

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina
COUNTY: Florence
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Snow's Island
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: [REDACTED]			
CITY OR TOWN: Johnsonville vicinity		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45	COUNTY: Florence	CODE: 041

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>hunting preserve</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: [REDACTED]	STATE: [REDACTED]
CITY: [REDACTED]	CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Florence County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Florence	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: South Carolina Preliminary Survey of Historic Places		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: South Carolina Department of Archives and History		
STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street, P.O. Box 11, 188 Capitol Station		
CITY OR TOWN: Columbia	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

[REDACTED] S,

Three principal environmental changes have taken place on Snow's Island since the Francis Marion period (1780-1781). First, in 1780 the island was utilized as a plantation by one William Goddard. Goddard raised livestock and cultivated some land. The location of Goddard's plantation is not noted in the secondary literature. Today Snow's Island is uninhabited and it functions primarily as a private hunting preserve. Second, in 1780 [REDACTED] Over the years a log jam and the changing course

[REDACTED] S

Third, the island has been periodically logged, the last harvest having taken place about 1955.

With the exception of these changes Snow's Island has undergone no major or significant environmental alteration since 1780-1781. The contemporary swamp physical setting is substantially the same as it was in Marion's time. By basing his partisan operations on the tactical advantages of such an environment, Francis Marion earned the designation of the Swamp Fox.

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**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century            |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Francis Marion, a South Carolina militia officer, emerged from the Revolutionary War as one of its more celebrated and colorful figures. By harassing the British forces in South Carolina as well as disrupting the enemy's logistical system, Marion made a significant contribution to the American war effort in the South during the difficult 1780-1781 period. He is a significant figure in the military history of the War for Independence.

According to Robert D. Bass, one of Marion's biographers, Marion's most significant military contributions occurred between August 1780 and September 1781. During this period of American military weakness in the region, Marion employed guerilla war tactics against the British in an area between the Little Pee Dee and the Santee Rivers. His success depended on his ability to attack by surprise and then retreat to a secure area where the militarily superior British regulars could not find him. Snow's Island was a perfect retreat. Resting in a river plateau swamp and accessible only by water after any bridges has been destroyed, it provided Marion with a base camp where he could assemble supplies and rest his men. From approximately December 1780 to late March 1781 Marion based his partisan activities on Snow's Island. In late March, while Marion was engaged to the south, a determined British force led by Lt. Col. Welbore E. Doyle finally found the Swamp Fox's lair. After dispersing a small contingent of Marion's men who had been left to guard the supplies, Doyle destroyed the camp. He did not, however, succeed in killing or capturing Marion. Marion continued his guerilla war until the following September, when the war in the South entered a new, more conventional, phase.

Marion's principal biographers as well as the standard military histories of Revolutionary War action in South Carolina agree that Marion used Snow's Island as a base camp. In his "Swamp Fox, The Life and Campaigns of General Francis Marion," Robert D. Bass writes that the camp was located at the plantation of William Goddard. Unfortunately, the exact location of this plantation on the island is unknown. It is possible that the plantation was located above today's Snow's Island. Research in land records and other primary sources is necessary to affix this location.

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**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bass, Robert D. Swamp Fox, The Life and Campaigns of General Francis Marion (New York, 1959)  
 McCrady, Edward The History of South Carolina in the Revolution 1780-1783 (New York, 1902)  
 Raukin, Hugh F. Francis Marion: The Swamp Fox (New York, 1973)  
 "Snows Island," South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1972.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

west  
north  
east  
south

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW				° ' "	° ' "	
NE						
SE						
SW						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5000**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**James Sheire, Historian**

ORGANIZATION **Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation,  
 National Park Service** DATE **July 31, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1100 L Street NW.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE **D.C.** CODE

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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As far as could be determined there are no historic resources on Snow's Island associated with Francis Marion, i.e. there are no physical remains of Marion's four months use of Snow's Island as a base camp. Extensive archeological investigation based on considerable primary historical research would be necessary in any effort to locate the camp.

[REDACTED] found a depression which is reported to be the remains of earthworks built by Marion to protect the river approach to the island. Archeological investigation is necessary to document firmly this judgement.

At the present time Snow's Island is primarily an example of the environment in which Francis Marion operated and from which the name Swamp Fox is derived. The absence of any physical remains, as well as the inconclusive nature of the secondary literature on exact locations, leaves only the environment and an inconclusive site as the primary associations with Francis Marion. Francis Marion is a significant figure in the history of the Revolutionary War. The question is whether the resource meets the integrity and national significance criteria.

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