Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
Maryland	
COUNTY:	
Baltimore City	7
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)				.IIIN 1 3 1972		\dashv	
1. N	IAME			1		775		
COMMON:								
	Mother Seton Ho		MFC MFC	ENED 3	$\sum_{i} f_{i}$			
	AND/OR HISTORIC:							
	Mother Seton Ho	ouse						
2. 1	OCATION				TO NA	TION	74	
	STREET AND NUMBER:				To RE	GIST	/	
.	600 North Paca	Street					_	
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3			124	Balt:	imore City	L510		
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	CATEGORY (Check One)	Ov	/NERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE	- 1	
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}	☐ District 🔯 Building	1	ublic Acquisition:		Occupied	Yes: Restricted	İ	
	Site Structure	X Private	In Process	لمسملات	Unoccupied	Unrestricted	. [
. 1	☐ Object	☐ Both	Being Cons	sidered	Preservation work	□ No	_	
					in progress			
	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	lore as Appropriate)						
	Agricultural Go	overnment	Park		Transportation	Comments		
	Commercial Inc	dustrial	Private Residence		Other (Specify)		_	
1	☐ Educational ☐ Mi	litary	Religious				_	
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4. c	WNER OF PROPERTY							
	OWNER'S NAME:			***************************************			3	ST
	Society of St.	Sulpice					Mary1	STATE
	STREET AND NUMBER:						<	Ü,
1	Contact: Father	J. Carroll	McHugh, 5	5408 Rc	land Avenue	.	lan	
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-	Maryland Regist				ndmarks		-	
· L	DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal X State County X Local CO							FOR NPS USE
Maryland Historical Trust							RNPSU	
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	ITY OR TOWN:	<u> </u>		STATE:		CODE		ONLY
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1	Annapolis			mar mar	yland	24	13	⊳

7.	DESCRIPTION								
					(Ched	ck One)			
	CONDITION	☐ Excellent	🔀 Good	☐ Fair	☐ Det	eriorated	☐ Ruins	Unexposed	
CONDITION			(Check O	ne)			(Che	eck One)	
		☐ Alter	red	▼ Unaltered	.	-	Moved	🔀 Original Site	
	DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE								

The two-and-one-half story red brick house on the grounds of St. Mary's Seminary at 600 North Paca Street in Baltimore City is similar to other small homes built in the early 1800's for the predominately French community nearby. stands detached and is somewhat larger in scale and more pretentious in design than the similar small houses in the Mother Seton described it in one of her letters as being surrounded by orchards and French in design. reason, and because the Frenchman Maximilian Godefroy, the architect of St. Mary's Seminary Chapel, was an instructor in drawing at the Seminary at that time, there has been speculation that he may have designed this building, too. The purpose for which the house was originally erected has long been forgotten; however, it was offered as an inducement to Elizabeth Seton to come to Baltimore in 1808 and there to found a school and occupy the then newly completed house.

After Mother Seton's departure from Baltimore, the building was used for many years by the Seminary as a work house, and in the 1960's was restored to its original appearance through the efforts of a committee which continues to operate it as a museum.

Constructed of brick, there is a brick and iron-spiked fence surrounding the small front yard. The entrance is at the south end of the east facade, a 'cross and Bible' door, topped by a transom in which the muntins form three Gothic arches. The doorway is flanked by two full-length shutters. To the north are two casement windows each with eight nearly square lights, and shutters flank the units. The second floor has three evenly spaced casement windows, similar to those on the first floor, and on the third floor, there is one double-hung dormer with six-over-six lights set into the center of the steep pitch, slate roof. All the exterior trim is wood, painted white, except the window sills which are stone.

The south facade of the house is punctuated by two windows on each of the first and second floors, while the north facade contains only one window which is on the first floor. There is one brick chimney set flush in each gable-end. Each has a one-brick edge and three-arch brick cap.

Inside, the plan includes a stair hall, with a parlor to the north of the entrance door and a dining room and small Ritchen west of the entrance. A service kitchen, added later, has been retained. It is the only part of the building which is not original. Upstairs there are several bedrooms and a former schoolroom in the corner of which is an oratory, created by Mother Seton. All the furnishings of the house (SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) C.	1807-1808	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	eck One or More as Approp	riate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	RECE
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	TOUR !
	Landscape	Sculpture	The state of the s
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	C NA VOICE
Commerce	Literature	itarian	RECIONA
☐ Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	20/5
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	No.
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			3/16

The Mother Seton House was the home of Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821) the only American-born woman beatified by the Roman Catholic Church. She founded the religious order of the Daughters of Charity while living in this house on North Paca Street in Baltimore.

Elizabeth Seton became a convert of Roman Catholicism in 1805 after the death of her husband. Her friendship with James Carroll, Bishop of the Diocese of Baltimore, helped influence her decision. In February of 1801 Bishop Carroll arranged for her to meet Father William Dubourg, S.J., President of St. Mary's Seminary and St. Mary's College. Dubourg convinced Mrs. Seton to come to Baltimore and establish a school for girls at St. Mary's Seminary. June 9, 1808, she moved into 'a new house' adjacent to the She lived in this house for one year and described seminary. it as a neat, delightful mansion. During that time she took her religious vows in St. Mary's Seminary Chapel, which is now a National Register of Historic Places property. While in Baltimore she began gathering religious women around her: the nucleus of the order of the Daughters of Charity.

In mid 1809 Mrs. Seton and her small following abandoned her school in Baltimore. With a gift of \$10,000 she established a school for girls in Emmitsburg, Frederick County, Maryland.

In 1880 Archbishop James Gibbons of Baltimore initiated the camponization proceedings and in 1963 Mother Elizabeth Seton was beatified. Camponization is to be expected.

The Seton Hill area of Baltimore City which includes the Mother Seton House and St. Mary's Seminary was named after Mother Seton.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Catherine F. Black (Mrs. Walter Black, Jr.), Maryland Historical Trust, 94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland; Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust.

Catholic Encyclopedia. 15 vols. New York: The Encyclopedia Press, 1912, XIII, p. 739-740.

	(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)										
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-	Maryland Historical Trust Dec.28, 1971							19/1			
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	in the	National Register and o	ertify that it has	been	-		\bigcirc	,, (1		
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE		
Maryland		
COUNTY		
Baltimore	Ci	ty
FOR NPS USE	ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
JUN 1 3 1972		

(Number all entries)

Mother Seton House

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Landmark List (within the Seton Hill Historical and Architectural Preservation District, Ordinance #193, City of Baltimore)

1969 Local

Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation Room 402, City Hall Baltimore, Maryland Code: 24

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

are of the period of the house, but are not original furnishings belonging to Mrs. Seton.

#9. REFERENCES continued

Holland, Eugenia Calvert. Mother Seton's House in Baltimore.

Baltimore: Meadow-Croft Printers, n.d. (A leaflet distributed by the Committee for the Restoration of Mother Seton's House in Baltimore)



