

AA-134

## Evergreen, (Parson's Hills, The Peale)

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 06-11-2004***

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-05-19-0002	DATE 5/15/69

1. NAME

COMMON: Evergreen AA-134

AND/OR HISTORIC: Parson's Hills (The Peale)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Sudley Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
West River

STATE Maryland 20881	CODE 19	COUNTY: Anne Arundel	CODE 003
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:  
James Clement Cawood, Jr. & wife, Katherine Kelly Cawood

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Sudley Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
West River

STATE:  
Maryland 20881

CODE  
19

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Anne Arundel County Court House, records Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Church Circle

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE:  
Maryland 21401

CODE  
19

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4.84 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P. O. Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE:  
Maryland 21404

CODE  
19

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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COUNTY: Anne Arundel  
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DATE: 5/15/69  
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## 7, DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Evergreen is located on the west side of the road from Owensville to Sudley P.O. two miles south and east of Route Maryland 255.

The white, clapboard house is built in three sections, one room deep with varied floor levels. The overhang is at the belt course level.

Each section has its own staircase. Part of the oldest section was removed and the cellar filled in.

One room on the second floor can be entered from a window only. There are seven entrance doors. The seven fireplaces are in good condition.

In 1960 the front and garden porches were enclosed with jalousies soon to be removed to restore to the original appearance.

The kitchen building was originally detached. In the 1950's it was connected to the main house by a section into which was put a modern kitchen.

Most of the panelling and the hardware is original.

A detached smokehouse and workshop, in poor condition, were combined into a stable in 1967. The old milkhouse, also detached, has been restored.

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#7. DESCRIPTION

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Evergreen

Evergreen is a two-and-a-half-story, white frame home on a high knoll facing east. It is generally 22 feet deep and 82 feet overall length. Successive generations of owners have built large, comfortable sections to the home, and three such sections are readily seen from the east view.

Examination of the woodwork, trim, and moldings is the most obvious indication of age and style throughout this house. There is much basic woodwork here to indicate period, although frequently overlaid with additions and remodelings. The earliest woodwork appears to date from the second and third quarters of the eighteenth century, and is found in the south section of the house. The mid-section is of similar period and both are termed "colonial" in style. The last, north section which measures 22 feet by 28 feet is in the late Federal style and confirms the building date, 1853, assigned to this section by the owners.

A wide veranda extends across the east front of Evergreen, sheltering the second and third sections of the house. A gabled roof extends across the same two sections with the ridge running north and south. Brick chimneys flank this ridge. The north chimney, of the north room, of salmon pink, paste brick, juts six inches and 5½ feet broad from the weatherboard end wall, rising for two stories above the bed chamber fireplace. Then it recedes, underneath the weatherboarding of the gable end and pierces the roof again at the end of the ridge.

As seen from the east, the earliest section, the south end of the house, measures 24 feet, and is covered with 17-inch lapped siding with beaded edge.

A simple box cornice above the first floor gives evidence that this earliest section was one story. Where the new siding commences, laid over remnants of the old, a bulge indicates the shape of the framing of the gambrel roof that was there. Today the section has a second story.

There is a six-panel front door on the east elevation entering the earliest section stairhall, eight by fifteen feet. This stairhall has four doors, each with six fielded panels, H-L hinges, iron locks with small brass knobs. The staircase has a closed string course and an exceptionally low baluster with square rails only 18 inches high.

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Evergreen

#7. DESCRIPTION (Continued)

A nub of a room on the extreme south end is ten by twelve feet and served Dr. Martin Fenwick, an eighteenth-century owner and country doctor, as his office. It has its small, south porch entry, and where that exterior wall of the office is encompassed by the porch it is stuccoed. A pair of wood benches flank this entrance.

