

# CH-196

## Maxwell Hall

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 11-21-2003***

0901962104

STATE: <b>Maryland</b>
COUNTY: <b>Charles</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Maxwell Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Teagues Point Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Patuxent City (Benedict vicinity)**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**First**

STATE:  
**Maryland**

CODE:  
**24**

COUNTY:  
**Charles**

CODE:  
**017**

**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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate):

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<b>Abandoned</b>
<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:  
**Starr Enterprizes (Mr. Joseph Goldstein, President)**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Maine Avenue and Sixth Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington**

STATE:  
**D.C.**

CODE:  
**11**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Charles County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**La Plata**

STATE:  
**Maryland**

CODE:  
**24**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**MHT-SMCC Architectural Survey of Tidewater Maryland**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971**

Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**St. Mary's City Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**St. Mary's City**

STATE:  
**Maryland**

CODE:  
**24**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <b>Maryland</b>
COUNTY: <b>Charles</b>
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Maxwell Hall is situated on a bluff overlooking the confluence of the Patuxent River and Swanson's Creek, one-half mile east on a private lane from Teagues Point Road, approximately two miles east of the junction of Teagues Point Road and Maryland Route 231, one mile southeast of Patuxent City in Charles County, Maryland.

Maxwell Hall is a one and one-half story, gambrel roofed frame house that is distinguished from other similar houses in the Southern Maryland region by its massive external chimneys. Although the exterior weatherboarding and most of the cornice and trim was replaced about 1925, the house remains today much the same in appearance as it did when built.

The principal facade faces east and is five bays in length. The entrance door occupies the central bay and is flanked by double-hung windows of nine over nine sash. On the lower slope of the roof are three pedimented dormer windows of six over six sash. All of the windows and doors, including the dormers, occupy original locations and retain their original dimensions, although most of the trim and sash (particularly on the dormers) has been replaced. The west facade is three bays in length with a transomed center door; above are two dormer windows of the same design as those of the east facade. At both the front and rear elevations are small, crudely built, shed roofed porches; beneath the roof of the west porch is preserved a small section of the original modillioned eave cornice of the house. At each end of Maxwell Hall stand massive single chimneys, both similar in plan but with several differences. The north chimney measures eighteen feet in width at the base and rises in two graduated sections that are defined by tapered weatherings; the great expanse of the lower weatherings are tiled by flat brick laid in a herringbone pattern; the smaller, irregularly positioned weatherings above are tiled with flat brick laid end to end. An unusual feature of this chimney was a small window (now bricked in) at the attic gable level that once provided light to a small chimney closet. The south end chimney was built on a fieldstone foundation that is completely exposed for one full story at this elevation. Although this chimney is of the same size and plan as the north chimney the whole of the area between the foundation and the top of the lower weatherings is constructed of unusually small tiling brick, while above the top of the weatherings it is of a larger, more normal sized brick. The free standing stacks of both chimneys stand twenty inches away from the ends of the house; the south chimney is somewhat larger than the north chimney as it contains one additional flue.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	
Maryland	CN-196
COUNTY	
Charles	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

#7 Description (Continued)

Maxwell Hall was built on irregularly coursed fieldstone foundation walls that enclose a full cellar. At both the front and rear facades are small wood barred cellar windows. At the exposed south end of the cellar is the only exterior entrance to the cellar: a batten door with a large wrought hasp.

The floor plan of Maxwell Hall is one typical of the region throughout the eighteenth century and early nineteenth century, although it apparently was more frequently used in the mid-eighteenth century. The first floor plan consists of four rooms and a short rear stair hall. The interiors of all of these rooms were renovated about 1835 and all of the existing door and window trim, doors and mantles, are in the Greek Revival style. When these renovations were made several of the closets that were built into the chimneys were covered over and formerly expansive fireplace openings were altered in size. The present stair, rising along the south wall of the hall, is also a later introduction and may be contemporary in date to the other alterations; the location of a previous stair has not yet been ascertained but it is believed to have occupied this same general location and was probably smaller in size. A former stair to the cellar beneath the present stair was removed and the opening covered over, possibly early in this century.

At the second floor level is a central hall with two doors on each side wall that open into four small bed chambers. All of the wall plaster and trim at this level was replaced early in this century; however, the basic room configuration is believed to be original.

