The Klair and Sheaffer houses are the best examples (although in very poor condition) of the late Carpenter Gothic style as it was expressed in modest dwellings in Havre de Grace. The houses display most of the decorative features, that are seen on larger dwellings of the same era. The houses, having such features as stained glass window transom, Eastlake porches and on the Sheaffer house only, a patterned slate roof, are two and a half stories high and two bays wide with a center gable rising from a flat front.
**1 NAME**

**HISTORIC**

AND/OR COMMON

Klair House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

611 Franklin Street

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

George W. Klair

STREET & NUMBER

743 Ontario Street

CITY, TOWN

Havre de Grace

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21078

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

Registry of Deeds, etc.

Harford County

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
### DESCRIPTION

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**DESCRIPTION**

**EXCELLENT**, **GOOD**, **FAIR**, **RUINS**, **UNEXPOSED**

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

611 Franklin Street is a two and a half story two bay wide frame dwelling with a gable flank roof, having a center gable on the front. Sided with aluminum, the house is yellow with brown trim and has a two story wing on the rear. A brick foundation underlies the main section and the wing. The structure faces south on Franklin Street with the Cameron-Currier Livery Stables (HA-1104) on the east and a house almost identical to it on the west side.

Extending across the front is a two bay Eastlake style porch with a shed roof. Butterfly wing scroll brackets flank the turned posts which support the roof. Having a plain fence railing, the porch is entered from the east side.

A large rectangular 1/1 light double hung sash window with a delicately executed stained glass transom is in the west bay, south elevation. On the second floor, the windows contain 2/2 light double hung sash with wide board enframements, consistent on all elevations.

The main entrance is in the west bay of the front elevation. A four paneled door with glass in the upper panel is topped with a one light transom.

The house has a gable flank roof which is covered with asphalt shingles; pendants are present on the gable ends and the roof has a plain box cornice. The two story wing has a gable roof with an interior brick chimney located on the rear.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**
The Klaire House (HA-1161) and the Sheaffer House (HA-1162) are almost identical late Carpenter Gothic cottages standing next to each other. Despite their shabby and neglected appearance, it is obvious that they are the most complete examples of small sized late Carpenter Gothic cottage architecture with Eastlake ornamentation in Havre de Grace. Between them, the two houses display most of the decorative features that are seen on larger dwellings of the same era. Two and a half stories high and two bays wide, both houses have flat fronts with center gables rising from them; the front gable on the Sheaffer House retains its bargeboard with an Eastlake incised in it. Both houses have a large rectangular window on the front of the first floor containing a stained glass transom, an unusual feature for modest cottages such as these. In addition, both dwellings have Eastlake style porches with turned posts, ornamental friezes and brackets, and the Sheaffer house has kept its patterned slate roof.

The blocks of Franklin St. between N. Union Ave. and N. Adams St. are one of the most architecturally rich, interesting and neglected areas of Havre de Grace. This area provides a quick lesson in the history of 19th century architecture containing as it does a brick Federal style townhouse (HA-1105), a frame Greek Revival Church with a Gothic Revival porch (HA1109), a livery stable (HA-1104), several notable examples of Gothic Revival architecture (HA-1158,1161,1162), a early twentieth century commercial building with a tin front (HA-1159), a dwelling built in the Second Empire style (HA-1160) and a house with Italianate influence which is joined by a corner store (HA-1174).
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
Klaire House
611 Franklin St
Havre de Grace

South Facade

Marion Morton
11/76
Klair House
611 Franklin Street
Havre de Grace

porch + window detail

Marion Morton
11/74