

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Ensor House Inventory Number: BA-2048

Address: 16947 York Road City: Monkton Zip Code: 21102

County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Hereford, MD

Owner: Randolph H. Shelley and Yvonne E. Shelley

Tax Parcel Number: 172 Tax Map Number: 22 Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Hereford Tower Project Agency: FCC

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is the property located within a historic district? no yes Name of district: _____

Is district listed? no yes Determined eligible? no yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form; Rotenstein 2000

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Ensor House is a two-story wood frame building constructed on a masonry wall foundation. Measuring three bays by three bays, this Italianate house has a shed roof front porch and two interior brick chimneys. The building's shed roof is clad by standing seam metal and the building is clad by asbestos shingles. Decorative elements include a two-light transom above the front entry and a bracketed cornice pediment. There are several additions to the house, including a rear shed roof addition and side (north) addition. Also, there is a rear wood deck and wood stairs.

Although the MIHP form completed in 1980 suggests that this building was constructed between ca. 1825 and 1833, its form and stylistic elements suggest a later date: ca. 1850-1870. The house, during the 1870s, was used as a hotel by owner Nathan Ensor. During the twentieth century, the building was converted into retail shops and services. In 1980, it housed a barbershop. Currently occupants include a restaurant and construction contractors. This property does not retain its architectural integrity and does not appear to be related to any significant individuals or events in Hereford's history. This property appears to be not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: David S. Rotenstein

Date Prepared: 09/07/2000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date
_____ Reviewer, NR program	_____ Date

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2048

Condition

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

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

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8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2048

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	performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	other:

Specific dates	ca. 1825-1950	Architect
Construction dates	1825-1833	Builder

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.)

Although the MIHP form completed in 1980 suggests that this building was constructed between ca. 1825 and 1833, its form and stylistic elements suggest a later date: ca. 1850-1870. The house, during the 1870s, was used as a hotel by owner Nathan Ensor. During the twentieth century, the building was converted into retail shops and services. In 1980, it housed a barbershop. Currently occupants include a restaurant and construction contractors. This property does not retain its architectural integrity and does not appear to be related to any significant individuals or events in Hereford's history. This property appears to be not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2048

Name Ensor House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Historic Period Theme(s):

Resource Type:

Category:

Historic Environment

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Known Design Source:

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2048

Baltimore County Council (1991); Brooks, N. A., and E. G. Rockel (1979); Clemens and Clemens (1983); McGrain (1980)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>13,987 sq. ft.</u>		
Acreage of historical setting	<u>13,987 sq. ft.</u>		
Quadrangle name	<u>Hereford, MD</u>	Quadrangle scale	<u>1:24,000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries for this property conform to the tax parcel boundary: Map 22, Parcel 172.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>David S. Rotenstein, Ph.D./Historian</u>		
organization	<u>URS/Dames & Moore</u>	date	<u>09/07/2000</u>
street and number	<u>7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700</u>	telephone	<u>301-652-221</u>
city or town	<u>Bethesda</u>	state	<u>MD</u> zipcode <u>20814-4870</u>

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



SHELLEY

16947

BA-2048

1/2

Ensor House

Costa Barbershop

16947 York Road

Baltimore County, Maryland

David S. Rotenstein

8/22/00

MD SHPO

View of the Ensor House, to the
northeast.

044 NNNN - 09.06.00



BA-2048

2/2

Enson House

Costa Barbershop

16947 York Road

Baltimore County, Maryland

David S. Rotenstein

8/22/2000

MD SHPO

View of the rear of the Enson House,
to the north west.

BA 2048

ENSOR HOUSE/ COSTA BARBERSHOP

1825-1833

HEREFORD

PRIVATE

The Costa-Dwelling and barbershop stands on a lot that has been a consistent 14,000-square-foot size since Solomon Foster sold to Marahb H. Foster in 1837 for \$300, a price that would have permitted a modest town house. This seems to be one of the houses marked on the 1850 map by J.C. Sidney. Nathan G. Ensor bought it in 1867, and appears in the 1877 atlas; the 1878 state directory listed him as a hotel keeper. A substantial dwelling house was advertised that year when Ensor was in financial difficulties. It later belonged to Arthur S. Carman, a tinner. John Costa, a barber, acquired it in 1940. This is a flat-roofed, Victorian Italianate commercial building of two stories, with bright green composition shingles, an elaborate entablature, including Italianate bracketing. If this house existed in 1833 or before, it was probably been much improved from its original state before becoming a hotel.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC ENSOR HOUSE

03/21/1981

AND/OR COMMON

Costa Barbershop

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

16,947 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Hereford

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

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 checked="" 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME John Costa

Telephone #: 357-5284

STREET & NUMBER

16,947 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Monkton

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21111

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 1088

Folio #: 301

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

NONE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED (?)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

The Ensor-Costa House or Shop is an L-shaped, two-story, flat-roofed Italianate-Victorian commercial building designed to provide dwelling space on the second floor. This structure may be a house of c. 1825, heavily reworked in Victorian style, or it may be a replacement structure built new about 1870. It consists of a two-story main block three bays wide, a two-story rear wing, and a one-story, north wing containing the barber shop.

