

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

PG # 68-4-48

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic N/A

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 4805 Queensbury Road not for publication

city, town Riverdale vicinity of congressional district 19

state Maryland county Prince George's County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts Congregation, Incorporated

street & number 4805 Queensbury Road telephone no.: not available

city, town Riverdale state and zip code Maryland 20737

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 4334

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 714

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

PG: 63-4-48

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 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 turn-of-the-Century house is two stories high with a full basement and attic. The house is marked by a stone fence in front, a large lot, many windows and several obvious additions and alterations.

This Victorian house's main feature is its many windows: 34 in all in a variety of shapes and sizes. On the front (north) facade, there is one round window that looks original and 13 other windows. On each side of the front door there are stained glass windows, which are in good condition and also appear to be original.

The front of the house is marked by a stone fence, which stretches the full length of the house. The entrance to the house consists of a stone porch with black, wrought iron railing and stone steps. There are also brick sides and railing on each side of the steps. The porch also has three narrow columns on each side, which are painted white. The porch is small and acts primarily as an entry way.

The entire house is painted white, with a dark beige base, which is in need of repair in some places. The white-painted siding is a mixture of wood shingles and asbestos shingles, which have cleverly replaced the deteriorating wood shingles over time and blend in very well. The base and foundation appear to be in good condition, and although there is some cracking on the front (north) facade, there is no obvious shifting. The house seems to be structurally sound.

The roof is made of asbestos or asphalt shingles and is in excellent condition. There are several gables: three on the front facade, two on the east facade and one on the west facade. Most gables have windows below them. On the east facade a gable window is in a small bay (perhaps 18") that is several feet high.

Many additions have been made to the house. A chapel, built in 1983 by the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts Congregation, Inc., protrudes from the west facade and includes a stained glass skylight that is approximately eight feet in diameter. The domed skylight is visible from the street. The chapel is made of brick, painted to blend in with the rest of the house. There is a wrought iron, black railing along the roof of the chapel. The roof of the chapel is otherwise flat. Another addition has just been finished in March, 1990 on the back side of the house (south facade) and consists of a flat roof and vinyl clapboard siding, painted white. The addition extends approximately twelve feet and provides extra space for the day care center currently in use.

The interior space of the house is a conglomeration of new and old. A parlor that faces the front of the house and Queensbury Road contains exposed wood (stained) beams on white plaster walls. The foyer has had sound insulation installed on the ceiling and a modern floor covering has been installed.

The lots consist of two full lots and ten feet of a third lot. Much of the yard is landscaped, with grass, but a large portion of one lot is paved to provide a play area for children. A separate two-car garage, with vinyl clapboard siding, has been added behind the paved area, to the rear of the house, and blends well with the newest addition.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1897-1904 Builder/Architect unknown

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.

Because the house passed through the hands of so many owners, it is difficult to determine exactly what is original and what is not. The mixture of old and new is visible from the alterations, the window trim, and even the mixture of old and new shingles. Despite the alterations and additions and change of uses from residential to religious/educational the house is a good example of late Victorian frame style and could possibly have been a mail order house.

The lots of the property, 2, 3, and 4 of Block 42, have a complicated history. Lot 2, which does not contain the existing house, was first purchased in 1897 by the Lorch family from the Riverdale Park Company of New York. Lots 3 and 4 were purchased by separate owners. Lot 4 was sold to George Whalley, a prominent Riverdale citizen, in 1913 and lot 3 was sold to George Whalley in 1902. Lot 4 was sold by the Riverdale Park Company and lot 3 was sold by Mary A. Meister. The house was probably built between 1894 and 1904 and could have been a mail order house. In 1915 George Whalley sold lots 3 and 4 to William A. Rogers. William A. Rogers eventually acquired lot 2 as well in 1932. In 1943 the three lots (east 10' only of lot 2) were sold to Daniel Burke, who sold it to the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts Congregation in 1974. The house was then converted into a day care center and is still used as such today. The land was originally subdivided in 1889 by the Riverdale Park Company of New York. The Company acquired the land, a total of nearly 475 acres, from the prominent Calvert family. The land was originally part of the Calvert Mansion grounds. The mansion was built in 1803 and was the site of the first telegraph message to Washington by Samuel Morse in 1844.

The house is a good example of an early Riverdale Subdivision house. Unfortunately, the many obvious alterations, both interior and exterior, detract from the original form and function of the house.

