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SUBJECT: Revision to approved HAWP (HPC Case No. 36/02-13C), for construction of addition, demolition of garage and new garage construction, at 3923 Washington Street, Kensington within the Kensington Historic District

DATE: September 25, 2013

**BACKGROUND:** On February 13, 2012 the HPC approved construction of an addition and other alterations at the subject property.

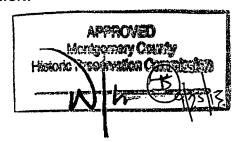
**REVISED PROPOSAL:** The applicants are requesting approval to:

Change the addition foundation material from brick to textured stucco. The main block of the house has a brick foundation.

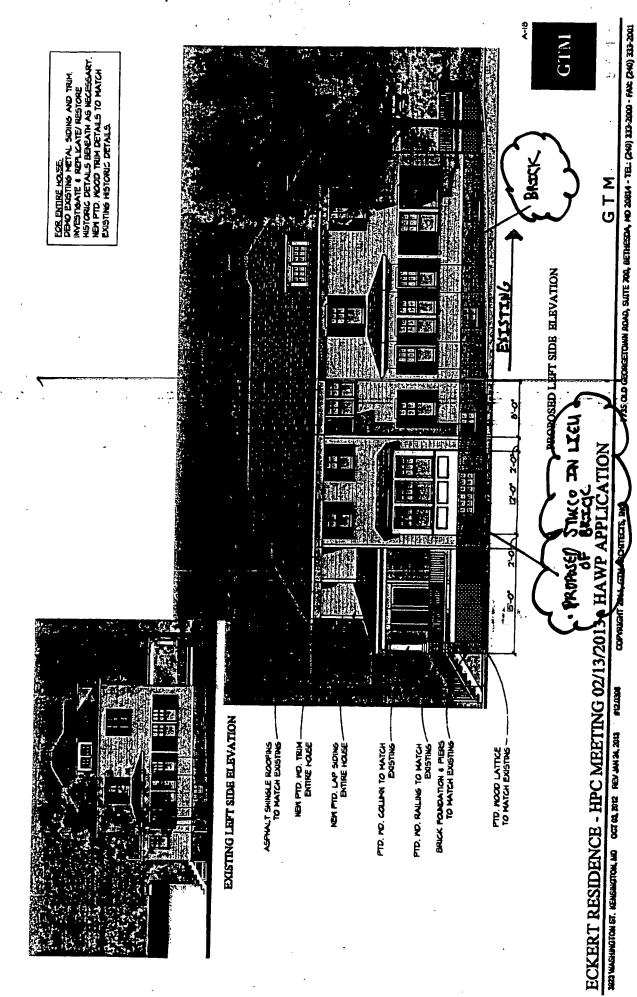
**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve the revised proposal described above finding it as being consistent with Chapter 24A-8(b)(1) & (2):

- (1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
- (2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or

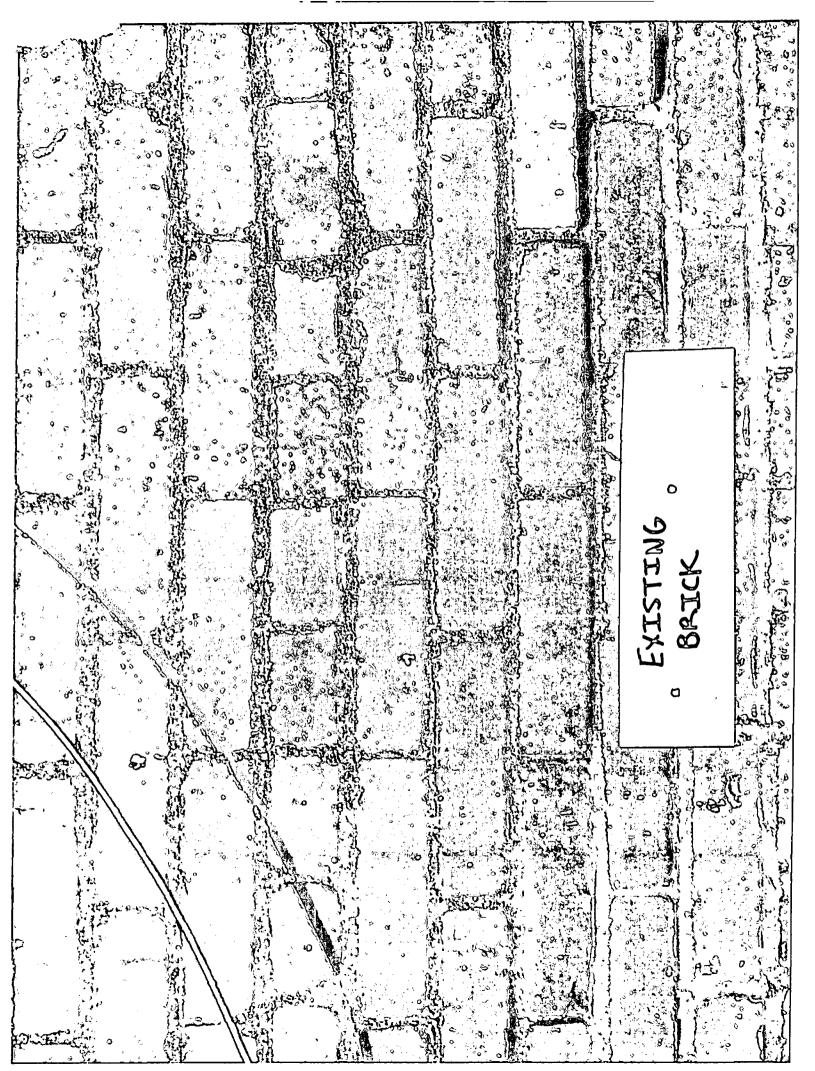
### **HPC DECISION:**



Relice Plan



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### **STAFF ITEM**

SUBJECT: Revision to approved HAWP (HPC Case No. 36/02-13C), for construction of addition, demolition of garage and new garage construction, at 3923 Washington Street, Kensington within the Kensington Historic District

DATE: September 25, 2013

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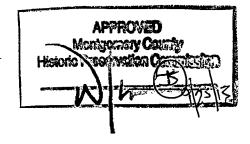
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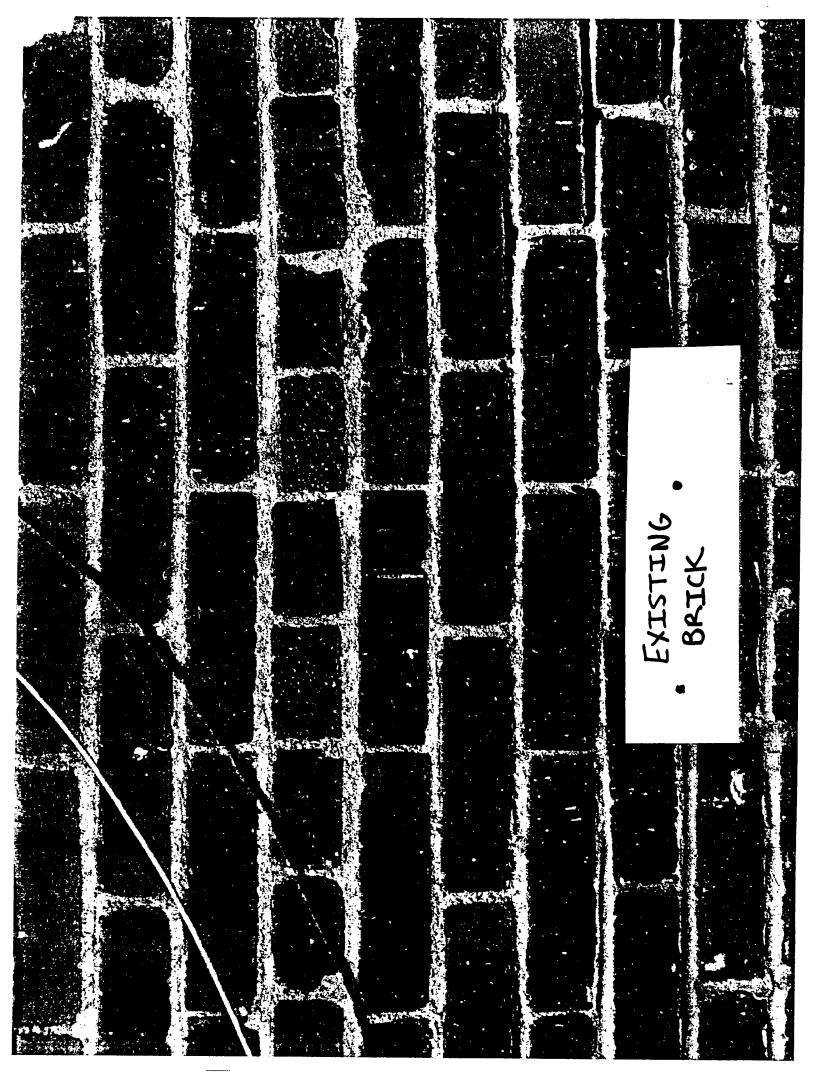
### **HPC DECISION:**



SSIQLO GEORGETOWN ADAD, SUITE-700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAN: (240) 333-2001 GTM DEMO EXISTING METAL SIDING AND TRIM INVESTIGATE, REPLICATE RESTORE HISTORIC DETALS BENEATH AS NECESSARY NEW PTD. MOOD TRIM DETAILS TO MATCH EXISTING HISTORIC DETAILS. C T M L D PROPOSED LEFT SIDE ELEVATION EXESTENG STATE TA LEGA ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 HAWP APPLICATION SEZ WASHINGTON ST. RENEWOTON NO. OCT OR, 2012 HEV JAN 2013 PIZEBOR COPPUTED TO SECURE OF SECURITIES OF SECURE OF SECURITIES OF SECURE OF SECURITIES OF SECURE OF SECURITIES OF SECURITI 2.0.2 COPRIGHT TONS, CITY ROUTECTS, BA · PROPRIED 大学(学) 小学(学) EXISTING LEFT SIDE ELEVATION BRICK FOUNDATION & PIERS TO MATCH EXISTING ASPHALT SHINGLE ROOFING TO MATCH EXISTING NEW PTD. NO. TRUM ENTIRE HOUSE PTD. NO. COLLIMI TO MATCH EXISTING NEW PITD. LAP SIDING ENTIRE HOUSE PTD. NO. RAILING TO MATCH EXISTING PTD. WOOD LATTICE TO MATCH EXISTING

RELITED PLAN

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### WILMERHALE WH

Paul Eckert

+1 202 663 6537 (t) +1 202 663 6363 (f) paul.eckert@wilm



### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Isiah Leggett County Executive

William Kirwan
Chairperson

Date: August 9, 2013

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Diane R. Schwartz Jones, Director

Department of Permitting Services

FROM:

Josh Silver, Senior Planner

Historic Preservation Section

Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission

SUBJECT:

Historic Area Work Permit #629265, construction of addition, demolition of garage, new garage

construction

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has reviewed the attached application for a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). This application was <u>approved with conditions</u> at the April 10, 2013 meeting.

1. The applicants must contact HPC staff upon removing the siding on the historic massing to determine appropriate exterior material treatments and details for the addition. Final materials to be reviewed and approved by HPC staff.

Applicant:

Paul and Deborah Eckert

Address:

3923 Washington Street, Kensington



DP8 - #8





### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301/563-3400

## APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

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## MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 3923 Washington Street, Kensington Meeting Date: 10/24/12

Applicant: Paul and Deborah Eckert (Luke Olson, Agent) Report Date: 10/17/12

**Resource:** Primary-One Resource **Public Notice:** 10/10/12

Kensington Historic District

Review: Preliminary Consultation Tax Credit: Partial

Case Number: N/A Staff: Anne Fothergill

PROPOSAL: Construction of addition, demolition of garage, new garage construction

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the applicants make any revisions based on the comments from the HPC and return for a HAWP.

### **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

SIGNIFICANCE: Primary One Resource within the Kensington Historic District

STYLE: Colonial Revival

DATE: 1910

### **PROPOSAL**

The applicant is proposing to:

- remove aluminum siding and trim on house
- salvage original wood siding where possible; install new wood siding to match where needed
- construct a rear addition (see below)
- construct areaway stairs where the addition connects on the west side
- remove existing front walkway and install new brick walkway
- demolish existing two-car garage and remove concrete driveway
- install new brick paver strips driveway leading to asphalt driveway
- construct new two-car garage; garage will be 24' x 24' x 19'2" tall (to roof ridge) and will be 1 ½ stories; materials not specified but appear to match addition plus two garage doors
- remove three dogwood trees

The proposed 975 SF rear addition will extend 36 feet out the back, including the covered porch, and will be 39 feet wide including a 12' extension out beyond the original east side plane of the house. The rear covered porch has steps to grade and there are steps to the driveway from the new east side entrance. Also on the east side is a brick chimney. On the west side there is a new bay that is in plane with existing west side bay window. Proposed materials are: wood siding, asphalt shingle roofing, brick foundation, wood

windows with simulated divided lights, wood columns, porch railings, shutters, and trim.

Existing and proposed plans are in Circles <u>10-26</u> and photos of existing conditions are in Circles <u>30-32</u>.

### APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

When reviewing alterations within the Kensington Historic District, the Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan (Vision), Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A) and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards) are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. The pertinent information in these documents is outlined below.

### Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan

The HPC formally adopted the planning study, *Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan*, and is directed by the Executive Regulations, which were approved by the County Council, to use this plan when considering changes and alterations to the Kensington Historic District. The goal of this preservation plan "was to establish a sound database of information from, which to produce a document that would serve the HPC, M-NCPPC, their staff and the community in wrestling with the protection of historic districts amidst the pressures of life in the 21st century." The plan provides a specific physical description of the district as it is; an analysis of character-defining features of the district; a discussion of the challenges facing the district; and a discussion of proposed strategies for maintaining the character of the district while allowing for appropriate growth and change.

### Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8:

- (a) The commission shall instruct the director to deny a permit if it finds, based on the evidence and information presented to or before the commission that the alteration for which the permit is sought would be inappropriate, inconsistent with or detrimental to the preservation, enhancement or ultimate protection of the historic site or historic resource within an historic district, and to the purposes of this chapter.
- (b) The commission shall instruct the director to issue a permit, or issue a permit subject to such conditions as are found to be necessary to insure conformity with the purposes and requirements of this chapter, if it finds that:
  - (1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
  - (2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or
  - (3) The proposal would enhance or aid in the protection, preservation and public or private utilization of the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district in a manner compatible with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value of the historic site or historic district in which an historic resource is located; or
  - (4) The proposal is necessary in order that unsafe conditions or health hazards be remedied; or
  - (5) The proposal is necessary in order that the owner of the subject property not be deprived of reasonable use of the property or suffer undue hardship; or
  - (6) In balancing the interests of the public in preserving the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district, with the interests of the public from the use and benefit of the alternative proposal, the general public welfare is better served by granting the permit.
- (c) It is not the intent of this chapter to limit new construction, alteration or repairs to any one period or architectural style.

(d) In the case of an application for work on an historic resource located within an historic district, the commission shall be lenient in its judgment of plans for structures of little historical or design significance or for plans involving new construction, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the historic district. (Ord. No. 9-4, § 1; Ord. No. 11-59.)

### Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation:

Standard # 2: The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

Standard #9: New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

Standard # 10: New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

### **STAFF DISCUSSION**

The Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan states that within the Historic District, "the houses share a uniformity of scale, set backs and construction materials that contributes to the cohesiveness of the district's streetscapes." The Vision discusses specifically the Historic Residential Core, where the house at 3923 Washington Street is located, which "consists of most of the primary historic resources in the residential neighborhood. This includes historic resources built from 1890 to 1930 which exemplify the historic pattern of development characterized by expansive open spaces between homes. In this area it is important to preserve these patterns of open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities."

The Design Guidelines for Historic Sites and Districts in Montgomery County, Maryland state:

### **Basic Principles for an Addition**

The overall design of an addition should be in keeping with the design of the primary structure. Design elements should take their cue from the primary structure, but this does not preclude contemporary interpretations, nor discourage differentiating the addition from the historic building. Keeping the size of the addition small, in relation to the main structure, also will help minimize its visual impacts. It is also important that an addition not obscure any significant features of a building. If the addition is placed to the rear of the existing structure, it is less likely to affect such features. Side additions are generally discouraged.

### 18.0 DESIGN OF NEW ADDITIONS

Design a new addition to be compatible with the primary structure.

- 18.1 Place an addition at the rear of a building to minimize its visual impacts.
- This will allow the original proportions and character to remain prominent.
- Locating an addition at the front of a structure is inappropriate
- .• Locating an addition to the side of a structure is generally inappropriate. However, special site

- constraints, such as sloping topography or location of a champion or specimen tree, may require a side addition.
- An addition to the rear of a structure must also conform to Montgomery County and municipality setback requirements.
- 18.2 Do not obscure, damage, destroy or remove original architectural details and materials of the primary structure.
- 18.3 An addition should be compatible in scale with the primary structure.
- An addition should relate to the historic house in mass, scale and form. It should be designed to remain subordinate to the main structure.
- One option to help visually separate an addition from the primary building is to link the primary structure with a smaller breezeway.
- For a larger addition, break up the mass of the addition into smaller modules that relate to the historic house.
- An addition should be simple in design to prevent it from competing with the primary structure.
- 18.4 Use building materials that are compatible with those of the primary structure.
- 18.5 An addition should be compatible in character with the primary structure.
- An addition should be made distinguishable from the historic building, even in subtle ways, such that the
  character of the original can be interpreted. An addition should draw design elements from the historic
  structure, expressing them in a simplified or contemporary manner rather than striving to perfectly
  recreate historic building features.
- A change in setbacks of the addition from the historic building, or applying a new trim board at the connection point can help define the addition.
- An addition that seeks to imply an earlier period than that of the primary building also is inappropriate. For example, an addition that is more ornate than the original building would be out of character.
- 18.6 Use windows that are similar in character to those of the main structure.
- If the original windows were a wood, double-hung style, for example, then new windows that appear similar to them would be appropriate. Windows of suitable contemporary design might also be appropriate.
- 18.7 The roof form and slope of a new addition should be in character with and subordinate to that of the primary building.
- It is important to repeat the roof lines and slopes found on the primary structure. Typically, gable, hip and shed roofs are appropriate for residential-type building additions. Flat roofs may be appropriate in certain cases, such as for some commercial buildings.
- Eave lines on the additions should be no higher, and preferably lower, than those of the historic building or structure.

New accessory structures and outbuildings should be compatible with the primary structure on a property.

- 14.2 New accessory structures and outbuildings should be compatible with the primary structure.
- New construction should be similar in style but recognizable as new.
- Architectural details, materials, and style should be compatible to the primary structure.
- The mass and scale should be in proportion to the primary structure.
- New accessory structures and outbuildings should be located in the rear yard and conform to Montgomery County and municipality zoning and building regulations.

As can be seen in the 1924 Sanborn Atlas in Circle <u>33/34</u>, this Primary-One house retains its original form and a high level of integrity. The applicants propose to remove the aluminum siding and salvage and restore the original wood siding (where possible), which is commendable and will be a major improvement

to the house and historic district. They are not proposing changes to the historic house other than at the rear of the house where the new addition will be constructed, and this is also commendable and in keeping with the applicable review criteria and preservation guidance.

The applicants are proposing to construct an 1,170 SF addition behind the existing 975 SF house. Staff's main concern with this proposal is the scale of the addition and its visibility since it extends 12 feet beyond the east side plane of the historic house. As the *Vision of Kensington* notes, this area of the historic district is "characterized by expansive open spaces between homes. In this area it is important to preserve these patterns of open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities."

While the materials and design of the addition are in keeping with the house, because of its size, scale, and side projection staff is concerned that it is an incompatible and inappropriate addition to this house. The rear addition is larger than the original house and, even though it is lower at the roof and inset at the sides, it may be out of scale and proportion to the historic house. If the addition was entirely at the rear and did not extend 12 feet out the side the overall size would be reduced and it would greatly reduce its visibility and overall impact on the house and site. As proposed it will extend into the yard t the side of the house and compromise the existing pattern of houses and open space that characterize this streetscape.

The applicants also propose to demolish the existing garage and construct a new driveway leading to a new garage at the back of the property. The existing garage would not be located behind the house once the addition is constructed and therefore would be non-conforming in terms of current zoning requirements. The proposed new garage has a similar footprint to the existing garage and will be 1 ½ stories and appears to be taller than the existing garage.

Staff recommends that the HPC provide the applicants with clear guidance on:

- the proposed two-story rear addition
- extending the two-story addition beyond the side plane of the historic block
- demolition of the garage and construction of the new garage

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the applicants make any revisions based on the HPC's feedback and then return for a Historic Area Work Permit.





### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301/563-3400

# APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

Contact Pagil, LOLSON@GTMARCHITEC	CTS.COM	Contact Person: LU	JKE OLSON	
		Daytime Phone No.:	240-333-2021	
ax Account No.: 01022855		_		
tame of Property Owner: PAUL & DEBORAH ECK	ERT	Daytime Phone No.:	202-663-6537	
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B. Construction cost estimate: \$				
C. If this is a revision of a previously approved active permit.	see Permit #			
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B. Type of water supply: 01 🖾 WSSC	02 🗀 W46	03 🗆 Other:	****	
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**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS** 

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# HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]

Owner's mailing address	Owner's Agent's mailing address
PAUL AND DEBORAH ECKERT	GTM ARCHITECTS
3923 WASHIGNTON STREET	7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD
KENSINGTON, MD 20895	SUITE 700
	BETHESDA, MD 20814
Adjacent and confronting	Property Owners mailing addresses
DANIEL BRAGG & CYNTHIA CECIL-BRAGG	THEODORE ROSCHE
3924 PROSPECT ST	3922 PROSPECT ST
KENSINGTON, MD 20895-3916	KENSINGTON, MD 20895
PETER & BROOKS KENNY	STEPHEN STRACHAN
3922 WASHINGTON ST	3924 WASHINGTON ST
KENSINGTON, MD 20895-3933	KENSINGTON, MD 20895-3933
·	
DIGWADD GTD A GYVANA	
RICHARD STRACHAN 3925 WASHINGTON ST	MICHAEL KNECHT
KENSINGTON, MD 20895	3919 WASHINGTON ST
123. ON (01011, N12) 20073	KENSINGTON, MD 20895
,	
•	
NANCY COLLINS	
3926 WASHINGTON ST	
KENSINGTON, MD 20895	

### THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

### 1. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

8.	Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance:										
	The existing house is a two-story American Foursquare with a covered front porch and										
	one-story bay window on the left side. There is a previous addition on the rear of the										
	house with a small covered porch providing an additional entry. There is also an areaway										
	on the rear providing access to the basement. The house sits on two lots (11 & 12), with										
	the majority of the house located on lot 12 and a one-story detached garage on lot 11.										
	The house is unevenly spaced between the surrounding residences, with 24' between it										
and the house on the left and 55' between it and the house on the right.											
b.	General description of project and its effect on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district										
	See attached.										
รก	E PLAM										

Sits and environmental setting, drawn to scale. You may use your plat. Your site plan must include:

- a. the scale, north arrow, and date:
- b. dimensions of all existing and proposed structures; and
- site features such as walkways, driveways, fences, pends, streams, trash dumpsters, mechanical equipment, and landscaping.

### 3. PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

You must submet 2 copies of plans and elevations in a format no larger than 11" x 17". Plans on 8 3/2" x 11" pages are preferred.

- a. Schamatic construction plans, with marked dimensions, indicating location, size and general type of walls, window and door openings, and other fixed features of both the existing resource(s) and the proposed work.
- b. Elevations (facades), with marked dimensions, clearly indicating proposed work in relation to existing construction and, when appropriate, context. All materials and fixtures proposed for the exterior must be noted on the elevations drawings. An existing and a proposed elevation drawing of each facade affected by the proposed work is required.

### 4. MATERIALS SPECIFICATIONS

General description of materials and manufactured items proposed for incorporation in the work of the project. This information may be included on your design drawings,

### 5. PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. Clearly labeled photographic prints of each facade of existing resource, including details of the affected portions. All labels should be placed on the front of photographs.
- b. Clearly label photographic prints of the resource as viewed from the public right-of-way and of the adjoining properties. All labels should be placed on the front of photographs:

### 6. TREE SURVEY

If you are proposing construction adjacent to or within the dripline of any tree 6° or larger in diameter (at approximately 4 feet above the ground), you must file an accurate tree survey identifying the size, location, and species of each tree of at least that dimension.

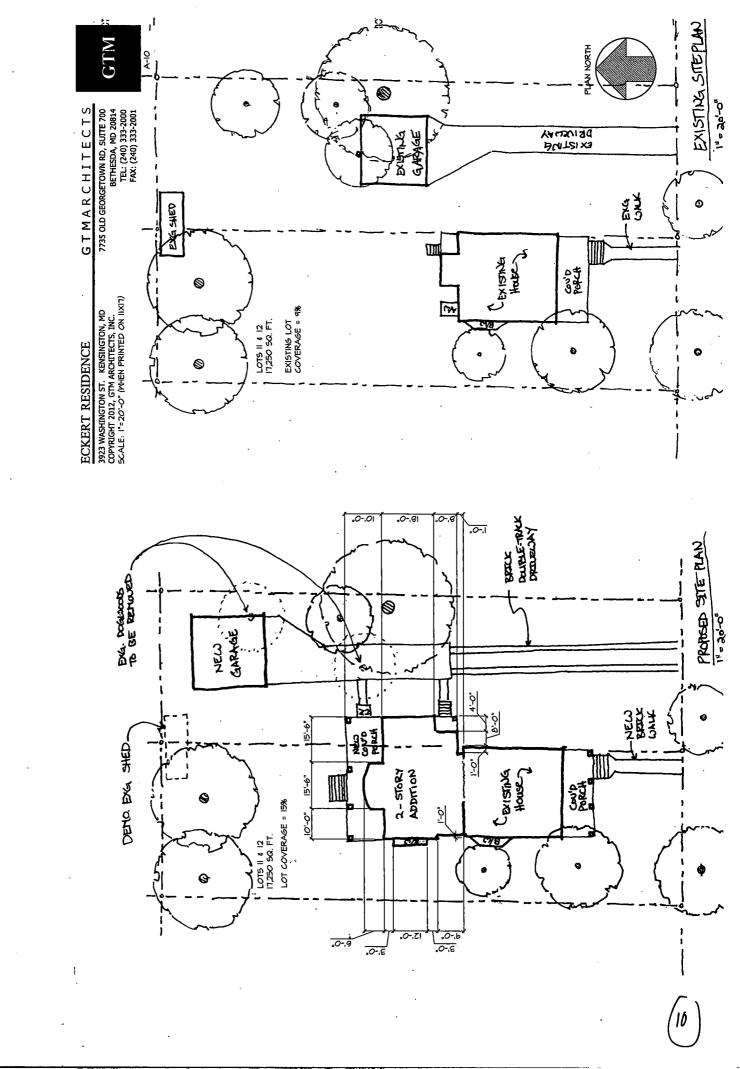
### 7. ADDRESSES OF ADJACENT AND CONFRONTING PROPERTY OWNERS

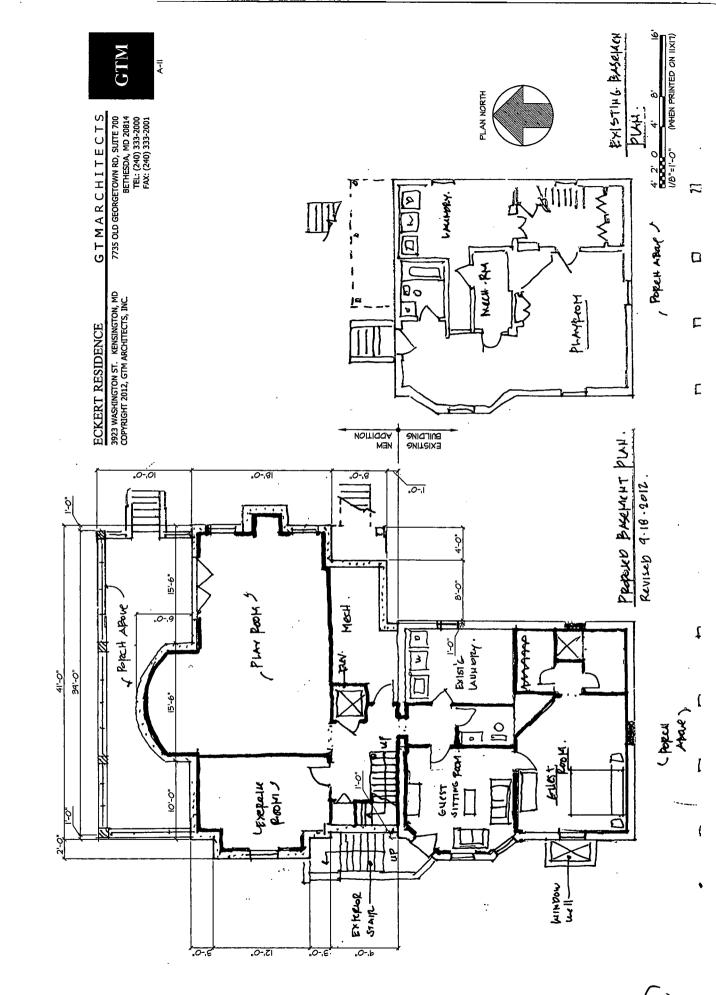
For ALL projects, provide an accurate list of adjacent and confronting property owners (not tenants), including names, addresses, and zip codes. This list should include the owners of all lots or parcels which adjoin the parcel in question, as well as the owner(s) of lot(s) or parcel(s) which lie directly across the street/highway from the parcel in question.

