

PH0022110

STATE:	Washington, D.C.
COUNTY:	District of Columbia
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 1 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Pierce-Klingbe Mansion
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Linnaean Hill

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 3545 Williamsburg Lane, N.W.			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy, D.C.	
STATE: District of Columbia	CODE 11	COUNTY: District of Columbia	CODE 001

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☐ Object	☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☒ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☒ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify)	☐ Comments

4. AGENCY			
Department of the Interior, National Park Service			
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) National Capital Parks		STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.	
CITY OR TOWN: Washington, D.C.		STATE: District of Columbia	CODE 11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: National Capital Parks			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		STATE: District of Columbia	CODE 11

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: National Park Service survey in compliance with Executive Order #11593			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: National Capital Parks			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.			
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☒ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pierce-Klingling Mansion was built in 1823 by Joshua Pierce, with the west side addition constructed in 1843. The three story, ten-room Pennsylvania Dutch farmhouse style structure was built of blue and grey granite. The stonework is in good condition and, except for superficial touches, it remains as built. The stone walls are 24" thick and the stone arch and tower in front of the entrance show no signs of deterioration. A two story veranda on the south side has an iron railing of scrollwork in a grape design.

The interior of the building has been somewhat modified with plaster, paint and a heating system. Poplar panelling on the stairwell and most of the mantelpiece remain. An enormous fireplace, 6' long and 4' high with a beehive oven built into the wall beside it, was uncovered by PWA workers in 1937.

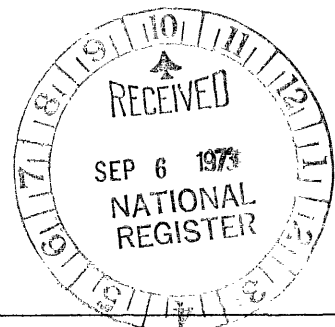
The grounds immediately surrounding the house still bear some of the original plantings by Mr. Pierce, a horticulturist. The estate was once noted for camellias and white pine, but these are mostly gone now. The large hollies, magnolias, and drooping yew found on the terrace are notable.

To the east of the main house is a two-story stone and wood frame barn and carriage house. It is built into the hillside so that each floor has its own entrance corresponding to its ground level. The lower stone story has been authentically restored but the wooden upper level is a reconstruction of an old carriage house modernized for the automobile.

The Utility House is located to the rear and east of the main house, built of granite similar to that of the main house and incorporated into the design of the terrace wall. It is a two story building with 1-1/2' thick walls, 19' in length and 17-1/2' wide. In this structure, each floor has its own entrance which corresponds to its own ground level. The lower floor is not accessible from the top floor because no stairway exists. The building has undergone a change from its original construction in the addition of a brick chimney which was made necessary by the installation of a modern furnace and water heater in the bottom floor. Otherwise the Utility House remains true to its original construction.

The Utility House is mirrored on the west end of the terrace by the Potting Shed which is very similar in design to the Utility House. The Potting Shed is very well preserved and remains a solid stone structure.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1823

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☒ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Linnaean Hill, built in 1823, by Joshua Pierce was named in honor of the Sweedish botanist Karl Van Linnaeus, because the area was so conducive to the raising and growing of shrubs and flowers. The Pierces were extremely interested in horticulture and, shortly after establishing their home at Linnaean Hill, developed it into one of the most beautiful garden spots in the city.

Joshua Pierce also introduced box gardens to Washington. He supplied the first ornamental plantings for the White House, the Capitol and other government buildings and parks. Pierce also maintained the first general nursery in Washington.

Linnaean Hill also became a gathering place for some of Washington's society, notably Daniel Webster, John C. Calhoun, and Henry Clay.

Joshua Pierce died childless and left his estate to a nephew, Joshua Pierce Klinge, who occupied the house with his wife until 1890 when the mansion and grounds were purchased by the U.S. government as a part of Rock Creek Park. In 1937, through PWA funds the house and grounds were restored and leased as a private residence until 1952. From 1956 to 1959, the Junior Nature Center leased Klinge Mansion and, in 1959, it was leased to the Junior League of Washington for its administrative offices. In 1972, the Pierce-Klinge Mansion was again taken over by the National Park Service for use in the green scene programs.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

National Park Service, National Capital Parks Files
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		38 56 18	77 03 00	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Helen Dillon, Historian		DATE: November 27, 1972
BUSINESS ADDRESS: National Capital Parks		
STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.		PHONE: 426-6957
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE: 11

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ None <i>James G. Smith</i> State Liaison Officer Signature In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☐ State ☐ Local <i>Russ Dickerson</i> 6/21/73 Federal Representative Signature Date <i>Dir, Nat'l Cap Parks</i> Title	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register. <i>Ernest Allen Connally</i> Associate Director Professional Services Date OCT 10 1973 ATTEST: <i>Wm. H. Smith</i> Keeper of The National Register Date 10. 5. 73
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Washington
STREET AND NUMBER		
3545 Williamsburg Lane, N.W.		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Helen Dillon	April 1973	National Capital Parks 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

View from the northwest of the front of the Mansion showing the circular driveway.



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View shows the front of the Pierce-Klingel Mansion

