

1. Name: Hayes Manor
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 35/10      3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 21  
E-9
4. Address: 4101 Manor Road, Chevy Chase

## 5. Classification Summary

Category <u>building</u>	Previous Survey Recording <u>M-NCPPC</u>
Ownership <u>private</u>	Title and Date: <u>1976 Inventory of Historical Sites</u>
Public Acquisition <u>N/A</u>	
Status <u>occupied</u>	
Accessible <u>no</u>	Federal <u>    </u> State <u>x</u> County <u>x</u> Local <u>    </u>
Present use <u>private residence</u>	

6. Date: c. 1767      7. Original Owner: Alexander Williamson

## 8. Apparent Condition

a. good      b. altered      c. original site

9. Description: This Georgian style manor house is two-and-a-half stories, five bay by two bay. The house faces south and the north and south elevations are constructed of header bricks. There is a belt course between the first and second levels. The south porch has a flat roof supported by four voluted columns. There are nine-over-nine, double-hung windows throughout the house. These windows are set into segmental arches. The house has a gable roof, covered by slate shingles, and a denticulated cornice line.

10. Significance: Hayes Manor is considered to be one of the finest Georgian houses in Maryland, with exceptionally fine brick work outside and woodwork fashioned with great craftsmanship inside.

When Alexander Williamson was appointed curate of the Prince George's Parish in the mid-18th century he decided to build a country home suitable for his position. In 1762 he purchased from John Yates 700 acres of rolling farm land called "Clean Drinking". By 1766 or '67 the house was finished and he moved in with his 16 year old bride. The estate was christened "Hayes Manor" after Prime Minister William Pitt's home in England. Boxwood gardens were planted around his house, and a bowling green was graded out front.

When the Revolutionary War came, Williamson chose to remain loyal to England, and had to give up his curate position. Retiring to Hayes Manor, he died in 1786.

Hayes Manor was purchased by James Dunlop, a friend of Williamson, in 1792 at a public auction sale. Dunlop had been born heir to the Scottish barony of Garnkirk but gave it up to seek his fortune in the New World, arriving in New York in 1771 at age 16. He slowly amassed a fortune. In 1783 he moved to Georgetown and from 1792 to his death in 1823, Dunlop probably used Hayes Manor as a summer home. From then until 1961, the house was the year-round residence of the Dunlop family. The east wing was added in 1899 and the west wing in 1908.

Much of the original 700 acres is now the Columbia Country Club and housing and commercial developments.

11. Researcher and date researched: Donald M. Leavitt-9/79      Candy Reed  
Arch. Description
12. Compiler: Gail C. Rothrock      13. Date Compiled: 10/79      14. Designation  
Approval
15. Acreage: 9.44 acres

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Hayes Manor

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 4101 Manor Road

CITY, TOWN Chevy Chase

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**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	<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME George D. Iverson

Telephone #: 654-6739

STREET & NUMBER 4101 Manor Road

CITY, TOWN Chevy Chase

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Montgomery 20014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 3365

Folio #: 230

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites HABS 1936 HABS measured drawings 1960's

DATE 1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20850

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:35-10

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**

Hayes Manor is a good example of Georgian architecture. It is all of brick construction, and has a central block and two wings. The central block is two and a half stories and five bays by two bays. Built upon a raised brick basement foundation, the north and south exterior walls are constructed of header bricks. There is a belt course between the first and second stories. The east and west ends of the central section are of flemish bond.

On the south (front) elevation, there is a brick porch with four voluted columns. The porch is reached by five slate-covered steps. Both the south and north doors are wooden paneled. The south (front) door is covered by a wooden louvered shutter door. There are nine-over-nine light double-hung windows throughout the house. These windows are set into segmental arches on the north elevation and flat arches on the south elevation. There are two small windows in the east gable end. There are double-hung diamond pane casement windows flanking the south (front) door. The gable roof has been covered by slate tiles and there is a denticulated cornice line. There are two interior end chimneys at the east and west ends of the original portion of the house.

The two story east wing was added in 1894 by George T. Dunlap, Sr. It was built of brick with all headers exposed. It is two stories high and three bays wide; the bay nearest the main block protrudes slightly. An interior end chimney is at the east end of this wing.

The west sunporch addition, built in 1908 by George T. Dunlap, Jr., also was built with all headers exposed. It has three double doors, each panel with 12 lights, surmounted by a fanlight. A gabled dormer window is centered on the hipped roof.

The interior of the house has undergone considerable renovation and the east addition has concentrated kitchen functions there. The south (front) door opens into a large hall. Opposite the front door is an open well three-run open-string stairway. There is a fireplace with a marble surround against the west wall. Northeast of the hall is the dining room; this was at one time the living room. The fireplace is located against the east wall and has glazed tiling. Northwest of the hall is the study. This has a fireplace against the west wall.

Flooring throughout the original portion of the house is random width. Much of the woodwork is original. There is full-field wooden paneling in the hall, the rest of the walls and all the ceilings are plaster over lath. There are molded surrounds and six paneled doors throughout the house. These have small brass door knobs.

Hayes Manor is surrounded by broad lawns and sits on a low rise. There are tall oaks and pines arranged about the house. A swimming pool is located on the north side of the house. A garage and an A-frame greenhouse are east of the house. The house is approached up a long winding driveway which enters the manor's property through a four-post brick wall with a plaque which reads: Hayes-Manor-1762.

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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES      c. 1767      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hayes Manor is considered to be one of the finest Georgian houses in Maryland.

When Alexander Williamson was appointed curate of the Prince George's Parish in the mid-18th century he decided to build a country home suitable for his position. In 1762 he purchased from John Yates 700 acres of rolling farm land called "Clean Drinking". By 1766 or 67 the house was finished and he moved in with his 16 year old bride. The estate was christened "Hayes Manor" after Prime Minister William Pitt's home in England.

Hayes Manor was no ordinary country home. The two story house showed exceptionally fine brick work outside and woodwork fashioned with great craftsmanship inside. However, the most striking feature was the beautifully proportioned Georgian design. All the exterior dimensions of the windows, doors, roof lines, and walls fit together into a cohesive, neatly proportioned unit, indicating the touch of a master. Although the architect is unknown, modern speculation centers around John Ariss for the drawings and William Buckland for the woodwork.

Hayes Manor is even more interesting in that although the Georgian style was much in vogue in England at the time, it didn't catch on in America until sometime after 1767. Williamson had studied in England and evidently was impressed enough with Georgian architecture to transplant it to the colonies.

Williamson was wealthy. Boxwood gardens were planted around his house, and a bowling green was graded out front. He once sailed to Barbados for an extended period to recover from a illness.

When the Revolutionary War came, Williamson found himself in a tough spot. Either he could renounce his oath to England and remain in good graces with the patriots, or he could remain loyal to England and face the consequences with unruly Americans who never appreciated the conspicuous wealth of the clergy. He chose the latter and had to retire from his position in the Prince George's Parish. He retired to Hayes Manor and there is no record as to whether he was left in peace or harassed. In 1786 he passed away.

Hayes Manor was put up for sale at public auction in 1792 and was purchased by James Dunlop. Dunlop was born heir to the Scottish barony of Garnkirk but gave it up to seek his fortune in the New World. In 1771 at the age of 16 he arrived in New York and slowly amassed a fortune. In 1783 he moved to Georgetown where his cousin Robert Peter, previous heir to "Crossbasket Castle", was a successful merchant. Dunlop continued to prosper, and when his friend Alexander Williamson died he bought his

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

See Attachment Sheet A

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9.44 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located approximately 1/4 mile west of Route 193 on Manor Road.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	Donald M. Leavitt	Candy Reed	Architectural Description
ORGANIZATION	Sugarloaf Regional Trails	DATE	September 1979
STREET & NUMBER	Box 87	TELEPHONE	926-4510
CITY OR TOWN	Dickerson	STATE	Maryland 20753

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

## Hayes Manor

estate. From 1792 to his death in 1823, Dunlop probably used Hayes Manor as a summer home. From that time until 1961, the house was used as a full time residence of the Dunlop family.

Over the years changes have taken place at Hayes Manor. Various sections of the original 700 acres were sold off and today the Columbia Country Club and numerous housing and commercial developments sit upon the "Clean Drinking" land. Detached kitchens had served the estate until 1899 when the east wing with a new kitchen and bedrooms were added. In 1908 a garage and greenhouse were added onto the kitchen, and a large west wing attached onto the other side. No major renovations have ever been needed as the house has been carefully maintained throughout the centuries.

In 1965 George Iverson, head of the Washington office of Hughes Helicopter, bought Hayes Manor. Today the Georgian house sits in splendor among the boxwoods and the bowling green.

FOOTNOTE:

1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., G/262 (July 13, 1796).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.

Dunlop, G. Thomas et al. "Hayes, A Montgomery County House", Maryland Historical Magazine, Vol. XLIX, June 2, 1954, pp. 89-115.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Md., Washington, D.C.: Judd and Detweiler, 1962, pp. 184-5.

"Hayes Manor", Historic Houses File, Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville, Md.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Hayes Manor

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

4101 Manor Road

CITY, TOWN

Chevy Chase

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**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  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Cap't. George D. Iverson

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

4101 Manor Road

CITY, TOWN

Chevy Chase

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey (also measured drawings in 1960's)

DATE

1936, 1960's

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

M:35-10

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR

- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is one of the finest old Colonial homes in the area. It is a true Georgian Style, brick home. Built in the 1760's, it is one of Montgomery County's earliest buildings. The oldest part is the center section, a five-bay facade with central door that faces south. An Ionic-Style, open portico frames the doorway. The roof is a steeply-pitched A-roof, covered with shingles. Chimneys are flush with the end walls. Windows have unusual, 9/9 sash, and wide, old frames. Brickwork is all header on the front (south) and rear, with Flemish bond on the sides. Decorative brickwork includes a molded watertable, a three-brick belt course between the two stories, and splayed, brick arches over the windows (some ground and gauged.) Lower brick wings, of sympathetic design, were added to both ends of the house, ca. 1900. (The sun porch on the west in 1908, the two-story, kitchen wing on the east in 1894.)

A complete architectural and historical description may be found in the MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAGAZINE, (June, 1954). Also, measured drawings, done by the H.A.B.S. in the 1960's, are deposited at the Library of Congress.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:35-10

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"/> 00-1499	<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 checked="" 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 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

This property is of particular architectural and historical significance to Mont. Co. (See reference sources on next page.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:35-10

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- 1) "Hayes, A Montgomery County House", MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAG., June, 1954.
  - 2) Farquhar, R.B. OLD HOMES & HISTORY OF MONT. CO. (1961) pp. 175-77.
  - 3) HABS photos & measured drawings-Library of Congress.
- 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

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

8/22/75

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
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summer home, Harewood, is greatly enhanced in value. When started, the company had assets of \$245. In 1961 Gross Assets, \$4,735,186.64. When the one hundredth anniversary was celebrated in 1948, the firm had \$12,000,000 in fire risks. In 1961 total risks are \$317,702,317.00.

In a small building to the left of the house, Edward had a well-equipped shop one hundred years ago where he made the stamps for which he became famous. The stamps were made of some special kind of hard steel. He constructed a train of wooden gears that was considered remarkable at that time. Outside the shop he had a horse, usually driven by one of his children, to furnish the power. The revolving machine transmitted the power to a wooden shafting inside the shop, and with these home-made devices he turned out an extremely accurate and durable product. A few of these old wooden pulleys are still preserved in the little shop. His talent in this work is the more remarkable because he worked on the most intricate carving with his left hand, and he had poor eyesight.

To show his versatility Edward Stabler, in 1844, carried on the first experiment to demonstrate that the use of Peruvian guano used on hills of corn would increase its yield 300 per cent. Two years later his ox team, together with a horse from Robert R. Moore's, brought a ton of guano from Baltimore. From that time the prosperity of the farms of the County was advanced tenfold, and the impoverishment of the

soil caused by tobacco growing was gradually reduced.

Edward and Ann celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at Harewood on Christmas Eve, 1873, gladdened by a large assemblage of their friends and neighbors. His death occurred in September, 1883.

The owners of this interesting old manor, after William and his son Edward, were Arthur and Jordan, sons of Edward. In 1925 it was sold by the heirs of Jordan to Mr. Dean Acheson, who, with his family, has made it a summer and week-end retreat from the exactions of official life in Washington.