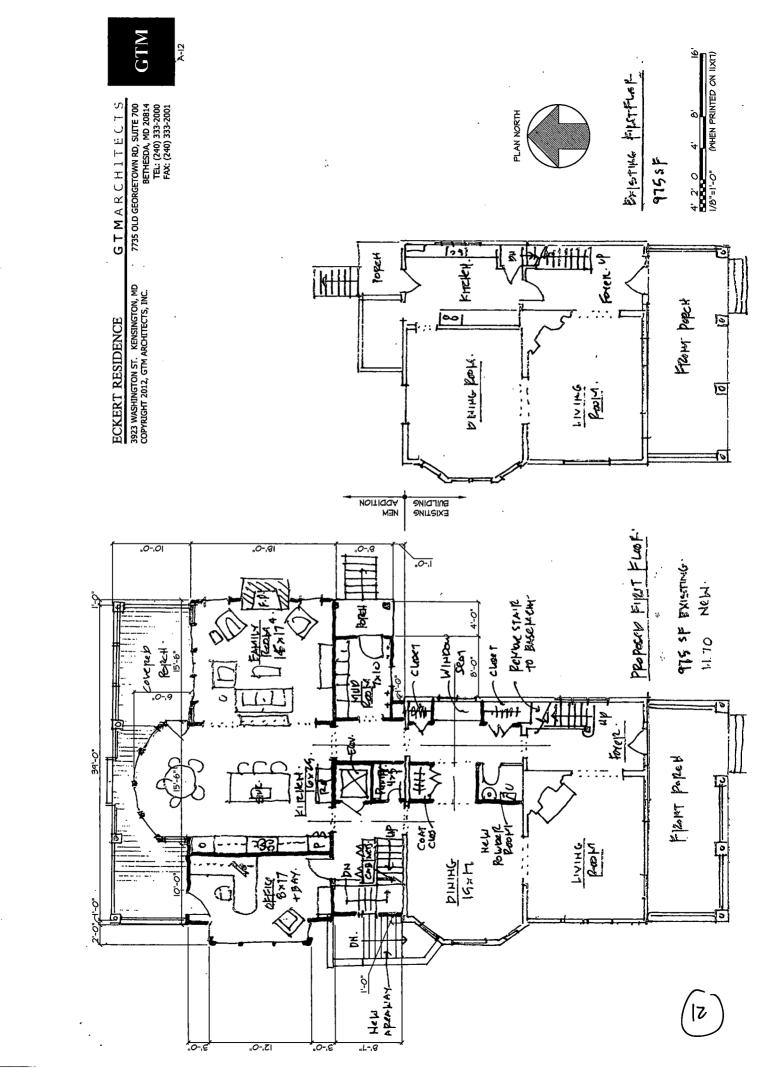


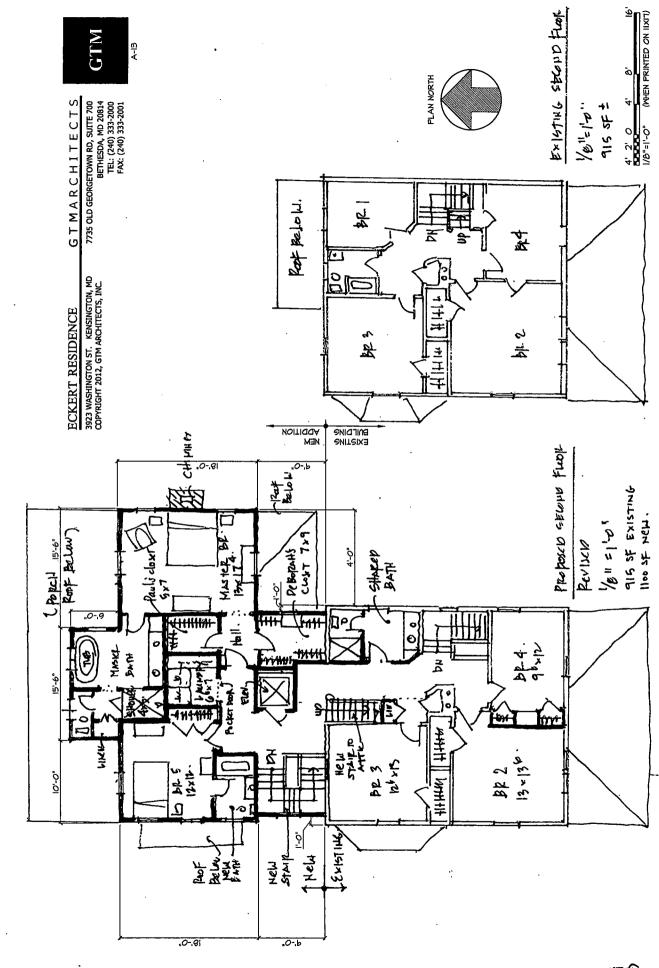
b. General description of project and its effects on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district:

The scope of work includes a two-story addition on the rear of the existing house and exterior renovation of the existing property. To retain the significance of the original house, we have located the addition entirely to the rear of the house and stepped back the addition where the two meet. We have also lowered the eave height of the addition so that it is subordinate to the original house. The addition is located to maintain the spacing between homes typical of the neighborhood, with the left of the addition held to the line of the existing house and the right side projecting into the more open space, which is typical of recently approved renovations in the neighborhood. The design is in keeping with the historical character of the existing house, and the scope of work includes a renovation of the existing exterior with more traditional and historically accurate materials and details. The design also involves relocating the garage to a more appropriate location in the rear yard.









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PTD. WOOD LATTICE TO MATCH EXISTING

PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION

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- ASPHALT SHINGLE ROOFING.

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**EXISTING FRONT ELEVATION** 

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NEW PTD. LAP SIDING TO REPLACE EXG. MTL SIDING, ENTIRE HOUSE

NEW PTD. WD. TRIM TO REPLACE EXG. MT. TRIM, ENTIRE HOUSE

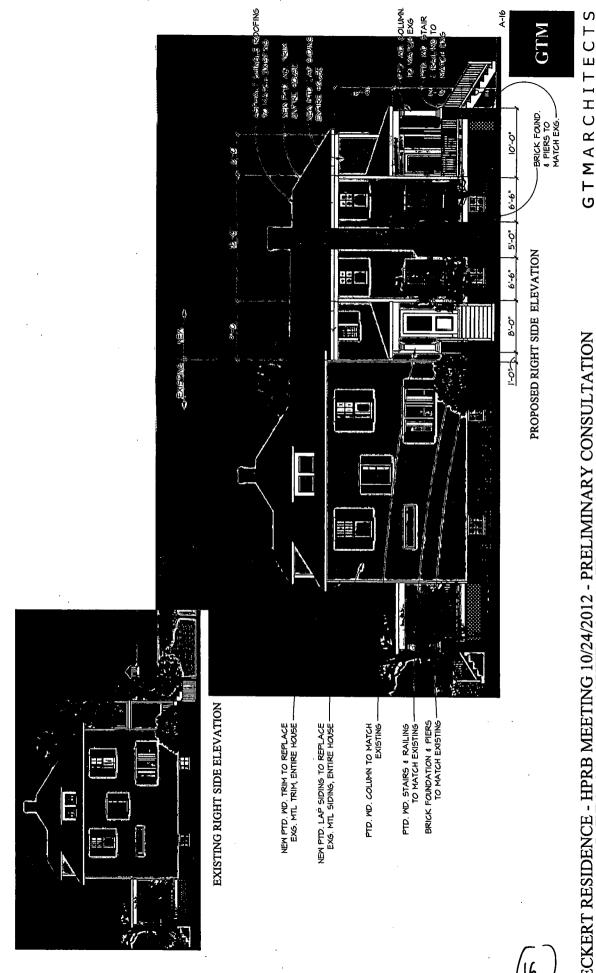
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EXISTING

NEA PTD, ND, TRINGS ENTIRE HOUSE

NEW PTD LAP SIDING ENTIRE HOUSE

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GTMARCHITECTS

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PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION



PROPOSED LEFT SIDE ELEVATION

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PTD. WOOD LATTICE TO MATCH EXISTING -

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BRICK FOUNDATION & PIERS TO MATCH EXISTING

PTD. WD. RAILING TO MATCH EXISTING-

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

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NEW EXISTING

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**EXISTING LEFT SIDE ELEVATION** 

ASPHALT SHINGLE ROOFING TO MATCH EXISTING

NEW PTD. WD. TRIM ENTIRE HOUSE

NEW PTD. LAP SIDING ENTIRE HOUSE

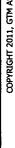
PTD. WD. COLUMN TO MATCH EXISTING

NEW GARAGE REAR-LEFT VIEW

NEW GARAGE FRONT-RIGHT VIEW

EXISTING GARAGE FRONT VIEW

**EXISTING GARDEN SHED** 

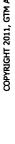




EXISTING GARAGE REAR VIEW

EXISTING GARAGE LEFT SIDE VIEW

























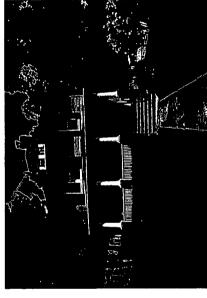


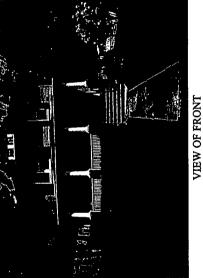


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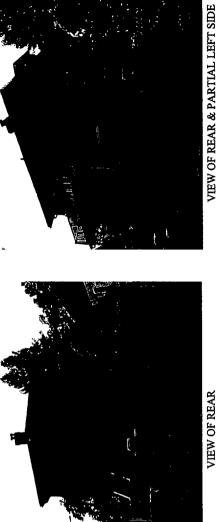
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VIEW OF REAR & PARTIAL RIGHT SIDE

