

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Woodland Hall

other names K-144

### 2. Location

street & number 13111 Shallcross Wharf Road  not for publication

city or town Kennedyville  vicinity

state Maryland code MD county Kent code 029 zip code 21645

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official/Title

11-7-07  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Woodland Hall (K-144)

Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
1	1	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

**number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

Wood

roof Metal

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Woodland Hall (K-144)  
Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1782-1858

**Significant Dates**

1857-58

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

**Previous documentation on files (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Woodland Hall (K-144)

Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 8 acres Galena, MD quad

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

UTM grid with Zone, Easting, and Northing columns for rows 1-4.

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Woodland Gould Tan
Organization Property owner date 2/2004; revised 9/2006
street & number 14426 Parkvale Road telephone 301-603-7443
city or town Rockville state MD zip code 20853

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

K-144  
Woodland Hall  
Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland  
County and State

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### Description Summary:

Woodland Hall is a large brick side-passage plan country house located near Kennedyville in rural Kent County, Maryland. Initially constructed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, the house achieved its current three-story, Italianate-influenced form in a ca. 1858 remodeling.

### General Description:

Built ca. 1782 and referred to during the nineteenth century as "The Mansion", the first period portion of Woodland Hall had a 31' x 37', two-story brick main block, with a 24' x 20', two-story brick side wing. To the rear of the wing there was 27' x 18', one-and-a-half-story kitchen wing of log/plank construction.

The early house had a side-passage, double parlor plan, uncommon in Kent County (a similar example is Duckhollow [K-117], ca. 1785-90, near Georgetown) In addition to the side hall and two parlors in the main block, the plan provided a passage and dining room in the brick wing, and a kitchen and pantry in the plank wing. The southwest façade of the brick wing retains the original six-panel entry door and trim, 9/9 sash, and paneled shutters.

The early front facade can be detected by the Flemish bond brick with grapevine mortar joints which extends above the second-floor windows. There is a two-course Flemish bond belt course between the first and second stories, but no water table. Cellar window openings retain splayed brick arches.

In 1840, the farm was sold to James Freeman Woodland, who undertook an extensive remodeling of the house ca. 1857-58, influenced by the Italianate style which was then popular throughout the Upper Eastern Shore region. The house was raised to three stories with a nearly flat hipped roof trimmed with a bracketed cornice. Porches were constructed across both facades; the window openings were enlarged throughout the main block, and those on the first floor were altered to french doors. A "captain's walk" with balustrade was added atop the main section. Around 1950, the porches were reduced in size, and the first-floor french doors and second-floor windows were altered to 12/12 sash. The third-floor openings retain 6/6 sash from the 1857-58 period.

The addition of a third story required alteration to the stair, and the entire run was replaced with a new stair featuring an octagonal newel, turned balusters and handrail all fashioned from walnut, and a carriage decorated with scrolled step ends. Rococo cast iron mantels were

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installed in the parlors; the one in the front parlor is particularly noteworthy for its reverse-painted gilded ("verre eglomise") decoration.

The dining room in the wing was fitted with a new mantel. A fourth bay was added to the wing, with a lattice-enclosed bathroom on the ground floor, served by a cistern in the upper story, representing an exceptionally early appearance of indoor plumbing in Kent County.

Evidence of mid-nineteenth century landscape design survives in the picturesque gardens, curving drive, and asymmetrical groupings of trees and shrubs. An allee lined with some 80 maple trees lines the approach from Old Locust Grove Road.

A rectangular, gable-roofed frame shed is located immediately northeast of the house. It appears to date from the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and is not considered to contribute to the significance of the resource.

