and small garage stand. The house has no chimney and very little closet space.

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/humanitarian	
<input 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 checked="" 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			

Specific dates:

Builder/Architect:

Check:

Applicable Criteria:

A B C D

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. PC: 66-37-39

The Kennedys' house at 4806 Harvard Road was built in 1938-1939 as part of a five-house development scheme. Mr. Nydeger was the original owner of the house, and the Kennedys bought the house from him in 1970, moving into the house in March of that year. The Kennedys have stated that they purchased their house for approximately \$27,500. Located adjacent to one another, each of the houses in this five-house development plan were built between 1938 and 1940 after Elmore Powers sold part of his land for development. The area was then known as the Elmore Powers Subdivision. All of the five houses were erected by the same vernacular builder, and all were constructed based upon the same design plan. Though small-sized homes, each of the five houses have front and back yards. Furthermore, each lot is approximately one quarter of an acre large. The Kennedys lot is 150 feet deep and 50 feet wide making it a quarter of an acre lot.

Regarding the integrity of the 4806 Harvard Road house, the house's integrity may have been jeopardized by the construction of the new kitchen. However, the 4804 Harvard Road house, located next door to the Kennedys' 4806 Harvard Road house and also part of the five-house development scheme, remains in its original form. Therefore, the 4804 Harvard Road house could act as a design guide to the 4806 Harvard Road house if a restoration ever transpired.

The 4806 Harvard Road house maintains local significance not as an individual resource, but as part of the five-house development plan. Together the five houses reveal a smaller house building trend that grew out of the legacy of the Great Depression. The five-house plan is also an example of lower middle-class suburban development immediately preceding the suburban building boom that occurred after World War Two. As Kenneth Jackson has explained, between 1929 and 1933 there was very little suburban development, so the five-house development scheme on Harvard Road was part of a new phase in suburban development. As described by Virginia and Lee McAlester, "minimal traditional" homes, the category that the 4806 Harvard Road house falls under, sprouted as part of large tract-housing developments during the years immediately preceding and following World War Two. The McAlesters also note that "with the economic Depression of the 1930s came this compromise style which reflects the form of traditional Eclectic houses, but lacks their decorative detailing." (p. 478) The houses are also representative of the "simpler" house design and the so-called Comfortable House design, as opposed to the Victorian house design, that were both first popularized at the beginning of the twentieth century.

PG:

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9. Major Bibliographic References

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.
 Ark, Clifford Edward. *The American Family Home: 1800-1900*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1986.
 Jackson, Kenneth. *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*. NY: Oxford University Press, 1985.
 Gowans, Alan. *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1986.
 Brooke Orr's personal interview with Dora and Edward Kennedy, March 8, 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: one quarter of an acre
 Quadrangle Scale: 150 feet deep, 50 feet wide Quadrangle Scale _____
 UTM References: (do not complete UTM references)

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

State	Code	County	Code
State	Code	County	Code

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Brooke Orr, Graduate Student at The George Washington University
 Organization: GWU's Historic Preservation Class, History 278 Date: 3-23-98
 Street & Number: 1921 Kalorama Road, N.W. Telephone: 202-319-3156
 City/Town: Washington, D.C. State: DC

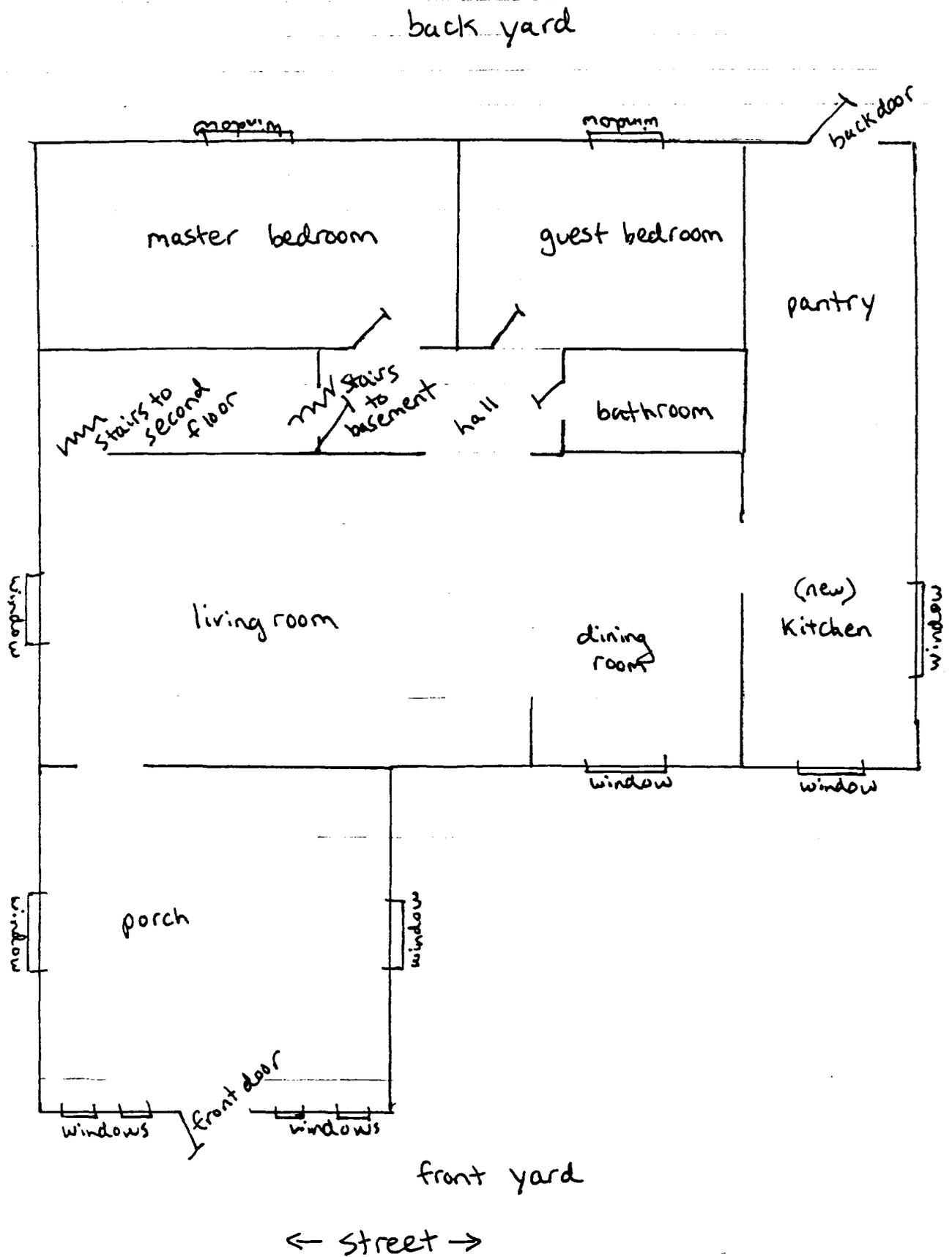
The Maryland Historical Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are 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, MD
 21401
 (301) 269-2438

