

CAPSULE SUMMARY
Chase-Stone House (AA-672)
St. John's College, Annapolis

The Chase-Stone House at St. John's College was begun in 1856 by local builders Daniel M. Sprogle and Daniel H. Caulk to the designs of architect, Nathan G. Starkweather. Eventually named in honor of local statesmen, Samuel Chase and Thomas Stone, the building was constructed as a two separate dwellings intended for the college's principal and vice-principal. The Italianate style dormitory was one of three buildings constructed on the campus of St. John's College by the academic institution in the 1850s. The building served its original purpose until 1929, when it became a fraternity house. With the abolishment of fraternities in 1939, the building became a men's dormitory. In 1963, under the direction of local architect James Wood Burch, the twin dwelling was extensively altered, particularly on the interior, to create a dormitory for twenty-seven students.

Starkweather designed the building in an Italianate style that is reminiscent of Italian Palazzo design. Set upon a raised brick foundation with a molded watertable, the former double house is constructed of brick, laid in all-stretcher bond of pressed brick. It is covered with a hipped roof with broad overhanging eaves featuring an elaborate wood cornice with paired wooden brackets. The roof is clad with standing seam metal and features four brick chimneys (two on center with corbeling and recessed arched panels, and two rebuilt and unornamented exterior end chimneys at rear ells). Long, round-arched and smaller segmental-arched openings with brick drip molds define the first and second stories of the building, respectively. Square-headed windows articulate the third and (visually) lesser story. In 1963, as part of a major renovation, the exterior of the duplex was altered by the removal of two service (kitchen) wings at the rear of the building, the conversion of the two front doors into windows, and the relocation of a new entrance in the rear wall.

7. Description

Inventory No. AA-672

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one-paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Chase-Stone House is a striking, three-story Italianate-style brick duplex built in 1857 as housing for the president and vice-president of St. John's College. Nathan Starkweather, a noted Baltimore architect, designed the building in an Italianate style that is reminiscent of Italian Palazzo design. Set upon a raised brick foundation with a molded watertable, the former double house is constructed of brick, laid in all-stretcher bond of pressed brick.¹ It is covered with a hipped roof with broad overhanging eaves featuring an elaborate wood cornice with paired wooden brackets. The roof is clad with standing seam metal and features four brick chimneys (two on center with corbeling and recessed arched panels, and two rebuilt and unornamented exterior end chimneys at rear ells). Long, round-arched and smaller segmental-arched openings with brick drip molds define the first and second stories of the building, respectively. Square-headed windows articulate the third and (visually) lesser story. In 1963, as part of a major renovation, the exterior of the duplex was altered by the removal of two service (kitchen) wings at the rear of the building, the conversion of the two front doors into windows, and the relocation of a new entrance in the rear wall.

During this 1963 renovation, the interior of the building was completely gutted. The former duplex, which had earlier been converted into a fraternity house, and then again, a single dwelling, was significantly altered for use as a dormitory. As a result of these physical changes, little historic fabric remains intact on the interior of the building.

Exterior Description:

The Chase-Stone House is located at the northeastern end of the row of buildings that forms the nucleus of the St. John's College campus. The building faces southeast to College Avenue and the City of Annapolis, being separated from them by green open space and the shade of the Liberty Tree. With the relocation of the entrance to the original rear wall, the Chase-Stone building today faces the opposite direction, in a more inward way, toward the expanded college campus.

The southeast and original front elevation of the building is divided into six equal bays, with a hierarchical arrangement of windows from round-arched to segmental to square-headed defining the first through third stories. Set above a raised basement level with segmental-arched window openings, the first and most prominent story consists of six round-arched openings with long and narrow windows. The two end windows, originally side-passage entry doors into the two dwellings, are distinguished by elaborate Italianate-style wood hood moldings with paired brackets. While the original doors were replaced by 8/8 sash, the hood molding, sidelights and round-arched door transom remain intact. The inside four bays are each articulated by long round-arched windows with multi-pane sash, brick drip molding, label stops, and stone sills.

The second story windows are smaller than those on the first story, and feature segmental-arched windows with brick drip molding and label stops, and stone sills, also with label stops. The windows have 6/6 sash. The third story ranks the lowest in the hierarchical order with square-headed window openings and windows, and no drip molds, though there are sill stone sills with label stops. Above the third story rises the elaborate wooden

¹ The raised brick foundation is built upon a stone foundation, partially visible in places.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA- 672

Chase-Stone House, St. John's College, Annapolis
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

cornice with a wide frieze board with recessed panels interspersed with paired wooden brackets and decorated, at its highest point, by a row of dentils.

The southwest elevation facing Pinkney Hall offers a single bay of paired window openings placed on center of the solid, but elegant brick wall, above a molded watertable and raised basement level. The windows, like those of the facade, range in a hierarchical manner from round-arched on the first story to square-headed on the third. Like the windows of the facade, those of the first story are round-arched with 6/4 sash; those of the second story are segmental-arched with 4/4 sash; and those of the third story are square-headed with 4/4 sash, all with stone sills. However, unlike the first story windows of the facade, these first story windows lack drip moldings, and are instead topped by brick voussoirs. The second-story windows, however, retain their drip moldings, giving the second story greater prominence on this elevation than on the facade. At the basement level, there are two segmental-arched, two-light windows with bars and re-worked gauged-arch lintels. The front and rear bays are unfenestrated.

The northeast elevation is similar to the southwest end wall with paired windows occupying the center bay of the otherwise unfenestrated brick wall. Also, the raised basement is more fully exposed on this side, revealing a stone foundation wall below the brick one, and offering a double-story entrance into the building at basement level. This double wood door is located on center of the wall and is set within a segmental-arched surround with a segmental-arched gauged brick lintel. This opening appears to be entirely new, based upon the re-worked brick around the door. Also, the door and its opening match that on the northwest elevation--clearly a 1963 addition.

The northwest elevation of the building was the most significantly altered from its original configuration during the 1963 renovation. The brickwork of the third story of the rear wall is laid in the same all-stretcher bond as the rest of the building, while the rebuilt brick wall of the first two stories is darker and clearly differentiated. The two, two-story rear service wings which housed the dwellings' kitchens and originally extended off of this elevation, were removed and the brick chimneys rebuilt against the rebuilt wall. The ground level of the courtyard area that was formed by the wings was filled in with an entry bay, and now serves as the principal entrance into the dormitory. This entry features a round arched opening with double wood doors and a semi-circular transom above. The windows on the rear wall of the main elevation and the side walls of the amputated ells appear to be a combination of original openings and sash, and new openings and reproduction sash. The first and third story windows are square-headed with 6/6 sash and molded trim, while the second story windows have segmental-arched openings and windows with 6/6 sash and molded trim.

The cornice of this elevation dates to the 1963 renovation. It extends across the elevation, including the courtyard area, and is a simplified version of the historic cornice on the other three sides.

The roof of the building is sheathed with standing seam metal and features two central brick chimney stacks. The stacks have blind arches on all four sides and a corbeled cap.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA- 672

Chase-Stone House, St. John's College, Annapolis
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 3

Interior Description:

The interior of the Chase-Stone House is almost entirely a product of the 1963 period of renovation. During its conversion into a dormitory, the original configuration of space, and most all of the historic building fabric was altered or removed. Today, only the attic level and basement provide remnants of the historic structure. The first, second and third stories are all arranged around a U-shaped plan with metal stairs located at the ends. The space consists of 1963 drywall partition walls of dark corridors leading to individual dorm rooms. The floors are all carpeted and the ceilings are all dropped with acoustical tiles. At the basement level, however, in the students' lounge, the original stone and brick foundation walls with arched openings are exposed. A fireplace opening, which appears to date from the 1963 alteration, has been cut into one of the chimney stacks, adding warmth to this underground space.

The attic of the building reveals the two central chimney stacks and a rebuilt roof. The chimney stacks are hefty brick structures that corbel out about 2-1/2' above the attic floor to support even larger stacks. The roof rafters are not historic, having circular-sawn members, while structural steel horizontal members span the building to provide added support.

8. Significance

Inventory No. AA-672

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Significance dates	1856-1963	Architect	Nathan G. Starkweather
Specific dates	1856-1857	Builder	Daniel M. Sprogle and Daniel H. Caulk

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Chase-Stone House at St. John’s College was begun in 1856 by local builders Daniel M. Sprogle and Daniel H. Caulk to the designs of architect, Nathan G. Starkweather. Eventually named in honor of local statesmen, Samuel Chase and Thomas Stone, the building was constructed as a two separate dwellings intended for the college’s principal and vice-principal. The Italianate style dormitory was one of three buildings constructed on the campus of St. John’s College by the academic institution in the 1850s. The building served its original purpose until 1929, when it became a fraternity house. With the abolishment of fraternities in 1939, the building became a men’s dormitory. In 1963, under the direction of local architect James Wood Burch, the twin dwelling was extensively altered, particularly on the interior, to create one dormitory for twenty-seven students.

*For a detailed history of St. John’s College, refer to Maryland Historical Inventory Form, McDowell Hall (AA-675).

