

1. Name: Stone Ridge

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 35/7

3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 21  
C-7

4. Address: 9101 Rockville Pike, Bethesda

## 5. Classification Summary

Category	<u>building</u>	Previous Survey Recording	<u>M-NCPPC</u>
Ownership	<u>private</u>	Title and Date:	<u>1976 Inventory of</u>
Public Acquisition	<u>N/A</u>		<u>of Historical Site</u>
Status	<u>occupied</u>	Federal	<u>State</u> <u>x</u> <u>County</u> <u>x</u> <u>Local</u>
Accessible	<u>yes; restricted</u>		
Present use	<u>educational</u>		

6. Date: c. 1904

7. Original Owner: George Hamilton

## 8. Apparent Condition

a. good      b. altered      c. original site

9. Description: This is an example of colonial revival architecture. Today this building is the main building to Stone Ridge Country Day School. To the east (rear) of this house a new modern addition has been erected. This house sits on a ridge facing west; it is two-and-a-half stories, six bays by three bays, and is constructed of common bonded brick. The west porch has a flat balustraded roof supported by four wooden columns. There are six-over-six double-hung windows set into flat arches with keystones. There is a three part window above the west front door. There are five gabled dormer windows on the west elevation. The house has a gable roof with slate shingle covering.

10. Significance: Stone Ridge is a turn of the century Georgian Revival mansion and is one of the few survivors of the grand houses that once lined Rockville Pike. It is associated with George Hamilton, a leading citizen of the Washington metropolitan area.

In 1904 George Hamilton purchased 20 acres on Rockville Pike, then a dusty country road passing by many large estates. He graduated from Georgetown Law School and later joined the faculty and became dean. He headed the law firm of Hamilton and Hamilton, chaired the Capital Tractor Company, helped organize the Union Trust Company, and was the president of the District Bar Association.

Hamilton built his brick mansion on a gentle hillside overlooking the Pike, adding to the house and outbuildings three years later. By the early 1920's the main house had been greatly enlarged and five more outbuildings added.

Hamilton lived in the Georgian Revival mansion until his death in 1946 at the age of 92. His wife died the next year and Stone Ridge was sold with 35 acres to the Country Day School of the Sacred Heart. A parochial day school was opened and still operates on the grounds. Several large classroom buildings have been added, but the mansion and most of the outbuildings are still in good condition.

11. Researcher and date researched: Donald Leavitt-9/79

Candy Reed  
Arch. Description  
14. Designation  
Approval

12. Compiler: Margaret Coleman 13. Date Compiled: 10/79

15. Acreage: 34.37 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 35/7  
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Stone Ridge

AND/OR COMMON

Country Day School of the Sacred Heart

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

9101 Rockville Pike

CITY, TOWN

Bethesda

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input 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 checked="" 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Country Day School of the Sacred Heart Inc.

Telephone #: 657-4322

STREET & NUMBER

9101 Rockville Pike

CITY, TOWN

Bethesda

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20014

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 1084

Folio #: 258

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

—FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:35-7

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This is an example of colonial revival architecture. Today this building is the main building to Stone Ridge Country Day School. To the east (rear) of this house a new modern addition has been erected.

The house sits on a ridge, facing west, overlooking Rockville Pike. Built on brick foundations and laid up in common bond, this brick house is six bays across and three bays deep, it is two and a half stories high. On the west (front) elevation there is a square balustraded porch with a brick base covered by octagonal and square brick-colored tiles. The porch roof is supported by four wooden columns. There are six over six light double hung windows set into frames with stone sills and flat arch lintels with keystones. Above the west door, at the second story, there is a three part window composition. The central window is surmounted by a wooden fan panel which produces the effect of this window being in the Palladian style. There are five gabled roofed round-headed dormer windows on the west elevation. The central dormer has a broken scroll pediment. At the south end of the west elevation, at the second floor, there is a three-sided bay window support from below by two consoles and having a balustraded roof. Below the bay window at the first floor, there is a recently installed stained glass window. This was done at the time the former ballroom was turned into a chapel.

The house has a gable roof with slate covering and egg and dart molding and dentils at the cornice line. There are two interior chimneys. Entering the house through the west (front) door one comes up a central east-west hallway. At the east end of the original house is a traceried fan light above the door with sidelights which opens into the modern classroom addition. An open well opening two flight staircase ascends from west to east along the north interior wall and then makes a ninety degree turn and continues, ascending north to south, to the second story. The stairway has curving banister and slender turned balusters. From the point where the stairway turns south, the east half of the hallway is barrel valuted and has white painted wooden coffers and full field paneling. Southwest of the hall is a sitting room and to the southeast is the kitchen services area (the kitchen itself is in the basement); south of these two rooms and running the full east-west width of the house is the chapel, formerly the ballroom. North of the hall is a large living room. There is a large archway which distinguishes the main living room from the small library near its east end. There are built-in bookcases along the three walls. The living room has a coffered ceiling. The brick fireplace against the north exterior wall has a decorative mantle with flanking applied plasters. Above the mantelpiece there is a panel depicting George and Martha Washington and the Custis Children. The fireplace in the sitting room has a marble surround and applied pilasters supporting a simple mantelpiece.

