

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

Property Name: Stoopley Gibson (Whites Heritage) Inventory Number: QA-222
Address: US 50/301 (north side) Piney Creek Road Historic district: yes no
City: Chester Zip Code: _____ County: Queen Annes
USGS Quadrangle(s): Kent Island
Property Owner: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: _____
Project: _____ Agency: _____
Agency Prepared By: DOT/FHWA/E.Elinsky
Preparer's Name: _____ Date Prepared: 12/3/1979
Documentation is presented in: _____
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes no Listed: yes no
Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Stoopley Gibson is architecturally significant as a 3-story brick house reflecting the design characteristics of mid-19th c. vernacular architecture applied to the renovation and expansion of a 2-1/2-story full Georgian plan house dating from the later 18th c.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
MHT Comments:	
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date
_____ Carol D. Schull (Keeper NR)	_____ Monday, February 11, 1980
_____ Reviewer, National Register Program	_____ Date

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
White's Heritage, Stoopley-Gibson
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
North side of U. S. 50/301
CITY, TOWN
Chester VICINITY OF
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st
STATE
Maryland
COUNTY
Queen Anne's

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Luther W. Gregory Telephone #: _____
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Chester _____ VICINITY OF
STATE, zip code
Maryland 21619

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, LIBER # : CWC 56
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse Folio # : 420
STREET & NUMBER Liber # : CWC 71
Courthouse Square Folio # : 589
CITY, TOWN
Centreville STATE
Maryland 21617

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 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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

White's Heritage is located on the east side of Macum Creek on Kent Island, facing north with a splendid view of the Chester River and the northeast shore of Kent Island.

The main house at White's Heritage faces south down a long driveway that once stretched all the way to Route 18 just east of Chester, but has since been cut off by U. S. 50-301. The house is of brick construction, five bays wide, three stories high, and one room deep, with paired end chimneys at each end of a low hip roof. The house has been through a number of significant changes over a long period of time, however, and the present form of the house is considerably altered from the earliest portions of the house. The somewhat confusing and contradictory architectural evidence makes positive analysis difficult, but two early photographs of the house in the possession of the present owners are of considerable help. These photographs show both facades and the west gable of the house before the 20th century alterations.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

These two early views, together with an analysis of the building as it stands today, show that the house began as a 2 or 2 1/2 story brick house, evidently dating to the latter half of the 18th century. In the mid-19th century the house was raised to three full stories and the earlier roof was replaced with a shallow pitched gable roof. In the late 19th century a two story frame addition was added to the east end of the north facade, and a one story porch with bracketed posts was built across the middle three bays of the south facade.

Further changes occurred during the 1930's, when the house was renovated by the McGuckin family. The frame wing was presumably demolished at this time, and the present story-and-a-half wing was added to the west gable of the main house. The 19th century pitched gable roof was modified to a hip roof and the corbeled brick cornice on the facades was extended across the gables as well. Major repairs were undertaken on the brickwork of the main house, and several changes were made in the fenestration.

The front facade, facing south down the driveway, is dominated by a wide entrance door with sidelights and

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

transom, flanked by two large six-over-six windows on each side. Directly above the entrance is a large triple window, consisting of a central six-over-six flanked by tall, narrow two-over-two sash. Two six-over-six windows in the flanking bays on each side repeat the first floor fenestration pattern. On the third floor, there are five three-over-three windows. The brickwork on this facade is laid in English bond on all three stories above a plain watertable and an English bond foundation. A three-course belt course is carried across the facade between the first and second stories. A three-course corbelled brick cornice above a three-course projecting frieze is useful in dating the addition of the third story. The window openings have splayed brick jack arches and granite sills. The most interesting feature of this facade is a section of header bond brickwork at the east end of the building. This brickwork is virtually undisturbed, and is evidently all that survives completely intact on this facade from the 18th century. The presence of this one section of early work, together with consistent use of English bond on all three floors, lends credence to a local tradition that at least part of

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

the house was rebuilt from the ground up in the 1930's.

The west gable is now almost entirely covered by the brick wing, but one of the early photographs clearly illustrates this end of the building before the wing was added. This shows there were two six-over-six windows closely paired between the chimneys on the first and second floor and two three-over-three windows similarly positioned on the third floor. Only the third floor windows remain today.

On the north facade, facing the river, the fenestration is not symmetrical and has been partially altered. In the early photograph, the frame wing covers the easternmost of four bays, with the door located in the second bay on the first floor, and two six-over-six windows to the right. There are three six-over-six windows on the second floor, with the second floor stair landing visible behind the window over the door. On the third floor, all four three-over-three windows remain functional. When the frame wing was demolished, a large triple window was

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

installed on the first floor, and a six-over-six was put back on the second floor. The second story window above the door was lowered, evidently to center it over the first floor landing. The brickwork on this facade is laid in Flemish bond on the first and second stories above a plain watertable and an English bond foundation. The third story, added in the mid-19th century, is laid in seven-course bond with the same corbeled brick cornice found on the south facade. A three-course belt-course stretches across the facade between the first and second story.

The east gable has been altered to some extent. The fenestration pattern was at one time identical to the west gable, with paired windows between the chimneys on each floor. The south windows on both the first and second floor have been bricked up, and a new six-over-six window has been inserted on the first floor to the left of the original location. The south chimney stack has been removed on the first floor, but apparently continues to function on the second floor. A bulkhead cellar entrance between the two chimneys is probably a 20th century addition. The brickwork on this gable wall has been extensively

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

reworked, but a small section of English bond at ground level remains undisturbed. The entire facade is now English bond, terminating in a corbeled brick cornice at eave level.

The interior was originally laid out in a full Georgian plan, with two rooms on either side of a center stair hall. The partition between the two east rooms has been removed, and the two rooms have been opened up into a single large room with one fireplace at the north end of the east gable wall.

