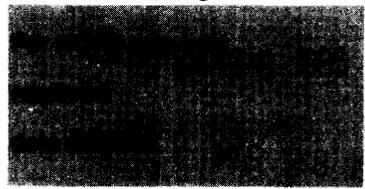


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 St. Richard's Manor

and/or common St. Richard's Manor

**2. Location**

street & number Millstone Landing Road n/a not for publication

city, town Lexington Park  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county St. Mary's code 037

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. and Mrs. George A. T. Donely III

street & number 3772 W Street, N. W.

city, town Washington n/a vicinity of state D.C. 20007

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Land Records Office  
St. Mary's County Courthouse

street & number 1 Court House Drive

city, town Leonardtwn state Maryland 20650

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1972  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>      n/a      </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed
Contributing	Noncontributing	National Register properties
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u> buildings	included in this nomination: <u>  0  </u>
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> sites	
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  3  </u> structures	Original and historic functions
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u> objects	and uses: agriculture, residential
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  3  </u> Total	

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

St. Richard's Manor is a 1½ story brick dwelling constructed before 1750 on the Patuxent River near Lexington Park in St. Mary's County, Maryland. The brick is laid in Flemish bond above an English-bond foundation, and features an outstanding checkerboard pattern of glazed headers in the north gable. The principal (east, water side) facade is five bays wide and symmetrical, with a central entrance flanked by 9/6 sash windows; the rear elevation, also symmetrical, is three bays wide, with narrow (two lights wide) 6/6 sash on either side of a hooded doorway. Three gabled dormers are ranged across both slopes of the steep gable roof, and interior chimneys rise from each gable peak. The interior is organized in a four-room plan, with two large east rooms in front of two smaller rooms which are separated by a short rear stair hall. A low-gabled frame wing, constructed ca. 1935, extends from the south end in telescope fashion. Also on the property are two ca. 1935 tobacco barns and a concrete block pumphouse, which do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** before 1750      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: C  
 Applicable Exceptions: none  
 Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

St. Richard's Manor is significant for its architecture: in its rectangular form, one-story height with a steeply-pitched gable roof, and Flemish-bond brick construction, the house represents a type of dwelling favored by wealthy planters in Southern Maryland through the first half of the eighteenth century, fewer than a half-dozen examples of which survive in St. Mary's County. The building is distinguished by the quality of its masonry, which remains in excellent condition and incorporates glazed headers in a checkerboard pattern on the north gable. The house had become seriously deteriorated before 1930, when it was acquired by Maynard B. Barnes (b. 1897), a career diplomat who served as American Minister to Bulgaria; in the post-Williamsburg spirit, Barnes carried out an extensive restoration of the brick section, and added a telescoping frame wing. Interior trim, windows, and doors date to the period of Barnes' restoration, circa 1935-45.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 4

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 25 acres

Quadrangle name Solomons Island, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A	1,8	37,16,1,0	4,23,97,0,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	1,8	37,17,4,0	4,23,93,0,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	1,8	37,12,4,0	4,23,92,7,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D	1,8	37,11,4,0	4,23,95,8,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation sheet No. 4

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
n/a			

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title George A. T. Donely and Peter E. Kurtze

organization Maryland Historical Trust date 10/84

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301)269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *[Signature]* 2-19-85

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

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

**Entered in the National Register**

date 3-28-85

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received  
date entered MAR 28 1988

Continuation sheet St. Richard's Manor  
St. Mary's County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

St. Richard's Manor is a one-and-one-half-story brick dwelling located on the Patuxent River near Lexington Park in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Local tradition ascribes a 17th-century date to the building; while this cannot be verified, architectural evidence suggests a construction date no later than the second quarter of the 18th century. The house, which faces east toward the river, is surrounded by mature walnut trees and boxwoods, and approached by an 800' driveway lined with cedars south of Millstone Landing Road. It is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond above an English bond water table, and is rectangular in form, measuring 44' by 32'6". A steeply pitched gable roof, clad in asphalt shingles, covers the building; three gabled dormers with double 8-light casement windows are evenly spaced across each slope. Two lower gable roofed frame additions, constructed between 1935-45, extended from the south gable in telescope fashion.

The east (principal) facade is symmetrical, five bays wide, with an entrance (now consisting of French doors) in the central bay and 9/9 sash in the remaining bays. All openings have jack arches. The eaves are finished with a boxed cornice.

The west elevation is divided into three bays, with an entrance located in the central bay under a small arched hood supported on consoles. The flanking bays hold narrow 6/6 sash (two lights wide) in slightly-shortened openings. A modern bulkhead cellar entrance is located to the right of the doorway.

Glazed headers appear at random in the brickwork of the east, west, and south walls; on the north gable, however, every header in the Flemish bond masonry is glazed, for an arresting checkerboard effect. Two 9/9 windows light the first floor; the steep gable is finished with plain rakeboards, and terminates in an interior chimney with a corbeled cap.

The south gable also has an interior chimney; two small louvered openings near the peak ventilate the attic. A series of telescoping frame additions extends from this end, a total of five bays wide plus a screened porch. This wing was built ca. 1935-45, and rests partly upon the foundation of an early detached kitchen. The form of these additions is derived from 18th-century Tidewater precedent and, as the "telescope" wing is both lower and less deep than the main block, it does not detract from the original house's capacity to convey a strong sense of its original architectural form.

