

D-54

Monsieur's Folly

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) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 07-21-2003

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Monsieur's Folly				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Rt. 343, .1 mile east of Castle Haven Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Dorchester	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <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: Frederick F. Davis				
STREET AND NUMBER: RFD 3				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge			STATE: Maryland 21613	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Dorchester County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: High Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge			STATE: Maryland 21613	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 186/61				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
<p>Monsieur's Folly is one of the larger houses of the neck district. It is located on LeCompte Creek. It is a two and one-half story frame structure, two bays deep, with a two story wing. Both portions of the house are three bays long but the entrance door is in the larger part.</p> <p>On the first floor are, from west to east, two windows, the door, and then three more windows. On the second floor there are three windows in each part. There is no separation in the facade; the beaded clapboard runs uninterrupted throughout the facade. The front door has sidelights and transom and it probably had a porch originally.</p> <p>The windows on the first floor have 2/2 sash and paneled shutters. The windows on the second floor have 6/6 sash and paneled shutters. The shutters are of 20th century date. Both sections have a wood shingle roof stained spanish brown. On the larger portion are two dormers with "A" roofs.</p> <p>The most outstanding feature is the chimney on the west gable. Since the building is two rooms deep, it has fireplaces in each of the first and second story rooms, but unlike the usual arrangement, with two vertical stacks, the two stacks join at the second floor and continue in one stack. This juncture is supported by a large semicircular arch between the two stacks. A comparable chimney exists on the Hallie Seward House.(D-79)</p> <p>On the gable, flanking the chimney are two 6/6 sash windows. A one story screened porch stretches across the creek side of the larger portion of the house. Behind the lower wing of the house, set at right angles thereto is a 2-story hyphen connected to a one story kitchen. The chimney, which formerly stood on the north gable, has been removed and replaced with a series of windows. On the east side of the kitchen is an enclosed porch and on the east gable of the house is a block pump and furnace house.</p> <p>The floor plan is like the typical town house, containing a stair hall with two parlors on one side. On the other side is a large dining room. The latter room, from evidence in the foundation and roof, was the original house and probably was a hall and parlor house of eighteenth century date. Behind the dining room is a corridor with stair and laundry room and the kitchen. The majority of the woodwork is original to the period of about 1820-30.</p>						

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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 checked="" 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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Monsieur's Folly is one of the most significant farmhouses of the late Federal period. Its chimney is outstanding and probably remains because of the footing which is composed of the vein of stone which runs north - south in the upper part of the county. It is also one of the largest frame buildings of the period in the county. Archeologically, more information can be gathered concerning the construction of the wing, but this would require a more thorough investigation of the building as well as the records.

The property was patented in the 1660's and adjoins the early patented lands of Anthony LeCompte.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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:

Acreage Justification:

Tax Map 19, p. 21
95.63 acres

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant		
ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust		DATE May, 1975
STREET AND NUMBER: Shaw House, 21 State Circle		
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE Maryland	21401

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

2 SHOTS: (2.5) @ 147% (D-54) @ 50% .25x1.43 D-54



Monsieur's Folly

D-54

M. Bourne May 1975