

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #64-1 Building Date: early 19th century

Building Name: Snowden Hall

Location: Building #016, Patuxent Wildlife Research center, Laurel, Md.

Private/Government, Science/Unoccupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

Snowden Hall is a two-story side-gabled brick dwelling which has a one-story brick wing at each gable end. The main block of the house is five bays by three bays, with entrance in the central bay of the principal east facade. A one-story pedimented gable-roof entry porch shelters this entrance; the wooden steps are bordered by geometric "chippendale" railings. A similar porch shelters the corresponding entrance on the west facade. The walls of the building are of brick laid in 5:1 American bond on the first story, and 7:1 above it. There is a corbelled brick cornice. The shallow-pitch gable roof is covered with standing seam metal. Both gable ends show evidence of rebuilding; visible in the brickwork are the lines of a lower, more steeply-pitched gable roof, one and one half stories high, from which rise the two original tall flush chimneys. The building was raised to its full two stories story in the mid-nineteenth century. At each gable end is a one-story hip-roof wing. Interior of the main block consists of a central stairhall with flanking double parlors.

Significance:

Snowden Hall is significant as one of four substantial brick dwellings of the Snowden family in Prince George's County. Constructed and enlarged during the first half of the nineteenth century, it is the latest of the four surviving dwellings of this prominent family in the northern part of the County. It was probably Rezin H. Snowden who built Snowden Hall perhaps around the time of his marriage in 1829. It was subsequently enlarged, and raised from a one-and-one-half story dwelling to a full two stories; the lines of the original structure, with its tall exterior flush chimneys, are clearly visible in the rebuilt gable ends of the present building. It is likely that the expansion was undertaken when the house was occupied by John Snowden, son of Rezin H. Snowden, at the time of his marriage in 1857. John Snowden died intestate in 1872; in 1891, his real estate, was divided among his heirs by Deed of Partition; the family remained at Snowden Hall until 1926. Snowden Hall was purchased by the U.S. Government in 1936, and developed into the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center; the mansion was renovated to serve as headquarters. The building retains little of its original interior detail; it does retain its historic lines, and is significant as one of the principal homes in Prince George's County of the prominent Snowden family.

Acreage: 324.694 acres

Magi No.

DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Snowden Hall

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Building #016, Laurel Bowie Road not for publication

city, town Patuxent Wildlife Research Center vicinity of congressional district 5

state Laurel, MD. county Prince George's

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name United States of America

street & number 18th & F Streets, N. W. telephone no.:

city, town Washington, D. C. state and zip code 20405

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #445

street & number Main Street folio 113

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records c/o Historic Preservation Commission, MNCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD

7. Description

Survey No. PG#64-1

Condition		Check one	Check one
<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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Snowden Hall is a two-story side-gabled brick dwelling which stands on a high basement, and has a one-story brick wing added at each gable end. The building been significantly altered in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; it stands on a large parcel of open land on the west bank of the Patuxent River between Laurel and Bowie.

The main block of the house is five bays by three bays, with entrance in the central bay of the principal east facade. The door consists of six panes of glass over two molded panels; it has a three-pane transom, and narrow molded surround, and above it, a flat brick arch forms a lintel. A one-story pedimented gable-roof entry porch shelters this entrance; it is supported by double square panelled posts with molded capitals and bases. The high porch rests on brick piers, and the wooden steps are bordered by geometric "chippendale" railings. A similar porch shelters the corresponding (rear) entrance on the west facade. On the west, the door (one glazed panel over two molded panels) has no transom; it is cut off by the landing of the main staircase.

The walls of the building are of brick laid in 5:1 American bond on the first story, and 7:1 above it. There is a corbelled brick cornice. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash, with plain wooden sills and flat arch lintels. There are no shutters. The shallow-pitch gable roof is covered with standing seam metal. There are two flush chimneys at each gable end; each corbelled brick chimney has a triple-arch brick cap. The high brick foundation encloses a full cellar, which is lighted by above-grade 6/3 windows.