Floors throughout the house are wooden but are presently covered by wall-to-wall carpeting. The walls and ceilings, except where already described are plaster over lath. Doors are all wooden paneled. There are hooded radiators throughout the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

Attachment Sheet A

Stone Ridge Country Day School  
Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD

M: 35/7

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The house is situated on a hilly campus. To the northeast is an octagonal wooden gazebo. Built on brick foundations, the gazebo has eight wooden columns supporting the octagonal roof, with slate coverings. These columns are linked by a railing with square balusters. Benches are built in on the interior along the railing.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

## SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1904

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

George Hamilton

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stone Ridge is a turn of the century Georgian Revival mansion and is one of the few survivors of the grand houses that once lined Rockville Pike. It is associated with George Hamilton, a leading citizen of the Washington metropolitan area.

Early in this century, George Hamilton decided to buy property in the countryside for an estate. In 1904 he purchased 20 acres<sup>1</sup> bordering on the Rockville Pike, at that time a dusty country road passing by many large estates.

Hamilton was the youngest son of John and Mary Hamilton of Prospect Hill, the family estate near LaPlata, Maryland. His earliest years were spent in the gentle life of a southern plantation. Although the Civil war wiped out the family's fortune, Hamilton's parents put their son through the finest schools. He was educated at Georgetown College from preparatory school in 1865 at age 11 through Law school. His fortunes changed at the end of his under-graduate work when he was chosen to make a speech at commencement. The topic is lost to history, but at least one listener was extremely impressed. A Mr. Merrick, head of the prestigious law firm of Merrick and Morris, was so impressed with young Hamilton that he offered to hold open a position in his firm for him until he graduated from law school. Hamilton completed law school and began his career at Merrick and Morris. The fact that he also married the boss's daughter Louise Merrick (20 years his junior) probably did little to dim his success. Years later the law firm became Hamilton and Hamilton.

In 1885 he joined the faculty at Georgetown Law School and remained there for 58 years, the last 27 as dean. However, in that era of self-made men, Hamilton also kept a hand in the world of business. He was counsel and finally chairman of the Capital Traction Co., Washington counsel for the B & O Railroad, one of the organizers of the Union Trust Co., and President of the District Bar Association in 1893. He was involved with many social programs: the Board of Education, the Boy Scouts, the Catholic Church, and the Corcoran Gallery.

The first section of the brick mansion was built in 1904-05 on a gentle hillside overlooking Rockville Pike. Tax assessments for 1905 list the worth of the building at \$10,000, a substantial figure for that day. In 1907 Hamilton purchased 83 acres adjoining his estate<sup>2</sup> and added more onto the house. Three years later several outbuildings were constructed, including tenant house, a cow barn, and an auto shed. Hamilton called his estate "Stone Ridge".

By 1918 five more outbuildings had been added and in the early 1920s the main house was greatly enlarged, bringing its assessed value up to an astronomical \$40,000 in 1923 dollars.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(continued on Attachment Sheet A)

He lived in the Georgian Revival mansion until his death in 1946 at the age of 92. His wife died the next year and Stone Ridge was sold with 35 acres to the Country Day School of the Sacred Heart. Hamilton's daughter Louise was the treasurer of the eastern province of the Order of the Sacred Heart. A parochial day school was opened and still operates on the grounds. Several large classroom buildings have been added, but the mansion and most of the outbuildings are still in good condition. Today Stone Ridge is no longer a haven for the rich, but it provides a sheltered environment for their children's education.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Land Records of Montgomery County, Md. 176/279 (2/27/1904).
- 2 Ibid., 196/134 (10/29/1907).

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land and Assessment Records of Montgomery County, Md.  
George Hamilton Biography File, Washingtoniana Room, Martin Luther King  
Memorial Library, Washington, D.C.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 34.37 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located on the east side of Rt. 355, approx. 1 mile south of the interchange  
with I-495.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	Donald M. Leavitt	Candy Reed - Arch. Description
ORGANIZATION	Sugarloaf Regional Trails	DATE
STREET & NUMBER	Box 87	Sept. 1979
CITY OR TOWN	Dickerson	TELEPHONE
		926-4510
		STATE
		Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic 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 being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M #35-72  
1608544702

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Stone Ridge Country Day School of the Sacred Heart

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Rockville Pike & Cedar Lane

CITY, TOWN

Bethesda

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBILITY**
- 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**

NAME

Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, Telephone #: Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

Rockville Pike

CITY, TOWN

Bethesda

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:  
Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

M.35-7

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a complex of buildings that now make up the Stone Ridge School and Convent. The older structures are of the early 20th Century vintage, and were built during the Rockville Pike "estate" era. The main house is a huge, Georgian Revival, stone building. Further details not known at present-not visited at time of survey.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:35-7

# 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
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<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		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Has been part of the Stone Ridge school complex since at least the late 1940's.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

Spring, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

M:35-7



Headmistress  
Anne Dyer, RSCJ

# Stone Ridge

SCHOOL OF THE SACRED HEART

*"For the sake of one child, I would have founded the Society."*

*-Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat*

- Admission
- Alumnae
- Auction 2003
- Book Sale
- Calendar/Events
- Check Email
- Giving to SR
- Libraries
- Parent Info
- Summer Camp
- Tour



Uppe



Middl



Lowe



Stone Ridge is a  
member of the  
Sacred Heart  
Network

9101 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20814  
301-657-4322      www.stoneridge.org