

feature



History
supports *Dreams* of a
Future

Beautiful weddings in historic Havre de Grace have been popular for decades. And weddings at the Concord Point Lighthouse probably rank #1! But as I contacted various photographers for unique photographs, it didn't take long to realize how creative couples can be in planning for their special day.

The locations for weddings in Havre de Grace would begin with the historic church buildings in our city. From the oldest St. John's Episcopal Church or the magnificent United Methodist – both on Union Avenue, to the beautiful First Baptist on Stokes & Congress or historic St. Patrick's Catholic on Congress, the tradition and history of these churches and several others will answer the beauty and spiritual traditions for any marriage ceremony.

From here, the unique settings for weddings and receptions are as varied as the brides and grooms. One example begins with Karl Bunch's bass boat skimming along the water carrying the bride and groom from Hutchins Park to Swan Harbor Farm. At Swan Harbor, Rachel & David (*Serrato*) enjoy



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a beautiful countryside wedding overlooking the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. Following a celebratory walk back down the pier, Karl will return the newlyweds to Havre de Grace and they'll walk into their future together.

“Along with the location being a halfway point, we loved Swan Harbor... the house and grounds were absolutely beautiful... the surroundings perfectly tranquil.” — Linda Evans (*mother of the bride*)

Each of the area's museums offers a beautiful location for a wedding and/or reception. The Concord Point Lighthouse offers a picture postcard setting; and the Maritime and Decoy Museums offer outstanding views from inside and outside their structures. The Susquehanna Museum at the Lock House offers another awe-inspiring view of the lower Susquehanna River within the beautiful North Park. Even the Steppingstone Museum just outside of the city off Route 155 offers a breath-taking view from a hilltop above the Susquehanna River.

Still have your heart set on a boat? A wedding/reception aboard the historic Skipjack MARTHA LEWIS is truly a sail back in time. And though she's a working oyster boat, she can offer up a wonderful treat for a one-of-a-kind small, intimate wedding. Josh and Erica Denny enjoyed just such a beginning to their future together.



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Not quite so adventurous? The Vandiver Inn, Spencer Silver Mansion and the Villa at Mount Felix are ready to offer all you will need for a small-to-medium size wedding party. These historic homes are photo-perfect and might include a bride's thoughtful moment in front of an antique dressing table, a flower-garden reception, or even a musician entertaining on a wrap-around porch. The wedding can be classic and simple, or elegant and elaborate. No matter your taste, it will be created perfectly by the hosts of the inns.

As you visit our city, it won't be unusual to find yourself smiling at a bridal party or newly married couple as they walk our Promenade and follow the city's signature sidewalk. You probably will wonder what dreams they might be sharing. And your heart might soften with the faith of their optimism. Our history offers strength to their walk into the future. And we can only wish them a great adventure! 🍷



This article is from the Spring/Summer 2007 issue of Havredegance magazine. Not to be reproduced in any manner without expressed permission of the editor EllieEditor@aol.com.

RESOURCESfor History Supports Dreams of a Future

CHURCHES NOTED:

St. John's Episcopal
410-939-2107

United Methodist Church
410-939-2464

First Baptist
410-939-5233

St. Patrick's Catholic
410-575-6741

BOATING:

Karl's Bassin' Adventures
www.KarlsBassinAdventures.com
410-459-7445

Skipjack MARTHA LEWIS
www.SkipjackMarthaLewis.com
410-939-4078

CITY/COUNTY PARKS:

Swan Harbor Farm
410-939-6767

Concord Point Lighthouse
410-939-3213

HdG Decoy Museum
www.DecoyMuseum.com
410-939-3739

HdG Maritime Museum
www.HdGMaritimeMuseum.org
410-939-4800

Susquehanna Museum
www.LockHouseMuseum.org
410-939-5780

Steppingstone Museum
www.SteppingstoneMuseum.org
888-419-1762

BED & BREAKFAST:

Vandiver Inn
www.vandiverinn.com
800-245-1655

Spencer Silver Mansion
www.spencersilvermansion.com
410-939-1485

Villa at Mount Felix
www.mountfelix.com
410-939-0913

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Photos #3 and #12
Barnett Photographic Services
www.BarnettPhoto.net
443-243-0094

Photos #1 and #8
Leo P. Heppner & Terilyn Shepke
410-939-6247

Photos #2 and #4
Positive Images by Rettberg
www.billrettberg.com
800-773-7310

Photos #7, 9, 11 and 13
Chris Stewart & Jessica Woody
919-244-0798 North Carolina

Photos #5 and #6
Courtesy of Spencer Silver Mansion B&B
www.SpencerSilverMansion.com
410-939-1485

Photo #14
Courtesy of Steppingstone Museum
www.SteppingstoneMuseum.org
410-939-2299

Photo #16
Courtesy of Susquehanna Museum
at the Lock House
www.LockhouseMuseum.org
410-939-5780

Photos #10 and #15
Aboard the Skipjack MARTHA LEWIS
Courtesy Josh and Erica Denny

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