PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #64-2  Building Date: 1907

Building Name: Duvall Bridge

Location: Old Telegraph Road at Patuxent River, Laurel, Md. (Now on Lago Road)

Public/Transportation/Unoccupied/Fair/Inaccessible

Description:

Duvall Bridge is a steel truss bridge built in 1907 across the Patuxent River; it carried the Old Telegraph Road between Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties. The bridge is a single-span, steel, Pratt truss bridge. The roadbed is of heavy wood planks. The bridge has a criss-cross mesh railing like that of Governors Bridge; unlike the later, however, the Duvall Bridge is open to the sky and has no overhead structure. Affixed to the south raking strut on the Anne Arundel County side is a metal plaque which lists the names of the Anne Arundel County Commissioners in the year that the bridge was constructed. The roadbed is closed to traffic and no longer used. The Duvall bridge spans the river in a scenic area near wildlife propagation ponds at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

Significance:

The Duvall Bridge was built circa 1907 to carry the old Telegraph Road across the Patuxent River between Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties. It is one of three surviving bridges of its type in Prince George's County. By the middle of the nineteenth century, there was a wooden bridge at this location; it connected the plantation of Dr. Charles Duvall to his mill on the Anne Arundel County side of the river. Dr. Duvall and later his son, Dr. William W. Duvall, lived in the plantation house known as Gladswood, 1/2 mile south of the bridge in Prince George's County. The Duvalls' 450 acre farm was sold out of the family in 1906; in the next year, a decision was made to replace the old bridge, and the present steel truss bridge was erected. There are two other steel truss bridges in Prince George's County. The bridge at Queen Anne is probably the oldest, dating approximately from the turn of this century. It replaced an earlier wooden bridge at this important port town. Governors Bridge, another Pratt truss steel bridge, was built in 1912; it replaced a nineteenth century wooden bridge at the location known for generations as Governors Bridge, because of its use by Governors Ogle of Belair and Bowie of Fairview in their travels between Annapolis and Prince George's County. The Duvall Bridge is a fine example of an early twentieth century steel Pratt truss bridge, and is one of only three surviving in Prince George's County.

Acreage: ca. 385 acres
Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)
   historic: Duvall Bridge

2. Location
   street & number: Old Telegraph Road at Patuxent River (now Largo Road) — not for publication
   city, town: Laurel
   state: Maryland
   county: Prince George's

3. Classification
   Category: district — site — object
   Ownership: X public — private — both
   Status: X occupied — unoccupied — work in progress
   Present Use: — agriculture — commercial — educational
   Accessible: X yes: restricted — yes: unrestricted
   scientific — transportation
   Public Acquisition: in process
   X not applicable — being considered — X no

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)
   name: U.S.A. (Dept. of Interior)
   street & number: 18th and F Streets
   city, town: Washington, D.C.
   telephone no.: 20405

5. Location of Legal Description
   courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Prince George's County Courthouse
   liber: 443
   street & number: Main Street
   folio: 2
   city, town: Upper Marlboro
   state: Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys
   title: Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites
   date: 1974
   federal _ state _ county _ local
   depository for survey records: Historic Preservation Commission c/o M-NCPPC
   city, town: Upper Marlboro
   state: Maryland 20772
Duvall Bridge is a steel truss bridge built in 1907 across the Patuxent River; it carried the Old Telegraph Road between Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties.

The bridge is a single-span, steel, Pratt truss bridge, and is one of only three bridges of this type in the County. The roadbed is of heavy wood planks. The bridge has a criss-cross mesh railing like that of Governors Bridge (PG #748-1); unlike Governors Bridge, however, the Duvall Bridge is open to the sky and has no overhead structure.

Affixed to the south raking strut on the Anne Arundel County (east) side is a metal plaque which lists the names of the Anne Arundel County Commissioners in the year that the bridge was constructed:

"G.D. Ridout  
J.H. Wayson  
J.M. Beard  
H.D. Cook  
J.S. Smith  
W.T. Wells  
A.A. Shipley  
Anne Arundel County Commissioners  
W.W. Webb, clerk  
T. Hayman, Road Supt."

