

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. <sup>PS</sup> 66-37-20

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

**Maryland Historic Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic N/A

and/or common N/A

**2. Location**

Street & number 4602 Drexel Avenue \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

City, town College Park \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

State Maryland County Prince George

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing address of all owners)

Name Doug Desjardins

Street & number 4602 Drexel Avenue Telephone no \_\_\_\_\_

City, town College Park State & zip code MD 20740

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's Count Land Office Liber 45

Street & number County Administration Building Folio 10873

City, town College Park State MD

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

Title N/A

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

Depository for survey records Maryland National Capital Planning Commission

City, town Upper Marlboro State MD

**7. Description** Survey No. \_\_\_\_\_

Condition		Check One	Check One	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

The Desjardins' house is Colonial Revival style. The residence is a two-story, two-bay house of masonry construction. The house demonstrates such common Colonial Revival features such as: accentuated front door with decorative crown supported by pilasters; multi-pane, double-hung wooden windows. Of the nine principal subtypes of Colonial Revival houses identified in *A Field Guide to American Houses*, this house is a typical Side-gable roof variety.<sup>1</sup> Slate shingles cover the gable roof. Windows throughout the house are wood-framed, double-hung, six-over-six light windows unless otherwise stated.

There is very little landscaping in the yard of this house. Several mature hardwood trees are situated to the west side of the house and in the back yard. An asphalt driveway that has been added to the southeast corner of the lot, leads to a one-story, wood framed garage. Lapped siding covers the exterior of the garage. Asphalt shingles cover the front-facing gable roof. A one-light window is situated in each the east and west elevations. The primary, south elevation of the garage contains a single 30-panel, 10-light overhead door.

This two-story brick house is capped by a side-facing gable roof. Eight-inch lapped siding covers the gable ends of the house. Windows throughout the house are wood-framed, double-hung, six-over-six light windows.

The symmetrical south elevation, or main façade, of the building contains the primary entrance to the west side and a window with shutters to the east. A decorative door surround emphasizes the Colonial Revival style of the house. Pilasters support the wooden decorative crown. The second story elevation contains two shuttered windows placed directly over the window and door openings of the first floor level.

The west elevation of the residence contains a centered, exterior end chimney flanked on both sides by a six-over-six light window at both the first and second story levels. There are also two windows at the basement level contained largely within basement wells.

The east elevation contains a single window at the second story level, toward the south end. Two windows are found at the second story level, with the north window slightly smaller in size than the remainder of the windows throughout the house. Two windows at the basement level are protected by window wells.

The north elevation contains four windows at the second story level, and a vertical eight-light window to the east of a one-story addition at the first floor level. The addition appears to be the only exterior change to this historic building.

The northern, one-story addition is constructed of wood-frame, covered with eight-inch lapped siding. The shed roof of the addition is covered with asphalt shingles. Windows throughout the addition are one-light, fixed windows. The east elevation of the addition contains a wood door, enclosed with a metal storm door, and accessed by dimensional lumber steps and handrail. The west elevation of the addition contains two windows, while the north elevation contains four windows.

The interior of the house is similar to the Sears "Berkshire" model.<sup>2</sup> The only variation between the two buildings is that 4602 Drexel was not built with the side porch, and the interior room configuration is slightly different (see attached).

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<sup>1</sup>Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Knopf Publishing, 1984), p. 322.

<sup>2</sup>Katherine Cole Stevenson and H. Ward Jandl, *Houses By Mail* (New York: Preservation Press, 1986), p. 186.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. 66-37-20

Period	Areas of Significance – Check and justify below				
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology– prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology – historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Exploration/ Settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1948	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/ government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	

Specific dates: 1938

Builder/Architect: (Bob) Watkins Corp./R. Webster Roth

Check:

Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  DApplicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  GLevel of Significance:  National  State  Local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This house was constructed in 1938 by the Watkins Corporation and designed by the architectural firm of R. Webster Roth. This Colonial Revival house is just one in an entire section of Calvert Hills, College Park, Maryland, constructed primarily during the 1930s and 1940s. This house, even with a modern addition to the rear of the structure, maintains its integrity. The house stands as an excellent example of the Side-gable sub-variety of Colonial Revival architecture. This building, even with a modern addition to the rear of the structure, maintains its integrity. This building should be considered a contributing building to the potential historic district of Calvert Hills.

