

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic ~~Riverdale Park~~ Dodge-Klein House (~~Rhode Island Street House~~)
(Cleveland Avenue)
and/or common ~~Riverdale~~

2. Location

street & number 5905 ~~Rhode Island Avenue~~ Cleveland Avenue not for publication
city, town Riverdale vicinity of congressional district
state Maryland county Prince George's

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Elizabeth Dodge Klein
street & number 5905 Rhode Island Avenue telephone no.: 927-2739
city, town Riverdale state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber JB2
street & number 14735 Main Street folio 767
city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Unknown
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. FG 63-4-20

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
to <input checked="" 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		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Dodge-Klein House, c. 1898, is an excellent example of turn of the century suburban vernacular architecture. The building is in excellent condition with many interior details intact. It was constructed by a Mr. Little of Hyattsville, who is also credited with building the house neighboring to the north. A special carpenter was brought in to build the staircase. Located on Lot 7 and part of Lot 1 in Block 53 on Cleveland Avenue, it was one of the earliest houses to be built in Riverdale Park. It is two stories high plus attic with a gable roof and cement foundation. The roof is finished with asphalt tiles, c. 1911. While originally constructed of clapboards, the house is currently finished with a modern vinyl siding. All major windows are two-light double hung sash with louvered shutters. The main facade, which faces west, is four bays wide. A porch extends the full width of this facade and is protected by a gently sloping roof supported by modern posts. There is no railing. The two right bays project slightly and are capped with a gable top. The second story has windows located in the three right bays and the attic level has a small four-light window. The gable ends have two bay openings each and various window openings. They are otherwise unremarkable. The rear (east) facade is interrupted with a number of modern additions. The first story has a kitchen addition (c.1915) to the south and an enclosed porch on the north. Centered on the second floor is a small square extension which makes up the bath. The original barn sits just to the south of the house at the rear of the property. It is a one story plus attic structure with a gable roof and was built by Mr. Dodge, the original owner of the house. The interior of the house is a four room plan with side stair. The kitchen was originally located in the northeast room, but was moved to a wing addition, c. 1915. The second floor consists of three rooms plus a stair hall. See attached photos.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG # 68-4-20

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 checked="" 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-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	local history	

Specific dates _____ **Builder/Architect** _____

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

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.

The Dodge-Klein House, situated along the tracks of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, was one of the earliest houses to be built in Riverdale Park. Original tax assessments value the lot at \$200 and the improvement at \$800. It is featured in the c. 1904 guide book of the town (see attached photo). Also featured in this same photo (north of the Dodge home) is the residence of Charles Kerfoot. He was Mrs. Helen Dodge's brother and is the individual who encouraged the Dodge's to settle in Riverdale. In the mid-1890's Mr. and Mrs. Dodge (then engaged) would make Sunday bicycle trips from Washington to visit Helen's brother and his family. The house immediately to the south of the Dodge's, which is no longer extant, was also built by relatives of Mrs. Dodge. Like most Riverdale residents, Mr. Dodge commuted to work in Washington. In early years, the Dodge's would board up the house in winter and only live in the Riverdale house full-time during the summer months. The house today remains in the possession of the Dodge family.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG 63-4-20

Prince George's County Deeds and Wills: JB2:767, WCH1/227
Prince George's County Tax Assessment Records: MdHR 12,230
Interviews with Mrs. Elizabeth Dodge Klein, Jan.-Mar., 1990

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christine Hilkeorganization The George Washington University date 4/2/90

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____

The Maryland Historic 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 being 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, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438