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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Zalmon Richards House

AND/OR COMMON

Zalmon Richards House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1301 Corcoran Street NW.

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Washington

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

D. C.

CODE

11

COUNTY

D.C.

CODE

001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
___DISTRICT	___PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	___AGRICULTURE ___MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	___UNOCCUPIED	___COMMERCIAL ___PARK
___STRUCTURE	___BOTH	___WORK IN PROGRESS	___EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
___SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	___ENTERTAINMENT ___RELIGIOUS
___OBJECT	___IN PROCESS	___YES: RESTRICTED	___GOVERNMENT ___SCIENTIFIC
	___BEING CONSIDERED	___YES: UNRESTRICTED	___INDUSTRIAL ___TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	___MILITARY ___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Marion Blakey and
 Dr. William Dooley

STREET & NUMBER

1301 Corcoran Street NW.

CITY, TOWN

Washington

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

D.C.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Recorder of Deeds
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

6th. and D Streets NW.

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None known

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Richards House is a small, 20 by 67 foot, Victorian rowhouse, three stories, on a raised basement, with a slate mansard roof. The end house in a row of identically designed brick structures, the Richards House has an untrimmed, recessed arched main entrance doorway, with transom, approached by a flight of cast-iron stairs on the west side of the first story. A three-sided wooden bay with tall narrow arched windows, and paired decorative brackets occupies the center of the narrow front, on the ground and first story levels. A similar bay in the center of the east wall overlooks a small yard, enclosed with a cast-iron fence.

The brick house is painted red, and all the trim, including dripmoldings around the second story windows, the bays and the brackets and cornice, are painted white. On the rear of the house, the present owner has removed a two-story porch addition seen in the 1965 photographs, and is repairing and renovating the house, which had been used as a rooming house until recently, when he acquired it. The little house to the rear (north, 1636 13th Street) is not part of the Richards House property.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1882-1899

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Zalmon Richards (1811-1899) devoted most of his life to furthering the development of public education. Known primarily as the founder and first president of the National Teachers' Association (today's National Education Association), Richards was also largely responsible for the Congressional Act which in 1867 established a national educational office.

When he was 17, Richards began teaching in a small country school. Based on this experience he resolved to make teaching his profession. After supplementing his limited education by courses at the Southampton Academy, he entered Williams College, where he came under the influence of Mark Hopkins.

Having graduated from Williams in 1836, he became principal of the Cunningham Academy in Massachusetts. From there he moved to Stillwater, New York, where he headed the local academy. While at Stillwater he organized teachers' institutes in New York and Vermont.

Moving to Washington, D.C., in 1849, he became principal of the preparatory department of Columbian College. Soon he organized the Columbian Teachers' Association. In 1852 he established a private school, the Union Academy.

Richards was the principal founder of the National Teachers' Association, which was organized in Philadelphia in 1857 "to elevate the character and advance the interests of the profession of teaching, and to promote the cause of popular education in the United States." He served as the Association's first president and continued to devote much time to it until 1896. The early growth and progress of the Association, which in 1870 became the National Education Association and is today the leading educational organization in the United States, must be credited in large part to Richards' leadership.

In 1861 Richards was appointed to a clerical position in the Treasury Department but soon transferred to the Bureau of Statistics, where he collected statistics on the schools of the United States. Using this information he was largely responsible for the passage in 1867 of an Act of Congress establishing a national Department of Education to study educational problems throughout the country. He accepted a position with this Department, and remained there until 1869, when, as a member of the Washington city council, he secured the creation of the office of superintendent of the city's public schools. He was the first to hold this position, serving one year.

(CONTINUED)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bowerman, Sarah G., "Zalmon Richards," Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. 15, 561-2.

Clark, Allen C., "Zalmon Richards, Educator," Records of the Columbia Historical Society, Vol. 42-43, 145-53 (Washington, 1942).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	3, 2, 3, 9, 7, 0	4, 3, 0, 8, 7, 2, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE : Blanche Higgins Schroer, Landmark Review Project; Steven H. Lewis, 1965

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Sites Survey Division, National Park Service

3/2/77

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1100 L Street NW.

202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Washington

D.C. 20240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/26/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

11-26-80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Throughout the remainder of his life, Richards remained active in promoting the betterment of public schools. He spoke widely and wrote numerous papers and reports on the subject. In 1880 he published a Teachers' Manual for use by primary school teachers. He also wrote The Natural Arithmetic, published in 1885.

Richards purchased the three-story brick house at 1301 Corcoran Street, N.W., in Washington about 1882. There he lived for the remainder of his life, supporting himself by teaching classes in one of its rooms. The house is privately owned and is not open to the public.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Beginning at the northwest corner of the intersection of 13th and Corcoran, N.W., the national historic landmark boundary follows the property line, in a westerly direction along the north curb of Corcoran Street; thence north along the property line, following the common connecting wall between the Richards House and the next property to the west; thence following the north property line east to the west curb of 13th Street; thence south along the west curb of 13th Street to the beginning point.