

PH00 25631

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Prince George's
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	AUG 13 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Snow Hill

AND/OR HISTORIC:
"Snow Hill"

2. LOCATION

S of Laurel

STREET AND NUMBER: ~~Laurel~~ ^{MD} ~~Laurel~~ ^{Outside of Maryland} Route 197

CITY OR TOWN: Laurel

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fifth

STATE: Maryland

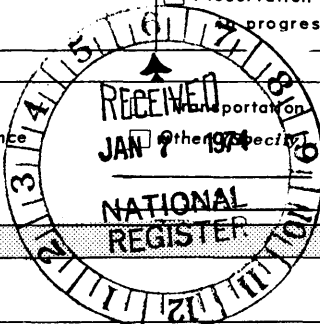
CODE: 24

COUNTY: Prince George's

CODE: 033

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Bryan and Virginia Warren

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 197 (mailing: Box 190, Laurel)

CITY OR TOWN: Laurel

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Building Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER: First St., S. E. between East Capitol Street and/ Independence Ave.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: D. C.

CODE: 11

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Prince George's

ENTRY NUMBER: AUG 13 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Snow Hill" is a one-and-a-half story brick structure with a gambrel roof and a five bay main (east) facade. The shed-roofed dormer windows reflect the bay divisions of the lower facade, as do the segmentally-arched basement windows. The double doors with transom light are sheltered by a gabled porch, the roof of which breaks through the cornice mouldings of the eaves and into the lower slope of the gambrel roof. The porch--and the identical one on the west facade--is a reconstruction carried out at the time the house was restored; it replaced the Classical Revival, flat-roofed porch pictured by Henry Chandlee Forman in Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland (p.93.)

The brick ends have an irregular fenestration. The south end has two doorways, the western one now used as the exterior door and the eastern one replaced by a window during restoration; this eastern door once connected the house to a log kitchen building that had been attached to the south end; evidence of an even earlier south wing can be seen in the brickwork, the ridge of the roof rising to the bottom of the chimney stack. On the north end wall the lintel of a closed-off basement entrance remains. The chimney stacks rise fifteen courses from ridge to cap; the cap consists of five courses, the first three corbelled outward and the next two stepping back.

In plan, the house has a center hall with two rooms on either side. The staircase resembles the one at "Montpelier," rising in three runs from an inset in the back of the north hall wall. The second floor hall, off of which four rooms open, is balustraded on the west (staircase) side.

The northeast and southeast ground floor rooms are the most elaborate. Each has a corner cupboard with keystone arched opening; a pilaster runs from the top of the keystone to the cornice moulding, which breaks out to serve as a pilaster cap. Both rooms have cast iron hearths, perhaps made at Snowden Iron Works; the mantle shelves are moulded cornices. In the northwest room, the hearth is brick; the mantle shelf has a dentil course below the shelf. A small boxed staircase to the second floor extends into the southwest corner of the southwest room; otherwise, the room has been modernized for use as the kitchen.

(see continuation sheet No.1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1799-1801**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Snow Hill, built between 1799 and 1801, is a retardataire example of Georgian architecture built by Samuel Snowden, son of Richard Snowden, grandson of Captain Richard Snowden, and great-grandson of Richard Snowden, "The Immigrant." The Snowden family emigrated from Wales to Maryland in 1675, settling first in Calvert County. From 1676 to 1685, "The Immigrant" received 1976 acres of land near the Patuxent River; by 1690, he had settled in the present-day Howard County near Laurel. Captian Richard Snowden, who built "Birmingham Manor (burned 1891), had a single heir, Richard III, who inherited the entire Snowden land holdings amounting to 26,000 acres in modern Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Montgomery, and Howard Counties and Washington, D. C., as well as the iron works on land patent "Iron Mine" granted to the family before 1700. In 1726, Richard Snowden III formed the Patuxent Iron Works, with Edmund Jennings of Annapolis as one of the subscribers; by the time of his death, Richard III was sole owner of the iron works.