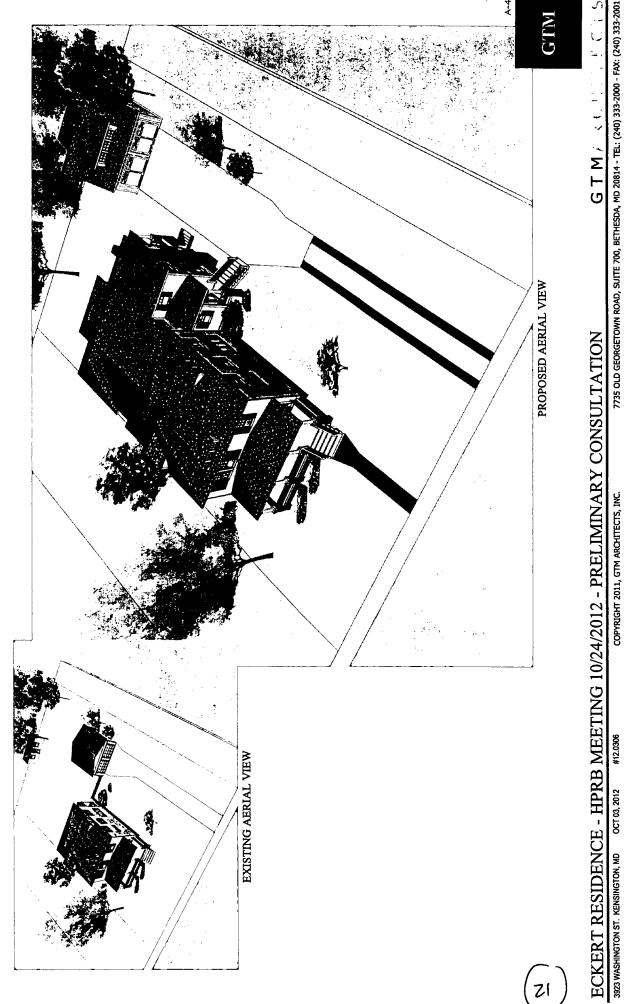




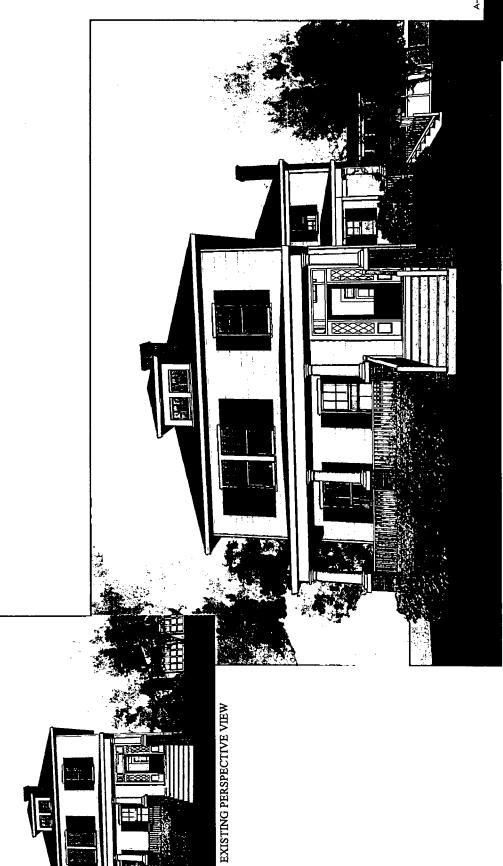


VIEW OF RIGHT SIDE

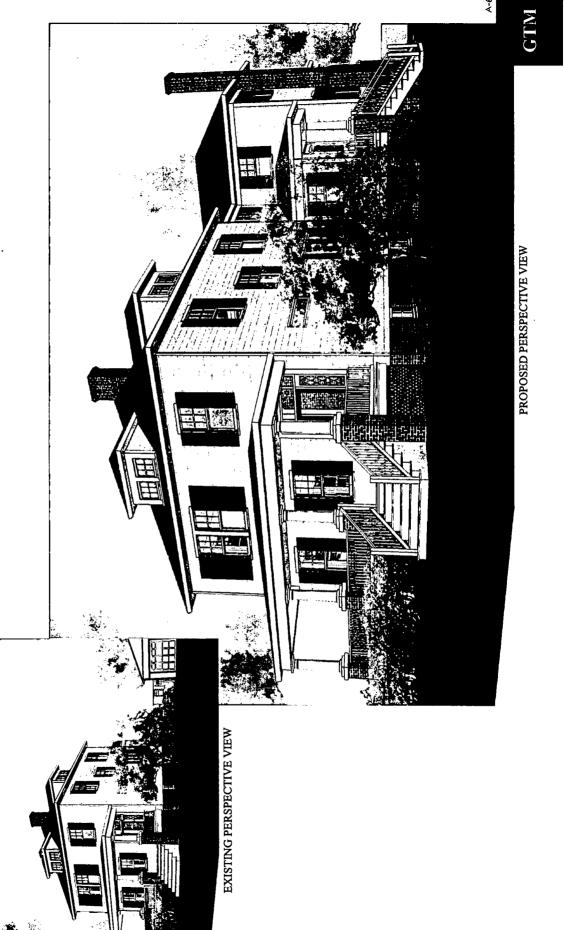




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PROPOSED PERSPECTIVE VIEW

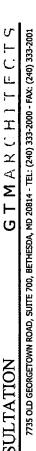


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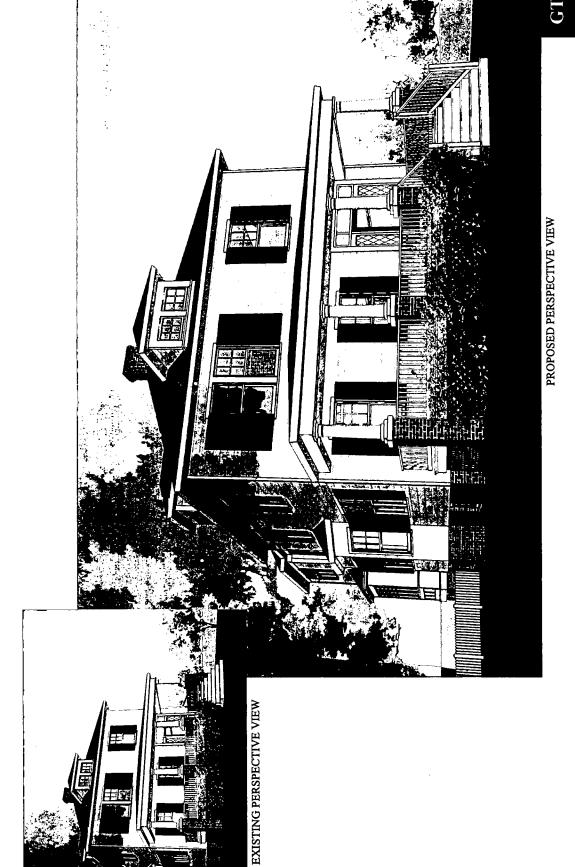
ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPRB MEETING 10/24/2012 - PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION

PROPOSED PERSPECTIVE VIEW

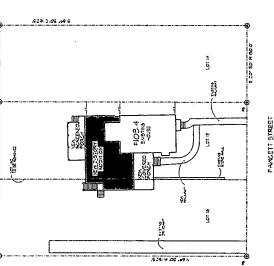




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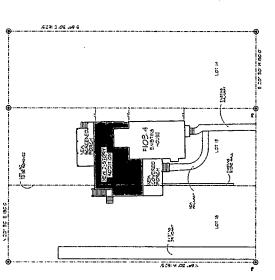












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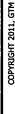


10308 MONTGOMERY AVENUE







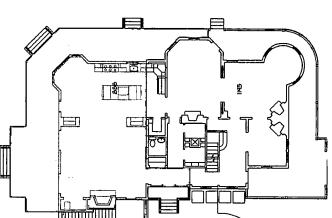












10221 MONTGOMERY AVENUE



MASSING PRECEDENTS IN KENSINGTON, MD

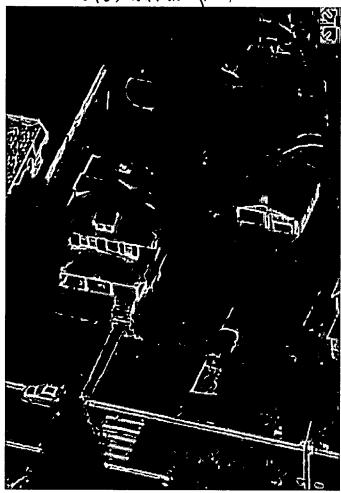
10225 MONTGOMERY AVENUE



10415 ARMORY AVENUE



3923 Washington



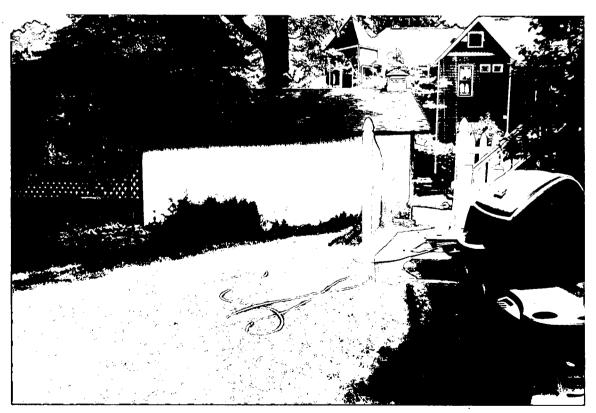




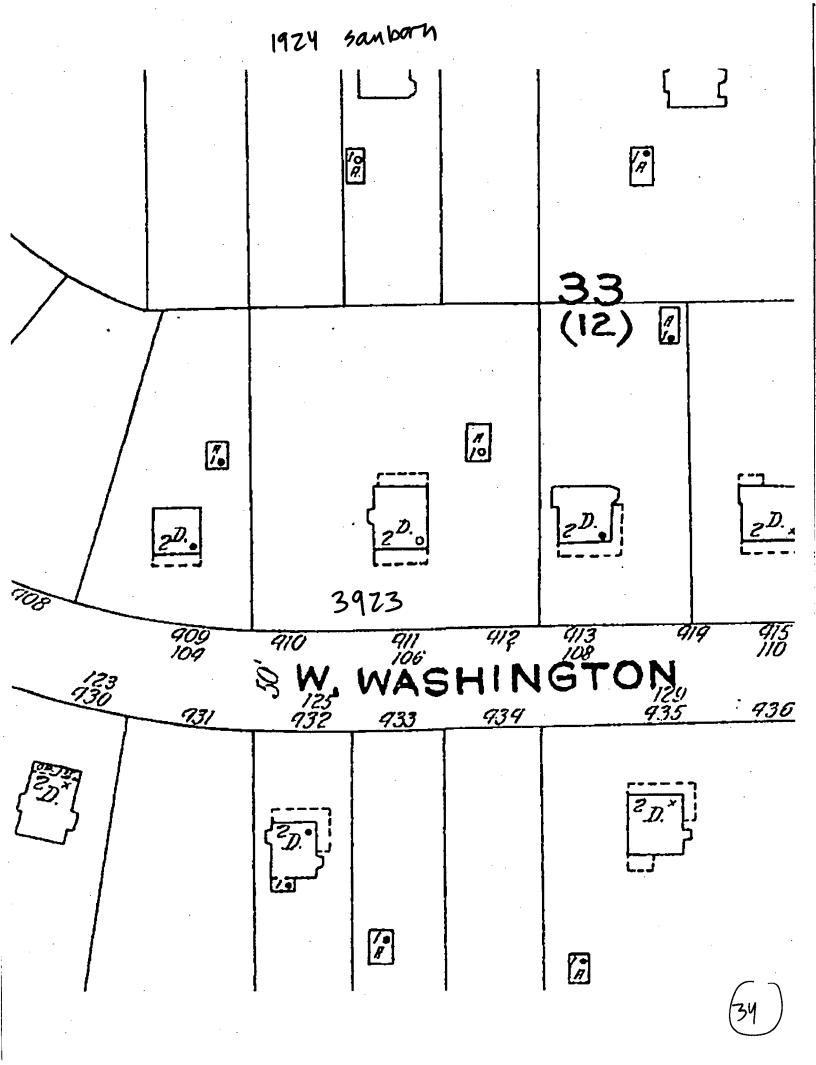








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# **MEMO**

To: Historic Preservation Staff

From: Helen Wilkes, Chair, Kensington LAP

Date: October 24, 2012

Re: Comments from the Kensington LAP

## 1. 10300 Fawcett Street:

- a. No comments were received from other LAP members.
- b. As the windows appear to be 1/1, it would seem that the Anderson replacements do not affect the appearance adversely.
- c. Defer to HPC judgment re: appropriateness of materials composition of replacement windows.

# 2. 3923 Washington Street:

- a. No comments were received from other LAP members.
- b. Owners are to be commended for restoring original historic features to the house and for designing new additions in compatible style; for locating the proposed addition to the rear of the house; and for setting the new garage further back on the property, which promotes the flow of open space around the house.
- c. General comment: As in at least one recent example of new construction in the Kensington HD, I'm concerned about what happens when an existing shed is torn down and the square footage of the footprint of the one-story shed becomes a "credit" toward the new lot coverage figure. It's not "apples to apples", as the same square footage is now extruded vertically into a two or three story structure and the visual impact of that same square footage is accordingly amplified. Tearing down a seemingly insignificant shed, if regarded strictly in terms of the numbers, helps to reduce the new lot coverage figure, but the visual impact of adding that same square footage to the total footprint of new additions is far greater. I hope that the HPC will take this into consideration not only in considering this project, but on all projects in Kensington, where diminution of Kensington's essential, character-defining historic garden park setting impacts not only the HAWP applicant's property, but the entire adjacent and surrounding historic setting.
- d. Agree with staff comments regarding concerns about the size of the addition.
- e. Garage:
  - i. No dimensions are shown to indicate difference in size between existing and new. Please ensure that all added square footage is reflected in new lot coverage figure. Note also that the existing garage is one story whereas the proposed is 1 1/2 stories, which, per note 2. c., has a greater impact on the "vertical footprint".
  - ii. Prefer that new garage doors reflect historic proportions to extent possible, such as compatible models offered by Designer Doors.
- f. Deck: Stairs to ground level appear on site plan but not on floor plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Wilkes

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address:

3923 Washington Street, Kensington

Meeting Date: 2/13/13

Applicant:

Paul and Deborah Eckert (Luke Olson, Agent)

Report Date: 2/6/13

Resource:

Primary-One Resource

Public Notice: 1/30/13

Kensington Historic District

Tax Credit:

Partial

Review:

**HAWP** 

Staff:

Josh Silver

Case Number: 36/02-13C

PROPOSAL: Construction of addition, demolition of garage, new garage construction

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the HPC approve the Historic Area Work Permit application with the following condition:

1. The applicants must contact HPC staff upon removing the siding on the historic massing to determine appropriate exterior material treatments and details for the addition. Final materials to be reviewed and approved by HPC staff.

# PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE:

Primary One Resource within the Kensington Historic District

STYLE:

Colonial Revival

DATE:

1910

# **BACKGROUND:**

The HPC held a preliminary consultation hearing at their October 24, 2012 meeting where they considered the applicants' proposal for construction of a rear addition and other alterations at the subject property. The HPC provided the applicants with the feedback below. [The full HPC meeting transcript is available on pages < - 98

Addition- the size and scale of the addition in relationship to the main house is disproportionate. The HPC recommend the applicants consider the following: simplification of the roof forms, introducing a more deliberate hyphen, justification of the side projecting addition to the left (west) side in lieu of the right (east) side of the property and changing the orientation of the addition to be more linear versus perpendicular to the main house. Some Commissioner's commented the size of the addition should be reduced.

Garage- the HPC supported construction of a garage in the location shown on the site plan. There was some discussion about the impact a garage in this location would have on the expansiveness of open space between the houses, as referred to in the Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan. General

comments included reducing the height of the garage, eliminating the front and rear dormer features, reducing its size and jogging the front wall plane. The HPC supported the brick tire track driveway, but recommended a reduction in the overall amount of hardscape and tinted surface treatment in lieu of asphalt for the driveway.

Materials and details- the HPC was generally supportive of the proposed materials. The HPC stated the details i.e., trim boards, frieze, and shutters did not take cues from the existing house. The applicants stated the details for the proposed additions would match those of the historic massing. Currently the historic massing is sheathed in aluminum siding. Upon removal of the siding the applicants intend to evaluate the existing siding, trim and details to determine appropriate exterior material selections for the proposed additions.

The applicants have included letters of support for their project. (See pages 99-125

# **PROPOSAL**

The applicants are proposing to:

- Remove aluminum siding and trim on house
- Salvage original wood siding where possible; install new wood siding to match where needed
- Construct a rear addition (see below)
- Remove existing front walkway and install new brick walkway
- Remove and replace concrete front porch stairs with wooden stairs and railing
- Demolish an existing two-car garage and remove concrete driveway
- Install new brick paver strips driveway and tinted concrete driveway at the right side of the house
- Construct new two-car garage; garage will be 24' x 24' x 19'2" tall (to roof ridge) and will be 1story; materials will match those proposed for the addition including wooden siding and asphalt shingle roofing. The front elevation will consist of wooden carriage style doors.
- Remove three Dogwood trees.

