**1. NAME**

**COMMON:**
Maryland State House

**AND/OR HISTORIC:**
Maryland State House

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**2. LOCATION**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
State Circle

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Annapolis

**STATE:**
Maryland

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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

**PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- Government
- Park
- Private Residence
- Scientific

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**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

**OWNER'S NAME:**
The State of Maryland; The Honorable Marvin Mandel, Governor

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
State Circle

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Annapolis

**STATE:**
Maryland

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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:**
Anne Arundel Courthouse

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
Church Circle

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Annapolis

**STATE:**
Maryland

**CODE:**
24

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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE OF SURVEY:**
Historic American Building Survey

**DATE OF SURVEY:**
1936

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**
Library of Congress/Annex

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
Division of Prints and Photographs

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Washington

**STATE:**
D.C.

**CODE:**
20240

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Architecturally, the State House is a severe brick structure topped by a tall octagonal dome and cupola. The main entrance facing the east, is protected by a one story pedimented Corinthian portico with marble floor, wooden columns, iron capitals, and cast iron railing; it is obviously a later addition. The portal opens into a wide arcaded hall of similar classic order under the central dome, which has arched and oval windows and delicate plaster interior ornament in the Adam style, completed in 1793.

Over the entrance to the Old Senate Chamber is a curved balustraded spectators gallery, supported by fluted Ionic columns. Facing the entrance is the circular speaker's platform. Typical of late Georgian Colonial design are the twenty-four-paned sash windows with deep paneled reveals, window seats and inner shutters, and the classically trimmed fireplace. Opposite the Senate Chamber is the Old Hall of Delegates, next to which is the present Historic and Flag Room, used for exhibit purposes.

Throughout the years, following its nationally significant role in the first years of independence, the State House has continued to serve as the center of State government. In 1902-05, expansion of the State governmental functions necessitated the addition of an annex slightly larger than the original building. Unfortunately, the annex has obscured the original plan and symmetry of the State House.

Begun in 1772, and finished about 1779, the present structure has seen many alterations and additions. Between 1785 and 1789 the original dome was demolished and replaced with the present larger one. In 1858, due to expanding needs, the quasi-octagonal bay was removed from the western side and replaced with a larger octagonal annex, increasing the size of the Delegates Chambers by some seventy percent. Other alterations included: the addition of a cellar designed by George A. Federick, in 1876; "an annex with special reference to the needs of the State Library," 1886; architect and historian J. Appleton's restoration of the old Senate Chambers, 1894; demolition of the annexes of 1858 and 1886 and replacement with the present annex, 1902; interior redecoration by the Maryland Historical Society, 1937; and finally, "Extensive renovation of the interior under the direction of the Department of Public Works."1

Boundary Information and Justification

The Maryland State House sits within State Circle in Annapolis. The Circle provides a very natural boundary for this property.

1 Historian's Work Sheet for "Photo data Books". Historic American Building Survey Files, Ms., Section IV.
The Maryland State House is the oldest building in the nation which remains in active use as a seat for State government. Moreover, between November 26, 1783 and August 13, 1784, the State House served as the Nation's Capital. "The State House itself was largely responsible for the Congress' presence in Annapolis."\(^1\) Having moved the Capital from Princeton, New Jersey, the Maryland State House accorded the Congress adequate space and atmosphere which would accommodate a national legislature rightful prestige."\(^2\)

Several historically important events occurred in the Maryland State House, which now houses the offices of the Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General of Maryland, as well as the State Legislature. It was here that the Continental Congress ratified the Treaty of Paris on January 14, 1784, thus giving formal end to the Revolutionary War. A few weeks earlier General George Washington appeared before Congress at the State House to resign his post as Commander in Chief of the American Military, establishing the precedent of civilian leadership of the military. In August, 1784, the building was returned to the State, but it was destined to figure again prominently in national affairs for on May 7th, 1784, Thomas Jefferson was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to countries abroad. In September, 1786, the Annapolis Convention, with representatives from six states, entertained a resolution from which grew the convention which drew up the constitution.

\(^1\) "When Annapolis was National Capital", reprint in Tradition (Vol. IV, No. 8, August 1961).
\(^2\) Ibid.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"When Annapolis Was National Capital", reprinted from Tradition, (Vol. IV, No. 8, August, 1961).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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UTM 18 370 40 431524

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acres

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Joseph Scott Mendinghall (Original form completed by Frank S. Melvin)
ORGANIZATION:
Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service
STREET AND NUMBER:
1100 L Street NW.
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE: D.C. 20240
CODE 11

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 ☐

[NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS]

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date