

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Delaware
COUNTY:	Sussex
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAY 31 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:	Maston House
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Cannon's Savannah

2. LOCATION 3 mi N of Seaford on

STREET AND NUMBER:			
Seaford-Atlanta Road			
CITY OR TOWN:		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
Seaford vic			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Delaware	10	Sussex	005

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY <small>(Check One)</small>	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE <small>(Check One or More as Appropriate)</small>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other <small>(Specify)</small> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:			
John Herbert Litchford, Sr.			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Seaford Atlanta Road			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE
Seaford		Delaware	005

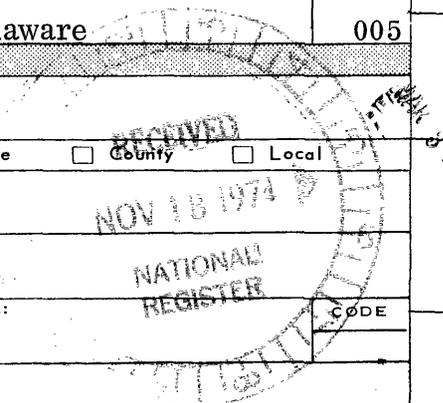
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:			
Sussex County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
The Circle			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE	CODE
Georgetown		Delaware	005

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:	Delaware
COUNTY:	Sussex
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

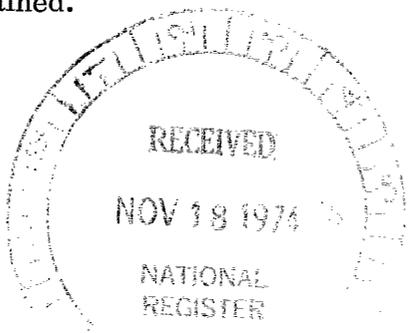
7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Maston House, which is one of Sussex County's oldest brick structures, was built in 1727 and enlarged in 1733. It is a story-and-one-half brick dwelling with shed-roof dormers. In keeping with the local tradition, it is only one room deep and has interior end chimneys. The entire building is laid in Flemish-bond pattern with glazed headers and is surrounded by a stepped water table. Each gable end features a heavy belt course, above which are narrow attic windows and diapered brickwork. A plain box cornice compliments each facade. A small contemporary frame addition abuts the structure on the northern end. To the right of the closed entrance is a brick dated 1727, and incorporated in the diapered brick work of the northern gable is a brick dated 1733.

Wide floor boards, deep recessed windows, and a narrow enclosed staircase winding around the chimney are among the original interior features that have remained in tact. Though each massive fireplace has been enclosed or rebuilt, the original lintel and mantel shelf have been retained.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1727 and 1733**

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

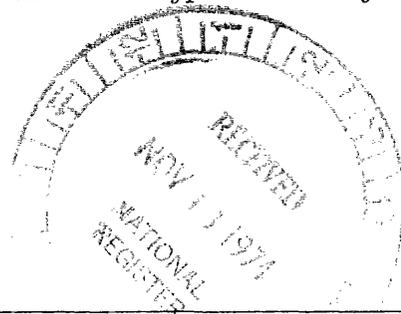
The Maston House is one of western Sussex County's earliest examples of the "Resurrection Manor" style house. It was built in a portion of the county which was originally a part of Dorchester County, Maryland. By 1776, when the boundary line separating Maryland from Delaware had been firmly established, the territory became known as North West Fork Hundred, because it was situated west of the northwest fork of the Nanticoke River (Marshyhope Creek).

The house was built on a tract called Cannon's Savannah which the Province of Maryland had originally granted to Stephen Cannon. In 1776, seventy-eight acres of the tract was resurveyed for the yeoman Jacob Kinder. The remaining portion of Cannon's Savannah, along with the dwelling plantation and the adjoining Ickford tract were bequeathed to Cannon's son Stephen, Jr. at his father's death in 1793.

The Cannon family was one of Sussex County's largest land holding families. As prosperous yeomen, they continued to own the Maston House and property until 1851, when Cornelius T. Cannon conveyed the property to Halsey H. Maston, resident of North West Fork Hundred, and the owner cited on Beers' Atlas of 1868. Adjoining Cannon's Savannah are Benjamin Cannon's Hickory Hill tract, William Cannon's tract called Goshen, and the tract known as Cannon's Grief.

The Maston House has been called a Maryland house in Delaware by Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman, the historian of eastern shore architecture. Dr. Forman reported the presence of a Jacobean-style staircase, which is not now found in the building. In other ways, also, it resembles Maryland rather than Delaware houses. Whereas the typical Delaware house is two stories high, the Maston House is a story and a half; diapering is much more common in Maryland than in Delaware; and the floor plan is typical of certain buildings known commonly as the "Resurrection Manor" plan houses, which are typical of early Maryland building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sussex County Deeds

Book 36-page 16
 Book 33-page 344
 Book 58-pages 358-360
 Book 113 page 292

Sussex County Wills

1793, September 28 -Stephen Cannon, Sr.
 Book A - pages 135-136
 Book F - pages 367-368

Sussex County Orphans Court

Book V- pages 332, 406, 411, 468.

