

Christian Hauge House
2349 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

HABS No. DC-262

HABS
DC
WASH
205 -

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
CHRISTIAN HAUGE HOUSE HABS No. DC-262
(EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON CHANCERY)

DC, WASH, 205-

Location: 2349 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.;
on the northeast corner of Massachusetts Avenue
and 24th Street. UTM: 18.322020 .4308950

Present Owner: Federal Republic of Cameroon

Present Occupant: Federal Republic of Cameroon

Present Use: Chancery

Statement of Significance: This detached limestone residence, in the early 16th century French manner, is important for three reasons: its prime location, its commanding scale in relation to the adjacent avenue and its exuberant style. The building occupies a site bordered by two streets and an avenue. Its dominant scale is created by the structure's volume and height, and the prominent round tower on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and 24th Street. Its picturesque Gothic detail has a vitality which is lacking in the less dramatic structures nearby. [See HABS D.C. Catalog.]

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Lot and Square:

The building is located in Square 2517, lots 807 and 808 (formerly lots 18 and 19; and parts of lots 20 and 21 in Block 12, "Kalorama Heights" - all of which were later combined to form lot 33); and lots 813 and 815 (formerly parts of lots 20 and 21).

B. Original and Subsequent Owners:

The following chain of title to the property shows the owners of the present structure and of any known preceding structures on the site:

1906 Deed April 27, 1906, recorded May 3, 1906 in
Liber 3000 folio 307

Louisa D. Lovett, unmarried
To
Christian Hauge

"This Deed...by and between Louisa D. Lovett, unmarried of the City of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, party of the first part, and Christian Hauge, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Norway, party of

the second part...Lot...(18) in Block...(12) 'Kalorama Heights' as per plat recorded in County Book 7 page 34 of the Records of the Officer of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia..."

1906 Deed April 27, 1906, recorded May 3, 1906 in
Liber 3000 folio 311

Charlotte E. Lovett, unmarried
To
Christian Hauge

"All of Lot...(19) and parts of Lots...(20) and...(21) Block...(12) 'Kalorama Heights'...Said Lot...(20) being contained within the following metes and bounds: Beginning at the Southwest Corner of said Lot and running thence East along the South line of said Lot...117.8' to the Southeast corner of said Lot, thence North along the rear line of said Lot...25', thence West along the North line of said Lot...5', thence South parallel with the East line of said Lot...15' and thence West parallel with the South line of said Lot...112.8' to twenty fourth Street and thence South...5' to the place of beginning. And said part of Lot...(21) being contained within the following metes and bounds. Beginning at the Northeast corner of said Lot and running thence West along the North line of said Lot...5', thence South parallel with the East line of said Lot...25' to the South line of said Lot, thence East along said South line...5' to the Southeast corner of said Lot and thence North along the rear line of said Lot...25' to the place of beginning..."

NOTE: June 18, 1906 Christian Hauge combined lots 18 and 19 and parts of lots 20 and 21, Block 12, "Kalorama Heights" into lot 33. Recorded in County Book 22 folio 12, Office of the Surveyor, District of Columbia.

The Will of Christian Hauge was recorded in Will Book No. 68, page 534 and admitted to probate April 29, 1908, Registrar of Wills, District of Columbia. The will stated:

"I give, devise and bequeath all of my estate, both real and personal, and wheresoever situated, of which I may die seized, possessed or entitled to my wife, Louise Todd Hauge..."

The Will of Louise Todd Hauge was recorded September 6, 1927 in Will Book No. 134, page 285, Registrar of Wills, District of Columbia. The will stated:

"I bequeath unto my brother, James Ross Todd, all of my household and personal effects of every description,

kind and wheresoever situated...I devise unto my brother, James Ross Todd, my residence and the lot adjoining the same, situated on Massachusetts Avenue in the City of Washington in the District of Columbia and all other real estate wheresoever situated of which I may die possessed..."

