city, town Washington

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received **SEP** 3.0 1986

state D.C. 20001

date entered

11/0V 8 1986

		<del></del>	
1. Name			
nistoric 1644 – 1666 Park	Road, N.W.		
and or common South side o	f the 1600 block of	Park Road, N.W	•
2. Location			,
street & number 1644-1666 P.	ark Road, N.W.		not for publication N/A
city, town Washington	vicinity of	N/A	
state D.C.	code 11 county	N/A	<b>code</b> 001
3. Classification			
Category  district public x building(s) x private structure both site	yes: restricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation X other: vacant
4. Owner of Prop	pertv		
**************************************			
	owners, see attach	ed list	
		ed list	
name Multiple private		ed list	
name Multiple private	owners, see attach	state	
name Multiple private street & number city, town  5. Location of Lo	owners, see attach	state <b>ON</b>	
name Multiple private street & number city, town	owners, see attachvicinity of egal Descripti	state ON	
name Multiple private street & number city, town  5. Location of L	owners, see attach  vicinity of  egal Descripti  Recorder of Deed	state ON	D.C.
name Multiple private street & number  city, town  5. Location of	owners, see attach vicinity of  egal Descripti  Recorder of Deed  6th and D Street	state On S S, N.W.	D.C.
name Multiple private street & number  city, town  5. Location of Locaurthouse, registry of deeds, etc.  street & number  city, town  6. Representation	vicinity of vicinity of  egal Descripti  Recorder of Deed 6th and D Street  Washington  on in Existing	state On S s, N.W. state Surveys	
name Multiple private street & number  city, town  5. Location of	vicinity of vicinity of  egal Descripti  Recorder of Deed 6th and D Street  Washington  on in Existing	state On S S, N.W. state Surveys operty been determined e	

### 7. Description

Condition	V	Check one	Check one	
X excellent	_X_ deteriorated	unaltered	$\underline{X}$ original site	
good	🤙 ruins	X altered	moved date	
good _X fair	unexposed			

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The following description was taken from the application for the designation of these properties as a D.C. Landmark. The application was submitted to the Historic Preservation Review Board by the property owner and it was dated 11/14/83. The appearance has changed little since that time.

#### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

1644-1666 Park Road, built in 1906, consists of twelve red brick, three-story, semi-detached Colonial Revival row houses facing north. The six duplex buildings, which are divided vertically, rest on raised basements and are topped with mansard roofs punctuated by dormers. Like many other residences in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood, a one-story wooden porch supported by Doric columns extends across the front of each building.

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Although the basic form of the six buildings on Park Road is similar, two types of buildings alternate within the row. (1644-46, 1652-54, 1660-62) features two shallow octagonal oriel windows projecting from the second floor. The windows terminate in a Doric cornice that separates the second and third floors. Four round arched dormers pierce the slate mansard of the third The pressed brick facade is laid in a bond composed entirely of stretchers. Type 2 (1648-50, 1656-58, 1664) is a more mannered composition. There are two triple windows on the second floor. The brick wall framing two sets of double windows on the third floor interrupts the mansard and cornice. A less elaborate cornice surmounts the third floor. Brick jack arches with molded keystones top the second floor windows. The cornice above the windows on the third floor is crowned by a curved pediment broken by urns. The Type 2 structures feature Flemish bond brick high-lighted by glazed headers. On both building types the fenestration is varied, consisting of multiple-light over single-light sash. The arched entries are symmetrically paired at the center of each building. There are delicate fanlight transoms above the doors.

Because 1664-1666 Park Road abuts an earlier Romanesquestyle brick building and because this end building is squeezed into narrower lots formed by the triangular block, it differs slightly from the other buildings. The 1664 half is Type 2 in form. 1666 is slightly wider than the other duplexes and lacks a porch. It features a projecting gambrelroofed gable bay that helps tie the house in with its older neighbor whose Park Road facade is distinguished by two projecting bays. It functions as a transitional element skillfully joining this twentieth-century row with its nineteenth-century neighbor on the corner. The lack of a porch is compensated for by the elegant elliptically arched transom and sidelights that frame the front door.