The mid-section of Evergreen, 20 feet by 22 feet, with three bays of windows across the east, is two-and-a-half stories and contains a library 15 feet by 16 feet, as well as the dining room which has a two-piece chair rail and a late eighteenth-century style mantel. A stair passage flanks the west side of the dining room out of sight. This stair-case serves the principal access to the upper floor after this "newer" section was built. The stair rail is of pine; it is round and plain. An upper passage, several small rooms and a large comfortable bed chamber are over the dining room section. This chamber has doors with six fielded-panels, and H-L hinges. It has a simple, late eighteenth-century mantel and wide, pine floor boards. A six-panel door opens, from the central hall, directly onto a vista of the west lawn which falls steeply, usually at thirty degrees, sometimes at a sixty-degree slope to a wooded ravine watered by Tracey's Creek.

The north section of the house is late Federal-style period, reputedly built in 1853. The east entrance has a pair of wide, paneled, doors with a six-pane transom. The front hall 10 feet by 22 feet and a comfortable stair-case rise three levels to the attic. The north room is 18 feet by 22 feet with two windows looking east and two windows overlooking the west lawn. A handsome mid-nineteenth-century mantel of soft, feathery, grey-colored marble, cut in rectangular slabs, distinguishes this room.

The stair rail of the north hall is a plain, round pattern, with slender spindles for rails and slim, turned newels. There is an open hall and one bed chamber on the second floor of this section.

West, behind the south section hall, and the library, two steps below, are two cell rooms under a shed roof, all of early period. One cell room is now a bathroom.

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Evergreen

#7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

A six-panel door with flush, beaded panels has one-inch stiles and opens between these cell rooms. Their corner fireplaces shared a common chimney built immediately behind the library wall. The unaltered cell room, 9 feet by 15 feet, has an eighteenth-century mantel shelf and piece, 3 feet 11 inches wide and 4 feet 7½ inches high; and a two-piece chair rail, and a baseboard with simple beaded edge.

A nineteenth-century cookhouse 12 feet by 16 feet, with board siding and a steep roof extends behind the west facade of the dining room. The connecting passage has been replaced recently by a modern kitchen. Its large chimney is of soft salmon color brick, with corbeled haunches, and a wood interior lintel spans the cooking fireplace which has an iron crane and utensils; also exposed ceiling joists which measure four inches by five inches.

Unusually large tree box and-boxwood bushes, tall hemlock, oak and maple trees shade five acres of lawns.

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian  16th Century  18th Century  20th Century   
 15th Century  17th Century  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Land surveyed in 1663 for Thomas Parsons was known as "Parson's Hills" until 1816. It was believed that Gerrard Hopkins, progenator of Johns Hopkins, owned the estate before 1700.

Dr. Martin Fenwick purchased the property in 1816. A prominent planter and physician from St. Mary's County, his medical office still stands and is now used as a law office. The name of the property was changed to its present name by Dr. Fenwick.

In 1862 masses were said at Evergreen before the erection of the first Our Lady of Sorrow Church (Catholic) in nearby Owensville, Maryland, in 1866. Most of the owners of the home have been Catholics. The present owner is a direct descendant of John Carroll, the first Catholic Bishop in the United States, who founded Georgetown University in the District of Columbia.

Evergreen remained in the Fenwick family until 1937 when Dr. Charles G. Fenwick, a noted author and lecturer sold it to Mr. & Mrs. William H. Brooke. Mr. Brooke's ancestor, Robert Brooke, imported the first pack of foxhounds to Maryland in 1650. Mr. Brooke is an uncle of Mr. James Cawood, the present owner.

Dr. Charles G. Fenwick established an estate in Baltimore which he called "Evergreen" in honor of his family homestead which later became the campus of Loyola College.

Landscape architects have visited Evergreen to measure and copy the terraced gardens. Many old hemlocks, maples, tulips, poplars and boxwood surround the house.

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Evergreen

#8. SIGNIFICANCE

Martin Fenwick, a physician, came to Evergreen from St. Mary's County in 1816, under contract with several landholders of the Herring Creek and West River neighborhoods, to provide medical services.

