

HA-798
ELIZABETH RODGERS HOUSE
Havre de Grace, Md.

c. late 18th century-1788

The Elizabeth Rodgers House is a two and a half story, three bay, brick dwelling with a Flemish bond facade. Unfortunately the small Georgian townhouse has been gutted on the first floor and no exterior or interior features remain there. However, the second and third floors have only been moderately altered. The architecture of the building is typical of brick urban dwelling of the 18th and early 19th century, but it is unique to Havre de Grace, where it is believed to be the oldest building to have survived the burning of the town by the British in 1813.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Elizabeth Rodgers House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

226 N. Washington St.

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 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 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

Bessie Marcus and Marion Kramer

Telephone #: 358-2696

STREET & NUMBER

7236 Park Heights Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore, Maryland

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

21208

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County

Liber #: 961

Folio #: 687

STREET & NUMBER

Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland

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 type="checkbox"/> _EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> _DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> _UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> _MOVED	DATE_____
<input type="checkbox"/> _GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> _RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _ALTERED			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> _UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

226 N. Washington St. is a two and a half story, three bay brick dwelling. Erected in the late 18th century, this small Georgian townhouse has a Flemish bond facade-painted beige, and common bond flanks. The house now used as a drugstore, faces east on N. Washinton St., in a middle of a block of commercial buildings; buildings abutting it on both sides. The outline of the building which once stood near to it is visible on the north elevation.

The first floor has been gutted to provide commercial space and a long one story metal additional extends from the rear wall.

Windows on the second floor have 2/2 light double hung peagged sash and retain wide jambs typical of the 18th century. Two plate glass display windows flank a pair of glass and metal doors in the center of the first floor.

The house has a gable flank roof covered with asphalt shingles. Two dormers are on the front and back of the roof; they have triangular pediments and the windows have been boarded over. A large brick chimney rises from the north wall. A simple molded box cornice is present on the front of the roof.

Interior: This description refers to the second and third floors. On the second floor, the house has a side hall plan with open string stairs with a ramped walnut handrail rising to the third floor. The second floor is divided into many small rooms, all the fireplaces are blocked off and mantels removed. Six panel doors with large pegs in the stiles are found in a few of the rooms. The third floor, comprising three rooms and a hall, appears to be relatively unchanged, chairrails and baseboards remaining in all the rooms.

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 checked="" 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)	local history	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1788

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elizabeth Rodgers House is a two and a half story, three bay, brick dwelling with a Flemish bond facade, c. 1788. Unfortunately the small Georgian townhouse has been gutted on the first floor and no exterior or interior features remain there. However, the second and third floors have only been moderately altered. The architecture of the building is typical of brick urban dwellings of the 18th and early 19th century, but it is unique to Havre de Grace, where it is believed to be the oldest building to have survived the burning of the town by the British in 1813.

The historical significance of the building is due to its age, c. 1788, which makes it possibly the oldest structure in Havre de Grace and its ownership by the Rodgers family. John Rodgers is best known as the proprietor of Rodgers tavern in Perryville (on the east bank of the Susquehanna River, directly across from Havre de Grace) and as the father of Commodore John Rodger's, the founder of the American Navy.

John Rodgers is first mentioned as a resident of Harford County in three connections; he was granted an ordinary or tavern license in 1774 with Aquilla Hall and Jeremiah Sheredine as surities, was Captain of the 5th Company of Milita in 1775, and was known to have run the Ferry at the Susquehanna Lower Ferry (the old pre-1882 name for Havre de Grace). The location of the tavern run by Rodgers in Havre de Grace is not known, but it was probably on the site of the Abraham Jarrett Thomas House (HA-790). Land Records provide some information about the house on N. Washington St. The house and lot were deeded to Elizabeth Rodger, widow of Colonel John Rodgers, in 1802, having been purchased by Colonel John Rodgers, on June 2, 1788 at a sherrif's sale for the sum of five facias. Although, according to the 1798, Tax List, Elizabeth Rodgers paid taxes on the house in 1798, she did not receive legal title to the house until fourteen years after her husband bought it. The house remained in the Rodgers family until 1881.

