

Maryland Historic Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

DOE ___ yes ___ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic N/A
 and/or common Walker House

2. Location

Street & number 4604 Drexel Avenue _____ not for publication
 City, town College Park _____ Vicinity of 5th Congressional District
 State Maryland County Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<u>X</u> occupied	___ agriculture	___ Museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	___ Unoccupied	___ commercial	___ Park
___ structure	___ both	___ Work in progress	___ educational	<u>X</u> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ Religious
___ object	___ in process	___ Yes: restricted	___ government	___ Scientific
	___ being considered	___ Yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ Transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	___ military	___ Other:

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

Name Roger & Lucille Covey
 Street & number 19 Cleveland Avenue Telephone no Unknown
 City, town Bethany Beach State & zip code DE 19930-9601

5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Land Office Liber 765
 Street & number County Administration Building Folio 4957
 City, town Upper Marlboro State MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

Title N/A
 Date _____ Federal ___ state ___ county ___ local
 Depository for survey records Maryland National Capital Planning Commission
 City, town Upper Marlboro State MD

7. Description

Condition	Check One	Check One	Survey No.
___ excellent	___ Deteriorated	___ unaltered	date of move _____
<u>X</u> good	___ Ruins	<u>X</u> altered	
___ fair	___ Unexposed	___ moved	

The Covey House is Colonial Revival style. The residence is a two-story, three-bay masonry construction. The house demonstrates such common Colonial Revival features such as: accentuated front door with decorative pediment supported by pilasters; symmetrical façade including balanced windows and center door; multi-pane, double-hung wooden windows. Of the nine principal subtypes of Colonial Revival houses identified in *A Field Guide to American Houses*, this house is a typical Side-gable roof variety.¹ The house is painted white. Slate shingles cover the gable roof. Windows throughout the house are wood-framed, double-hung, six-over-six light windows unless otherwise stated.

A one-story, wood-framed addition that has been added to the buildings' north or rear elevation appears to be the only change to this historic building. A porch stoop has also been enclosed on the building's north elevation, to enclose the original backyard access to the house. There are a few mature hardwood trees in the yard of this residence. Foundation plantings are found at the south and east elevations. Wire fencing approximately 3'5" high delineates the boundary of the backyard. An asphalt driveway has been added to the southwest corner of the lot to provide off-street parking.

The south elevation or primary façade of the building is symmetrical. The centered door at the first floor level is flanked on both sides by an eight-over-eight light, shuttered window. An elaborate, decorative surround accentuates the wooden front door, with wooden storm door. Three brick steps with metal handrail access the door. Two wall dormers are the only features of the second story. These dormers each contain a six-over-six light window with lapped siding above in the front-facing gable eave above. There are metal gutters just below the roof eave and vertical guttering on either side of the front door and the edge of the walls.

The west elevation of the building contains a six-over-six light window within the gable eave, and two six-over-six light windows at the second story level. The first floor contains a one-over-one light window to the north and a cantilevered, bay window to the south. The wood-framed bay window is covered with a slate roof, and contains a centered eight-over-eight light window flanked on both sides by a six-over-six light window.

The east elevation contains a centered brick exterior end chimney. The chimney is flanked on either side by a six-light vertical window within the gable eave, a six-over-six light windows at the second-story level, an eight-over-eight light window at the first story level, and a six-over-six light window exposed within basement window wells.

The north elevation contains two wall dormers at the second story level, identical to those on the south elevation. A wooden door with wooden storm door is located at the west side of the first story level. This entrance is accessed by five brick steps and is sheltered by a projecting wooden pediment. Centered in the north elevation is a six-over-six light window at the first story level. Accessed by a door at the first floor, to the east end of the north elevation is a one-story wood addition. Tarpaper shingles covers the shed roof. The addition is comprised of lapped siding and large screens.

The interior of the house is very similar to the Sears "Worcester" model.² The only variations between the two (see attached) is that 4604 Drexel Avenue has a bay window, a half bathroom to the rear of the first floor, and that the first and second floorplans are reversed.

¹Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Knopf Publishing, 1984), p. 322.

²Katherine Cole Stevenson and H. Ward Jandl, *Houses By Mail* (New York: Preservation Press, 1986), p 182.

8. Significance

Survey No. 66-37-22

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/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"/> 1900-1948	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/ government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates: 1938

Builder/Architect: (Bob) Watkins Corp./R. Webster Roth

Check:

Applicable Criteria: A B C D

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 Covey House was built in 1938 by the Watkins Corporation and designed by the architectural firm of R. Webster Roth. This Colonial Revival house is just one in an entire section of Calvert Hills, College Park, Maryland, constructed primarily during the 1930s and 1940s. This house, even with a modern addition to the rear of the structure, maintains its integrity. The house stands as an excellent example of the Side-gable sub-variety of Colonial Revival architecture. This building, even with a modern addition to the rear of the structure, maintains its integrity. This building should be considered a contributing building to the potential historic district of Calvert Hills.

This house and the Calvert Hills neighborhood that it is part of is an excellent example of the suburban expansion that happened as an explosion in the 1930s and 1940s as a result of population boom. By 1940 suburbanites accounted for twenty percent of the nation's population.³ Colonial Revival plans were especially popular from the late 1920s up to the beginning of World War II.⁴ Schweitzer in *America's Favorite Homes* describes the typical features of the Colonial Revival houses as: one, one-and-one-half to two story homes with "Early American" motifs; three to five bays across the front; steeply pitched gable roofs facing away from the street; exterior wall surfaces with a clean look including brick or brick-veneering to achieve a more "Williamsburg" look, or white-painted brick was used to achieve the "New England" look; windows were double-hung with mullions dividing six or eight panes, sometimes grouped in pairs; moldings were simple when used at the entrances; windows, doors and cornice trim tended to be simple and minimal when used at all.⁵ Schweitzer describes the interiors of these typical Colonial Revivals as containing: modest versions had five or six rooms with open floor plan; family room generally to the front and service rooms such as kitchen and bath to the rear; some models have entry vestibule; kitchens had up-to-date, modern conveniences.⁶

The compact Colonial Revival served as an excellent starter house throughout the country and was the voice of the 'average American family.'⁷ The Colonial Revival style house provided modern conveniences packaged in a traditional, historic looking exterior. The Calvert Hills neighborhood is a representative sample of Colonial Revival construction from the 1920s to 1940s that took place throughout the nation. With numbers of intact, high integrity examples, Calvert Hills should be considered for an historic district with local significance, as a representative manifestation of Colonial Revival architecture and community during the early 20th century.

³David Ames, *Interpreting Post-World War II Suburban Landscapes as Historic Resources*, (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1995), p. 100.

⁴Robert Schweitzer and Michael Davis, *America's Favorite Homes*, (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990), p.190.

⁵Schweitzer and Davis, p. 191.

⁶Schweitzer and Davis, p. 191.

⁷Schweitzer and Davis, p. 191.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Ames, David L. "Interpreting Post-World War II Suburban Landscapes as Historic Resources," Preserving the Recent Past. Washington, DC: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1995.

Franklin Survey Company. Franklin Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: Franklin Survey Company, 1940.

Gowans, Alan. The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1987.

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Edmonston Historical Survey. Upper Marlboro: M-NCPPC, 1993.

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Plat Maps of College Park. Upper Marlboro: M-NCPPC, 1921, 1928, 1940, 1941, 1948.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989.

Schweitzer, Robert and Michael W. R. Davis. America's Favorite Homes: Mail-Order Catalogues as a Guide to Popular Early 20th Century Houses. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990.

Stevenson, Katherine Cole and H. Ward Jandl. Houses By Mail: A Guide to Houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. for the Preservation Press, 1986.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 7500 square feet

Map 42, Grid D1, Sub 3200, Sect. A, Block C, Lot 42, Group 80, Plat No. A-0770

UTM References: (do not complete UTM references)

Verbal boundary description and justification

College Park Section A 3/72, Block C, Lot 42

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

State MD	Code	County Prince George's	Code
State	Code	County	Code

11. Form Prepared By

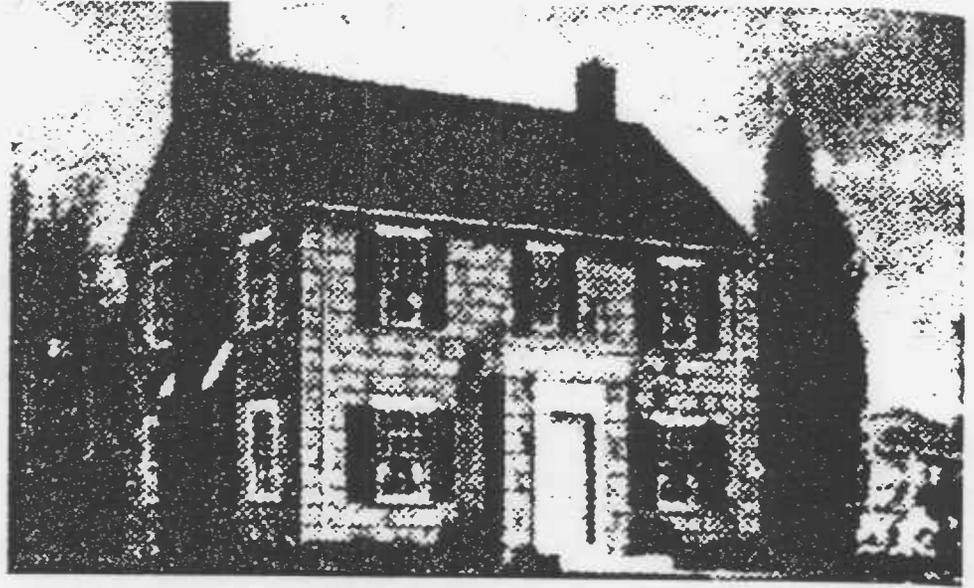
Name/Title	Nancy Niedernhofer
Organization	The George Washington University
Date	23 February 1998
Street & Number	2108 G Street, NW
Telephone	(202) 994-6070
City/Town	Washington
State	DC

The Maryland Historical 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 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, MD
 21401
 (301) 269-2438

THE NEWARK



*A*rchitecturally correct in every detail, this splendid home has simple dignity and an unusually desirable floor plan, with center halls.

Details and features: Six rooms and one bath. Red cedar shingle exterior; projecting front entrance. Fireplace and nook in living room.

Years and catalog numbers: 1929 (P3285); 1933 (3285)

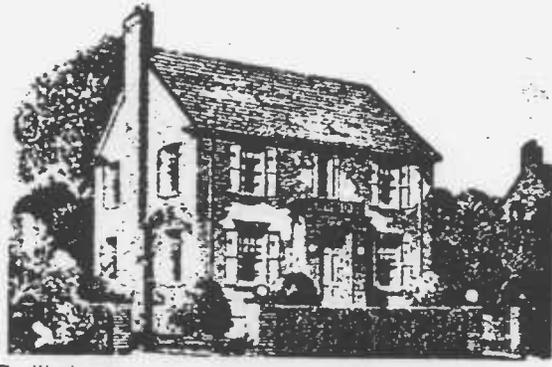
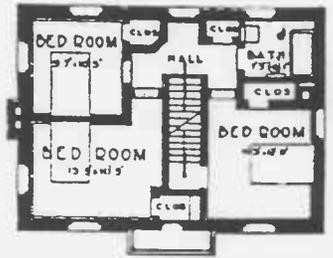
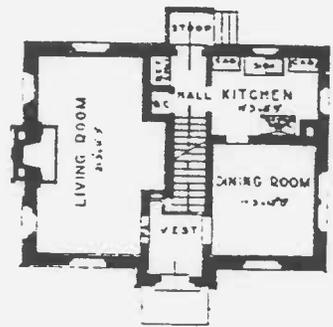
Price: \$2,048 to \$2,678

Similar to: The Worchester

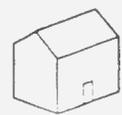
Difference: Brick exterior

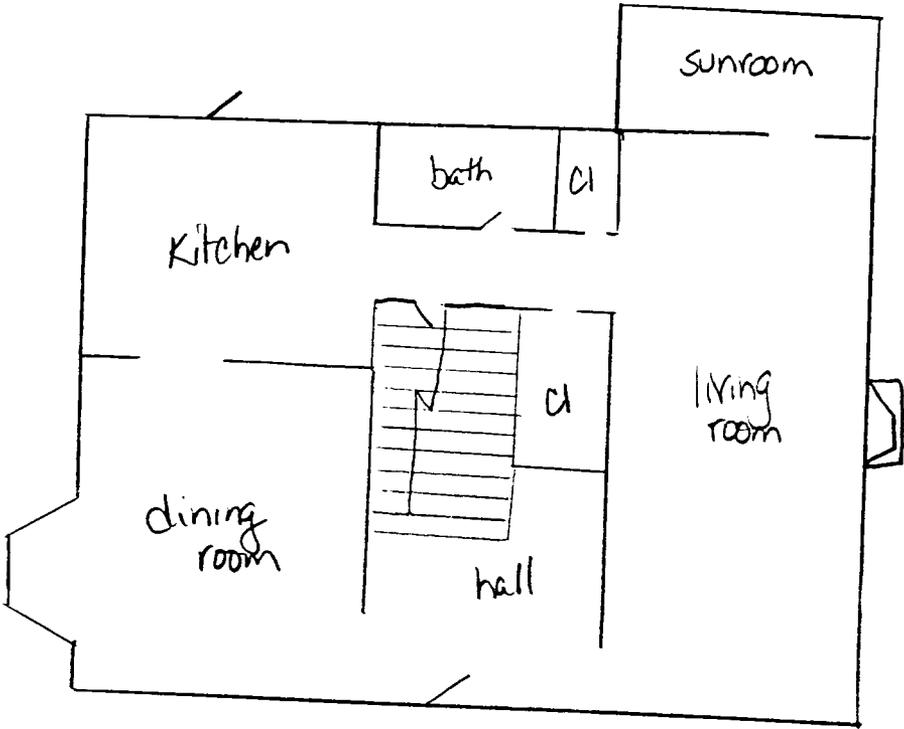
Years and catalog numbers: 1932 (3291); 1933 (3291)

Price: \$2,315



The Worchester





4604 Drexel Ave
Interior Floor Plan
Not to Scale



Figure 1. 4604 Drexel Avenue – Main Façade or South Elevation.



Figure 2. 4604 Drexel Avenue – West Elevation.

PG: 6 6-37-22



Figure 3. 4604 Drexel Avenue – Main Façade or South Elevation.

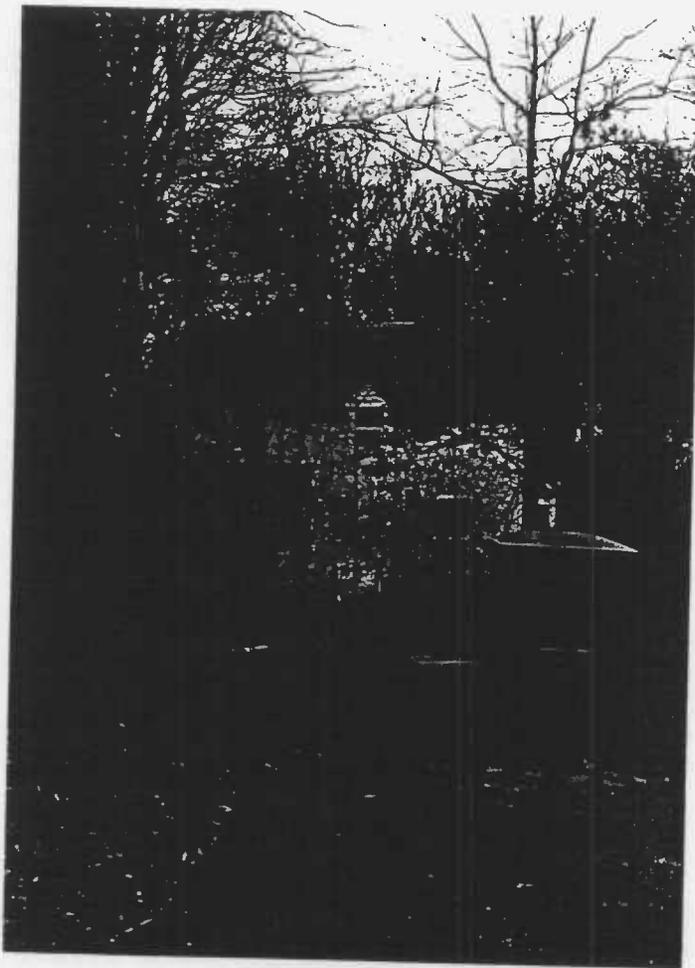


Figure 4. 4604 Drexel Avenue – North Elevation.

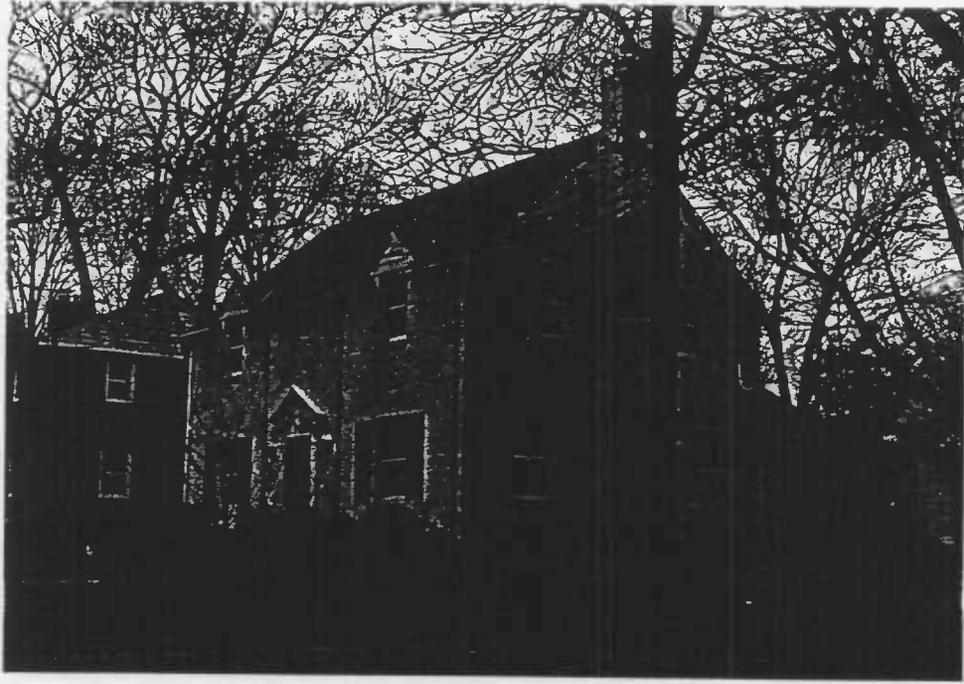


Figure 5. 4604 Drexel Avenue – East Elevation looking to Northwest.

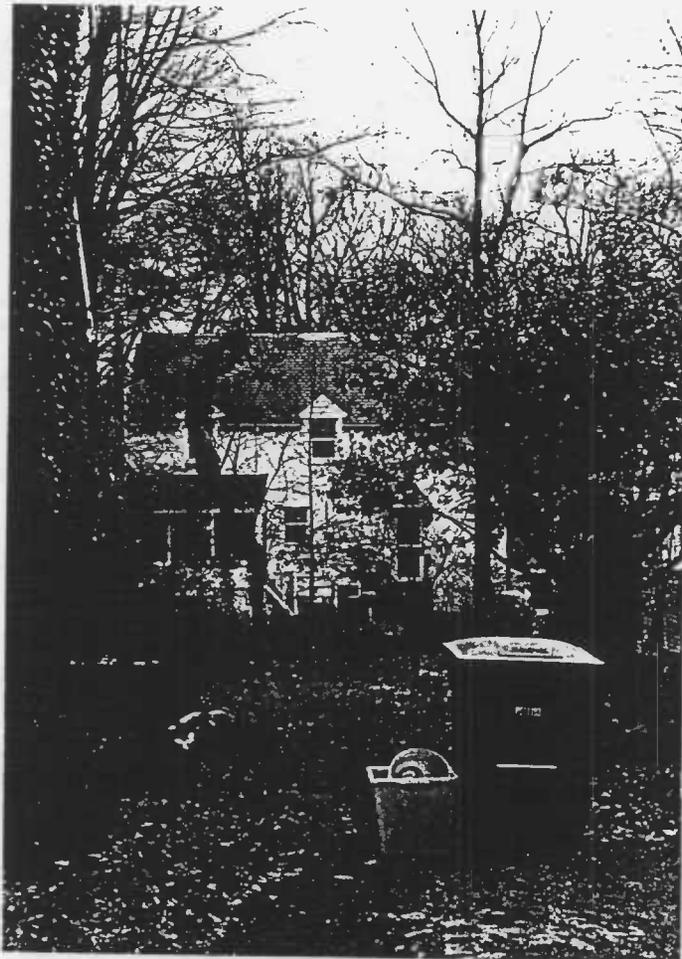


Figure 6. 4604 Drexel Avenue – North Elevation.