The interior plan consists of four rooms, with 18' x 20' great rooms on the east (river) side, and two smaller rooms flanking a short central stair hall at the rear. This plan suggests a conceptual combination of the hall-and-parlor plan characteristic of small houses in the Tidewater region, with the

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Continuation sheet St. Richard's Manor Item number 7 Page 2  
St. Mary's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

symmetrical Georgian center-hall plan which became popular in the region by the mid-18th century. In St. Mary's County, similar layouts are found at Sandgates (SM-99), constructed between 1740-80 on Cat Creek, and Bard's Field (SM-20), a circa 1800 dwelling located near the Potomac River.

The original roof framing remains intact, and consists of common rafters mortised and pegged at the ridge, braced by collars set in half-dovetail joints and secured with wrought spikes.

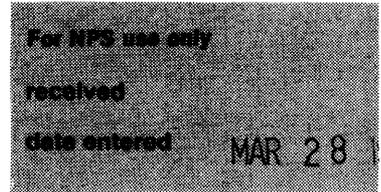
The house had fallen into seriously deteriorated condition by the time it was purchased by Maynard Barnes in 1930; most of the interior trim and finish is the product of a restoration campaign carried out by Barnes between circa 1935-45. The mantels in the west rooms are Federal pieces of unknown provenance, as is the winder stair with its turned newel, rectangular balusters, and rounded handrail. The extensive paneling in the east rooms, as well as all doors and window sash, are reproductions said to be based on evidence which remained in the house.

Also on the property are two frame tobacco barns, constructed circa 1935, located about 800 feet north of the house, and a small pyramid-roofed concrete block pumphouse which stands just southwest of the dwelling. These three structures do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

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Continuation sheet St. Richard's Manor Item number 8 Page 3  
St. Mary's County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

The property upon which the dwelling known as St. Richard's Manor stands was surveyed on December 6, 1640 and granted by Lord Baltimore to Richard Gardiner, a member of the first General Assembly of the Maryland colony. The original grant encompassed 1000 acres, and was the first manorial grant patented on the Patuxent River. After the Claiborne-Ingle Rebellion, in which the original records were lost, the manor was regranted on December 31, 1652 to Luke Gardiner, Richard's son and heir. The property subsequently passed to Richard Keene, and later in the 17th century to Andrew Abingdon, deputy collector for the Patuxent district and high sheriff of Calvert County.

Various sources have attributed the construction of the brick house to one or another of the 17th-century property owners. While it is impossible to confirm that the house was built during this period, details of its form and construction indicate a date before the middle of the 18th century. The brickwork, particularly the checkerboard pattern of glazed headers worked into the north gable, is the most ambitious and finely-wrought of its type and period in St. Mary's County. Other noteworthy features include the narrow window openings flanking the west entrance, which probably originally held leaded casements; previous occupants have reported finding fragments of leaded glass outside the house. (Other archeological artifacts, including brick fragments and 18th-century pottery sherds, are scattered in the fields west and southwest of the house, indicating the sites of early outbuildings and activities). The form and plan of the house, its Flemish bond masonry above a foundation laid in English bond, and its common-rafter roof framing remain intact, and in combination reflect a pre-1750 construction date.

The house was abandoned by the turn of the 20th century, and had fallen into an advanced state of deterioration by 1930, when it was acquired by Maynard Barnes. A visitor to the house in the 1930s recalled that the building had been stripped of its interior finish and was being used to hang tobacco from the exposed framing members. The flooring also had been removed.

Barnes, a career diplomat whose appointments between 1921 and 1947 included the American consulates in Greece, Turkey, the Congo, Senegal, Iceland, and Bulgaria, is credited with the restoration of the brick house and the construction of the telescoping frame wing. Nearly all the wooden elements of the building, except for the framing of the floors and roof, date to Barnes restoration shortly after 1930. The extensive interior paneling is modeled after evidence which remained in the house; other details, including the Federal mantels in the two west rooms and the Federal stair and balustrade, were brought into the building from elsewhere. Window sash and doors are good quality 1930s colonial style stock. Also at this time, a small cellar

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date entered	MAR 28 1985

Continuation sheet St. Richard's Manor  
St. Mary's County, Maryland Item number 8, 9 and 10 Page 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

was excavated under the center of the house to accommodate a modern heating plant. Barnes' restoration (the architect for which remains unknown) adds to the significance of this property by reflecting the post-Williamsburg popularity of rehabilitating colonial-period buildings.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Foreman, Henry Chandlee, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, 2nd edition, Baltimore: Bodine and Associates, 1982.

Pogue, Robert E. T., Old Maryland Landmarks, Bushwood, Md., 1972.

Interview, Mrs. Mary van Rensselaer Thayer, n.d.

State Department Biographical Register, 1949.

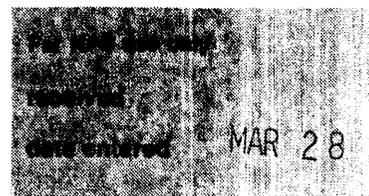
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description: Boundaries are indicated on the attached sketch map. (See Continuation Sheet No. 5).

Boundary Justification: The nominated property, approximately 25 acres, comprises the resource within its immediate setting. The northeast boundary is defined by Millstone Landing Road; Green Holly Pond (an estuary of the Patuxent River) lies to the southeast, and the east, south, and southwest boundaries are defined by streams which run into the pond. The west and northwest boundaries follow tree lines bordering a cultivated field. This acreage preserves the house's traditional orientations to the water and to the road, and encompasses an area of cropland to the west of the house which has yielded pottery sherds and brick fragments indicating potential archeological significance.

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Continuation sheet St. Richard's Manor  
St. Mary's County, MD Item number 10

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Sketch Map: National Register Boundary, 10/84

