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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Sussex County Court House is a two story and attic frame structure, of five bay width, sheathed in bold cypress shingles. It lacks the decorative detail usual for a public building erected in 1793, giving more the appearance of a roomy but simple private house of late "eorgian style. Originally it stood on The Circle, from which it was moved in 1837 to its present location on South Bedford Street a few doors below The Circle. Subsequent use as a private dwelling and later as a printing office has greatly altered the interior. The exterior remains unchanged, although at the time of public reacquisition it had long been poorly maintained. Full restoration is planned.



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The older building is a sociated with all the cases and public figures, some of them notable, which were before the courts of Sussex County for forty-four years. More importantl it is a rare physical symbol of a complex situation reaching far beyond its specific date forced the creation of this court house and the town to service it grew directly from the century-long conflict of the Lords Baltimore with James Duke of York and his successor the Penn family over their respective Provincial boundaries. The same frictions were involved in the election of the Assemblymen and Katifying Convention delegates who considered the Federal constitution. They helped shape the travel routes, trading habits, political preferences and sectional loyalties of Sussex Countians and other residents of Delmarva from the early colonial settlers to the living generation. The Old Sussex County Court House is a unique vehicle for interpreting this complicated and significant segment of regional history.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES												
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