Both gable ends show evidence of rebuilding. Clearly visible in the brickwork are the lines of a lower, more steeply-pitched gable roof (one and one half stories high) from which rise the two original tall flush chimneys. Above this original roofline, and on both sides of the chimneys, the gable ends have been raised to their higher, but more shallowly pitched, roofline with the use of newer brick in 7:1 bond. Similarly, the second story of the east and west facades is laid in 7:1 bond. The building was raised to its full second story in the mid-nineteenth century.

At each gable end is a one-story hip-roof wing (built since 1936), one by three bays, and resting on a high basement. Like the main block, the wing has 6/6 windows, and 6/3 windows lighting the basement. Each window has a flat arch (rowlock) lintel, not splayed as in the main block. Each wing has a narrow boxed wood cornice with crown molding, painted white, and the hip roofs are covered with gray asbestos shingle. Before these wings were constructed, there was a one-story frame kitchen wing attached to the south gable end.

Interior of the main block consists of a central stairhall with flanking double parlors. The two-run open-string stair rises along the south wall of the stairhall, turns at a landing, and rises to the second story. It has a turned newel, with tapered balusters; the stair ends are bracketed, and the spandrel is plastered. The mantels in the parlors have plain freeze with inner moldings. Door and windows surrounds have a plain one-step field, with molded back band. Baseboards are high, with upper molding on the second story, but not on the first. Floor boards on the first story are wide, random width; they have been replaced by new narrow boards on the second story. Several rooms have new partitions, creating closets and bathrooms. The basement, now fully finished with concrete and plaster, had packed clay floors and included a wine cellar and storage rooms when purchased by the U.S. Government in 1936. At that time, there was a one-story frame kitchen wing attached to the south gable end. This frame wing was removed after 1936, and the present brick wings were subsequently constructed. Bricks from nearby Gladswood were reportedly used in the reconstruction of Snowden Hall.

Snowden Hall stands on open rolling ground approximately 3/4 mile west of the Patuxent River; it stands on a 260-acre parcel of land which was the nucleus of the Snowden family plantation. This parcel, together with nearly 600 additional acres of Snowden land, was purchased by the United States government in 1936; the land has been developed into the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 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 early 19th century Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Snowden Hall is significant as one of four substantial brick dwellings of the Snowden family in Prince George's County. Constructed and enlarged during the first half of the nineteenth century, it is the latest of the four surviving dwellings of this prominent family in the northern part of the County.

Members of the Snowden family had established themselves in Anne Arundel County, and what was to become Prince George's County, by the third quarter of the seventeenth century. They engaged in agriculture, but a major part of their wealth was derived from their successful Patuxent Ironworks. By the end of the eighteenth century three branches of the family were living in the three principal plantation houses in northeast Prince George's County: Thomas at Montpelier, Samuel at Snow Hill, and Richard at Oaklands. The oldest of the establishments was Birmingham Manor, just across the Patuxent River in Anne Arundel County; it was inherited by John Snowden (brother of Thomas and Samuel) and passed to his son, Rezin Hammond Snowden.¹

It was probably Rezin Snowden who built Snowden Hall on part of New Birmingham Manor in Prince George's County, perhaps around the time of his marriage in 1829, or somewhat later. (Family tradition suggests that the original structure at Snowden Hall was begun around 1815, and that it was originally called Rose Cottage.) The only building listed for Rezin Snowden in the 1832 tax assessment, however, is a "framed dwelling house 48 by 38 two stories high, [with a] piazza on one side and a small porch on the other side."² This may be a description of the house which preceded the present Snowden Hall. In any case, the house at Snowden Hall was enlarged, probably around mid-century, and raised from a one-and-one-half story dwelling to a full two stories. The lines of the original structure, with its tall exterior flush chimneys, are clearly visible in the rebuilt gable ends of the present building. The decorative detail of the central hall and staircase, and the corbelled exterior cornice, suggest that the raising of the house took place at the middle of the nineteenth century; these transitional Greek Revival style features are typical of several mid-century brick plantation houses in the County. It is

