

How to Identify an Authentic Chevy Chase Kit House

1. Email a photo of the possible kit house with your name, street address and phone number to kithouses@chevychasehistory.org or snail-mail it with the same information to Kit House Survey, Chevy Chase Historical Society, 8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 by June 30. Please note in your correspondence that you are willing to be contacted by CCHS and by Sears house expert Kathryn Holt Springston. If you are unable to provide a photo of your house's façade, CCHS can come out and take a photo for Ms. Springston to study.
2. Springston will examine all photos submitted and will contact owners of houses she thinks could be kit houses and guide them through taking a few key measurements.
3. Springston then will personally visit houses with promising initial measurements to take final measurements to confirm that the house is a Sears house. She may also be able to suggest the manufacturer of a non-Sears kit house – Montgomery Ward, Alladin, Lewis or Sterling.
4. Information on all confirmed Sears houses will added to the CCHS Archive and may be included in Kathryn Holt Springston's November 5 CCHS lecture, "Kit Houses of Chevy Chase: The American Dream by Mail and Rail," which will be free and open to the community.