The first of the Fenwick name in Maryland was Cuthbert Fenwick, an ancestor of Dr. Martin Fenwick, who came with Lord Baltimore in 1634, married an Indian princess, and settled down in St. Mary's County as a jurist.

The ownership of Evergreen passed by marriage to the Donaldsons. Dr. Fenwick's daughter, Harriet Fenwick, was married in 1845 to Edward Donaldson. Evergreen was inherited by their daughter, Harriet Fenwick Donaldson, who lived there until her death (c. 1939). The place was then sold out of the family to William Brooke. Edward Donaldson was born in Baltimore November 17, 1816, the son of John J. and Caroline Dorsey Donaldson. His mother was descended from Edward Dorsey of Essex County, England, who came to America in 1663 and received a grant of 2000 acres near Annapolis.

Edward Donaldson was appointed Midshipman, U. S. Navy, July 21, 1835. Until 1838, he cruised in the West Indies. In 1839-40, he was attached to the "Columbia" of the East India Squadron and took part in the attacks on forts on the Coast of Sumatra. He completed his Midshipman training in June 1841. In 1847 he became Lieutenant, U. S. Navy, and until 1860 saw duty aboard the "Dolphin," "Waterwitch," the "Merrimac" and special shore duty.

In 1860, Donaldson served aboard the "San Jacinto," cruising on the African Coast, and in 1861 he was stationed in the naval rendezvous in Philadelphia. He commanded the gunboat "Sciota" of the West Gulf Squadron and participated in the capture of New Orleans and the attack on Vicksburg. He was commissioned a commander July 1862. In 1864, he became executive officer of the Keystone State in the search for the Confederate cruiser "Sumter" in West Indian waters. Later, the same year, he commanded the "Seminole" in the Battle of Mobile Bay. July 1866 saw him promoted to Captain. He commanded the receiving ship at Philadelphia 1866-8. From 1868 to 1871 he served

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Evergreen

#8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and was subsequently Commandant at the Naval Station at Mound City, Illinois. He was promoted to Commodore in September 1871, Rear Admiral in September 1876, and a few days later, at his own request, he was retired after 41 years on the active-duty list.

He died in Baltimore May 15, 1889. He and his wife are buried at Christ Church, West River, about two miles from Evergreen.

The Fenwicks were of the Catholic faith and their influence must have lasted through the Civil War period. In 1862, Father Adrian Vans de Braak, of the Redemptorist Order, from St. Mary's Church in Annapolis, visited the West River neighborhood. He found the Fenwick family quite willing to form the nucleus of a new missionary parish. Hence masses were said at Evergreen for several years until Our Lady of Sorrows Church was built in the village of Owensville in 1866. The parish is bursting with members today, having started a century ago from a mere handful of worshipers. The people of this neighborhood were originally predominantly Methodist and Episcopalian, evolved from the Quaker Community.

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Evergreen

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Army-Navy Journal, Volume 26, pp. 779

National Cyclopedia of American Biography, Volume IV,  
pp. 342; James T. White & Company, New York, 1902.

Notable Americans, A Biographical Dictionary; Boston  
Biographical Society, 1904.

Appleton's Cyclopedia of American Biography, Volume II,  
pp. 197, D. Appleton Company, New York, 1887