The Anne Arundel County Commissioners listed above were sworn into office in November 1907.

The roadbed is closed to traffic and no longer used. The Duvall bridge spans the river in a scenic area near wildlife propagation ponds at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.
### 8. Significance

**Period**
- prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- X 1900-

**Areas of Significance—Check and justify below**
- archaeology-prehistoric
- archaeology-historic
- agriculture
- architecture
- art
- commerce
- communications
- community planning
- conservation
- economics
- education
- engineering
- exploration/settlement
- industry
- invention
- landscape architecture
- law
- literature
- military
- music
- philosophy
- politics/government
- religion
- science
- sculpture
- social/humanitarian
- theater
- transportation
- other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1907

**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.

The Duvall Bridge was built circa 1907 to carry the old Telegraph Road across the Patuxent River between Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties. It is one of three surviving bridges of its type in Prince George's County.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, there was a wooden bridge at this location; it connected the plantation of Dr. Charles Duvall to his grist and sawmill on the Anne Arundel County side of the river. Dr. Duvall and later his son, Dr. William W. Duvall, lived in the fine Federal Style frame plantation house known as Gladswood (on the tract, Moore's Industry), approximately 1/2 mile south of the bridge in Prince George's County. The Duvall's 450 acre farm was sold out of the family in 1906, after the death of Dr. William W. Duvall. In the next year, a decision was made to replace the old bridge, and the present steel truss bridge was erected.1

The Gladswood property was purchased in 1914 by Fred Kluckhuhn, who farmed the land until it was sold in 1936 to the United States Government, for the establishment of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. The Gladswood plantation house, by then in seriously deteriorating condition, was condemned and demolished by the U.S. Government; some of the bricks from the oldest wing at Gladswood were used in the reconstruction on Snowden Hall. In 1941 title to the Duvall Bridge was given to the U.S. Government by Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties.2

There are two other steel truss bridges in Prince George's County. The bridge at Queen Anne is probably the oldest, dating approximately from the turn of this century. It replaced an earlier wooden bridge at this important town; Queen Anne, established in 1706, became a tobacco inspection station in 1747, and had a bridge as early as 1755.3 The present bridge at Queen Anne resembles a Pratt truss bridge in Bergen, New Jersey, which was built in 1891.4 The Queen Anne bridge has been closed to traffic for approximately 20 years.
Governors Bridge, another Pratt truss steel bridge was built in 1912; it replaced a nineteenth century wooden bridge at the location known for generations as Governors Bridge, because of its use by Governors Ogle of Belair and Bowie of Fairview in their travels between Annapolis and Prince George's County. Governors Bridge is being repaired and maintained by both Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties.\textsuperscript{5}

The Duvall Bridge is a fine example of an early twentieth century steel Pratt truss bridge, and is one of only three surviving in Prince George's County.\textsuperscript{6}

Notes

1 Prince George's County Wills WAJ #1:226 and WRS #1:46; Prince George's County Deeds #30:260.

2 Prince George's County Deed #443:2; cf. PG #64-1, Snowden Hall.


5 cf. Governors Bridge, PG #748-1.

6 Two smaller (ca. 1930's) truss bridges carry Leeland Road over the Collington Branch, and McKendree Road over the Timothy Branch; both these smaller bridges underwent repairs in 1984.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#64-2

cf. Notes, Item # 8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property      --- (ca 385 acres)  Tax map #15, parcel 27
Quadrangle name Laurel, Section F  Quadrangle scale

UTM References  do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title        Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian
organization      Historic Preservation Commission  date       July 1987
street & number   c/o County Planning, M-NCPDC  telephone  952-3521
city or town      Upper Marlboro  state  Maryland  20772