This house and the Calvert Hills neighborhood that it is part of is an excellent example of the suburban expansion that happened as an explosion in the 1930s and 1940s as a result of population boom. By 1940 suburbanites accounted for twenty percent of the nation's population.<sup>3</sup> Colonial Revival plans were especially popular from the late 1920s up to the beginning of World War II.<sup>4</sup> Schweitzer in *America's Favorite Homes* describes the typical features of the Colonial Revival houses as: one, one-and-one-half to two story homes with "Early American" motifs; three to five bays across the front; steeply pitched gable roofs facing away from the street; exterior wall surfaces with a clean look including brick or brick-veneering to achieve a more "Williamsburg" look, or white-painted brick was used to achieve the "New England" look; windows were double-hung with mullions dividing six or eight panes, sometimes grouped in pairs; moldings were simple when used at the entrances; windows, doors and cornice trim tended to be simple and minimal when used at all.<sup>5</sup> Schweitzer describes the interiors of these typical Colonial Revivals as containing: modest versions had five or six rooms with open floor plan; family room generally to the front and service rooms such as kitchen and bath to the rear; some models have entry vestibule; kitchens had up-to-date, modern conveniences.<sup>6</sup>

The compact Colonial Revival served as an excellent starter house throughout the country and was the choice of the 'average American family.'<sup>7</sup> The Colonial Revival style house provided modern conveniences packaged in a traditional, historic looking exterior. The Calvert Hills neighborhood is a representative sample of Colonial Revival construction from the 1920s to 1940s that took place throughout the nation. With numbers of intact, high integrity examples, Calvert Hills should be considered for an historic district with local significance, as a representative manifestation of Colonial Revival architecture and community during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>3</sup>David Ames, Interpreting Post-World War II Suburban Landscapes as Historic Resources, (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1995), p. 100.

<sup>4</sup>Robert Schweitzer and Michael Davis, America's Favorite Homes, (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990), p.190.

<sup>5</sup>Schweitzer and Davis, p. 191.

<sup>6</sup>Schweitzer and Davis, p. 191.

<sup>7</sup>Schweitzer and Davis, p. 191.

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

- Ames, David L. "Interpreting Post-World War II Suburban Landscapes as Historic Resources," Preserving the Recent Past. Washington, DC: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1995.
- Franklin Survey Company. Franklin Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: Franklin Survey Company, 1940.
- Gowans, Alan. The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1987.
- Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Edmonston Historical Survey. Upper Marlboro: M-NCPPC, 1993.
- Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Plat Maps of College Park. Upper Marlboro: M-NCPPC, 1921, 1928, 1940, 1941, 1948.
- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989.
- Schweitzer, Robert and Michael W. R. Davis. America's Favorite Homes: Mail-Order Catalogues as a Guide to Popular Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Houses. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990.
- Stevenson, Katherine Cole and H. Ward Jandl. Houses By Mail: A Guide to Houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. for the Preservation Press, 1986.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property 7500 square feet  
 Map 42, Grid D1, Sub 3200, Sect. A, Block C, Lot 41, Group 80, Plat No. A-0770  
 UTM References: (do not complete UTM references)

