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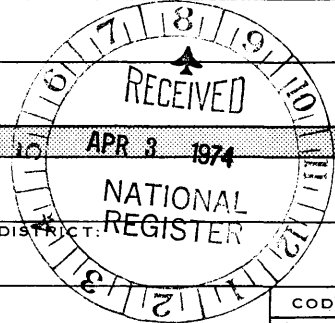
Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

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: Charles
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: JUL 30 1974



1. NAME

COMMON: Maxwell Hall
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: E of Patuxent on Teagues Point Road
 CITY OR TOWN: Patuxent City
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First
 STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Charles CODE: 017

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"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments Abandoned

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Starr Enterprizes (Mr. Joseph Goldstein, President)
 STREET AND NUMBER: Maine Avenue and Sixth Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Charles County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: La Plata STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: MHT-SMCC Architectural Survey of Tidewater Maryland
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: St. Mary's City Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: St. Mary's City STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
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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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Maxwell Hall is situated on a bluff overlooking the confluence of the Patuxent River and Swanson's Creek, one-half mile east on a private lane from Teagues Point Road, approximately two miles east of the junction of Teagues Point Road and Maryland Route 231, one mile southeast of Patuxent City in Charles County, Maryland.

Maxwell Hall is a one and one-half story, gambrel roofed frame house that is distinguished from other similar houses in the Southern Maryland region by its massive external chimneys. Although the exterior weatherboarding and most of the cornice and trim was replaced about 1925, the house remains today much the same in appearance as it did when built.

The principal facade faces east and is five bays in length. The entrance door occupies the central bay and is flanked by double-hung windows of nine over nine sash. On the lower slope of the roof are three pedimented dormer windows of six over six sash. All of the windows and doors, including the dormers, occupy original locations and retain their original dimensions, although most of the trim and sash (particularly on the dormers) has been replaced. The west facade is three bays in length with a transomed center door; above are two dormer windows of the same design as those of the east facade. At both the front and rear elevations are small, crudely built, shed roofed porches; beneath the roof of the west porch is preserved a small section of the original modillioned eave cornice of the house. At each end of Maxwell Hall stand massive single chimneys, both similar in plan but with several differences. The north chimney measures eighteen feet in width at the base and rises in two graduated sections that are defined by tapered weatherings; the great expanse of the lower weatherings are tiled by flat brick laid in a herringbone pattern; the smaller, irregularly positioned weatherings above are tiled with flat brick laid end to end. An unusual feature of this chimney was a small window (now bricked in) at the attic gable level that once provided light to a small chimney closet. The south end chimney was built on a fieldstone foundation that is completely exposed for one full story at this elevation. Although this chimney is of the same size and plan as the north chimney the whole of the area between the foundation and the top of the lower weatherings is constructed of unusually small tiling brick, while above the top of the weatherings it is of a larger, more normal sized brick. The free standing stacks of both chimneys stand twenty inches away from the ends of the house; the south chimney is somewhat larger than the north chimney as it contains one additional flue.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input 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 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

Unfortunately, little is known about the history of Maxwell Hall except that the property had been in the possession of the Bowling family for almost one hundred and fifty years before its acquisition by Mr. Goldstein in 1971. The property now includes about one thousand acres; it has been horribly defaced by excessive timbering and its future is, to say the least, uncertain.

Despite the alterations to the structure itself and the uncertainties regarding its future, Maxwell Hall deserves recognition as being one of the best surviving examples of its type of architecture in the lower Southern Maryland region. The continued survival of this house will provide a valuable source for the study of mid-eighteenth century vernacular architecture in this region.

As a result of intensive recording of various types of vernacular architecture in Southern Maryland representing the development of our architecture from the mid-seventeenth century to the early nineteenth centuries, we have been able to assign certain characteristics to different "periods" and locations. In Charles and St. Mary's county there are a total of five surviving examples of houses similar to Maxwell Hall. All of these, excepting Maxwell Hall, have been extensively altered by later interior changes and structural additions. (One, the finest and least altered of these recorded examples, burned in 1971). All possessed the same four-room and short rear hall so popular in this region in the mid-eighteenth century. All have gambrel roofs and at least one single massive chimney of the same type as is seen at Maxwell Hall. Other features that separates this structure from the others is the massive support system of combined summer and tie beams, the unusual tiling of the chimney weatherings, the miniature bricks used in the construction of the south chimney base, and the great number of fireplaces and chimney closets that were built into each chimney. Of interest on the interior are the unusually large original fireplace openings and of course, the wall sheathing of

