

CAPSULE SUMMARY

PG: 79-001

Bowie-Johnson House

2302 Manor Gate Terrace

Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland

1854

Private

The Bowie-Johnson House was constructed in 1854, north of the town of Upper Marlboro, Maryland. It stands on a tract called Thorpland, which had been the property of the Bowie family from early in the eighteenth century. The main block of the house was built for Sarah Maria Bowie, widow of Charles Bowie, who had lived in an earlier house at Thorpland. The house was also the occasional home of the McCeney family from 1889 to 1951 and the residence of United States Representative Calvin D. Johnson from 1951 to 1981. Johnson was responsible for a majority of the numerous alterations and additions to the dwelling. Due to the alterations and additions, the dwelling does not retain sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival-style dwelling.

The Bowie-Johnson House was constructed 1854 in the Greek Revival style. As noted in Benjamin B. McCeney Jr.'s history of Thorpland, the two-story, five-bay dwelling is said to be built on the site of an earlier house that was destroyed by fire. Set on a parged foundation, the wood-frame structure is clad in weatherboard siding. An exterior-end chimney is constructed of stretcher-bond brick with a corbeled cap. Two flues rise out of the single stack. The house has a side-gabled roof with overhanging eaves and cornice returns, and is covered in asphalt shingles. Two-story, two-bay side-gabled additions flank the main block of the house. The additions are set on solid concrete-block foundations. A two-story, five-bay porch addition is located on the façade (north elevation). The house is fenestrated by 6/6 windows that feature large wood sills and smaller ogee-molded wood lintels.