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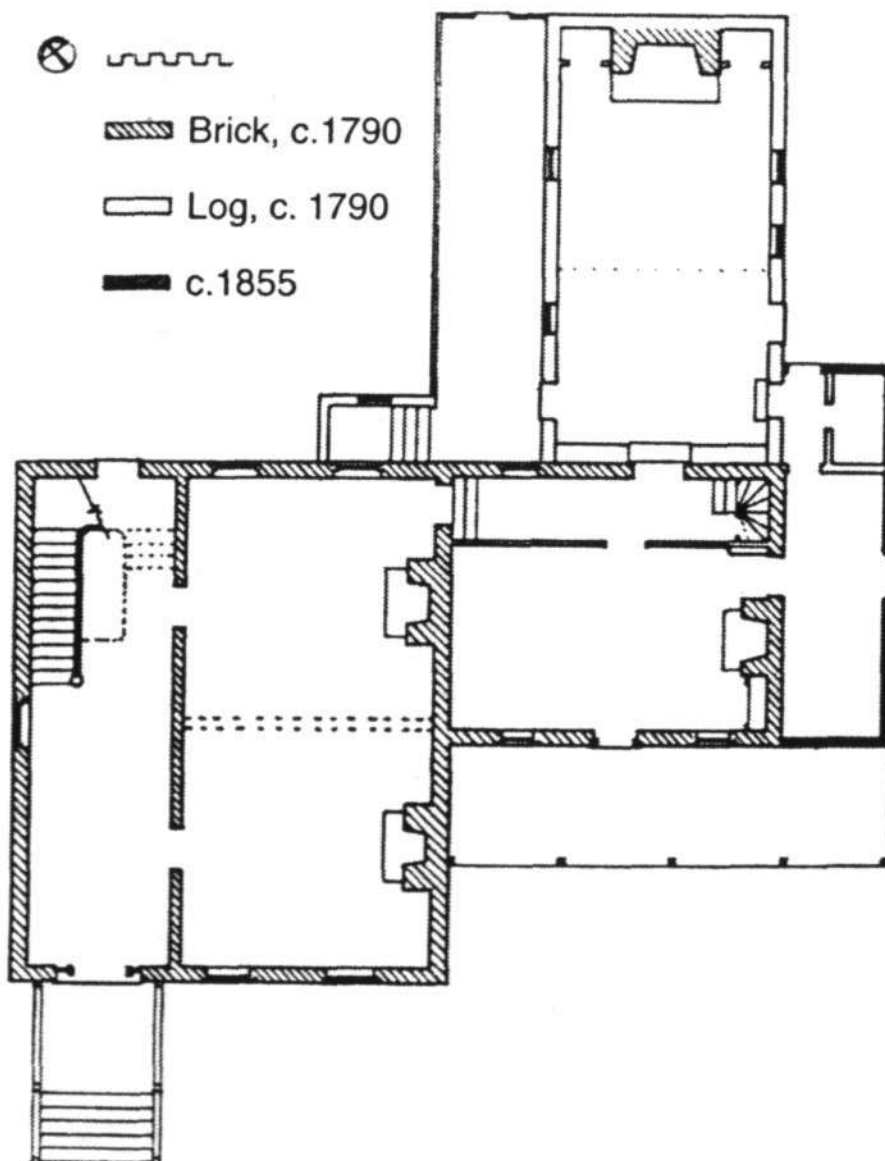
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Woodland Hall  
Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland  
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Floor plan showing sequence of construction, from Bourne, Michael O. Historic Houses of Kent County: An Architectural History, 1642-1860. Chestertown, MD: Historical Society of Kent County, 1998.



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## Summary Statement of Significance:

Woodland Hall is significant under Criterion C as an example of an Italianate-influenced country residence, typical of the mid-nineteenth century in the Upper Eastern Shore region of Maryland and adjacent Delaware. During that period, the region's rural economy underwent a reordering that is reflected in a group of large, three-story, Italianate-influenced farmhouses. Woodland Hall is distinguished among the Italianate farmhouses of the region by the quality of its decorative detailing. The cast-iron mantels in the parlor are especially noteworthy; one of these features extremely rare verre eglomise panels. The period of significance, ca. 1782-1858, begins with the presumed date of construction of the earliest section of the house, and ends with the mid-nineteenth century remodeling which substantially resulted in its present form and appearance.