History of Chase-Stone House

For the second time in the history of the college, the Board of Rector, Visitors, and Governors of St. John’s College attempted to properly compensate the professors, who had been underpaid for a number of years. College principal Hector Humphreys strongly believed that just compensation included staff housing and additional dormitory space, which would enticed better teachers to join the faculty and enrollment would increase. As part of this second building campaign on the campus, three buildings were to be simultaneously constructed. One building (now Paca-Carroll House) was to be the promised housing for professors and faculty, while the second building (now Chase-Stone House) provided living space for the college principal and vice-principal. The third building, Pinkney Hall, was constructed as a secondary dormitory for the expected students. The three new buildings were symmetrically aligned on either side of McDowell Hall and Humphreys Hall, set within a straight line referred to as “Yale Row.” Although the minutes of the Board of Rector, Visitors, and Governors for the years between 1851 and 1857 have been lost, letters to the college archived at the Maryland Hall of Records assist in documenting the siting and construction of the buildings. A letter from April 1855 to the board from Humphreys records the principal’s hope that the construction of the dormitory in particular would begin in 1856 and be completed in time for the opening of the fall term in 1857.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA- 672

Chase-Stone House, St. John's College, Annapolis
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

Unfortunately, on January 25, 1857, Humphreys died before the first of the three new 1850s buildings was completed.

Nathan Gibson Starkweather (1818-1885) designed the new dormitory (Pinkney Hall) and the principals' housing (Chase-Stone House) for St. John's College. The architect was born Norris Garshom Starkweather, and often signed his work N.G. Starkweather. The youngest of six children, Starkweather was born in Vermont and raised in Connecticut. He first appears as an architect in the Philadelphia city directory in 1854. Starkweather's practice focused on religious architecture; he designed the First Presbyterian Church in Norristown, PA, the First Baptist Church in Camden, NJ, and the First Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. By 1856, Starkweather had relocated to Baltimore, forming a partnership with William T. Murdoch. The city directory for 1860 indicates Starkweather resided in Baltimore, although his office was located in Washington, D.C. While in the nation's capital, he formed a partnership with builder Thomas M. Plowman. By 1881, Starkweather relocated to New York City, where he opened an office with Charles E. Gibbs, a native of Washington, D.C. Starkweather designed St. John's Pinkney Hall and the Chase-Stone House during his tenure in Philadelphia and Baltimore, where he had relocated to personally oversee construction of the flamboyant Gothic Revival style First Presbyterian Church between 1854 and 1859.

With the architect unable to supervise the construction of the buildings because of his responsibilities in Baltimore, the new dormitory and principals' housing were erected under the direction of local builders, Daniel M. Sprogle and Daniel H. Caulk. Sprogle (1822-1889) was a prominent citizen of Annapolis, responsible for building a number of dwellings throughout the city. Although Sprogle's contribution to the construction history of Annapolis is generally overlooked, he is often remembered for supplying the building materials from a local lumber mill that he owned and operated. Sprogle lived with his family at 2-4 Maryland Street (razed 1928), in a twin dwelling he constructed in 1852 with James R. Harrison. Sprogle was responsible for the construction of the First Presbyterian Church in Annapolis. Daniel H. Caulk (1812-1891) assisted Sprogle in the construction of Pinkney Hall and the Chase-Stone House. Born in St. Michaels, Maryland, Caulk worked as a carpenter and undertaker. He lived in the early 19th century brick dwelling at 213-215 Main Street (AA-582), while maintaining a shop at 53 Fleet Street (AA-41).

Starkweather's absence at the construction site greatly impacted the building's progress. Sprogle and Caulk displayed their dissatisfaction in May 1857 by writing a letter of complaint to the Board of Rector, Visitors, and Governors. The letter stated that the builders had already spent considerably more than their estimated cost of construction, primarily due to the lack of cooperation from the architect. Starkweather had not supplied any of the drawings on schedule, and when the drawings did arrive, they were substantially altered from the original design and material specifications from which the contractors had based their estimates. Construction of the

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA- 672

Chase-Stone House, St. John's College, Annapolis
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

building during the winter months also greatly impacted the construction costs, as the workmen traveled from Baltimore and required additional compensation for staying in Annapolis longer than planned.²

Again, because the records of the board for this period have not been located, the completion date of the Chase-Stone House is unknown. However, the faculty minutes for 1857 indicate Principal Nelson was paying \$300 a year in rent for his dwelling, while the vice-principal paid \$150 a year in rent. Initially, the building was unnamed, merely being referred to as "the principal's house" and "the vice-principal's house."