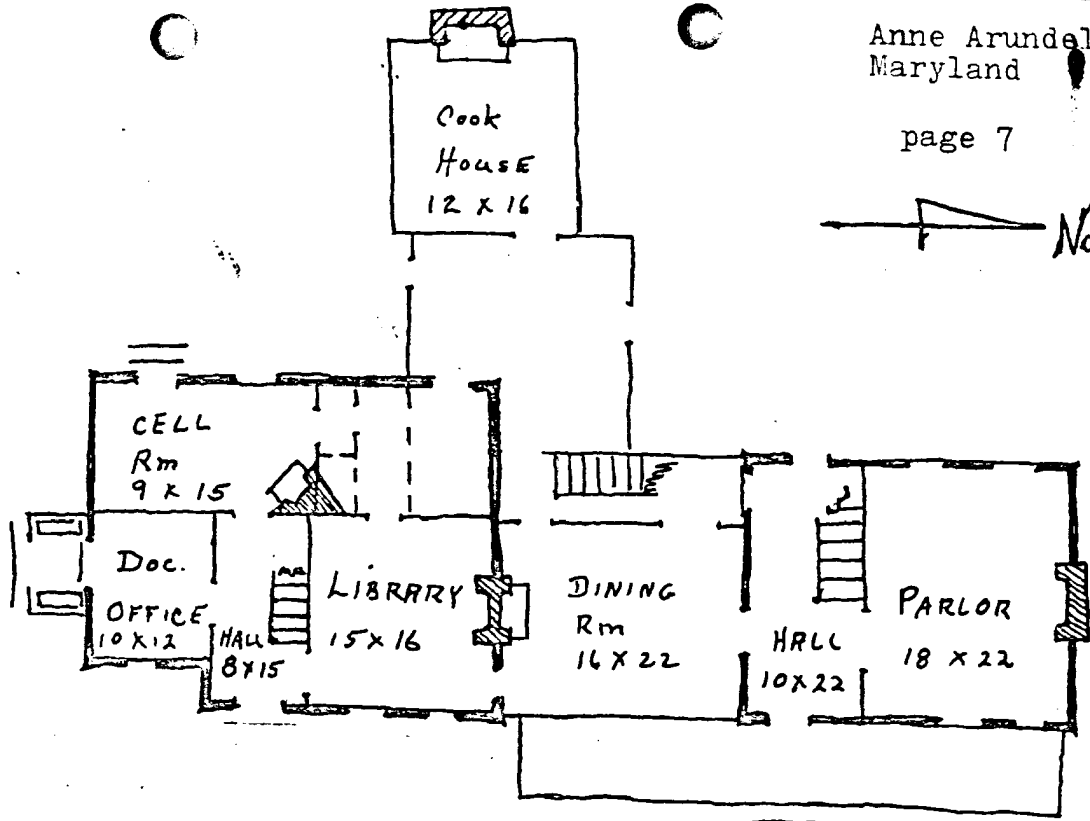
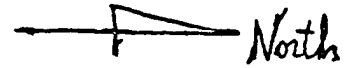
A Centenary For Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Owensville,  
Maryland, 1866-1966 by Francis X Welch, pp. 16-17.

#12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Orlando Ridout IV

Orlando Ridout IV  
State Liaison Officer for Maryland  
National Historic Preservation Act, 1966

June 19, 1969



"EVERGREEN"  
West River, A.A. Co., MD.



(Drawing by Orlando Ridout IV)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

