

HA-111
MOTZ HOUSE
Havre de Grace, Md.

c. 1838

One of the most interesting structures in the northern end of Havre de Grace is the Motz House. It is located one block from the Susquehanna River near the terminus of the Susquehanna and Tidewater canal. The ground floor is constructed of brick while the second story is frame. The main section has a two story porch across it under a gable flank roof. A two story shed roof addition, presently used as the street entrance, joins the rear of the main section and extends beyond it by a few feet on the north side. A large cooking fireplace is found on the second floor supported by an arch in the ceiling below it. Hand hewn, pegged timbers are visible in the framing of the roof; these timbers are believed to be salvage material from the burning of the town by the British in 1813.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Motz House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

715 North Stokes

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input 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 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 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

J.C. Fisher Motz

Telephone #: 939-1525

STREET & NUMBER

715 North Stokes

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21078

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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 Motz House is a two and a half story, four bay dwelling with a two story shed addition on the rear. Now serving as the front of the house, the addition extends approximately three and a half feet beyond the north side of the main section. The first story is constructed of common bond brick-painted red, and the upper stories are frame, covered with aluminum siding. The attractive appearance and excellent condition of the house is the result of extensive restoration done on it by the present owner. The house is located at 715 N. Stokes St., facing west, in the center of a large well tended lot, bordered by Water St. on the east, Erie St. on the north and a few large storage tanks used for chemical fertilizer. The view from the rear (east) are visible on the south side includes the Susquehanna River and the sailing marina on Water as well as storage industrial tanks facilities.

Across the west front is a one story, four bay porch with a shed roof supported by plain posts. On the river or east side is an open two story, two bay porch, supported by plain wooden posts. It is recessed under the roof and extends across the entire elevation.

Windows are arranged evenly on the facade. Throughout the house they have 6/6 light, double hung sash; some window openings were added by the present owner. A 9/9 light window is visible in a photograph of the South elevation taken before the house was restored.

On the west front, the house has two entrances, one in either end. Both doors are six paneled, but the north door has six lights in the upper panel. On the river front, the doors have six panels also. They are contained in the south bays; the door on the second story has a three light transom above it.

The main section has a gable flank roof, with the ridge running north to south. While the shed roof of the addition joins the main section on the south side, the north side of the addition extends beyond the main section. This gives the lower shed roof a distinctive and separate appearance from the higher gable roof behind it. Both roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The chimney on the north elevation, main section is of particular interest. On that the elevation, the brick part of the wall forms the shape of the letter L. The upper part of the L extends into the second story where a large fireplace is located. The chimney itself is a medium size, rectangular brick chimney rising from within the end wall. On the west front a small chimney rises from the center of the shed roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1838 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This two and a half story brick and frame house has a gable roof on the main section and an addition with a shed roof joining it. Because the street is closest to it on the west side, the house is entered through the shed addition. The lines of the house are unusual. The west elevation of the shed addition extends approximately three and a half feet beyond the north elevation of the main section, forming two separate roof lines while the south elevation has a salt box profile. The north end of town was laid out and developed later than the center was. And this may explain why the house does not really lie parallel with any of the streets around it. The construction of the house supports an early (early to mid 19th century) date of construction. The roof beams are hand hewn and pegged and according to the owner, hand wrought nails were used to fasten the split wood shingles which covered the roof before they were replaced with asphalt. Possibly the house was constructed of salvage material dating from the 1918 burning of the town by the British. The second floor of the house is also interesting. A high ceiling and a fireplace make it appear that family life took place there while the first floor with a supporting arch in the ceiling, for the fireplace above it, was used as commercial space.

Many interesting examples of early to mid 19th century architecture are found in the northern end of "Avre de Grace. Among those that may have pre-dated the opening in 1840 of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal are the Wollen Double House (Ha-835), The Barnes-Hopper House (HA-832), The McCabe House (Ha-830) and the Motz House.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. Christopher Motz-May 17, 1977

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marion Morton-Historic Sites Surveyor