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#64-1
Section 8 Page 2

likely that the expansion was undertaken when the house was occupied by John Snowden (son of Rezin H. Snowden) at the time of his marriage in 1857. Census and tax assessment records indicate that, while his father still owned the property, John Snowden was living, with his young wife and first-two children, at Snowden Hall in 1860.³ (Family tradition suggests that one of the ladies of the family, returning from a trip to England, insisted on raising the roof of Snowden House to a full two stories, after learning that a lower roof in England denoted lower social class.)

Rezin Hammond Snowden died at Birmingham Manor in 1866, and devised to his son John most of his Prince George's County property, including the land (Snowden Hall) on which he already resided. John's brother, William, inherited Birmingham Manor in Anne Arundel County, and lived there until it was destroyed by fire in 1891.⁴ John Snowden died intestate in 1872; his widow and minor children continued to reside at Snowden Hall. In 1891, his real estate, both in Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties, was divided among his heirs by Deed of Partition; of the nine divisions, Lot #1, consisting of 262 acres including the brick dwelling, was allotted to son John and daughter Elizabeth, who continued to live there with their mother. John Snowden survived his mother and sister, continuing to reside at Snowden Hall until his death in 1926.⁵

Reminiscences of Snowden Hall in the first third of the twentieth century have been recorded by Harrison Weymouth, grand-nephew of the last John Snowden. Weymouth and his parents spent summers at Snowden Hall, and he has described the main kitchen and wine cellar below the house, as well as the frame summer kitchen at the south end of the house; other features included the formal terraced gardens west of the house, the ice house, smokehouse, carriage house and slave quarters. The house was approached from the northwest by a drive in the location of present day Snowden Road.⁶

The second John Snowden died in 1926, devising all of his real estate to his widow. Two years later, she sold the 404-acre property to her husband's cousin, Alice Hopkins.⁷ In 1936, when the U.S. government was buying large amounts of property in that area for the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, Alice Hopkins sold Snowden Hall.⁸ Development of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center began immediately, and the mansion was renovated to serve as headquarters. Bricks from Gladswood (a Federal style plantation house on another nearby property purchased by the government at the same time) were used in the renovation of Snowden Hall. The renovation, including construction of the two new wings, was completed in 1939, and the Wildlife Center was dedicated in that year. During the Second World War, Snowden Hall served as a dormitory for interned Conscientious Objectors working at the Center. After the war, the building was again remodeled to serve as offices; it was vacated in 1984 when it was considered structurally unsafe.⁹

Very little original interior detail remains at Snowden Hall. The Greek Revival style staircase remains, but mantels appear to have been replaced. The packed-earth cellar has been refinished with concrete and plaster, and structural details are no longer visible. The building does, however, retain its historic lines, and it is particularly significant as one of the principal homes in Prince George's County of the prominent Snowden family.

Notes

- 1 Cook, William G., Montpelier and the Snowden Family, 1976.
- 2 Tax assessment for Election District #1, Prince George's County, 1832.
- 3 Census for Prince George's County, Vansville district; tax assessments for Prince George's County, Election District #1, 1850, 1861-68.
- 4 Anne Arundel County Will of Rezin H. Snowden, executed 2 July 1864, probated 15 August 1866, filed in Prince George's Equity #1408.
- 5 Prince George's County Deed of Partition JWB #17:392; Prince George's County Deed JWB #37:500; Prince George's County Will JBP #1:233.
- 6 cf. Article "Recollections of Snowden Hall", Laurel News Leader, 16 July 1970.
- 7 Prince George's County Estate File #4144; Will WTD #1:478; Deed #323:29.
- 8 Prince George's County Deed #445:113.
- 9 "Snowden Hall and Patuxent Wildlife Refuge", March 1968; "Classified Structure Inventory Report" P.W.R.C., from files of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#64-1

cf. Chain of Title
cf. Notes, Item # 8

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 324,694 acres
Quadrangle name Laurel, Section E

