



UPI Telephoto

Aerial view of summer home on Assateague Island, Md., in which President Nixon appears interested

Possible New Presidential Refuge

Nixon Likes Island House

Assateague Island, Md.

With retreats at Camp David, Key Biscayne and San Clemente already at his disposal, President Nixon appears interested in one more refuge from Washington.

It's a 30-room summer home nestled among the ten-foot sand dunes of Assateague island, the windswept Atlantic ocean beach he visited one week ago.

The President and three companions stayed at Camp Genezar, a \$1.6 million property formerly owned by Philadelphia industrialist Thomas McCabe, a Nixon supporter and former chairman of the board of the Scott Paper Co.

Assateague Island National Seashore now owns title to the property and allows McCabe to use it.

Harvey D. Wickware, chief of operations at

the seashore, said he was "not at liberty" to discuss the house. Wickware said Secret Service agents had cautioned him against talking because the house could become a presidential retreat.

McCabe, the national Republican committeeman from Pennsylvania, donated his property to the University of Pennsylvania. The school relinquished title to the federal government under an act of the 89th Congress creating the National Seashore.

In seven years, the property will become part of the Seashore and a \$1.6 million compensation will go to the university.

Friends of the McCabes in Ocean City, six miles to the north, describe the house as "a Maine-style hunting lodge" with four wings and at least 14 bedrooms. "It is spacious and very nice, but not plush," said one friend.

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