In 1929, the twin dwelling was no longer used as housing for the principal and vice-principal, titles changed to president and vice-president in 1880. Rather, it was used as dormitory and meeting space for the men's fraternities. Ten years later, in 1939, when the college abolished fraternities, the building was used as dormitories. No longer known by its primary occupants, the building was officially christened at this time as the Chase-Stone House. Additionally, the still unnamed professors' house at the southwestern end of Yale Row was formally dubbed the Pace-Carroll House. The official naming of the two buildings, both now used as dormitories, paid homage to the four men who had signed the Declaration of Independence from Maryland: Samuel Chase, Thomas Stone, William Paca, and Charles Carroll. Additionally, all four of the men had lived in Annapolis and were founders of the college. Chase and Stone were members of the college's first Board of Rector, Visitors, and Governors. Carroll joined the board in 1786, in addition to granting 200 pounds to the college. Stone and Paca each gave 100 pounds, and Chase pledged 50 pounds. As governor, William Paca fixed his signature to the charter creating the college.

The *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps* denote the building in 1885 as professors' dwellings marked A (northeast) and B (southwest). The square brick building was augmented by this time by two-story brick ells that served as kitchens. By 1903, the building is simply marked as dwellings A and B. The maps show that by 1908 a one-story wood frame porch was added to the northeast elevation of dwelling A. Additionally, as seen on the 1913 maps, a two-story canted bay window of brick was added to the northeast elevation of the ell on dwelling A. The 1954 maps indicate the dormitory had received its formal names, with the Chase House being the northeast dwelling (A) and Stone House being the southwest dwelling (B).

In 1963, local architect James Wood Burch was retained to renovate the Chase-Stone House to better accommodate the students. Hired in 1972 to design the college's Harrison Health Center, Burch was a Navy pilot in World War II, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross. This silver cross is awarded to officers and warrant officers for an act or acts of valor, courage, or devotion to duty preformed whilst flying in active operations against the enemy. Born in 1921, Burch served as architect for many historic restoration projects in Annapolis prior to his death in 1984. The work undertaken by Burch on the Chase-Stone House, preformed by

² Letter to the Board of Rector, Visitors, and Governors of St. John's College from Daniel Sprogle and Daniel Caulk, May 22, 1857. Archived at the Maryland Hall of Records, Letters to St. John's College.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA- 672

Chase-Stone House, St. John's College, Annapolis
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

Baltimore Contractors, Inc., included removal of the two-story kitchen ells from the northwest elevation of the main block. Additionally, the two side-passage entrances were converted on the primary façade (facing southeast) to serve as windows. New entry openings were created on the rear elevation, facing northwest. The chimneys, removed previously due to the high cost of maintenance, were replaced. This process required "careful scrutiny of old photographs and prints to ascertain size, style, and material of the original chimneys."³ On the interior, the building was more extensively altered by the removal of all partitions between the two dwellings. This created a single dwelling that provided housing for twenty-seven students. The resulting plan consisted of six double rooms and fifteen single rooms, each with its own fireplace. The original stairs were removed and enclosed iron stairwells with Virginia greenstone tread installed along the northwest side of the main block. In order to provide additional space, the halls were narrowed to four feet and the ceilings were proportionately lowered from twelve to nine-and-a-half feet.⁴

³ Historic American Building Survey, "Chase-Stone House," Blue Worksheet, Prepared by Florence T. Dunbar, October 1964.

⁴ Historic American Building Survey, "Chase-Stone House," Architectural Data Form, Prepared by Eleni Silverman, August 1983.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA- 672

Chase-Stone House, St. John's College, Annapolis
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)
Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)
Modern Period (1930-present)

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning
Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Town

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): EDUCATION/College
DOMESTIC/Twin Dwelling
DOMESTIC/Dormitory

Known Design Source: Nathan G. Starkweather (Architect)
Daniel M. Sprogle and Daniel H. Caulk (Builder)
James Wood Burch (1963)

9. Major Bibliographical References

AA-672

"A Brief History: St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland," Pamphlet prepared by St. John's College.

Historic American Building Survey, "Chase-Stone House," Architectural Data Form, Prepared by Eleni Silverman, August 1983.

Historic American Building Survey, "Chase-Stone House," Blue Worksheet, Prepared by Florence T. Dunbar, October 1964.

Murphy, Emily A. *A Complete and Generous Education: 300 Years of Liberal Arts, St. John's College, Annapolis.* Annapolis, MD, St. John's College Press, 1996.

Riley, Elihu S. *The Ancient City, A History of Annapolis in Maryland, 1649-1887.* Baltimore, MD: Clearfield Company, Inc., 1995.