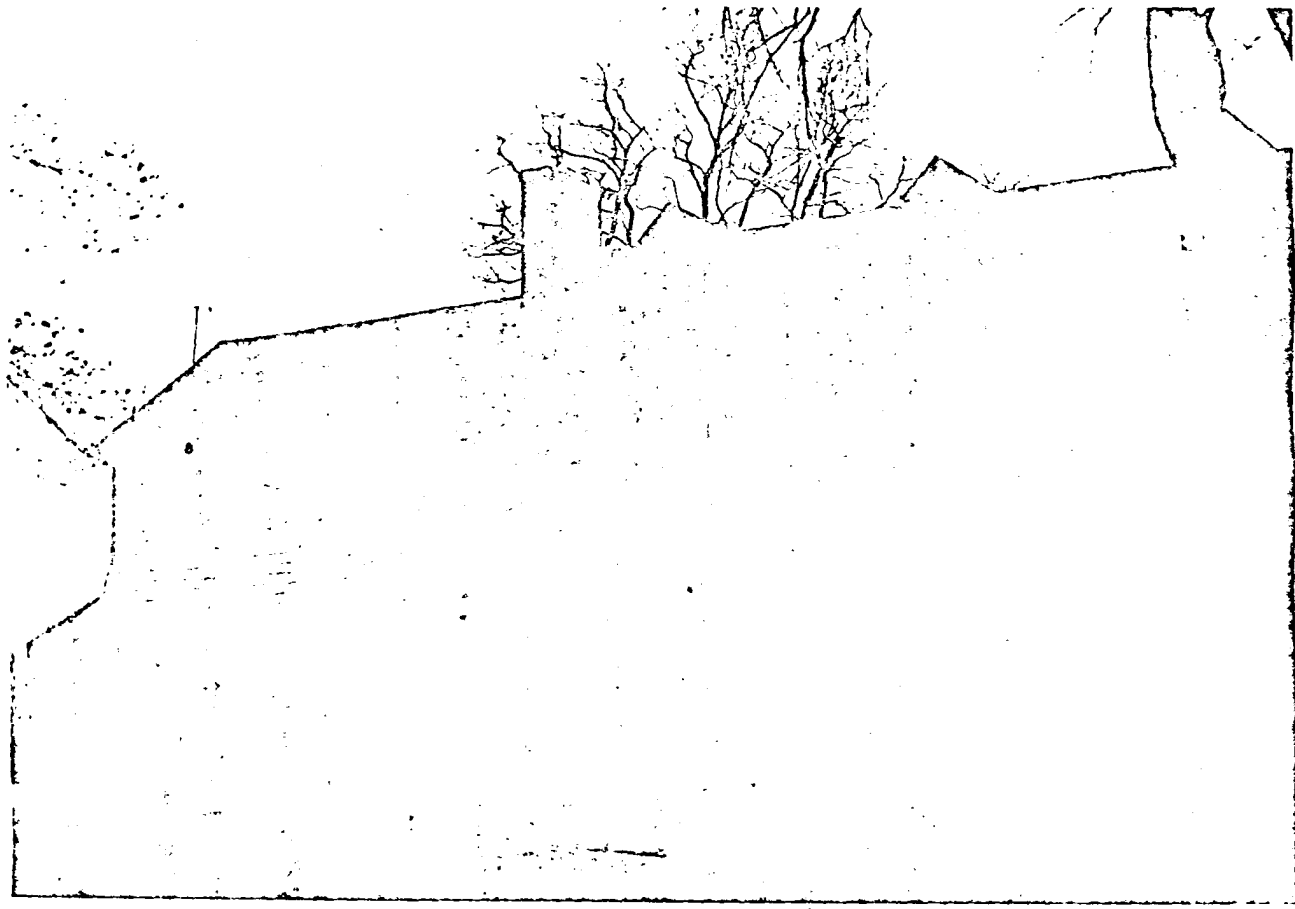
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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COUNTY Anne Arundel	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Evergreen			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Parson's Hills		(The Peale)	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Sudley Road			
CITY OR TOWN: West River			
STATE: Maryland	20881	CODE 19	COUNTY: Anne Arundel
			CODE 003
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Francis E. Engle			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1959			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: 6 North Southwood Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  West elevation			





Ad-131

Front of house

Evergreen  
West River, Md  
20881



EVERGREEN AA-VII-134

AA-134

FRANCIS E. ENGLE  
6 N. Southwood Ave  
ANNAPOLIS, MD



Back portion showing roof levels on the  
oldest portion of Evergreen

AT-1341  
Evergreen  
West River, Md  
20881



Back of house. This part of roof in very bad condition as is  
the chimney off the old kitchen

AA-1341  
Evergreen  
West River, Md  
20881



AA-134

Evergreen AA III 134



FRANCIS E. ENGLE  
6 N. Southwood Ave.  
ANNAPOLIS, MD.

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