

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Robert K. Sutton
Chairman

Date: May 13, 2022

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mitra Pedoeem

Department of Permitting Services

FROM: Michael Kyne

**Historic Preservation Section** 

Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission

SUBJECT: Historic Area Work Permit # 981848: Partial demolition, comprehensive rehabilitation,

building alterations, new addition

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has reviewed the attached application for a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). This application was **Approved** at the May 4, 2022 HPC meeting.

The HPC staff has reviewed and stamped the attached construction drawings.

THE BUILDING PERMIT FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE ISSUED CONDITIONAL UPON ADHERENCE TO THE ABOVE APPROVED HAWP CONDITIONS AND MAY REQUIRE APPROVAL BY DPS OR ANOTHER LOCAL OFFICE BEFORE WORK CAN BEGIN.

Applicant: Daniel Ferenczy (Sigi Koko, Agent)
Address: 9220 Damascus Hills Lane, Damascus

This HAWP approval is subject to the general condition that the applicant will obtain all other applicable Montgomery County or local government agency permits. After the issuance of these permits, the applicant must contact this Historic Preservation Office if any changes to the approved plan are made. Once work is complete the applicant will contact Michael Kyne at 301.563.3403 or <a href="michael.kyne@montgomeryplanning.org">michael.kyne@montgomeryplanning.org</a> to schedule a follow-up site visit.



- Although not specified in the previous submission, there were concerns about the proposed number of lites for the replacement windows on the house. 2-over-2 double-hung windows to match the existing/original windows were noted as the appropriate option.
- There were concerns regarding the proposed straw and lime plaster treatment on the original house, with some preferring in-kind replacement of the existing wood clapboard siding.
  - Several commented that the most significant character-defining feature of the historic house is its form and massing (including the traditional L-shaped configuration and the center cross gable on the front elevation), and they supported the proposed straw and lime plaster treatment throughout.
  - Alternative suggestions included retaining the wood clapboard siding on original house and only using the straw and lime plaster treatment on the addition, or applying wood clapboard siding to match the existing over the proposed lime plaster on the original house, if practicable.

The applicant has returned with a HAWP application for the following work items house:

- Extend the foundation of the existing rear addition 5' x 6' to accommodate a proposed new mudroom entrance.
- Replace the existing sheathing and wooden clapboard siding with lime plaster.
- Remove the existing rear addition roof and alter the rear addition, creating a two-story rear addition.
  - Materials for the proposed addition include a living (moss and succulent covered) roof, wood casement windows, wood trim, and lime plaster siding.
- Comprehensive rehabilitation of the historic house, including repair of the existing attic windows, installation of new two-over-two double hung TDL wood windows, installation of new wood paneled doors, and in-kind repair of the existing standing seam metal roof,

Staff notes that the proposed new deck noted in the application is not part of this proposal, and the applicant intends to submit a separate HAWP application for that work.

Staff supports applicant's proposal. As noted in the *Amendment*, the house "...has had many alterations, [and] additional changes should be reviewed with leniency by the Historic Preservation Commission." Regarding the proposed siding replacement, several Commissioners remarked that the most significant character-defining feature of the house is its form and massing (which will not be altered), and they supported the proposed straw and lime plaster treatment. Additionally, there is some evidence that the existing clapboard siding is not original. Namely, there is foam insulation installed over the studs on the outside of the house, with the clapboard siding installed over it. This foam insulation is stamped with the date 1979. The clapboard siding is also unfinished, with no evidence or having ever been painted. With this, staff concludes that the proposed siding replacement will not remove original materials.

Staff finds that the proposed work items, including the new addition, siding replacement, and use of alternative materials, will not alter or remove original and/or significant character-defining materials, features, or spaces of the subject property, in accordance with *Standards #2* and *#9*. Further, these

alterations could be removed in the future, leaving the essen and its environment unimpaired, per *Standard #10*.