One unique feature recorded at Maxwell Hall was the evidence of an original use of riven clapboards to sheath an interior partition wall. These clapboards, perfectly preserved under later layers of sawn lath and plaster, extend across the whole of the south wall of the hall. It is not known whether the clapboards extend (or extended) into any of the other rooms up above the first floor ceiling line but their existence alone is rare in houses of this otherwise relatively sophisticated plan. In Maryland, interior wall treatments such as this are more frequently found in more simpler houses and farm dependencies of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and occasionally the nineteenth century.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

CH-196

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Charles	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Continuation Sheet) 2

(Number all entries)

#7 Description (Continued)

In the cellar are two large rooms divided by a fieldstone partition wall. The floor is of packed dirt with the exposed ceiling timbers and walls whitewashed. An interesting construction feature seen in the cellar are two massive summer beams that support three sets of common joists. At each end of the house, positioned in from the end walls, are large tie beams into which the summers are secured. At the south end of the south cellar room is a tall and rather narrow opening, now filled in with stone and brick rubble, that may have been a former fireplace or a supporting niche for the chimney.

A short distance from the base of the west porch stair is a large flat gravestone, moved here in recent years from a graveyard on the property. The inscription has been completely obliterated and the stone is now used to cover a well opening.

#8 Significance (Continued)

riven clapboards. Other information is obtainable behind the later Greek Revival work to fairly accurately establish the original appearance of the interior.

3. 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input 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 checked="" 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

Unfortunately, little is known about the history of Maxwell Hall except that the property had been in the possession of the Bowling family for almost one hundred and fifty years before its acquisition by Mr. Goldstein in 1971. The property now includes about one thousand acres; it has been horribly defaced by excessive timbering and its future is, to say the least, uncertain.

Despite the alterations to the structure itself and the uncertainties regarding its future, Maxwell Hall deserves recognition as being one of the best surviving examples of its type of architecture in the lower Southern Maryland region. The continued survival of this house will provide a valuable source for the study of mid-eighteenth century vernacular architecture in this region.

As a result of intensive recording of various types of vernacular architecture in Southern Maryland representing the development of our architecture from the mid-seventeenth century to the early nineteenth centuries, we have been able to assign certain characteristics to different "periods" and locations. In Charles and St. Mary's county there are a total of five surviving examples of houses similar to Maxwell Hall. All of these, excepting Maxwell Hall, have been extensively altered by later interior changes and structural additions. (One, the finest and least altered of these recorded examples, burned in 1971). All possessed the same four room and short rear hall so popular in this region in the mid-eighteenth century. All have gambrel roofs and at least one single massive chimney of the same type as is seen at Maxwell Hall. Other features that separates this structure from the others is the massive support system of combined summer and tie beams, the unusual tiling of the chimney weatherings, the miniature bricks used in the construction of the south chimney base, and the great number of fireplaces and chimney closets that were built into each chimney. Of interest on the interior are the unusually large original fireplace openings and of course, the wall sheathing of

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mudd and Mudd, Attorneys at Law, LaPlata, Maryland.  
 Land Records of Charles County, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**J. Richard Rivoire, Field Surveyor** sdh

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust**      DATE: **Sept. 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**2525 Riva Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis**      STATE: **Maryland**      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  Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST  
BOX 1704  
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	MARYLAND
COUNTY:	CHARLES
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: MAXWELL HALL

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: N. SIDE TEAGUES POINT ROAD

CITY OR TOWN: BENEDICT (VIC. OF PATUXENT CITY)

STATE: MD. CODE: COUNTY: CHAS. CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: JOSEPH GOLDSTIEN

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: NEW YORK STATE: NEW YORK CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: COUNTY

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: LA PLATA STATE: MD. CODE:

ACREAGE

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Maxwell Hall is a charming one and one half storey gambrel roofed frame dwelling that has a probable mid eighteenth century construction date.

On the approach side (S. Elevation, rear) the dwelling is three bays in length. The centered door is of two vertical flanking panels. To each side of the door is a single window possessing a 9/9 pane sash. Directly above are two peaked dormers spaced slightly toward center line. Each has windows of 6/6 pane sash. Beneath the small shed roofed porch at this elevation the only remaining portion of an early modification cornice is preserved. At the foot of the steps leading to the porch landing is a large flat gravestone of uncertain age since the inscription has been completely obliterated.

The N. elevation, facade, is five bays in length. The centered door has panels matching the rear door. Both pair of flanking windows retain their 9/9 pane sash. At roof level are three irregularly spaced peaked dormer windows with 6/6 sash.

At both the E. and W. elevations are single exterior chimneys of massive size. Both are almost exactly alike in design and each measures 18' 3" at the base. Both stacks are exceedingly wide but well balanced visually and stand approx. two feet away from the gables. One interesting feature is visible at the W. stack and that is a small bricked in closer window at the gable level. There is a variation in brick sizes and in the paving of the lower shelves. Both chimneys have a three to six course brick water table with a moulded

## 6. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian  16th Century  18th Century  20th Century   
 15th Century  17th Century  19th Century

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

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

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi- losophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>architectural</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>relation to other</u>
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human- itarian <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Mid - 18th cent.</u>
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>dwellings in</u>
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Sp. Md.</u>
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

top course.