1927 Deed September 12, 1927, recorded September 12, 1927 in
Liber 5992 folio 89

James Ross Todd et ux,
Margaret M. Todd
To
Louise Todd Gilbert

"James Ross Todd, devisee under the last will of Louise Todd Hauge, deceased, and Margaret M. Todd, his wife, parties of the first part, and Louise Todd Gilbert, party hereto of the second part..." All of lots 18 and 19 and parts of lots 20 and 21 in Block 12, "Kalorama Heights", "...a subdivision of part of 'Widow's Mite' and 'Pretty Prospect'...now embraced in Lot... (33) in Chr. Hauge's (Minister of Norway), Combination of said lots and parts of lots in said Block... (12) 'Kalorama Heights', as per plat of said Combination recorded in Liber County No. 22 folio 12 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia..."

1929 Deed March 25, 1929, recorded April 11, 1929 in
Liber 6308 folio 480

Louise Todd Gilbert
To
Estelle R. Wands

1929 Deed April 11, 1929, recorded April 11, 1929 in
Liber 6308 folio 496

Estelle R. Wands
To
Czechoslovak Republic

"Subject to a certain deed of trust for One hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars (\$165,000) dated April 11, 1929...which the said party hereto of the second part assumes and agrees to pay..."

1972 Deed January 12, 1972, recorded January 12, 1972 in
Liber 13304 folio 111

Czechoslovak Socialist Republic
To
Republique Federale du Cameroon

"...Parts of Lots...(20) and...(21) in Block...(12) 'Kalorama Heights', as per plat recorded in Liber County 7, folio 34 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia...and Lot...(33) in Chr. Hauge's combination of lots and parts of lots in Block...(12), as per plat recorded in Liber County 22 at folio 12 of the aforesaid Surveyor's Office..."

"Note: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the Records of the Assessor for the District of Columbia for assessment and taxation purposes as lots numbered...(807),...(808),...(813), and...(815) in Square...(2517). Known as premises 2349 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W..."

Source: Recorder of Deeds, Washington, D.C.

C. Date of Erection:

The building was begun in June 1906 and completed in May 1907.

D. Building Permits:

The applications for the following building permits were filed by the architect, contractor or owner's agent and provide significant data:

No. 3563, June 22, 1906
Permit to build dwelling
Owner: Christian Hauge
Architect: George O. Totten, Jr.
Builder: John McGregor
Estimated cost: \$50,000.

Filed with No. 3563, June 22, 1906
Application for Building Projections, No. 59821, June 15, 1906
Circular bay windows: 1'-6" projection
1'-9" wide

Corner tower: 1'-6" projection
10'-6" on each street

Main steps: 7'-0" projection
14'-0" wide

No. 2588, February 26, 1907
Permit to Repair or Reconstruct Building
"Build one extension for rear service stairs 5' X 5'-6" of

mansard type - covered with Galv. iron with tin roof. Build a rear addition to kitchen 19' X 6'-9". One story and cellar. Tin roof."

No. 1651, November 15, 1907

Permit to Repair or Reconstruct Building

"Excavate in boiler room for depth of 5'-6". Pit to be 8 X 12 feet. Underpin side walls."

No. 2895, October 12, 1921

Permit to Repair or Reconstruct Building

"Cut north wall for two french casement windows 3'-6" X 8' on first floor leading from music room to lot on the north owned by Madame Hauge."

No. 136561, October 1, 1930

Permit to repair balcony over entrance

No. 160727, February 13, 1933

Permit to Repair or Reconstruct Building

Owner: Czechoslovak Legation

Value of improvement: \$2000.

"Repair fire damage, floors, partitions, roof rafters."

No. 172683, July 3, 1934

Permit to Build

Owner: Legation of Czechoslovakia

Designer: Smith Bowman, Jr.

Builder: Bowman & Tyson

Location: Lot 813, 815 in Square 2517

"Build one story brick and limestone building for Legation offices."

Filed with No. 172683, July 3, 1934

Special Application for Projection Beyond Building Line

Entrance steps: Distance beyond building line: 4'-0"

Width: 10'-0"

Marquise: Distance beyond building line: 3'-0"

Width: 8'-0"

Source: Record Group 351, Records of the District of Columbia, Building Permits 1877-1949, Legislative and Natural Resources Branch, Civil Div., National Archives/Records Service, Washington, D. C. 20409.

E. Alterations and Additions:

Fire damage to the upper floors necessitated repairs to floors, partitions and roof in 1933.

Building permits indicate that the northwest addition of one story and basement was constructed for offices in 1934.

The architectural survey of this building was completed after the

Czechoslovakian Embassy was moved in 1969. The first floor library had been partitioned.

Since the Federal Republic of Cameroon purchased the residence in January 1972, the interior has been renovated and redecorated. The chandeliers and canvas wall paintings were restored; and fluorescent lighting for offices and a new heating system installed. No significant changes were made in the main floor plans.

F. Architect: George Oakley Totten, Jr.

See biography of George Oakley Totten, Jr. under 1606 23rd Street.

G. Known Plans, Drawings, Elevations, etc.:

Plan showing projections. Ink on linen. Scale 1/4" = 1'
Filed with Permit No. 3563, June 22, 1906
"Residence for Hon. Christian Hauge,
N.E. Corner 24th St. and Mass. Ave.
Geo. Oakley Totten, Jr., Architect"

Ground and first [second] floor plans.
The Architectural Annual, Washington, D.C.: published by The Architectural League of America, 1907. (see reproductions)

H. Important Old Views:

Photographs: entrance hall with staircase; dining room; two of the salon (drawing room); library; bedroom; and exterior view. Photographs by Harris & Ewing, Washington, D.C.
The Mayflower's Log, Vol. III, No. 8 (October 1927), pp. 17-20.

Photographs: library; dining room; drawing room; and main staircase from ground floor. The photos are not dated, but were taken for the Czechoslovakian Legation and therefore date after 1930. Files of the Czechoslovakian Legation. (see reproductions)

Photographs: drawing room; dining room; library; main staircase; and exterior view.
The Sunday Star, August 5, 1945, Gravure Section.

Photographs: exterior view; details of balconies and main entrance.
The Architectural Annual, Washington, D.C.: published by The Architectural League of America, 1907. (see reproductions)

I. Residents:

1. City and telephone directories list the following tenants:

1912-1916 Mrs. C. L. Hauge
1917-1918 Mrs. Christian Hauge
1919-1927 Louise C. Hauge
1928-1929 Vacant
1930-1943 Czechoslovakian Legation
1944-1947 Czechoslovak Embassy
1948-1969 Czechoslovakian Embassy
1970-1971 Vacant
1972 Embassy of the Federal Republic of Cameroon, Chancery

2. Biographies of the residents:

Christian Hauge, born in Christiana, Norway in April 1862, began his diplomatic career in 1889 as an attaché to the legation of Norway and Sweden at London. He then served as attaché in Paris and Berlin; and as acting first secretary in the legations at Paris, Copenhagen, Berlin, and St. Petersburg.

Hauge came to Washington, D.C. in 1901 as Secretary of the Legation for Norway and Sweden. When Norway peacefully gained independence from Sweden in 1905, Christian Hauge became Norway's first minister to the United States.

He was well-known socially here [Washington, D.C.] and in New York and also in Bar Harbor which was the summer home of the Sweden-Norway Legation for years. It was at Bar Harbor that he met his wife, formerly Mrs. Frederick Joy [née Louise Grundy Todd] of Louisville, Ky., a widow of large means. Their marriage took place about three years ago, [1904] and from that time until last summer they entertained very extensively. (The New York Times, 12-20-07)

In 1906 George Oakley Totten, Jr., designed 2349 Massachusetts Avenue, which according to floor plans published in the 1907 Architectural Annual was to serve as a residence and legation offices for Christian Hauge. (See reproductions.) The house was completed in June 1907. In November, Mr. and Mrs. Hauge left Washington for a three month vacation in London, Paris and Norway. They visited Paris "for the express purpose of selecting furnishings and decorations for their new home on Massachusetts Avenue." (The Washington Post, 12-20-07) One month later, Christian Hauge died on a snowshoeing trip near Christiana, Norway.

Mrs. Hauge returned to Washington and lived in the new residence on Massachusetts Avenue. Thus, the intended legation "became instead the home of Madame Hauge during the years of her social prominence, and the scene of much of Washington's most brilliant entertaining". (The Mayflower's Log, October 1927) Upon her death in 1927, the house was left to her brother James Ross Todd of Louisville, Kentucky.