Many eminent personages have sojourned in Sandy Spring for a time, to visit or to lecture. Great scientists, scholars, military men, and world travellers have been frequently known there, but Mr. Dean Acheson is the first international lawyer and statesman, whose name is known around the world, to make the peaceful Quaker community his permanent home.

Mr. Acheson became Secretary of State on January 21, 1949. He has had to make the most momentous decisions, and has repeatedly represented this country with great distinction at meetings of ministers of other nations. His stature has steadily grown. His work for the United Nations has been paramount. It is a matter of satisfaction to the author that he had the honor of first introducing Mr. and Mrs. Acheson to peaceful Harewood.

## Hayes Manor

**U**NSURPASSED anywhere in Montgomery County, and cherished by six generations of the Dunlop family since its acquisition in 1792, stands Hayes Manor, a graceful and charming Georgian Colonial brick manor house of the Late Colonial period (1750 to 1775).<sup>1</sup> In a most desirable situation well above the surrounding area, with ten acres of lawn, terraced gardens, flowers, box and giant shade trees, Hayes Manor overlooks the northern golf greens of the Columbia Country Club, and is two miles north of Chevy Chase Circle and just west of Connecticut Avenue.

<sup>1</sup> White Pillars, by J. Frazer Smith.

The approach is impressive. High brick gate posts at front and rear entrances have a limestone block set in each, and on each block is chiseled "Hayes Manor, 1762." The whole setting is reminiscent of the sumptuous days of the English aristocracy before the Revolutionary War. The mansion was planned and built in the midst of that atmosphere of lavish living by one of the wealthiest congregations in the Province by a wealthy minister. In 1762, the Reverend Alexander Williamson purchased 700 acres which then comprised one-half of Clean Drinking, an old land grant made in 1699 of 1,400 acres to one John Courts. The luxurious house



NO. 42 H-9 REVEREND ALEXANDER WILLIAMSON CENTER 1762 RIGHT WING GEORGE T. DUNLOP, SR., 1894 LEFT WING GEORGE T. DUNLOP, JR., 1908 ALL HEADER BRICKS

was no doubt built shortly after that by "The Parson" as he was called.

In 1762, "Parson" Williamson was installed as minister of old Prince George's Parish, now known as St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of Rock Creek Parish. He was a friend of Lord Chatham (William Pitt the Elder), who was then Prime Minister of England. The Parson named his Maryland homestead, "Hayes" in honor of Lord Chatham's home of that name in England. Chatham was known as "The most illustrious name in the civilized world, pronounced by every Englishman with pride, and by every enemy of England with mingled admiration and terror." Of Williamson, with his wealth, position, and such a friend at court, tradition may not exaggerate in saying, "He was a learned, witty and elegant clergyman but addicted to all

of the vices then common among gentlemen and he built the house in order that he might entertain in a manner suited to his taste and means."<sup>2</sup>

With the outbreak of the Revolution "Parson" Williamson's allegiance to King George prevented his swearing fidelity to the new American government, consequently he was deprived of his church and his robes of office. He died in 1787. By direction of his will, which left a large estate with many bequests, the executors sold "Hayes" at public auction. According to an old plat dated 1792, the Manor then contained 700 acres. It was purchased by James Dunlop.

James Dunlop came from Scotland about 1771. He was a cousin of Robert Peter, who in

<sup>2</sup> The City of Washington in The Past, by Dr. Bussey.

1789 was the first Mayor of Georgetown, which at that time was in Montgomery County. James married Elizabeth Peter, a daughter of Robert Peter in 1787. Dunlop was a prosperous merchant, a man of importance and father of eleven children. One son, Henry, married Catharine Thomas, sister of Francis Thomas, Governor of Maryland; and one of Henry Dunlop's sisters, Helen, married William Laird, Sr. William Laird, Jr., and James Laird were sons of the latter marriage.

In 1869, the heirs of James Dunlop, Sr., conveyed all their interests in Hayes Manor (exclusive of a portion acquired by James Dunlop, Jr.) to William Laird, Jr., grandson of James Dunlop, Sr. In 1892 William Laird, Jr., died without issue and left the property to his bachelor brother, James Laird, who was a "Gold Rush" miner in 1849.

James, the bachelor, then an old man, came back from California to his inheritance, but did not desire to accept the estate. So after he died, the Manor went to George Thomas Dunlop, Sr., who, in 1908, by his will, conveyed the place to his son George Thomas Dunlop, Jr., a prominent attorney of Washington.

In 1890, William Laird, Jr., sold to the Chevy Chase Land Company all the land except twenty-five acres retained with the house, and one acre which had been reserved with the family cemetery. A year or so later an attempt was made to remove all the remains in the burying ground and they were placed at the foot of the monument on the lawn to the east of the mansion. There on a marble shaft, about twelve feet high, is chiseled: "In Memory of James and Elizabeth Dunlop and their descendants." "Parson" Williamson is rumored—unsupported by evidence—to have been buried in one of the terraces of the garden, to the rear of the house in an unmarked grave. If so, apparently he rests in peace, for there have been no reports that his ghost haunts the surroundings of his

<sup>3</sup> See Tilghman Family, by Stephen Tillman.

lovely handiwork. One authority claims that he and his wife Ann (Hynson) Williamson are buried in Kent County, Md.<sup>3</sup>

Architecturally the house is true American Georgian. It faces to the south. The bricks in the front and rear of the central section have headers only exposed. The ends of central section are Flemish bond. The bricks were made nearby, the work having been done by English artisans. The two wings added later were built, with all headers exposed, of bricks carefully selected in Baltimore. The effect is a most pleasing, lacey pattern. The author knows of no other house in Montgomery County with headers almost exclusively.

The entrance hall has a stairway on the right, a passage to the kitchen, and a dining room to the right. To the left of the hall, in front, is a formal parlor, and back of that a living room. Over fireplaces in three of these rooms are exquisite Pre-Revolutionary mantels. On the second floor over the central portion are four bedrooms with a bath.

The west addition is a sun room with high ceiling built in 1908 by Geo. T. Dunlop, Jr. At that time all modern improvements were installed throughout the house. The eastern wing was built by George T. Dunlop, Sr., in 1894, and is two stories high, with kitchen and pantry on the first floor and two servants' rooms with a bath on the second floor. An old Colonial kitchen, once detached from the house on the west side with a connecting breezeway, was burned many years ago. Leaving the dining room by the rear door, one steps onto a brick platform with a glimpse down "lovers lane" a walk with overhanging trees bordered by box hedges.

Mr. George T. Dunlop Jr. died, at the age of 90, on July 5, 1960, and his widow, Jeannette McCook Dunlop, a daughter of General Alexander McCook continues to live in the treasured old home. Her son, Alexander McCook Dunlop, and his wife live with her.

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
SITTING AS A DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PORTION  
OF THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL DISTRICT  
WITHIN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

*Hayes*  
*manor*  
*Ed*

*M 35/10*

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Approved and Adopted Master Plan for Historic Preservation in Montgomery County, Maryland

WHEREAS, in September, 1983, the Montgomery County Planning Board transmitted to the Montgomery County Council the Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan, proposing the addition of several historic sites for inclusion in the Master Plan and the removal of several sites from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, on December 13, 1983, the Montgomery County Council held a public hearing wherein oral and written testimony was received concerning the Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 1984, the Council Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee reviewed the Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan and the issues raised at the public hearing with the Montgomery County Planning Board, staff and affected parties; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County Council reviewed the recommendations of the Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee at a worksession held on June 11, 1984.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council, sitting as a District Council for that portion of the Maryland-Washington Regional District within Montgomery County, that -

The Historic Preservation Master Plan is hereby amended by the inclusion of the following sites and/or resources:

1. Dickerson Station
2. Brewer Farm
3. Bussard Farm

- 4. Pleasant View Church #2
- 5. Pleasant Hills
- 6. Glen Store and Post Office
- 7. Locust Grove I (Magruder House)
- 8. Ellerslie
- 9. Hayes Manor
- 10. Woodend

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following sites and/or resources are hereby removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland as not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code:

- 1. Darby/Offutt Farm
- 2. Frank Higgens (Hoskinson) House
- 3. Rudolph Beall House
- 4. Nathaniel Clagett
- 5. Jones House
- 6. Travilah Baptist Church
- 7. Greenbury Jackson House
- 8. Samuel Ford House
- 9. Granger Estate (Holton Arms School)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the decision regarding the proposed deletion of the Samuel Higgens House and Rammmed-Earth House (Oakmont) from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland, is hereby deferred for further review and consideration by the Council.

A True Copy.

ATTEST:

  
 Kathleen A. Freedman, Acting Secretary  
 of the County Council for  
 Montgomery County, Maryland

## 29/36 Ellerslie (p. 14)

- Circa 1853—Example of Federal style construction notable for its use of fieldstone.
- Associated with the Saunders/Crook family distinguished in County civic affairs, and in education, invention, and engineering.

35/10

~~33/10~~

## Hayes Manor (p. 15)

- Graceful Georgian Colonial brick manor house of the Late Colonial period (1750-1775) with exceptionally fine brick work and well proportioned Georgian design.
- Built in 1767 by Alexander Williamson and named after Prime Minister William Pitts' home in England.

## 35/12 Woodend (p. 15)

- 1927-28—Fine example of Georgian revival domestic architecture.
- Designed by the prominent eclectic classicist John Russell Pope, architect of the National Gallery of Art and the Jefferson Memorial.
- Home of the Audubon Naturalist Society in the Central Atlantic States, a private conservation organization founded in 1897 predating the National Audubon Society which now manages Woodend as a nature preserve.

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# MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAGAZINE

*A Quarterly*

Volume XLIX

JUNE, 1954

Number 2

## HAYES, A MONTGOMERY COUNTY HOUSE

By G. THOMAS DUNLOP, A. MCCOOK DUNLOP, and  
L. MORRIS LEISENRING

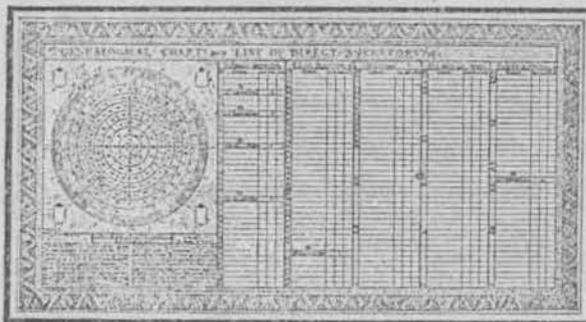
THE "MANSION HOUSE"

NOT far beyond the northwest boundary of the District of Columbia there is a fine old Georgian mansion built long before a federal district had been thought of.<sup>1</sup> Secluded then and secluded now, one finds it only by direction, standing in what was once part of a large plantation and is still sufficient to shield it from public gaze.<sup>2</sup> Here on high ground among centuries old trees, well massed shrubbery, and with a beautiful old garden, it dominates the later wings, making with them a delightful com-

<sup>1</sup> A brief account of the house and its occupants is found in Roger B. Farquhar, *Historic Montgomery County* (Silver Spring, 1952), pp. 184-185.

<sup>2</sup> Entrance to the property is through either one of two gateways with their stone trimmed piers and wrought iron gates, opening from Manor Road, a roadway winding up from Connecticut Avenue two miles beyond Chevy Chase Circle where there is an old boundary stone on the line between Maryland and the District of Columbia.

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positively in spite of—or perhaps because of—entire disregard of the traditional five-part symmetrical plan so frequent in Maryland and Virginia.

"Hayes" is an unusual name for a Maryland homestead, chosen as it was without relation to family, local character, or land patents. The house, built in the 1760's on a tract of 700 acres, was an unusual building for its time and location in the then Frederick (now Montgomery) County, away from the architectural influences of the Bay and river structures of the earlier settled counties of the Province. Unusual also was its building by a clergyman, the Reverend Alexander Williamson, with his own funds, of which no previous instance in the Province comes to mind.

The life history of Alexander Williamson gives a fascinating and significant picture of the relation of the clergy to the era. Born and raised in All Saints Parish, Calvert County, he must have known simpler types of buildings and even later, when he served as curate of Saint Anne's, Annapolis, the great houses of the capital had not yet put on Georgian formality. His introduction to the full-flowered Georgian was evidently during his visits to England as a student and finally as the recipient of Holy Orders. His house reflected in its design his associations abroad whence he brought not only the style but the name of his home and acres.