## Resource History and Historic Context:

Bernard L. Herman has described the middle decades of the nineteenth century in southern New Castle County, Delaware – directly adjacent to Kent County, Maryland, and topographically, agriculturally, and historically similar – as a period of architectural renewal related to shifts in the rural economy and social order. The opening of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, the introduction of peach cultivation and other orchard produce, and the establishment of rail transportation through the region all contributed to an economic boom in the antebellum period. However, Herman traces the impetus for the rebuilding to a generation earlier, as agricultural decline and a diminished labor force brought about a more industrialized approach to farming, and concentration of land holdings in the hands of a relative few.<sup>1</sup>

Woodland Hall exemplifies this trend, as one of a number of large country houses that were remodeled or newly erected in the 1840-60 period in the Upper Eastern Shore region. These houses are easy to spot in the open, level agricultural landscape of the region: frequently three stories tall, with a low-pitched hipped roof surmounted by a belvedere and overhanging eaves trimmed with a bracketed cornice, they exhibit the influence of the Italianate style that was popular in the antebellum period. Examples in Kent County include Wilson Point (K-155), a three-story, five-bay frame house near Galena, and Moreton Hall (K-126) near Sassafras, two stories tall with double porches recessed across the façade. The George Vickers House (K-514, demolished) was an exceptionally large three-story Italianate dwelling. Woodland Hall is distinguished among other examples in the county by its construction history – representing a

<sup>1</sup> Herman, Bernard L. Architecture and Rural Life in Central Delaware, 1700-1900. Knoxville, TN: The University of Tennessee Press, 1987, pp. 126-147.

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thorough remodeling of a preexisting late 18<sup>th</sup> century house – and by the quality of its decorative detailing, including a fine stair and outstanding cast-iron parlor mantels, one of which features extremely rare verre eglomise panels.

The following history of the property is extracted from Michael O. Bourne's Historic Houses of Kent County:

Referred to in the nineteenth century as "The Mansion," [the first period portion of] Woodland Hall was built by Edward and Araminta (Hynson) Wright about [1782]. The land on which they made their home was an amalgamation of properties inherited by Araminta (of her father) and land which Edward Wright had previously purchased.

In the 1790 census, the Wright household is listed as containing only one male and one female, with seven slaves. Edward Wright is known to have subscribed £9 toward the founding of Washington College and was a vestryman at Shrewsbury Parish from 1786-87, in 1799, and again from 1803-1808. In his final year on the Shrewsbury vestry, Wright was responsible for the installation of a brick wall around the church yard. One year before, Wright was in William Spencer's 33rd Regiment and had earned the rank of Colonel.

At the time of the 1804 Tax Assessment, Edward Wright's property was appraised for \$4836. This amount places him in the company of some of the wealthiest land owners in the county. By 1822, his properties were each listed by name in the tax records. They amounted to 882-1/3 acres, a 500 acre increase from his holdings at the time he and Araminta Hynson were married.

Together, Edward and Araminta had three children. After Araminta's death, Edward remarried her remote cousin, Phoebe Hynson, daughter of John Carvill Hynson of Edesville. They in turn had an additional six children.

When an inventory was taken of Edward Wright's belongings in 1825, his personal property amounted to \$5084.49 and included a large sum of cash in the house -- \$534.48. His personal belongings were typical of a gentleman of his standing. The farm included many livestock and ten slaves.

["The Mansion"] was bequeathed, in equal parts, to the two children of Edward and Araminta, and their granddaughter. In 1827, Dr. Thomas Hynson Wright purchased the

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other two thirds of the farm from his sister Julianna Wright Ellis and his niece, Malvina Wright.<sup>2</sup>

According to family tradition, the property was purchased by Col. Edward Wright's son-in-law James Woodland, and his wife Elizabeth Ward Woodland. They had three daughters, one being Emma Woodland Parmelee, who was born in 1816 and died after 1889.<sup>3</sup> Emma Woodland Parmelee lived at Woodland Hall until around 1836, when her father remarried and the family moved to Virginia. James Woodland's new bride forced him to sell the house to his nephew James Freeman Woodland.

