

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Anne Arundel
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(NATIONAL HISTORIC

LANDMARKS) *Type all entries complete applicable sections)*

1. NAME

COMMON:
Maryland State House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Maryland State House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
State Circle

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
4th

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Anne Arundel CODE: 003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

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

CODE:
24

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Building Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 Federal State County Local

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

ENTRY NUMBER:
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland	COUNTY: Anne Arundel	ENTRY NUMBER: 11	DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

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.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1772-present**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input 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 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 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.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, Deering, Annapolis Houses, 1700-1775, (New York, 1947).
 "Maryland: A Guide to the Old Line State", American Guild Series (New York, 1940).
 "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			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

UTM 18.370840.431524

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Joseph Scott Mendinghall (Original form completed by Frank S. Melvin)

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service DATE: 2/18/75

STREET AND NUMBER:
 1100 L Street NW.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 20240 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)
 Name _____
 Title _____
 Date (NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS) _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS) Designated: 12/19/60
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation date

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS) Certified: 9-17-75
 Date _____ date

ATTEST: _____ date

_____ 2/15/75
 Keeper of The National Register Director, OAHIP date

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