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mudd and Mudd, Attorneys at Law, LaPlata, Maryland.
 Land Records of Charles County, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

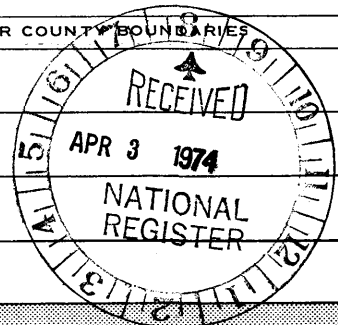
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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
NW	38°	32'	09"	76°	42'	10"			
NE	38°	32'	09"	76°	41'	52"			
SE	38°	31'	59"	76°	41'	52"			
SW	38°	31'	59"	76°	42'	10"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 36 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: J. Richard Rivoire, Field Surveyor sdh

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: Sept. 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis 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

Date March 27, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

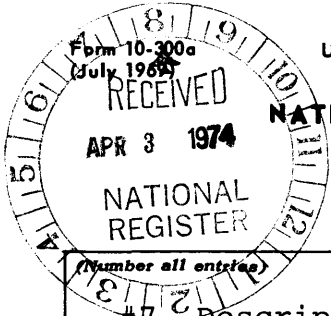
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. P. Mortenson
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/30/74

ATTEST:
W. P. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 7.26.74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Charles	
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#7 Description Maxwell Hall (Continued)

Maxwell Hall was built on irregularly coursed fieldstone foundation walls that enclose a full cellar. At both the front and rear facades are small wood barred cellar windows. At the exposed south end of the cellar is the only exterior entrance to the cellar: a batten door with a large wrought hasp.

The floor plan of Maxwell Hall is one typical of the region throughout the eighteenth century and early nineteenth century, although it apparently was more frequently used in the mid-eighteenth century. The first floor plan consists of four rooms and a short rear stair hall. The interiors of all of these rooms were renovated about 1835 and all of the existing door and window trim, doors and mantles, are in the Greek Revival style. When these renovations were made several of the closets that were built into the chimneys were covered over and formerly expansive fireplace openings were altered in size. The present stair, rising along the south wall of the hall, is also a later introduction and may be contemporary in date to the other alterations; the location of a previous stair has not yet been ascertained but it is believed to have occupied this same general location and was probably smaller in size. A former stair to the cellar beneath the present stair was removed and the opening covered over, possibly early in this century.

At the second floor level is a central hall with two doors on each side wall that open into four small bed chambers. All of the wall plaster and trim at this level was replaced early in this century; however, the basic room configuration is believed to be original.

One unique feature recorded at Maxwell Hall was the evidence of an original use of riven clapboards to sheath an interior partition wall. These clapboards, perfectly preserved under later layers of sawn lath and plaster, extend across the whole of the south wall of the hall. It is not known whether the clapboards extend (or extended) into any of the other rooms up above the first floor ceiling line but their existence alone is rare in houses of this, otherwise relatively sophisticated plan. In Maryland, interior wall treatments such as this are more frequently found in more simpler houses and farm dependencies of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and occasionally the nineteenth century.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

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(Continuation Sheet) # 2

(Number all entries)

Maxwell Hall

#7 Description (Continued)

In the cellar are two large rooms divided by a fieldstone partition wall. The floor is of packed dirt with the exposed ceiling timbers and walls whitewashed. An interesting construction feature seen in the cellar are two massive summer beams that support three sets of common joists. At each end of the house, positioned in from the end walls, are large tie beams into which the summers are secured. At the south end of the south cellar room is a tall and rather narrow opening, now filled in with stone and brick rubble, that may have been a former fireplace or a supporting niche for the chimney.

A short distance from the base of the west porch stair is a large flat gravestone, moved here in recent years from a graveyard on the property. The inscription has been completely obliterated and the stone is now used to cover a well opening.

#8 Significance (Continued)

riven clapboards. Other information is obtainable behind the later Greek Revival work to fairly accurately establish the original appearance of the interior.