"Hayes" was the name of the home of the Earl of Chatham, William Pitt the elder, Prime Minister of England, and champion in Parliament of the rights of the American colonies during the critical period prior to the Revolution.<sup>3</sup> It was adopted by Alexander Williamson when in 1762 he bought approximately 700 acres of Clean Drinking Manor—which he named "Hayes"—and built the house which was to be his home until his death in 1786. "Hayes" it remained throughout the years until the present owner, to avoid confusion and to perpetuate the manorial origin adopted the name "Hayes Manor."

<sup>3</sup> It seems evident that Williamson named his homestead from admiration of the man, Pitt, rather than from architectural acquaintance. Lord Roseberry in his *Lord Chatham* (New York, 1910), pp. 282-285, states that Pitt did not own or occupy his "Hayes," near Bromley, Kent, England, until the spring of 1756. Williamson's last visit to England had ended in January of that year. No information is at hand as to the derivation of the name of the Kent estate nor of its architectural style. The earlier Hayes of Sir Walter Raleigh in Devonshire, had (in 1757, previous to Mr. Williamson's Hayes), given its name to the plantation of John Rieusett at Edenton, North Carolina.

The history of Hayes with its "Mansion House," so delineated on the old plat accompanying the deed to James Dunlop in 1796, covers two distinct periods of ownership; the *first*, from November, 1762, when the "moiety" of Clean Drinking Manor was purchased by Williamson from Robert Yates; the *second*, from October, 1792, when it was sold at auction by Williamson's executors in accordance with his will and purchased by James Dunlop.<sup>4</sup> Since then five generations of his direct descendants have occupied the home. Each period of ownership has its architectural as well as its genealogical associations and its interests in the old house and plantation.

The original building is a simple rectangle in plan, 45 feet wide, 36 feet deep, two full stories high crowned with an unpierced gable roof, the whole beautifully proportioned in mass, refined but vigorous in its details. Williamson had been installed as curate in 1761 of the growing and important parish of Prince George's, Frederick, and soon was elevated to rector. Thus established but evidently not willing to be restricted to the hundred acres of glebe lands which surrounded the then primitive frame chapel and rectory,<sup>5</sup> and having private funds, he purchased this plantation of beautifully rolling and tillable lands. From the first he must have considered building for there were tempting sites on his new property but no records exist as to when or by whom his house was planned, his building materials collected, his foundations dug. It was finished by 1766 or 1767 for in the latter year he brought there his bride, Elizabeth, daughter of the prominent and wealthy Dr. William Lyon, of Baltimore.

<sup>4</sup> The 1,400 acres that form "Clean Drinking Manor" were taken up in 1680 and surveyed and patented in 1699 by John Coutts of England, whose daughter Elizabeth married Charles Jones, Gentleman in 1750, by which time the old manor house was built. This stood not far from the meandering Rock Creek and about a good mile north of what is now the District of Columbia boundary line. Mr. Jones built the mill on the creek and the bridge that gave the names to Jones Mill Road and Jones Bridge Road, names still used for today's highways. The old house was well known to one of the writers (L. M. L.) who had the opportunity to talk several times to the last Mr. Jones who lived alone in the old place as long as his and the house's physical condition permitted. The house was long and low and narrow with two large first floor rooms each with an entrance door from the long porch, one said to be for family and one for manorial administration. Low ceiled bed rooms were under the roof. Dependencies and quarters were to the north and a garden with giant boxwood to the south, all neglected and falling to ruin. There was a time when it might have been saved. The name has been a tradition since its earliest days, of a clear cold spring famous in the neighborhood.

<sup>5</sup> Circular published by the Parish "Historical Sketch of Rock Creek Parish," kindly furnished by Vestryman Ernest F. Henry.

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It would be interesting to know if the design of Hayes had been influenced by his prospective bride and her father in view of their Baltimore associations. At least one building comparable to Hayes had been built there—the quite Georgian “Mount Clare” that Charles Carroll, Barrister, was reconstructing from his father’s earlier “Patapsco.”<sup>6</sup> Dr. Lyon and the Barrister were both prominent figures in Baltimore and the unpretentious Hayes and the larger and more elaborate Mount Clare had certain elements of similarity. Considering the architectural excellence of these two Georgian buildings it is remarkable that neither of them has been so much as mentioned by the authors of histories of colonial American architecture, though they antedate many of the buildings dwelt on with extended critical analysis.

When Hayes was built the lands of Frederick County bordered the frontier and the early homes were those of pioneers, often built of logs or quarry stones with larger units added as families grew and other building materials became available. Montgomery is rich in the descendants of these architectural ancestors, often charming in their form and combined materials. But Hayes moved into this neighborhood, completely integrated and precisely planned, taking no notice of the earlier settlers or of its nearest neighbors, “Chevy Chase” or “Clean Drinking Manor,” both frame houses with broad sweeping roofs, great free-standing chimneys and the simplest of details.<sup>7</sup> Not even in the new George Town only five miles away was there much of the true Georgian style in buildings that antedated Hayes. One wonders at Williamson’s building at such a distance from his glebe and chapel, almost five miles as the crow flies and much farther by

<sup>6</sup> See Lilian Giffen, “Mount Clare,” *Md. Hist. Mag.*, XLII (1947), 29-34, and Howland and Spencer, *The Architecture of Baltimore* (Baltimore, 1953), pp. 6-8.

The basic plan of Mount Clare has the same scheme as Kenmore and Hayes and the later Hammond-Harwood, that is—two principal rooms directly connected and facing on the garden, a central entrance hall with two main entrances on the buildings’ central axis, the entrance hall flanked by minor rooms, except that at Mount Clare the two main rooms are of such importance that they dwarf the entrance hall and prevent a stair in it but move the stair to one side, placing the functional side entrances, one in the office, one *under the stair* landing to serve from the kitchen wing to the dining room. There is a most interesting matter of detail,—the entire garden front wall is of all header brickwork, as are both main fronts at Hayes.

<sup>7</sup> Chevy Chase, an early patented tract of land just beyond the present District of Columbia, Colonel Joseph Belt, patentee. The old frame house long the home of the Bradley family, built about 1755, incorporated as a part of the Chevy Chase Country Club and later burned. See Farquhar, *op. cit.*, pp. 124-125.

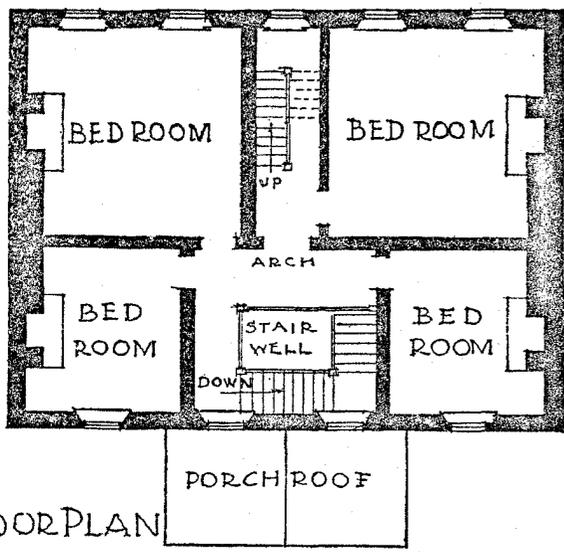
way of the circuitous roads, with Rock Creek to be crossed by bridge or ford. Even now with the glebe developed as Washington’s well known Rock Creek Cemetery, the old frame chapel become the fine brick Saint Paul’s Church, Rock Creek Parish, and with modern street developments, the way from Hayes to the church is long and indirect.

The house stands on high ground gently sloping to the south, east, and west. It is of brick of the finest quality and workmanship. Its floor framing is supported by thick brick partition walls extending through from the foundations to the floor of the unfinished attic. On both main floors are two large, two smaller rooms, and a broad stair hall.

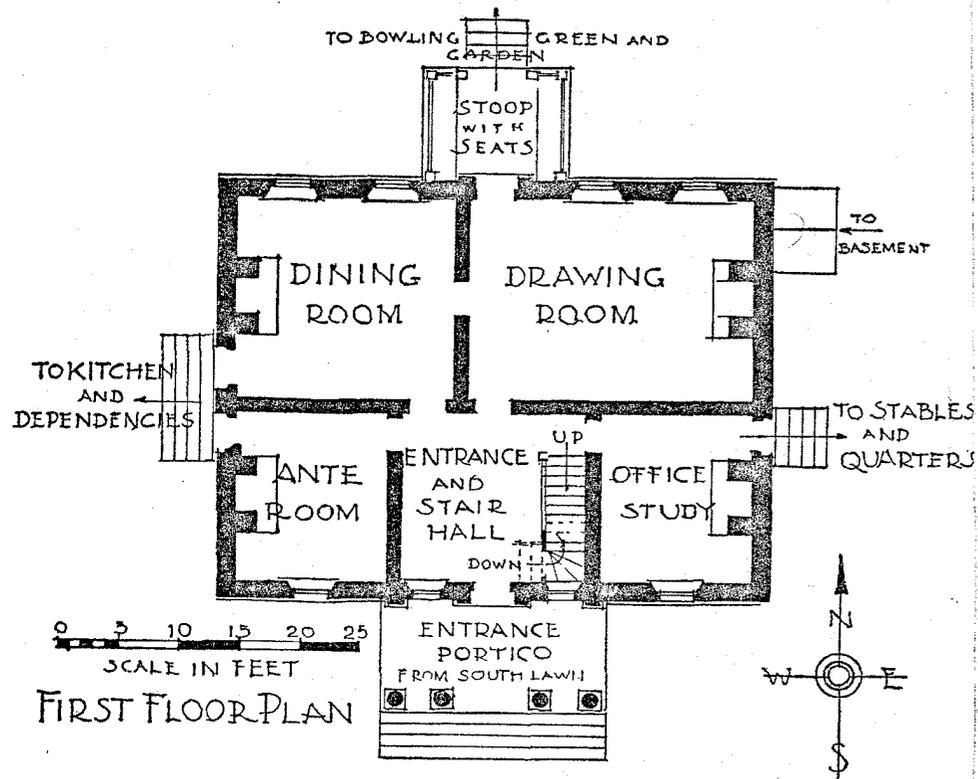
To the west of the house were the kitchens and other dependencies and to the east were the barns, stables, and the quarters. Minor entrances were to the two smaller side rooms and an unusual one direct into the dining room in the west wall from the kitchen area. The main entrances in the north and south fronts were according to tradition, not approached by driveways but gave on the north to the bowling green and gardens and on the south direct to lawns sloping to the meadows. The approach driveway must have come in from the old Jones Mill road that bordered the north of the property. Now an entrance drive from the south and one from the west deliver at the south porch and at the modern extensions and dependencies to the east. All of the original dependencies, except the old smoke house, have disappeared.