**REVIEWED** consideration of the applicant's submission with the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b), (1), and By Michael Kyne at 11:58 am, May 13, 2022 and ab

APPROVED

Montgomery County

Historic Preservation Commission

Rameh Man

5



## DATE ASSIGNED\_\_\_\_ **APPLICATION FOR** HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

301.563.3400

FOR STAFF ONLY:

HAWP#\_

<b>APPLI</b>	CANT:
--------------	-------

APPLICANT:				
Name: Daniel Ferenczy E-n	nail:daniel.ferenczy@	ฏgmail.com		
Address: 636 River Road City	Coxsackie, NY	Zip: 12192		
Daytime Phone: 907-750-8306	Account No.: 03815	5944		
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):				
Name: Sigi Koko E-n	E-mail: sigikoko@buildnaturally.com  City: Fawn Grove, PA Zip: 17321			
Address: 1376 W. Woodbine Road City	Fawn Grove, PA	Zip: 17321		
202-302-3055	ntractor Registration No.			
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of Historic Pro	operty 11/021-000	DA		
No/Ir Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environmental map of the easement, and documentation from the Easement Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approvals / Re (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If YES, includ supplemental information.	ent Holder supporting thi	rty? If YES, include a is application.  of this Application?		
Building Number: 9220 Street: Dama	scus Hills Lan	ie		
	reet:Route 108 / Dam			
Lot: 119 Block: Subdivision:	Parcel:			
TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist on Page for proposed work are submitted with this application be accepted for review. Check all that apply:	-	-		
New Construction ✓ Deck/Porch	APPROVED	Structure		
Addition Fence REVIEWED Hardscape/Landscape	Montgomery Cou	ınty		
By Michael Kyne at 11:58 am. May 13, 2022	Historic Preservation Co	_		
I her by certify that I have the authority to make the foreg and accurate and that the construction will comply with pl		is correc		
agencies and hereby acknowledge and accept this to be a Daniel P Ferenczy	Rame hold	M/A rmit.		
Signature of owner or authorized agent				

Adjacent and Confronting Properties:

Gaithersburg, MD 20882

9105 Bonny Brook Court

9109 Bonny Brook Court

9108 Bonny Brook Court

9215 Damascus Hills Lane

9203 Damascus Hills Lane

9214 Damascus Hills Lane

Seneca Ridge Development, LLC 5313 Lee Highway 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Arlington, VA 22207

**REVIEWED** 

By Michael Kyne at 11:58 am, May 13, 2022

**APPROVED** 

**Montgomery County** 

**Historic Preservation Commission** 

Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures, landscape features, or other significant features of the property:

The 9.8 acre "Rezin Bowman Farm" property is one mile southeast of Damascus and adjoins the Great Seneca Stream Valley Park. The property is down a long driveway and encircled by forest land.

The terrain consists of gently sloping lawns and tree-lines to a large pond. The buildings include a 20th C dwelling, a 19th C bank barn and corn crib, and a 1930s dairy barn with milk house and silos.

The dwelling is an early 20th C vernacular farmhouse. It is a two story home with a cross-gable metal roof and wrap around porch. The foundation is in three parts: a small stone basement, larger stone crawlspace, and a newer cement block crawlspace.

Description of Work Proposed: Please give an overview of the work to be undertaken:

We intend to conduct a comprehensive rehabilitation of the entire site that returns the farm to proper order complete with restored barns, kitchen gardens, and pond.

For this HAWP we are proposing a complete farmhouse rehabilitation while retaining the original architectural features of the home. We will ensure the massing of the main block, front facade and historic windows are retained and clearly discernible. We will use a lime plaster exterior finish due to its hygroscopic nature that sucks moisture away from cellulosic materials (wood and straw) preventing rot.

Our architect is Sigi Koko, who has over 20 years experience in natural building. Our builder is Tim Stull, a local contractor with experience in natural building and working on historically preserved houses.

We are proposing the following:

- 1. Extend Rear Foundation by 30 sq ft for mudroom entrance, and re-attach a 12'x24' rear deck.
- 2. Remove deteriorated unpainted wood siding; Replace with traditional lime plaster.
- 3. Remove the patchy rear shed roof and rotted frame; replace with two-story frame / living roof.