Richard Snowden III had four sons and six daughters. His son Samuel was born 1727 and died in 1801, leaving his estate to his nine children. Samuel inherited one third of his father's iron works, as well as 6000 acres of land in Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties. In 1774, he served on the Committee of Safety and, although a Quaker, is supposed to have assisted actively the patriot cause in the Revolutionary War. It is Samuel Snowden who built "Snow Hill," which he left to his son, Samuel Snowden, Jr.



(see continuation sheet No.1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1978. Prince George's County. Hall of Records. Annapolis, Maryland.

Forman, Henry Chandler. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton: the author, 1934.

(see continuation sheet No.4)

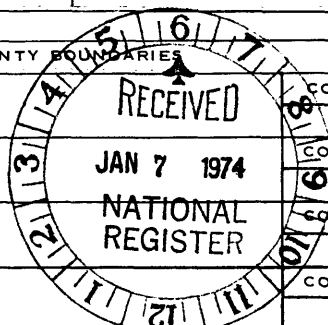
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39° 04' 30"	76° 50' 54"		0	0	
NE	39° 04' 32"	76° 05' 35"				
SE	39° 04' 23"	76° 05' 35"				
SW	39° 04' 24"	76° 05' 52"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 10 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian gh

ORGANIZATION: Md. National Cap. Park & Planning Commission DATE: 14 May 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout, IV

Title State Historic Preservation Officer for Maryland

Date September 10, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

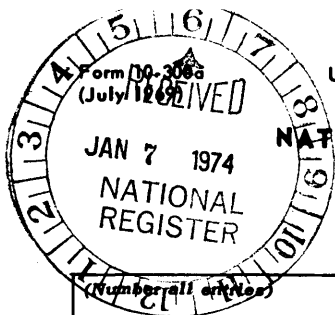
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AK Winters
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/13/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 8-2-74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) No. 1

STATE Maryland	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 13 1974	

"Snow Hill"

No.7-Description continued-

Each of the south rooms and the northeast room have two windows. The northwest room has one window facing west and one facing north, opening into a closet that now is a "powder room." Chair rails throughout the house are simple, consisting of a board with bead supporting a roll moulding. A door from the southeast room to the former kitchen building has been blocked off by a cabinet built at Snow Hill, Worchester County, Maryland.

In the attic, the roof framing consists of common rafters with lapped joints at the ridge; collars are lapped over the rafters.

During the restoration and modernization of the house, Dr. and Mrs. Warren had reproduced a number of hardware and decorative items. Thus, the modern doors were made using an original door as a pattern. The restoration design, done by Byard Turnbull, AIA, has attempted to preserve as much as possible, model reconstructed items on existing character of the house.

No.8-Significance-continued-

In his will of 17 September 1800, Samuel Snowden left his son, Samuel, Jr., "all my Lott or Parcell of Land (whereon my dwelling House was burnt) lying in Prince George's County aforesaid being part of Birmingham Manor containing Eleven Hundred and thirteen acres of Land", as well as his household effects, cattle, four horses, and wagons belonging to the plantation. In addition, he gave to sons Philip and Samuel equal parts of his "undivided third part of the Lot or parcel of Land on which Stands patuxent Forge together with all my Property in and on Said Lot", as well as his third interest in undivided lands left him and his brothers by Richard Snowden. Finally, son Philip received 1250 to complete his house and son Samuel received "a Sum not Exceeding Five Hundred Pounds like Money (including the Sum of One Hundred and Twenty five Pounds which I have already engaged to pay) for the Purpose of being laid out and Expended in procuring materials for, and for rebuilding and re-fitting my late Dwelling House which was burnt, and which I have devised as aforesaid to my Said Son Samuel and his Heirs forever."

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) No. 2

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Prince George's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 13 1974	

(Number all entries)

"Snow Hill"

No.8-Significance continued-

On 19 June 1801-eight days before his death--Samuel Snowden added a codicil to his will withholding 1250 from his son Samuel in light of the "considerable Sums of Money" expended in the "finishing of the Dwelling House devised by me to my Son Samuel Snowden."

In 1798 Tax Assessment for Prince George's County shows three major Snowden holdings, Thomas Snowden's "Montpelier," Thomas Snowden's two story brick house occupied by Richard Snowden (probably "Oaklands"), and Samuel Snowden's "stone dwelling house on part of Birmingham Manner [sic.]" with eight windows and measuring 32 feet by 20 feet. Since no stone Snowden house found mentioned in any other records, it is most probable and plausible that the house referred to in Samuel Snowden's will as being in this house and that a new house was built in the period 1799 to 1801, this house being the present "Snow Hill."