The proposed 1,050 square foot (foot print) rear addition will extend in a rectilinear shape from the rear of the existing house. Design features include a covered porch at the rear, a 9'6" side addition extension beyond the original west (left) side plane of the house and new brick chimney on the east (left) elevation. The rear covered porch has wooden steps to grade and there are steps to the driveway from the new east (right) side entrance. Both sets of steps will connect to the proposed driveway via a brick pathway. The proposal calls for wooden siding, asphalt shingle roofing, and brick foundation.

The proposed material treatments consist of wooden, double-hung, simulated-divided light, windows and doors and one set of ganged, wooden, casement windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, right side elevation. All columns, porch railings, shutters, and trim will be fabricated from wood and painted.

# **APPLICABLE GUIDELINES**

When reviewing alterations within the Kensington Historic District, the Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan (Vision), Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A) and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards) are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. The pertinent information in these documents is outlined below.

# Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan

The HPC formally adopted the planning study, Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan, and is directed by the Executive Regulations, which were approved by the County Council, to use this plan when considering changes and alterations to the Kensington Historic District. The goal of this preservation plan "was to establish a sound database of information from, which to produce a document that would serve the HPC, M-NCPPC, their staff and the community in wrestling with the protection of historic districts amidst the pressures of life in the 21st century." The plan provides a specific physical description of the district as it is; an analysis of character-defining features of the district; a discussion of the challenges facing the district; and a discussion of proposed strategies for maintaining the character of the district while allowing for appropriate growth and change.

# Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8:

- (a) The commission shall instruct the director to deny a permit if it finds, based on the evidence and information presented to or before the commission that the alteration for which the permit is sought would be inappropriate, inconsistent with or detrimental to the preservation, enhancement or ultimate protection of the historic site or historic resource within an historic district, and to the purposes of this chapter.
- (b) The commission shall instruct the director to issue a permit, or issue a permit subject to such conditions as are found to be necessary to insure conformity with the purposes and requirements of this chapter, if it finds that:
  - (1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
  - (2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or
  - (3) The proposal would enhance or aid in the protection, preservation and public or private utilization of the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district in a manner compatible with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value of the historic site or historic district in which an historic resource is located; or
  - (4) The proposal is necessary in order that unsafe conditions or health hazards be remedied; or
  - (5) The proposal is necessary in order that the owner of the subject property not be deprived of reasonable use of the property or suffer undue hardship; or
  - (6) In balancing the interests of the public in preserving the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district, with the interests of the public from the use and benefit of the alternative proposal, the general public welfare is better served by granting the permit.
- (c) It is not the intent of this chapter to limit new construction, alteration or repairs to any one period or architectural style.
- (d) In the case of an application for work on an historic resource located within an historic district, the commission shall be lenient in its judgment of plans for structures of little historical or design significance or for plans involving new construction, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the historic district. (Ord. No. 9-4, § 1; Ord. No. 11-59.)

# Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation:

Standard #9: New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

Standard # 10: New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

# **STAFF DISCUSSION**

The Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan states that within the Historic District, "the houses share a uniformity of scale, set backs and construction materials that contributes to the cohesiveness of the district's streetscapes." The Vision discusses specifically the Historic Residential Core, where the house at 3923 Washington Street is located, which "consists of most of the primary historic resources in the residential neighborhood. This includes historic resources built from 1890 to 1930 which exemplify the historic pattern of development characterized by expansive open spaces between homes. In this area it is important to preserve these patterns of open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities."

The Design Guidelines for Historic Sites and Districts in Montgomery County, Maryland state:

# **Basic Principles for an Addition**

The overall design of an addition should be in keeping with the design of the primary structure. Design elements should take their cue from the primary structure, but this does not preclude contemporary interpretations, nor discourage differentiating the addition from the historic building. Keeping the size of the addition small, in relation to the main structure, also will help minimize its visual impacts. It is also important that an addition not obscure any significant features of a building. If the addition is placed to the rear of the existing structure, it is less likely to affect such features. Side additions are generally discouraged.

# 18.0 DESIGN OF NEW ADDITIONS

Design a new addition to be compatible with the primary structure.

- 18.1 Place an addition at the rear of a building to minimize its visual impacts.
- This will allow the original proportions and character to remain prominent.
- Locating an addition at the front of a structure is inappropriate
- Locating an addition to the side of a structure is generally inappropriate. However, special site constraints, such as sloping topography or location of a champion or specimen tree, may require a side addition.
- An addition to the rear of a structure must also conform to Montgomery County and municipality setback requirements.

- **18.2** Do not obscure, damage, destroy or remove original architectural details and materials of the primary structure.
- **18.3** An addition should be compatible in scale with the primary structure.
- An addition should relate to the historic house in mass, scale and form. It should be designed to remain subordinate to the main structure.
- One option to help visually separate an addition from the primary building is to link the primary structure with a smaller breezeway.
- For a larger addition, break up the mass of the addition into smaller modules that relate to the historic house.
- An addition should be simple in design to prevent it from competing with the primary structure.
- 18.4 Use building materials that are compatible with those of the primary structure.
- **18.5** An addition should be compatible in character with the primary structure.
- An addition should be made distinguishable from the historic building, even in subtle ways, such
  that the character of the original can be interpreted. An addition should draw design elements
  from the historic structure, expressing them in a simplified or contemporary manner rather
  than striving to perfectly recreate historic building features.
- A change in setbacks of the addition from the historic building, or applying a new trim board at the connection point can help define the addition.
- An addition that seeks to imply an earlier period than that of the primary building also is inappropriate. For example, an addition that is more ornate than the original building would be out of character.
- **18.6** Use windows that are similar in character to those of the main structure.
- If the original windows were a wood, double-hung style, for example, then new windows that appear similar to them would be appropriate. Windows of suitable contemporary design might also be appropriate.
- **18.7** The roof form and slope of a new addition should be in character with and subordinate to that of the primary building.
- It is important to repeat the roof lines and slopes found on the primary structure. Typically, gable, hip and shed roofs are appropriate for residential-type building additions. Flat roofs may be appropriate in certain cases, such as for some commercial buildings.
- Eave lines on the additions should be no higher, and preferably lower, than those of the historic building or structure.

# 14.0 ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND OUTBUILDINGS

New accessory structures and outbuildings should be compatible with the primary structure on a property.

- 14.2 New accessory structures and outbuildings should be compatible with the primary structure.
- New construction should be similar in style but recognizable as new.
- Architectural details, materials, and style should be compatible to the primary structure.
- The mass and scale should be in proportion to the primary structure.
- New accessory structures and outbuildings should be located in the rear yard and conform to Montgomery County and municipality zoning and building regulations.

# **STAFF DISCUSSION (Preliminary Consultation):**

The applicants propose to remove the aluminum siding and salvage and restore the original wood siding (where possible), which is commendable and will be a major improvement to the house and historic district. They are not proposing changes to the historic house other than at the rear of the house where the new addition will be constructed, and this is also commendable and in keeping with the applicable review criteria and preservation guidance.

The applicants are proposing to construct a 1,170 SF addition behind the existing 975 SF house. Staff's main concern with this proposal is the scale of the addition and its visibility since it extends 12 feet beyond the east side plane of the historic house. As the *Vision of Kensington* notes, this area of the historic district is "characterized by expansive open spaces between homes. In this area it is important to preserve these patterns of open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities."

While the materials and design of the addition are in keeping with the house, because of its size, scale, and side projection staff is concerned that it is an incompatible and inappropriate addition to this house. The rear addition is larger than the original house and, even though it is lower at the roof and inset at the sides, it may be out of scale and proportion to the historic house. If the addition was entirely at the rear and did not extend 12 feet out the side the overall size would be reduced and it would greatly reduce its visibility and overall impact on the house and site. As proposed it will extend into the yard to the side of the house and compromise the existing pattern of houses and open space that characterize this streetscape.

The applicants also propose to demolish the existing garage and construct a new driveway leading to a new garage at the back of the property. The existing garage would not be located behind the house once the addition is constructed and therefore would be non-conforming in terms of current zoning requirements. The proposed new garage has a similar footprint to the existing garage and will be 1 ½ stories and appears to be taller than the existing garage.

# **STAFF DISCUSSION (HAWP Proposal):**

# **Addition**

Staff recommends that the HPC approve the addition as submitted. Although the size of the addition remains relatively unchanged, the applicants have responded to the majority of the feedback they received from the HPC at the preliminary consultation hearing.

The proposed addition extends into the left side yard in lieu of the right. A result of this change a more deliberate hyphen was introduced on the right side elevation which better differentiates the historic massing and new addition section. Furthermore, this change preserves the existing open space that currently exists on the right side of the property and the *Vision of Kensington* identifies as an important characteristic in this area of the historic district. Per staff's recommendation the applicants eliminated the right side mudroom.

# Garage

Staff recommends that the HPC approve demolition of the existing garage and construction of a new garage as submitted. Consistent with the HPC's consideration of the project at the preliminary consultation the garage location remains unchanged. Per the HPC's feedback, the applicants eliminated the front and rear dormers. The revised garage design has a hipped roof in lieu of a gable roof. Although the garage footprint and ridge height of the roof remain unchanged from the preliminary consultation, the proposed

hipped roof form helps mitigate the perceived height of the garage when viewed from the public right-of-way.

Staff recommends that the HPC approve the proposed hardscape plan as submitted. The revised hardscape plan responds directly to the HPC's feedback at the preliminary consultation by reducing hardscape and using a tinted driveway surface treatment in lieu of asphalt.

# Materials and details

The HPC was generally supportive of the proposed materials at the preliminary consultation hearing. The HPC stated the details as shown (i.e., trim boards, frieze, and shutters), did not take cues from the existing house. The applicants stated the details for the proposed addition would match those of the historic massing. Currently the historic massing is sheathed in aluminum siding. Upon removal of the siding the applicants intend to evaluate the existing siding, trim and details to determine appropriate exterior material selections for the proposed additions. Consistent with the condition of approval the applicants must contact HPC staff upon removing the siding on the historic massing to determine appropriate exterior material treatments and details for the addition.

Staff recommends approval of removal and replacement of the non-original concrete front porch steps with wooden stairs and railings. A wooden stair unit and railing is in keeping with the existing porch materials and design of the house. Staff supports removal and replacement of front concrete walkway with brick.

# **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Commission approve with the condition specified on Circle 1 the HAWP application, under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b), having found that the proposal is consistent with the Vision of Kensington identified above, and therefore will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resource and is compatible in character with the district and the purposes of Chapter 24A;

and with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall present the 3 permit sets of drawings, if applicable to Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) staff for review and stamping prior to submission for the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) building permits;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall notify the Historic Preservation Staff if they propose to make **any alterations** to the approved plans. Once the work is completed the applicant will <u>contact the staff person</u> assigned to this application at 301-563-3400 or <u>joshua.silver@mncppc-mc.org</u> to schedule a follow-up site visit.



# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301/563-3400

# APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

Contact Email: LOLSON@GTMARCHITEC	TS COM	Contact Person: Lt	UKE OLSON
Contact Bail: Dobbottigo Hardelli Ec	715.00141	Daytime Phone No.:	240-333-2021
Tax Account No.: 01022855			
Name of Property Owner: PAUL & DEBORAH ECKI	ERT	Osytime Phone No.:	202-663-6537
3923 WASHINGTON STREET	KENSINGTON	I MD	20895-3934
Stroot Mumber	City	Steet	Zo Codo
Contractor: TO BE SELECTED		Phone No.:	·
Contractor Registration No.:			
Agent for Owner:	•	Daytime Phone No.:	
COPATION OF EUROPEWEEP 15		<del></del>	
House Number: 3923	Street	WASHINGTON	N STREET
fown/City: KENSINGTON			
Let: 11 & 12 Block: 12 Subdivision:			
Liber: 6130 Folie: 89 Percel:			
Albert Charles Continue March		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
A CHECKALL APPLICABLE	CHECK ALL AP	TICANE	
☐ Construct 53 Extend 52 Aller/Renevate	OAC SE	Stab 🔞 Room A	délities 🗆 Porch 🖾 Dack 🗆 Shed
☐ Move ☐ Install ☐ Wreck/Rese	🗀 Soler 😡 I	Preplece 🗆 Weedbu	rning Stove 💮 🔞 Single Family
☐ Revision 25 Repair ☐ Revecable.	☐ Fence/Well	complete Section 4)	Other:
B. Construction cost estimate: \$ 500,000			
C. If this is a revision of a proviously approved active parmit, s	oo Permit #		
ANTWO GOLDEN FOR HEAVENING CHICAN		•	
A. Type of sewage disposal: 01 🗍 WSSC	02 🖾 Septic		
8. Type of water supply: 01 🗆 WSSC	02 🗀 Well	03 🖸 Other:	<del></del>
Mitalist apportata (40) Valorizada Alia/Norda	WALL	<del></del>	<del> </del>
A. Heightinches			
8. Indicate whether the fence or retaining wall is to be constr	usted on one of the follow	ring locations:	
(3 On party line/property line 13 Entirely on last	nd of owner (	On public right of wr	ey/ecomoni
hereby cardly that I have the authority to make the foregoing a	pplication, that the applic	estion is correct, and th	het the construction will comply with plant
oproved by all agencies listed and I hereby acknowledge and i	eccept this to be a condit	ion for the issuance of	this permit.
100			17-70-17
Signature of comer or sustained execut		<u></u>	19-90-19
	<del></del>		<del></del>
proved:	For Chairperson	, Historic Preservation	Commission
sapproved: Signature:			Coultry
optication/Permit No.: 1022090	Data Filed:	12 120.112	Cotts less and:
		<del> </del>	VI-9 -55-00.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

# THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

# 1. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

•	Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance:				
	The existing house is a two-story American Foursquare with a covered front porch and one-story bay window on the left side. There is a previous addition on the rear of the house with a small covered porch providing an additional entry. There is also an areaway				
	on the rear providing access to the basement. The house sits on two lots (11 & 12), with				
	the majority of the house located on lot 12 and a one-story detached garage on lot 11.				
	The house is unevenly spaced between the surrounding residences, with 24' between it				
	and the house on the left and 55' between it and the house on the right.				
Đ.	General description of project and its effect on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district:				
	See attached.				

# 2. SITEPLAN

Site and environmental setting, drawn to scale. You may use your plat. Your site plan must include:

- a. the scale, north arrow, and data;
- b. dimensions of all existing and proposed structures; and
- c. site features such as walkways, driveways, fences, ponds, streams, trash dumpsters, mechanical equipment, and landscaping.

