

CAPSULE SUMMARY
Robert Johnson House (AA-690)
23 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland

The prominent brick building at 23 State Circle was completed by 1773, and subsequently altered numerous times in the 20th century. One of the oldest structures fronting State Circle, the building was originally constructed as a single-family dwelling for Robert Johnson, who operated a tavern, and ropemaking and cabinetry shop. The property remained under the ownership of the Johnson family for over 135 years. It was subsequently purchased by tailor William H. Bellis, whose family retained ownership for nearly 100 years. At the turn of the 20th century, the building was renovated for use as a boarding house, then as apartments. Together with the buildings at 1-5 School Street, the four-story brick building became the Robert Johnson House in 1983. The building is one of four historic properties maintained by Historic Inns of Annapolis.

The Robert Johnson House at 23 State Circle was originally constructed as a raised basement, 2-1/2-story, five-bay, gable-roofed dwelling. In the first quarter of the 20th century, the building was altered during two phases of construction to become the large, four-story, structure it is today. The building's original massing, no longer intact beyond some brick in one end wall, is based upon several historic drawings of the State House and Annapolis which show the building. Between 1897 and 1903, the former dwelling was converted into a boarding house, and in the process received a pressed brick facade that eliminated the raised basement, and accommodated new windows. An historic photograph of State Circle from this period provides a view of the southern end of the building, identifying it as a 3-1/2-story structure covered with a gable roof and featuring long and narrow 2/2 windows with window hoods.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. AA-690

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Robert Johnson House

common/other name _____

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 23 State Circle not for publication

city or town Annapolis vicinity state Maryland code MD

county Anne Arundel code 003 zip code 21401

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing		
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes Name of Listing Annapolis Historic District
No

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Robert Johnson House
23 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland

Inventory No. AA-690
Page 2

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling
Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Hotel

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Federal

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Brick
roof Not Visible
walls Brick
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Robert Johnson House
23 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland

Inventory No. AA-690
Page 4

=====
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1773-1897
1903-1921

Significant Dates 1773
1897-1903
1913-1921
1983

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation Undefined

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Robert Johnson House
23 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland

Inventory No. AA-690
Page 5

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Anne Arundel County Land and Will Records. Anne Arundel County Courthouse and Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland.

Archives of Maryland, XXXVIII, "Act for Keeping Good Rules and Orders," 1696.

Historic Annapolis Foundation, Vertical Property Files.

Papenfuse, Edward and Jane McWilliams. "Southern Urban Society After the Revolution: Annapolis, Maryland, 1782-1786." Final Report for NEH Grant #H69-0-178, Historic Annapolis Foundation, 1969.

Record Group 29, "Records of the Bureau of the Census." 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 Census; Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

"Rebuilt Historic Inn Christened," The Capital, March 28, 1984.

Warren, Marion E. and Mame Warren, The Train's Done Been and Gone, Annapolis, MD: M.E. Warren, 1976.

Wright, Russell for Paul M. Pearson. "A Report Outlining Findings Regarding the Existing Interior Features of 23 State Circle, 1 School Street, and 5 School Street." May 26, 1983. Archived at Historic Annapolis Foundation.

Maps and Drawings

Magnus, Charles. Bird's Eye View of the City of Annapolis, 1864, Reproduced 1967.

Sachse, Edward. Bird's Eye View of the City of Annapolis, circa 1858. Maryland Hall of Records, MdHR G 1219-349.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1885, 1891, 1896, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, and 1954 updated.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Robert Johnson House
23 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland

Inventory No. AA-690
Page 6

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property designated as 23 State Circle is located on Parcel 1088 as shown on Grid 16, Map 4Z in the City of Annapolis.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The building has been historically associated with this property since its construction in 1773.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title L. Trieschmann & K. Williams, Architectural Historians
organization EHT Traceries, Inc. date May 25, 1999
street & number 5420 Western Avenue telephone 301/656-5283
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815
=====

12. Property Owner
=====

name Annapolis MD Hotels, Limited Partnership
street & number 3609-C Chain Bridge Road telephone _____
city or town Fairfax state VA zip code 22030
=====

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Section 7 Page 1

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====

The Robert Johnson House at 23 State Circle was originally constructed as a raised basement, 2-1/2-story, five-bay, gable-roofed dwelling by 1773, but was significantly altered in the first quarter of the 20th century during two phases of construction, to become the large, four-story, structure it is today. The building's original massing, no longer intact beyond some brick in one end wall, is based upon several historic drawings of the State House and Annapolis which show the building.¹ Between 1897 and 1903, the former dwelling was converted into a boarding house, and in the process received a pressed brick facade that eliminated the raised basement, and accommodated new windows. An historic photograph of State Circle from this period provides a view of the southern end of the building, identifying it as a 3-1/2-story structure covered with a gable roof and featuring long and narrow 2/2 windows with window hoods.

