

K-283

King's Grant or Stratford Manor  
Quaker Neck  
c. 1820

King's Grant is built on part of Stratford Manor, a 1000 acre tract patented in 1660 to Richard Chandler.<sup>1</sup> The manor was later resurveyed in 1735, for George Garrett and included over 200 additional acres.<sup>2</sup> Garrett began selling farms soon after the resurvey.

The house on the farm is an interesting vernacular brick residence begun around 1800, and changed during the 1820-30 period, then again in the late 19th century and in 1930.

Only the stair and some second story trim date from its earliest period. The door trim with its incised corner blocks and late Federal trim date from the second period, along with the heavy mantels of the two rooms flanking the central stairhall. The late 19th century change occurred only on the first to second story balustrade where catalogue parts were used except for the handrail and intermediate newels.

In the 1930's, Mr. and Mrs. Temple Blackwood purchased the farm and turned it into an "estate." A second wing was added to the house to balance the original brick kitchen. An enclosed one story porch was added in front of the main entry and two bay windows were installed on the river side of the house. The Blackwoods installed a swimming pool, pool house and many other buildings including barns for their fine herd of cattle. The house has remained essentially the same since that time.

K-283<sup>2</sup>

In the 1877 Atlas, the house appears to be either owned and or occupied by Isaac Cordray.

1. Quaker Neck Map.
2. Ibid.

K-283  
Kings Grant House  
Chestertown  
Private

19th Century

Kings Grant dates from the early 17th century, but the present house was constructed nearly 200 years later. The house is brick with a central hall and modern wings. Its interior woodwork exemplifies the era between the decline of Federal period and the robustness of the mid and late 19th century.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Kings Grant House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Quaker Neck, 3 miles west of Chestertown

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. George F. Johnson

Telephone #: (301) 778-0539

STREET & NUMBER

Shell Point

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21620

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Courthouse

Liber #: **EHP 26**

Folio #: **94**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL     STATE     COUNTY     LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

K-283

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Kings Grant House began as an early 19th century brick house. Through the years side wings have been added, as well as a front entrance extension which is one story high, one bay wide and one deep and has a wooden balustrade around the flat roof. The building was renovated in the 1930's, and most major changes and additions appear to date from that time.

The old house is brick, three bays wide and one room deep, with a gable roof. With its central hall plan and enclosed end chimneys the building is typical of its contemporaries in Kent County.

The brick walls, recently sandblasted, are laid in Flemish bond on the approach facade and Liverpool bond on the river facade and gable ends. There is no elaborate brick detailing, no belt course or water table and no window arches.

The enclosed chimneys at each gable have been rebuilt but were probably terminated with simple corbelled caps. The east chimney is now partially exterior to the gable wall having been enlarged to carry a third flue (furnace).

Windows and doors are evenly placed with 12/12 sash windows used on both floors and a 6/6 sash window at the stair landing, river facade. Trim is double beaded with a very large outside bead. On the river front two bay windows have been added on the first floor. Three gable dormers in each roof slope have 6/6 sash and the central dormer on the approach front has sidelights. (Attic windows in the gables are four-pane and have rowlock arches.) The main entrance, now inside the entry addition, has a transom light and paneled jambs and head. The rear entry has similiar detailing, except that there is no transom and the door itself remains in place.

A great deal of the original detailing remains. The stairway has early turned pine balusters above the second floor and later turned oak balusters below. There is a shadow rail which has reeded and fluted pilasters; the stair is open to the attic.

Window and door trim on the first floor is ribbed and has corner blocks which are incised with a star design. Second floor trim has a backband of composite moldings which appear more nearly Federal in style; they are a delicate design. Mantles have broad moldings on shelves and surrounds; they appear to be contemporary with the trim but were refinished natural (and replaced with wire nails) in the 1930's. Pine floors appear on both floors; they are likely partially original to the house. Arched doorways, on the first floor, are later additions.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-283

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kings Grant dates from 1604. Although a dwelling may have existed early in the history of the Manor, the present house was not constructed until nearly 200 years after the original grant. Its interior woodwork, in particular, remains as an example of the transitional period between the decline of the Federal period and the robustness of the mid and late 19th century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

August, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





KINGS GRANT

K-283

~~MAITR~~

~~MAITR~~

QUAKER NECK RD

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

RIVER SIDE FROM SOUTHEAST

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
LIBRARY

K-238 King's Grant Cottage C. 1790



Kings Grant. MAT K 283

Quaker Tree - Chesters Cove, Md.

~~Joining Room Manted. S.W. of Main Entry~~

STAIRWAY

C. Engstrom.

Aug 1977