Verbal boundary description and justification

College Park Section A 3/72, Block C Lot 41

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

State MD	Code	County Prince George's	Code
State	Code	County	Code

**11. Form Prepared By**

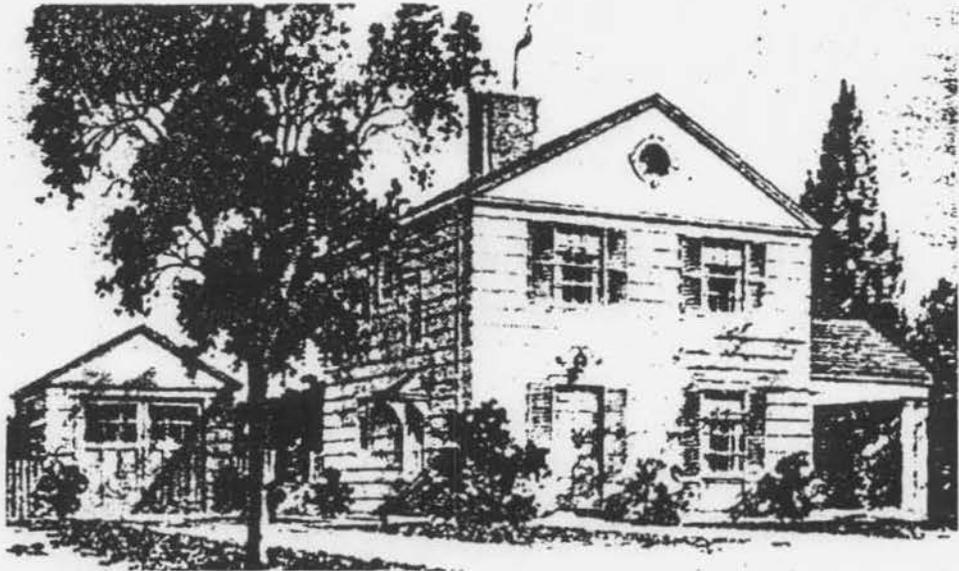
Name/Title	Nancy Niedernhofer
Organization	The George Washington University
Date	3 April 1998
Street & Number	2108 G Street, NW
Telephone	(202) 994-6070
City/Town	Washington
State	DC

The Maryland Historical Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights

Return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, MD  
 21401  
 (301) 269-2438

# THE RICHMOND

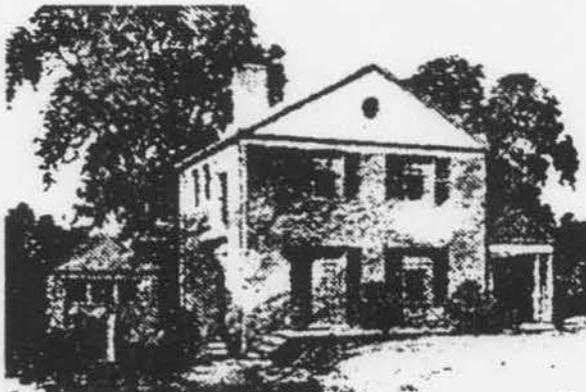


An American colonial home of exceptional beauty. Stately, with an air of real hospitality, this six-room Sears home is far lower in cost than its beautiful appearance suggests. The living room is 18 feet long, the dining room has a delightful bay window, and the kitchen is really modern.

Details and features: Six rooms and one bath. Side and end entrances; wood siding exterior; side porch with paired columns; bay window in dining room.

Years and catalog numbers: 1932 (3360); 1933 (3360)

Price: \$1,692



*The Berkshire*

Similar to: The Berkshire

Difference: Brick exterior

Year and catalog number: 1933 (3374) Price: \$1,564

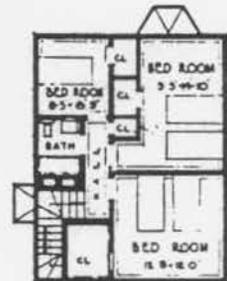
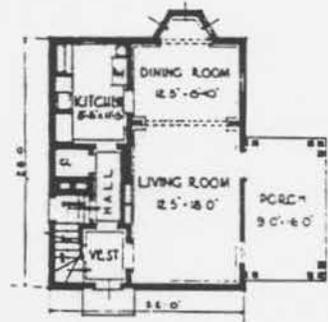




Figure 1. 4602 Drexel Avenue – Main Façade or South Elevation.



Figure 2. 4602 Drexel Avenue – West Elevation.