Adjacent and Confronting properties:

Gaithersburg, MD 20882

9105 Bonny Brook Court

9109 Bonny Brook Court

9108 Bonny Brook Court

9215 Damascus Hills Lane

9203 Damascus Hills Lane

9214 Damascus Hills Lane

**REVIEWED** 

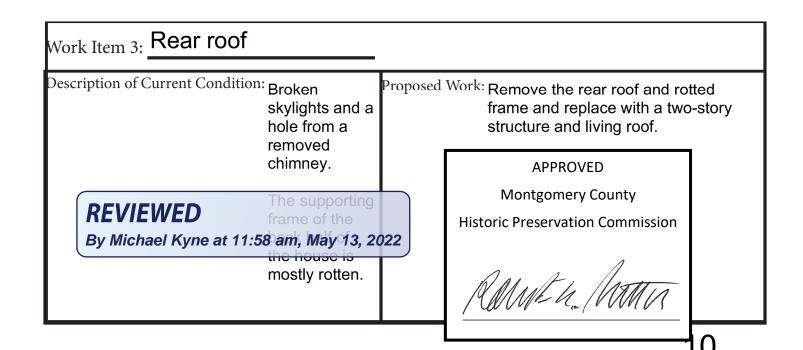
By Michael Kyne at 11:58 am, May 13, 2022

**APPROVED** 

**Montgomery County** 

Historic Preservation Commission

## Work Item 1: Rear Addition Description of Current Condition: The foundation Proposed Work: Extend the rear kitchen foundation to accommodate an insulated mudroom is pretty good. entrance. A deck used to exist there, but Rebuild the former rear deck. has since been removed. Work Item 2: Siding Description of Current Condition: The wood Proposed Work: Replace the sheathing and wood siding and siding with lime plaster. The lime Celotex foam plaster is an optimal exterior siding for sheathing is in natural building, as it is breathable and adheres excellently to organic disrepair. structural and insulation material, such as wood, stone, and straw.



#### HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

	Required Attachments						
Proposed Work	I. Written Description	2. Site Plan	3. Plans/ Elevations	4. Material Specifications	5. Photographs	6. Tree Survey	7. Property Owner Addresses
New Construction	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Additions/ Alterations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Demolition	*	*	*		*		*
Deck/Porch	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fence/Wall	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Driveway/ Parking Area	*	*		*	*	*	*
Grading/Exc avation/Land scaing	*	*		*	*	*	*
Tree Removal	*	*		*	*	*	*
Siding/Roof Changes	*	*	*	*	*		*
Window/ Door Changes	*	*	*	*	*		*
Masonry Repair/ Repoint	*	*	*	*	*		*
Signs	*	*	*	*	*		*