The building remained vacant for two years until the Todds sold it to the Czechoslovak Republic for about \$250,000 (according to an article in The Evening Star, 3-16-29). Deeds indicate that the Czechoslovakian government assumed a deed of trust for \$165,000, which does not eliminate the possibility that more money was involved in the transaction. The house served as the Czechoslovakian Embassy, even through World War II when the ambassador refused to surrender it to the Nazi German government. In September 1969 the Embassy was moved to 2612 Tilden Street, N.W., and the Massachusetts Avenue building was left vacant until sold in January 1972 to the Federal Republic of Cameroon. The Cameroon government spent an estimated \$500,000 for the property and the renovation and redecoration of the residence. (The Evening Star, 3-23-72.)

Sources: "Homes of Interest in and around Washington," The Mayflower's Log, Vol. III, No. 8 (October 1927), pp. 17-20.

The Evening Star, 12-20-07, 15:4 (obituary).

The Evening Star, 1-29-33, 5:1.

The Evening Star, 3-29-29, 17:1.

The Evening Star, 3-23-72, D3:5.

The New York Times, 12-20-07, 11:5 (obituary).

The Sunday Star, 8-5-45, Gravure Section, p. 2.

The Washington Herald, 1-29-33, 3:1.

The Washington Post, 12-20-07, 1:2 (obituary).

The Washington Post, 1-29-33, M2:1.

The Washington Post, 3-17-39, 1:6.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This detached structure, in the early 16th century French Renaissance manner (including the single story 1934 addition), has Louis XV and neo-classical interior details.
2. Condition: well maintained, with some interior remodeling.

B. Exterior Description:

1. Overall dimensions: Including its two story, 30'-0" deep east wing, the three-and-one-half story structure measures 67'-9" in three bays along Massachusetts Avenue and 36'-8" along its single bay 24th Street elevation. The building depth, perpendicular to the avenue, is 65'-8". The height of its single bay, circular tower is 65'-0". The one story, northwest addition measures 40'-0" on 24th Street and 33'-9" on S Street.
2. Foundations: concrete footings and slab (on grade).
3. Wall construction: The smooth limestone street elevations are supported by a limestone base with a torus and cavetto water table. The second-floor windows rest on a plain, false balustrade, the lines of which are carried around the addition. The low fourth-floor walls are set back to allow for a parapet. The fourth-floor window heads break into the roof with the effect of dormers.
4. Structure: brick bearing walls with steel roof and floor members.
5. Mechanical: The building is heated by an American Radiator Company, Ideal Oil Burning Furnace. The Shannon Manufacturing Company Clothes Dryer has a 1907 patent. The elevator is by Otis; the lighting electric. (The above list is as of 1970.)
6. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Four limestone risers ascend to the Massachusetts Avenue entrance. The risers are flanked by cheek walls which support cast iron, decorative bar panels, with ornamental scrolls and lanterns. Above the scrolls is a curvilinear marquise with shield fringe, filigree caps and opaque glass panels. The 24th Street entrance to the northwest addition has a similar canopy on braces over a limestone stoop.

Limestone balconies with quatrefoil and crocket dados break forward from the false balustrade at both the tower bay and the central bay on Massachusetts Avenue. The balconies are supported on corbel brackets which flank the ground floor

window transoms. Though flush with the wall, the false balustrade is similarly pierced at the east wing and over the entrance on 24th Street.

Above the Massachusetts Avenue entrance, the second-floor bay has a limestone balcony with bead, diaper and egg and dart mouldings. The turned baluster dado has chamfered sides.

7. Chimneys: Three limestone chimneys are visible from the street. Though ornamental, the east chimney has a cusped panel flanked by panelled blocks. The inner face of the chimney acts as guard for a decorative iron roof crest. The northwest gable has a plain, limestone-capped chimney. The third chimney, set diagonally to the west side of the circular tower, has a beaded corner shaft with cyma string course, cusped frieze, cyma cornice and hipped cap. A fourth chimney (brick) ventilates the northeast service facilities.

8. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The double door entrance on Massachusetts Avenue is plate glass and replaces a single, eight-light door which had both side lights and transom. The limestone hood moulding is flanked by the marquise side panels.

The double door of the ground-floor garage in the east wing has a hood moulding and cast iron, fleur-de-lis and decorative bar gates.

- b. Windows: All windows have cross sashes except for:
 - (1.) the narrow windows flanking the entrance door;
 - (2.) the second-floor tripartite casement window over the garage door; and
 - (3.) the third-floor balcony window which has a tripartite sash and a three-point-arched transom within a cable architrave. The architrave is flanked by three-quarter-engaged, diaper shaft columns with stiff leaf capitals which support a section, broken forward, of the building cornice and parapet.

