

137.1571

HA-1164  
QUIRK HOUSE  
Havre de Grace, Md.

c. 1850's

Although very small in size and in very delapidated condition, the Quirk House has a curious sort of dignity. The dwelling is two bays wide one bay deep and two and a half stories high; it is frame, covered with brown shingles, and has a gable roof with a dormer, having a triangular pediment, in the center. A collapsing Greek Revival portico shelters the entrance.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Quirk House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

550 Congress Ave.

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 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 checked="" 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

Michael H. Quirk

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

550 Congress Ave.

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, Md.

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL    \_\_\_ STATE    \_\_\_ COUNTY    \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NA-1164

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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

550 Congress Avenue is a two and a half story two bay by two bay frame dwelling (c.1858) with a two story wing flush with the rear wall. Built in a vernacular Federal style, the house is in very poor condition and covered with brown wood shingles. The front of the dwelling faces north on Congress Ave., while the east elevation runs along Freedom Alley.

The Greek Revival portico sheltering the entrance in the east bay, front elevation is in perilous condition. It has a flat roof with a molded cornice, dentil band and a plain frieze barely supported by square pillars with balustrades-most of their balusters missing, on each side. The porch's wood floor is also falling in.

Windows of uniform size are evenly spaced on the front and east elevation. They contain 6/6 light sash. The wing has the same sash as the main section, and the west elevation, main section is windowless.

The main entrance is in the east bay, front elevation. The door, consisting of two vertical panels, is framed by narrow boards with a one light above.

The house has an asphalt shingled gable flank roof with overhanging boxed eaves. A single dormer with a triangular pediment is at the center of the roof; it contains 6/6 lights. A small brick chimney is inside the west end of the north slope, main section, and the wing has an unusually large rectangular brick center chimney.

The house has a back yard and there are no outbuildings.

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)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      c. 1850's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This very small, very delapidated two and a half story two bay by two bay brown shingle house has an incongrous air of dignity. Perhaps this is because of the collapsing Greek Revival entrance portico or the boxwood bushes in front. The house is covered by a gable flank roof with a single dormer, having a triangular pediment, in the center, and a large rectangular brick chimney is on the rear wing. Most of the block in which the house is located (bounded by four churches) is well maintained. Everything about this house seems to say take me and fix me up before it is too late.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

July 26, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

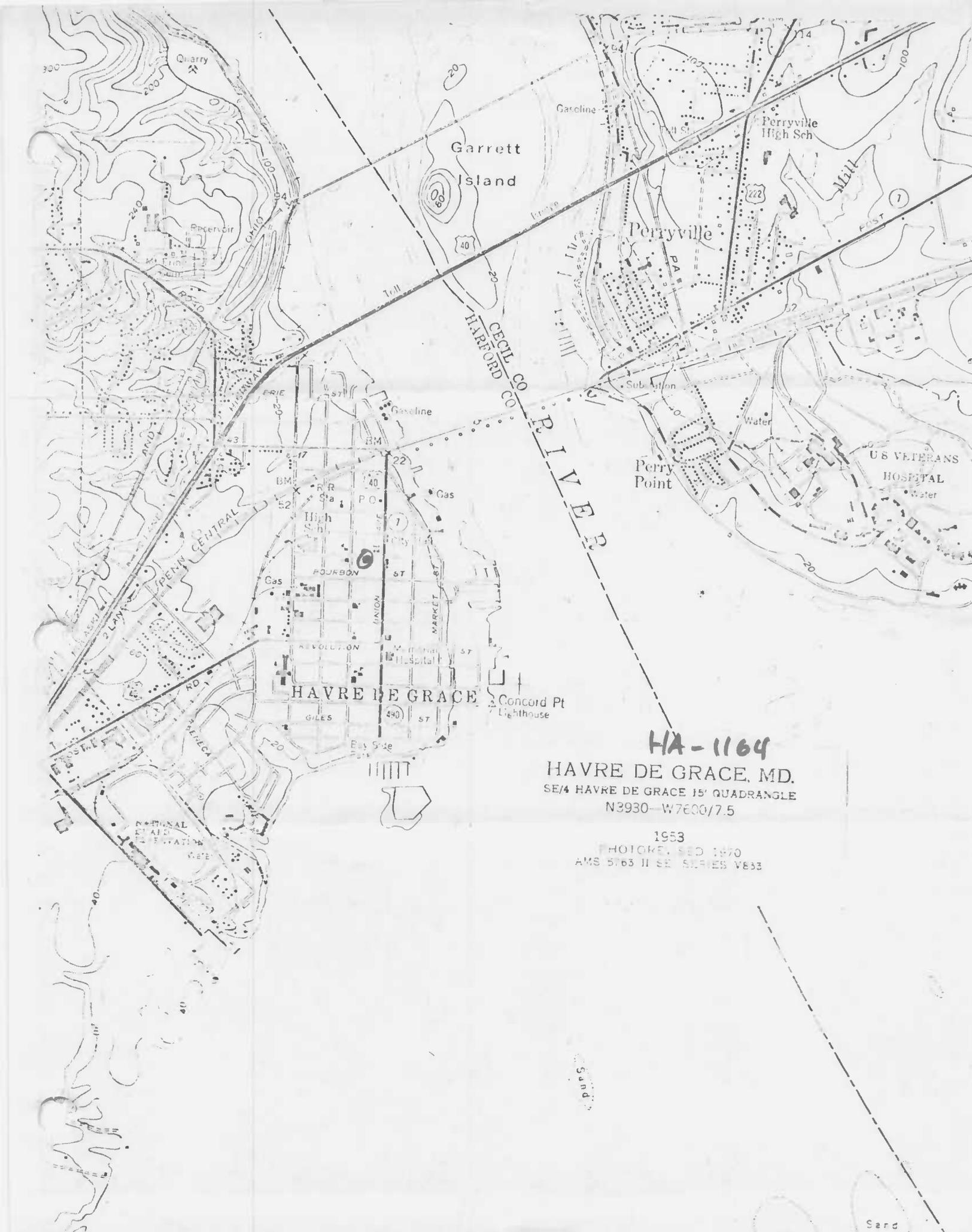
Annapolis, Md.

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



HA-1164  
 HAVRE DE GRACE, MD.  
 SE/4 HAVRE DE GRACE 15' QUADRANGLE  
 N3930-W7600/7.5

1953  
 PHOTOGRAPHED 1970  
 AMS 5763 II SE SERIES V633



Quirk House  
N. E.

HA-1164

Quirk House  
550 Congress Ave  
Hawne de Grace

N. E. Elev.

Marion Morton  
6/1977



Quirk House  
North f.

HA-1164  
Quirk House  
550 Congress Ave  
Haver de Grace

N Facade

Marion Morton  
6/1977