

1. Name (Indicate preferred name)

Survey no: ^{PS} 68-4-16

historic Kreider House
and/or common

2. Location

street & number 4910 Somerset Street not for publication
city, town Riverdale vicinity of congress'l dist. 5
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 prog.	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> priv. res.
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquis.	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restrict	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being consid.	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrest.	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transport.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applic.	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other

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

name Mr. and Mrs. Denver C. Spear
street & number 4910 Somerset Street telephone no.: 927-1090
city, town Riverdale state, zip code Md.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds etc. P.G.C. Courthouse liber 3213
street & number Main Street folio 452
city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state

7. Description

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Condition	Check One	Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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"/>
<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.

4910 Somerset is a two-story house with a pyramidal roof over the original portion of the house. There is an old two-story addition in the back as well as a newer one-story addition behind it. The original house has a square footprint and a front porch the width of the house with a front gable roof. The original, two-inch wide, horizontal siding is still covering the house and the first addition. The house is of a type that was common in Riverdale and surrounding communities. Across the street is another similar house.

The original house has a square plan, while the first addition is a two-room wide rectangle across the back of the original house. The second addition is only one room wide, and located at the north-west back corner of the first addition. The plan of the original house shows a front room the width of the house with stairs to the second floor along the east wall (the house is located on the north side of Somerset) and a fireplace on the west wall, a dining room in the north-west corner and a very small, original kitchen in the north-east corner, now enlarged as the first addition is also kitchen space. I was not invited to see any more of the house.

The wood floors were covered with a rug, and the moldings were plain but about 5 inches wide, typical of the 1920's. The windows are regular, double-hung. Only the porch windows have upper panes divided into six lights. They may be original. The original house has generally two bays of windows on each elevation.

The pyramidal roof, which appears to be sheathed in asbestos shingles, has a ventilation dormer in front. The attic is not used. There is a chimney against the west side of the house.

The front porch has three doric half columns on brick pedestals which reach up to the height of the top rail. The pediment of the front-gabled porch roof is sheathed in horizontal wood siding about six inches wide. The entrance door is in the right bay, and the porch steps are in line with the door. The three columns holding the porch roof are not symmetrical, as the central one is slightly moved to the right in order to frame the steps.

The horizontal wood siding is probably original. It is only about one and one half to two inches wide. The first addition is covered in the same siding which supports the theory that it was added by the first owners. Aluminum siding covers the second addition.

The property is edged by a low, wood fence with diagonal pickets. A driveway on the west side of the house leads to a wood shed/garage in the back. There is also an aluminum covered shed and a well tended garden.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance - Check and justify below				
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeol.-prehist.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> comm. plann.	<input type="checkbox"/> landsc. arch.	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeol.-hist.	<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"/> /humanitar.	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> explor./settl.	<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/	<input type="checkbox"/> transport.	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> /government	<input type="checkbox"/> other	

Specific dates 1924

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 Kreider house is a typical example of a modest, square pyramidal house common in Riverdale (one such house across the street) and surrounding communities. A row of such houses from 1910 is located in Hyattsville. The house was assessed for the first time in 1924. (1) It stands on lot 13 in block 8 in Riverdale. The original narrow, wood siding is of interest.

The Town of Riverdale became known in 1889 as Riverdale Park, when the subdivision plat was recorded by the Riverdale Park Company. The new planned community with tree-lined streets was located on land previously called Riversdale Plantation, which had been owned by the Calvert family. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad cuts the community in half, which at the end of the 19th century meant a perfect location for a railroad suburb. Riverdale is about 7 miles from the center of the District of Columbia. The early houses were built in different vernacular Victorian styles, some with elaborate Queen Anne details. There were a few larger houses, while most were average sized. The bungalow style took over around 1920. Most houses were built of wood with clapboard siding, only a few were built of brick. The community included two churches, a school and a train station.

The house may have been built by the Riverside Park Company before they sold the property to the Kreiders in 1923, as the company extended a

8. Significance (cont'd)

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mortgage of \$2,500 to the Kreiders at the time of purchase. (2) This may also have been a construction loan as the year 1924 is written next to the assessed amount. (3) The deed contains the typical covenant. (4)

Mr. Kreider made money during Prohibition driving a truck for a beer company and spent some of the money on the first addition. (5) As the addition was done in time close to the construction of the house, the same siding could be used. The second addition was built in the 1960's. Mrs. Spear knows a neighbour who knows a lot about the old days in the neighborhood

Notes:

1. 1923 - 1926 Assessment Book for P.G. County for the 19th district.
2. Chain of Title attached.
3. 1923 - 1926 Assessment Book for P.G. County for the 19th district.
4. Appendix A with covenant attached.
5. Hearsay

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey no.: P₆*68-4-16

Chain of Title enclosed.

Notes under Item #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 9,000 sq. ft., lot 13, block 8, Riverdale
Quadrangle name Washington East Section B **Quadrangle scale**

Verbal boundry description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lena Gill, Master of Architecture Candidate, Catholic University
organization George Washington University **date** March 28, 1990
street & number **telephone** 965-2327
city or town Washington **state** D.C.

This form is a copy of the Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form. It is not identical as it has no heading and the UTM references have been removed from item 10. This copy is prepared by Lena Gill.