# 3. PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

You must submit 2 copies of plans and elevations in a format no larger than 11" x 17". Plans on 8 1/2" x 11" paper are preferred.

- a. Schemetic construction plans, with marked dimensions, indicating location, size and general type of walls, window and door openings, and other fixed features of both the existing resource(s) and the proposed work.
- b. Elevations (facades), with marked dimensions, clearly indicating proposed work in relation to existing construction and, when appropriate, context. All materials and fortures proposed for the exterior must be noted on the elevations drawings. An existing and a proposed elevation drawing of each facade affected by the proposed work is required.

# 4. MATERIALS SPECIFICATIONS

General description of materials and manufactured items proposed for incorporation in the work of the project. This information may be included on your design drawings.

# 5. PHOTOGRAPHS

- Clearly tabeled photographic prints of each facade of existing resource, including details of the affected portions. All labels should be placed on the front of photographs.
- b. Clearly label photographic prints of the resource as viewed from the public right-of-way and of the adjoining properties. All labels should be placed on the front of photographs.

# 6. TREE SURVEY

If you are proposing construction adjacent to or within the dripline of any tree 6" or larger in diameter (at approximately 4 feet above the ground), you must file an accurate tree survey identifying the size, location, and species of each tree of at least that dimension.

# 7. ADDRESSES OF ADJACENT AND CONFRONTING PROPERTY OWNERS

For ALL projects, provide an accurate list of adjacent and confronting property owners (not tenants), including names, addresses, and zip codes. This list should include the owners of all lots or parcels which adjoin the parcel in question, as well as the owner(s) of lot(s) or parcel(a) which lie directly across the street/highway from the parcel in question.

PLEASE PRINT (IM BLUE OR BLACK INIQ OR TYPE THIS INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.
PLEASE STAY WITHIN THE GUIDES OF THE TEMPLATE, AS THIS WILL BE PHOTOCOPIED DIRECTLY ONTO MAILING LABELS.

# b. General description of project and its effects on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district:

The scope of work includes a two-story addition on the rear of the existing house and exterior renovation of the existing property. The existing site consist of two lots, with the existing house sitting almost entirely on the left lot, leaving an expanse of undeveloped land between the existing house and the neighboring property to the right. At the suggestion of the HPC, we have taken great care to ensure that the addition minimally impacts the existing spacing. The proposed addition projects to the left, where the spacing between houses typical of the neighborhood has already been disrupted by the house on the neighboring property, and where the existing landscape will help screen the impact of the addition from the street. Additionally, we are proposing to improve the perceived spacing on the right side by relocating the garage to a more suitable location in the rear yard. To retain the significance of the original house, we have located the addition entirely to the rear of the house and stepped back the addition where the two meet. At the suggestion of the HPC staff, we have matched the eave height of the existing house while keeping the massing of the building and the ridge height subordinate to the existing structure. We've included massing studies and building square footage examples to show that the existing house is quite small for the neighborhood, and that the proposed addition will not be out of scale with the surrounding houses. The design is in keeping with the historical character of the existing house, and the scope of work includes a renovation of the existing exterior with more traditional and historically accurate materials and details. We intend to remove much of the existing concrete drives and walkways, and replace them with permeable pavers to reduce the amount of non-habitable impervious surfaces on the lot.

There are two principal motivating factors behind the owners' desire to add to the existing home. First, the house is currently too small for the family to comfortably live in, and second, they will soon be assisting in the home care of an elder family member. The size and massing of the proposed addition is directly affected by the inclusion of several features to improve the accessibility of the existing house, including a wheelchair accessible elevator, appropriately sized doors and passageways, and accessible bathrooms and powder rooms. We ask that you please keep this in mind when reviewing the overall massing and design of the addition.

b. General description of project and its effects on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district:

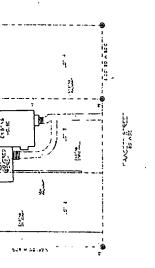
The scope of work includes a two-story addition on the rear of the existing house and exterior renovation of the existing property. The existing site consist of two lots, with the existing house sitting almost entirely on the left lot, leaving an expanse of undeveloped land between the existing house and the neighboring property to the right. At the suggestion of the HPC, we have taken great care to ensure that the addition minimally impacts the existing spacing. The proposed addition has been modified so that it is weighted almost entirely to the left of the property, where the spacing between houses typical of the neighborhood has already been disrupted by the infill house on the neighboring property, and where the existing landscape will help screen the impact of the addition from the street. Additionally, we are proposing to improve the perceived spacing on the right side by relocating the garage to a more suitable location in the rear yard. To retain the significance of the original house, we have located the addition entirely to the rear of the house and stepped back the addition where the two meet. Based on comments received during our HPC preliminary review and subsequent comments from the HPC staff, we've removed the projecting Mudroom Entry and have incorporated additional glazing into the "hyphen" to break up the massing and further differentiate the addition from the existing house. At the suggestion of the HPC staff, we have matched the eave height of the existing house while keeping the massing of the building and the ridge height subordinate to the existing structure. We've included massing studies and building square footage examples to show that the existing house is quite small for the neighborhood, and that the proposed addition will not be out of scale with the surrounding houses. The design is in keeping with the historical character of the existing house, and the scope of work includes a renovation of the existing exterior with more traditional and historically accurate materials and details. We intend to remove most of the existing concrete drives and walkways, and replace them with permeable pavers to reduce the amount of non-habitable impervious surfaces on the lot.

There are two principal motivating factors behind the owners' desire to add to the existing home. First, the house is currently too small for the family to comfortably live in, and second, they will soon be assisting in the home care of an elderly family member. The size and massing of the proposed addition is directly affected by the inclusion of several features to improve the accessibility of the existing house, including a wheelchair accessible elevator, appropriately sized doors and passageways, and accessible bathrooms and powder rooms. With the elimination of the previously proposed guest space above the garage, further reductions in space would present considerable challenges to meeting these elderly care requirements while also accommodating the needs of family and periodic guests. Elderly care and disability concerns will unquestionably arise more frequently with multi-generational living in these historic homes, and the Eckerts have endeavored to strike an appropriate balance between historic preservation and usability- avoiding, for example, additions for access and ease of mobility to the original structure. We ask that you please keep their objectives and their efforts to strike a reasonable balance in mind when reviewing the overall massing and design of the addition.

In addition to the revisions outlined above, the Eckerts have compiled and submitted letters of support from the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington, which voted unanimously in support of the project as proposed after reviewing the plans and inviting public comment. Twenty of the Eckerts' neighbors have also provided letters of support, including those living in adjacent and facing lots 3919, 3922, 3924, and 3926 Washington Street, and backyard neighbors at 3924 Prospect Street. Additional letters of support are included in the application materials.

# HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]

Owner's mailing address	Owner's Agent's mailing address
PAUL AND DEBORAH ECKERT 3923 WASHIGNTON STREET KENSINGTON, MD 20895	GTM ARCHITECTS 7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD SUITE 700 BETHESDA, MD 20814
Adjacent and confronting	Property Owners mailing addresses
DANIEL BRAGG & CYNTHIA CECIL-BRAGG 3924 PROSPECT ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895-3916	THEODORE ROSCHE 3922 PROSPECT ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895
PETER & BROOKS KENNY 3922 WASHINGTON ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895-3933	STEPHEN STRACHAN 3924 WASHINGTON ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895-3933
RICHARD STRACHAN 3925 WASHINGTON ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895	MICHAEL KNECHT 3919 WASHINGTON ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895
NANCY COLLINS 3926 WASHINGTON ST KENSINGTON, MD 20895	

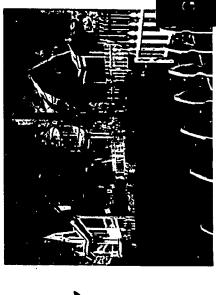


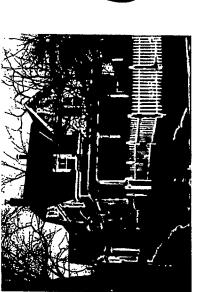
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10357 ST. PAUL STREET

# 10314 FAWCETT STREET





MASSING PRECEDENTS IN KENSINGTON, MD

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEI: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

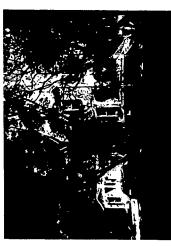
ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION
3923 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12,0306 COPPRIGHT 2013, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.



10221 MONTGOMERY AVENUE



10225 MONTGOMERY AVENUE



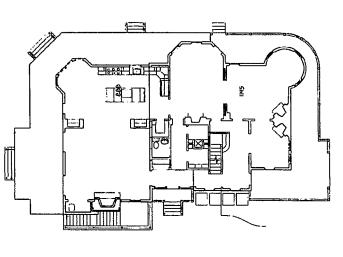
10308 MONTGOMERY AVENUE



MASSING PRECEDENTS IN KENSINGTON, MD



10415 ARMORY AVENUE



10400 MONTGOMERY AVENUE



7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

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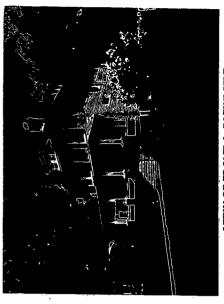
# ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION 2023 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12.0306 COPYRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.



VIEW OF REAR & PARTIAL RIGHT SIDE



VIEW OF FRONT



VIEW OF FRONT & RIGHT SIDE



VIEW OF REAR

VIEW OF RIGHT SIDE



VIEW OF REAR & PARTIAL LEFT SIDE



# ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION 3223 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12,0308 COPYRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.

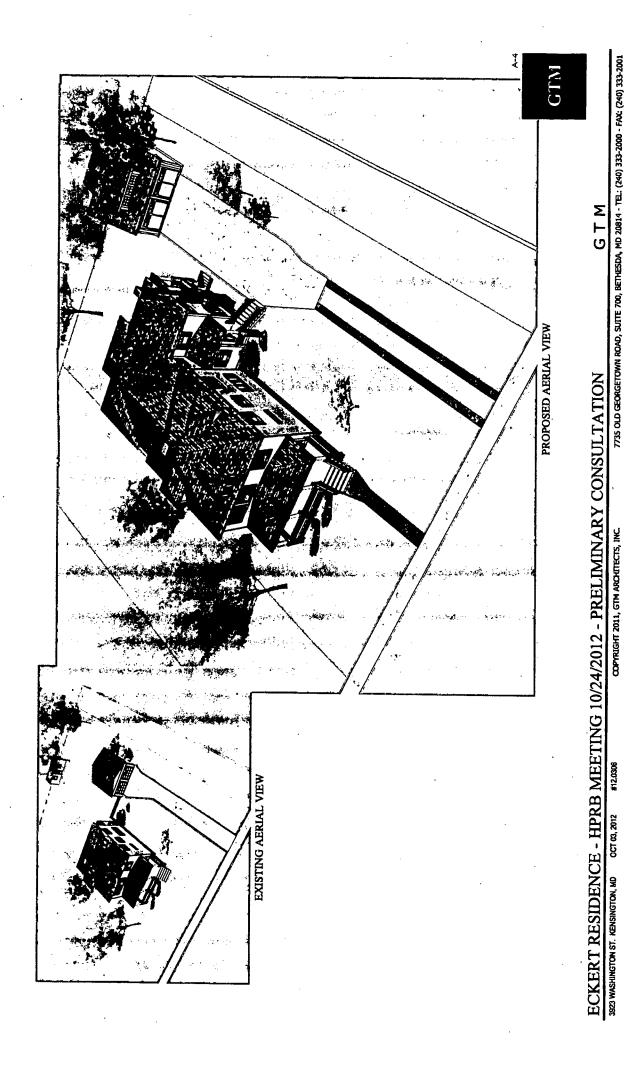
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SUBJECT PROPERTY

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

GTMARCHITECTS





# PRELIMINARY PLAN

# COPPRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC. REVISED PLAN

ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION

3923 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12,0306

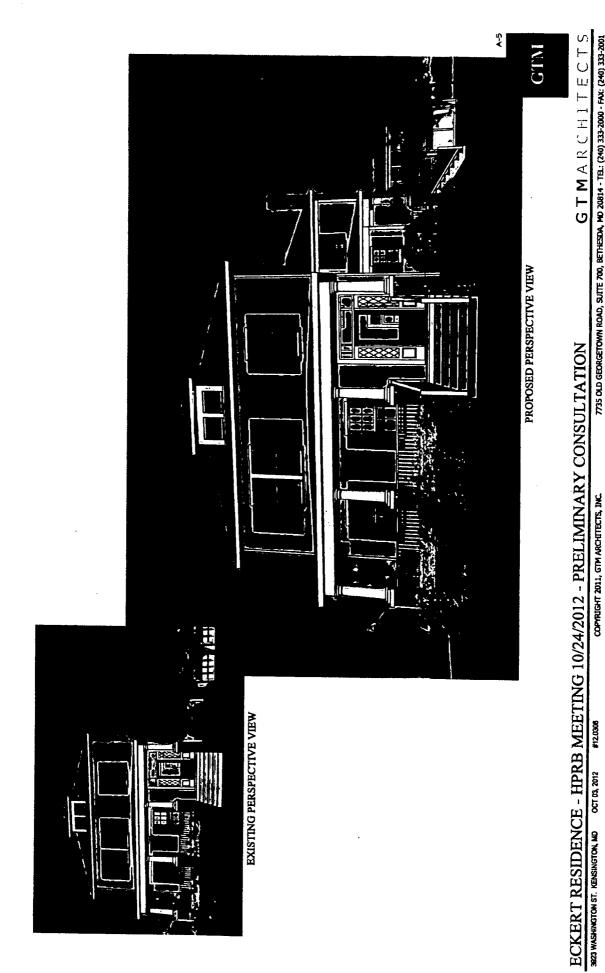
BRICK TRACK DRIVEWAY EXAMPLE

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

PROPOSED AERIAL VIEW



7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEI. (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001



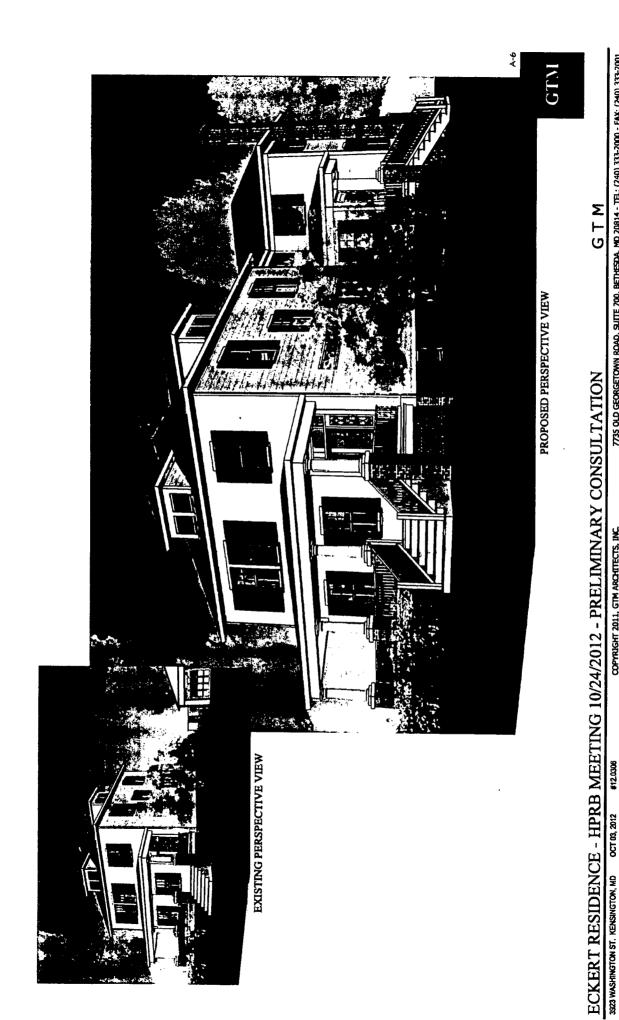


GTM

PROPOSED PERSPECTIVE VIEW

ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION 3223 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12,0306 COPPRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.