The main block is three bays wide, two bays deep on the south, four bays deep on the north. There is a full-width front porch, shed-roofed, supported by four square posts and two recessed posts, each decorated at the top with scroll brackets. The porch has a plain architrave, a cornice, and Italianate bracketing. The deck is three steps above grade. The space under the deck is screened by concrete block in-fill. The posts rest on stone piers. Porch railing is wrought iron, of severe contemporary design.

The dwelling entrance is in the middle door, which is provided with a large, one-sheet glass light; there is also a protective screen and storm door of aluminum, recent vintage. The windows on either side are floor-to-ceiling types of 4-over-4 double-hung sash types, flanked by decorative shutters of vertically aligned board.

The three upper windows of the main block are 2-over-1 double-hung sash types.

The house is topped by a decorative architrave, cornice, and heavy Italianate bracketing, which also continues around on both sidewalls for their entire depth.

The long leg of the "L" is four bays deep, all available positions filled with windows similar to the others. The short side of the "L" is two bays deep, all four possible positions filled with typical windows; the two windows at first-story south level are fitted with aluminum awnings. In the inner angle between the legs of the "L", there is a one-story, shed-roofed, enclosed porch formed with contemporary aluminum frame windows and a side door.

The entire house is covered with green composition shingles. The shed-roofed, one-room barber shop is tacked on the north end of the house, flush with the front wall. It is two bays on the street facade. The entrance is a gable-roofed vestibule with a 1-over-1 sash window facing

the street. The window is flanked by traditional lighted barber poles mounted on brackets; the door faces the south. The main window of the shop is a very long plate glass window in a heavy wooden frame. The street facade has an architrave, cornice, and brackets similar to the main block. The wing stands on a stone foundation. The main foundation is quite low, of stone, heavily coated with paint.

Mrs. Howard conveyed to George N. Howard in 1919, and George Howard and wife conveyed to George A. Bull in 1923. (13) The Bulls conveyed to John E. and Ada Foster in 1926 and the place passed to W. Delamere Akehurst and wife in 1931 and to the present owner, John Costa, in 1940.

Mr. Costa operates Johnny's Barber Shop on the ground floor. There has apparently been a valuable house on this lot since some point between 1823 and 1825, but the Italianate style of the structure raises the question of whether an entirely new building replaced the 1825 structure during the Victorian era. This is very likely the "comfortable and substantial dwelling house" lost through default by Nathan G. Ensor in 1878. None of the tax lists contain the clue needed to prove that Ensor's flat-roofed "town house" replaced any more rural structure of early Hereford.

NOTES:

1. Baltimore City Deeds, TK 278:280.
2. Baltimore City Deeds, AWB 468:384.
3. Baltimore City Deeds, AWB 468:368.
4. Baltimore County Deeds, JB 86:246.
5. Frank Lewis & Co., Maryland Directory (Baltimore, 1878), p. 530.
6. Maryland Journal, Towson, March 16, 1878, p. 4.
7. Assessor's Field Book, District 7, 1876, n.p.
8. B.C. Deeds, WMI 147:152.
9. B.C. Deeds, WMI 146:261.
10. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1896, Entry #133-26.
11. B.C. Deeds, WPC 433:537.
12. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1818, f. 567.
13. B.C. Deeds, WPC 567:304.

BA-2048

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

ENSOR HOUSE

Baltimore County Deed Books and Tax Lists.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14,000 sq. feet

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Rectangular parcel fronting 70 feet on eastside of York Road with even depth of 200 feet.

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

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore County Office of Planning & Zoning

DATE

March 14, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

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



ENSOR HOUSE (COSTA BARBER SHOP)
Balto. Co., Md. BA 2048
J. McGrain, Oct 1979
Neg. located at MHT
Main (west) facade & north wing



ENSOR HOUSE (COSTA BARBER SHOP)
Balto. Co., Md. BA 2048
J. McGrain, OCT 1979
Neg. located at MHT
South facade & main (W) facade



ENSOR HOUSE (COSTA BARBER SHOP)
Balto. Co., Md. BA 2048
J. McGrain, OCT 1979
Neg. located at MHT
Cornice & SW corner of bldg