To accomplish the particularly fine brickwork master masons must have been at work. Both the north and south facades were laid with all header brick showing and the end walls had headers every fourth course with three stretcher courses between, making a strong horizontal and very pleasing tie-in between the main facades. All exterior walls were of quarry stone up to grade and brick above. The interior supporting walls that establish the room sizes are one and a half brick thick, laid with the strong English bond from foundation to attic. The treatment of the brickwork at the window openings is extremely interesting. At every jamb a full stretcher and a header alternate but on the south these have been rubbed to show a smoother surface and lighter color, as have also the splayed brick forming a flat arch at the window heads, while on the north facade, the jamb brick and the arch brick have been left their natural surfaces. The north window heads have

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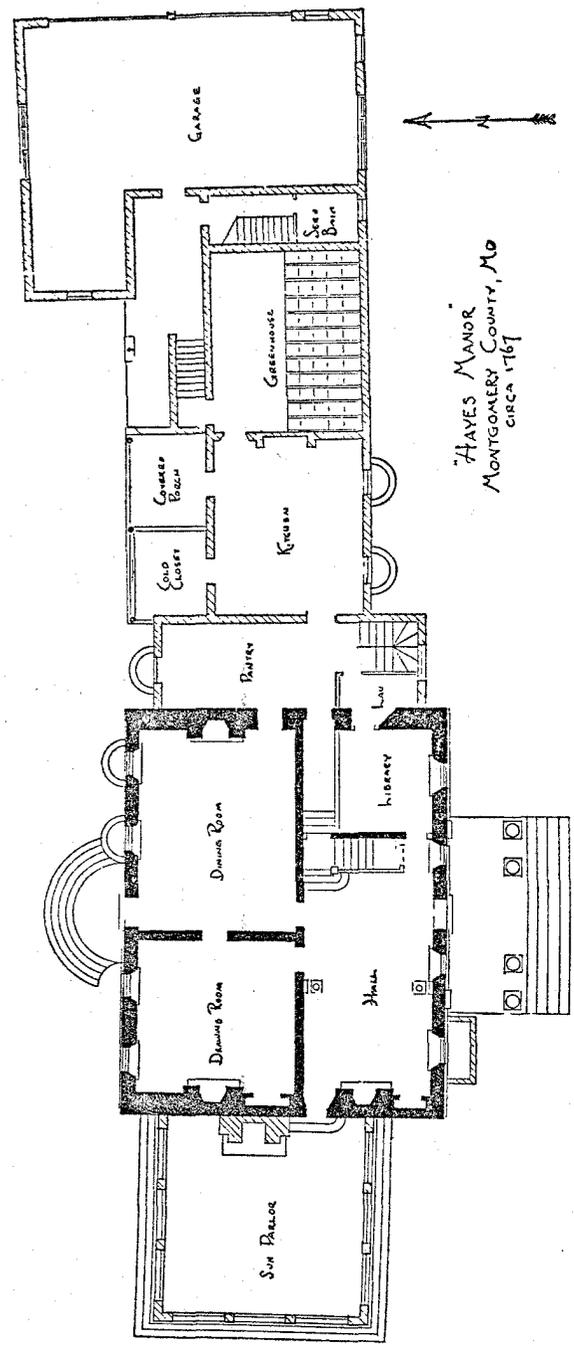
SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

FLOOR PLANS OF HAYES AS CONSTRUCTED CIRCA 1767

Drawn by L. Morris Leisenring



FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF HAYES, 1954

Original house shown in black.

Drawn by A. McCook Dunlop

a segmental arch of splayed brick with a level top coursing with the surrounding brickwork. At every window, including the heads of basement openings, this variation in detail has been carried out between the south and north facades and raises the question whether different masons laid them. Here it should be noted that in all window openings in the modern extensions, the bricks have been carefully chosen to match the originals and that jambs and heads have been carefully rubbed to match those of the original house.

Granting that a clergyman would build his house economically, it is notable that there was wise choice of substantial construction and excellence of necessary materials as against ornament or items that were not required. One item of rather extreme economy is the total absence of cut stone, as ornament, at door and window sills, or in the entrance steps. Neither was stone used for the elaborate heavily projecting quoins, or for the heads and keys at both main doors. These are a build-up of very hard cement-like mortar, originally the color of sand-stone, now covered with many layers of paint. They are the only substitutions in the use of materials apparent here and may have been an after consideration, as the quoins do not all course with their surrounding brickwork. They are, however, a great addition to the general design.

The design and quality of workmanship of all the woodwork, both exterior and interior, is of the best and evidently the product of a well organized shop. In the cornices that extend the width of both main fronts, every element is in perfect scale and relation, with a happy use of bracket form modillions. There are no windows in the side walls other than two small ones in each gable end to light the attic. Those in the main fronts are well disposed both as to their room relation and facade composition. All are six lights high and four lights wide, except two in the south front which were two lights wide until changed much later to diamond shaped panes. All have inside shutters folding into panelled wall recesses, with broad trim extending to the floor, and have under-sill window seats typically in style. The outside window shutters are a modern addition.

It is difficult to accept as original, the elaborate south entrance portico, with its fluted columns and Greek form of Ionic capitals, especially for such a modest building as Hayes, and of this period and locality. Other contemporary examples of more simple porti-

cos, with unfluted columns, were not uncommon in mid-Atlantic colonies, but not of such rich detail. However, it must be said that the cornice details chime well with those of the main cornices and that the portico in its general effect is not particularly reminiscent of the Greek Revival or of the Early Federal that captivated the nearby national capital early in the succeeding century. Historically there seems to have been no reason why the original owner, Williamson, should have made such an addition before his death in 1786, and there is no record of its addition by any of the ancestors of the present owner. Further, the old wood porch floor was recently removed and replaced with flagstones over cement and the entire width of the foundation wall below the old floor was found to be of rough unfinished brickwork, apparently never having been exposed to view.

At the north or garden entrance there was the traditional wooden stoop with built in bench seats, uncovered but otherwise similar to a popular feature of old Annapolis houses. This was removed years ago. Both main facades have the usual brick water-table projection at floor level, a straight set-back on the north, with moulded bricks on the south. Both facades have a three brick projecting band course at the second floor level.

Few of the original framing timbers are now exposed. The simple floor plan with all joists bearing on masonry and of no great span, required timbers of only moderate size. Those exposed in the unfinished attic are the rafters, resting directly on the front and rear brick walls without plate or ridge beam, tennoned, pinned, and sometimes nailed at the crown, some hewn, some pit sawn, some oak, some pine, all about five inches square. As the roof is a straight gable from end to end without the single or double hips so often used in larger houses, no trusses or braced framing timbers were necessary. There was little use of mortise and tennon work or of wood pins but an unusually plentiful supply of large hand wrought nails. Before the first floor joists had been covered by the present basement ceiling material, these were found to be 5" x 9", hewn and a number of them of walnut. As no special framing was used none of the timbers bear the identifying numbers usual with trussed work.

There were fireplaces in all eight rooms of the main floors with flues racked over to the one chimney at the center of the end gables. The fireplaces remain but have been relined and refaced.

Although there was the full basement, there seem to have been no flues or heating facilities for it. The original mantels remain, all of excellent design but without ornament except that in the old drawing room (the present dining room) which has a vigorous Wall of Troy frieze, and that in the old dining room which has a very unusual and effective pattern of a center band guilloche with the upper and lower elements of a Greek fret above and below it. The center block panels of the old mantels in the west ante room and the east office have had ornament applied at a later date.

The walls of the first floor rooms and stair hall were originally free of panelling but had baseboard, chair rail—a wide flat moulded type—and very satisfactory wood cornices on both floors, though there is some question as to the originality of these. There are now furred out spaces at the sides of all chimney breasts, both up and down stairs, a shallow closet in each room, which might well be original but are remembered as later additions. All old doors have their original hardware, generally with L or H hinges and a number with hinge plates covered by the surface wood of door and trim.

The fine stair hall rises symmetrically through the two stories, lighted by two balanced windows on each floor. On the upper floor, opposite to these, on axis, is an arch with impost, archivolt and key, that opened originally to a finished stairway leading to the unfinished attic, but now to a modern bath room. The main stairway with its walnut balusters and rails, was not done justice by its installation, for it was crowded in its effort to reach from floor to floor, and with treads  $10\frac{3}{8}$ " and risers 7" was rather steeper than might be desired. In plan, in order to provide circulation from the east side entrance to the stair hall, the run to the first landing and from there to the second floor, left clearance of less than 5 feet for the only way from the interior of the house to the basement by steps under the first flight. Likewise, the main entrance door from the south portico, with its trim cut through at the corner, had barely room to open. To be sure this general condition was not unusual in colonial houses of similar plan, but the actual condition here was acute, and the stair was modified some years ago. The steps first rose straight from a vertical newel as shown on the plan before alteration, and with one change in direction at the first landing, reached the second floor, carrying the

rail and balusters around the generous stair well. The balusters were not closely spaced but were large and square at base with room for only two to each tread. They were finely turned, with the vase and collonette reminiscent of the best of their type.<sup>8</sup>

For a house as well planned, finely proportioned and detailed as the original Hayes, its architectural authorship should be a matter of record. But like so many of its contemporaries there is not a shred of documentary evidence to name the architect who designed it nor of the builder who erected it, both of whom should have credit for such good work. "Architects Anonymous" is an alliterative phrase that has recently been going the rounds of the profession, due to the frequent absence of proper credit given in published announcements and illustrations, to the authors of creditable structures. Surely this could be applied to the unknown men of the profession who designed these colonial buildings with such charm that we desire to preserve and restore them. In Baltimore, to which town Hayes may be considered to be related by marriage, there is no record of the architect of the contemporary Mount Clare, nor even of the later Homewood, of which Mr. Paul says in his descriptive pamphlet "The architect is unknown—if there was one."<sup>9</sup>

We may assume that the plan of Hayes represents the evolution of the early type of provincial house, still to be seen in examples like "Sandgates" and St. Richards Manor," as modified by the fashionable Georgian style then greatly in vogue.<sup>10</sup>

If we look for an architect as author or adviser the house itself must be our manuscript with considerations given to Williamson's possible and probable contacts. We get no help from his father-in-law's fellow townsman, Charles Carroll, Barrister, for there is no record of an architect for Mount Clare.<sup>11</sup> The late T. T. Water-

<sup>8</sup> Although greater depth of hallways gave greater head room in larger houses, this type of stair was used in much finer homes as at "Mount Vernon," "Carter's Grove," and "Westover," where one main entrance was under the stair run. At "Harewood" and "Saras Creek," houses comparable in size to Hayes, the head room was little more, both of these starting with straight runs up to a single landing platform just as at Hayes, and cutting the door trim corner.

<sup>9</sup> J. G. D. Paul, *The History of Homewood* (Baltimore, n. d.)

<sup>10</sup> H. C. Forman, *Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland* (Easton, 1934), for "Sandgates" and "St. Richards," where the steep stairs rise with winders the reverse direction from Hayes, and "Woodlawn" and "The Plains," both in St. Mary's where they rise toward the entrance door as at Hayes.

<sup>11</sup> To date none of the Barrister's notes or inventories have been found that mention an architect's services for Mount Clare.

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man in his *The Dwellings of Colonial America* has brought forward the name of John Ariss, a man of English training and wide local experience, in connection with such a type of plan, naming "Ratcliffe Manor" and "Pleasant Valley" in Maryland and "Kenmore" in Virginia as probably his. Into this type of plan, both Hayes and Mount Clare would fall. Waterman ascribes the use of this to Ariss's familiarity with William Adams's *Vitruvius Scoticus*.<sup>22</sup> Some years later, William Buckland, the accomplished joiner and carver, having arrived at full architectural status, used this basic plan in an elaborated design for the splendid Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis, indulging to the full his delight in richly carved ornament. He had worked with and for the older Ariss and had had some architectural work in and around the new town of Dumfries, where the Hayes type plan had not been used but where the use of all-header brickwork seems to associate his name with the brickwork of Hayes. However, with the entire lack of carved ornament that he invariably used it is hard to see him as the governing force at Hayes. The only carved work there is the flat conventional work in two mantel friezes and the conventional Ionic capitals of the portico columns and the originally simple step ends at the stairway.<sup>23</sup>

With plan and style then as controlling factors, Kenmore at Fredericksburg, attributed to John Ariss, would be Hayes's most probable ancestor, larger but of exact relative proportions as to width and length (Hayes 36 x 45—Kenmore 40 x 52 feet in round numbers), much more elaborate as to interior decor but with similar room arrangement upstairs and down with brick supporting walls from end to end. Both houses have entrances at the center of their main facades and two through the end walls to reach their dependencies. Both have formal porches on their gar-

<sup>22</sup> On page 308 of *Mansions of Virginia* Waterman illustrates the plan of Hamilton Hall House, Edinburgh, Scotland, from *Vitruvius Scoticus* together with plans of Menokin, Richmond County, and Kenmore, Fredericksburg, suggesting Hamilton Hall as the key plan for these Virginia houses. The basic plan scheme is not the same as to room use or through circulation from front to garden and from sides to dependencies. *Vitruvius Scoticus* was undoubtedly used with great effect for style and detail, but the plan scheme seems to have grown from early colonial roots.