James Freeman Woodland married Sara Moody in May of 1834. After Sara died in 1846, J. F. Woodland married his first cousin Margaret Travilla. It was also Margaret's second marriage; she had one child from her first marriage, and James and Margaret had four children together. To accommodate their expanding family, the house was raised to three stories, adding five bedrooms.

J. F. Woodland also served on the vestry of Shrewsbury Church in 1845, and was responsible for the erection of a sexton's house on the church grounds. The Hon. William Dunbar Gould, husband of Mary Woodland Wescott, also served on the Shrewsbury vestry for many years after moving to Woodland Hall in 1951.

A collection of James Freeman Woodland's papers surviving at Woodland Hall includes several farm account books, and a number of receipts pertaining to the remodeling of the house ca. 1857-58, including bills for materials shipped from Baltimore. Twelve bars of iron -- presumably window lintels -- and two days' labor were furnished by S. B. Sexton & Co., Washington Iron Foundry and Stove Works of Baltimore; this may also be the source of the remarkable cast-iron mantels in the parlor. A quantity of mahogany board and 128 Italianate cornice brackets were shipped by Joseph Thomas & Son's Maryland Steam Turning and Sawing Works from Baltimore in November 1858; in the same month, William King & Brother shipped over 300 lights of window glass. A bill from the firm of Michael & Bro., "Wholesale and Retail Establishment for Paper Hangings, Upholstery Goods, Curtain Materials, [etc.]" lists a variety of carpeting and wallpaper installed between November 1857 and December 1858, and a letter from the same firm dated December 13, 1858, offers

<sup>2</sup> Bourne, Michael O. Historic Houses of Kent County: An Architectural History, 1642-1860. Chestertown, MD: Historical Society of Kent County, 1998, pp. 354-56.

<sup>3</sup> Emma Woodland Parmelee was the grandmother of architect Julia Morgan.

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We should like very much to make up those curtains for you that Mrs. Woodland spoke of when in our city. We have a piece of very fine Satin [illegible] of a Blue and Gold color together with very fine trimmings made expressly to match which we think you would like as we feel confident that it will make up very handsome and make a beautiful contrast your Parlor being papered and carpeted with so much crimson that we think a set of curtains add much to the furnishing of the Parlor. We have also a fine piece of Striped Crimson and Maroon which would also make up very pretty. In reference to the Terms we will make them perfectly satisfactory to you. If you should make up your mind to have them made be kind enough to inform by return mail that we can put them in hands at once and send them down.

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Woodland Hall  
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Kent County, Maryland  
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### Major Bibliographical References:

Bourne, Michael O. Historic Houses of Kent County: An Architectural History, 1642-1860.  
Chestertown, MD: Historical Society of Kent County, 1998.

Herman, Bernard L. Architecture and Rural Life in Central Delaware, 1700-1900. Knoxville,  
TN: The University of Tennessee Press, 1987.

L. Elizabeth Westcott, untitled recollections, 1983; manuscript in possession of Mary Woodland  
Gould Tan.

Marsha Fritz, Woodland Hall, K-144, Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form on file at  
Maryland Historical Trust, 1977.