The house is probably roggered and is presently sheathed in a very late 19th/early or early 20th century clapboarding. Excluding that earlier cornice section previously discussed the eaves are boxed plain without any decorative woodmoulding. As a whole the entire exterior seems to have been renovated circa 1900.

The dwelling itself rests upon a high field stone foundation which encloses a full cellar. Access to the cellar is by a door flanking the S. wall of the E. chimney. The door is batten and retains an interesting wrought hasp.

On the interior, contrary to Mr. Jas. Wilpon's article "Maywell Hall survives in Chas. Co.", Washington Post, 10/26/70, the house was found to be void of any early woodwork. It appears that all of the interior mouldings, including door + window architraves, doors, mantles, floors and hardware was removed and replaced with the most architecturally unrelated Victorian Empire woodwork possible. Probably circa 1840.

The cellar possesses a bricked in fireplace opening on its E. wall and the blackened joists + summer beams in the E. room suggest that it was used as a kitchen. The joists appear rot season and are supported by two massive summer beams.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Ruozzi, J. R.

ORGANIZATION: MHT DATE: 2/71

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

BENEDICT QUADRANGLE  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
scale: 1: 24 000  
1953

116 MAXWELL HALL

Prince  
Chalk Pt

Gods Grace Pt

CHARLES CO

PRINCE GEORGES CO  
CALVERT CO

Teague Pt

(271)

City Town

TOLL BRIDGE  
Cable Area

Benedict

CHARLES CO  
CALVERT CO

Hallowin F

42'30"

352

(MECHANICSVILLE)

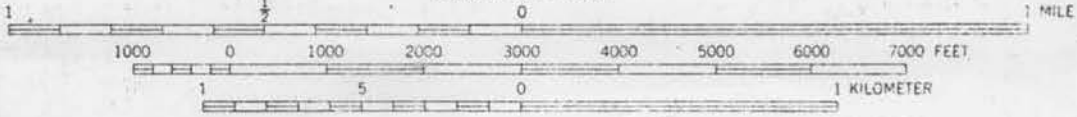
5660 1 NW

354

4

CH-196

SCALE 1:24 000



## FIELD NOTES: MAXWELL HALL, BY ORLANDO RIDOUT II

CH-196


Maxwell Hall

October 14, 1980

1 1/2 story 5 bay w/ gambrel roof and exterior chimneys centered in gables. Rests on full foundation of stone, brickwork frames openings.

East facade center door w/ 2 9/16 on each side. 3 6/6 pitched roof dormers. Replaced heavy siding, replaced brick cornice, shingle roof, curb eavehangs, no trim survives. Door and windows from c. 1830-35. Rough fieldstone foundation.

South gable - terminated by massive brick chimney w/ two sets of weathered shoulders, asym. in form, constructed w/ exceptionally small bricks. Flare out on all 2 sides of chimney. Chimney has stone foundation. Evidence of possible blocked cellar in to of chimney, cellar entrance to left. No other openings, windows and panels are replaced.



West facade - door offset to left of center, no 11/1 to N and S. 2 cellar w/s. 2 6/6 pt dormers, center bay not expressed. Section of early cornice survives, w/ 1/2 by scolloped brackets (dentil blocks) below soffit. Siding, cornice and corner blocks replaced. Porch over center bay has been removed. Long window frame in masonry.

North side - shown by large masonry chimney w/ 2 sets of weathering and 2 cornices. Evidence of small blocked opening, or recess in center of ch. on

in openings, weatherboards & shingles replaced.

Collar divided into 2 rooms by brick partition  
I to roof. Framing ~~is~~ consists of  
2 sets of summer beams w/ rlb small  
joists set + to ridge, shouldered into  
notches in plates and summers.

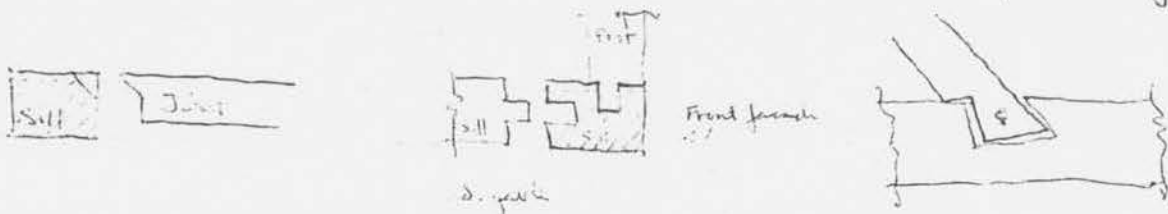
Fireplace in center of S gable wall,  
now blocked. (Stone).