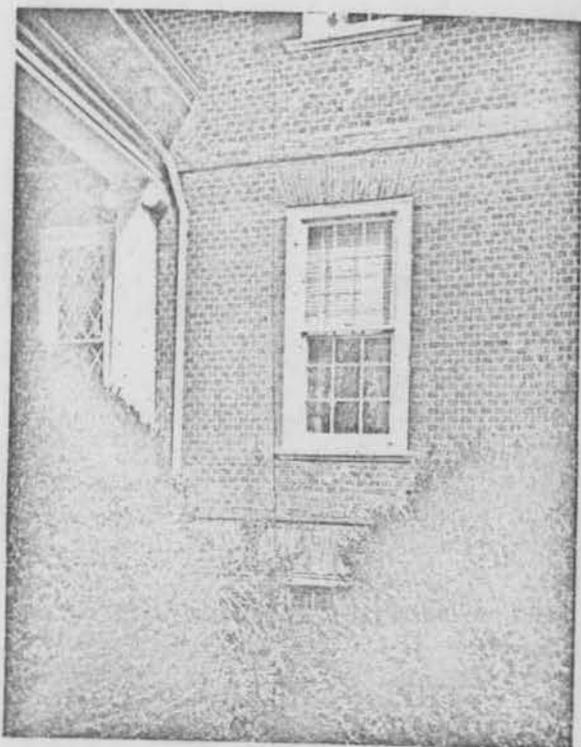
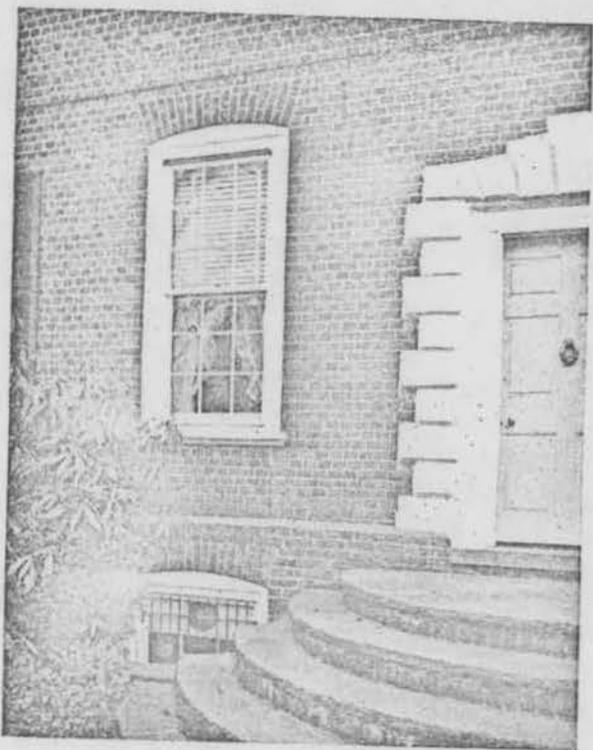
<sup>23</sup> The work of William Buckland, joiner, carver, and finally architect, is referred to in Waterman's *Mansions of Virginia*, pp. 223-236; by Rosamond Randall Beirne in "William Buckland, Architect of Virginia and Maryland," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XLI (1946), 199-218; and Hugh Morrison, *Early American Architecture* (New York, 1952), pp. 390-400.



THE GARDEN FRONT OF HAYES

Photos (except as indicated) by Thomas F. Scott

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CONTRASTING DETAIL IN BRICK WORK OF WINDOWS NORTH AND SOUTH FACADES

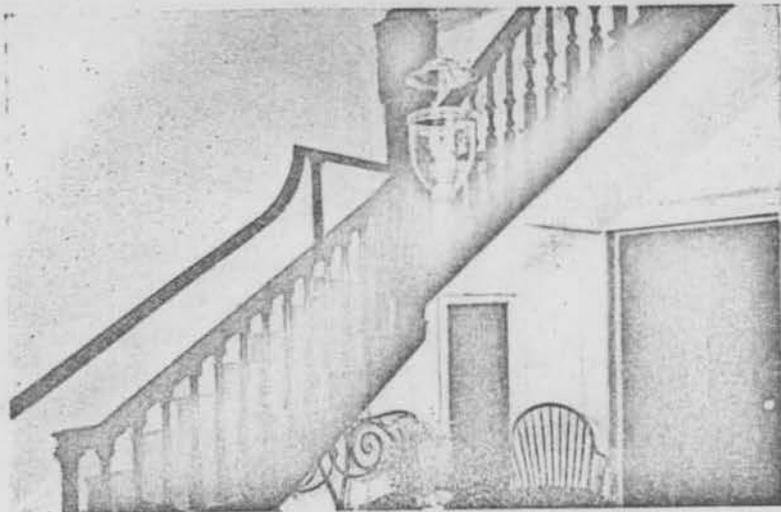


THE GARDEN AT HAYES

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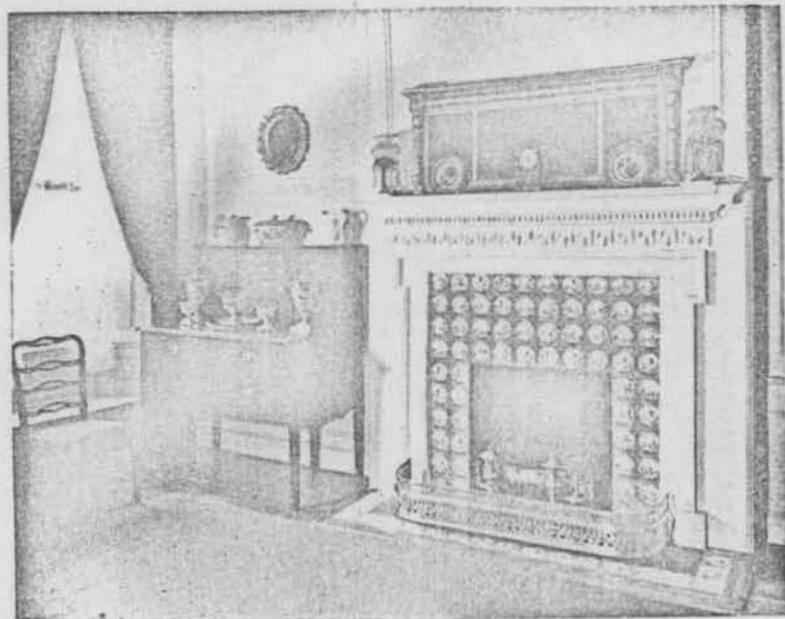


THE STAIRWAY AS REDESIGNED

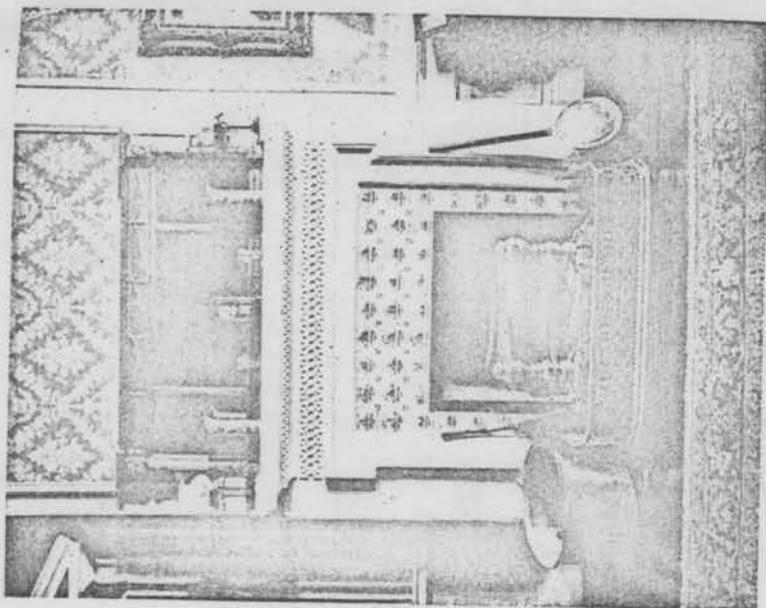


STAIRWAY AS ORIGINALLY BUILT

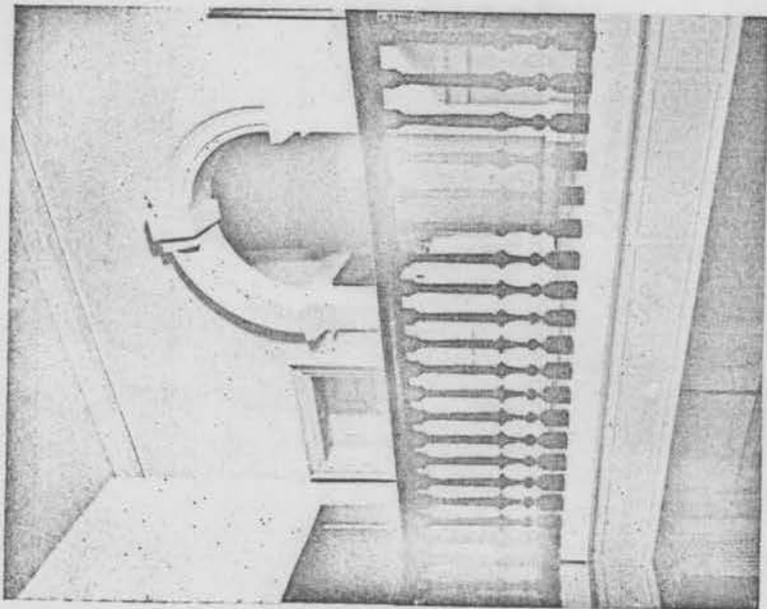
*From an Old Photograph*



MANTEL IN ORIGINAL WHITE PARLOR, NOW DINING ROOM



MANTEL IN ORIGINAL DINING ROOM,  
NOW DRAWING ROOM



THE CENTRAL ARCHWAY ON THE SECOND FLOOR  
OF THE STAIR HALL

den fronts. Hayes has much superior brickwork and window placement, and its centrally placed stair hall, in spite of the noted defect in headroom, is finer than Kenmore's.

For some time before the construction of Hayes, John Ariss had had clients in the Northern Neck of Virginia and William Buckland had a well established shop of carpenters, joiners, and carvers there. They had worked together, both with fine architectural libraries and backgrounds. Ariss, the elder, was looking toward work in western Virginia counties. Buckland was looking northward toward Annapolis and an architect's practice. It seems quite possible that with a plan and design by Ariss, with fine but unadorned wood-work from Buckland's shop, and perhaps some other influences from the younger man, Williamson may have had at Hayes a sublimation of the professional skill of the two best qualified men of their day and area.

#### THE DUNLOPS AND HAYES

James Dunlop's ledgers<sup>24</sup> which begin in 1792 disclose quite definitely that at the latest he was by this time in possession of and operating Hayes, and it is quite likely that he had made arrangements with the executors for its occupancy and use shortly after Williamson's death so that the heirs might have the usufruct or income in place of occupancy. Indeed, a memorandum in his own handwriting shows that he anticipated such a course, for it shows he deposited with the executors earnest money in evidence of his intentions to purchase the plantation and house at the sale provided for in the will.

Such a desire for early possession and occupancy on the part of James Dunlop is quite understandable when one considers his background. He had been born heir of the Scotch Barony of Garnkirk with a beautiful mansion house built in 1634 on the ruins of a former house of which his father, James Dunlop, Sr., was the 4th laird of the same name. He had many younger brothers and sisters. An older cousin, Robert Peter of a neighboring estate, Crossbasket Castle, had come to America and settled at Georgetown in 1751 and had acquired a considerable fortune in exporting tobacco and other products of the land.

At the age of sixteen James Dunlop evidently decided that

<sup>24</sup> In the Maryland Historical Society.

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 there was little future in a Scotch barony for an enterprising young man and himself came to New York in 1771, where he remained during the Revolution, after which, in 1783, he also came to Georgetown and established himself, and prospered in business. In 1787, at the age of thirty-two, he married his sixteen-year-old cousin Elizabeth Peter, daughter of Robert Peter.

This was less than a year after the death of his friend and neighbor Alexander Williamson. In fact, on December 22, 1785, he had witnessed Alexander Williamson's will which provided for the sale of the Hayes property. It requires little imagination to picture this young man, successful in business, with this background, just married and looking forward to a family of his own, seizing this opportunity to acquire the Hayes property. It reminded him of his Garnkirk in Scotland; the plantation would produce for him the tobacco, grain, and other crops which he could export, along with such other crops as he was already producing at "Cider and Ginger," a plantation he had acquired near Poolesville in Montgomery County, but which was more remote from the port of Georgetown, his base of operations. And then, too, he would be near enough to Georgetown to live at Hayes at least a part of the year.