A third phase of construction, between 1913 and 1921, saw the building's conversion from a boarding house into an apartment building. During this period of construction, the building was significantly altered and enlarged. The gable roof was removed, the attic level was raised to become a full story, and the building was covered by a new, sloping roof. A three-bay brick wing was built against the northeast end wall of the five-bay structure, and the original rear wall of the dwelling was removed, and the building depth enlarged. In addition, the interior space reconfigured, and a new stair, which rises from the first to the fourth story was built.

A fourth phase of construction occurred in 1983 when the building was converted into the Robert Johnson House. Today, the building stands as a well-unified, eight-bay brick structure characterized by its imposing presence on State Circle.

¹ A 1789 drawing, "A Front View of the State House, etc., at Annapolis the Capital of Maryland" in the Columbian Magazine, February 1789, clearly shows the building as a raised, 2-1/2-story, five-bay, gable-roofed brick structure with slab end chimneys. Another drawing, "State House Annapolis, Md." and dated prior to 1836, shows the same building with more elongated proportions. The 1858 Birds' Eye View of the City of Annapolis by Edward Sachse, shows the same building, this time with a stair leading to a raised first story. All of these images are illustrated in Morris L. Radoff, The State House at Annapolis (Annapolis, MD.: The Hall of Records Commission), 1972.

Section 7 Page 2

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====

EXTERIOR

The eastern elevation facing State Circle consists of the original five-bay dwelling, as altered during Period 3, and the three-bay wing, built during Period 3, both rising four full stories. The three-bay wing abuts the end wall of the original building (the seam where buildings join is under the downspout), and is slightly canted to make the turn from State Circle onto School Street. This elevation is laid in an all stretcher bond with pressed brick and features long and narrow 9/1 windows with jack-arched lintels. The first story of the five-bay section includes a central entry with two windows to either side, while the first story of the addition has three windows. The central entry has a segmental arched brick surround with a fanlight, sidelights and wood paneled door. The arch is constructed of brick, with a stone keystone and stone imposts.² The fanlight and sidelights have leaded glass. Each of the windows on this elevation has a jack-arched lintel with a stone keystone and stone voussoirs at each end; a wood sill; and molded trim with a large bead.

The second story consists of eight single, 9/1 windows spanning both facades. On this second story, the window lintels lack the end voussoirs of stone, but retain the central sandstone keystone. The third story similarly has eight 9/1 windows, but here the lintels are brick jack arches lacking the stone embellishments. Above the third story and dividing it from the attic, or fourth story above is a Greek fret wood stringcourse. This stringcourse occupies what was the cornice of the building between its second and third phases of construction. Although treated as a full floor on the interior, the fourth story is articulated, on the exterior, as an attic level on the building. It consists of eight 6/1 windows set between the Greek fret stringcourse and a bold, projecting cornice. The walls of the attic level are divided into a series of panels by decorative brickwork.

The cornice consists of a wide, unadorned wood friezeboard and a projecting, molded and boxed cornice with dentils. A brick wall (not a parapet) rises above the cornice, providing the needed interior headroom for a full fourth story.

The southeast elevation of the building, built within several feet of the 18th-century Shaw House and only partially visible, is the

² The stone has a pink hue and appears to be sandstone.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Section 7 Page 3

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====
only surviving visible remnant of the 18th-century structure which stood on the site. This elevation, laid in irregular brick bonding patterns ranging from English bond to five-course American shows signs of major alterations and modifications. A change in the brick color and bonding between the third and the fourth stories provides clear architectural evidence of the addition of the fourth story. However, there is no apparent ghosting or evidence in the brickwork of the earlier gable roof that covered the building. Narrow 9/1 windows, found across this elevation, were added during the Period 3 phase of construction.

The northwest elevation of the building (end wall of Period 3 wing) abuts a two-story frame Italianate structure next to it, thereby exposing only the upper stories. It is constructed of common brick and has no windows or other openings.