4806 Harvard Road
First Floor

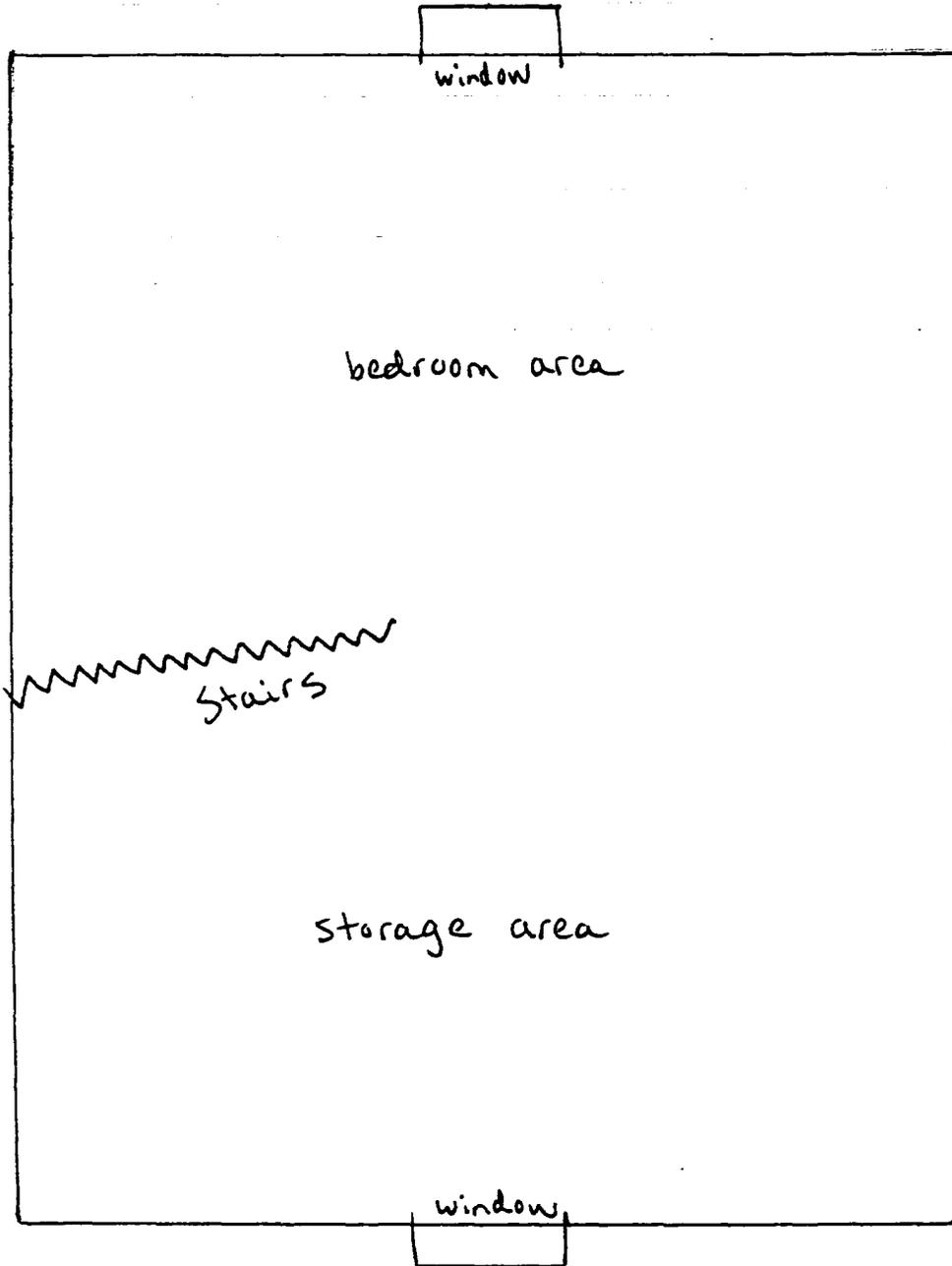
Shed and garage PG: 66-32-39



4806 Harvard Road
Second Floor

PG: 66-37-39

back yard



front yard

← street →

4806 Harvard Road

PF: 66-37-39

