Form 10-300 (July 1969)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
Maryland	
COUNTY:	
Kent	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	′
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 1 d	1973

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	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	lore as Appropriate)						
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7. DESCRIPTION	T			(Check One)		
	Excellent	⊠ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorate	d 🗌 Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check O	ne)		(Ch	eck One)
	IX Alter	ed	☐ Unaltered		☐ Moved	☑ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Architecturally, Carvill Hall appears similar to many other old houses in Kent County, but upon close examination of the brickwork, and especially of a room-by-room inventory of 1709, the original early appearance can be ascertained.

Carvill Hall is a two-and-one-half story brick house, laid in Flemish bond above a stepped water table, having string courses on all four sides. The entire building has been whitewashed and painted. It has a tall brick chimney built on the exterior of both end-gables. Its shingled 'A' roof is very steeply pitched and there is a two-foot overhang at the eaves. It is three bays long, with central door on both facades (east and west), the east entrance having a transom. Flanking the north chimney are two windows on the first story and two in the attic. All of the windows on the first and second stories have six over six sashes and black louvered shutters. Off the south gable is a twenty-foot long, two-story frame wing of late nine-teenth century date which is of little architectural merit.

The interior consists of a central stair hall with a room on each side. Mantels and chair rail, balustrade and trim all date from its remodeling, around 1800.

Summer beams and girts are still exposed in the cellar and second story. Braced purlins can be seen in the attic. The attic closet at the head of the stairs has no ceiling and the roof construction in that area is visible. The roof has four pairs of major rafters with purlins mortised into them and braced at the outer corners. The minor rafters are mortised, tenoned and pegged at the apex of the roof. The underside of the original split oak clapboard roof can be seen in the upper attic.

Prior to its remodeling, the house had a porch, or porch tower, on the west facade. The original windows on the west facade were in the position they are today (1972) except that they were approximately ten inches shorter and probably had leaded casements. Neither of the gable chimneys was in existence prior to the remodeling. Instead, there was a large central chimney, traces of which can be seen in the basement and attic. The south gable had a center window in the attic, plus a smaller one in the upper attic. On the first story was a door east of the basement entrance.

The east facade had an asymetrical arrangement with one window on the north end and a door and window on the south end. On the second story were three windows, two above those on the first story and one slightly off-center, to the south. The steep roof was covered with riven oak clapboard, similar to Resurrection Manor and the original part of Sotterley, both in

-see continuation sheet-

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

MAR 1 1973

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

### 7. DESCRIPTION, continued

St. Mary's County. The central chimney was set back (east) of the ridge, as the chimney footing is set back accordingly. The space between the riven clapboards indicates its original position.

Glazed headers were used throughout the Flemish bond, and a three-brick string course was located on each of the four sides and porch. A string course was located on the gables between the second and attic stories.

The original room arrangement consisted of two main rooms having "back-to-back" fireplaces, a stair and passage adjacent to the chimney, and the porch. The two upper stories were essentially the same, with a room above the porch. In many ways it resembled the floor plan typical of New England houses.

There may not be any other existing buildings in Maryland which were originally constructed in the same manner as Carvill Hall. First of all, it is a large building for the date, and secondly, there are no other early Maryland buildings known at this time which had a central chimney. Because of its original construction, it is important to the study of Maryland architecture, and to the study of the earlier phase of American architecture.

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

When he died in 1709, at about forty years of age, John Carvill left possessions, excluding about 1700 acres of land in Kent and Harford Counties, worth £ 932, a considerable sum for a relatively young man. He had one son, a minor, also named John, to whom he bequeathed the majority of his estate after the death of his widow.

**NATIONAL** 

REGISTER

John II had all of the tracts resurveyed between 1735 and 1751. He also acquired other property adjacent to the "home" plantation and established a grist mill at the head of Fairlee Creek. At his death in 1773, there were over two thousand acres in his possession.

The Carvill heirs retained possession of the main tract of "Salter's Load" until about 1860, when it passed to Edward Comegys, a large landowner of the period. From that time to the late 1950's, the house was occupied by tenant farmers. It is now on about two acres of land within a residential development complex called Great Oak Estates.

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 Applicab	le and Known) betwee	n 1694 and 1709	)
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropria	ite)	
Abor iginal	■ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning 211
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Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	Aug 25 1972
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	promet.
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	NATIONAL
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☐ Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original patent for the land on which Carvill Hall stands was granted to Edward Packer under the name of "Packerton" in 1658. "Packerton" contained eight hundred acres. At the death of Edward Packer who had no heirs, it escheated to the Propietor by judgment of the Provincial Court, March 2, 1681. The Propietor then gave it to William Boarman in recognition of his services. Boarman assigned it to Thomas Carvill for whom it was patented January 12, 1682. Instead of retaining the old name, the same eight hundred acres was renamed "Salter's Load." Thomas Carvill was a planter of St. Mary's County and did not live at "Salter's Load" until after 1700.

In 1694, Thomas Carvill's son John was granted twenty-six acres called "Carvill's Prevention." These twenty-six acres are located within the bounds of "Salter's Load," and it is upon this small tract that John Carvill built his house.

John Carvill was very prominent in the political activities within the state during the last decade of the seventeenth century and the first decade of the eighteenth century > In 1692 and 1698-99, he is listed as a burgess from St. Mary's County and Cecil County respectively, meaning that he was a member of the General Assembly. Between 1694 and 1696, and again in 1699-1700, he was High Sheriff of Cecil County, a position which was the most lucrative and powerful political appointment within an individual county. He refused the same position in 1702. In 1698, he was elected Justice for Cecil County. He was also elected to the General Assembly in 1708 to represent Kent County, but this was after the present (1972) boundaries of Kent and Cecil Counties were established, so that he lived in and represented some of the same territory as he had while representing Cecil County. Thus, he could live at the same plantation and serve both counties. John Carvill was also appointed, in 1708, to the commission to "erect a port and town in Kent County at Chester Ferry at or near the place where the old Courthouse stood." The town was later to become Chestertown, the county seat of Kent County.

-see continuation sheet-

	K-241	•														
9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOG	RAPHIC	AL RE	FERENC	ES										
	Recorder: Michael Bourne, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401															
	Kent County Land Records. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.												land.			
	Kent County Probate Records. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.												d.			
	Works Program Administration. Maryland, A Guide to the Old Line State. New York: Oxford, 1940.											Line				
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	Date June 10 1072								Date 3.8.73							

Form 10-301 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

STATE COUNTY ENTRY NUMBER Maryland FOR NPS USE ONLY Kent DATE

K - 241

WAME (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) MAR 1 4 1973

COMMON:

Carvill

Hall

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TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS	4. REQUIREMENTS	DATE: 1949	scale: 1: 24 000	USGS map (7.5 minute); Hanesville Quadrangle NATION	SOURCE:	3. MAP REFERENCE	Maryland 24	STATE: CODE	Chestertown	CITY OR TOWN:	Great Oak Estates - 10 miles west of Chestertown	STREET AND NUMBER:	2. LOCATION	AND/OR HISTORIC: "Carvill's Prevention,"
	(6) TOTAL		(6) REGISTED /s/	Quadrangle NATION (*)		1 AIL 25 1072 €1	MANY RECEIVED ( 029	E COUNTY: CODE			of Chestertown			"Salter's Load," "Packerton"

Property broundaries where required.

North arrow.

Latitude and longitude reference.