Tilghman, Tench Francis. *The Early History of St. John's College.* Annapolis, MD: St. John's College Press, 1984.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area 1 acre
Acreage surveyed 33 acres
Quadrangle name Annapolis, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Chase-Stone House is located on the campus of St. John's College, established at this site in 1784. The college is recorded on Tax Map 4-6, Parcel 458. It is bounded by College Avenue to the southeast, King George Street to the northeast, St. John Street to the southwest, and College Creek to the northwest.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Laura Trieschmann and Kim Williams, Architectural Historians April 25, 2000

organization E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc.

street & number 5420 Western Avenue

city or town Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
 DHCD/DHCP
 100 Community Place
 Crownsville, MD 21032
 410-514-7600

AA-672

HABS-EDDC
Form 3B
VII, 15, 1959

BLUE
NO 292

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Historian's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part I)

Name of Structure Chase - Stone House

~~Chase - Stone House~~

Address Maryland, Anne Arundel Co, Annapolis, St John's College Campus
~~State, county, township, locality, street address or location~~

Present Owner (give address) St. John's College

Present Occupant Male students of St. John's College

Present Use Mens' Dormitory

Brief Statement of Significance (historical): Architects from Colonial Williamsburg urged the college to retain and renovate the building on grounds that it is a unique example of nineteenth century architecture.
(See attached notes, Section I). (PHYSICAL HISTORY (All statements should be documented))

Original and subsequent owners
St. John's College

Date of Erection begun 1856, completed 1857 (letter to MBYG from Messrs. Spragle and Caulk)

Architect Nathan G. Starkweather
Builder, suppliers, etc. (See attached notes, Section II).

Daniel Spragle and David Caulk (See attached notes, Section III).
Original plans, construction, etc. (See attached notes, Section III).

No record.
Notes on alterations and additions
In 1963 James Wood Burch, Annapolis architect, undertook the planning and direction of a complete renovation of the building by Baltimore Contractors, Inc. The exterior was altered by the removal of two wings in the rear which originally served as kitchen the conversion of the two front doors into windows, and the installation of a new entrance in the rear wall. Bricks used in replacement of those in bad condition were carefully cut and sandblasted to match the weathered originals. The chimneys, which had been removed earlier due to high cost of maintenance were replaced, after careful scrutiny of old photographs and prints to ascertain size, style, and material of the original chimneys. The interior has been more extensively altered, as required for conversion from a duplex home into a dormitory. The partition between the houses was removed, resulting in one large house with accommodation for twenty-seven students (continued in attached notes, Section IV)

CHASE-STONE HOUSE, NOTES

Section I:

James Wood Burch, architect for the restoration, commented: The Chase-Stone House was built at the tail end of the classical renaissance period and at the beginning of the Victorian, and it is a direct descendant of a Florentine palace.

Section II:

Nathan G Starkweather was a Baltimore architect, his best known work there is the First Presbyterian Church, built in 1853. (p. 100, Howland and Spencer). He is established as the architect for this building through a bill submitted by the contractors, Spragle and Caulk, to the Board of Governors of St John's, which mentions the architect. (Letters to the Board of Visitors and Governors of St. John's College, Hall of Records, Annapolis).

Section III:

The contractors were an Annapolis firm. They were assisted by a building committee appointed by the Board of Visitors and Governors, consisting of:

Judge Tuck
Mr. Stockett

Mr. Randall

Mr. Claude

Mr. Worthington

(Minutes of the Board of Visitors and Governors, March 5, 1855)

Section IV:

(students) in six double and fifteen single rooms. Each room had its own fireplace. The spiral stairways were replaced by conventional enclosed iron stairwells and Virginia greenstone steps.

In order to provide more room space on each floor, the halls were narrowed to four feet and the ceilings proportionately lowered from twelve to nine and one half feet. This work necessitated removal of nearly all the handsome moulded plaster cornice on the first two floors, but that in rooms 103, 104, and 105 was preserved; and at the same time strengthened and refinished.

St. John's College, Chase - Stone House
235 King George Street
Annapolis
Anne Arundel County
Maryland

AA-672
MABS No. MD-236

HABS
MD,
2-ANNA,
61-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

AA-672
HABS
MD,
2-ANNA,
61-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Maryland		COUNTY Anne Arundel	TOWN OR VICINITY Annapolis
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) St. John's College, Chase-Stone House			HABS NO. MD-236
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 235 King George St.			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1856-1857 (letter to Board dated 3/5/1855)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) (Letters to the Board of Governors) Nathan G. Starkweather	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Named for Samuel Chase and Thomas Stone who were members of the college's original Board of Governors, the house was built as a duplex home for the President and Vice-President of the college. It served as such until 1929 when it became a Greek Fraternity house. (see data sheet 2)			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Renaissance Revival			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1929:became fraternity house. 1937:fraternities were abolished; the house was turned into a men's dormitory. 1963:the building was renovated under the direction of the Annapolis (see data page two)			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Men's dormitory			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The architect, Nathan Starkweather was a Baltimore architect whose best known work is the First Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, built in 1853. The contractors were an Annapolis firm, Spragle and Caulk. The college's building committee consisted if Judge Tuck, Msrs.Stockett, Randall, Claude and Worthington.			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Report submitted to HABS by Florence Dunbar of Historic Annapolis, dated 10/1964.			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman, HABS			DATE August 1983