**REVIEWED** 

By Michael Kyne at 11:58 am, May 13, 2022

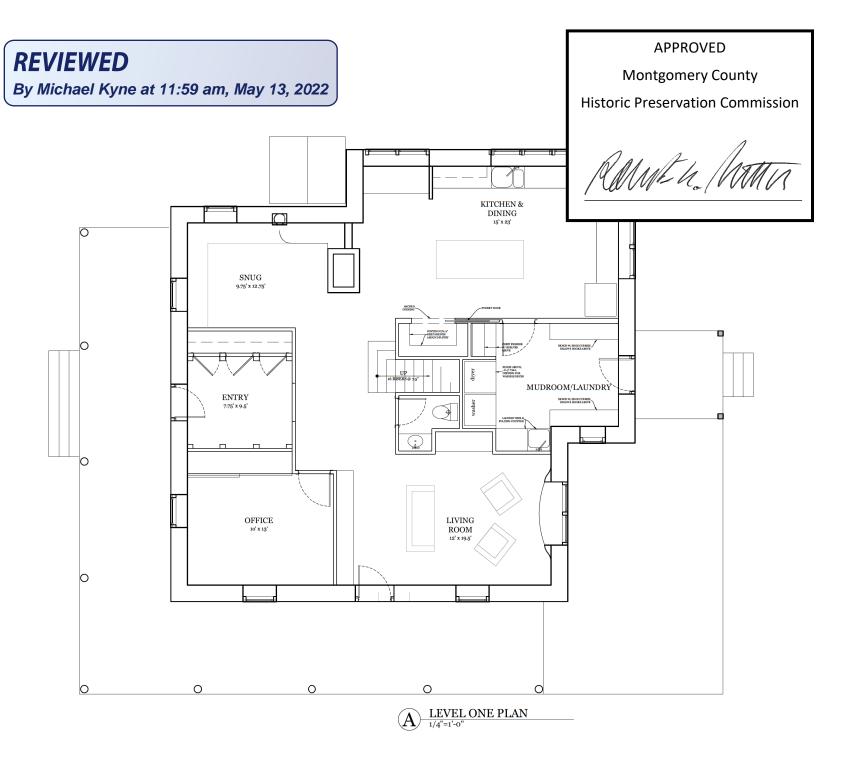
**APPROVED** 

**Montgomery County** 

**Historic Preservation Commission** 

Ramen homes

1



#### down to earth design

natural building design + workshops environmental consulting

> Sigi Koko 202/302-3055 DC 215/540-2694 PA

sigikoko@buildnaturally.com www.buildnaturally.com 1376W.WoodbineRoad|FawnGrove,PA 17321

- Typical interior wall construction: 2x4 studs @ 16" O.C. with lath & clay plaster
- sinds @ 16° O.C. with lath & clay plaster. Typical exterior wall construction.

  21. Strawbale infill around framing elements (see detail sheets)

  22. Apply three costs clay plaster on interior (see specifications): alip cost to just cost straw in ralay, thick base cost with high straw content to shape walls, allow to dry completely, apply finish plaster

  23. Apply three costs line plaster on exterior (see specifications); each cost applied between 1/4" and 3/8" maximum; allow to days curing time above 40°F between costs; pigment finish cost as desired Typical ceiling finish:

  3.1. exposed floor framing

  3.2. exposed underside of 2x subfloor

# DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

FERENCZY HOME

Denmascus Hills Lane | Damascus, MD 20882

100% DESIGN DEVELOPMENT © Sigi Koko / Down to Earth Design, Inc.

SHEET TITLE

**BUILDING PLANS:** FIRST FLOOR

DRAWN BY: SK SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0" A-1.1

# **REVIEWED**

By Michael Kyne at 11:59 am, May 13, 2022



#### DOWN TO EARTH DESIGN

natural building design + workshops environmental consulting

> Sigi Koko 202/302-3055 DC 215/540-2694 PA

sigikoko@buildnaturally.com www.buildnaturally.com 376W.Woodbine Road | Fawn Grove, P.A. 17321

NOTES

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

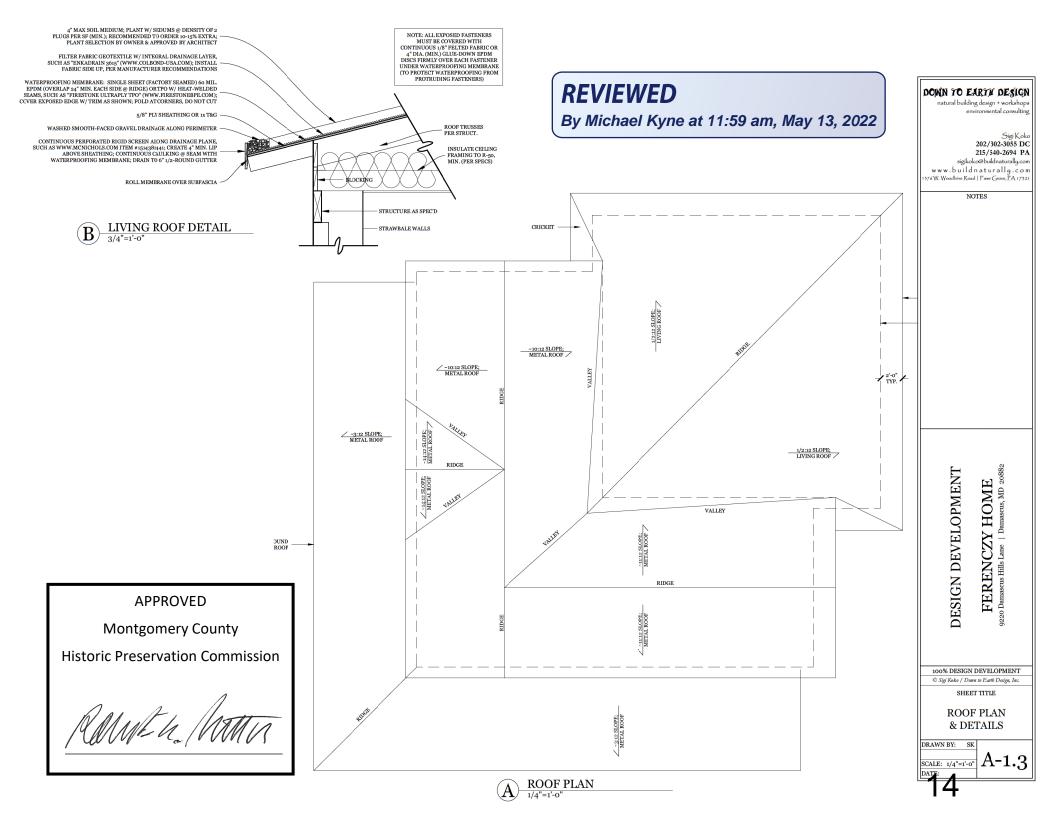
100% DESIGN DEVELOPMENT © Sigi Koko / Down to Earth Design, Inc.