This motive for the purchase of the Hayes plantation with its Georgian house seems the more realistic when we realize that James Dunlop acquired a home in Georgetown where his father-in-law, Robert Peter, built, as a wedding present to his daughter, a handsome house on High Street, now 1239 Wisconsin Avenue, a short distance above Robert Peter's own extensive property. Indeed, James Dunlop lived, at least in the winter months, and reared his large family in this Georgetown house. It seems quite certain that Hayes was only the family's summer home until after his death in 1823.

James Dunlop owned and occupied Hayes at least from 1792 to his death in 1823, during which time three of his sons were educated at Princeton, then the College of New Jersey, graduating in the classes of 1811, 1813, and 1815. His youngest son, Henry, grandfather of the present owner, was denied a Princeton education by circumstances brought about by the War of 1812. His father died when he was about 23 years old. Henry continued to live with his mother until he married, in 1834, Catherine Thomas, daughter of Col. John Thomas, of "Montevue," Frederick County,

and sister of Gov. Francis Thomas of Maryland. He bought property adjoining Montevue where he lived until his death in 1877.

At the death of Elizabeth Dunlop, widow of James Dunlop, in 1837, about half of the Hayes estate, including the house, was acquired by Robert Peter Dunlop, the second son, by purchase from the other heirs. Helen, a daughter of James and Elizabeth, married William Laird and their son, William, Jr., in 1869 acquired the property by purchase on the death of Robert Peter Dunlop. It was at the death of the younger Laird, William, Jr., without issue, that Hayes came into the possession in 1892 of George T. Dunlop, son of Colonel Henry Dunlop and father of G. Thomas Dunlop, the present owner, who inherited it in 1908. Since 1823 it has been in the possession of a son, grandson, or great grandson of James Dunlop, Sr.

The other half of the Hayes plantation had been purchased by the eldest son, James, who was practicing law in Georgetown in partnership with Francis Scott Key. He married Barbara Laird, sister to the elder William Laird, and afterwards became Chief Justice of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia.

During the ownership of William Laird, Jr., the plantation land, with the exception of twenty-five acres on which the house is located, was sold to Senator William M. Stewart of Nevada for the Chevy Chase Land Co., from which the Columbia Country Club acquired the land on which its club house and golf course are situated, adjoining Hayes.

The only change made by the Dunlop family until the time that George T. Dunlop purchased it was the addition of a small kitchen wing on the east end to replace a kitchen dependency to the west which had burned many years before. This dependency had apparently been connected to the main building by a colonnade, as was evidenced by the remains of a stone foundation and a bricked-up door in the west wall of the main house. The dining room was afterwards "swapped" with the "white parlor" in the northeast corner when the kitchen wing was built on the east end. The old kitchen foundation and the bricked-up door were plainly visible in the memory of the present owner. There was no door, as now, leading from the present dining room to the kitchen wing; access was only through the small room in the southeast corner. The present passageway leading from the pantry to the main

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stairway was partitioned off at a later date. Also, at some time after the destruction of the kitchen dependency by fire, presumably shortly before the Civil War, a typically Victorian porch had been added to the west end of the main house, which was promptly removed when the property came to the present ownership.

When George T. Dunlop, Sr. acquired the property he added the bath room on the second floor. As he intended to occupy the house only during the summer months, no other conveniences were added at that time. In 1899 he replaced the inappropriate and inadequate kitchen wing (that many years before had replaced the original kitchen dependency), with the present wing which contains kitchen, pantry; and two bedrooms and bath on the second floor.

It is evident that careful architectural supervision was given to this new wing, and the recollection of the present owner is that the rebuilding of the main stairway was done at that time. Here surely is the work of a skilled architect, for, using the original newel, balusters and rail pattern, the stairs were raised the height of four risers and a lower landing built. This gave access under the second landing to the office direct from the hall and to the wing basement stair. Using extended step end panels with seemingly new step-end brackets, which in a series of cymas form the free stair string over the entrance door, this change is beautifully carried out. The then young Walter Peter, cousin of the owner, and just three years out of his architectural school was the architect, and here, as in all his later work, he showed his exquisite taste.

Later in 1908, after the death of George T. Dunlop, Sr., Mr. Peter, for the present owner, designed the harmonious west wing which replaced the Victorian porch which was entirely out of keeping with the original structure. Also a green-house and garage on the east connecting with the kitchen wing.

Another architectural change made at this time was the removal of a wall which separated the entrance hall from the "breakfast" room, thus enlarging and greatly enhancing the appearance of the hall. Mr. Peter accomplished this by substituting for the dividing wall a boxed beam under the ceiling supported at each end by an Ionic column and pilaster.

The original planting of the grounds and gardens surrounding the house have been developed with quantities of English and

American box propagated from the many old plants existing on the place, together with old-fashioned roses, lilacs, peonies and other shrubs and plants, including a very large Maiden's Blush rose which was planted a century and a half ago by the first mistress of Hayes. The perfectly level lawn at the rear of the house was originally graded and used as a bowling green and has been since preserved intact, together with the old set of bowling balls found in the attic.

At the west side of this lawn is a very large and unusual English box, twenty-seven feet across. Across the lawn to the south of the house stands an enormous English elm, said by tree experts to be one of the two largest in the country. Many ancient forest trees also survive. A circular driveway which terminated the entrance roadway from the west gate has been restored with its old carriage block.

The old furniture which is still in the house was probably purchased by James Dunlop from the executors of Alexander Williamson at an auction which was held October 23, 1787, as it was sold to a "ready money purchaser" and James Dunlop had deposited \$5,000 as earnest money of his intention to purchase Hayes when it became available. The inventory lists made at the time of the sale describe the furnishings and all correspond closely with similar pieces which have been continuously in the house at Hayes since James Dunlop's time. Included amongst these pieces are a three-piece Sheraton dining room table and sideboard, a large number of Chippendale chairs, Hepplewhite settees and matching chairs, Windsor chairs, four-poster beds, chests of drawers, mirrors, and many other pieces of that period.

#### WILLIAMSON, THE BUILDER OF HAYES

In the past much has been written about the colonial clergy. Most writers take the position that the quality of the men sent to Maryland and Virginia under the aegis of the Church of England was poor, and that this situation especially applied to Maryland. It is conceded by all that most clergymen sent to the province were upright men, in spite of the fact that the morals of some were questioned. It is inevitable that under such conditions many innocent men were swept into the maelstrom of false accusations

and into the web of still more insidious innuendo. Such a man was the builder of Hayes, third rector of Prince George's Parish.<sup>15</sup>

Alexander Williamson was born in Calvert County about 1727, one of a family of six sons and one daughter, children of the Rev. James and Elizabeth Boyce Williamson, and nephew of Rev. Alexander Williamson, rector of St. Paul's Parish, Kent.<sup>16</sup> His father, James Williamson, was rector of Shrewsbury Parish, Kent, from 1713 to 1722, when he was inducted rector of All Saint's Parish, Calvert.<sup>17</sup> He remained at this post until his retirement in 1761<sup>18</sup> and died in 1769. At the time of his death he was a man of considerable means.<sup>19</sup> Here, through mistaken identity, probably lies the seat of the misunderstanding of the character of Alexander Williamson. There is no necessity of confusing the identities of the two men. The father, James Williamson, is reported to have been a man of little character<sup>20</sup> and is charged by the Rev. Giles Rainsford with being "lewd, drunken, and an original at swearing,"<sup>21</sup> and it is reported that he was to be brought to ecclesiastical trial for his irregularities and "scandalous conduct,"<sup>22</sup> but if so, the outcome is in doubt as no further record can be located.<sup>23</sup> The Rev. Christopher Wilkinson, Commissary, further characterized him as "an Idiot and a Tory."<sup>24</sup> James Williamson, whatever his character, was cleared of at least one accusation of irregularities, as, while rector of Shrewsbury Parish, a letter to him from the Rev. Christopher Wilkinson, Commissary,

<sup>15</sup> To set the record straight, we have availed ourselves of all pertinent public and private records that could be found. We are especially grateful to the custodians of these records and to members of the Chesley and Lyon families for their help in gathering obscure data and without whose assistance the task would have been impossible.

<sup>16</sup> H. F. Thompson, "A List of the Clergy of the Church of England in Maryland, before 1775" (unpublished MS, Md. Hist. Soc.).

<sup>17</sup> F. L. Weis, *Colonial Clergy of Maryland, Delaware, and Georgia* (1950), p. 70.

<sup>18</sup> Henry J. Berkley, "Episcopal Churches and Parishes of Maryland before 1775," unpublished MS, Md. Hist. Soc.

<sup>19</sup> Wills 20, f. 825, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

<sup>20</sup> *Archives of Maryland*, IX, 236.

<sup>21</sup> W. S. Perry, *Papers Relating to the History of the Church in Maryland* (1878), p. 233.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>23</sup> N. W. Rightmyer, "The Character of the Anglican Clergy of Colonial Maryland," *Md. Hist. Mag.*, XLIV (Dec., 1949), 246. The author calls James Williamson, James Wilkinson, an error since corrected. He discusses the accusations and comments of the Rev. Giles Rainsford and Commissary Wilkinson and concludes that in their minds every man who was not a Whig and an Englishman was a rascal. James Williamson was a Scot.

<sup>24</sup> Perry, *op. cit.*, p. 128.

was recorded in the Vestry Minutes of October 10, 1721, requesting his presence at the consecration of St. Luke's Church, and at the same time advising him that certain charges had been placed against him. His vestrymen and church wardens answered the letter and categorically denied that Williamson was ever guilty of the "crimes" with which he was charged.<sup>25</sup>

A picture painted in entirely different colors is unveiled when the life of the son, Alexander Williamson, is examined, but the traits ascribed to the father have, by association, been unjustly attributed to the son. Little, if anything is known about his boyhood. It appears that he was educated in England, as the first direct reference to him is found in a letter from Governor Sharpe to Cecilius Calvert, Secretary for Maryland, dated June 29, 1755, in which the Governor states:

One Mr. Williamson Son of Parson Williamson<sup>26</sup> in Calvert Cty is going to England again he tells me to offer himself as a Candidate of Orders. His Father has not the best of Characters but I have never heard any ill of the young Fellow since his residence here. If either of these [another candidate was discussed in the letter] should request his Ldp's Favour for Ecclesiastical preferment at their Return hither, I should wish they may not receive any promise of being immediately provided for. . . .<sup>27</sup>

Young Williamson must have made an excellent impression on Calvert and Baltimore, for after his Ordination in 1755 and in spite of Governor Sharpe's request that no letters of preferment be given, Calvert gave him a letter to Governor Sharpe, dated January 3, 1756, as follows:

The Bearer the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williamson desiring my Address to you on his behalf, I beg favour of your Acceptance thereof. Your having no Exception to him His Lordship directs me to Acquaint you, 'tis His desire that you do present him with the first Benefice that does become vacant, after induction of such other Clergy he has noted to you. Preferment of this Gentleman will give My Lord peculiar Satisfaction, be being a Native of His Province, of sound Doctrine and Principles to our present Happy Establishment Both in Church and State. . . .<sup>28</sup>

Calvert's letter made a strong impression on Sharpe, for by

<sup>25</sup> George A. Hanson, *Old Kent* (Baltimore, 1876), p. 357.

<sup>26</sup> This reference to "Parson" Williamson may be the key to the so-called tradition that Alexander Williamson was known as a "Sporting Parson." This passage definitely refers to his father.

<sup>27</sup> *Archives of Maryland*, VI, 237.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 332-333.