Tax map 15, parcel 26
Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian
organization	Historic Preservation Commission
street & number	c/o County Planning, MNCPPC
city or town	Upper Marlboro
date	August 1987
telephone	952-3521
state	MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 64-1 Date 1730, 1812-16

Building Name Snowden Hall

Location Route 197, Laurel, Maryland

Open to Public yes no restricted

Snowden Hall is a two story, five bay brick structure with interior chimneys at each gable end. The property was acquired by John Snowden who built the original house in 1730; it was later destroyed by fire. About 1816, on the ruins of the original house, a second house was erected, and known as Rose Cottage. It was a one story brick structure, laid in English bond, with dormer windows. Later a second story was added; the ghost of the former roof line can now be seen on the gable ends.

Snowden Hall is one of several Snowden estates located in the Laurel area. It was the last of them to pass out of the Snowden family. The U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service purchased it in 1936, to be included in the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Snowden Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 197

CITY, TOWN

Laurel

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Prince George's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

U. S. Dept. of Interior, Fish and
Wildlife Service

Dr. Lucille Stickel, Dir.

Telephone #: 776-4880

STREET & NUMBER

Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Route 197

CITY, TOWN

Laurel

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 20811

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Prince George's County Courthouse

Liber #: 445

Folio #: 113

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1936

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington,

STATE

D. C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Snowden Hall is a two-story, five-bay, brick structure which rests on a high basement with an outside entrance. Both east and west facades have centrally placed entrances and 6/6 openings capped by flat arches. The building terminates in a cornice formed by two courses of corbeled brick.

On either end of the low pitched gable roof are end-wall chimneys with triple-arched hoods. Between the chimneys on one end, there is a second floor window. The outline of the former roof may be seen on the gable ends.

The west facade differs from the east in its door treatment. The east doorway is topped by a three-light transom. Identical porches supported by squared doric columns have been reconstructed on both the east and west facades.

The original Snowden Hall, built in the early part of the 18th century, was destroyed by fire. The house was rebuilt as "Rose Cottage," a one-story brick structure with dormer windows, in 1815 or 1816. Later the house was enlarged to its present appearance. Since then, it has undergone much interior alteration as its use has shifted from a private dwelling, to a dormitory, to apartments and presently as office space.

The exterior and interior walls are more than a foot thick and are constructed of soft red brick and lime mortar. The mansion had a large central hall with an open staircase flanked by two rooms, each heated by its own fireplace. The handrail on the staircase is the original walnut. Fireplace mantels in each room, some of the doors and moldings are also believed to be original.

The main dining room was served by a dumbwaiter from the kitchen in the cellar where a wine cellar and servants' quarters were also located.

Today, only two cedar trees remain of those which once shaded a walkway leading from the east door to the Patuxent River.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1730, 1812-16

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Snowden

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house is one of several Snowden estates located in the area. The property was acquired by John Snowden who built the original home in 1730. After destruction by fire in the early 1800's, the present Country Georgian style brick home was built between 1812 and 1816. This was a one-story brick structure, utilizing English bond, with dormer windows and was called "Rose Cottage." It has been said that when the lady of the house visited England, she learned that only tenants lived in cottages such as this and upon her return added a second story.

This property remained in the Snowden family ownership. It was the last Snowden property to pass out of Snowden hands.