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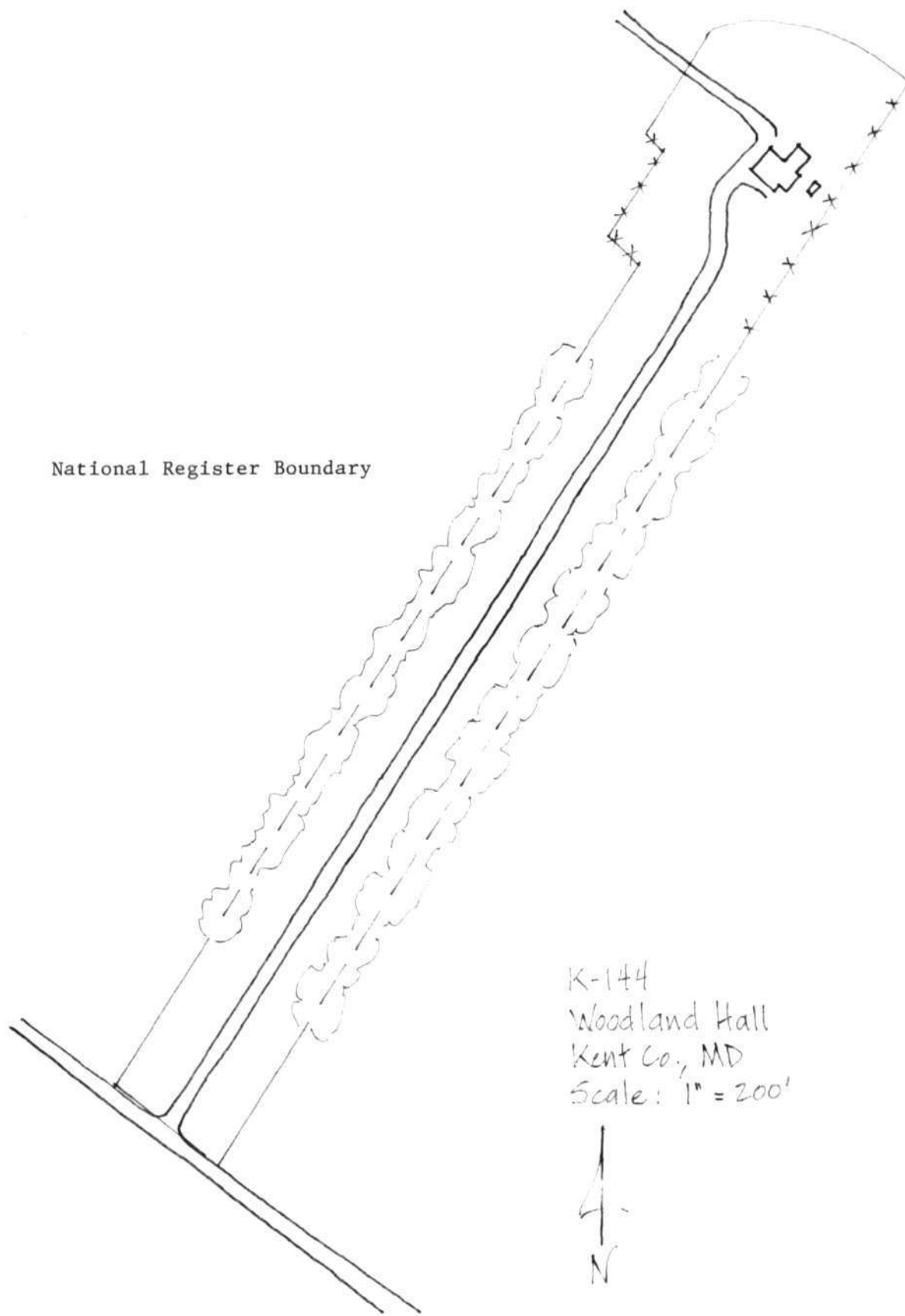
### Verbal Boundary Description:

Boundaries are shown on the map which accompanies this documentation, drawn to the scale 1"=200'. Boundaries are marked by the line of maple trees on either side of the entrance drive, and by fence lines and hedgerows separating the domestic yard from open agricultural fields.

### Boundary Justification:

The nominated property encompasses the domestic yard and gardens surrounding the main house, and includes the tree-lined allee which approaches the house from Old Locust Grove Road. These boundaries encompass the significant elements of the property -- the house and mid-nineteenth century landscape features -- within an appropriate setting.