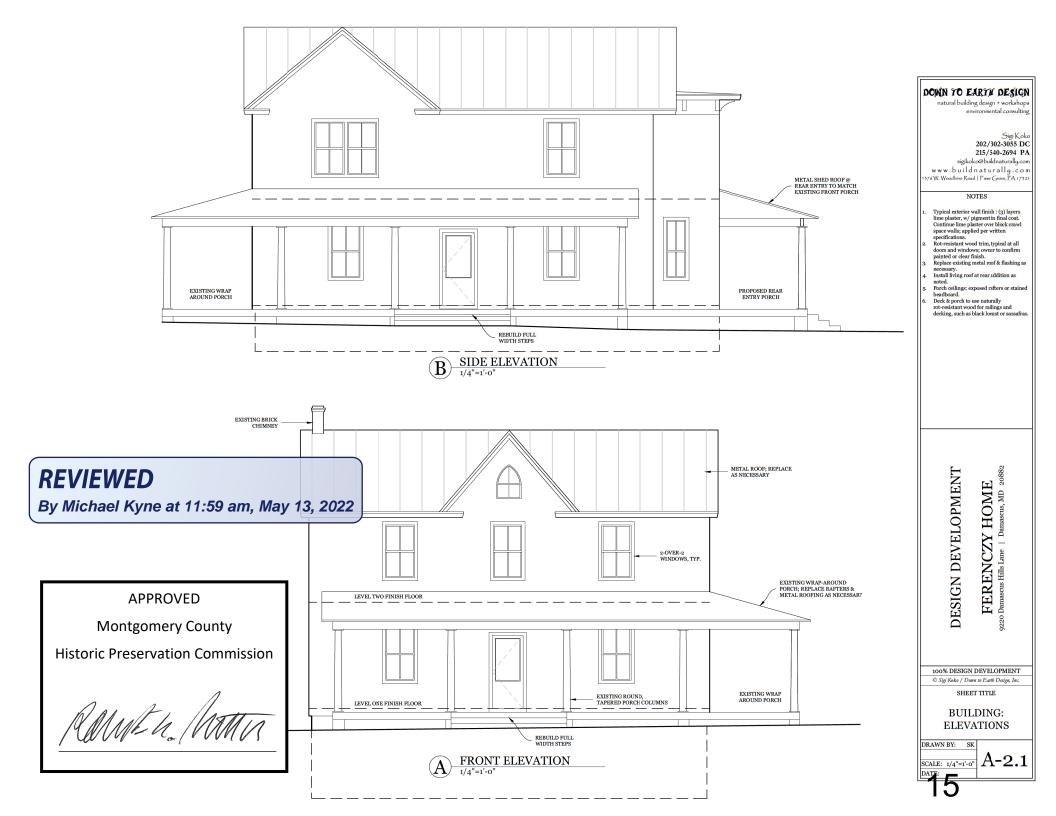
SHEET TITLE

BUILDING PLANS: 2ND FLOOR & ROOF

DRAWN BY: SK

SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0" A-1.2







# Farmstead front view near top of driveway





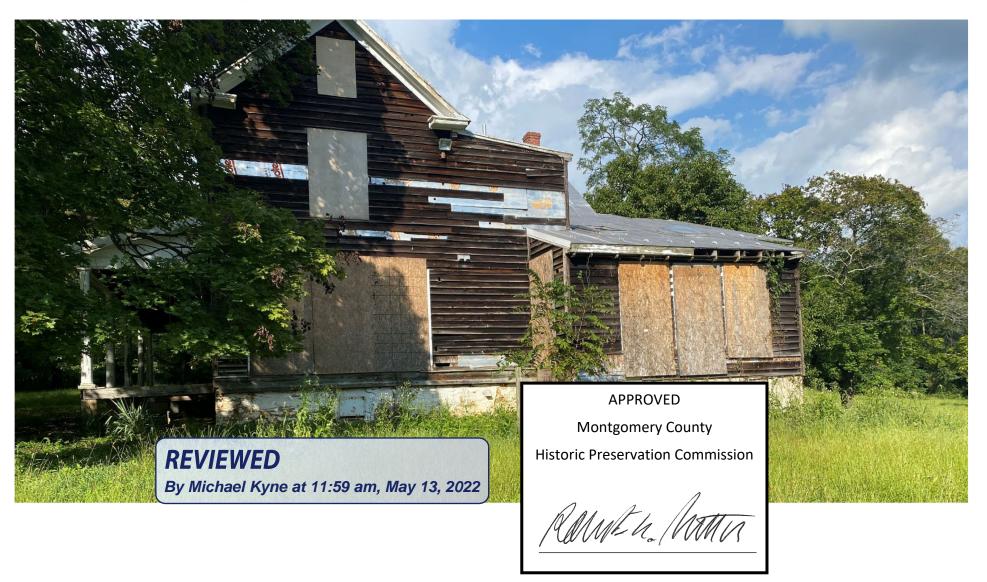
# **Dwelling North Front**







# **Dwelling Rear**

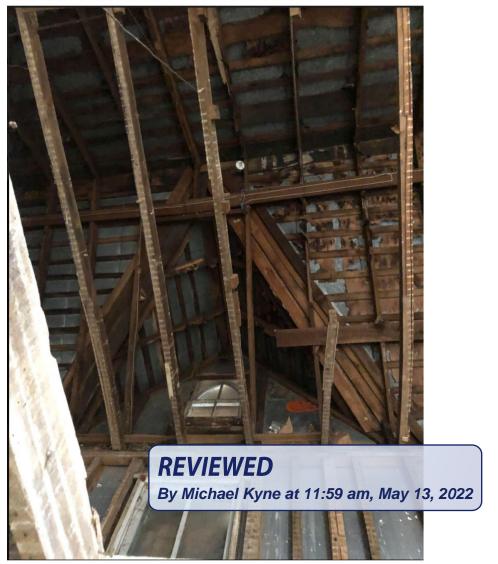


**Dwelling Southwest Side** 

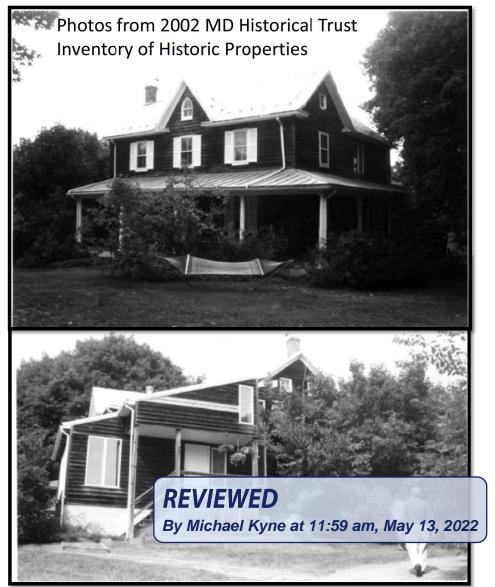


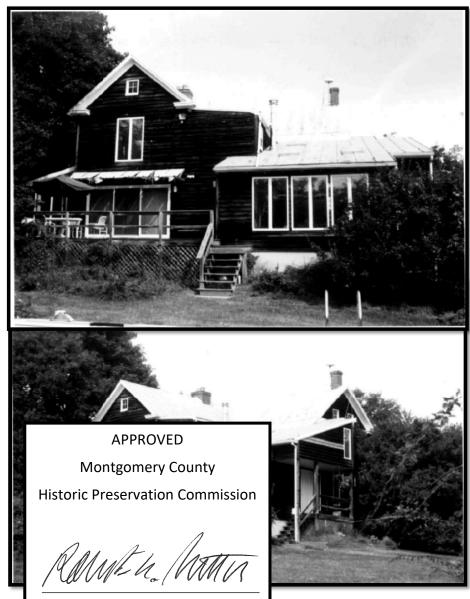


Interior Main Gable and Front Dormer









#### Photo from 1974. These surrounding fields are now dense 30+ year old forest

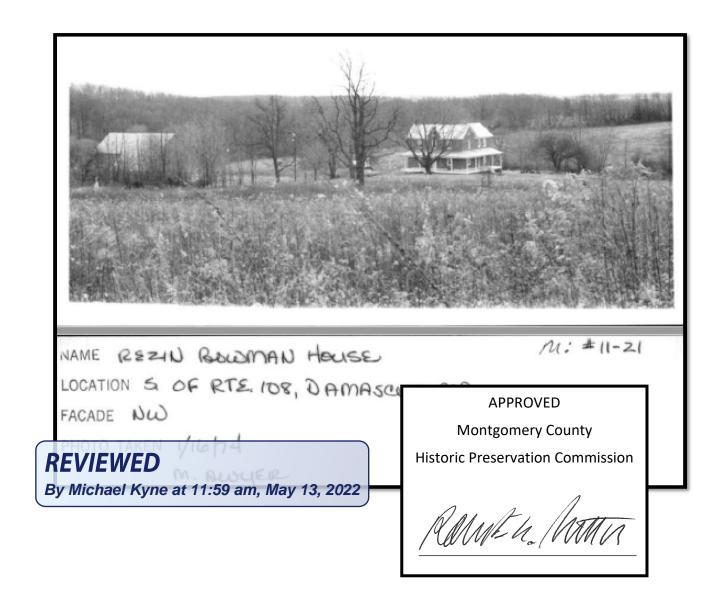