Snowden Hall was sold to the U. S. Department of Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service in 1936 for the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. It is now being used as offices for the regulation of the hunting of migratory birds.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cook, William G. Montpelier and the Snowden Family. 1976

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 415.90

USGS map - Laurel Quadrangle

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ruth Lockard and Jo Ellen Freese August 1978

ORGANIZATION

Prince George's Co. Historical and Cultural Trust

STREET & NUMBER

9110 Brandywine Road

TELEPHONE

868-1121

CITY OR TOWN

Clinton,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

PG: 4-1
P. 937

1700374207

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Snowden Hall				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 197				
CITY OR TOWN: Laurel				
STATE: Md.		COUNTY: Prince George's		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, US Dept. of the Interior				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 197				
CITY OR TOWN: Laurel			STATE: Md.	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Md.	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress				
STREET AND NUMBER: East Capitol and 1st streets SE				
CITY OR TOWN: Washington, DC			STATE:	

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

The house is a two story brick structure set on a high basement. The five-bay main (east) facade has a central bay entrance and openings topped by flat arches. A double course set forward from the plane of the wall serves as a cornice.

The roof has a low pitch. On either end are two internal chimneys with tripe-arched hoods. On the second floor there is a window between the stacks.

On either side of the main block, is a one-story, one-bay wing. These were probably constructed at the time of the house's restoration by the WPA.

The west facade is identical to the east facade except for the transom light over the door on the east facade. Identical porches have been reconstructed on both the east and west facades.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" 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

The house was part of the extensive Snowden holdings in the area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Empty box for major bibliographical references.

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				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Empty box for acreage justification.

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

STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 1/31/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Md.

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

rm 10-445
62)

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Prince Georges TOWN STREET NO. Located on Patuxent Reserve	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY
VICINITY #3 Refuge	NAME Snowden Hall
ORIGINAL OWNER Snowden family ORIGINAL USE Private dwelling PRESENT OWNER Reserve DEPT. OF INTERIOR PRESENT USE Administration WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick NO. OF STORIES 2 1/2	DATE OR PERIOD ca. 1730 STYLE Country Georgian ARCHITECT BUILDER
	3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC

A-shaped roof since raised in front and back to fully accommodate upper story.
 Orig. 2 1/2 stories, first story is half below ground.
 Two modern wings well done.
 English bond varying from five to seven rows of stretchers to one row of headers.
 Four chimneys, two on each side capped in later style.

Source - Historic Sites Identification Map published by Md. Nat'l Capital / Park + Planning Comm.

12. (3) SNOWDEN HALL — Now serves as an administrative building on a Department of Interior reservation. One of several Snowden estates, original structure was two stories, English bond, four chimneys; two modern wings have been added.