The southwest elevation of the main block of the building serves as the back wall to a small, public courtyard area. This elevation, built in Period 3, is laid in five-course American bond and is divided into five bays, with a door located on center of the first floor. Two windows are located to either side. The two openings to the northwest have 6/1 windows with flat wood lintels and wood sills. The two openings to the southeast have 9/1 windows fit into what had originally been a larger window opening, and which is currently filled in at the top with brick. Jack-arched brick lintels above the infilled brick indicate that the windows originally aligned with the lintel of the central entry. The central entry has a pair of French doors with a two-light transom and a jack-arched lintel above.

The second through fourth stories each have five symmetrically aligned 6/1 windows with jack-arched brick lintels. An elevator shaft, clad in brick, was added to the rear of the building in 1983.

INTERIOR

In 1983, the interior of the Robert Johnson House was significantly remodeled, in plan and detail, to accommodate its present use as a hotel. While there are no surviving remnants of the first two periods of construction, there are several interior details which survive from Period 3, including the interior door and the straight-flight stair.

The main entrance is on the State Circle facade. This exterior

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Section 7 Page 4

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====
door leads into a vestibule that opens onto an elegant interior entry door. This opening mirrors that of the exterior in that it is segmental-arched with a leaded glass fanlight and sidelights with recessed panels below the glass. The side stiles and arch of the door surround are fluted, as is the transom bar. The interior door leads directly into the stair hall with a straight-flight stair leading from the first to the fourth floors. This stair, built in Period 3, when the fourth story was added, is an open stringer stair with stringer brackets, a square newel with recessed panels, and turned balusters (three per tread). Beyond this central passage, the building's original configuration is not discernible, as multiple walls have been added to fit a series of hotel rooms on all levels of the building.

Section 8 Page 1

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====

The prominent brick building at 23 State Circle was completed by 1773, and subsequently altered numerous times in the 20th century. One of the oldest structures fronting State Circle, the building was originally constructed as a single-family dwelling for Robert Johnson, who operated a tavern, and ropemaking and cabinetry shop. The property remained under the ownership of the Johnson family for over 135 years. It was subsequently purchased by tailor William H. Bellis, whose family retained ownership for nearly 100 years. At the turn of the 20th century, the building was renovated for use as a boarding house, then as apartments. Together with the buildings at 1-5 School Street, the four-story brick building became the Robert Johnson House in 1983. The building is one of four historic properties maintained by Historic Inns of Annapolis.

Building History

The property on which 23 State Circle was erected was historically resurveyed in 1718 by James Stoddert for Margaret Mercier, widow of Francis Mercier. Designated as Lot 73, the property fronted Church Street (Main Street) and extended northward to Francis Street and State Circle. In 1720, Mercier, who had married the city's first goldsmith John Steele, divided the vast lot in half. The northern portion was conveyed to Robert Johnson. Johnson processed to erect at building on the property prior to 1745.³ The property was bequeathed a number of times during the middle part of the 18th century, ultimately being owned by grandson, Robert Johnson. Born in 1743, Robert Johnson operated the Golder Inn, which was opened by John Golder on West Street. Additionally, in 1766, Johnson maintained a ropemaking business and cabinetry shop at the site.

At the property on State Circle, Johnson razed the modest dwelling erected prior to 1745 by his grandfather in favor of a two-and-a-half-story brick dwelling with a side gable roof. The imposing building had just been completed when Johnson died in 1773. His wife, Anne continued to occupy the dwelling with her children and third husband, Joseph Ashmead. The property was inherited by Robert Johnson, the oldest son of Anne and Robert. Born in 1766, Johnson married Catherine Ghiselin in 1792. Johnson died in 1798, and the property was devised to his brothers, George and John Johnson. With the 1799 death of George, John Johnson obtained full title to the property.

³ "The Morrow Apartments," 23 State Circle. Vertical Files of Historic Annapolis Foundation.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Section 8 Page 2

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====
Born in 1770, John Johnson served as Attorney General, Judge of the Court of Appeals, and Chancellor of Maryland. Johnson, living in the dwelling at 23 State Circle, died in 1824 while working on the establishment of a boundary between Maryland and Virginia in Hancock, Maryland. Upon his death, the dwelling was transferred to his son, John Johnson. Also serving as Chancellor of Maryland, the second John Johnson was born in 1798. Johnson and his wife lived on a brick dwelling on West Street, while his mother and younger brother occupied 23 State House. With the 1856 death of John Johnson, title of the property was disputed by the heirs. The court order the dwelling and lot on State Circle be sold, ending 135 years of Johnson family ownership.