Exhibit in support of Plaster siding: a neighboring home at 27214 Ridge Road, Damascus MD is a circa 1900 cross-gable home with the same roofline, roof material, windows, and porch as our house.





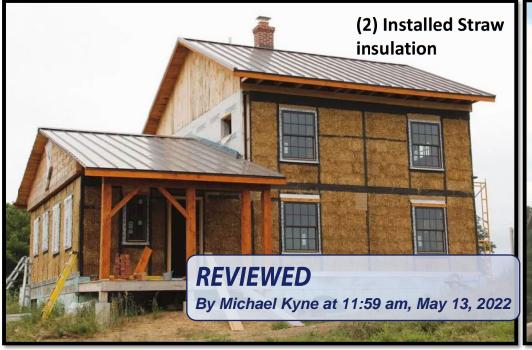
# Exhibit in support of Plaster siding: Master Site M 23-90 Riverton in northern Montgomery County has Lime Stucco Pebbledash finish



# **EXAMPLE Natural Built home of timber, straw bales, clay and lime plaster**



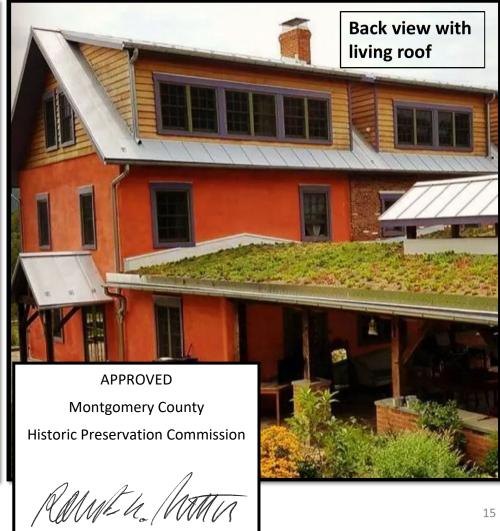
(1) It starts with the Foundation and Framing





# **EXAMPLE "Straw Bale" insulated building**





# **EXAMPLE Living Roof on straw bale homes. The living roof is eco-friendly**



Natural Building: plasters are traditional surface finish materials used with timber, stone, and straw. Some of the oldest buildings in the world were built this way.



**Prepare straw insulation** 

Mix plaster

Natural Building material: Straw insulation provides deep walls with exceptional insulation. The plaster provides thermal mass that reduces temperature swings, as well as a vapor permeable barrier that regulates humidity.