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

Color
743 847

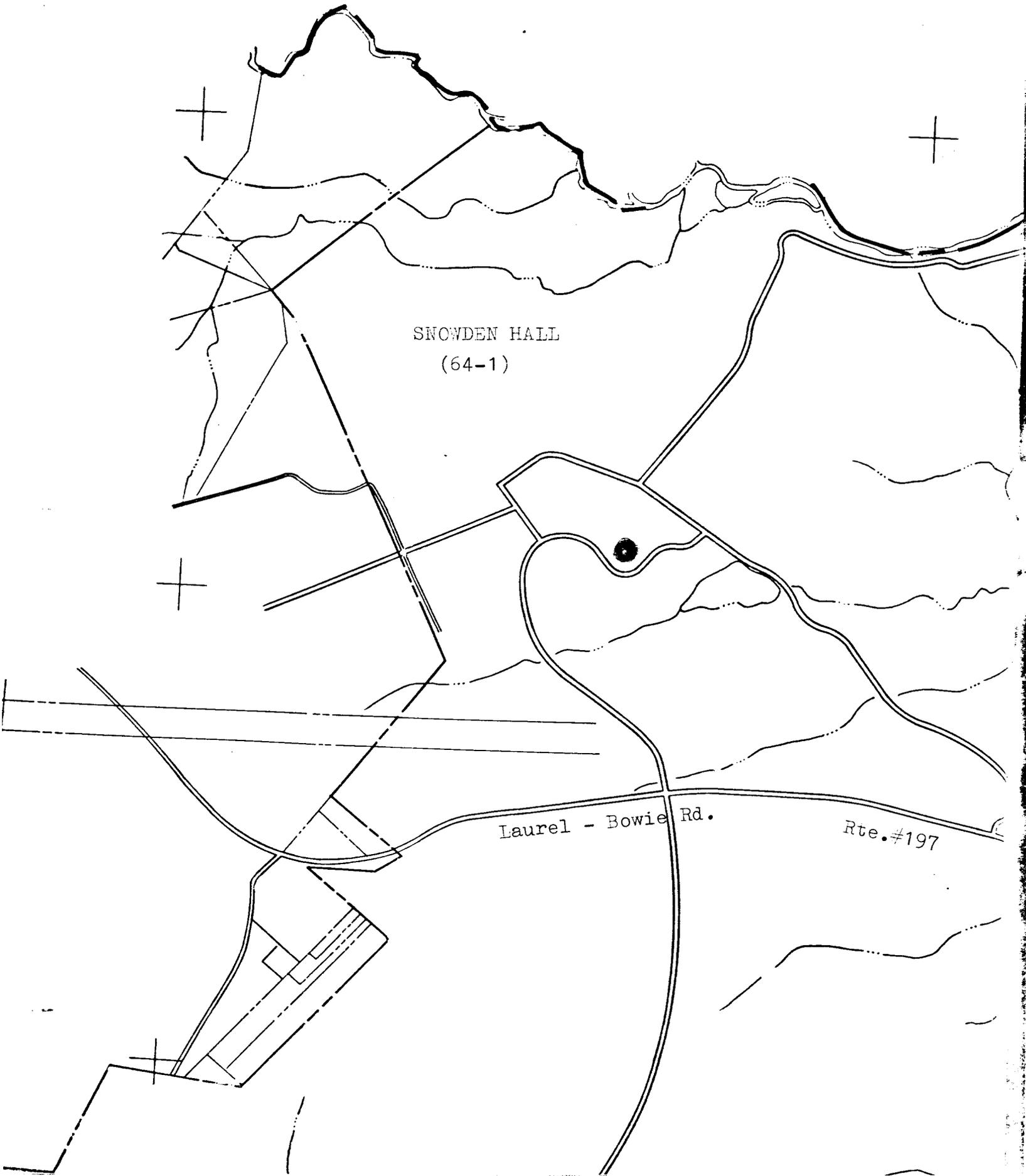
7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

KPK

DATE OF RECORD



SNOWDEN HALL
(64-1)

Laurel - Bowie Rd.

Rte. #197

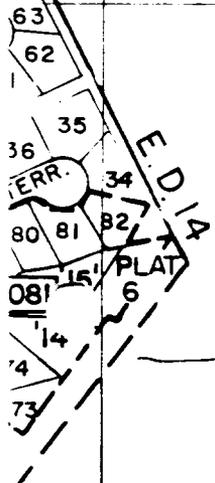
FISH AND
WILDLIFE
REFUGE

R-R

PG: 64-1

SNOWDEN
POND

N. 444,188.23
E. 849,822.72



LAUREL BOWIE RD.

