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	NATIONAL	REGISTER OF	HISTORIC PL	ACES	St. Mar	ov 's		
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	CATEGORY				STATUC	ACCE	SSIBLE	
	(Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	TO THE	PUBLIC	2
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	Site 🗌 Struct			Process	🔲 Unoccupied		tricted estricted	
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PRE	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)							_
X	Agricultural	Government	🗌 Park		Transportation	📋 Comm	ents	
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CONDITION				(Check One)		
	Excellent	🔀 Good	🗌 Fair	Deteriorated	📋 Ruins	📋 Unexposed
	(Check One)				(Check One)	
	🕅 Alter	red	📋 Unaltered		Moved	🔀 Original Site

Porto Bello is on the National Register of Historic Places. The property is within the boundaries for the <u>St. Mary's City Historic District</u> as submitted by the Maryland Historical Trust. The decision to accept the extended boundaries requested of the National Historic Landmarks program is pending as of December 1971.

Located on the west bank of the St. Mary's River on Porto Bello Point, the driveway entrance is two miles east of Drayden on the south side of Maryland Route 244. Set on an exposed promontory, the house has a view of the St. Mary's River, the site of the old State House and West St. Mary's Manor.

Built during mid-eighteenth century, and a 1971 part of a 478-acre working farm, Porto Bello is a brick, gambrelroof, Maryland "manor house" type to which has been added two smaller gambrel-roof structures, c. 1910, to the west in "shot-gun fashion." The main block is painted and laid in Flemish bond brickwork. Of the four chimney stacks, the two on the east end are on the exterior of the wall. The house has five bays including a central doorway which has a flat brick arch similar to the arches used over the windows. There are three shed-dormers in the gambrel roof, the roof of each dormer an extension of the upper pitch. The roof below the lower pitch-break angles out to form a front (south) porch running across the main block; this and a similar porch on the rear (north) give the house a bell-cast profile when viewed from the east. Besides the twentieth-century additions the house has been continuously altered over its long history.

An altered example of an early St. Mary's-Southern Maryland manor house type, it still retains its basic characteristics. The interior reflects changes in taste on the part of the owners: the nineteenth-century molding in the dining room is an example. The hallway has retained some mid-Georgian carving.



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PE	RIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
	Pre-Columbian	16th Century	🕅 18th Century	20th Century
	15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
SPI	ECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicabl	e and Known) a	fter 1742	
AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
	Abor iginal	Education	Political	🔲 Urban Planning
	Prehistoric	Engineering	🗌 Religion/Phi-	🔀 Other (Specify)
	🔲 Historic	Industry	losophy	E <u>arly history of</u>
	Agriculture	Invention	Science	Maryland
	🕅 Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
	Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
	Commerce	Literature	itarian	
	Communications	🔀 Military	Theater	
1	Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Porto Bello is located on a portion of the first grant of land recorded in the province of Maryland: West St. Mary's Manor, one of the nine original Maryland Manors.

Mt. Vernon, the home of George Washington, was named after Admiral Edward Vernon (1684-1757), commander of the Caribbean fleet of the Royal Navy in the War of Jenkin's Ear (1739-1741), therefore William Hebb II named his property after Vernon's most famous victory, the Battle of Porto Bello (1739).

J. Allan Coad (1885-1963), three times Maryland State Senator from St. Mary's County, lived at Porto Bello in the 1930's and restored the house with which his family had earlier ties. Edwin Coade of Carthagena, also named for a battle, had gone to the Caribbean during the War of Jenkin's Ear with William Hebb II and Laurence Washington, halfbrother of George Washington.

West St. Mary's Manor tract, commanding a view of the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River, was granted to Captain Henry Fleet, a Virginia adventurer, who guided Leonard Calvert on his first exploratory trip in March 1634 to the future site of St. Mary's City. Fleet lived on the Manor tract and became a delegate to the Maryland Assembly until he returned to Jamestown in 1639. In 1648 the property reverted to Cecilius Calvert (1605-1675), the second Lord Baltimore.

In 1742 William Hebb II patented a portion (157 acres) of the tract and later built his residence, Porto Berlol. He died there in 1758. His burial place is marked by a tomo in the garden.

The Hebbs, in addition to maintaining a plantation of operated locally, constructed river schooners and obean going vessels for cross-Atlantic trading and the West Indies export and import trade.

Although a sister, Elizabeth, had married an Englishman, the Hebb family's shipping activities were threatened by the (SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES	
Recorders: William D. Morgan, Maryland Historical Trust, 94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland; Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust.	
Interviews: Charles Fenwick, Senior, Historical Society of St. Mary's County, Leonardtown, Maryland; Mrs. Emory Barber, Porto Bello, Drayden, Maryland.	
(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)	
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES	NC
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11. FORM PREPARED BY	
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register	0
ORGANIZATION DATE	
Maryland Historical Trust Dec.20, 1971 STREET AND NUMBER:	- 0
94 College Avenue	z
Annapolis Maryland 24	S
12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION	
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na- tional 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 \Box State \overline{X} Local \overline{X}	_
Name <u>Olando Bidout IV</u> Orlando Ridout IV Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u> for Maryland <u>Keeper of The Pational Register</u>	
Date December 20, 1971 Date APR 26 1972	

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(July	1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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Porto Bello

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

National Register of Historic Places

1970 Federal

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation 801 19th Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. code: 11

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

enforcement of the Navigation Acts by Great Britain. These threats precluded their involvement in the American Revolution.

British activity in the Chesapeake Bay area centered around a naval blockade which forced Vernon Hebb and other planters to trade in Baltimore. The Royal forces made numerous raids on American plantations. To defend the St. Mary's County shoreline from British attack Thomas Johnson, Governor of Maryland, sent Vernon Hebb thirty guns on February 8, 1778. In spite of these precautions the British pillaged plantations, including Porto Bello, and destroyed tobacco crops, including that of Vernon Hebb.



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(July	1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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9. REFERENCES continued			
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