National Register Boundary



K-144  
Woodland Hall  
Kent Co., MD  
Scale: 1" = 200'

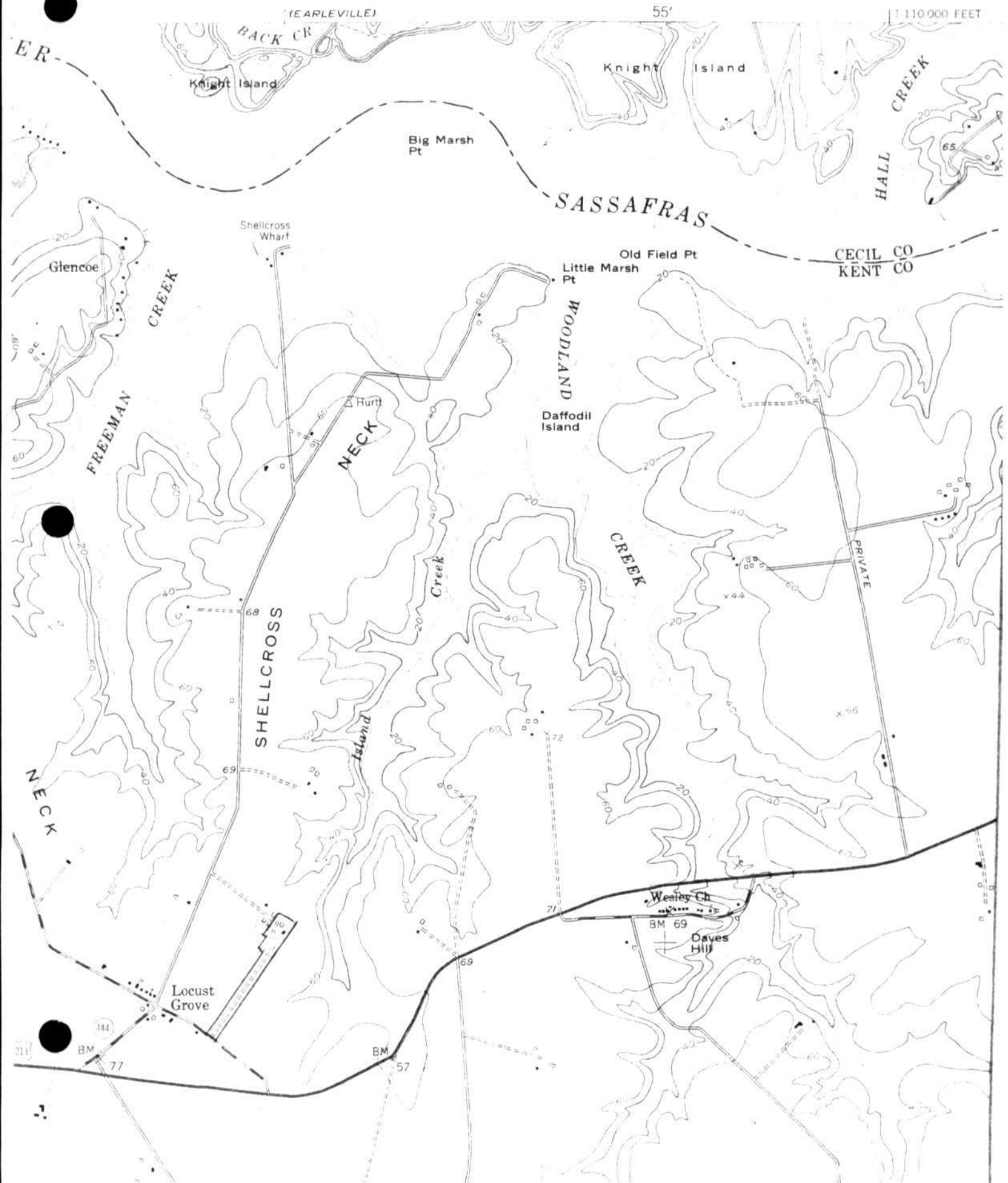


Maryland Historical Trust

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

419060  
18-41906-4354254  
K-144

WOODLAND HALL  
KENT COUNTY MD





WOODLAND HALL

MHT - K144

SHELLCROSS RD.

LOCUST GROVE, MD.

FRONT FROM SOUTH

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977



WOODLAND HALL

MHT-K144

SHELLCROSS RD

LOCUST GROVE, MD.

STAIRWAY

C. ENGSTROM AUG 1977