Each ground-floor window has a beaded fillet and block sill, a hood moulding and a decorative cast iron grille. The second-floor windows have a reed and ribbon architrave capped by a pendant stop hood moulding. The third-floor windows have a beaded fillet and block sill, with the parapet base acting as lintel.

9. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The gabled, slate roof has a cast iron, arabesque crest. The gutter is copper and the east bay terrace is gravel and asphalt.
- b. Cornice, eaves: The east-wing second-floor bay is capped by a turned baluster balustrade with panelled end blocks.

On Massachusetts Avenue and 24th Street, the trefoil arclette frieze is interrupted by the third-floor window transoms and, at the tower, by corbel brackets. Above the frieze is a fascia, cavetto, coved corona, roll and cyma cornice which supports the trefoil, quatrefoil and roundel balustrade parapet.

The roof springs from the cyma, cove and corona cornice at fourth-floor transom height.

- c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: The tower has a slate conical roof capped by a decorative, copper crocket and weather vane finial.

The cross sash dormer of the tower has a lancet-arched hood moulding within a gable with crockets. Flanking and linked to the gable by tracery are shafts with finials. The design is similar for the smaller outer bays. Between each fourth-floor bay, the attic level has a diminutive, wood dormer with gable and finial.

C. Interior Description:

1. Floor plans: The main stair is on axis with the southwest vestibule and entrance hall. Closets, with access from the hall, flank the vestibule. The east salon and west lounge flank the entrance hall. Beyond the lounge is the reception room and the addition. To the northeast, a corridor links the entrance hall to the furnace and storage rooms. At the northwest a second corridor gives access to the elevator and reception room.

From the main stair, the second-floor foyer gives access to the east dining room, the south drawing room and the west library. The east bay of the two bay dining room is over the garage. The shorter dimension is punctuated by fluted Ionic columns. The drawing-room west bay is formed by the tower. The west elevator corridor leads to the library. All three rooms are connected by way of the drawing room. The dining room gives access to the pantry, the kitchen and the service stairs at the northeast. (See plan.)

Both the main stair and the servants' stair ascend to the third and fourth floors, which are arranged in bedroom suites and northeast servants' quarters.

2. Spaces:

Entrance hall:

- a. Flooring: grey mosaic tile within black fret border.
- b. Baseboard: 9", grey marble.
- c. Walls: plaster painted white, applied mouldings. The east wall marble fountain has an acanthus and shell console which supports a cherub, escutcheon and spray basin. Over the decoratively carved splash board is a triangular frieze with satyr's mask and spout, cherubs and scrolls. (See detail photograph.)
- d. Cornice: egg and dart, ogee, terminated at north by main stair.
- e. Ceiling: plaster painted white.
- f. Doorways and doors: The double doors at the south and the single doors at the north all have raised panels and rinceau frieze caps within bead architraves. The west door to the lounge is convex.
- g. Lighting: There are two, standing, gilded-wood, baroque candelabra and one, two-tier, brass and crystal pendant, rocaille chandelier.

The elevator corridor has a two-armed, gilded rinceau sconce.

East salon:

- a. Flooring: 2", common hardwood.
- b. Baseboard: 8", wood with cyma cap.
- c. Walls: plaster painted white.
- d. Ceiling: plaster painted white.
- e. Doorways and doors: bead architraves.

West lounge:

- a. Flooring: 2", common hardwood.
- b. Baseboard: 8", wood with cyma cap.

- c. Walls: plaster painted white.
- d. Ceiling: plaster painted white.
- e. Doorways and doors: bead architraves.
- f. Lighting: one, two-tiered, brass and crystal pendant, rocaille chandelier.
- g. Heating: The west wall chimney has a maroon marble hearth and a cast iron lattice firebox. The white-veined, purple marble mantel (4'-6" wide by 4'-0" high) has stylized composite pilasters which support an ogee shelf centered by an escutcheon with leaf sprays.