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January 22, 1757, Williamson was curate of St. Andrew's Parish, St. Mary's County. The vestry minutes of that date show that the vestrymen "Unanimously agree that the Reverend Mr. Alexander Williamson have the thirty per poll. . . ." <sup>29</sup> This was again confirmed for the year 1758. <sup>30</sup>

On April 3, 1759, Williamson presented a letter from Governor Sharpe to the vestrymen of St. Anne's Parish, Annapolis, which appointed him curate of that parish. He was sworn in the same day. <sup>31</sup> During the period of his office at St. Anne's, he was chosen to read the prayers at the opening and closing of the Assembly; this responsibility continued throughout his services in this parish. <sup>32</sup>

On February 23, 1761, on the death of the Rev. George Murdock, rector of Prince George's Parish, Williamson was immediately installed as curate to await Lord Baltimore's pleasure as to a permanent appointment. In his letter to Lord Baltimore of March 4, 1761, Governor Sharpe reminded him that Prince George's was one of the most valuable parishes in the province, and in his letter to Calvert on the same day, Sharpe described the parish, and stated that should Dr. Sharpe (an English clergyman for whom the parish had been intended on the death or retirement of Dr. Murdock) have dropped all thoughts of leaving England he (Governor Sharpe) would be glad to induct Williamson into the rectorship of the parish. <sup>33</sup> His Lordship apparently approved the suggestion as on March 24, 1762, he was inducted into the parish as rector. <sup>34</sup> This was indeed rapid advancement; from the time of his ordination in 1755 and his return to Maryland in 1756, he was progressively placed in more influential parishes until, five years later, he had been assigned to one of the most prosperous parishes in the Province. At this time, Williamson was thirty-five years old.

During his rectorship the parish flourished. Arthur S. Browne states in an article entitled "The Origin of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the District of Columbia": <sup>35</sup>

<sup>29</sup> Copy of Vestry Minutes (Md. Hist. Soc.) for this date. (The poll was 30 pounds of tobacco levied on every male, free or slave, over 16 in the parish. It was collected by the sheriff and paid to the rector as his living.)

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, for February 11, 1758.

<sup>31</sup> Copy of Vestry Minutes (Md. Hist. Soc.), April 23, 1759.

<sup>32</sup> *Archives of Maryland*, LVI, xxix, xxxviii, 228-229, 439.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, IX, 491-493.

<sup>34</sup> Copy of Vestry Minutes (Md. Hist. Soc.), for this date.

<sup>35</sup> *Records of the Columbia Historical Society*, 9 (1906), 81-82.

Rev. Mr. Murdock was succeeded by Rev. Alexander Williamson, who was licensed as curate by Governor Sharpe February 23, 1761, and became rector the following year.

Rev. Dr. Ethan Allen, whose historical work in the diocese of Maryland is well known, states that Rev. Mr. Williamson resigned his parish in 1776 on account of the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Rev. Mr. Williamson considering that his oath of fidelity to the Crown prevented him from serving the parish under the State Government.

The records of the parish and other available material show that Rev. Mr. Williamson was beloved and respected by his congregation, was most earnest in his labors in extending the influence of the church, was zealous in the cause of education and religion, and has left many monuments which endure to this day. His incumbency was the golden age of the parish. . . .

Also, during Mr. Williamson's rectorship, land was procured for two missions in the parish, and chapels were built. . . . The chapels started by Mr. Williamson have long since become independent parishes; and it was due to Mr. Williamson's efforts that the first school was established within the limits of the parish, this being fairly considered the beginning of the school system of the District of Columbia. <sup>36</sup>

Within ten months after his induction as rector, Williamson bought the tract of land which he named "Hayes." In 1766 or 1767 he completed the central core of Hayes. He married in 1767 Elizabeth Lyon, the daughter of Dr. William Lyon of Baltimore. The marriage was an unhappy one, ending in a separation before the birth of a daughter, Mary Lyon Williamson, in Baltimore, January 29, 1769. <sup>37</sup> A tripartite agreement was signed by Williamson, his wife, and Dr. Lyon, under the terms of which, the cause of the separation not being disclosed, Elizabeth Williamson relinquished all claims to Alexander Williamson's estate, in return for which she retained custody of the infant daughter to rear and educate as she saw fit; Williamson returned her dower and relinquished all claims to the estate she had inherited from her grandmother; and Dr. Lyons assumed liability for any contracts Alexander Williamson had made, or might have made, on behalf of Elizabeth Williamson, who was then twenty years of age, and Alexander Williamson and Elizabeth Williamson agreed to live separate and apart as though no contract of marriage had ever been entered into. In spite of this agreement a suit was filed by

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.* Reference is made to an indenture from John Claggett to Alexander Williamson deeding two acres for the use of a public school. See also Rev. Edward Waylen, *A History of Prince George's Parish, Montgomery County (Rockville, 1845)*, pp. 12-16.

<sup>37</sup> Copy of Parish Records, St. Thomas' Church, Garrison Forest (Md. Hist. Soc.).

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Dr. Lyon against the executors of Williamson's estate two years after his death to recover funds which he, Dr. Lyon, claimed were due him for the care and education of Mary Lyon Williamson from the time of the signing of the separation agreement until Williamson's death in 1786. The suit was decided in favor of the executors and dismissed.<sup>38</sup> Nowhere in the course of this litigation was there any reflection on Williamson's character.

In connection with Williamson's resignation and retirement as rector of Prince George's Parish at the outbreak of the Revolution, two facts should be noted which, while circumstantial, have a most definite bearing on the understanding of his qualities.

First. When the war broke out, the Church of England clergyman was in a difficult position. He had two courses of action open to him. His oath, on accepting the duties and perquisites of his office, demanded allegiance to the Crown; he was bound by a double bond, secular and spiritual. His was a choice he must make, however distasteful it might be. He had either to renounce his oath and join the patriots, remaining as rector, or adhere to his oath, in which event he was evicted. If he did not pay the treble taxes which were assessed against those who did not forswear, he was banished. Indeed, it has been said that the clergy stood condemned in the eyes of the people; and in the cases of many who elected to remain loyal the sentence was harshly carried into execution.<sup>39</sup> Williamson chose the second of the two alternatives and retired. It is noteworthy that in his retirement he was left in peace on his estate during the war and was not molested as is shown by the fact that his home and property came through the conflict intact.

Second. Throughout the entire war and while he was not officially connected with any church or parish, from 1776 to 1783 twenty-seven couples residing in the newly-formed Montgomery County selected him to perform their marriage ceremonies, though a new rector had been appointed to succeed him.<sup>40</sup> These two

<sup>38</sup> Lyon v. Executors of Alexander Williamson, Chancery 22, f. 526 ff., Land Office, Annapolis. (Photostat at Md. Hist. Soc.)

<sup>39</sup> S. D. McConnell, *History of the American Episcopal Church* (New York, 1890), p. 202 ff. Dr. Rightmyer, *loc. cit.*, states that he has carefully investigated the claims that the Anglican clergy were mistreated if they did not renounce their oaths, and in no instance has he been able to substantiate any punitive action other than restriction to the bounds of their parishes and a prohibition of exercising any influence against the newly declared free and independent state.

<sup>40</sup> G. A. Brumbaugh, *Maryland Records*, II, 521-522.

items bear strongly to show the high regard in which his former parishioners held him, and how, in the heat of the conflict when passion ruled and where true values were often overlooked, he was left to pursue his way in peace, known and admitted Tory that he was.

Another facet which illuminates the character of Alexander Williamson is disclosed in his carefully considered will. His sister, Elizabeth Chesley, had been widowed in 1767 and was left with several small children, two of whom were so young at the time of their father's death that he had not included them in his will which he had executed two years before. In 1773 Elizabeth Chesley executed her own will, in which she attempted to correct that defect in her husband's will by bequeathing to Ann and Thomas sufficient of her property to place them on an equal footing with the six older children.<sup>41</sup> However, the Revolution had so shrunk the fortunes of the Chesley family that when she died in 1785, naming her brother Alexander executor, there was not enough in the estate to accomplish her purpose. At her death Williamson, who had been devotedly attached to his sister Elizabeth and she to him, took her three then unmarried daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Ann Chesley, his nieces, to live with him at Hayes under his care and protection,<sup>42</sup> and when he made his own will eight months later, he drew the instrument in such a manner as to carry out the intent and wish of his sister, which he, as executor of her estate, found that he would not be able to fulfill because of a deficiency of available assets. His will, after giving the use of his house and plantation to the three nieces mentioned above until one should marry (in which event the estate should be sold) gave £500 to each niece and nephew and gave and bequeathed "over and above to my dear niece, Ann Chesley, she being wholly neglected in her father's will, as much of the residue of my estate as may be sufficient to raise her to an equality of fortune with the rest of her sisters." A fourth niece, Rebecca, had married in 1785 before Williamson had executed his will. Williamson was under no obligation to leave his daughter anything by the will, since by the terms of the separation agreement Dr. Lyon had assumed all responsibility for the education and

<sup>41</sup> Will of John Chesley, Liber 36, f. 341, Hall of Records, Annapolis. Will of Elizabeth Chesley, Liber JJ # 1, f. 313, *ibid.*

<sup>42</sup> Lyon v. Executors, *supra.*

support of his grandchild, but Williamson provided a bequest to her of £1000, and, after other specific bequests, provided that the corpus of the estate be divided, equally, share and share alike, between his daughter and his nieces and nephews.<sup>43</sup>

It is extremely doubtful if Williamson saw his daughter more than twice during his lifetime. The only known times that he saw her were two visits she made to Hayes; the first in 1784 and the second in 1786, eight months before his death. Both of these visits ended with high feeling between father and daughter, after the first of which he had considered cutting her off with a shilling, but which, as he declared to Thomas Johns, one of his executors, he did not do, for "I have determined not to disinherit my daughter for as I have lived a man of honor, so am I resolved to die."<sup>44</sup> Williamson has been mistakenly thought to have died a wealthy man. While his gross estate was valued at the accounting at £11585, there were not sufficient assets to carry out fully the provisions of his will.<sup>45</sup>

Further, as a man is known by the company he keeps, let us glance at the character of the men named by him as witnesses and executors of his will. These men, Gen. James Lingan, Samuel Davidson, and James Dunlop, witnesses, and Henry Townsend, Thomas Johns, and Benjamin Stoddert, executors, were among the foremost citizens of the community, and above reproach in their public and private lives.

How then, with the marshalling of this evidence before us, is it possible to declare Williamson other than a man of high ideals and exemplary character? Not one particle of evidence, documentary or otherwise, has been brought to light which in the slightest way tends to disparage the character of the man. On the contrary,

<sup>43</sup> Will of Alexander Williamson, Liber B, f. 323, Office of Register of Wills, Rockville.

<sup>44</sup> Lyon v. Executors, *supra*.

<sup>45</sup> Liber E, f. 285, Register of Wills, Rockville. First and only account of executors of Williamson. This is explained by fact that while gross estate was large, after paying of debts of estate and part of specific bequests, there was no residuary estate to distribute. The specific bequest to Mary L. Williamson which is not accounted for can probably be traced to and accounted for in ledgers of James Dunlop who bought Hayes in 1792. An item in ledger dated Apr. 19, 1796, shows a debt owed to Dunlop by John Tagart who had married Mary in 1790, Tagart having become financially involved in 1795. The debt amounting to £1185.19.6 was never repaid by Tagart but a contra entry shows that it was settled by Benjamin Stoddert, an executor, on Apr. 30, 1796. Mary had an equity of £1000 in her father's estate, and this debt was in all likelihood paid from this equity with the interest due thereon. (Ledgers in Md. Hist. Soc.)

the documentary evidence discloses the favorable impression made by him on Gov. Sharpe, Lord Baltimore, Cecilius Calvert and on his personal friends and associates. One finds no direct reference to Williamson's character other than the several Sharpe and Calvert letters previously cited before the publication of Dr. Busey's book on Washington in which the author states that he was "a learned, witty, and elegant clergyman, but addicted to all the vices then common among gentlemen, such as hunting, horse-racing, drinking, and gaming." He "built the house that he might entertain in a manner suited to his taste and means."<sup>46</sup> Dr. Busey gives no authorities for his conclusions, other than a mass of general bibliographical references in an appendix to his book. Later authors have followed in the same vein, but if he loved his horses and enjoyed riding to hounds, and extending the hospitality of his home to his friends, doing to others as they would do unto him, and living his private life in harmony with his duties to his parishioners and his church, is it fair to say of him as Dr. Busey does that "he was addicted to all the vices then common among gentlemen?" Dr. Rightmyer in his article makes this comment on his character: "Had time permitted some of the shining lights of the day might have been discussed in detail. . . . There were Alexander Williamson, senior and junior. . . . These names are but a few of the many that could be mentioned and of whom any church in any age might well be proud."<sup>47</sup>

Williamson died in 1786, and the place of his burial is not known.<sup>48</sup> He has left no surviving descendants.<sup>49</sup> His only child,

<sup>46</sup> S. C. Busey, *Pictures of the City of Washington in the Past* (Washington, 1898), p. 172.

