

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

PG# 08-4-50

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic N/A

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 4913 Ravenswood Avenue not for publication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 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 type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input 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 Nadia Khattak

street & number 3904 53rd Place telephone no. :(301) 864-6947

city, town Hyattsville state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6187

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 135

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: 68-4-50

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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		

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

The Khattak house, built c. 1904, has three stories and a full basement. The house is somewhat rundown and is in need of both aesthetic and structural repairs. The foundation is shifting and a makeshift drainage system is visible on the east side of the house. The house has a brick foundation and wood shingles, painted white. The front of the house is adorned with a decorative wrap-around porch with wood carving under the cornice. The house also has two chimneys.

The wood siding is painted white and appears to be in good condition. The grey roof is made of asphalt shingles and the foundation is brick that has been painted white. The foundation is cracking in several places and is in need of repair.

A full porch wraps clear around the front of the house and the east facade stopping short at an alcove, bay window and side door. Lattice work is painted green on the west side of the house and is raw wood on the front. The porch is painted grey and has wood railing, painted white. The porch also has its own roof - with asphalt shingles.

The house has a great many windows with shutters in need of repair and painted blue. There are four windows on the east side and a half-circle window under the top gable. Three of these windows have shutters and all shutters are in need of repair. There are also two basement windows on the east side and a basement entrance, consisting of two sloped doors, painted blue. The west side also has a half-circle window. The back of the house (south side) has three windows, one of which is under a gable, and a back door. All windows on this side of the house have beige trim and no shutters.

The garden of the lot is overgrown and a metal fence detracts from the historic character of the house. On the extreme south side of the lot a worn, but still visible driveway leads to an area where a garage might once have stood.

The two chimneys of the house are both in need of repair. One is located on the west side of the house and the other is in the interior.

The house also has a pentagon-shaped room on the west side, facing the porch.

CHAIN OF TITLE

6189:1313 Daniel and Christy Merenda to Nadia Khattak. Deed, dated September 30, 1985. For lot 7 in Block 28 of the Riverdale Park Subdivision.

5147:780 William Patrick and Maureen Wade to Daniel and Christy Merenda. Deed, dated August 27, 1979 for Lot 7 in Block 28.

4552:665 Richard and Thelma Long to William Patrick and Maureen Wade. Deed, dated October 30, 1975. Lot 7, Block 28.

3203:290 Edward and Shirley Bell to Richard and Thelma Long. Deed dated January 3, 1966.

3261:125 Fred and Vernice Clark to Edward and Shirley Bell. Deed, dated July 16, 1965

....continued on next page.

A. 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/			
<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 c. 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.

The Khattak house was built c. 1904 shortly after it was sold to Benjamin Gaither by the Riverdale Park Company of New York. The house has had nine owners. The house is an example of typical frame styling at the turn-of-the-Century.

Originally owned by Benjamin Gaither, a well-known Riverdale resident, the lot was part of four lots owned by Gaither and purchased in 1904 from the Riverdale Park Company. In 1905 an improvement to lot 7 was assessed at \$650 with the total land value of \$500. The value of the house increased to \$725 in 1910 and to \$1515 in 1916. It is probable, therefore, that an addition or other improvement was made on the property. This could have been a garage, because an automobile was listed as an asset in 1910. The Assessment record does not give a lot-by-lot breakdown of the improvements to the four lots but it is clear that houses were built adjacent to lot 7 in 1916. In 1948 Gaither sold the property to the Cross family and the house had a total of seven other owners between 1948 and 1990. It is also known that the house was not owner-occupied in the 1970s and is presently not owner-occupied, which could have contributed to its state of disrepair.

In 1904 the Riverdale Park Company sold many of its lots in the Riverdale Park Sub-division. Many of the lots (now) north of East-West Highway were not sold until after 1910, when utility development was more complete. Gaither's house, therefore, was one of few in the immediate vicinity. The land was originally subdivided in 1889 by the Riverdale Park Company when they purchased nearly 475 acres from the Calvert family.

CHAIN OF TITLE, CONTINUED

- 1641;181 Calbert and Mary Hurd to Fred and Vernice Clark. Deed, dated August 12, 1953.
- 1503;40 Henry H. and Maude Cross to Calbert and Mary Hurd. Deed, dated May 26, 1952.
- 1089;125 Benjamin Gaither to Henry H. and Maude Cross. Deed, dated December 22, 1948.
- 114;365 Riverdale Park Company to Benjamin Gaither. Deed dated June 14, 1904. Lots 6, 7, 13 in Block 28 of Riverdale Park Subdivision.