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens. New York

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA Bonanza Books, 1956.

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		38° 41' 20"	75° 38' 58"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Madeline-Elizabeth Dunn, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: October 30, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

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: Dr. Ronald M. Finch Date: 3/31/75

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 11/13/74

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

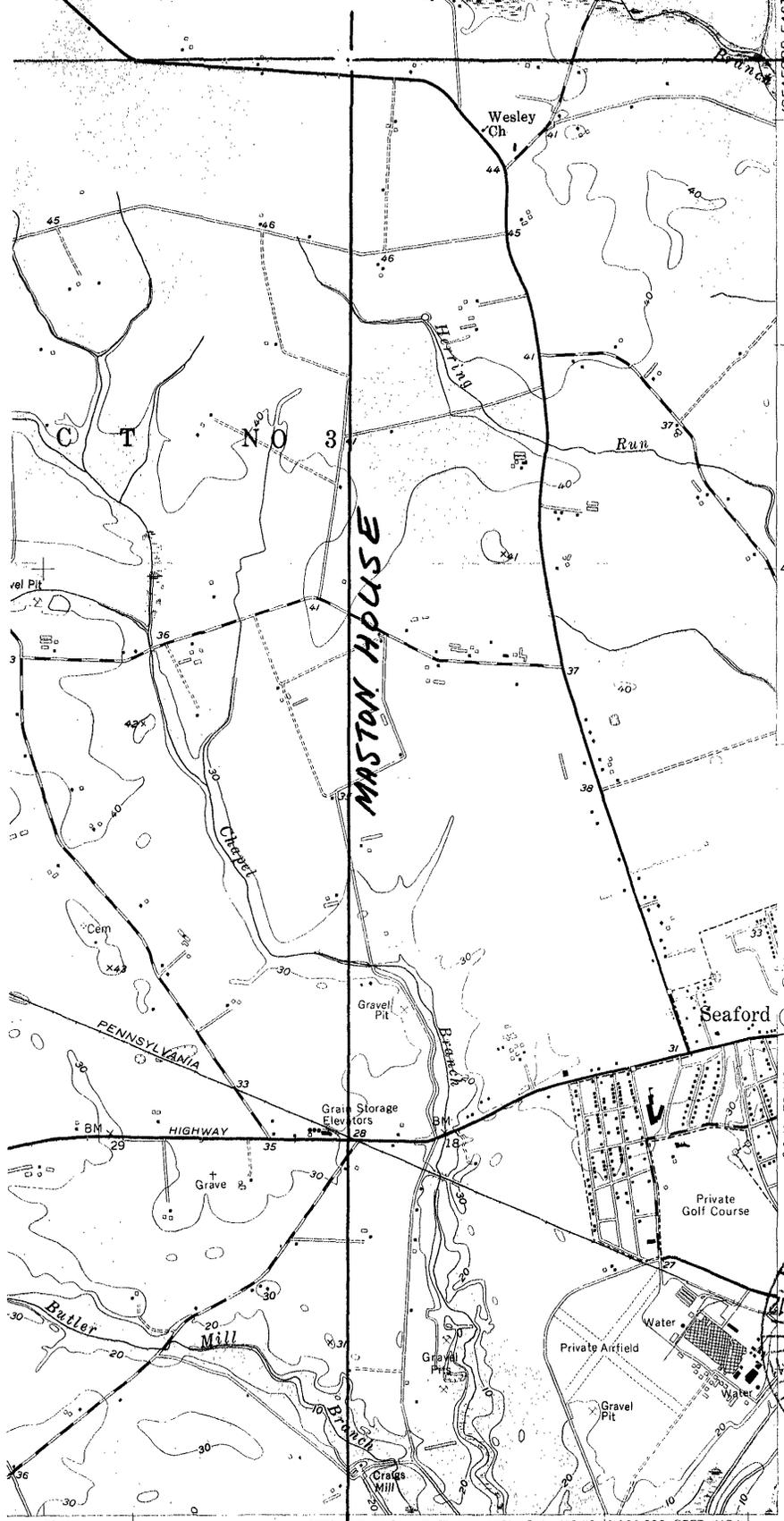
AK Morlison
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3.28.75

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

38° 41' 20"



300 000 FEET (MD)

Seaford (20)

0.9 MI. TO U.S. 134 LAUREL 8 MI.



38° 37' 30"

75° 37' 30"

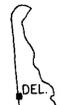
INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1957-N8 1:190 000 FEET (MD.) N R 9234

75° 38' 58"

MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty Light-duty
- Medium-duty Unimproved dirt
- U. S. Route State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

SEAFORD WEST, DEL.—MD.
 NW/4 SEAFORD 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3837.5—W7537.5/7.5

1955