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 # 64-2 Date 1907

Building Name Gladwood Site and Duvall Bridge

Location Telegraph Rd. at Patuxent River

Open to Public ☒ yes ☐ no

This is an old Patuxent River crossing located on the tract called Moore's Industry, patented to Charles Duvall on October 21, 1718. The original wooden bridge was constructed in the early 1800's. In 1861, it provided access to the saw and grist mills of Dr. Charles Duvall on the Ann Arundel County side of the river. It carried the major road between Baltimore and Washington which linked the telegraph lines of Professor Samuel Morse. The present steel truss bridge, erected in 1907 by Ann Arundel County Bureau of Roads, is a type that is now quite rare in the area, the last in Prince George's county, and is interesting from an engineering standpoint.

Goodwood, the home of Dr. Charles Duvall, 1784-1862, the recipient in 1807 of the first diploma to be awarded by the present Medical College of the University of Maryland, was located here. After his death, his son, Dr. William Waters Duvall, to please his wife changed the name to "Gladwood" after her Scottish home. It was destroyed after the government took over the lands in 1936. The bricks were used to construct the wings on Snowden Hall.
INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
HISTORIC
"Gladsworth" also known as "Goodwood" Site and
AND/OR COMMON
DuVall Bridge (Patuxent Bridge)

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
(abandoned) Telegraph Rd. (DuVall Bridge Rd. on Anne Arundel Co. side) at river off Rte. 197
CITY, TOWN
Bowie
STATE
Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
DISTRICT
BUILDING(S)
STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT
OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE
BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS
OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
YES RESTRICTED
YES UNRESTRICTED
NO
PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
PARK
EDUCATIONAL
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
ENTERTAINMENT
RELIGIOUS
GOVERNMENT
SCIENTIFIC
INDUSTRIAL
TRANSPORTATION
MILITARY
OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
Dr. Lucille Stickel, Director
U.S. Dept. of the Int.-Patuxent
STREET & NUMBER
Wildlife Center
CITY, TOWN
Laurel
STATE, ZIP CODE
MD 20811

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Prince George's County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Upper Marlboro
STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
HABS ("Gladsworth" photos)
DATE
1936
FEDERAL
STATE
COUNTY
LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress
CITY, TOWN
Washington, D.C.
This is an old Patuxent River crossing, that is now cut off from public access. It is a scenic area near wildlife propagation ponds. The present span is a low steel truss bridge, with wooden floor planks, that was probably constructed shortly after 1907. A plaque on the Anne Arundel County side reads as follows:

G. D. Rideout
J. H. Wayson
J. M. Beard
H. D. Cook
J. S. Smith
W. T. Wells
A. A. Shipley

Anne Arundel County
Commissioners
E. T. Hayman, Road Supt.

Anne Arundel County records indicate that these seven (7) Commissioners were sworn into office on Nov. 1, 1907. (Hence the date of the bridge)

Condemned in 1977 as the result of recent floods, federal funds have been allotted for restoration in fiscal year 1979. A memorial plaque, (See attached), presented by the Duvall Society in 1966 and vandalized about ten (10) years ago will be reinstalled at this time.
The Duvall Bridge is located on the tract, "Moore's Industry", patented to Charles Duvall on October 21, 1718. The original wooden bridge was constructed in the early 1800's. In 1861, it provided access to the saw and grist mills of Dr. Charles Duvall on the Anne Arundel Co. side of the river and carried the road between Baltimore and Washington which linked the telegraph lines of Dr. Samuel F. B. Morse.

The present steel truss bridge was erected ca. 1907. In November and December of 1941, with the expansion of Ft. Meade, the rights and title to the bridge were given to the federal government by Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties with Prince George's County accepting the gravel mined on the site. The structure is a type that is now quite rare, the last remaining one in Prince George's County, and is interesting from an engineering standpoint.

