

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic  John Snowden House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Powder Mill Rd., east of Balt. Wash. Parkway \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Beltsville \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 5

state 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input 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 and F Streets NW telephone no.:

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

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. - - - liber

street & number folio

city, town state

## 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 History Division, MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale state MD

# 7. Description

Survey No. PG#64-3

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

This was a two-story frame gable-roofed farmhouse; it was L-shaped, and had a central gable on the south main facade.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 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** ca 1900 **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.

This plain turn-of-this-century farmhouse stood on land which in 1982 was being transferred from the United States Department of Agriculture to the United States Secret Service. The house was destroyed in that year, and the site is being used by the Secret Service. (See attached memo.)



## THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6600 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20840

28 January 1982

## MEMORANDUM

To: James W. Collins, Chief, General Planning Division

From: Susan G. Pearl, Historic Sites Research Coordinator,  
History Division

Via: John M. Walton, Jr., Coordinator, History Division *J. M. Walton*

Re: Historic Site #64-3, "John Snowden" house

On Friday, 22 January 1982, I was asked to give an opinion on the historic and architectural importance of Prince George's County Historic Site #64-3, known as the John Snowden house. Accordingly, on that date I accompanied Mr. Robert Plavnick of Parsons Brinckerhoff and Mr. Taylor Rudd of the U.S. Secret Service to this site, located on the grounds of the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Beltsville.

This modest farmhouse appears to have been built at the end of the nineteenth century. It is of frame construction, two stories high, and L-shaped; there is a central gable with returned cornice on the south main facade. The main entrance is in the first bay of the south facade; this door opened onto a porch (now removed) which once spanned the entire south facade, including the inside corner of the ell. The windows of the house are generally 2/2, except for a modern second story window in the east bay of the south facade. The original German siding of the house is now covered with "red brick" asbestos shingle.

The roof is of synthetic shingle, and there are two chimneys: one modern interior chimney at the west end of the ridge, and one older one, with molded cap, near the center of the house at the ridge. Both presently serve heating pipes.

There is a shallow crawl space under the west section of the house, and the foundations, where visible, are of coarse pebbly concrete.

Because of concern about the condition of the floors, I looked into only three of the first story rooms. All details of this cursory examination of the interior suggest late (i.e., turn of this century) construction: circular sawn lathing, lack of fireplaces, and vertical-band wainscoting.

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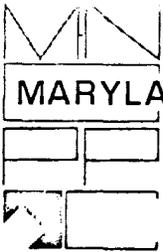
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Memo - J.W. Collins  
28 January 1982  
Page 2 of 2

The house is presently unoccupied, partially boarded up, and in deteriorating condition. It is, however, in my opinion, certainly salvageable.

This farmhouse is one of the "unclassified resources" listed in Appendix C of the recently enacted Historic Sites and Districts Plan for Prince George's County. It was photographed, described, and mapped by site surveyors in 1973, but neither documentary research nor detailed architectural investigation has been undertaken. It is known as the John Snowden house because a house identified as that of John Snowden appears in this approximate location on the G.M. Hopkins 1878 map of Prince George's County. Title research will be required before a detailed history of the property can be written.

Although the location of the house was at one time undoubtedly very attractive, the house itself does not appear to have particular architectural merit. And although no detailed architectural investigation has been undertaken, cursory examination suggests that the present house is not as old as 1878, i.e., that the present house may have replaced the house identified as John Snowden's on the Hopkins map, probably at the turn of the present century. Although it was in 1973 included in the Inventory of Historic Sites because it was an attractive and typical modest farmhouse of that period, it is now deteriorating and of questionable historic or architectural value.


 THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
 Upper Marlboro, Maryland, ~~20870~~  
 952-3560 20772

Y-717

MAR 18 1982

Ms. Andrea Mones  
 Historic Preservation Officer  
 Public Buildings Service  
 General Services Administration  
 National Capital Region  
 Washington, D. C. 20407

Dear Ms. Mones:

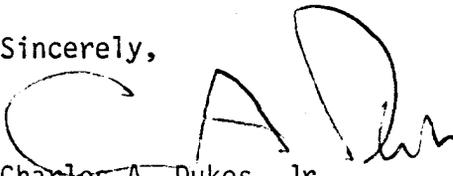
Thank you for your letter of March 4 requesting an evaluation of the historic significance of the John Snowden House (P.A. 64-3).

On the basis of the M-NCPPC's History Division's research on this program, staff found that the building did not meet the historic preservation ordinance's criteria to become a classified Historic Site. At its March 11th meeting, the Planning Board concurred with the staff finding.

Consequently, the historic resource is no longer under the protection of the historic preservation ordinance, CB-142-1981. The Historic Sites and Districts Plan will be periodically amended to reflect the results of reviews such as this one.

We appreciate your cooperation in the course of the research process.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Dukes, Jr.  
 Chairman, Prince George's  
 County Planning Board

cc: John F. Downs, Jr., County Planning Director  
 Susan Pearl, History Division  
 John Giannetti, Chairman, P.G. Co. Historical & Cultural Trust  
 James Boss, Chairman, P.G. Co. Committee, Md. Historical Trust  
 ✓ Mark Edwards, Maryland Historical Trust



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1700394604

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: USDA HOUSE #2				
AND/OR HISTORIC: John Snowden House				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Old Powder Mill Road, east of Balt/Washington Pkwy.				
CITY OR TOWN: Beltsville				
STATE: Md.		COUNTY: Prince George's		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input 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		STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: US Dept. of Agriculture Research Center				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Beltsville			STATE: Md	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
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. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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 2 and 1/2 story, L-shaped farmhouse, with a gable facing the front. There is a porch that extends across the front and around the inside legs of the "L." The house has been covered with asbestos fake brick siding.

On the lot is a 2 and 1/2 story, barn-type structure of frame with exaggerated vertical massing.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area 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		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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: 2/2/73

STREET AND NUMBER:  
5107 Muncaster Mill Road / 8787 Ga. Ave., S.S.

CITY OR TOWN: Rockville      STATE: Md.

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

Significance of this property is:

National       State       Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NAME #64-3 JOHN SNOWDEN HOUSE?

LOCATION (U.S.D.A. RESEARCH CTR.) OLD POWDER MILL Rd, E. OF B/W PKWAY.

FACADE S

BELTSVILLE MD

PHOTO TAKEN 1/30/73 MDWYER