Samuel Snowden, Jr., died intestate in 1823, and his land was divided among his children Samuel C., Mary, Sarah, Martha, Joseph, and Rebecca Snowden. From a survey drawn at the time of the division of the estate, it can be established that Sarah Snowden inherited her father's dwelling house; in 1865 she and her sister Mary Tyson sold their lands to Benjamin and Sarah Alsop, who conveyed them to John Alsop, whose heir Thomas Alsop lost the estate in a mortgage foreclosure. Anna Frye thus acquired "Snow Hill," and she sold it to H. Rozier Dulaney in 1907; Alice McCauley purchased it from Dulaney, and the present owners acquired title from the McCauleys in 1940.

Unfortunately, the Snowden family papers have been lost and/or destroyed, many at the fire at New Birmingham Manor in 1891 according to family sources. Thus, the association of "Snow Hill" with Samuel Snowden must be pieced together from partial records.



(see continuation sheet No. 3)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) No. 3

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Prince George's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		AUG 19 1974

(Number all entries)

" Snow Hill"

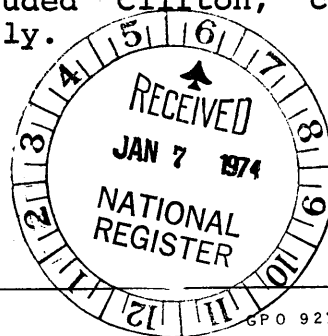
No.8-Significance continued-

Research is complicated by the fact that Snowden lands remained undivided until 1790 and because all of the houses and estates were referred to by their land and grant names, such as "part of New Birmingham Manor"; in the records to 1800, no reference is made to the name "Snow Hill" is uncertain. To the Snowden residents, all were evidently seen as part of one vast family holding.

That all of the Snowdens were associated in the iron industry is easier to establish, although the size of the Patuxent Iron works has never been satisfactorily established. Wills give portions of the iron works to various children and in various documents, they are referred to as "Iron Master." For example, in a mortgage from Joseph Walter of Bacon Hall to Thomas Snowden, Samuel Snowden, and John Snowden (28 March 1764), the Snowdens are called "Iron Masters."

From the extant records, three Snowden houses are known to have been standing in Prince George's County about 1800: "Montpelier," "Oaklands," and "Snow Hill." The first and second were owned by Thomas Snowden, who occupied "Montpelier" and rented, leased, or gave "Oaklands" to Richard Snowden as his residence. Thus, the references to a house burning and being rebuilt by Samuel Snowden clearly point to "Snow Hill" as the house.

From the above discussion, several points emerge that make "Snow Hill" a significant house in terms of Prince George's County and Maryland state history. First, it is a very late example of Georgian architecture with several unusual features, namely, the handling of the corner cupboards late colonial and early republican ironmasters and one of the founders of an industrial family that in later years ran the extensive mills at Laurel (employing in 1850 over 500 persons). The Snowden family, including Samuel, also owned extensive landholdings in eastern Montgomery County and through the division of their estates and granting of dowries they played a large role in shaping Montgomery County society; the extensive holdings of the Thomas family, for example, which included "Clifton," came from their marriages into the Snowden family.



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

(Continuation Sheet) No. 4

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Prince George's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 13 1974	

(Number all entries)

"Snow Hill"

No.8-Significance continued-

Finally, and of potential historical importance, is the more recent fact that Dr. Bryan Warren was the first doctor to treat Governor George Wallace when he was shot at Laurel Shopping Center in 1972.

No.9-Major Bibliographical References-continued-

Fraezee, Thelma K. "A Geneological Sketch of Samuel Snowden Builder of 'Snow Hill'." Typescript owned by Dr. and Mrs. Warren, Snow Hill, Laurel, Maryland.

Prince George's County Land and Probate Record. Hall of Records. Annapolis, Maryland.

Warren, Virginia and Ann Musgrave. Research Notes on Snow Hill. Spring 1973.