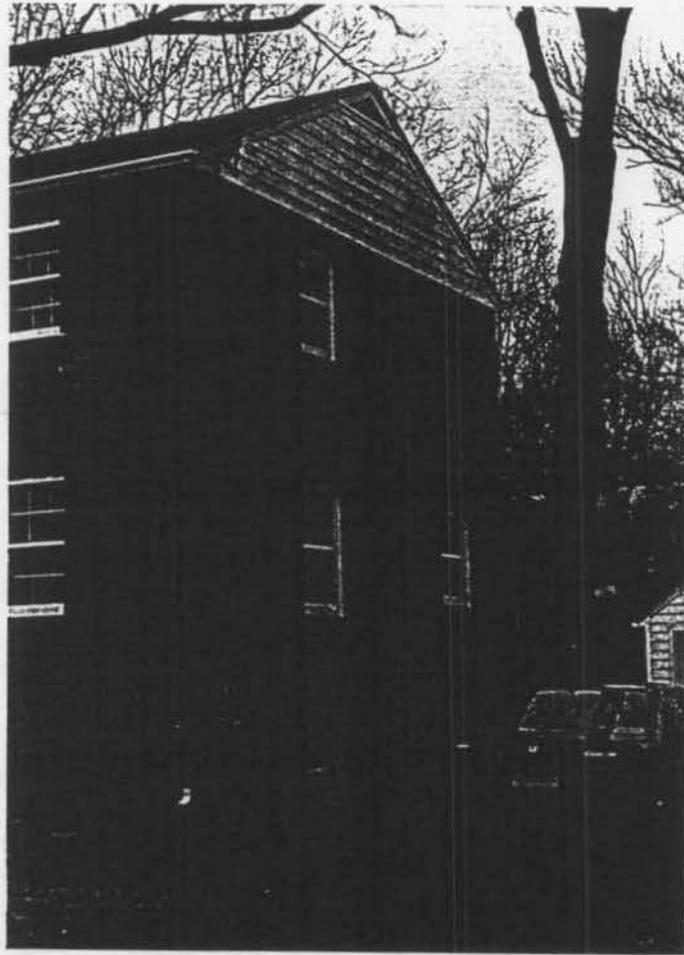


Figure 3. 4602 Drexel Avenue – East Elevation.



Figure 4. 4602 Drexel Avenue – North Elevation.



Figure 5. 4602 Drexel Avenue – North Elevation.

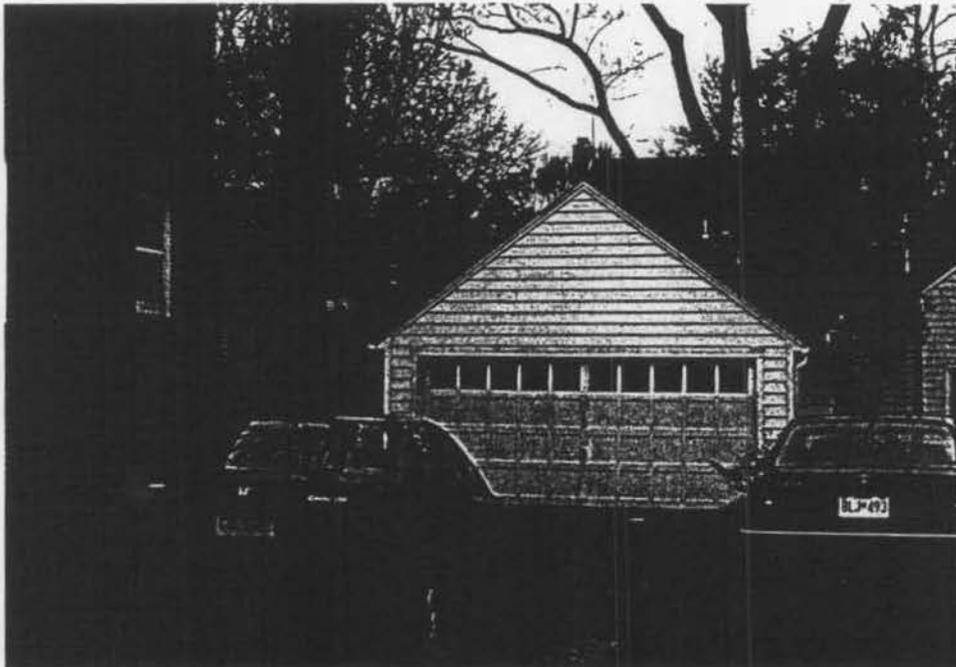


Figure 6. 4602 Drexel Avenue – Garage at Northeast Corner of House.