Reception room:

- a. Flooring: black and white foot square marble tiles.
- b. Baseboard: 8", wood with cyma cap.
- c. Chairrail: 2'-6" high, wood.
- d. Walls: raised wood panels, painted.
- e. Heating: The northwest wall chimney has a cast iron fleur-de-lis firebox and white marble mantel, 4'-6" high, with diminutive consoles supporting a three panel cherub frieze and cyma shelf.

Stair:

Separating the entrance hall from the stair at the north are three marble risers terminated by panelled composite pilasters on a grey and black mosaic platform, centered by a panel of Chinese calligraphy. The stair ascends north eight, flaired and convex, white marble risers to a landing and divides into two flanking ascents eleven risers south. The closed marble stringer has a plaster soffit, centered by a panel and wreath. The cast iron, gouge, and wave railing has a wood handrail with brass finials and four inch square newels buttressed by console scrolls and rosettes. The remaining flights above the second floor are wood.

- a. Baseboard: 9", marble.
- b. Walls: plaster painted white.

Foyer:

- a. Flooring: grey marble.
- b. Baseboard: 9", grey marble with wood at the south wall.

- c. Walls: plaster painted white, with panels formed by applied mouldings.
- d. Cornice: acanthus cove and talon.
- e. Ceiling: plaster painted white.
- f. Doorways and doors: All doors, including the recessed door to the dining room, the sliding double door to the drawing room, and the single door to the elevator corridor, have raised panels and bead and fascia architraves, capped by rinceau panels. (See detail photograph.)

Dining room: (See photographs.)

- a. Flooring: quadrant basket weave within lattice parquetry.
- b. Baseboard: 6", wood with bead cap.
- c. Dado: raised wood panels. Flanking the east chimney are paired consoles which support marble counters with splash boards. At the north wall is a built-in buffet with paired, guilloche-panelled consoles which support a purple marble counter.
- d. Walls: Flanking the east chimney are decorative twining-leaf panels. Over either buffet is a canvas in the neo-classical manner framed by talon. At the northeast and southeast corners of the room are semicircular-arched niches each with a marble, console-supported basin and leafy scroll keystone. Flanking the west doors are curvilinear raised panels with decorative spandrels. The northwest and southwest corners of the room are rounded by decorative twining-leaf panels.
- e. Cornice: tulip, egg and dart, fret dentils, corona with palmette soffit, and leaf pulvination.
- f. Ceiling: plaster painted white.
- g. Doorways and doors: All doors have rosette-indented, flush panels and a decorative lock rail. Two double doors at the west wall are each capped by an urn and floral canvas within a three-point arch. (The double door on the right is false, only the center opens to the foyer.) The pulvinated bay leaf architrave has an acanthus keystone with sprays and flush-panelled rosette spandrels.

Both service doors at the north wall have a guilloche architrave, at the head of which scroll consoles, capped by an egg and dart cornice, flank a guilloche panel. The cornice supports a canvas lunette having ribbon and fruit pendants.

- h. Hardware: brass, baroque knobs and plain pulls.
- i. Lighting: There are four, three-light, ramshead and leaf, gilded brass, baroque sconces. There is one four-light, urn, spike and swag rocaille sconce at the west wall.
- j. Heating: The east wall chimney has a purple marble hearth with green rectangular insets, and a cast iron firebox with a wreath, arrow and ribbon back panel, concave rinceau side panels, and a ring, ribbon and swag surround. The white and grey-veined, purple marble mantel (5'-0" wide by 4'-0" high) has plain panels and a gouge and floral spray frieze broken forward in pod, ribbon and ring over either panel and capped by a cavetto cornice. The overmantel has a three-point-arched, rocaille mirror within a pulvinated moulding capped by swags and ribbons.

Drawing room: (See photographs.)

- a. Flooring: quadrant basket weave within lattice parquetry.
- b. Baseboard: 9", wood, painted.
- c. Dado: raised wood panels, painted.
- d. Chairrail: 2'-6" high, flush rinceau rail.
- e. Walls: Paired pilasters separate the circular and square areas of the room. The chimney and major openings are flanked by fluted, tulip stop, Ionic pilasters on baseboard plinths. Flanking the dining room door, and between the paired pilasters, gilded consoles support swag and gouge, marble-topped tables below mirrors with ribbon capped semi-circular arches on impost blocks.
- f. Cornice: acanthus cove, talon.
- g. Ceiling: plaster painted white.
- h. Doorways and doors: There are three, sliding double doors with rosette indented panels. The foyer and dining room doors have flanking post and block architraves, capped by a three-point-arched rocaille mirror, with an acanthus keystone and ribbon. The library door has a pulvinated architrave capped by a floral canvas panel.
- i. Hardware: brass pulls.
- j. Lighting: Flanking the west chimney mantle are three-light, gilded brass, flambeau and swag sconces. The mirrors between the paired pilasters have a one tier, four-light, brass and crystal bead and pendant, tear-drop sconce. There are two, double tier, alternating eight-light and crystal finial chandeliers, with crystal pendants and beads.

