CE-26 (6)

Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME

COMMON: Mount Harmon

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Grove Neck Road, 4 miles west of Cecilton

CITY OR TOWN: Earleville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First

STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24

COUNTY: Cecil — CODE: 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☒ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☒ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Marguerite duP. Boden

STREET AND NUMBER: Park Place

CITY OR TOWN: Newark

STATE: Delaware — CODE: 10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Cecil County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Elkton

STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Historical Trust

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland 21401 — CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Cecil

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CE-26

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)		
	[X] Excellent [ ] Good [ ] Fair [ ] Deteriorated [ ] Ruins [ ] Unexposed		
	(Check One)	(Check One)	
	[X] Altered [ ] Unaltered	[ ] Moved [X] Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mt. Harmon is located on Grove Neck four miles west of Cecilton, Cecil County and lies between the waters of Forman and McGill Creeks. It presently consists of 400 acres. Within the designated area of Mt. Harmon Site stands the eighteenth century walls of a large brick mansion built by Sidney George around 1788. The house has been restored under the supervision of Albert Kruse, A.I.A., architect of the State House restoration in New Castle, Delaware. Near the house stands a small one-story brick structure formerly a kitchen for the farm. There are also stables and residences for the caretakers of the estate. Near the Sassafras River stands the prize house mentioned in Sidney George Fisher's diary in the 1830's.

The house measures 50 feet by 32 feet and the majority of the walls of the "double pile" structure is original. In the late 1920's a frame wing was built on the south gable which contains a sitting room, den and porch on the first floor with bedrooms and bath above. The hypothetical restoration accomplished in the 1960's includes an ogee broken pediment above a doric architrave for the front entrance, a deck-on-hip roof with dormers having scrolled consoles, and the rear facade with double pedimented pavillions. Inside, one of the four original rooms was used as a kitchen and the corridor to the wing. The other three rooms have paneling and trim copied from examples in Delaware, Virginia and Maryland. The hall has a Chinese trellis stair ascending to the attic. Behind the house a sunken garden has been constructed with brick retaining walls and paths. Between the house and garden stand two huge yew trees, almost as large as those of Rose Hill closeby.

West of the house stands the prize house, a hewn frame structure measuring approximately 18 by 24 feet. The prizing machinery housed there came from St. Mary's County, Maryland and is illustrated in Edwin Tunis' Colonial Living.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CE-2.6

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [x] 17th Century
- [x] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal
- [ ] Prehistoric
- [ ] Historic

- [x] Agriculture
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [x] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [x] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [x] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mount Harmon is an important site because it was the home of several locally important citizens of lower Cecil County during the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It is also important because the walls of the present mansion are those built during the eighteenth century, and are an object lesson in the study of Georgian architecture in Maryland. On the property is also an early prize house, used prior to 1830 when tobacco was the chief crop of lower Cecil County.

Mt. Harmon was laid out originally on January 4, 1658 for Godfrey Harmon. In 1675, it came into the possession of William Ward Sr. (d. c. 1721) who was appointed to the commission to lay out new towns in Cecil County in 1683. He was Justice of the County Court in 1688, 92, and was a member of the first vestry of North Sassafras Parish to which he donated a 300 acre farm still owned by the parish. Ward's children owned the farm and in 1737 sold it to James Paul Heath.

James Paul Heath (1712-45) also owned Worsell Manor and a tract called Warwick. In his will of 1745, he stipulated that a town be laid out on part of the latter tract by the name of Warwick, it being on the Main Road across the peninsula. (George Washington mentions Warwick in unflattering terms during one of his trips across the Eastern Shore). Heath married Rebecca, daughter of Daniel Dulaney, prominent lawyer of Annapolis. At the time of his death, James Paul Heath was worth over £3500, and his inventory listed many and valuable belongings in the latest fashion.

In 1761, the land consisting of over 1000 acres was sold to James Louttit, (died 1765) wealthy planter and merchant. He had married Mary George, daughter of the most respected lawyer of Cecil County in that day. James Louttit's inventory was worth £2695 in 1765. The eulogy preached at his funeral by Rev. William Barroll was printed by Benjamin Franklin in the same year.

Mt. Harmon passed to his son who died shortly thereafter. It was then sold by Mrs. Louttit to her Nephew and son-in-law, Sidney George Jr., in 1788.