May 19, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland

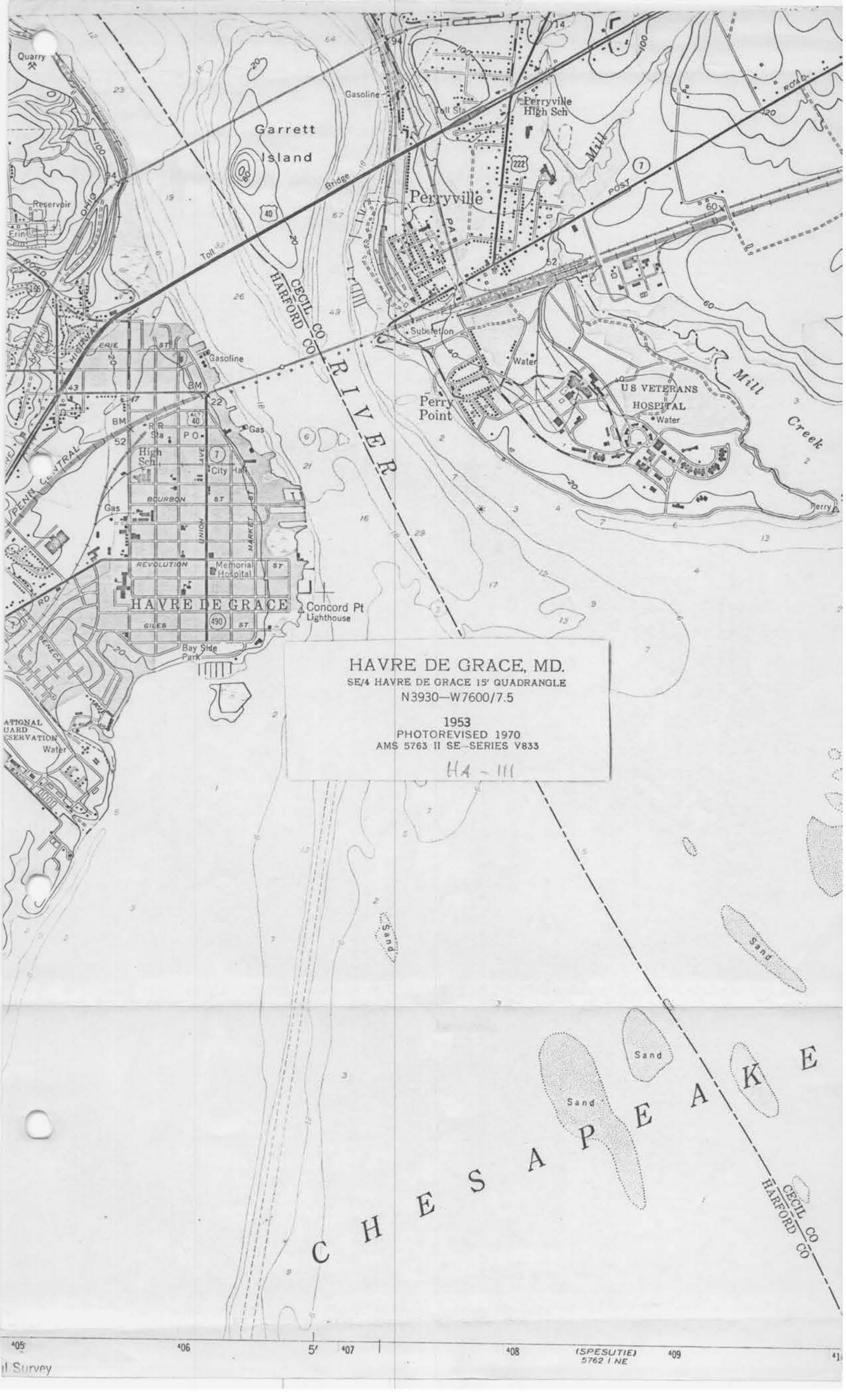
STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Interior: The first floor has no particular plan; it is one and a half rooms deep and the stairs on the north wall were added by present owner. At the ceiling on the north wall of the living room is a supporting arch for the large brick fireplace above, it, on the second floor. Because the fireplace and the higher ceiling are on the second floor perhaps the first floor, heated by a stove, was used for commercial purposes. The beams in the second floor ceiling, main section, have been exposed; once plastered over they contain marks of hand and machine tools. In the attic, the construction of the roof with hand hewn pegged timbers, is evident.



HAVRE DE GRACE, MD.
 SE/4 HAVRE DE GRACE 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3930-W7600/7.5
 1953
 PHOTOREVISED 1970
 AMS 5763 II SE-SERIES V833
 HA-III



Motz House
715 N. Stokes St.
Hauere de Grace, Md.
southeast elevation

HA-III

Marion Norton

May 19, 1977



Motz House HA-111
715 N. Stokes St.
Hawne de Grace

N.W. Elev.

Marion Morton
5/1977