The stair rises against the east wall of the hall to a landing at the north end of the hall. It is an open string stair with turned balusters, no newels, and a simple walnut rail. Scrolled brackets decorate the stair ends and the area below the carriage is paneled.

The two west rooms are joined by a large double door, and each room is heated by a fireplace on the gable wall. The window and door architraves, the panel molds, and the majority of the interior trim are typical of the mid-19th century, and presumably date to the addition of the third story. Interior cornices and complex chairrails appear to date to the 1930's

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

renovation. Scratched into the glass of one of the windows on the north facade is the inscription

Thos. White June 6, 1887.

On the second floor, the Georgian plan is repeated, but the two east chambers have again been opened up, in this case to form a large master bedroom. The north fireplace has been blocked, while the south fireplace remains functional. A modern bath has been inserted in the southwest corner of the enlarged room. The west chambers remain relatively unchanged, with simple 19th century mantels and some 20th century trim.

The center stair hall has been modified on the third floor by the insertion of a modern bathroom at the south end of the hall. The four sleeping chambers were presumably heated with stoves, but the chimneys are now boxed in and the flues covered. The trim is all 20th century. There is no access to the roof framing.

The cellar appears to have been excavated in the 20th century. The chimney bases have arched supports,

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.7 DESCRIPTION

but no flues for fireplaces. The only partition is below the east hall partition on the first floor.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

White's Heritage is among the largest surviving 18th century houses on Kent Island. It began as a 2 or 2 1/2 story house with a full Georgian plan, and was raised to three stories in the mid-19th century. Although considerably altered at that time and again in the 1930's, this house retains a number of interesting features from the earliest period. Most significant of these is the section of header bond brickwork on the south facade. This was a bonding pattern popular in Annapolis and Chestertown from the 1740's to the 1780's, and is found in scattered examples throughout the Tidewater region. This is the third building with this bonding pattern to be identified on Kent Island, and suggests a date of circa 1760-1780 for the original house. Interior alterations and the added third story are typical of the period 1830-1860. The majority of the interior woodwork dates

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

to this period.

The tract of land now known as White's Heritage can be traced back to the mid-17th century, when John Gibson and Henry Stoupe, acting as "partners and mates", patented 150 acres of land on the northeast side of Kent Island. The grant was made on November 12, 1656, and the land was surveyed in October, 1658. ⁽¹⁾ In August of 1657 Gibson and Stoupe purchased 100 additional acres from John Winchester, ⁽²⁾ and in December of 1658 sold half of their holding to Andrew Helena ⁽³⁾ (Elinor). In 1673 the Chancery Court appointed a commission to determine if Andrew Elinor was actually in possession of the land. The commission reported that Elinor died in 1660, that his wife had remarried first Macum McHenny (or Macenne) and after McHenny's death had then married John Dabb. The land had passed to Elinor's two daughters, Sarah and Ann, and was, by 1694, jointly held by their husbands, William Joyner and Lawrence Arnold. ⁽⁴⁾

It is difficult to determine the chain of ownership for the property between 1694 and 1730, but in November of 1730 "Stoopley-Gibson" was resurveyed for

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Francis Bright for 200 acres.⁽⁵⁾ In September, 1767, Francis Bright sold 21 1/4 acres to Benjamin Walters, and in October of the same year, Francis Bright conveyed 178 3/4 acres to his son, Francis Bright, Jr.⁽⁶⁾ On the 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Francis Bright is listed as the owner of 176 acres of Stoopley-Gibson, with a dwelling house valued at \$600, a barn, and a corn house.

The property remained in the Bright family until 1865, when Franklin Bright died intestate. The land was sold in 1868 to Marmaduke White and in 1886, following the death of Marmaduke White, Stoopley-Gibson was purchased by Thomas W. K. White. In a deposition taken by the Chancery Court in 1880, the property was described as containing about 162 acres, improved by "a two story brick house with attic, with a frame back building and all the necessary outbuildings".⁽⁷⁾

Stoopley-Gibson remained in the White family until 1934, when it was purchased by Gertrude McGuckin, who, with her husband, undertook the renovation and restoration of the house.⁽⁸⁾ In 1950, the McGuckins sold the property to Hugh McNalley. At this time, the property

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.3 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

was still referred to in the deed as Stoopley-Gibson. (9)

In 1955 McNalley sold to John Sause, Sr., and with this

and succeeding deeds White's Heritage supplanted

Stoopley-Gibson as the preferred name. (10) In 1971 the

property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Luther W.

Gregory, the present owners. (11)

Footnotes

- (1) Rent Roll, Isle of Kent County, North East Hundred, folio 11.
- (2) Maryland Archives, Vol. 54, folio 112. August 1, 1757.
- (3) Maryland Archives, Vol. 54, folio 179. December 1, 1759.
- (4) Maryland Archives, Vol. 51, folio 110. March 4, 1673.
- (5) Queen Anne's County Rent Roll, folio 498. Resurveyed to Francis Bright Nov. 30, 1730. Patented to said Bright Sept. 5, 1732.
- (6) ibid
- (7) Chancery Case 613.
- (8) Deeds, Liber' BHT 17, folio 456. April 26, 1934.
- (9) Deeds, Liber NBW 6, folio 465. June 30, 1950.
- (10) Deeds, Liber TSP 21, folio 529. May 20, 1955.
- (11) Deeds, Liber CWC 55, folio 488. June 2, 1971.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

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

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor *

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

8/27/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

Recorded June 1979: Field Notebook QA-1X

*Research by Mildred Schock, Chester, 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.

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



QA-222 White's Heritage
Chester, Maryland
Rita Suffness, April 1979
North facade