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued from Page 1)

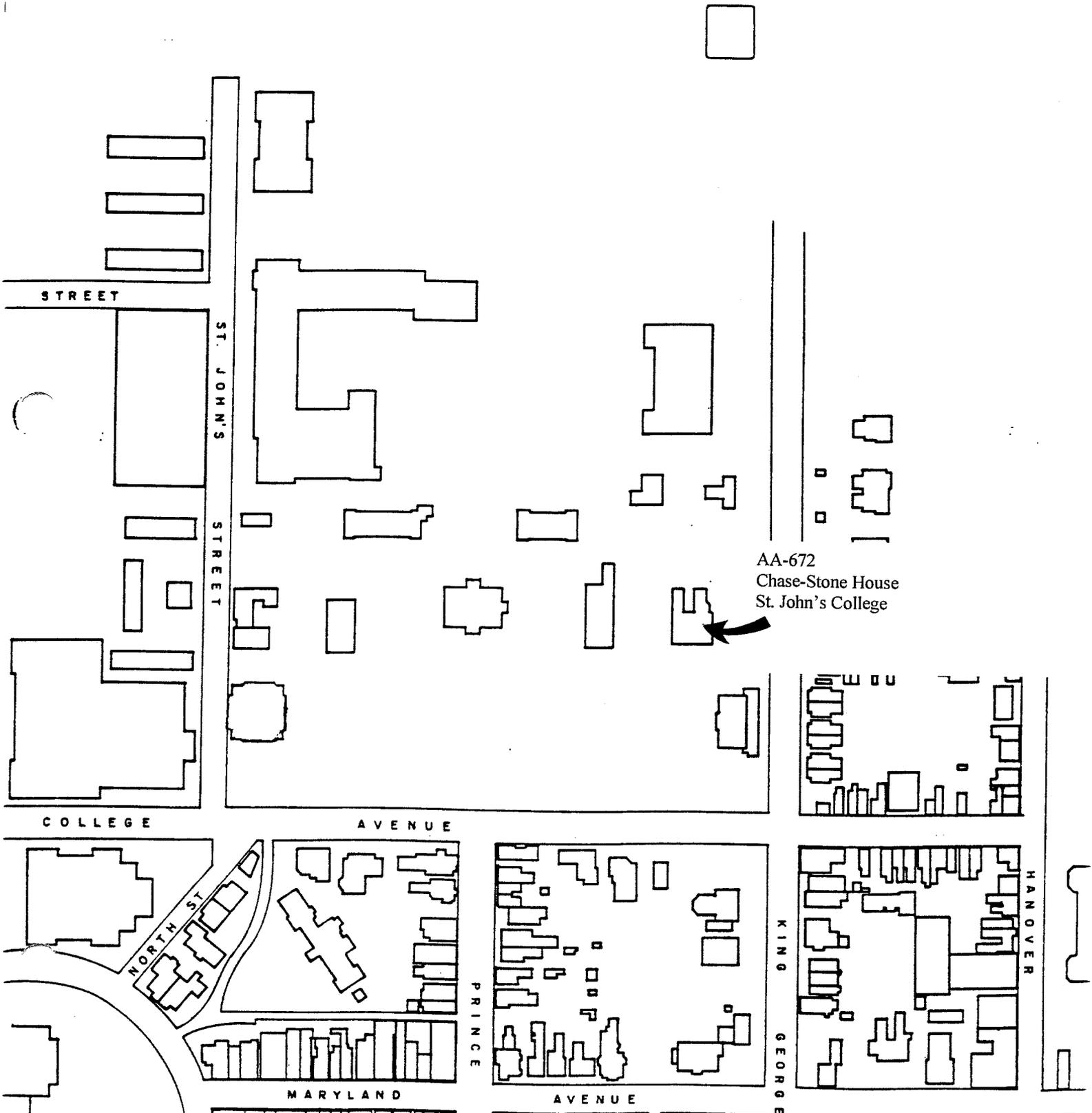
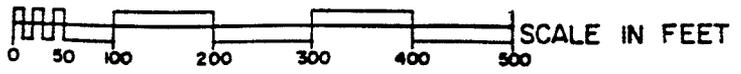
With the instigation of St. John's College's "great books" program in 1937, fraternities were abolished and the house became a mens' dormitory.

MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS (Continued from Page 1)

architect, James Wood Burch. The exterior was altered by the removal of two wings in the rear which originally served as kitchens, the conversion of the two front doors into windows, and the installation of a new entrance in the rear wall. Bricks used in the renovation were weathered to simulate the original bricks. The chimneys were replaced.

The interiors were substantially altered to accomodate the new mens' dormitory. The partitions between the two houses were removed and six double and fifteen single rooms created. Each room has its own fireplace. Sprial staircases were replaced by conventional enclosed iron stairwells and Virginia greenstone steps.

In order to provide more room space on each floor, the halls were narrowed to four feet and the ceilings proportionately lowered from twelve to nine and one-half feet. This work necessitated removal of nearly all the molded plaster cornice on the first two floors, but that in rooms 103,104, and 105 was preserved.





AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

SE ELEVATION, LOOKING NW

1 OF 8



AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

NE ELEVATION, LOOKING SW

2 OF 8



AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

NW ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTH

3 OF 8



AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MARYLAND SHPO

SW ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH

4 OF 8



AA-672
CHASE-STONE HOUSE
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE
ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

SECOND FLOOR HALL, LOOKING SOUTH

5 OF 8



AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

BASEMENT, LOOKING NORTH

6 OF 8



AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

ATTIC, LOOKING SOUTH

7 OF 8



AA-672

CHASE-STONE HOUSE
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANNAPOLIS, MD

TRACERIES

1/00

MD SHPO

ATTIC, LOOKING SOUTH

8 OF 8

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

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
 Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: AA 672
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:
PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Chase-Stone House
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: President's House
PRESENT USE: Dormitory
ORIGINAL USE: Pres/V.P. Residences
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER: J.W. Buren, Restored
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent (x) Good () Fair () Poor: ()
THEME:
STYLE: Italianate
DATE BUILT: 1857 1963 restored

COUNTY: Anne Arundel
TOWN: Annapolis
LOCATION: St. John's
COMMON NAME: Chase House/Stone House
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: COMM Map 31 Par 20
OWNER: St. John's College
ADDRESS: College Ave. Annapolis, MD 21401
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes (x) No () Restricted ()
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local () State () National (x) <input checked="" type="radio"/>

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: Common Other:
4. Roof Structure
 - A. Truss: Wood (x) Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle () Sheet Metal (x)
 Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

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

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

Number of Stories: 3 (4 @ rear)
 Number of Bays: 6 x
 Approximate Dimensions: 80 x 80

Entrance Location: Centered F + side

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

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

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

AA-672

Excellent wide cornice with paired consoles, molded frieze third floor windows flat arched, second elliptical with drip molds, first round arched with excellent drip molds; three of the four original entrances are altered and now appear as modified Palladian windows with narrow sidelights, second and third floor windows with brownstone bracketed sills, watertable with molded brick weathering.

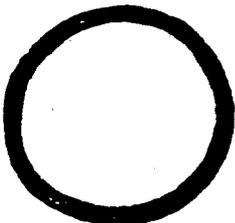
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Exceptional example of early Italianate (1857) rare in Annapolis with Florentine detailing; originally two residences (president and vice-president) converted in 1963 to dormitory-named for Samuel Chase and Thomas Stone, two of Maryland's four signers of the Declaration of Independence. Critical to townscape of campus.

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)

1. STATE Annapolis, Maryland
 COUNTY
 TOWN VICINITY
 STREET NO. St. John's Campus
 ORIGINAL OWNER St. John's College
 ORIGINAL USE Housing
 PRESENT OWNER St. John's College
 PRESENT USE Dormitory
 WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick
 NO. OF STORIES 3

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY

2. NAME Chase-Stone House
 DATE OR PERIOD 1857
 STYLE Italianate Victorian
 ARCHITECT
 BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC No

Chase-Stone House, recently restored, is an important architectural monument for it represents an attempt (rare in Annapolis) of recreating a Florentine Villa. The result is successful and historically earlier and more refreshing than the late 19th century Italian Villa style of firms such as McKim, Mead, and White. Basically two double town houses joined together, the single facade presents 3 rows of different window treatments. 3rd storey has rectangular windows, 2nd storey has arched windows with arched brick drip moldings, 1st storey has rounded windows with rounded drip moldings. All windows are 6/6 with brownstone sills. Former doorways are now stylized Palladian windows with heavy wood drip moldings. An extremely handsome building.