Sidney George Jr. (died 1817) studied law under Robert Goldsborough of Talbot County. He contributed to the founding of Washington College in 1782, and was Justice of the Peace for Cecil County in 1780-83. He was a member of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia. At his death, Mt. Harmon passed to his daughter.

(PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	CE-26
COUNTY	
Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Mt. Harmon

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

It was sold to Dr. John Thompson Veazey (1783-1839) in 1820, a physician well known and beloved in lower Cecil County. After eight years Dr. Veazey was unable to pay off the mortgage, and the property reverted to the ownership of Sidney George Fisher, grandson of Sidney George.

Sidney George Fisher (1809-1871), lawyer of Philadelphia, whose diary on Philadelphia life was published recently under the title: A Philadelphia Perspective, visited Mt. Harmon frequently and contributed to the establishment of the steam boat lines on the Sassafras River and was the first to introduce the latest farming techniques to the area. He wrote several books on law, politics, slavery and poetry. At his death, Mt. Harmon passed to his son Sydney George Fisher.

Sydney George Fisher (1856-1927), lawyer, is best known for writing histories of Pennsylvania and Delaware, biographies of Benjamin Franklin, William Penn and Daniel Webster, and the histories of the Constitution and the American Revolution. He was also a member of the Philosophical Society and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia. The Library Company of Philadelphia was the beneficiary of Fisher's estate in 1927, but they soon sold the farm.

In 1963 the house and farm was purchased by Mrs. Harry Clark Boden IV, direct descendant of James Louttit. Restoration of the house was undertaken by Mr. Albert Kruse A.I.A., the architect of the State House restoration, New Castle, Delaware.

CE-26

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mrs. Harry Clarke Boden IV, Interview, 1972.

Cecil County Land Records, Elkton; and Hall of Records, Annapolis.

Diary of Martha B. Forman, Cecil County Historical Society, Elkton.

Diary of Sidney George Fisher, Pennsylvania Hist. Soc., Philadelphia.

Records of Cecil County Historical Society. Elkton (Ward, Veazey, Heath, George families).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

CORNER	LATITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	39°	23'	25"	76°	56'	50"
NE	39°	23'	22"	75°	56'	07"
SE	39°	22'	42"	76°	56'	03"
SW	39°	22'	44"	76°	56'	55"

OR

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

LATITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 430 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Michael O. Bourne, Co-ordinator of Field Services mh

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust

DATE: May 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland 21401

CODE: 24

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 [X] Local [ ]

