

HA-543  
CARVER-COBURN HOUSE  
Havre de Grace, Md.

c. 1860

The Carver-Coburn House is one of several two story, five bay frame dwellings with hipped roofs constructed in Havre de Grace in the 1860's. All of them combine elements of both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The Carver-Coburn House is in excellent condition today. The symmetrical fenestration of the principal facade, the Greek Revival porch balanced by the thoughtfully placed addition in the 1930's and its well cared for appearance make it one of the most attractive houses in Havre de Grace.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Carver-Cobourn House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

453 Congress Ave.

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Havre de Grace

— VICINITY OF

6

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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

Clarence F. Cobourn

Telephone #: 939-2211

STREET & NUMBER

453 Congress Ave.

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Havre de Grace

— VICINITY OF

Md.

21078

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 305

Folio #: 238

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Bel Air.

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

HA 543

# 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 Carver-Cobourn House is a two-story, five bay, rectangular, frame dwelling with an old two-story, two-bay by one bay wing on the rear. Flanking the wing are two sheds. The main block, a combination of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles, probably built between 1855 and 1862, faces south at 453 Congress Avenue. It is set back from the street with a spacious yard in front of it as well as a garden containing boxwood at the rear.

The building, in excellent condition, is clapboard, painted white with green trim. The clapboards on the old wing have been replaced. The foundation under the main block is stucco over stone; on the wing the foundation is rubble.

Three porches are on the main block. A one-bay porch with a flat roof supported by square pillars shelters the entrance on the facade. In 1930, the porch on the west wall, similar to that on the front, and the enclosed sun porch on the east wall were added.

Tall (6') windows having 6/6 light double-hung pegged sash, flanked by louvered shutters are arranged evenly on the first and second floor of the facade. The fenestration pattern on the flanks and rear, also having 6/6 light sash, is irregular. On the old wing the windows are smaller and some old glass remains.

The entrance is located in the central bay of the facade. A door of two vertical panels is flanked by three light sidelights with a rectangular transom above it.

The main block has a slate covered hip roof with overhanging eaves and a bracketed cornice. The brick interior end chimneys have corbelled caps. The old wing has a gable roof of medium pitch with no chimneys remaining on it.

To the east of the house is a board and batten barn with a loft that has been converted into a garage.

### Interior:

Internally the main block is two rooms across with a two part central hall. Open string stairs are on the west wall of the hall. On the east wall, east room is a slate mantle with a marble finish. The fireplace on the west wall, west room has been removed to permit the addition of a door. In the old wing a six paneled door in the southeast corner leads to stairs to the second floor.

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

SPECIFIC DATES      C. 1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This two story, five bay, frame dwelling, combining on the main block features of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles, has a one room deep central hall plan, with an old wing on the rear. The old wing is a two story, two bay, gable roof structure with one room up and down. The ceilings in it are about 6' feet high, considerably lower than in the main block. There is no access from the second floor of the wing into the main house. As there are no fireplaces in the wing and the present owner removed a small chimney from the north wall, between the windows, the building was probably heated by Franklin stoves. The style of the buildings and land records suggest that the front was erected or extensively enlarged and remodeled around 1860 and the wing was built in the first decades of the 19th century.

For community planning almost any building located between Stokes Street and Market Street on Congress Ave. is of particular interest because of the historical and visual importance of the Avenue and its proximity to the Central Business District. In addition, Congress and Union Avenues are the only streets in town 132' wide; the others are 70'. The town was laid out by Robert Young Stokes in 1781. It was on Congress Avenue that sites were chosen in 1809 for the Market and Episcopal Church, whose construction was financed by lottery. Recently the City opened a small park overlooking the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay at the foot of Congress Avenue. In the 400 block of Congress Ave. are two other buildings included in this survey: The Silverstein House (HA-542), and the Lawder-Willis House (HA-1095). Each building, although different in material and style enhances the presence of its neighbor. The proximity of the C.B.D. means that whatever direction the revitalization of that area takes will have an effect on this neighborhood as well.

HA-543

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harford County Land Records HD 23 60  
Haudecoeur Map - C.P. Haudecoeur, Engineer, 1799  
Meigs Cornelia, A History Of St. Johns Church 1890-1959  
The Democratic Ledger, 1959  
**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, Architectural Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust

November 15, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Annapolis,

Md.

