

Nelson K. Bolender, President
1st Commissioner District

Harry A. Hepbron
2nd Commissioner District

Phyllis Kilby
3rd Commissioner District

Board of County Commissioners
(410) 996-5201

Alfred C. Wein, Jr.
County Administrator
(410) 996-5203

CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

129 East Main Street
Elkton, Maryland 21921

410-996-5200
410-658-4041

Department of Aging
(410) 996-5295
Economic Development
(410) 996-6292
Emergency Services
(410) 996-5350
Human Resources
(410) 996-5250
Permits and Inspections
(410) 996-5237
Planning, Zoning and Parks
(410) 996-5220
Public Works
(410) 996-5265

30 January 2002

Springer-du Pont Limited Partnership
Nancy Springer du Pont, General Partner
P.O. Box 39,
Conowingo, Maryland 21918


Dear Ms. Springer du Pont:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County, at our meeting of Tuesday, 29 January 2002, voted unanimously to designate the Octoraro Mansion and the entire surrounding property as a historic site.

This designation is made in accordance with Article XI, Part VI, Section 245 of the Cecil County Zoning Ordinance. The Board has determined that the Octoraro Mansion contains elements of architectural and historic significance. The architectural significance include that structure is a fine example of a 19th century dwelling, the stucco and fieldstone exterior walls, 4 panel exterior shutters, 6/6 windows, two arched dormers, Flemish bond and Doric columns at the primary entrance, and the brick work mix of Federal and early Empire styles. The Board finds that the exterior features of the house must be preserved and any external alterations that would cover or compromise the architectural integrity of the house would be prohibited. We make this determination in accordance with Section 245.7.c of the Cecil County Zoning Ordinance.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve Cecil County's historical heritage. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric S. Sennstrom, Director of Planning, Zoning, Parks & Recreation at 410-996-5220.

Sincerely,


Nelson K. Bolender, President
Board of County Commissioners

NKB/ess

CC: Ed Cairns, Chairman HDC
Eric S. Sennstrom, PZP&R

2001-04

NOMINATION INFORMATION

4. Jacob duPont, Partner
Jacques T. duPont, Jr., Partner

Yes National Register of Historic Places: May 7, 1980 (See description attached for nomination to National Register)

 Maryland or Cecil Inventory of Historic Properties?

A Preservation Easement by any historic organization? Identify Agricultural Preservation District

 Are there any other easements or rights of way affecting the District? Explain

 Other, explain

9. Please check all of the following criteria that apply to the property.

A. Historical or Archeological

- The property has character, interest, or value as part of the development or cultural characteristics of the County, State, or Nation.
- The property is the site of a significant County, State, or National historic event.
- The property is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the County, State, or Nation.

B. Architectural

- The property has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction or use of indigenous materials.
- The property represents the work of a master builder, designer, architect or landscape architect whose work influenced the development of the County, State, or Nation.
- The property has elements of design, detailing, materials or craftsmanship that render it architecturally significant.
- The property has elements that make it structurally or architecturally innovative.
- The property has a unique location or singular physical characteristic that makes it an established or familiar usual feature. Octoraro Watershed
- The property has character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, with a high level of integrity or architectural significance.
- The property has significant interior features. List: Door-Windows, Spring closing door, bargeboards as beams, stone thresholds, porthole window, etc.

10. Attach a statement describing the property, its historical significance, and the reasons why it should be designated to the Cecil County Register of Historic Places. At the end of the statement, please list your sources of information, including bibliographic references.

11. Signatures of owner(s) of record consenting to this nomination. If there are more than two owners, please attach a separate sheet providing the information indicated. see attached

A. Print Name: Nancy Springer du Pont Date: 11/16/01
Signature: Nancy Springer du Pont, General Partner
B. Print Name: _____ Date: _____
Signature: _____

12. Name, address and telephone number of person submitting application:

Name: Carolyn Tweed Fender, Esquire

Address: Craig P. Morton, P.A., 227 East Main Street
Elkton, MD 21921

Telephone Numbers: (Home) 410-398-4392 Hours Available: 6PM - 8PM
(Work) 410-398-4545 Hours Available: 8AM - 5PM
M.T.T.F