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout, IV

Title State Historic Preservation Office for Maryland

Date January 17, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

CE-26

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*
Mount Harmon		

2. LOCATION

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Cecil	Earleville

STREET AND NUMBER

Grove Neck Road, four miles west of Cecilton

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

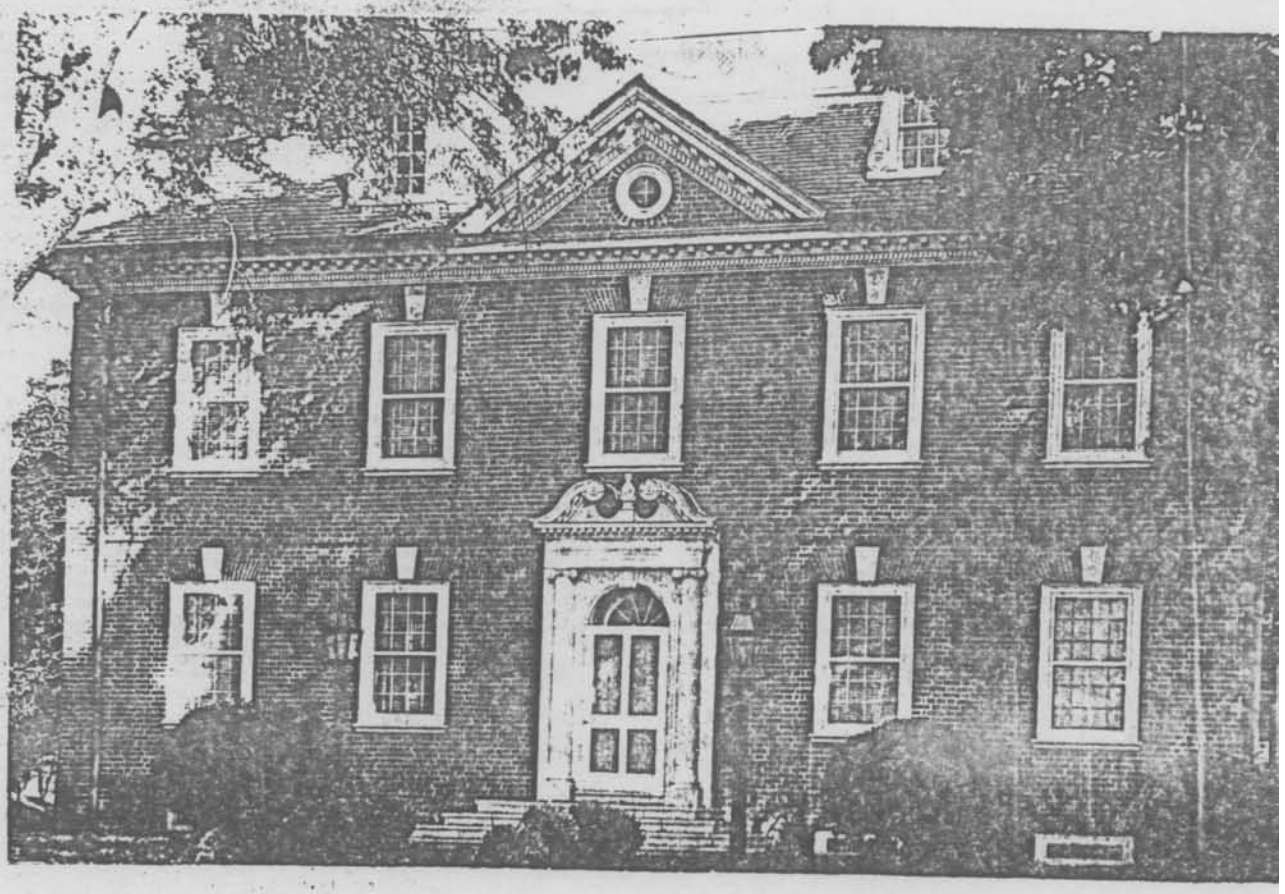
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Danny Justice	Spring 1972	Elkton, Maryland

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

North facade

GPO 932-009



Form 10-301
(July 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CE-26

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME

COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*
Mount Harmon		

2. LOCATION

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Cecil	Earleville

STREET AND NUMBER

Grove Neck Road, four miles west of Cecilton

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map Earleville Quadrangle	1958	1:24000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