The old Duvall home, "Goodwood", was located on this tract. The aforementioned Dr. Charles Duvall, 1784-1862, was the recipient in 1807 of the first diploma to be awarded by the present Medical College of the University of Maryland. After his death, his son, Dr. William Waters Duvall, to please his wife, changed the name to "Gladwood", after her Scottish home. The tract remained under Duvall ownership until 1906 when she sold it to Laura K. Matthews. Subsequent owners; Charles Matthews, 1914 and Fred Kluckhuhn, 1932; used the land for tenant farming. In 1936, the dwelling, which was an outstanding example of pre-Revolutionary or early Federal architecture with the oldest part being of brick, was burned by Army engineers; after the tract was sold by Fred Kluckhuhn and his wife, Daisy P. Kluckhuhn to the U.S.A., Dept. of Interior for the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

A large family burial plot was moved to Holy Trinity Church, Collington and the bricks from the home were used to add the wings to Snowden Hall.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Anne Arundel County Court Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 385.49 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

FORM PREPARED BY
NAME / TITLE
Ruth Lockard
ORGANIZATION
5807 84th Avenue
STREET & NUMBER
New Carrollton, Maryland 20784
CITY OR TOWN

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

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**NAME**

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<th>Historic</th>
<th>&quot;Gladsworth&quot; Site</th>
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<tr>
<td>AND/OR COMMON</td>
<td>Duvall Bridge-Patuxent River</td>
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**LOCATION**

| STREET & NUMBER | (abandoned) Duvall Bridge Rd. at river, off Rte. 197 |
| CITY TOWN       | Bowie |
| STATE           | Maryland |
| VICINITY OF     | COUNTY Prince George's |

**CLASSIFICATION**

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**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

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<td>STREET &amp; NUMBER</td>
<td>Wildlife Center</td>
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**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

| COURTHOUSE | Prince George's Co. Courthouse |
| REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. | Folio #: |
| STREET & NUMBER | |

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

| TITLE | HABS ("Gladsworth" photos) |
| DATE | 1936 |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS | Library of Congress |
| CITY TOWN | Washington, D.C. |
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
GOOD
FAIR
DETERIORATED
RUINS
UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTED
ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED
DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is an old Patuxent River crossing, that is now cut off from public access. It is a scenic area near wildlife propagation ponds. The present span is a low steel truss bridge, with wooden floor planks, that probably dates from the early 20th Century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

--- PREHISTORIC --- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
--- 1400-1499 --- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
--- 1500-1599 --- AGRICULTURE
--- 1600-1699 --- ARCHITECTURE
--- 1700-1799 --- ART
--- 1800-1899 --- COMMERCE
--- 1900--- --- COMMUNICATIONS
--- INVENTION

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE --- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

--- COMMUNITY PLANNING --- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
--- CONSERVATION --- LAW
--- ECONOMICS --- LITERATURE
--- EDUCATION --- MILITARY
--- ENGINEERING --- MUSIC
--- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT --- PHILOSOPHY
--- INDUSTRY --- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

SPECIFIC DATES

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is an old Patuxent River Crossing that was located on Duvall lands. In 1861, Dr. Charles DuVall owned a grist and saw mill here on the Anne Arundel Co. side. The present steel-truss bridge is a type that is now quite rare in the area, and is interesting from an engineering standpoint.

The old Duvall home "Gladswood" was located on this tract. It was the home of Dr. William Wirt DuVall, brother of the Dr. DuVall mentioned above. It was removed after the government took over the land in the late-1930's.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1) H.A.B.S. (1936)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

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FORM PREPARED BY

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC

STREET & NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Ave.

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring

STATE: Maryland

DATE: 1/30/73

TELEPHONE: 589-1480

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438
Duvall Bridge
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
View from East
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD
Duvall Bridge
Prince George's County
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
View from Southeast
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD
Duvall Bridge
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
April 1987
Detail
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
    Annapolis, MD
NAME  #6412  DUVALL BRIDGE / PATUXENT WILDLIFE CENTER
LOCATION  PATUXENT RIVER OFF RT 197  BOWIE, MD
FACADE  SW
PHOTO TAKEN  1/30/73  MDWYER
PG:64-2