

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 17 1977

DATE ENTERED SEP 16 1977

**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
Ash Land; ASH HILL
 AND/OR COMMON
Hitching Post Hill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
3308 Rosemary Lane
CITY, TOWN
Hyattsville
STATE
Maryland
VICINITY OF
24
COUNTY
Prince George's
CODE
033
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fifth
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
T. Raymond Burch
STREET & NUMBER
3308 Rosemary Land
CITY, TOWN
Hyattsville
STATE
Maryland
VICINITY OF
20781

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Prince George's County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Upper Marlboro
STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hitching Post Hill is located at 3308 Rosemary Lane in Hyattsville, Maryland. It stands on a high rise of ground and is reached by a long, semi-circular driveway of century old trees.

The house is a two-story, brick building erected circa 1840 on a high brick foundation. It is a square structure measuring fifty feet by fifty feet with brick walls that are twelve inches thick.

The facade is five bays long with a central doorway with transom and side lights. The twelve foot high flanking windows are big double hung sash, opening to the floor of the porch across the facade. The center window of the second floor is also 6/9 double hung sash; the other windows are 6/6 double hung sash. The openings are all spanned by jack arches one stretcher tall. The wooden cornice is boxed above a frieze and dentillated bed molding. The crown molding is an exaggerated ogee.

At the peak of the roof is a square lantern with a bracketed boxed cornice, fifteen feet square. On either end wall there are two chimneys rising flush with the walls.

The porch across the front extends around either side. It has Doric columns supporting an entablature of frieze and cornice. The present porch is an addition.

The rear facade is similar to that of the front. The central doorway has a transom light and to one side a tall narrow opening with a case-ment sash of three lights.

The plan of Hitching Post Hill is similar on both floors. There is a central hall extending through the house. On each side of it are two large rooms. To the left of the entrance is the present diningroom and, behind it, a modern kitchen. In the diningroom there is a chair rail and a picture mold. The chair rail is found throughout the first floor and up the stair but not on the second level. All of the floors are pine. The fireplace in the kitchen has a pine mantel of very plain Greek Revival design. There are Victorian marble mantels with arched openings in the diningroom and in the parlor across the hall. Both the parlor and the library behind it have bold Victorian plaster cornices. In the library, there is a dumbwaiter which connected that room to the original kitchen below.

The central dog-leg stair is Victorian. Its heavy newel and ramped rail are made of cherry. In the ceiling of the second floor hall there is a two by four foot access to the cupola. A ladder held across the ceiling (now missing) was pulled down in order to climb up.

The basement has four large rooms with a stone area-way leading to the springhouse to the east of the house. The springhouse is a square brick building with a pyramid roof covered with slate tiles. It has a cupola at the peak. A brick carriage house stands in the north yard.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hitching Post Hill's importance is three-fold, including its architecture, its landscape architecture, and its historical associations. The house was built circa 1840 by Robert Clark, an Englishman who was seeking space and quiet in contrast to the crowded city of Washington. He bought 427 1/2 acres for his plantation and many of the ancient trees are still standing as they were 135 years ago. Among these are a 45 foot high holly tree estimated to be 250 years old and a black willow tree listed in the Maryland Tree Champions book published in 1973.

In 1875, General Edward Fitzgerald Beale, a pioneer (as surveyor and government agent) in the southwest and the owner of Decatur House on Lafayette Square in Washington, bought Hitching Post Hill from Robert Clark. Beale entertained President U.S. Grant, a close personal friend, President Grover Cleveland and Buffalo Bill Cody here, among others. Grant kept his two Arabian horses, Leopard and Linden, stabled here. The original paintings of the horses hang in Decatur House, and there are copies of them at Hitching Post Hill. In a letter from Scotland written in 1877, Grant wrote: "I will feel more at home back in Washington than anywhere else, and no place more than in visiting your farm with you."

The house, with its twelve inch thick brick walls and hilltop site, is an imposing one, made even more so by the massive pillared porch which surrounds it on three sides. This latter feature was added by Admiral Chauncey Thomas who purchased the property in 1895. Today Hitching Post Hill stands out as a house built solidly of good materials and still surrounded by three tree-covered acres in spite of its location on the outskirts of Washington, D.C.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Article on Hitching Post Hill, Preservation News, September 1967, p.2.
 Decatur House Papers, Correspondence of General Edward F. Beale and
 President U.S. Grant, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
 Land Records of Prince George's County, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro.
 Deeds ES 1/93, HB 10/144.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Three

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8	3	3	0	2	6	0	4	3	1	6	2	2	0
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

njm

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Owens and T. Raymond Burch

ORGANIZATION

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission

DATE

July 5, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Avenue/3308 Rosemary Lane

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring/Hyattsville

STATE

Maryland 20907/20781

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
S H P O

DATE

1/6/77

TITLE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

9/16/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

9-18-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER