

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey: P.G.#68-4-77 Building Date: c.1904

Building Name: 5810 Cleveland Avenue (Paul I. Hidgon House)

Location: 5810 Cleveland Avenue, Riverdale, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Fair/Inaccessible

Description

The house at 5810 Cleveland Avenue (Block 51, Lot 22, Riverdale Park) is a two-story, frame Foursquare with a steeply pitched hip roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The main facade of the house faces the southeast. The house has a rectangular plan and rests on a brick foundation. Centered in each slope of the roof is a large hip-roof dormer lighted by a large 2/2 double-hung window. The exterior of the building is covered with beige asbestos shingles. At the first and second story of the main facade, above and below the porch roof, there are enclosed shed roof additions. The small rear porch has also been enclosed. Although the house has been altered, the exterior retains a number of original features including numerous 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows, the original entry door and surround, and a pair of original supports at the south corner of the front porch.

Significance

The house at 5810 Cleveland Avenue (Block 51, Lot 22, Riverdale Park) is a noteworthy example of early 20th century residential construction in the emerging railroad and streetcar suburb of Riverdale Park. About the time of its completion in 1904, a photograph of the house was included in a Riverdale Park real estate promotional brochure. Although the building has been altered, many of its original exterior details remain; despite the enclosure of portions of the front porch, the original Foursquare form is essentially intact. Land records indicate that Block 51, Lot 22 was sold by the Riverdale Park Company in November 1903 to Paul I. Hidgon, identified in an early directory as a carpenter. Hidgon retained ownership only until September 1905, when the property was sold to a Miriam I. Von Restorff. In February 1906, Von Restorff sold the property to Royal S. Kellogg. In March 1910, the Kellogg and his wife sold the house to Bertram and Rosabella Reeder. According to directories, Mr. Reeder was then employed as a clerk by the Southern Railway. The Reeder family owned the house for more than 40 years.

Acreage: 12,000 sq.ft.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Paul Hidgon House

and/or common 5810 Cleveland Avenue (preferred)

## 2. Location

street & number 5810 Cleveland Avenue  not for publicationcity, town Riverdale  vicinity of congressional district 5th

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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input 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 Robert J. Schissel

street &amp; number 13221 Wye Oak Drive telephone no.:

city, town Darnestown state and zip code Maryland 20878

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6893

street &amp; number Main Street folio 163

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

Survey No. P.G.#68-4-77

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input 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 checked="" 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.

5810 Cleveland Avenue (Block 51, Lot 22, Riverdale Park) is a two-story, frame Foursquare with a steeply pitched hip roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. The house has a rectangular plan and rests on a brick foundation. Centered in each slope of the roof is a large hip roof dormer lighted by a large 2/2 double-hung window. The exterior of the building is covered with asbestos shingles. At the first and second story of the main facade, above and below the porch roof, there are enclosed shed roof additions. The small rear porch has also been enclosed. Although the house has been altered, the exterior retains a number of original features including numerous 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows, the original entry door and surround and a pair of original supports at the south corner of the front porch.

The two-bay main (southeast) facade contains an entry door at left (south) with a wood and glass paneled door flanked by tall, narrow wood and glass paneled sidelights. The remainder of the first story is composed of the enclosed portion of the front porch (to the north) which is lighted by an attached pair of modern wood-frame 1/1 sliding windows on the main facade. At the second story, the south end of porch is also enclosed. The main facade of this enclosure is lighted by a 2/2 double-hung wood sash window. In the north wall of the enclosure is a wood and multi-pane glass door leading to the remaining portion of the porch roof. The second story bay of the main block to the north is lighted by a large 2/2 double-hung window, as is the attic dormer above.

The three-bay northeast elevation is composed of three window elements organized in an essentially symmetrical way. The bays to the southeast and northwest are composed of a 2/2 double-hung window at the second story above a two-sided projecting cantilevered bay with two similar windows at the first story. The center bay of the elevation is composed of small 1/1 double-hung windows; the second story window is placed slightly to the southeast.

The rear (northwest) elevation is also two bays wide. The north bay contains a narrow, horizontal, 1/1 fixed-pane window at the first story and a large 2/2 double-hung window at the second story. The south bay contains a small enclosed porch flush with the southwest elevation of the main block. The enclosure has a rectangular plan and a shed roof. The rear (west) elevation of the enclosure contains a large 1/1 double-hung window. At the second story, above the enclosed porch is a large 2/2 double-hung window.

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Description (continued)

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The southwest elevation of the main block is composed of a large 2/2 double-hung window between the first and second story to the south. At the first story of the north bay there is an attached pair of 6/1 double-hung wood sash windows. North of the paired windows, at the edge of the elevation, is a wood and glass paneled door. At the second story is a large 2/2 double-hung window, and just to the east, a multi-paned window that contains a six-light casement and three-light fixed sidelights. In addition to the large hip roof dormer centered in this slope of the roof, there is a smaller front-gable dormer to the north with a small 4/4 double-hung window.

NOTES

1. Throughout this description, the exact compass orientations of only the elevations are cited. The relative orientations of bays and other features are given to simplify the discussion.

# 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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"/> humanitaria
<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"/> transportatio
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specif

Specific dates c.1904

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 house at 5810 Cleveland Avenue (Block 51, Lot 22, Riverdale Park) is a noteworthy example of early 20th century residential construction in the emerging railroad and streetcar suburb of Riverdale Park. About the time of its completion in 1904, a photograph of the house was included in a Riverdale Park real estate promotional brochure. Although the building has been altered, many of its original exterior details remain; despite the enclosures of portions of the front porch, the original Foursquare form is essentially intact.

The land on which Riverdale Park was built had been part of the Riversdale Plantation established in 1801 when Henri Joseph Stier, a Belgian aristocrat, purchased 800 acres north of Bladensburg, and began to develop a plantation. After Stier's return to Belgium in 1803, completion of the Riversdale mansion and management of the plantation were taken over by his daughter Rosalie and her husband George Calvert. The Riversdale Plantation became a model of its type, and remained within the Calvert family for three generations.<sup>1</sup> After the death in 1864 of Charles Benedict Calvert (son of Rosalie and George Calvert), a commission was appointed to divide the plantation among his heirs and a 300-acre dower lot (as well as the 175-acre lot adjoining it to the north) was sold by Calvert heirs in 1887 to John Fox, president of the Riverdale Park Company, a New York real estate syndicate which then began to develop the suburb of Riverdale Park.<sup>2</sup>

The land was platted in 1889 by D. J. Howell. Streets were laid out in a grid pattern, straddling the Washington line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, which ran north and south through the new community and offered residents easy commuting into the Federal City to the southwest. Park spaces and circles of green were provided in the plan and parkland was reserved around the Calvert mansion which was to be preserved "as a sacred relic of an era replete with memories."<sup>3</sup> Streets were named for the Presidents of the United States, Washington through McKinley, as well as for other distinguished statesman such as Clay, Lafayette and Beale.<sup>4</sup>

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Statement of Significance (continued)

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Construction of dwellings began in the early 1890s. All were of frame construction, and reflected the popular tastes of the period, as illustrated in house catalogs of those years. Some were pyramidal-roof Foursquares, others front-gabled or cross-gabled; many were highlighted by projecting bays or corner towers, and almost all had prominent wraparound porches with jigsaw decorative details. By the turn of the century, the new suburb had approximately 60 dwellings, a Presbyterian church, a handsome Victorian schoolhouse and a railroad station; the latter two buildings were built by the Riverdale Park Company. There were two general stores, and telephone and telegraph communications were available. Concrete sidewalks were provided for the principal streets.<sup>5</sup> Because of its convenient location, its efficient line of transportation into the City, its primary school, and its picturesque, tree-lined streets, Riverdale Park became one of the most desirable residential suburbs in the Washington area.

Land records indicate that Block 51, Lot 2<sup>2</sup> was sold by the Riverdale Park Company in November 1903 to Paul I. Hidgon.<sup>6</sup> Although the 1904 Riverdale Park brochure documents the house as having been constructed for Hidgon, he retained ownership only until September 1905, when the property was sold to a Miriam I. Von Restorff. In February 1906, Von Restorff sold the property to Royal S. Kellogg. In March 1910, the Kellogg and his wife sold the house to Bertram and Rosabella Reeder. The Reeder family owned the house for more than 40 years. In 1952, Rosabella Reeder, then a widow, sold the property to Herbert and Mary Mitchell.<sup>7</sup>

Little is known about the early owners of the property. An early suburban directory indicates that in 1912, Paul Hidgon, identified as a carpenter, still lived in Riverdale on what is now Riverdale Road near 46th Avenue. The same directory indicates that Bertram Reeder, who had purchased the house in 1910, was then employed as a clerk by the Southern Railway.<sup>8</sup>

The property was adapted for use as a multi-unit dwelling a number of years ago. This change in use may account for the accretions and alterations to the house. When the current condition of the house is compared to the c.1904 photograph, several alterations are apparent, most notably the partial enclosure of the front porch and the second story addition to the main facade. The second story porch addition is lighted by an old 2/2 window which may have been reused from the main block. Additional alterations include asbestos shingles that conceal the original narrow board siding and the addition of another cantilevered bay in the east bay of the northeast elevation.<sup>9</sup>

The current owner, Robert J. Schissel of Darnestown, Maryland, purchased the property in July 1983 and maintains it as a multi-family residence.<sup>10</sup>

NOTES

1. See Pearl, S.G., Riversdale, Historic Structures Report, Part II, History: M-NCPPC, 1979.
2. Prince George's County Land Records, JWB8:426,620; JWB12:484; JWB13:614.
3. Riverdale Park real estate promotional brochure, c. 1904.
4. Prince George's County Subdivision Plats, JWB5:747, Riverdale Park real estate promotional brochure.
5. Riverdale Park Real estate promotional brochure; see also Pearl, S. G., Victorian Pattern Book Houses in Prince George's County, Maryland, M-NCPPC, 1988.
6. See Prince George's County Land Records 18:418.
7. See Prince George's County Land Records
8. See Nelson's Suburban Directory of Maryland and Virginia Towns Adjacent to the District of Columbia, 1912-1913, pp.132, 134.
9. See attached copy of c.1904 photograph of the house nearing completion. Photograph is taken from the northeast and shows the main (southeast) facade at left and the northeast elevation at right.
10. See Prince George's County Land Records, 5730:227.

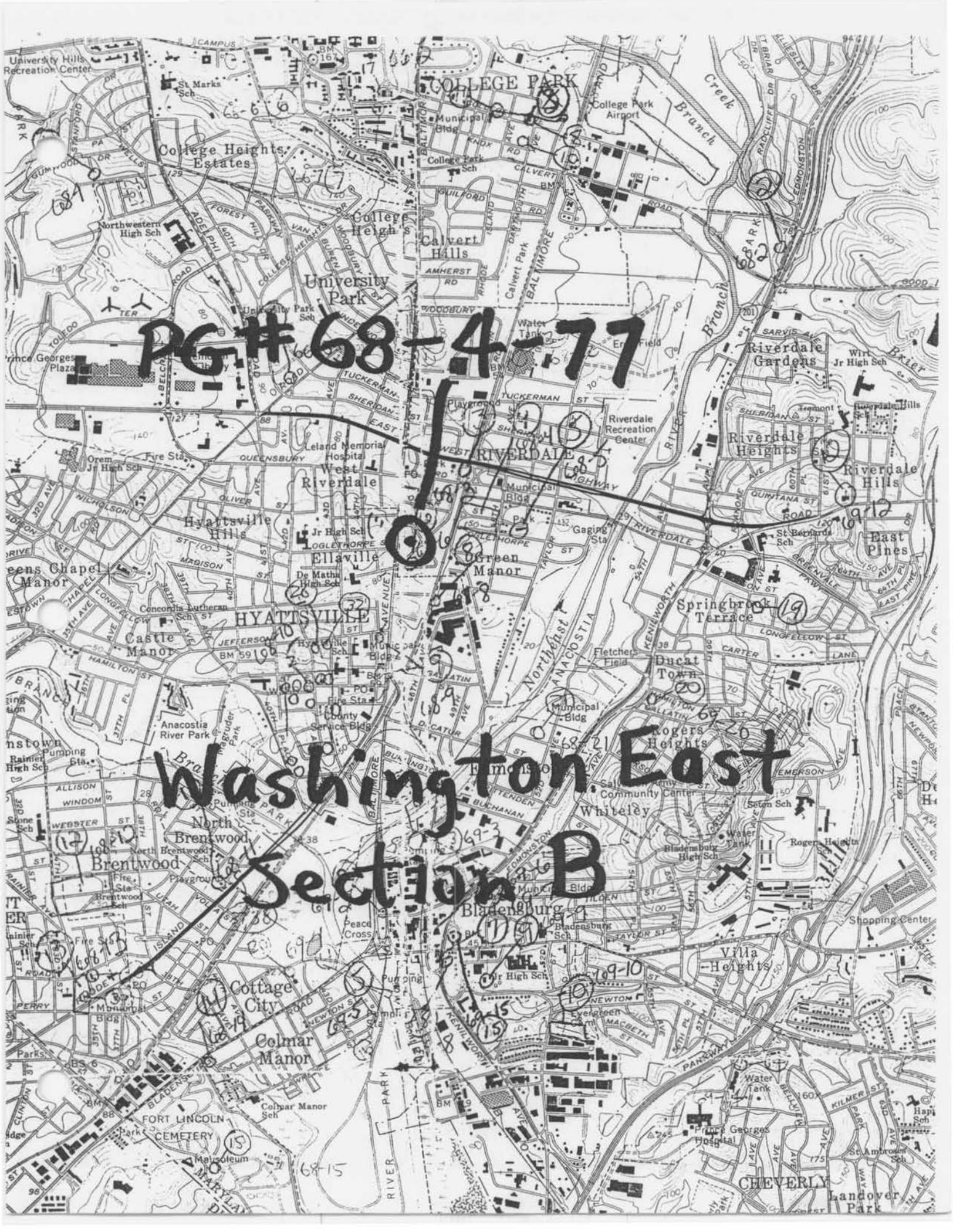


## CHAIN OF TITLE

## 5810 Cleveland Avenue

6893:163 21 December 1987 Deed	Robert J. and Kathleen E. Schissell to Robert James Schissell. Grantors convey Lot 21 (and others) in Block 57, Riverdale Park. Plat recorded JWB 5:688 or A:42. Same obtained in part from Thomas A. and Marilyn G. Real, 26 July 1983, 5730:227.
5730:227 26 July 1983 Deed	Thomas A. and Marilyn G. Real to Robert J. and Kathleen E. Schissell. Grantors convey Lot 21 (and others) in Block 51. Same obtained in part from Charles T. Henney, 22 June 1981, 5423:678.
5423:678 22 June 1981 Deed	Charles T. Henney, personal representative, estate of Mary Phelps Mitchell to Thomas A. and Marilyn G. Real. Grantor conveys Lot 21 (and others) in Block 51. Same obtained in part from Rosabella Reeder, 23 February 1952, 1478:43.
1478:43 23 February 1952 Deed	Rosabella Reeder, widow Bertram Reeder, to Herbert F. and Mary Phelps Mitchell. Grantor conveys Lot 21 (and others) in Block 51. Same obtained (in part) from Royal S. and Clara Kellogg, 30 March 1910, 55:550.
55:550 30 March 1910 Deed	Royal S. and Clara Kellogg to Bertram and Rosabella Reeder. Grantor conveys Lot 21 (and others) in Block 51. Same obtained in part from Miriam I. and Alexander Von Restorff, 27 February 1906, 34:141.
34:141 27 February 1906 Deed	Miriam I. and Alexander Von Restorff to Royal S. Kellogg. Grantor conveys Lot 21 (and others) in Block 51. Same obtained in part from Paul I. Hidgon, 11 September 1905, 27:6.
27:6 11 September 1905 Deed	Paul I. Hidgon to Miriam I. Von Restorff. Grantor conveys Lot 21 in Block 51. Same obtained from Riverdale Park Company, 24 November 1903, 18:418.
18:418 24 November 1903 Deed	Riverdale Park Company to Paul I. Hidgon. Grantor conveys Lot 21 in Block 51, of grantor's subdivision of Riverdale Park. To clear title, this deed is made.





PG# 68-4-77

Washington East  
Section B

Map labels include: University Hills Recreation Center, St. Marks Sch, College Heights Estates, Northwestern High Sch, College Heights, University Park, College Park, College Park Airport, Calvert Hills, Riverdale Gardens, Riverdale Heights, Riverdale Hills, East Pines, Hyattsville Hills, West Riverdale, Green Manor, Springbrook Terrace, Ducat Town, Rogers Heights, Whiteley, Bladensburg, Villa Heights, Cottage City, Colmar Manor, Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Prince Georges Plaza, Orem Jr High Sch, Leland Memorial Hospital, Jr High Sch, De Matha High Sch, Anacostia River Park, North Brentwood, Brentwood, Bladensburg High Sch, Prince Georges Hospital, St. Ambrose Sch, and many others.



5810 Cleveland Avenue (Paul I. Hodgson  
House)

PG#69-4-77

RIVERDALE

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

HOWARD S. BERGER

September 1990

FROM SE

REG: MHT, ANNAPOLIS

1074



5810 Cleveland Avenue (Paul I. Hodgson  
House)

PG#68-4-77

Riverdale

Prince George's County, Maryland

HOWARD S. BERGER

September 1990

FRONT NE

NEG: MHT, ANNAPOLIS  
20F4



5810 Cleveland Avenue (PAUL I. HIGDON)  
RIVERDALE (HOUSE) PG#68-4-77

Riverdale

Prince George's County, Maryland

Howard S. Berger

September 1990

FRIM SE

NEG: MHT, ANNAPOLIS  
30F4



Residence Being Completed by P. I. Hidgon.

PG #68-A-77

5810 Cleveland Avenue (PAL I. HIGSONI HOUSE)

Riverdale

Prince George's County, Maryland

Howard S. Berger

MAY 1991

FROM NE

NEB: MHT, ANNAPOLIS

4014

Photograph from c. 1904 Riverdale Park  
real estate promotional brochure.