Those who traveled north or south on the old Post Road, crossed the Susquehanna River by a ferry which ran between Havre de Grace and what is now Perryville. Taverns and inns were found on both sides of the river to accomadate travelers. George Washington mentioned in his diaries staying at various places along this route. The majority of the entries in the General's diary, about this area, refer to his stays at Rodger's Tavern (Perryville), but one entry in particular seems to mean the house on N. Washington St., despite the fact that it is dated one year before the deed records the purchase of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

NA-95

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fitzpatrick, John C. ed., Diaries of George Washington-1748-1799, New York; publ. for the Mt. Vernon Ladies Association of the Union by Houghton Mifflin Co., 1925 (reference in report to V.3 p. 238)

Preston Walter A., History of Harford County, Balt, Press of Sun Book Office 1901

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 23, 1977

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Annapolis, Maryland

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

Significance (cont.)

Washington's diary reads "Thursday September 20th, 1787-Set off after an early breakfast, crossed the Susquehanna and dined at Havre de Grace at the house of one (Colonel) Rodgers, and lodged at Skirett's Tavern twelve miles short of Baltimore."

The restoration of this one building could serve as a significant beginning to a downtown revivlization program. The architectural style of the house, its historical associations, and its location-in the center of the C.B.D. and ore block west of the Susquehanna River, make the building one of the very most important in Havre de Grace.

Biographical References (cont.)

NA 798

Rodgers Record, vol. 1 no. 1, May 12, 1963, Perryville, Maryland

Shriver, Alexis, "Talk Given at the Unveiling of the Historical Marker at
Rodger's Tavern, Perryville, Maryland" Oct. 15, 1932

1798 U.S. Direct Tax Assesment

Land Records-Elizabeth Rodgers House

HDC 961 689 Oct. 30, 1974
Grantors: Bessie H. Marcus and Marian Kramer
Grantees: Hub Realty

JAR 155 295 May 14, 1917
Grantor: Elizabeth Hecht
Grantee: Leo Hoofman
Lot 103, sq. 249 \$3,300.00