(Continued on Form NPS-10-900)

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 _X_ 1900–	Areas of Significance—C	
Specific dates	1906	Builder/Architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. (Architect)

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Historic Preservation Review Board of the District of Columbia has recommended that the State Historic Preservation Officer nominate the south side of the 1600 block of Park Road, N.W. (1644-1666 Park Road, N.W.), to the National Register of Historic Places for the following reasons:

- 1. Essentially unaltered from its original appearance, the south side of the 1600 block of Park Road, N.W., is a distinctive and unusual group of semi-detached Colonial Revival row houses that possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.
- 2. As an excellent and important design by Appleton P. Clark, Jr., it possesses high artistic value and represents the work of a master and as a distinctive example of speculative row house development in Mount Pleasant during its main period of development, it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a building type and period of design.

The following information was contained in the application for the designation of the south side of the 1660 block of Park Road, N.W., as a D.C. landmark.

1644-1666 Park Road, built in 1906, is an excellent example of the work of noted Washington architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. This distinctive group of semi-detached Colonial Revival row houses exemplifies Clark's approach to the D.C. row house type as well as to the vernacular of the Mount Pleasant neighborhood. 1644-1666 Park Road meets Criterion C of the Criteria for Evaluation for the National Register of Historic Places because it is a good example of the distinctive characteristics of speculative row house development in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood in the early twentieth century and because it represents an excellent example of Appleton Clark's work.

#### HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL BACKGROUND

1644-1666 Park Road was designed by Appleton P. Clark, Jr., in 1906 for the builders Osterman and Butler. Although Clark designed numerous residences within the District of Columbia, there are only five streetscapes of houses attributed to him.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet.

10	Goograph	ical Data		
	Geograph	· <del> · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·</del>		
Quadra	e of nominated property ngle name Washingt eferences	approximately. on west, D.C.	7 acres - MD - VA	Quadrangle scale 1:24000
Zone C E	-/ <del> </del>	4   3   1   0   9   7   0   Northing	B   Zone E D   F   H	Easting Northing
Verbal	boundary description	n and justification		
See	attached sheet.			
List all	states and counties	for properties overla	ipping state or cou	nty boundaries
state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code
11.	Form Prep	pared By		
name/tit	tle Anne H. Adams	, Architectura	l Historian	
organiza	ation Wilkes, Art	is, Hedrick &	Lane, Cht. date	July, 1986
street &	number 1666 K St	reet, N.W.	tele	phone (202) 429-7133
city or t	own Washington		stat	e D.C. 20006
12.	State Hist	toric Prese	ervation 0	fficer Certification
The eva	luated significance of th	is property within the s	tate is:	
	national	X state	local	
665), I h accordi	ereby nominate this pro ng to the criteria and pro	perty for inclusion in the	e National Register a	c Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- nd certify that it has been evaluated ce.
State Hi	storic Preservation Offic	er signature $\mathcal{U}$	NOCED, IV	vompsor
title St	ate Historic Pres	ervation Officer		tompson  date September 30, 1986
	NPS use only hereby certify that this process.	roperty is included in th		date 11-6-86
Kee	per of the National Regi	ster		
) Atte	st:			date
	of Registration			

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

4

Page

1

Below is a list of current property owners and mailing addresses for Park Road, N.W. according to the Department of Revenue and Finance:

1644 Park Rd., NW (Lot 824, Sq. 2608)	-	Wolsey A. Semple 1644 Park Rd., NW Washington, DC 20010
1646 Park Rd., NW (Lot 636, Sq. 2608)	<u>-</u>	Kalian NV, Inc. 1651 Lamont St., NW Washington, DC 20010
1648 Park Rd., NW (Lot 2049, Sq. 2608)	-	Starting Managing, Inc. 473 H St., NW Washington, DC 20001
1650 Park Rd., NW (Lot 634, Sq. 2608)	-	Douglas L. & E.C. Namien 3312 Newark St., NW Washington, DC 20008
1652 Park Rd., NW (Iot 633, Sq. 2608)	-	Kalian NV, Inc. 473 H St., NW Washington, DC 20001
1654 Park Rd, NW (Lot 632, Sq. 2608)	-	Kalian NV, Inc. 473 H St., NW Washington, DC 20001
1656 Park Rd., NW (Lot 631, Sq. 2608)	-	Kalian NV, Inc. 473 H St., NW Washington, DC 20001
1658 Park Rd., NW (Lot 630, Sq. 2608)	-	Kalian NV, Inc. 473 H St., NW Washington, DC 20001
1660 Park Rd., NW (Lot 1027, Sq. 2608)	-	Kalian NV, Inc. 473 H St., NW Washington, DC 20001
1664 Park Rd., NW (Lot 822, Sq. 2608)	-	Barbara L. Berney 3817 Upton St., NW Washington, DC 20016
1666 Park Rd., NW (Lot 626, Sq. 2608)	-	Leo & Anastasios Vandas c/o Demers Real Estate 1662 Columbia Rd., NW Washington, DC 20009

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

1

Before the 1982-83 certified rehabilitation occurred, the exterior appearance of the row had changed little over the years. The structure that had undergone the most significant alteration was 1660-62 (now 1660) which had been converted to an apartment building known as the Tivoli. While the interior plan of this duplex had been completely altered, its exterior was changed very little. Although no building permit has yet been found for this conversion, city directory research indicates that it probably took place in 1923. The doors to either half of the duplex had been infilled with brick and replaced by a single central entry. Porch columns had been removed and metal rail had been installed in place of wood. Wide central cement steps replaced the two sets of wooden steps formerly leading onto the porch.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1 of 3

Park Road is one of the five and is the only row of houses designed by Clark in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood. The row demonstrates his facility for eclectic design and his aptitude for creating buildings that relate well to their context. The semi-detached houses are a thoughtfully-composed Colonial Revival adaptation of typical Mount Pleasant residences. The Colonial Revival detailing is reinforced by the symmetry, proportions, and brickwork of the buildings. Porches, mansard roofs, and shallow oriels characteristic of the Mount Pleasant neighborhood are fused with the Colonial Revival elements to create a skilled composition of mass and detail. Where the row terminates at an older Romanesque Revival corner building, the transition is artfully handled.

Appleton P. Clark (1865-1955) was a Washington native and one of the District's most important early twentieth-century architects. He left his mark on the city through his civic and professional activities as well as through his buildings. many other architects of the period, Clark educated himself through apprenticeship and self-study. After graduating from Central High School, he first worked in the office of A. B. Mullett before taking a European tour to supplement his experience. By 1886 he had opened his own practice. Although he was responsible for countless buildings in Washington, his more notable ones include the Foundry Methodist Church, 1500 16th Street, N.W., the Roosevelt Hotel, 2101 16th Stret, N.W., and the Homer Building, an individually designated landmark at 601 13th Street, N.W. He was particularly interested in children's institutions. He designed three children's homes in the Washington area and in 1945 published Institutional Homes for Children, a book advocating cottage-type residences.

Clark was no less active in business and professional affairs. A member of the Washington Board of Trade, he served for many years as chairman of its architecture committee. He was a member of the board of directors of the Equitable Life Insurance Company, the Terminal Refrigerating and Warehousing Company, the Washington Hotel Company, and the Washington Sanitary Housing Company (this last organization sponsored low-cost housing in the District). Clark was active in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) on both the local and national levels. He served on several national committees and was president of the local chapter.

Continued on Form NPS-10-900)

Page 2 of 3

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet 8

Especially knowledgeable about local architecture, Clark chaired committees to revise the city's building codes and wrote the "History of Architecture in Washington" for Volume II of John Clagett Proctor's Washington: Past and Present. This 1930 essay reveals Clark's concern with the quality of architecture in the District of Columbia, a concern shared by other architects throughout the country. Clark and his colleagues were eager to see building worthy of the nation's capital. He remarked favorably about the Georgian foundations of Washington's architecture but lamented the gradual decline in high-style architecture that began with the Federal period. Clark was not impressed by Washington's urban vernacular. He referred to it as "the pressed brick style" and disparaged the "perfectly meaningless lines and shapes" with which it was ornamented. saw a "vast improvement" in architectural character during the twenties, an improvement to which he and his fellow architects contributed.

Clark's buildings at 1644-1666 Park Road may be viewed in the context of his concern for elevating standards of architectural taste. The nineteenth-century row house was a form that exemplified the shortcomings of Washington architecture to early twentieth-century designers. Consequently, the way these architects themselves treat speculative housing is of particular interest. According to the tabulation of Clark's work compiled by Dorothy Provine and Darryl Munsey at the National Archives, Clark designed numerous speculative houses. He appears to have designed residences primarily in groups of two or three houses rather than participating in the development of entire rows or There are only six known streetscapes by Clark, one of which has been demolished. The remaining rows consist of some early row houses built in 1892, a Romanesque-style development at 312-336 Maryland Avenue and 313-321 C Street built in 1905, some modest row houses for Washington Sanitary Housing Company constructed in 1911, and twenty-one detached bungalows in Petworth. The nineteenth-century row houses lack the sureness and sophistication of Clark's later work, and the bungalows read as individual buildings rather than as an ensemble. While the dwellings constructed by the Washington Sanitary Housing Company form a handsome row, their design is parimarily utilitarian and they appear stark when compared with Clark's other work or with other housing of the same period. Thus the streetscapes on Park Road and on Capitol Hill are particularly noteworthy.

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

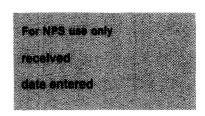
For NPS use only received data entered

Continuation sheet Item number 8 Page 3 of 3

The contrast between the Mount Pleasant row and the Capitol Hill row, built only one year apart, is revealing. illustrates both Clark's concern for context as well as his careful use of traditional forms and ornament. The Capitol Hill row responds to the vernacular that establishes this nineteenth century neighborhood's architectural character. The dwellings are executed in brick and incorporate the projecting bays that dominate street facades in this part of the District. The row is distinguished by alternative elliptical and hexagonal bays and by its treatment as a unified composition. A single roof-line highlighted by a central shaped gable flanked by pedimented gables unifies the row. The streetscape thus relates to the picturesque quality of earlier row houses on Capitol Hill while presenting a more coherent and studied appearance. The Park Road townhouses share the same attention to compositional rhythm and detailing. Like the Maryland Avenue row houses, they relate to The neo-Georgian detailing, the context of their neighborhood. symmetrical composition, mansard roofs, white-columned front porches, and shallow oriels are all characteristic of the more recent residential area of Mount Pleasant. The two rows of dwellings and the contrast between them demonstrate Clark's facility in the practice of eclectic design as well as his sensitivity to the context in which his buildings were placed. 1644-1666 Park Road is an excellent example of the contribution well-designed speculative architecture can make to the urban While these duplexes were modest homes, their skillful massing, respect for their surroundings, and thorough incorporation of high-style detailing lends them a dignity and presence that sets them apart.

Continued on Form NPS-109-900)

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

#### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- A. Application for the designation of 1664-1666 Park Road, N.W. as a D.C. Historic Landmark.
- B. Staff Report on the above-mentioned application prepared by Historic Preservation Review Board Staff dated 2/24/84.
- C. Primary and Unpublished Sources:

Alumni Records of Central High School, June 1940 (Washingtoniana Division, Martin Luther King Library)

D.C. Building Permit 2611, April 7, 1906 (National Archives)

Index to D.C. Building Permits taken out by Appleton P. Clark (National Archives)

Minutes of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (A.I.A. Archives)

Mount Pleasant Historic District Application (National Capital Planning Commission)

#### D. Secondary Sources:

#### 1. Books:

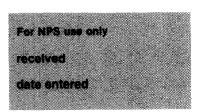
Applewhite, E.J., <u>Washington Itself</u>. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1981.

City Directories: 1914, 1915, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1926, 1930, 1935, 1940 (Washingtoniana Division, Martin Luther King Library).

Glassie, Henry H., <u>Victorian Homes in Washington</u>. Washington, D.C.: Columbia Historical Society, 1966.

Goode, James, <u>Capital Losses</u>. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1979.

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

9

Page 2

Proceedings of A.I.A. Annual Conventions: Washington, D.C.: Board of Directors of the A.I.A., 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1929 (A.I.A. Library).

Proctor, John Clagett, ed., <u>Washington Past and Present</u>, <u>Volumes II and III</u>. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1930 (Washingtoniana Division, Martin Luther King Library).

Senkevitch, Anatole et al., Mount Pleasant Neighborhood Study, Inc., "Architectural History," "Historical Background," and "Architectural Analysis." College Park, Maryland: University of Maryland.

#### 2. Newspaper Clippings:

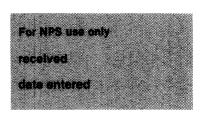
"Appleton Clark, 89, Dean of Architects," Washington Post, March 27, 1955.

"Appleton Clark, Jr., Architect in District More than 50 Years," Evening Star, March 26, 1955.

"Appleton P. Clark, Prominent Retired D.C. Architect Dies," <u>Evening Star</u>, March 27, 1955.

"Mrs. Appleton P. Clark Funeral Rites Today," Evening Star, March 17, 1949.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

10

Page

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies lots 637, 636, 635, 634, 633, 632, 631, 630, 1027, 627, and 626 in Square 2608 in the north-west quadrant of the District of Columbia. These adjacent lots have a 274.5 foot frontage on the south side of the 1600 block of Park Road, N.W. The majority of the lots are rectangular and 125 feet deep.