

68-4-31

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

Riverdale Park

and/or common

Riverdale

2. Location

street & number

5015 Riverdale Road

not for publication

city, town

Riverdale

vicinity of

congressional district

5

state

Maryland

county

Prince George's

3. Classification

Category

district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

public
 private
 both
Public Acquisition
 in process
 being considered
 not applicable

Status

occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress

Accessible

yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military
 museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

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

name

Robert and Sandra L. Broadwater

(303)

street & number

5015 Riverdale Road

telephone no.: 779-5523

city, town

Riverdale

state and zip code

MD 20737

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Prince George's County Courthouse

liber JWB 5

street & number

14735 Main Street

folio 474

city, town

Upper Marlboro

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date

1990

federal state county local

depository for survey records

Maryland Historic Trust

city, town

Annapolis

state

MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. PG 68-4-31

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

This is a wood framed building covered with a hipped roof with cross gables. An enclosed back porch has been added on at the main level only. It has been reported that the existing siding was put on around 1940, and that the original roof was standing seam. The roof now has shingles hexagonal in shape. It has also been reported that the original German clapboard is still hidden behind the existing exterior wall finish. The gable ends have the original shingles, some of which are fish-scale in shape. Some windows have been replaced, but there is a window on the intermediate landing of the main stair, which has panes of the original textured glass. There is an old detached hut in the backyard with brick floors, which used to house chickens.

The main floor has a large entry hallway. One wall of the living room is bayed. There is the original wraparound porch which has been kept in very good condition. The porch roof is supported by several spindle columns of the Eastlake style. The floor of the porch, which is about 1 foot 6 inches off the ground is supported by concrete piers. The kitchen still has original cupboards.

The upper floor has three bedrooms and a small room next to the master bedroom, which might have been used as a nursery. It has been reported that the old conduits for the original gas lighting are still in the floor space between the upper and lower floors.

The walls of the basement are of poured concrete. The ceiling height is 7 feet. There is an old fashioned exterior door.

5015 Riverdale Road
Description ctd.

The flooring boards are nailed directly to the floor joists. There are no subfloors. The interior walls are still lath and plaster. There is a chimney with openings in the kitchen etc. measuring about 6 inches in diameter and located about 6 feet 7 inches above finish floor. The Building now has a modern HVAC system. There is evidence that the building was at one time using oil for heating.

The attic of this house is now used as an extra bed room.

8. Significance

Survey No. FG 68-4-31

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) 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.

This building is a good example of a Queen Anne style Victorian house whose design originated from a mail order house. The house chronicles changes in domestic heating and lighting over the past eighty years.

The house was built by Walter R. Wilson in 1908. Wilson, one of the earliest residents of Riverdale, has his houses featured on the advertising brochure put out by the Riverdale Park Company. He was a very active business man during the period.

This building has been a victim of the severe flooding of the thirties. The mother of the present owner lived in this house since 1930, and has a photograph of the flood. She is willing to loan it.

The poured concrete base walls of this building indicates construction that might have been very labor intensive.

The internal chimney is significant. The chimney served to emit smoke from the wood or coal stoves used during the first decades.