- k. Heating: The west wall chimney has a grey marble hearth with blue-veined, white marble insets; a cast iron firebox with a swag and musical instrument back panel; and a concave, guilloche and central rosette surround. The dark-veined, grey marble mantel (5'-0" wide by 3'-6" high) has acanthus and gilded rope consoles and a mask frieze of griffins and floral rinceau applique in brass. The over-mantel mirror has flanking post panels and blocks below a semicircular arch in a false perspective, chrysanthemum panel surround. The surround is interrupted by a ribbon cap with sunflower and frond spandrels.

Library: (partitioned. See photographs.)

- a. Flooring: 2" common hardwood within basket weave border.
- b. Baseboard: 9", wood with cyma cap, painted.
- c. Walls: painted white over flock paper.
- d. Cornice: egg and dart, prominent cyma.
- e. Ceiling: plaster painted white (decorative plaster removed).
- f. Heating: The northwest wall chimney has a glazed tile hearth and a cast iron firebox with an escutcheon and ribbon pack panel. The tan and cream alabaster mantel in the 15th century Italianate manner (5'-6" wide by 6'-6" high), has flanking "forget-me-not" plinths which support candelabra pilasters of dragons, cherubs, snakes, flambeau and mythical animals. The acanthus leaf, cherub, and griffin capitals support a fascia and talon architrave; a griffin and leaf, rinceau frieze; and an egg and dart, "forget-me-not" and talon shelf. (See detail photographs.)

D. Site:

1. Setting and orientation: The building faces southwest on a pentagonal lot measuring 67'-9" on Massachusetts Avenue (south); 76'-8" on 24th Street (west); 117'-9" on S Street (north); 50'-0" on the east; and 100'-0" on the southeast. The building overlooks Robert Emmet park on the west.
2. Enclosures: none.
3. Outbuildings: the 1934 single story northwest addition.
4. Walks: On axis with the entrance stoop, three limestone risers ascend from the Massachusetts Avenue sidewalk over a wedge of grass to the circular concrete drive. A concrete walk leads

from 24th Street, across a grass border, to the west addition entrance.

5. Landscaping: grass planted with blue spruce, boxwood and yucca plants (as of 1970).

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This document was prepared from records donated to the Historic American Buildings Survey by the Commission of Fine Arts, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D. C., and representing studies of prime, typical, diversified and sumptuous architecture erected primarily between the years 1890 and 1930, when American society and architecture were greatly influenced by the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. The material, originally organized for adaptation to the Historic American Buildings Survey format, was first published in Massachusetts Avenue Architecture, Vol. 1, in 1973, issued by the Commission of Fine Arts, Charles H. Atherton, Secretary; Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary; Jeffrey R. Carson, Architectural Historian; Lynda L. Smith, Historian; and J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr., Architect. Photographs were made for the Commission by Jack E. Boucher, Linwood, New Jersey; J. Alexander, Wheaton, Maryland; and the Commission of Fine Arts Staff. The material, donated December 1973, was coordinated for the HABS documentation in 1978 by Lucy Pope Wheeler, HABS Writer/Editor.

Documentation of this property could not have been achieved without the cooperation of organizations and people concerned with the Commission's study-- The Embassy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, formerly at 2349 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., His Excellency Dr. Dušan Spáčil, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary; His Excellency Ivan Rohal, former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Mr. Emil Lansky, Attaché.

ADDENDUM TO:
CHRISTIAN HAUGE HOUSE
(Czechoslovakian Embassy)
(Embassy of the Federal Republic of Cameroon Chancery)
(Cameroon Chancery)
2349 Massachusetts Avenue Northwest
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS DC-262
HABS DC, WASH, 205-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001