The sale was made in May 1857, although new owner Joshua Brown did not obtain full title until March 1864. Residing in the dwelling at 23 State Circle, Brown participated in a number of business transaction with George Wells and William H.F. Wilson. The trio had invested thousands of dollars a local railroad company, forcing them to mortgage their real property to the Farmers National Bank of Annapolis. The mortgages defaulted and Brown was forced to sell the building on State Circle in 1878. With Alexander Randall acting as executor, the property was sold directly to the bank for \$4,000. The bank sold it in 1880 to William Bellis, a tailor who maintained a shop at 217-219 Main Street (AA-584).

By 1896, Eva Bellis, the widow of William H. Bellis, inherited the property upon the condition that it be equally divided amongst herself, and their children, Joseph and Maud. The plat map dating from the period indicates that the property contained a two-story frame printing office on Main Street and the imposing brick dwelling at State Circle.⁴ Power to convey the property was granted by Bellis to Nicholas T. Green, who together with Joseph H. Bellis, transferred ownership of 23 State Circle to Maud Bellis Morrow in 1902. During this period, the building was converted into a boarding house, and ultimately became the Morrow Apartments. Physically, the building was altered by the addition of a pressed brick facade, new windows, an attic level with sloping roof, and a three-bay wide addition on the west elevation.

In 1920, the apartment building was enlarged to include the former dwellings at 1 and 5 School Street (AA-647/648). Maude Morrow, born in 1869, and her husband, Charles A. Morrow, maintained the

⁴ Liber GW 4 Folio 330

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Section 8 Page 3

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====

Morrow Apartments until 1978. With commercial space leased at 3 School Street, the Morrow Apartments contained fourteen apartments in 1929. Subsequent alterations on the interior of the building provided a total of nineteen apartments by 1949.

As a single lot, the property on State Circle and School Street was conveyed by the heirs of Maude Marrow to E. Jefferson Crum and Knut Aarsand. By 1983, Historic Inns purchased the property, and renovated the buildings to serve as the Robert Johnson House. The hotel complex includes thirty guest rooms under the direction of Historic Inns of Annapolis. Historic Inns of Annapolis was the project of developer Paul Pearson, who successfully renovated and restored a number of the city's most significant buildings, including Reynold's Tavern on Church Circle, the Governor Calvert Inn on State Circle, and the Maryland Inn on Main Street. Johannes-Greco of Annapolis served as the building contractor for the renovation of the Robert Johnson Inn, with Cochran, Stephenson and Donkervoet of Baltimore as architects.⁵ With the end of investment tax credits for adaptive use, Historic Inns of Annapolis was renamed in 1996 as Annapolis MD Hotels, Limited Partnership.

⁵ "Rebuilt historic inn christened," The Capital, March 28, 1984.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Rural Agrarian intensification (1680-1815)
Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)
Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)
Modern Period (1930-present)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and
Community Planning

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function (s): DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling
DOMESTIC/Hotel

Known Design Source: Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====
Chain of Title for 23 State Circle:

July 25, 1718: James Stoddert surveyed Lot 73 for
Margaret Mercier, widow of Francis
Mercier

circa 1722: Margaret Mercier and John Steele to
Robert Johnson I
Provincial Court Deeds,
Liber B Folio 94

circa 1745: Robert Johnson I to George Johnson I

1758: George Johnson I devised to wife Mary,
children Rebecca, John I, and Robert II

1773: Robert Johnson II devised to wife Ann and
children, George II, John II, Robert III.

1798: Robert Johnson III devised to brothers,
George II and John II.

1799: George Johnson II devised to John Johnson
II and daughter Susan Johnson

October 7, 1831: Nicholas Brewer, Trustee, to heirs of
John Johnson II
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber WSG 16 Folio 516

May 23, 1857: Alexander Randall and Alexander Hagner to
Joshua Brown
Equity 594: Mary Johnson versus George M.
Johnson
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber NHG 12 Folio 138

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-690

Robert Johnson House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

=====

January 12, 1877: Joshua Brown mortgaged to Farmers National Bank
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber SH 10 Folio 495

September 9, 1878: Alexander Randall, Trustee for estate of Joshua Brown, to Farmers National Bank Equity Case 594
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber SH 13 Folio 190

June 17, 1880: Farmers National Bank to William Bellis
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber SH 16 Folio 34

December 31, 1896: Joseph Bellis, Maud and Charles Morrow, and Eva Bellis, heirs of William Bellis, to Eva Bellis
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber GW 4 Folio 323

February 7, 1900: Nicholas Green and E. John W. Revell, Trustees, to Maud Bellis Morrow and Eva Bellis
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber GW 16 Folio 417