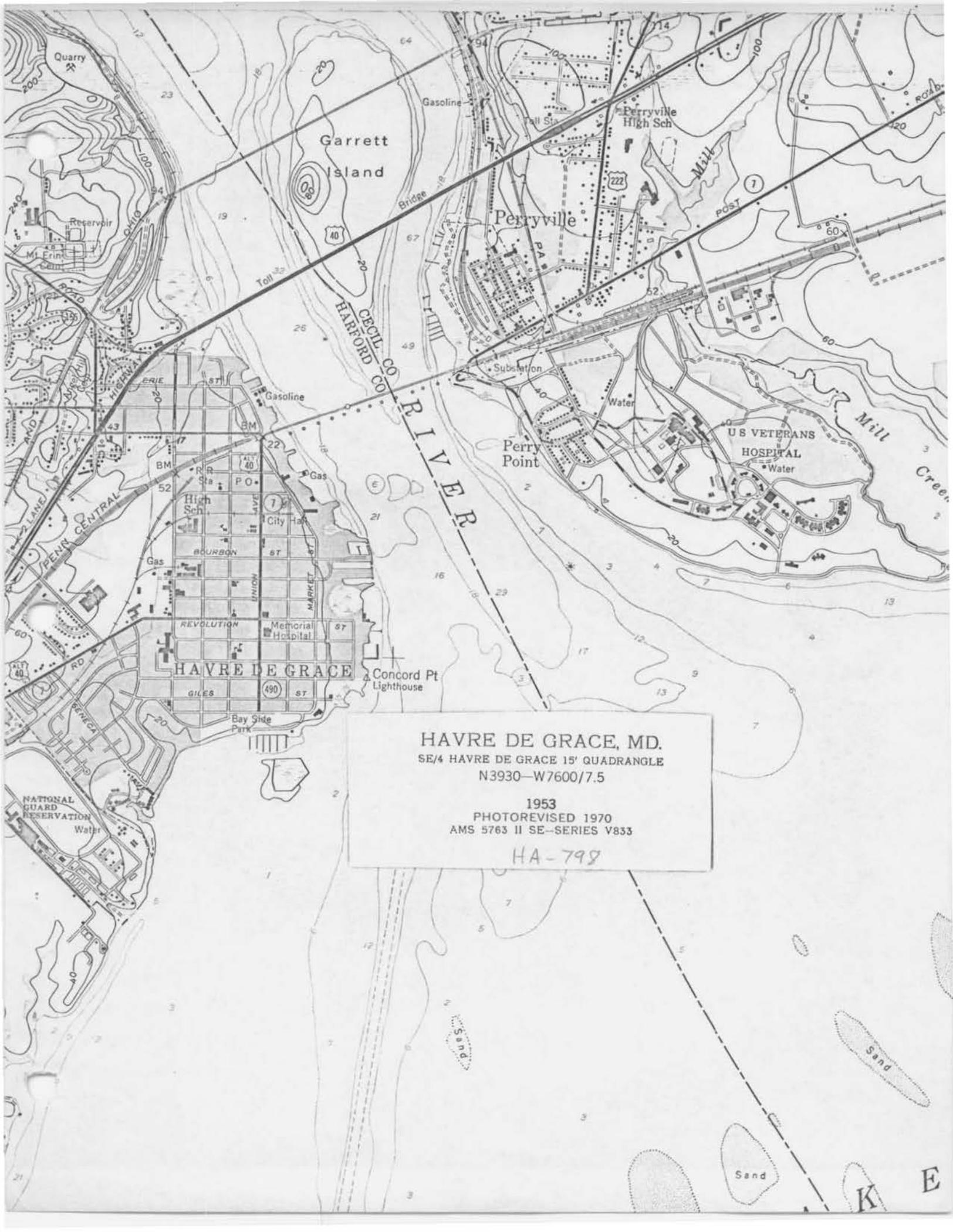
WSF 102 238 August 2, 1901
Grantor: Otho Green
Grantee: Issac Hecht

ALJ 56 228 April 9, 1886
Grantor: Jesse Hilles
Grantee: Otho Green

ALJ 44 149 Sept. 13, 1881
Grantors: John and Robert Rodgers, exeutors of Minerva
Rodgers
Grantee: Jess Hilles
60' running back 200' to an alley facing the second lot form the corner
of Green Street. \$1,400.00

HD 6 220 Nov. 18, 1822
Grantor: Howes Goldsborough, administrator of Elizabeth Rodgers
Grantee: John Rodgers
\$2,500.00

HD Q 69 June 21, 1802
Grantor: Robert Amos, Sheriff
Grantee: Elizabeth Rodgers
House and lot were purchased by her late husband, Colonel John Rodger's
at a sherrifs sale in August, 1788, for five facias.



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-798



BENESCH'S

SALE-LEASE
J. FAIR, Realty
939-4441
BUSINESS

SALE-LEASE
BUSINESS

REIAD'S
PROPERTY AND MEDICAL SERVICES

S.W. NATIONAL

Elizabeth Rogers Hae. H-1-798
226 N. Washington St.
Havre De Grace
East Facade
Marion Morton May, 1977.

✓



NESCH'S

THE ARTS AND BEAUTY AND MEDICINES

READ'S

BEER and WINES

SALE & LEASE
A.J. FAIR, REALTY

5.10

Elizabeth Rogers Hse. HA-798
226 N. Washington St.
Harre De Grace
East Facade
Marion Morton May 1977

8



WHAT TO BUY
HOW TO BUY
MEDICINES

READ'S

LUNCHETTE
BEER & WINES

5.10 NAT

ELIZABETH RODGERS HA-798
HOUSE
226 N. WASHINGTON ST
Havre de Grace
Northeast elev.
Marion Morton May 1977

9