19th c wood shutter on S collar w/  
of west wall. Plain vertical boards,  
beveled heavy battens, sliding wood  
bolt and catch. nails are <sup>only</sup> machine made.

Ceiling flooring and framing is all  
white washed. Deck and pit sawn.

by one batten door betw rooms.  
Double beaded joints, plain battens,  
hung on w/ H-L w/ w/ nails.  
Sliding wood catch - bolt.

inner room also white washed, see pp.



### First floor

Framing - by corner posts, stop at 1st floor  
top plate, same thickness as stone  
w/ brace on gable wall, beam brace on  
porch. See joint detail above.

Stones in top and bottom

Joints deep notched through top plate,  
in frame corners.

"Summer" runs down center of first floor,  
 joints are half-lapped then summer,  
 but do not run continuous.

First floor interior - few rooms,  
 2 large parlors in front, N parlor is  
 larger of two. Large door opening  
 between 2 parlors.

All doors and architect from c.  
 c. 1830-50.

Fireplaces partially collapsed and  
 reworked, had large openings w/  
 segmental brick arches.

Niche in chimney to rt of south fp,  
 plant chest in center of N chimney.  
 beaded siding divides N closet b/w 2  
 rooms.

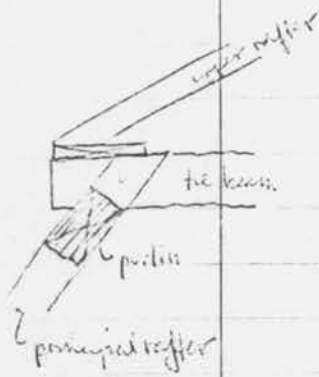
Stair hall centered on in half of  
 house, flanked by 2 small rooms, one  
 on each side. Stair runs against  
 S wall of hall. Begins as winder,  
 then straight run open string.

Banister gone.

S wall of stair hall covered w/  
 woven cloth, w/ wails. Then later (?)  
 in 18th c, w/ wails. Then  
 w/ wails. Then  
 plastered w/ machine wails.

6 panel ~~two~~ doors survive  
 in 2 small ~~two~~ rooms.

Second floor center hall three rooms, 2 rooms on each side. Now knee walls on each facade, knee wall above stair well has been reframed in 19th c. Flat false plate saws.



Very unusual roof framing. - Lower half of gabled framed up a series of heavy principal rafters and purlins ~~just below~~ curb saws.

Tie beams center into, joining principal rafters, secondary rafters into bottom edge of purlins, purlins into into principal rafters. Ceiling joists notched over purlins, support flat false plate. Principal rafters come up to bottom of false plate. Upper rafters rest on plate, all are same size, meet at ridge in intp. Collar beams are half lapped and not nailed. Reinforcing wind bracing not nailed to underside of upper rafters, single piece nailed to under side, parallel to ridge. Gable studs nailed and not nails. 7 principal rafter pairs, on approx 6 foot span.

No tie in end of rooms, may have no stone frame, but all appear 19th c. Only braced where no gable are put down paper in section. No nails.



CH-196

CH 196

CH-196  
MAXWELL HALL, Charles Co., Md. / <sup>N</sup>SW Ele. / JRRUDIRE, 12-72



9/19/6

47-171

Maxwell Hall, char. Co., Md. / NE Ele. / JRCINORL, 12-72



Maxwell Hall

CH 196

HABS photo

LS1

E. end chimney



Maxwell Hall

HABS photo

CH 196

6/11

F end



Maxwell Hall

HABS photo

CH 196

152

S. Ele.



Maxwell Hall

HARRIS photo

CH 196

156

NE front room, 1st floor



Maxwell Hall  
HABS photo

CH 196

SSI

near stairs showing new  
clapboard partition



Maxwell Hall  
HABS photo

CH 196

153

SE Atrium room, 1st floor



Maxwell Hall

CH 196

HARRIS photo

154

SW near roomy, 1st floor



Maxwell Hall

CH 176

FABS photo

146

NW room, 1st. floor - w. wall



Maywell Hall

HABS Photo

CH 196

159

clapboard part. wall from stair  
closet



Maxwell Hall

CH-176

HABS photo

145

view of clapboard partition wall  
from cellars



Maxwell Hall  
HABS photo

CH 196

153

detail, seven clapboard part. wall  
from 1st floor stairs