November 11, 1902: Joseph H. Bellis to Maud Bellis Morrow
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber GW 28 Folio 134

September 22, 1978: Heirs of Maud Bellis Morrow to E. Jefferson Crum and Knut Aarsand
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber 3132 Folio 722

October 8, 1981: E. Jefferson Crum and Knut J. Aarsand to Chesapeake Land Title Company
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber 3446 Folio 204

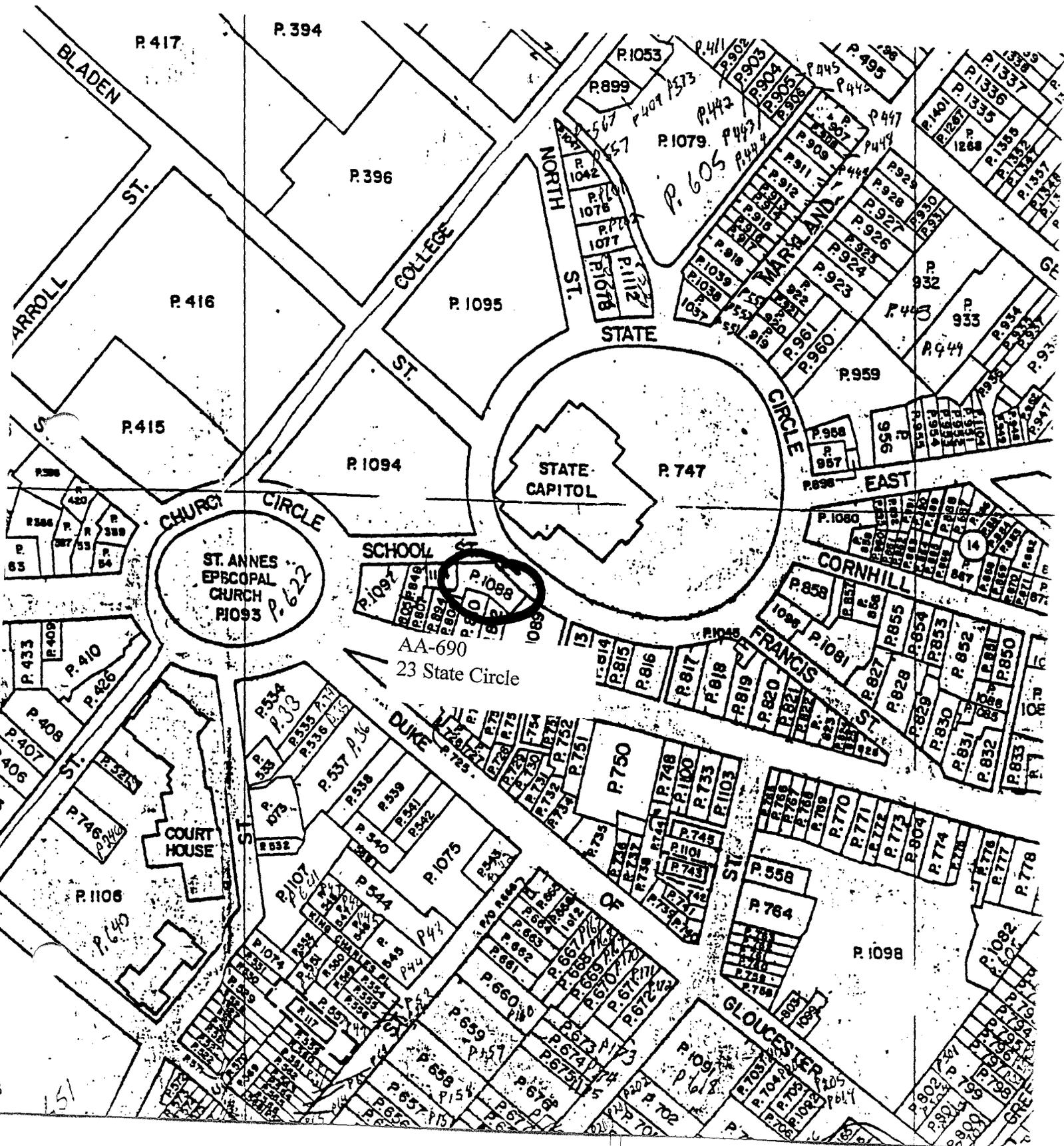
April 14, 1983: Chesapeake Land Title Company, Trustee, to Historic Inns
Land Records of Anne Arundel County,
Liber 3576 Folio 151

State Circle of School 1908



AA-690

MAP OF ANNAPOLIS, No. 4-6
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
1967; Revised 1991
Scale 1' = 200'





AA-690
23 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
JUNE 1999
MD SHPO
EAST CORNER, LOOKING SOUTH
1 OF 11



23

c. 1773

ROBERT JOHNSON
HOUSE

Built as a residence
for a merchant by
Robert Johnson, c. 1773.

