

HA-1180  
MASONIC TEMPLE BUILDING  
Havre de Grace, Md.

c. 1907

The Masonic Temple Building is the largest commercial building in the Central Business District. Three stories high (on the front) and seven bays wide, it is a polygonal structure built in 1907 in a vernacular Renaissance Revival style. Two other buildings in Havre de Grace are built in the Renaissance Revival style, popular in the early twentieth century; both are bank building built of stone.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Masonic Temple Building  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
215 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Susquehanna Lodge # 130 Telephone #:  
STREET & NUMBER  
American Free Masons 215 N. Washington St.  
CITY, TOWN  
Havre de Grace VICINITY OF  
STATE, zip code  
Md. 21078

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Harford County  
STREET & NUMBER  
Main St.  
CITY, TOWN  
Bel Air, Md.  
STATE

Liber #:  
Folio #:

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
DATE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN  
STATE  
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

**7 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

213 N. Washington St. is a three story seven bay wide brick commercial <sup>building</sup> which was erected in 1907. Because of restrictions imposed on the builder by the shape of the lot the structure has an unusual five sided shape. It faces west on Washington St. at the intersection of St. John St. The front and slanted north elevations of the building are laid in alternating rows of all stretcher brick while the south elevation and rear are common bond. The design of the facade was influenced by the Renaissance Revival style. It has large brick quoins on the first story and smaller scale grey brick quoins on the second and third stories and a heavy molded entablature with a pulvinated frieze over the first story: in addition the fenestration of the center bay is larger scale and given more elaborate treatment than the other bays. On all sides of the building the trim painted yellow. Jewellery and gift shops are on the first floor, vacant office space is on the second and the Mason's meeting and banquet rooms are on the third. In the mid 1950's a brick elevator shaft was added to the front of the north elevation.

Windows are spaced evenly on the facade. The first story has two sets of plate glass display windows projecting slightly from the front elevation. The lower part of the shop front has been replaced with brick and a band of pressed tin covers a steel girder that was installed above the shop front in the mid 1950's. With the exception of the center bay windows, all of the windows on the second and third stories are the same. They have 1/1 light sash within rectangular openings, grey brick flat arches with projecting keystones, and grey brick sills. Each of the center bay windows is divided into three parts with a large rectangle in the center and smaller openings on either side; the second floor window is rectangular and has a sandstone panel over it, while the window on the third floor is a segmental arch topped with a grey brick relieving arch with a projecting keystone. Windows on the flanks and rear are segmental arches of different sizes with triple brick relieving arches over them. Two large rectangular windows have been added to the south side of the rear elevation.

The main entrance is in the center bay front elevation. It is framed by brick piers with granite and sandstone bases and sandstone capitals. A broken semi-circular pediment bearing the Masonic symbol is above the entablature which has "Masonic Temple" written in Art Nouveau lettering across the center. The door itself is of wood and glass, as are the doors in the two shop entrances on either side of it. Other entrances are at the rear of the building.

The building has a flat roof. The front elevation has a heavy wooden modillioned cornice with a wide plain frieze below it. The flanks and rear have a narrow three course band of brick runs along the rear elevation, about two feet from the top of the building. The building has a brick center chimney.

**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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	1907	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Masonic Temple Building is the largest commercial building in the Central Business District. Three stories high (on the front) and seven bays wide, it is a brick polygonal structure built in 1907 in a vernacular Renaissance Revival style. Grey brick quoins accentuate the ends of the building and the center bay is made prominent by large scale Classical detailing and sandstone trim. The building serves several purposes; it provides a meeting place for the fraternal service organization for whom it was built and there is shop and office space on the first two stories. Before this building was erected, the Masons held their meetings, across the street, in the McElhinney Building (HA-1115), a severely plain brick Greek Revival building. Two other buildings in the C.B.D. were influenced by the Renaissance Revival style popular in the early twentieth century. These buildings (HA-1113 and HA-1181) both banks, give the same impression of solidarity and security that the Masonic Temple Building does.

One of the aspects of the building that make it a community landmark, is the large Art Nouveau lettering above the entrance.

**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 29, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

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



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-1180

Sand

Sand



20

Masonic Temple Bldg HA-1180  
213 N. Washington St.  
HARRE DE GRACE  
West Facade

Marion Morton 6/77.