

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. ^{P6:} 66-37-24
Magi No.
DOE ___ yes ___ no

Maryland Historic Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)
 historic N/A
 and/or common Greer House

2. Location
 Street & number 4616 Drexel Avenue _____ not for publication
 City, town College Park _____ vicinity of 5th Congressional District
 State Maryland County Prince George

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing address of all owners)
 Name Joel and Marti Worshil
 Street & number 4616 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 County Land Record Office Liber 230
 Street & number County Administration Building Folio 4702
 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

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Condition		Check One	Check One	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed			

This house is a three-bay Colonial Revival of masonry and wood-frame construction. The house demonstrates such common Colonial Revival features such as: accentuated front door extended forward and supported by slender columns to form an entry porch; multi-pane, double-hung wooden windows; windows frequently in adjacent pairs. Of the nine principal subtypes of Colonial Revival houses identified in *A Field Guide to American Houses*, this house is an asymmetrical.¹ This one-and-one-half story residence is brick veneer construction. The Cape Cod house is painted white. Asphalt shingles cover the side-facing gable roof. Wood-framed windows throughout the house are six-over-six, double-hung, unless otherwise stated. The house appears to have been altered from its' original appearance several times. Modern additions include a rear addition, a rear deck, and dormer additions.

This residence is situated on a corner lot. The property borders the west side of Rhode Island Avenue and the former trolley line that has since been converted to a pedestrian path. The lot appears largely unaltered since construction on the site. Foundation plantings are present in the front yard, while older hardwood trees are still located within the backyard. The access to the property is a concrete sidewalk that leads to the front door. And an asphalt driveway has been added along the southeast side of the lot to provide the homeowners off street parking, at the east elevation of the house.

The primary façade or south elevation is accessed by a front door sheltered by an extended doorway. The brick steps with dimensional lumber handrail leading to the wooden front door with storm door. The door has two lights above four panels in a cross-and-bible pattern. An extended doorway shelters the front door. The shed roof is covered with asphalt shingles and supported by painted, wooden, dimensional lumber posts. To the east of the entry is a bay window. The wood-framed bay has a centered six-over-six light window flanked on both sides by a four-over-four light window. The bay window is centered over a horizontal three-light window at the basement level. The second story of this elevation has had a dormer addition. Two original dormers have been enlarged to form one large dormer to include both original windows framed by shutters (see figure 1). The dormer addition is enclosed with aluminum siding. The south elevation of the addition has a ribbon of three windows at the first story level, a dormer window at the second story level, and a horizontal three-light window at the basement level

The west elevation of the house has a centered brick exterior end chimney flanked on each side by a six-light vertical window at the second story level and regular windows at the window on both sides at the basement and first floor levels.

The east elevation of the house contains a centered window at the second-story level, and a centered, bricked-in window opening at the first floor level.

The north elevation is primarily concealed by an addition. The only exposed features of the original elevation are two window dormers above the roofline of the northern addition. The north elevation of the eastern addition has a horizontal one-light window at the first floor level.

The one-story, wood-framed rear addition is covered with metal siding. Asphalt shingles cover the

¹Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Knopf Publishing, 1984), p. 321.

front-facing gable roof. The addition covers the entire first story level of the original buildings' north elevation. Both the west and east elevations of the addition each contain two windows. The north elevation of the addition has a centered pair of glass French doors flanked on either side by a window. The French doors access a large wooden deck of recent construction.

8. Significance

Survey No.

Period	Areas of Significance – Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Archeology– prehistoric	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-1948	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry <input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Politics/ government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates: 1950

Builder/Architect: (Bob) Watkins Corp.

Check:

Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
 Level 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 1950 by the Greer family, the same family that owned the Calvert House Inn.² The current owners purchased the property in 1976. While this house is a part of a larger 1930s and 1940s Colonial Revival neighborhood, it is later construction. This house does not detract from its' surroundings, but rather contributes to it. However, due to the age criterion and because it does not individually meet the criterion for exceptional importance, this house is not currently eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

However, in the year 2000, this house should be reevaluated for consideration as a contributing building to the larger Calvert Hills neighborhood. Modern changes that have been made to the house in the past 15 years may at that time be determined to have had too great an impact on the integrity of the property. Yet, the asymmetrical plan of this Colonial Revival style house comprised only 10% of the total Colonial Revivals ever built, and therefore may be considered eligible based on the limited number of surviving examples.³

²Interview with Mrs. Lucie Covey, by surveyor, 5 April 1998.

³McAlester, p. 321.

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 20th 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 sq. ft.

Map 42, Grid D1, Sub. 3200, Sec. A, Block C, Lot 48, Group 80, Plat A-0770

UTM References: (do not complete UTM references)

Verbal boundary description and justification

College Park Section A 3/72, Block C, Lot 48

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	23 February 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



Figure 1. 4616 Drexel Avenue – Main Façade or South Elevation.



Figure 2. 4616 Drexel Avenue – West Elevation.



Figure 3. 4616 Drexel Avenue – Main Façade or South Elevation.



Figure 4. 4616 Drexel Avenue – East Elevation.



Figure 5. 4616 Drexel Avenue – North Elevation looking to Southwest.