HISTORIC LAND MARKS
COMMISSION

AA-690

23 STATE CIRCLE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

JUNE 1999

MD SHPO

ENTRY, NORTH ELEVATION,

LOOKING SOUTH

2 OF 11



AA-690
23 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
JUNE 1999
MD SHPO
ADDITION, LOOKING SOUTH
3 OF 11



AA-690

23 STATE CIRCLE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

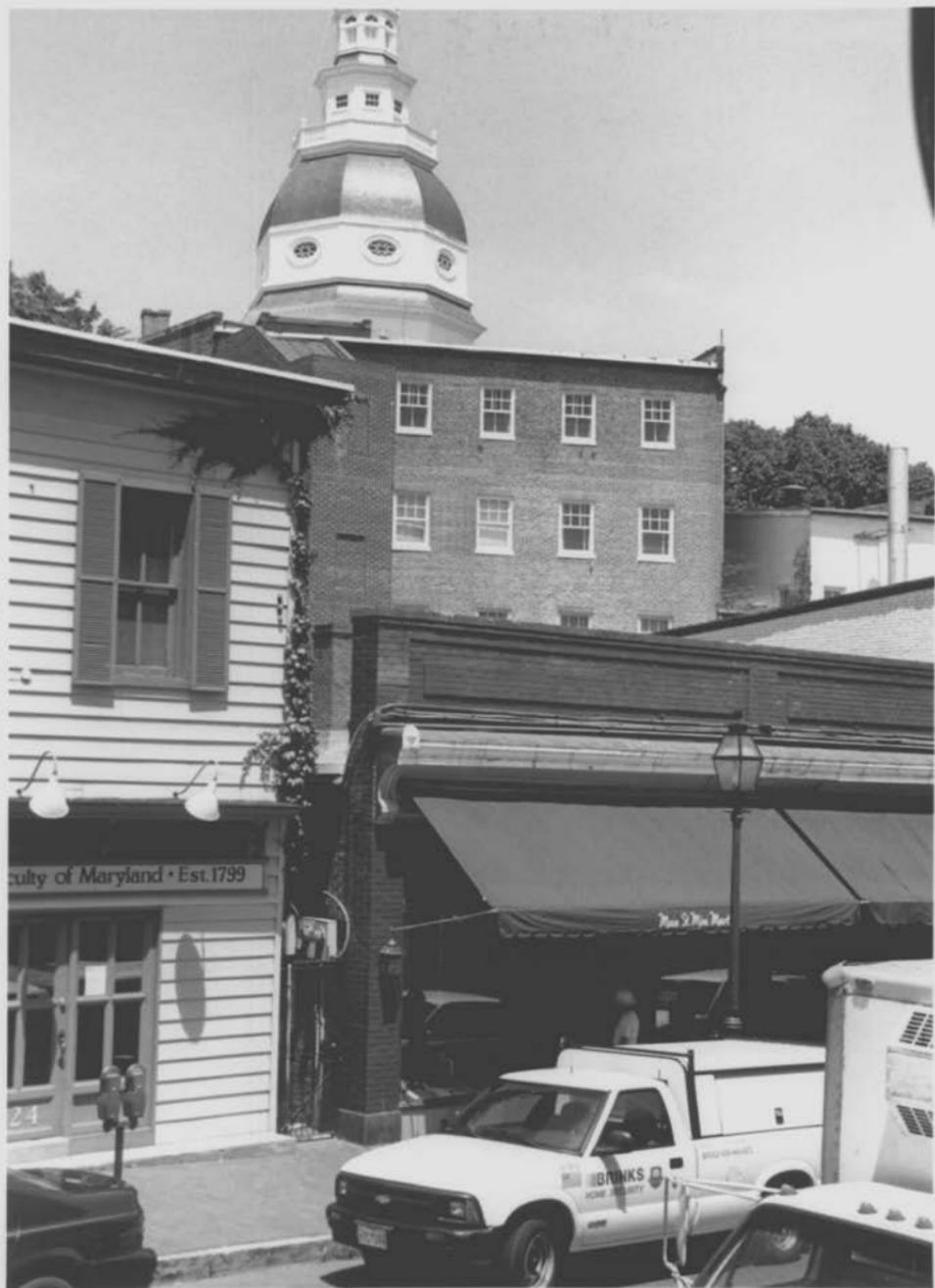
JUNE 1999

MD SHPO

NW CORNER OVER ISCHOOL ST.

