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S	4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY	L							
-		OWNER'S NAME:						T	ST	
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	6.	REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	TING SURVEYS		I		l			
1	*******	TITLE OF SURVEY Propose	d District of	E Columbia Ad	ditions	to the Nation	al Regis-		m Z	
	ter of Historic Places recommended by the Joint Committee on Landmar         DATE OF SURVEY: March 7, 1968         State         County									
		DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RE						-	FOR NPS US	
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7	DESCRIPTION								
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Stoddert Haw House is located in Georgetown at 2808 N Street, N.W. The Federal style brick townhouse faces north with a 30 foot frontage on N Street, N.W.

The Haw House was built in 1816-1817, and, like its next door neighbor at 2806, it reflects the typical Georgetown style of building. The facade is three bays wide with red brick laid in Flemish bond. It has a vertical emphasis which results from the absence of a string course. The house is 2-1/2 stories high with a raised basement. At the east end of the front facade is the entrance door which is approached by brick arches. The entrance door is distinguished by a semi-circular fanlight and is accented by a white wooden arch with keystone, painted to represent stone.

The windows of the first and second stories are 6/6-light double-hung rectangular openings with white wooden keystone lintels painted to resemble stone and accented by black louvered shutters. The basement windows are 3/3lights with similar lintels and unlouvered shutters. The two wooden dormer windows are round-headed with 9/6-lights and are nicely detailed with moulded wooden pilasters supporting a moulded wooden triangular pediment. The brick cornice which is formed by bricks meeting at 45° angles is surmounted by a metal east-west gable with a chimney at the west end.

Although the rear of the house has been extended several feet, a porch added and the windows enlarged and changed, the shape and size of the house are very similar to that of the original. The house has been remodeled and the kitchen and dining room are now located in the basement which has doors opening out into the back yard. The back yard extends back 220 feet to Olive Street where the carriage house (now remodeled into apartments) is located. The garden is pleasantly landscaped and has a swimming pool.

The most striking feature of the beautifully maintained interior is the arched entrance hall with its fanlight enclosed in glass and supported by moulded square piers. The design of the fanlight of the arch matches the design of the fanlight over the entrance door. The mantle of the first floor drawing room is of finely detailed classical decoration of gesso supported by moulded architraves on pilasters. The interior scale and beauty has not been destroyed by any subsequent alterations.

The house is very similar to the Walker house, located next door at 2806 N Street, which was built about the same time. The scale and proportion, the arrangement of the front facade, are all similar. The only major difference is that the lintels and door arch of the Haw House are wooden while those of the Walker house are of stone.



PERIOD (Check One or More as A	Appropriate)		
<ul> <li>Pre-Columbian</li> <li>15th Century</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>16th Century</li> <li>17th Century</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>18th Century</li> <li>19th Century</li> </ul>	20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicabl	e and Known) 1816-181	7 date construct	ed .
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropriat	e)	
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The Joint Committee on Landmarks has designated the John Stoddert Haw House a Category II Landmark of importance which contributes significantly to the cultural heritage and visual beauty of the District of Columbia. Although it has long been believed that the Haw House was constructed circa 1812, recent research into the Georgetown assessment records indicates that the house was not built until 1816-1817. With its fine scale, proportion and simplicity, the Haw House is typical of the Federal style townhouses found in Georgetown in the early decades of the nineteenth century. The facade of the house has undergone little alteration since it was built in 1819, and it matches the scale and dignity of its neighbors on the 2800 block of N Street. In the 1960's the house has served as the home of two of America's leading foreign policy makers and diplomats, Chester Bowles, and its present occupant George C. McGhee.

The property on which the house stands was subdivided by Thomas Beall, who sold it to John M. Gannt in 1804. After several more sales, the property, the western half of lot 159, was bought in 1815 by John Stoddert Haw, a Register's Office clerk and Benjamin Stoddert's nephew. Assessment books indicate Haw began building in 1816, as the partially erected house was valued at \$3,5000 on July 19, 1816. On July 19, 1817, the house was assessed for \$5,000, and the records imply it was completed. However, an 1818-19 assessment for \$6,000 indicates further improvements may have been made.

Although the Haw family retained ownership of the property until 1874, they were no longer living there by the 1840's, and the house was probably rented out until 1921 when its owners again resided there. Among the early 20th century residents of the Haw House were Ardella B. Mitchell, a domestic, in 1914, and Benjamin Williams, a porter, in 1920.

In 1921 Spencer S. Wood, a retired United States Navy admiral, purchased the house for his own residence. Wood was one of the first prominent Washingtonians to restore a Georgetown house. He also served as chairman of the public utilities and architectural committee of the Georgetown Citizens Association. In 1941 the house became the property of Spencer Wood's daughter, Anne Elizabeth, who was married to Joseph C. Harsch, a leading news commentator for CBS and NBC.

In the 1950's and 1960's the house served at various times as the home of diplomats attached to the British and Brazilian embassies. In 1962, the house was purchased by one of this country's leading public servants, Chester Bowles. Bowles has held major public offices since the Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration and was Under Secretary of State and U.S. Ambassador to India in the early 1960's.

(Continued on Form 10-300a)

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# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Columbia Real Estate Title Company. Title Search Records.

Davis, Deering; Dorsey, Stephen P.; Hall, Ralph Cole. Georgetown Housesof the Federal Period. Bonanza Books, New York. 1944. pp. 30-35.

Washington, D.C. Directories. Washingtoniana Room, District of Columbia Public Library.

2808 N Street, N.W. Folder. Peabody Room, Georgetown Public Library.

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	Leonard	Gerson, Urb	an His	t	orian	•				
ORGANIZ	ATION						DATE			
National Capital Planning Commission								August	: 1972	
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### Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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# INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

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8. Significance - John Stoddert Haw House

In 1967 the house was purchased by its present owner, George C. McGhee, another leading figure in international affairs. McGhee has held numerous high governmental positions including that of ambassador to Turkey from 1951 to 1953 and to West Germany from 1963 to 1968.