Exterior



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH I. M. Pei, J.W. Boardman

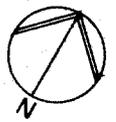
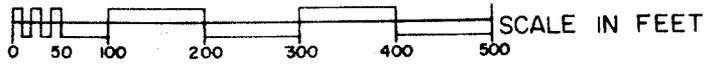
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

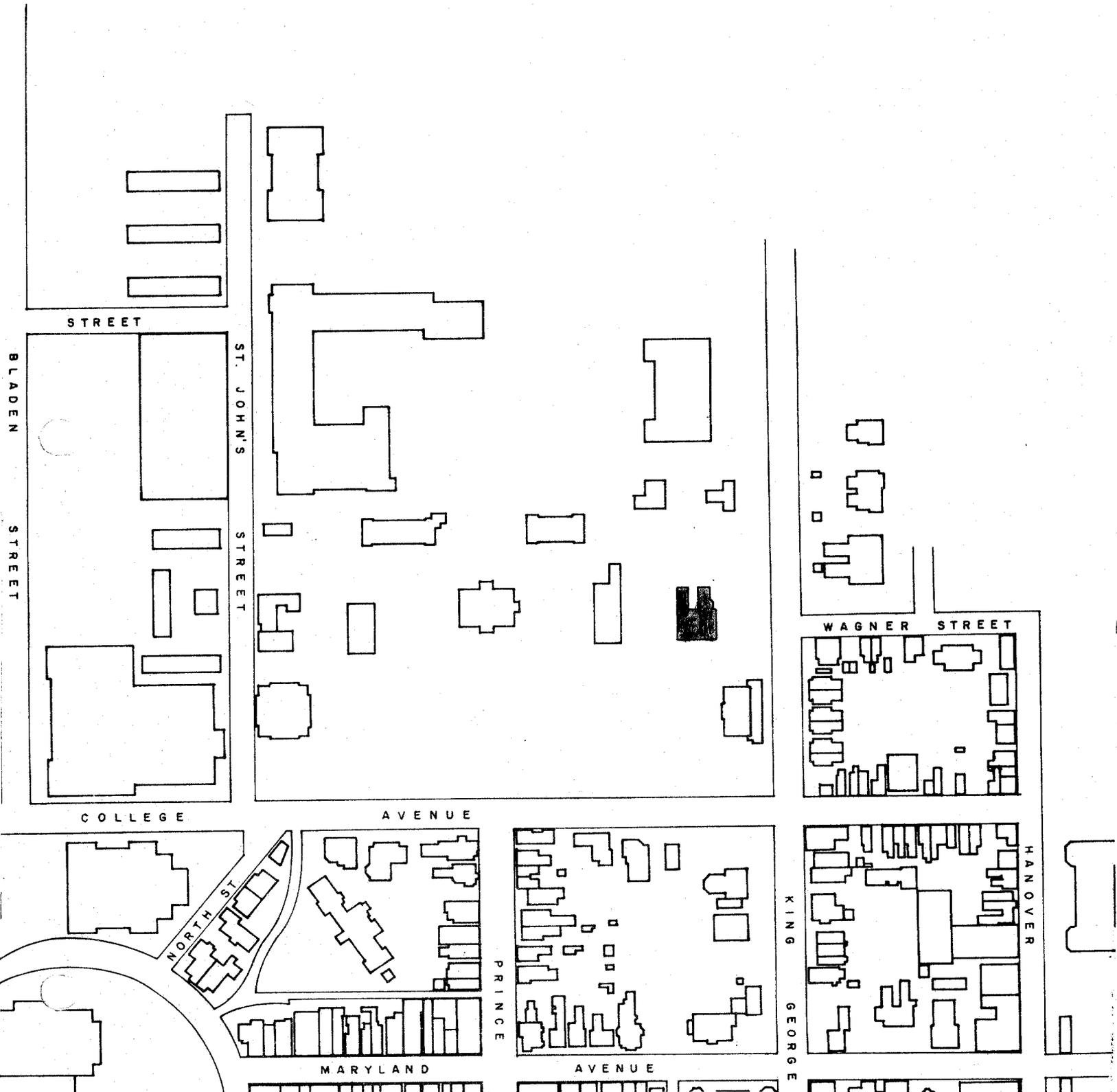
William D. Morgan

Columbia University, New York City
DATE OF RECORD August 21, 1967

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



AA 672
ANNAPOLIS HIST. DIST.





Chase House/Stone House

St. John's

AA 672

Annapolis, Anne Arundel County

Russell Wright

July, 1982

Maryland Historical Trust,

Annapolis, Maryland

SE Elevation/camera facing NW

JOHNS