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ш ш S Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Anne Arund	el
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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AND/OR HISTORIC:					
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	(Check One)								
CONDITION	Excellent	XX Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed			
CONDITION		(Check Or	1e)		(Ch	eck One)			
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (*if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Paca House, built 1763-65, is a 132-foot long Georgian five-part composition comprised a two-andone-half-story over-elevated-basement central block with gable roof and two flanking and symmetrical one-and-ahalf-story gable-roofed service dependencies which are built at right angles to the main axis and connected to the main house by means of two lower hyphens or passageways. The central block is 48-feet wide and 44-feet deep, the dependencies - a kitchen and office - are each 20 by 32-feet, and each hyphen is 22-feet long. The main house is five-bays wide; its street facade is all-header bond construction and the end walls are of brick laid in Flemish bond. have flat arches of rubbed brick. The center of the street elevation has a one-story one-bay-wide wood porch, which is pedimented and done in a modified Roman Doric order.

There is a large brick chimney at either side of the central block and both dependencies also have a chimney at each end. The original roof was comprised of cypress shingles and there are three gabled dormers on the front roof of the central block and two more on the rear or garden elevation. One wing and the two connecting passageways were greatly altered in the 19th-century: the hyphens and left (or west) wing were raised to two stories in heights. These alterations are being eliminated in the restoration work now under way on the house.

The main house has a center hall plan with two rooms on either side of the hall. The interiors have been greatly altered over the years. Only three rooms, the central hall, the stair hall behind it, and a parlor in the west (left or front) corner still have any of their original wood and plaster finish. The main stair still has its original Chinese Chippendale balustrade.

The goal of the extensive restoration program now underway is to complete work on the Paca House by 1976. The State of Maryland then plans to utilize the structure as a guest house for visiting dignitaries. The first floor will also be open to visitors.

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)	1763-1780	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	K Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	•
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
☐ Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Paca House was the town house and principal home of William Paca, a signer of the Declaration of Independence for Maryland, lawyer, planter, politician, jurist, and governor of Maryland, from 1765 to 1780. The very large five-part Georgian mansion is currently the object of a very extensive restoration project.

Brief Sketch of the Life of William Paca, 1740 - 1799.

William Paca was born in "Chilbury Hall," near Abingdon, Harford County, Maryland, on October 31, 1740, the son of a well-to-do planter. Paca graduated from the College of Philadelphia with a M.A. degree in 1759. He studied law in the office of Stephen Bordley at Annapolis and then completed his legal training at the Inner Temple, London. He was admitted to the Maryland bar in 1764. In 1763 Paca married Mary Chew of Annapolis, a daughter of the very wealthy Samuel Chew. There were five children by this marriage. His wife died in 1774 and he married Anne Harrison of Philadelphia in 1777, who died in 1780.

Paca a member of the Maryland colonial legislature from 1768 to 1774, of the provincial conventions of 1775 and 1776, and a state senator from 1777 to 1779. He was a delegate to the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1779. He was chief judge of the general court of Maryland from 1778 to 1780 and the chief judge of the circuit court of appeals in admiralty from 1780 to From November 1782 to November 1783 he was Governor of He took an active part in raising subscriptions for Washington College, incorporated at Chestertown in 1782 as the first institute of higher learning in Maryland. He was a delegate to the Maryland convention which adopted the Federal Constitution in 1788 and voted for ratification. George Washington appointed Paca Federal district judge for Maryland, a position that Paca held until 1799. Paca died on October 13, 1799 at his son's house, "Wye Hall," on Wye Island near Carmichael, Queen Annes County, Maryland. He was first buried at "Wye Hall" but later reburied in the family burial ground adjacent to his own plantation house, "Wye Plantation."

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOG	RAPHIC	AL RE	FERE	NCES									
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		designat							I hereby certify that this property is included in the						
	tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion							National Register.							
in the National Register and certify that it has been															
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

''William Paca House'

STATE

8. Significance (1)

HISTORY OF THE HOUSE

The Paca House was built by William Paca in 1763-1765 as his principal home and here he resided during the Revolution. In 1780, however, a few months after the death of his second wife, Paca sold his Annapolis mansion. From 1780 to 1799 his chief residence was at "Wye Plantation," Queen Anne County.

In 1899 the Paca House became known as the "Carvel Hall Hotel" and the 18th-century structure was enlarged in 1906 by rear additions that completely hide the back of the mansion. In 1964, when the Paca House was threatened with demolition, Historic Annapolis, Inc. purchased the mansion for \$125,000. In 1965 the State of Maryland acquired the Carvel Hall Hotel and garden portion of the property. The hotel 1906 buildings in rear of the mansion were demolished in 1967 and in 1968-69 William Paca's former gardens, enbacing about two acres, were restored and reconstruction. The mansion itself is undergoing an extensive program of restoration and some reconstruction.

9. Major Bibliographical References:

Elizabeth Fields and Dr. J.E. Fields, "The Signers Lived Here,"

<u>Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine</u>, May 1951, 7.