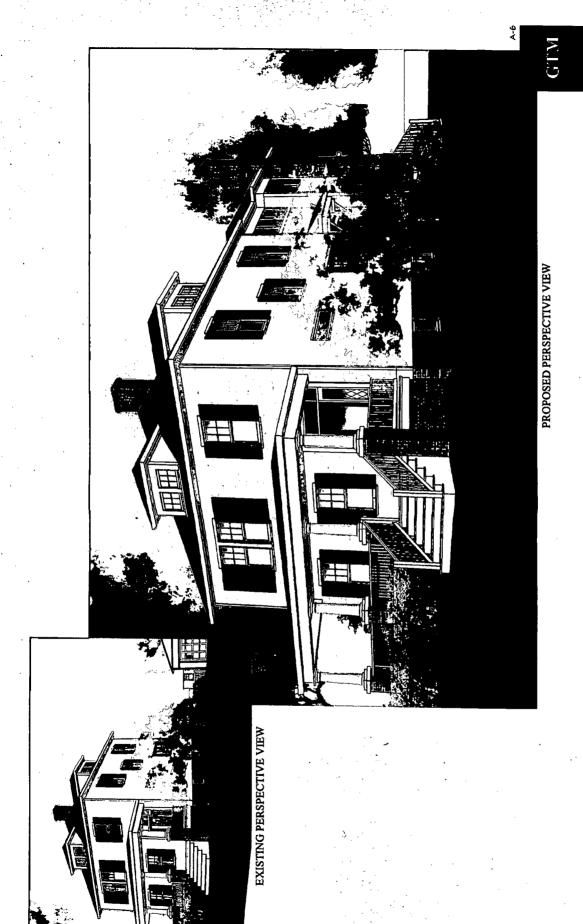




# PRELIMINARY PLAN

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TB.: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

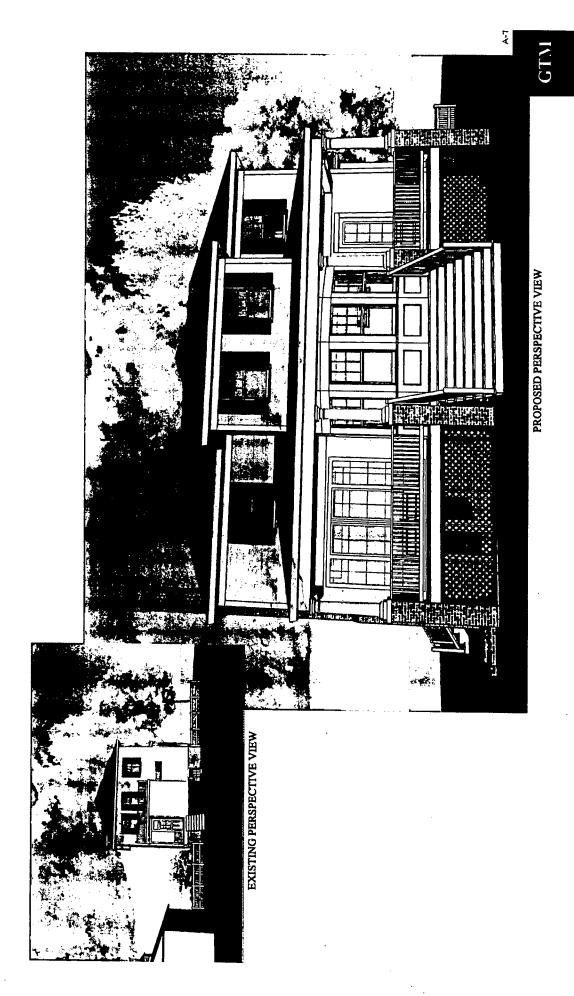
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7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

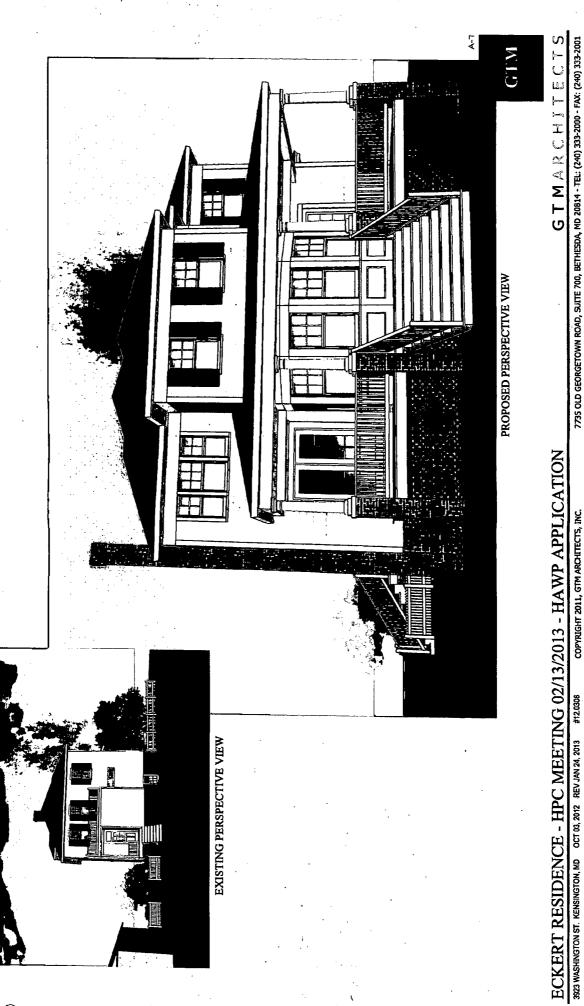


7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

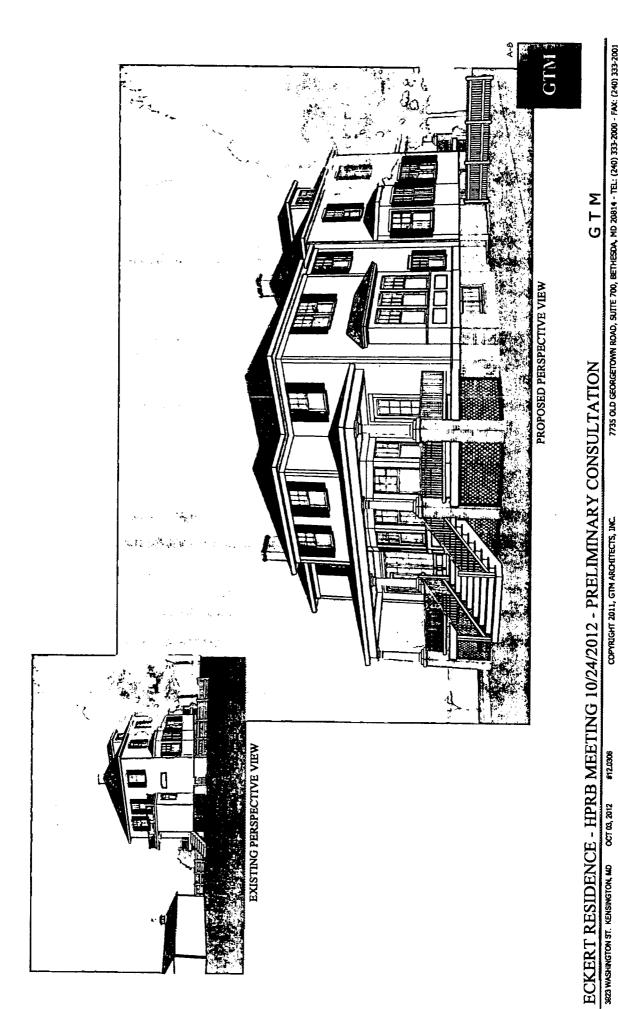
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ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPRB MEETING 10/24/2012 - PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION
3822 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON ND OCT 03, 2012 #12.0306 CEDRGETON
7735 OLD GEORGETON

PRELIMINARY PLAN



7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001



PRECININARY PLAN

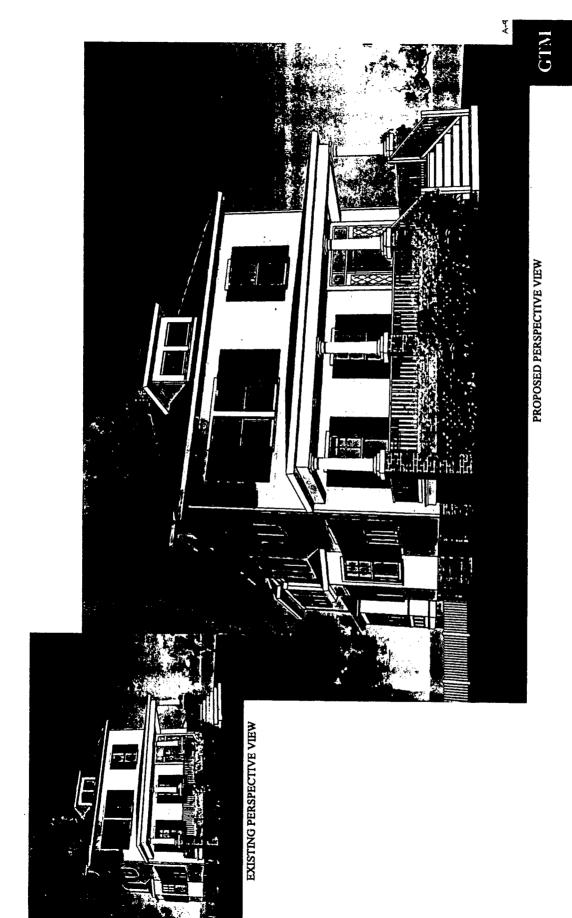
7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

**EXISTING PERSPECTIVE VIEW** 

GTMARCHITECTS

GTM

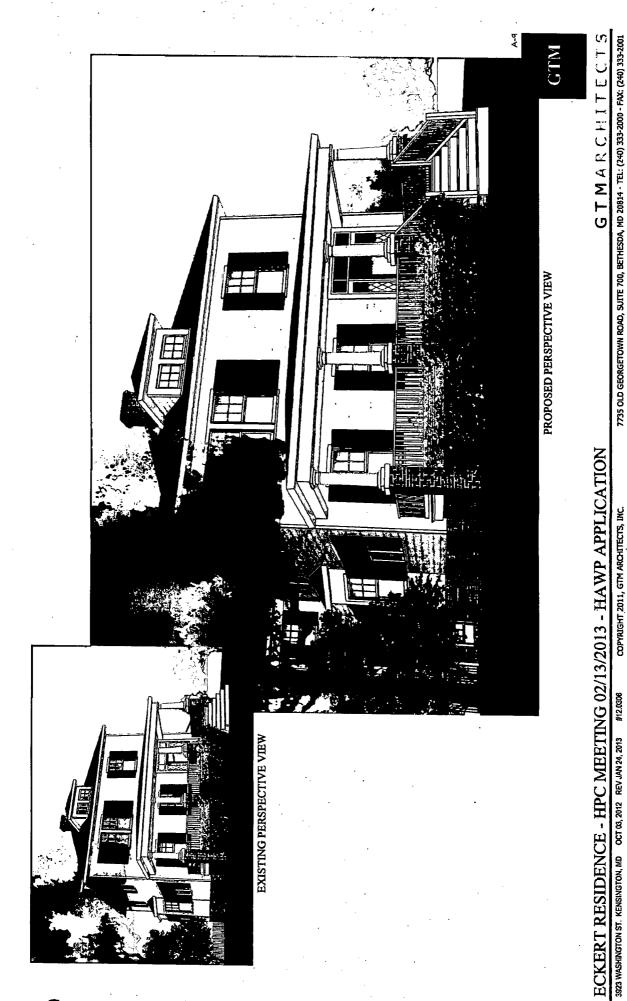




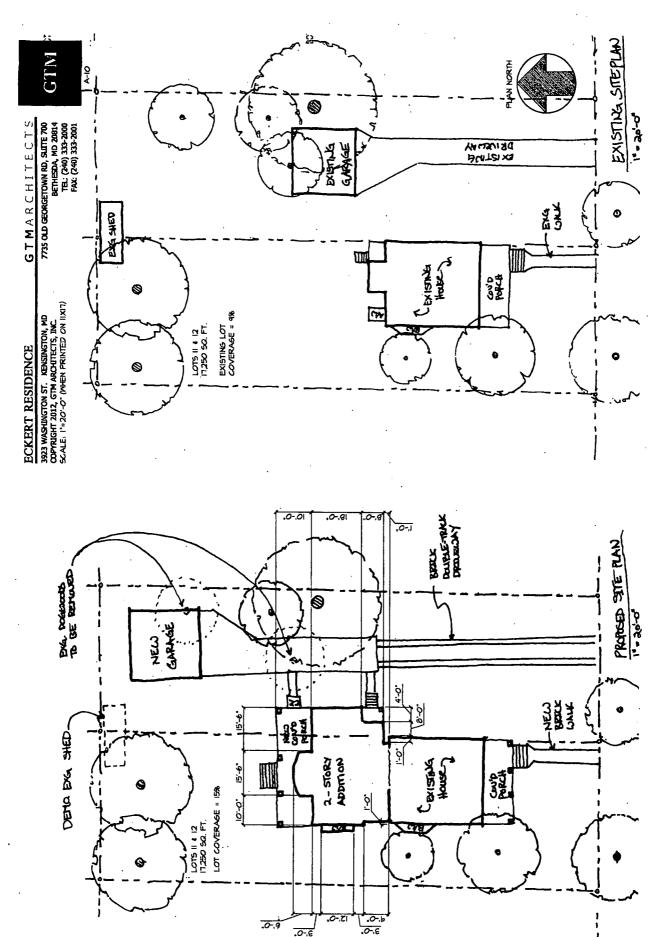
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7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TB.: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPRB MEETING 10/24/2012 - PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION 3223 WASHWIGTON ST. KENSHOTON ST. KENSHOTON ST. KENSHOTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 #12.0308 COPPLIENT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC. 7735 QLD GEDRGETON



7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001 COPYRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.