<sup>47</sup> Rightmyer, *op. cit.*, pp. 249-250.

<sup>48</sup> An exhaustive search has been made to find the place of rest of Williamson. Legend has it that he was buried in the garden at Hayes, but it is improbable that, having arranged for the disposal of Hayes after his death, he would have wished burial there, and the plot has never been located. Helen G. Ridgely, *Historic Graves of Maryland* (New York, 1908), p. 183, places his grave under the chancel of St. Paul's Church, Rock Creek Parish; but at the time of his death, only the walls were up, it had a dirt floor and it remained unroofed for nearly 40 years. If Williamson was buried there his body would have been moved or covered up when the floor was laid; if it was outside the north wall where the present chancel was built, the grave would have been discovered and relocated, even if unmarked, for the present chancel is built over a sub-basement.

The most likely place of burial is under a monument erected to the memory of James and Elizabeth Dunlop which is now placed approximately fifty yards east of the house. An old family burial ground had been established, date unknown, several hundred yards southeast of the house, and in 1926, in an exchange of land with the Chevy Chase Land Co. to correct and straighten boundaries, all the remains that could be found were removed and re-interred in a

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Mary Lyon Williamson, who married John Tagart, had eight children, and she, her husband, and six of the children are all buried in the graveyard of St. Thomas's Church, Garrison Forest, Baltimore County.<sup>50</sup> A tablet in the church to Samuel H. Tagart, her son, states:

The fund for the extension of this church was furnished by

Samuel H. Tagart

to enable the poor but worthy residents of the neighborhood to attend its services and as a memorial to his family (of which he is the sole survivor) who are buried within the shadow of these walls

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common grave under the monument at its present site. It is probable that Alexander Williamson established this graveyard and reserved a corner for his slaves—and many slave remains were exhumed after the family remains were moved. He had lost contact with his church since 1776, he was estranged from his wife and child, his nieces immediately returned to St. Mary's County after his death, and there was a convenient graveyard on the property within a few hundred yards of the house in which he died.

Therefore, it appears logical to believe that, no headstone having been placed over his grave; or at least only a wooden marker so common in those days; that, when the Dunlop remains were moved, those of Alexander Williamson were moved with them.

<sup>49</sup> Whether the nieces, or any of them, elected to live at Hayes after Williamson's death as authorized by his will is extremely unlikely. All of them were married by 1798. We do not know the dates of these marriages, but they were not before 1792 when the estate was sold. Neither do we know which niece was married first. The fact that the furnishings and other personal property including slaves and livestock were sold at Hayes on Oct. 23, 1787, indicates that the nieces had moved away prior to that time.

<sup>50</sup> An interesting and unexplained aftermath on the Williamson and Tagart families is uncovered in following the subsequent careers of the members of the Tagart family. Mary Williamson Tagart was born into the Episcopal Church (St. Thomas', Garrison Forest), but the records of the First Presbyterian Church of Baltimore show that she was married to John Tagart in that church, they were on the rolls of the church as communicants, and all eight of their children were born members of that church and baptized therein. All of the Tagarts, however, are buried in St. Thomas' graveyard, and at least one of them, Samuel Tagart, contributed heavily to the Episcopal Church.

The records of St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Baltimore show that, on Jan. 21, 1795, an Elizabeth Williamson was married to a William Russell. She is the only Elizabeth Williamson mentioned in the church records. She is unquestionably the widow of Alexander Williamson, as a William Russell, a friend of the Lyon family, gave testimony of an intimate nature in Dr. Lyon's suit against the executors of Alexander Williamson. Dr. Lyon died in August or September of 1794, and did not mention his daughter Elizabeth in his will. (Liber WB 5, f. 185, Register of Wills, Baltimore.)

The family Bible of William Russell (copy in Md. Hist. Soc.) shows that Russell died May 8, 1805, in the 65th year of his age and he was buried in St. Peter's burial ground. Elizabeth Russell, wife of William, died on June 24, 1814, and was buried in First Presbyterian burying ground "aged 65 years."

Fortunately, Alexander Williamson's memory is perpetuated by this paragraph appearing in the *Maryland Gazette* (Baltimore) of December 5, 1786, which is quoted in its entirety:

On Sunday the 19th ultimo died at Hayes, the Rev. Alexander Williamson; a man of rich genius, knowledge and learning. He was not more distinguished and admired in his public character as a Preacher, than in his private one as a Gentleman—his characteristics were honour and philanthropy; and as he lived beloved and caressed by a most numerous and respectable acquaintance, so he died universally lamented and regretted.

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MARYLAND  
HISTORICAL MAGAZINE



Harper's Magazine, Vol. 1,  
July 1874, p. 10. Alexander's Magazine, ca. 1770

MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BALTIMORE





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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated January 28, 1983

ACTION TAKEN

Notice of Public Hearing. . .several resources being  
considered for inclusion in the  
Master Plan

1. Dickerson Station. . . . .M: 12/21-1
2. Bussard Farm. . . . . M: 22/7
3. Hayes Manor. . . . .M: 35/10
4. Woodend. . . . .M: 35/12
5. Rammed-Earth House (Oakmont)M: 35/22
6. Reading House. . . . .M: 35/24
- \* 7. Granger Estate. . . . .M: 35/17

\*The Historic PRESERVATION Commission found this resource  
not to meet Ordinance criteria for placement and have  
recommended its removal from the Locational Atlas.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Article 66D of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and to Chapter 24A and Chapter 33A of the Montgomery County Code, the Montgomery County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission hereby gives notice that it will hold a public hearing on the following:

PRELIMINARY DRAFT AMENDMENT TO  
THE MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

at

10:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1983

AUDITORIUM, MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD  
8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

to take testimony on whether or not the following historic resources currently listed in the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County should be included in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, and added to the area master plans for the areas in which they are located.

1. Dickerson Station, Site #12/21-1  
22235 Mt. Ephraim Road  
Dickerson, Maryland
2. Bussard Farm, Site #22/7  
18400 Muncaster Road  
Derwood, Maryland
3. Hayes Manor, Site #35/10  
4101 Manor Road  
Chevy Chase, Maryland
4. Woodend, Site 35/12  
8940 Jones Mill Road  
Chevy Chase, Maryland
5. Rammed-Earth House (Oakmont), Site #35/22  
6532 75th Street  
Cabin John, Maryland

- M:35-10
6. Reading House, Site #35/24  
44 Wellesley Circle  
Glen Echo, Maryland
  7. Granger Estate, Site #35/17  
7303 River Road  
Bethesda, Maryland

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission has reviewed the architectural and historic significance of these resources according to the criteria listed in the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code, and nominated resources one through six listed above for placement on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. If placed on the Master Plan, the historic resources will be protected under the Historic Preservation Ordinance which provides certain controls regarding alteration, demolition and maintenance of the property.

The Historic Preservation Commission found resource seven listed above not to meet Ordinance criteria for placement and have recommended its removal from the Locational Atlas. If not included in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, any of the resources listed above may be removed from the Locational Atlas. If removed, the sites would no longer be subject to the provision of Chapter 24A-10, the Moratorium on Alteration or Demolition. All sites will remain on the Maryland Historical Trust's inventory.

Copies of the Preliminary Draft Amendment are available at The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20907. Additional research on these sites is available from the Park and Planning Commission at the same address and also the Park Historian's Office located in Needwood Mansion, 6700 Needwood Road, Rockville, Maryland.

The purpose of the public hearing is to allow all interested persons to express their views concerning this amendment. Persons wishing to testify should call 565-7401. If you are unable to attend, write your concerns to the Montgomery County Planning Board at the above address and they will be made part of the Public Hearing record.

  
Thomas H. Countee, Jr.  
Executive Director

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated September 19, 1983

ACTION TAKEN

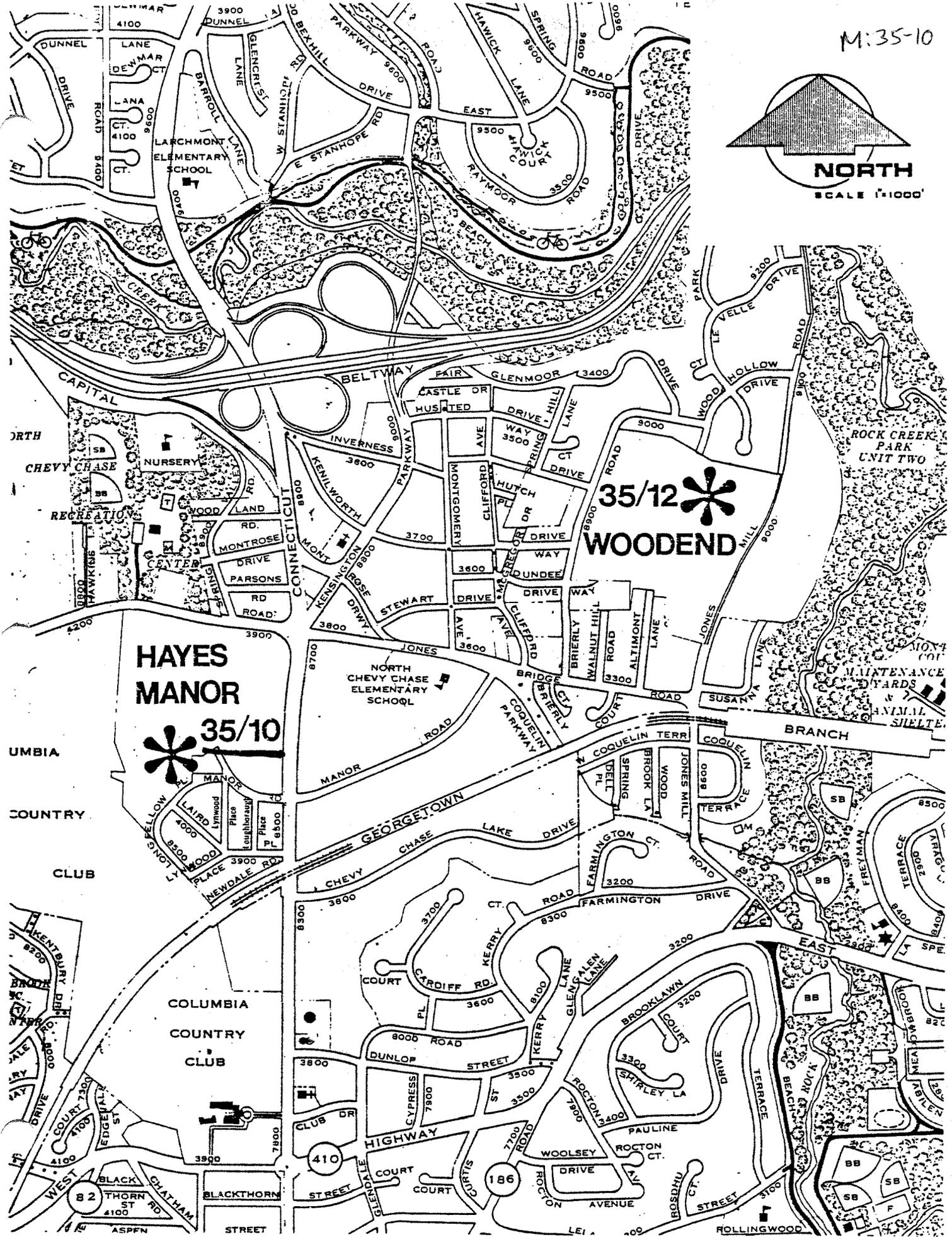
The following sites are recommended for inclusion in Chapter 4 of the Master Plan:

- M: 12/21-1                      Dickerson Station
- M: 12/38                        Brewer Farm
- M: 22/7                         Bussard Farm
- M: 24/13                        Pleasant View Church #2
- M: 24/21                        Pleasant Hills
- M: 29/3                         Glen Store and Post Office
- M: 29/16                        Locust Grove I (Magruder House)
- M: 29/36                        Ellerslie
- M: 35/10                        Hayes Manor
- M: 35/12                        Woodend

The Planning Board did not find the following site warranted placement on the Master Plan as an individual site:

- M: 35/24                        Reading House

M:35-10





Hayes Manor

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