

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

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RECEIVED NOV 28 1975

DATE ENTERED

APR 30 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

* *

TEMORA

AND/OR COMMON

Temora

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

4252 Columbia Road

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

sixth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Howard

CODE

027

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

__STRUCTURE

__SITE

__OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__PUBLIC

PRIVATE

__BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__IN PROCESS

__BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

__UNOCCUPIED

__WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

__YES: RESTRICTED

__YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

__AGRICULTURE

__COMMERCIAL

__EDUCATIONAL

__ENTERTAINMENT

__GOVERNMENT

__INDUSTRIAL

__MILITARY

__MUSEUM

__PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__RELIGIOUS

__SCIENTIFIC

__TRANSPORTATION

__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. John Breckenridge - Miss Laura Hanna

STREET & NUMBER

4252 Columbia Road

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21043

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Howard County Courthouse

Tax map 24, parcel 300

STREET & NUMBER

Court Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

TEMORA is located on the southwest corner of the junction of Columbia Pike (Rt. 29) and St. John's Lane, about one-half mile southwest of Ellicott City, in Howard County, Maryland. Its setting is enhanced by a small pond adjacent to the house, and lofty trees that include 200 year old American and English lindens, a ginko tree, and several varieties of evergreens.

Temora is a "T" shaped, two-story and cupola, Tuscan-style Victorian house of painted tongue and groove boards. The house was built in 1857 after a design prepared by Nathan Gibson Starkwether.

The symmetrically arranged principal facade faces southeast and features two projecting gabled pavillions joined by a one-story porch. Centered between the pavillions is the main entrance, one of the most outstanding features of the house. Elegant in its simplicity, it has a double, semi-circular headed architrave framing narrow side lights, a large fanlight, and a heavily paneled double leafed door. Above this door on the second floor level is a three-part hooded window in a Palladian motif. On the front of both pavillions are double windows at both floor levels. Those of the first floor are flat headed and extend down to within one foot of the porch floor. Those of the second floor have rounded upper sash, molded hoods and also extend down to within a short distance of the porch roof. Both pavillions have shallow pitched gables and deep eaves decorated with carved brackets. The porch fronting this elevation has four sets of double posts, bracketed eaves and a balustraded roof.

On both ends of the house, the rear half of the building projects out in a manner similar to the front pavillions. Each has, on the first floor level, a projecting five-sided bay window with balustraded roof. Above these are triple, Palladian style windows with molded hoods.

The rear elevation of the house has a centered gabled pavillion with a first floor entrance that opens into the main hall which is now covered by a later wood vestibule. The north half of this elevation is covered by a two-story kitchen wing. With the exception of those already discussed, the first floor windows of the house have bracketed hoods and skills.

The shallow-pitched, tin-sheathed, multi-gabled roof has deep bracketed eaves and four paneled chimneys with decoratively corbelled caps. Centered on the roof is a square cupola with a triple, elliptically arched and hooded window on each of its four sides. Its Queen Anne-style roof, repeating the arched entrance and second floor windows, adds continuity and grace to the total composition.

The room arrangement of Temora consists of a wide centered hall flanked on both sides by two large rooms (see plan). At the end of the hall stands a

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1857

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Temora was designed by Nathan Gibson Starkwether, a little known but accomplished architect from Oxford, England, who also designed the First Presbyterian Church on Park Avenue in Baltimore. The house was designed and built for Dr. Arthur Pue, a prominent mid-nineteenth century Howard County physician. Dr. Pue had inherited the Temora property from his grandmother, Mary Dorsey Pue. Mary Dorsey Pue was a daughter of Caleb Dorsey of Belmont, an illustrious member of an old, prominent Maryland family. Caleb Dorsey's home, Belmont, is one of Maryland's most significant early eighteenth century landmarks, well known for its architecture and historical associations.

Temora was bequeathed by Dr. Pue to his granddaughter, Miss Eleanor Harrison. Miss Harrison sold the property in 1915 to Mrs. Varina Hanna. At Mrs. Hanna's death, the property was inherited by her daughters, Mrs. V. H. Breckenridge and Miss Laura Hanna, the present owners.

Temora is a particularly fine example of its architectural type, reflecting in a restrained, sophisticated manner the tastes of the period. It is especially important in that it was designed by an architect contracted specifically for that purpose and because it remains today much the same in appearance as it did when built.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mrs. Varina Hanna Breckinridge, Miss Laura Hanna, owners (2nd generation of second owners of the house.

"Origin and History of Howard County, Maryland" by Charles Francis Stein, Jr.

(Published by Author in cooperation with the Howard County Historical Society 1972)

G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Howard County 1878

Martenet's Map of Howard County 1860

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14.19 acres

UTM REFERENCES

<i>D</i> A	18	342	450	43	46	460	<i>A</i> B	18	342	800	43	46	450
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING
<i>B</i> C	18	342	600	43	46	190	<i>C</i> D	18	342	410	43	46	390
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Acreege Justification: The setting with its trees, pond and barn are important...it could be on smaller acreage but would certainly lose a great deal.

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

Frances Wellford Mason

(cs)

ORGANIZATION

Howard County Committee-Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

January 21, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

9725 Old Annapolis Road

TELEPHONE

301-267-1438

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John N. Pearce

4/20/75

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

9/30/96

ATTEST:

Shirley A. [Signature]

DATE

4-28-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Temora
4252 Columbia Road

CONTINUATION SHEET Ellicott City, Md. ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

DESCRIPTION #7

gracefully proportioned stair which rises in two flights to the second floor. The two rooms on the southwest side of the hall (the front parlor and rear drawing room) have white marble mantels with arched openings. Both mantels are embellished with carved triangular shaped panels and a centered, cartouche-like bracket beneath the shelf. On the northeast side of the hall, the front library and rear dining room have mantels executed in a much more simpler taste, each having a Greek Revival-style pointed arch over the fireplace opening.

The rectangular shaped rear rooms are further differentiated from the square front rooms by bay windows at their outside ends. Sliding paneled doors can be used to shut the bays off from the rest of the room and similar doors on the front walls of both can be used to close the front rooms off from the rear rooms. On the ceilings of all four rooms and the hall is an elaborate plaster medallion.

The rear wing houses a small back stair, as well as a kitchen and breakfast room. Beneath the wing is the original basement kitchen. It contains an expansive fireplace and small pantry. The arrangement of rooms in the brick floored cellar of the main block is the same as that of the first and second floors.

On the second floor of the main block are five bedchambers arranged like those rooms of the first level, but with an additional small bedroom over the first floor kitchen and breakfast room. At the front of the second floor hall is a stair providing access to a storage area over the hall and to the cupola. Throughout this level, as on the first floor, the simple but handsome woodwork is consistently Greek Revival in style.

Temora is in an excellent state of preservation and, with the exception of the addition of plumbing, electricity, and heat, remains unaltered from its initial appearance.

As stated in the beginning of the description, the grounds are attractively landscaped. Although most of the remaining acreage is to the northwest and southwest sides of the house, the abundance of large shade trees shields the house from the two busy roads bordering the property on the northeast and south-east sides. Several hundred yards northwest of the house stands a large wood framed stable and carriage house that is probably contemporary to the main house in its date of construction.