GPO 932-41

CE-26

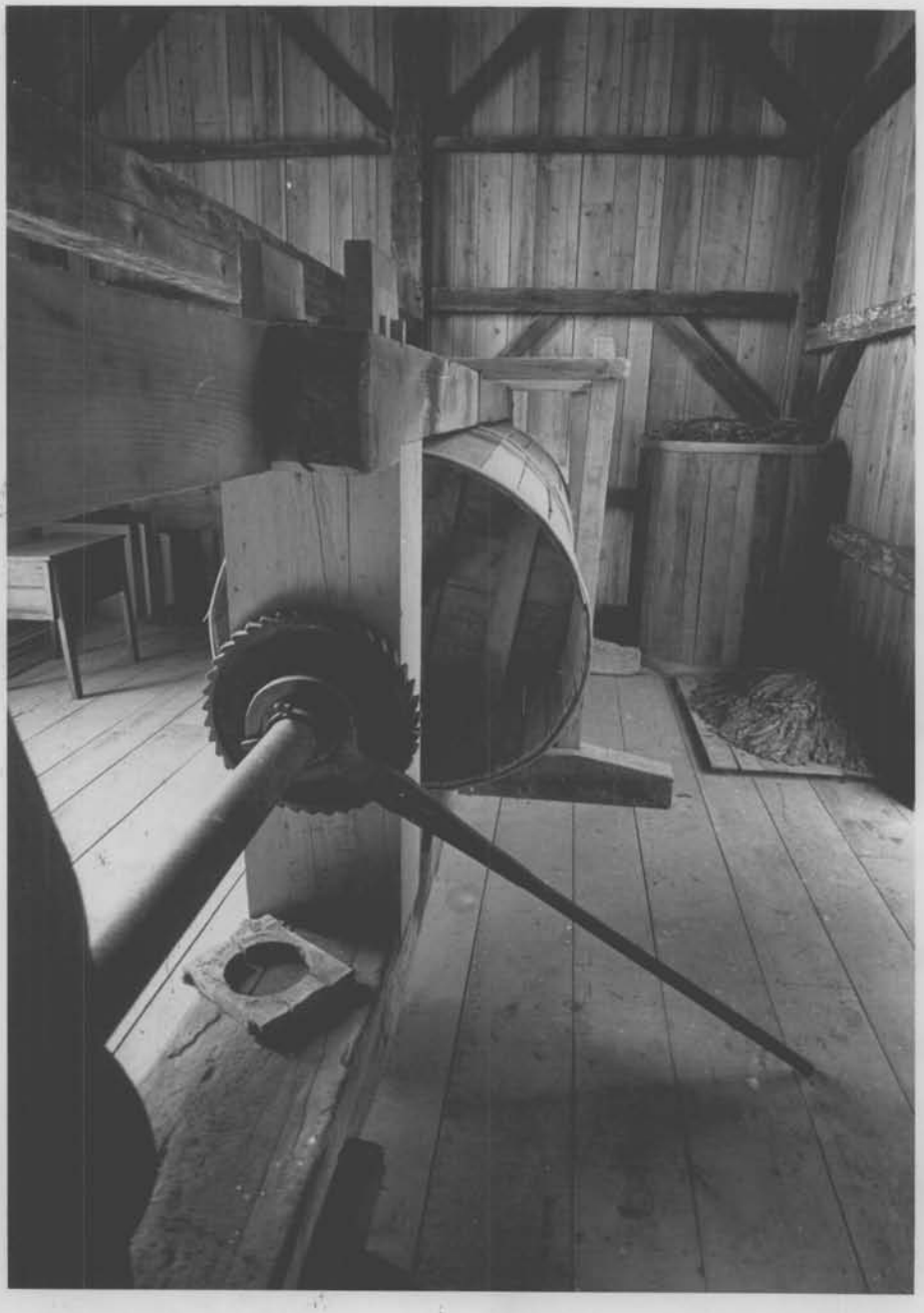
Creek
ROAD
St Pauls Ch
Cem
Cem
St Stephens Ch
S A S S A F R A
NECK
Earleville
ROAD
ROAD
BM
BM
NECK
23' 25"
50' 50"
lat 39° 23' 22"
long 75° 56' 07"
Foreman Creek
McGill Creek
Creek
Dowdel
house
Mount Harmon
lat. 39°22'44"
long. 76° 56' 55"
Cassidy Wharf
Knight Island
Back
KNIGHT
lat 39°22'42"

CE-26
MOUNT HARMON
Cecil County

CE-26
MOUNT HARMON
GARDEN FACADE
Cecil County

CE-26
MOUNT HARMON
Cecil County

CE-26
MOUNT HARMON
PRIZE HOUSE
Cecil County



CE-26
EARLEVILLE QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24 000
1958
Creek
ROAD
St Pauls Ch
Cem
St Stephens Ch
S A S S A F
N E C K
POND
NECK
Gravel Pit
Earleville
BM 85
ROAD
BM 72
Creek
BM 80
NECK
BM 75
27
Cox Creek
Foreman Creek
McGill Creek
Creek
Dowdel Cr
PRIZE HOUSE
MOUNT HARMON
Cassidy Wharf
RIVER
Knight Island
Back
KNIGHT
Knight
Island

Mount Harmon CE - 26
Near Earleville
Elevation
MOB/1968
NEG - MD. Hist. Trust

CE-26

VF

CE-26

Md. Historical Trust
94 College Ave.
Annapolis, Md. 21401

ACTION! Photo
217 W. 25th ST.
WILM., DEL. 19802
762-0424 • 762-4041

Mt Harmon

Danny Justice Elliston

(Mt. Harmon)

CE-26

CE-26 Mt. Harmon

Mount Hermon Kitchen

CE-26

Michael Bourne Dec. 1971