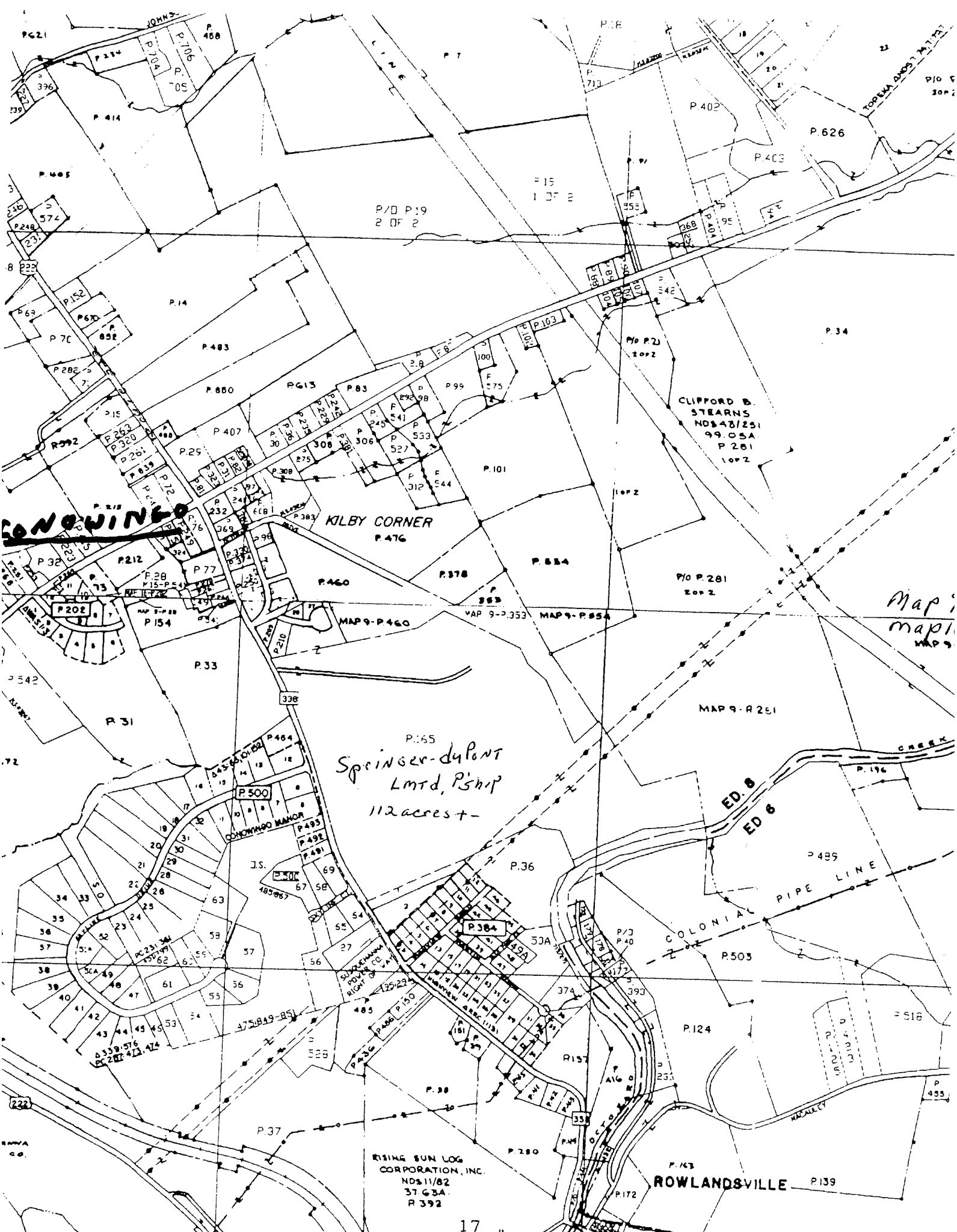
E-mail address: cpmlaw@hotmail.com

Date 11 / 16 / 01

Official Use Only

Application Number: _____
Date received: _____
Date of Public Notice: _____
Election District: _____
Zoning District: _____
Land Use District: _____
Tax Map: _____
Parcel(s): _____

HDC Hearing Date: _____
PC Hearing Date: _____
CC Hearing Date: _____



CONOWINGO

KILBY CORNER
P. 476

P. 65
Springer-DuPont
Ltd, P'ship
112 acres +

CLIFFORD B. STEARNS
NO 431251
99.05A
P. 261
10P2

CONOWINGO MANOR

ROWLANDSVILLE

RISING SUN LOG CORPORATION, INC.
NO 11/82
37.63A
P. 392

Map 1
map 1
MAP 9

Late 1600's land records show 400 acres surveyed for Richard Hall between the Susquehanna River and Octorara Creek described as "Hall's Choice". Elihu Hall built and operated a mill on 20 acres along the Octorara around 1744. The property grew or contracted with generations of the Hall family through 1787 when it passed into trustee care until 480 acres were transferred to Henry Physick in 1807. In 1833, Dr. Phillip S. Physick acquired 201 acres including the main residence and associated outbuildings that corresponds closely to the present day boundaries. In 1837 the property passed to his daughter Susan Conner wife of USN Commodore David Conner, and stayed in the Conner family to the 20th century.

Each owner modified or added to the main residence following practices of their period, so that the present building mirrors Cecil County construction techniques from 1753 to the present. It was built by Elisha & Ruth Hall on their portion of the property and a major revision was made by Dr. Physick in 1834. The barn and various outbuildings - notably the octagonal smoke and bath house, were built before 1800 and still stand with modifications that preserve their original characteristics. A 1 1/2 story tenant house, built between 1825-40 on a southern slope nearer to the Susquehanna, had deteriorated and is being reconstructed under direction of the present owner: Springer-duPont Ltd. Partnership.

Maj. Elihu Hall was a conspicuous Revolutionary War patriot and entertained Gen. Lafayette here in 1781. Mrs. Sarah (Ewing) Hall who lived with her husband at Octorara from 1782 to about 1810 was a gifted and versatile writer of her day. Their numerous descendants distinguished themselves in the fields of law, medicine, writing, politics, and military service. Dr. Phillip Physick, who added the larger front section of the main residence in 1833, was a prominent Philadelphia physician known as the "father of American surgery" and treated Chief Justice John Marshall.

The historical significance of this property has paralleled the development of Cecil County. The land, bordered by a 19th century dry laid fieldstone wall, and the enclosed buildings have been an entity from the 1700's to the present. The main residence has an important vista of the Susquehanna, the acreage between is vital to this vista, and the border on the Octorara - where an 18th century mill stood - makes all the land an integral part of the historical significance of "Octorara".