197

E.D.14

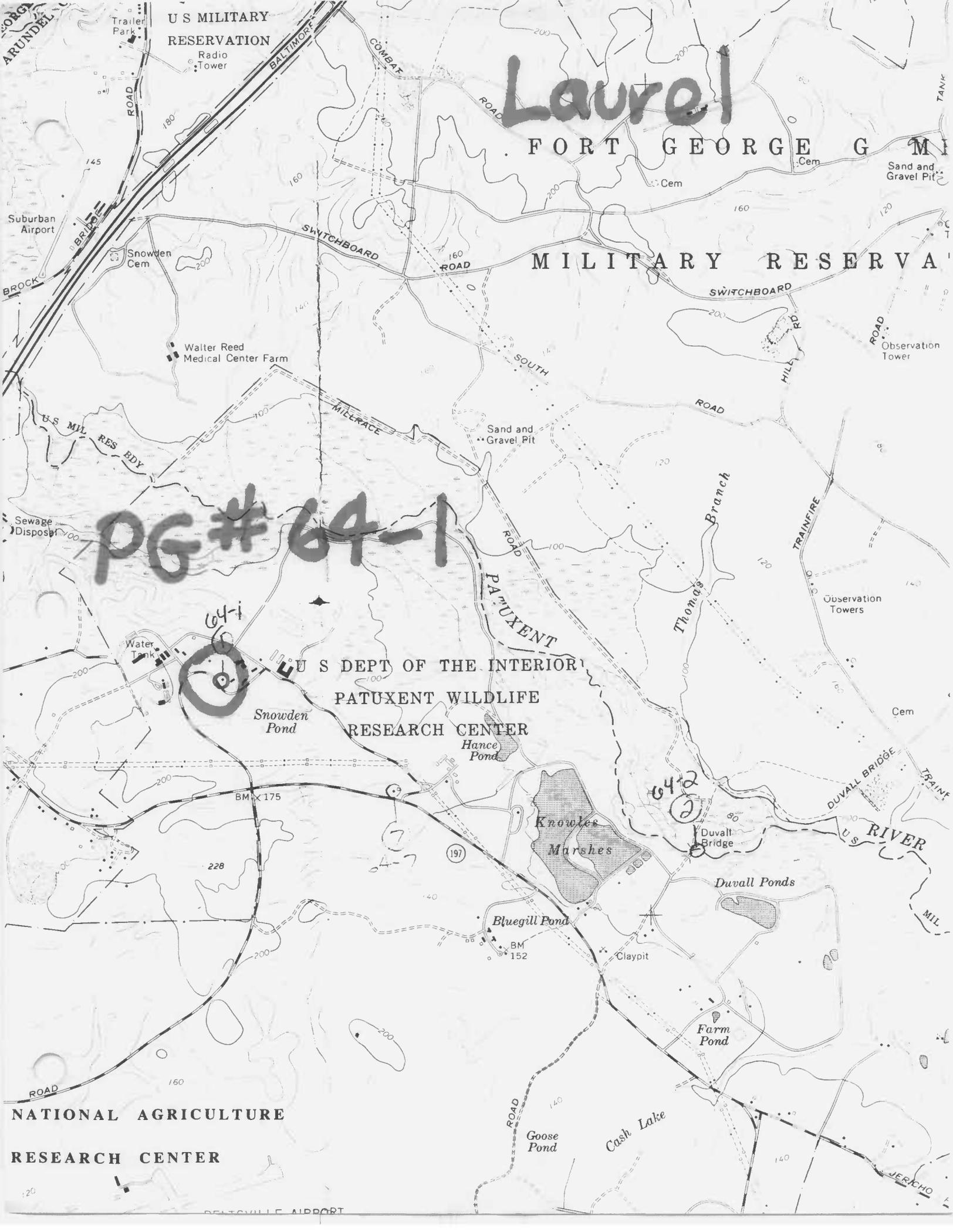
E.D.10

LAUREL

R-R

POWDER MILL RD. 41.0
01.0

BELTSVILLE
ARC



Laurel

FORT GEORGE G M

MILITARY RESERVA

PG# 64-1

U S DEPT OF THE INTERIOR
PATUXENT WILDLIFE
RESEARCH CENTER

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH CENTER

RENTVILLE AIRPORT



P.G. #64-1

Snowden Hall
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
West elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #64-1

Snowden Hall
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
East elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #64-1

Snowden Hall
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
East entrance
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #64-1

Snowden Hall
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
Northwest 3/4 elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



NAME SNOWDEN HALL # 64-1

LOCATION Rt 197 LAUREL, Md (PATUXENT WILDLIFE CTR)

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 1/30/73 MDWYER