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

Carver-Cobourn House

Land Records

GRG 305 238 May 3, 1947  
Grantor: Edith Carver, widow  
Grantees: Clarence F. Cobourn and Edith, his wife  
Being part of lot 158 and 167 in sq. 250

JAR 145 303 July 13, 1914  
Grantors: Blanche G. Morgan and husband  
Grantees: J.W. Carver and Edith, his wife

ALJ 67 432 March 14, 1890  
Grantor: Mary Isabel Williams, only child and heir at law of Keziah Williams  
Grantee: Blanche Morgan  
\$1415.00

WRG 13 123 May 15, 1862  
Grantors: Thomas M. Elliot and wife  
Grantee: Keziah M. Williams  
\$1,500.00

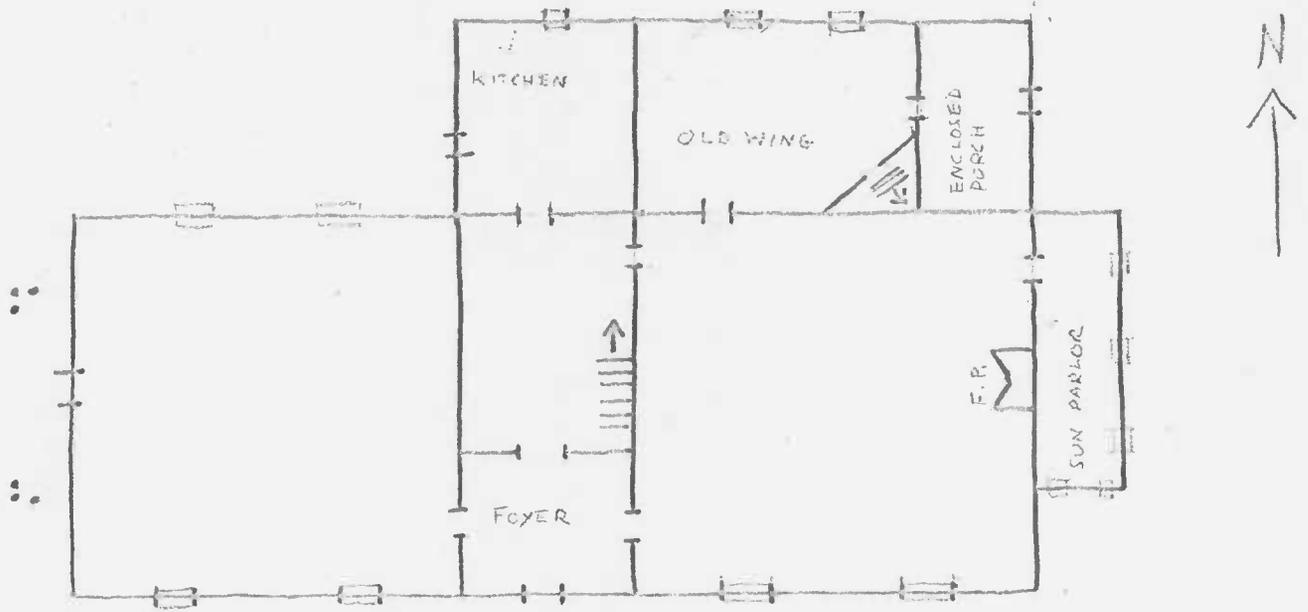
WG 13 121 June 15, 1855  
Grantors: Lewis Herbst and Mina, his wife  
Grantee: Thomas Elliot  
\$300.00

ALJ 41 230 May 9, 1854  
Grantor: Henry D. Farandis, trustee  
Grantee: William S. Boyd  
\$250.00 Equity Case Stephen Boyd, claimant, John Boyd, defendant involving the estate of William Boyd. Lot 158 and 167.

HD 27 54 November 20, 1839  
Grantor: Samuel Blackwell  
Grantee: William Boyd  
two lots - 158 and 167, tenements mentioned.

HD 23 60 September 11, 1839  
Grantor: James Carter  
Grantee: Samuel Blackwell  
26 lots, 158 and 167 among them.

HA-543



# CARVER-COBOURN HOUSE

APPROXIMATE FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
NOT TO SCALE



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-543

K E



HA-543  
CARVER-COBURN HOUSE

SOUTH FACADE

453 Congress Ave. Havre de Grace

Marion Morton Nov. 1976



HA-543

CARVER-COBURN HOUSE

NORTHEAST ELEV. (WING)

453 Congress Ave.

Marion Martin Nov. 76