LOOKING EAST

4 OF 11



AA-690
23 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
JUNE 1999
MD SHPO
SW ELEVATION FROM MAIN STREET
LOOKING NORTH

5 OF 11



AA-690

23 STATE CIRCLE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

JUNE 1999

MD SHPO

SW ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH

6 OF 11



AA-690
23 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
JUNE 1999
MD SHPO
SW ELEVATION DETAIL, LOOKING
EAST

7 OF 11



AA-690

23 STATE CIRCLE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

JUNE 1999

MD SHPO

EAST ELEVATION OVER 21 STATE CIRCLE
LOOKING NW

8 OF 11



8116

AA-690

23 STATE CIRCLE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

JUNE 1999

MD SHPO

ENTRY HALL, FIRST FLOOR,

LOOKING NORTH

9 OF 11

Fire Stairs
— Only —
No Access to
Upper Floors

9 1 66

AA-690

23 STATE CIRCLE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

JUNE 1999

MD SHPO

STAIR, FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING SE

10 OF 11

9 : 16.



AA-690
23 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
JUNE 1999
MD SHPO
STAIR LANDING, SECOND FLOOR
LOOKING SOUTH

11 OF 11

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 21 STATE CIRCLE
 SHAW HOUSE
 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
 Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: <u>AA 690</u>
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Morrow Apartments
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: John Johnson, Jr. House
PRESENT USE: Apartments
ORIGINAL USE: SF Res
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent () Good (X) Fair () Poor: ()
THEME:
STYLE: Federal (4th floor added)
DATE BUILT: c.1780

COUNTY: Anne Arundel
TOWN: Annapolis
LOCATION: 23 State Circle
COMMON NAME: Morrow Apartments
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Res Map 32 Par 615
OWNER: E. Jefferson Crum & K. Aarsand ADDRESS 280 Rugby Court Arnold, MD 21012
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes (X) No () Restricted ()
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local (✓) State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone () Brick (X) Concrete () Concrete Block ()
2. Wall Structure
 - A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam () Balloon ()
 - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick (X) Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
 - C. Iron () D. Steel () E. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard () Board and Batten () Wood Shingle () Shiplap ()
 Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal () Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle ()
 Brick Veneer (X) Stone Veneer () Asbestos Shingle ()
 Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
 - A. Truss: Wood (X) Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle (X) Sheet Metal ()
 Built Up (X) Rolled () Tile () Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches () Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys () Sheds () Ells ()
 Wings () Other:

Roof Style: Gable () Hip () Shed () Flat (X) Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
 Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet (X) With False Front ()
 Other: Was Gable

Number of Stories: 4

Number of Bays: 8

Approximate Dimensions: 60 x 35

Entrance Location: Center and Right

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:
 No Threat (X) Zoning () Roads ()
 Development () Deterioration ()
 Alteration () Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:
 Positive () Negative ()
 Mixed () Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

AA-690

Fourth floor added, with parapet wall enriched by deep dentiled cornice; molded cornice band at fourth floor line is at original eaves; third floor windows splayed brick arches, repeated at first and second but with limestone skewbacks and keys, first floor windows lengthened, door altered to elliptical fan with side lights but of good quality.

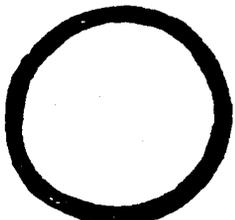
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Altered Federal townhouse, where present second floor was the main floor; still important as an individual structure and critical to the streetscape.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane() Woodland() Scattered Buildings()
 Moderately Built Up() Densely-Built Up(✓)
 Residential() Commercial()
 Agricultural() Industrial()
 Roadside Strip Development()
 Other:

RECORDED BY:

Russell Wright

ORGANIZATION:

Historic Annapolis, Inc

DATE RECORDED:

Aug. 1983

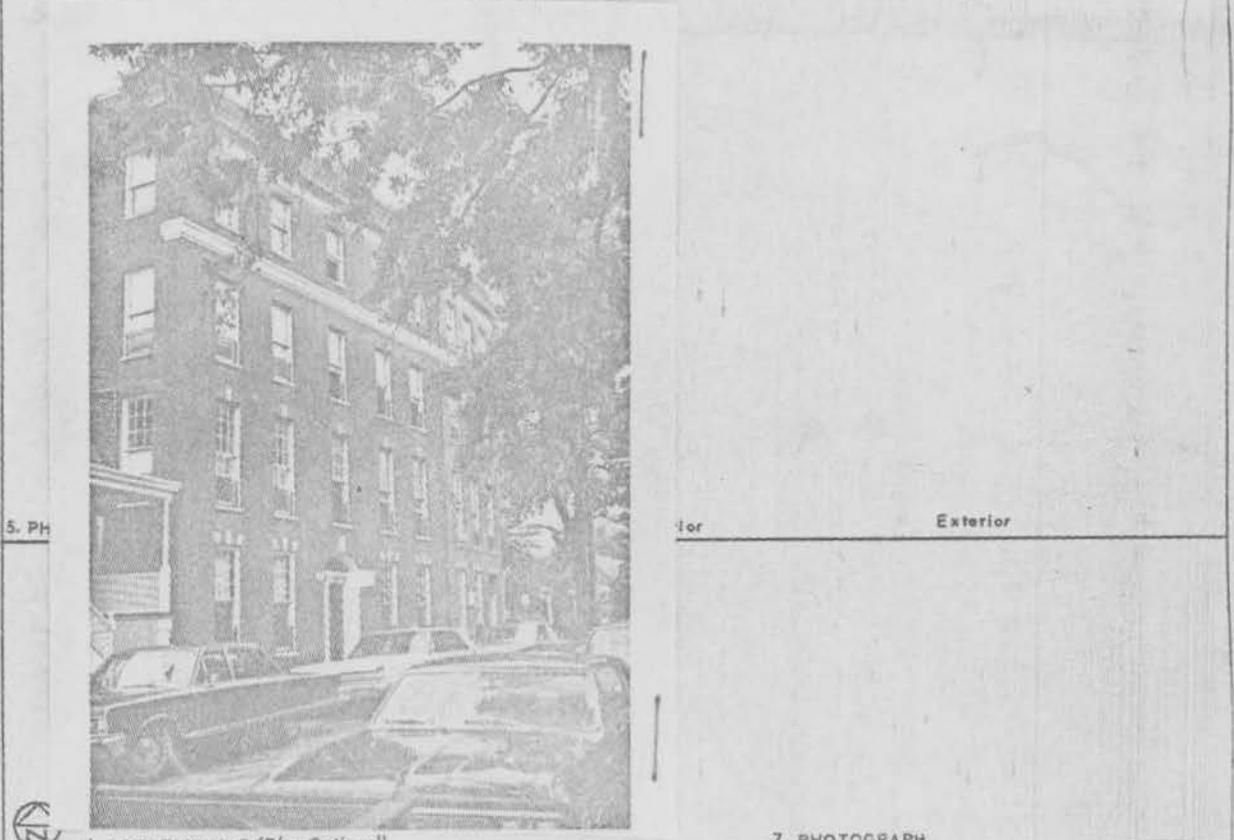
Form 10-445
(5/62)

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Anne Arundel TOWN Annapolis VICINITY STREET NO. 23 State Circle</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER John Johnson, Jr. ORIGINAL USE residence PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE apartments WALL CONSTRUCTION brick NO. OF STORIES 4</p>	<p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY</p> <p>2. NAME Morrow Apartment</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD pre - 1789 STYLE Victoranized - Federal ARCHITECT BUILDER John Johnson, Jr.</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
--	---

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC

Chancellor John Johnson Jr. of the State of Maryland and grandfather-in-law of John Quincy Adams built this eighteenth century residence which has since been covered with Federal and Victorian accretions. Basically Federal in appearance, the narrow 6/1 windows have splayed brick lintels, with marble keystone on lintel and 2nd story windows. Windows are proportioned and main entrance is a good Federal doorway with leaded fanlight and sidelights. 4th storey looks like a later addition. Below 4th Storey is a wedgewood like running belt course, only one in Annapolis. (building would be better if this were moved)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



5. PH for Exterior

<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>	<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p> <p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER William D. Morgan Columbia University, N. Y.</p> <p>August 25, 1967</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD</p>
--	--



23 State Circle

NA 690

Annapolis, Anne Arundel County

Russell Wright July, 1982

Maryland Historical Trust,

Annapolis, Maryland

NW Elevation/camera facing SE