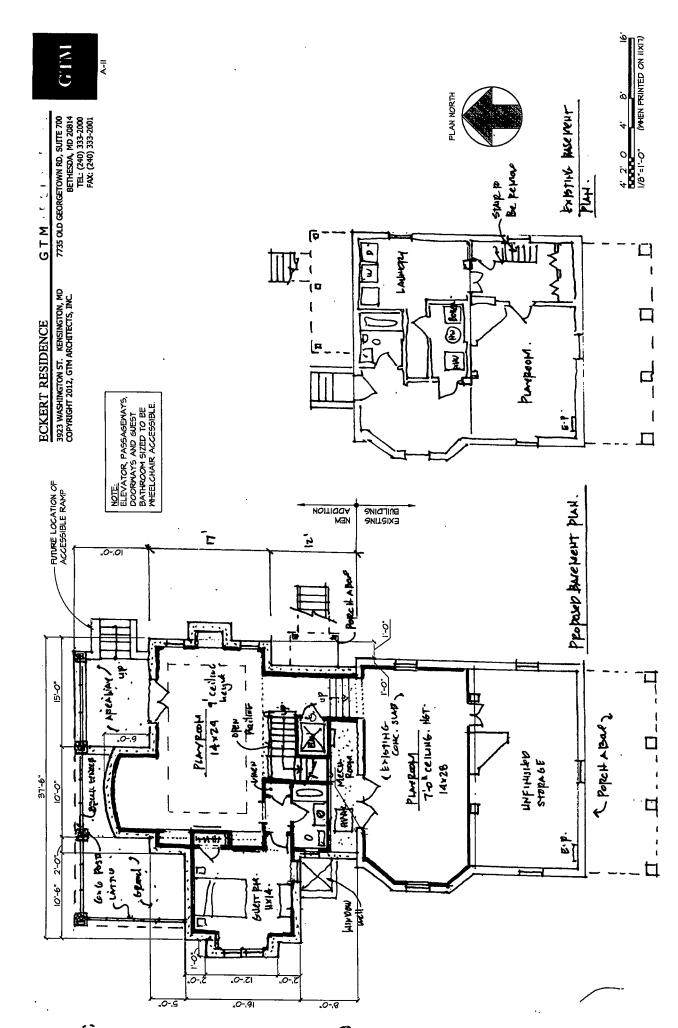


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REVISED PLAN

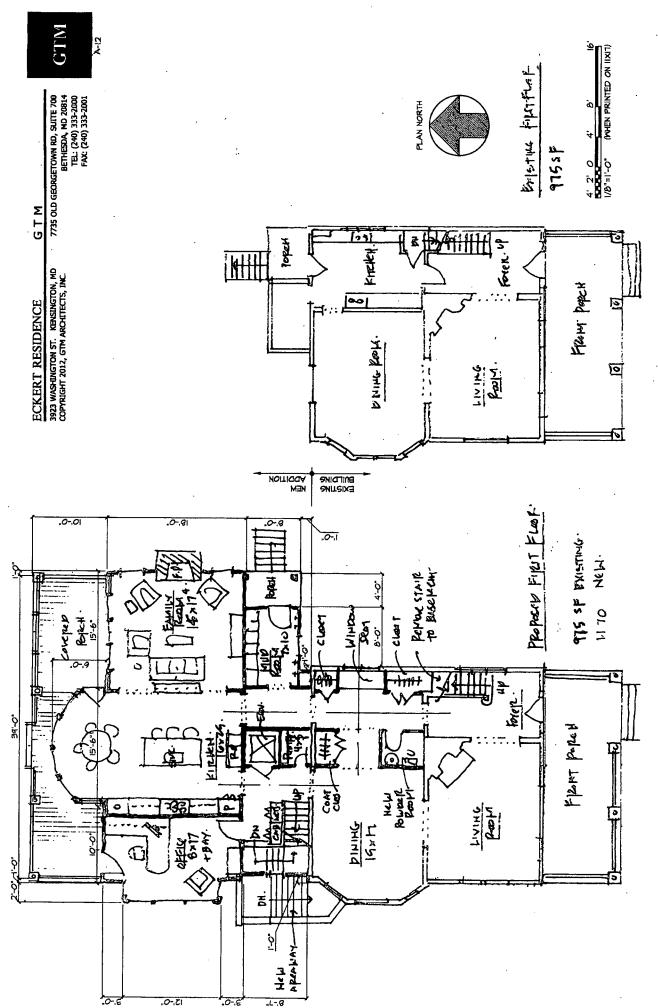
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## PRELIMINARY PLAN



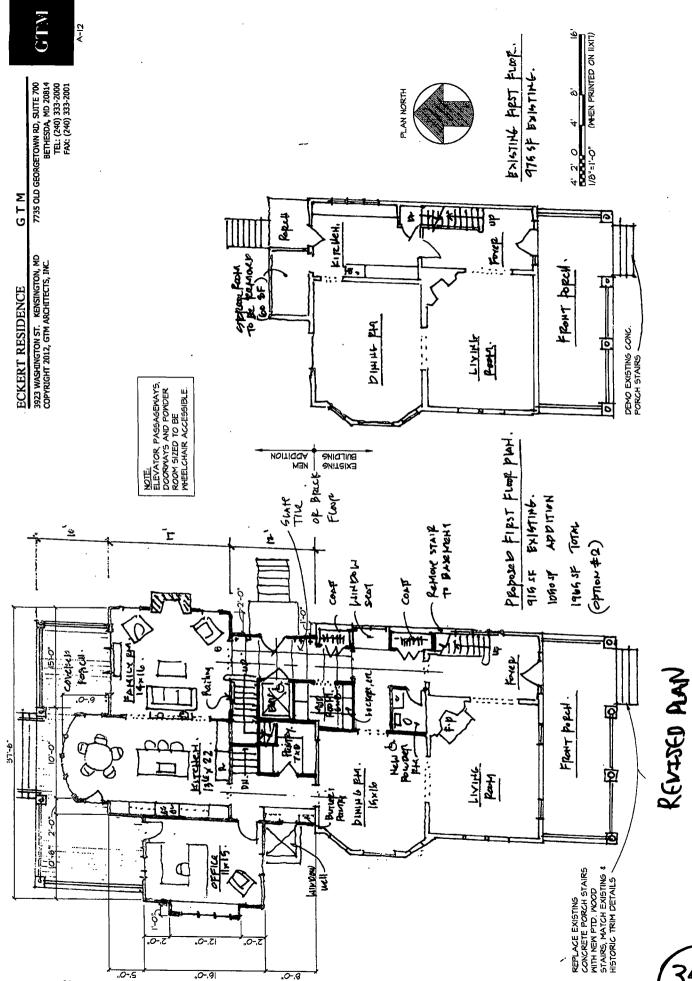
RELEISED PLAN

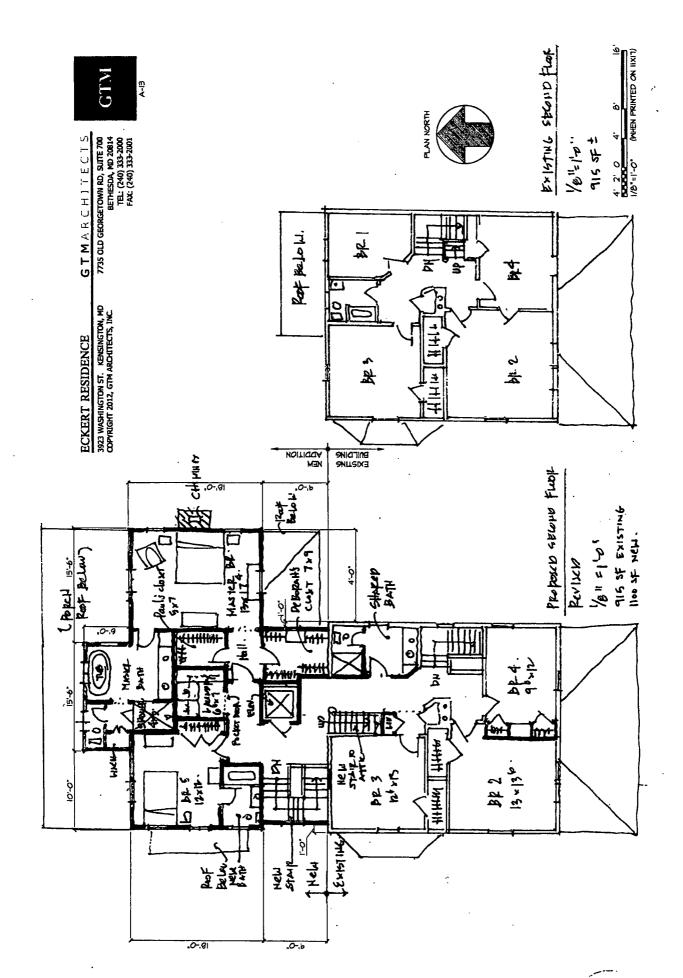
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# PRELIMINARY PLAN

(33)



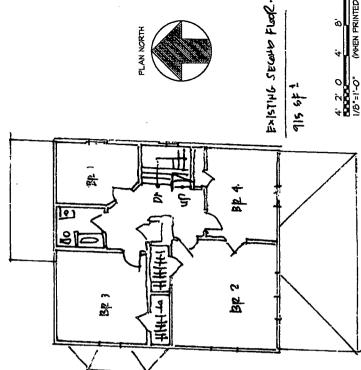


## PRECENTIVARY PLAN

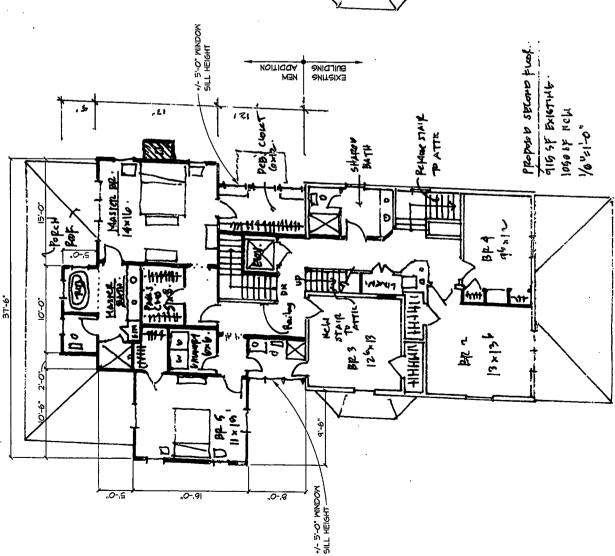


3.

ECKERT RESIDENCE 3923 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD COPYRIGHT 2012, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.



PLAN NORTH



RELIGIED PLAIN

4' 8' 16'
(WHEN PRINTED ON IIXT)

ST21X3

4001944

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PRELIMINARY PLAN

A-14

ECKERT RESIDENCE
3923 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD
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GTMARCHI

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN RD, SUITE 700 BETHESDA, MD 20814 TEL: (240) 333-2000 FAX: (240) 333-2001

Existing ATTE PINH

PLAN NORTH

Proposition Plan 725 5484 \$ 1

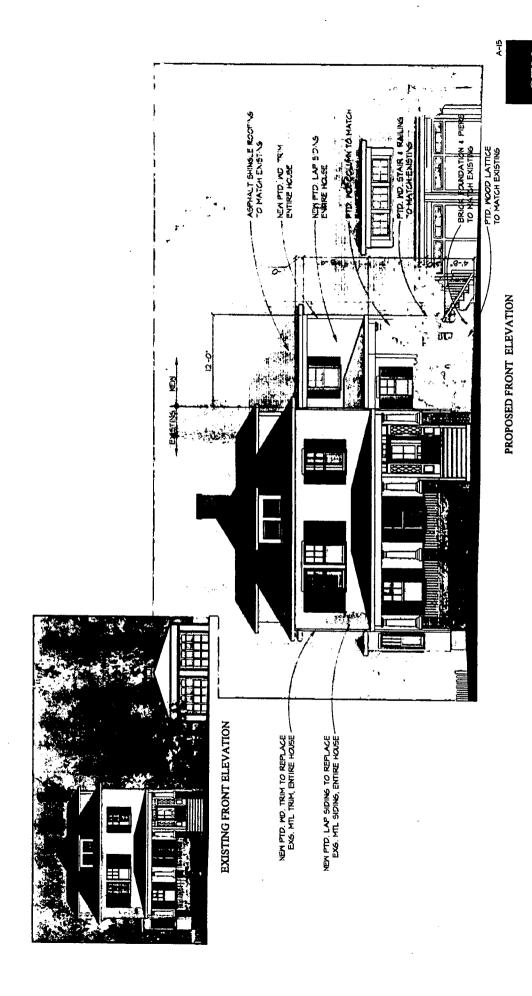
STRIKE

HOUISAY

REVISED PLAN

4' 8' 16'
(WHEN PRINTED ON IIXIT)

4' 2' 0 1/8"=1'-0'



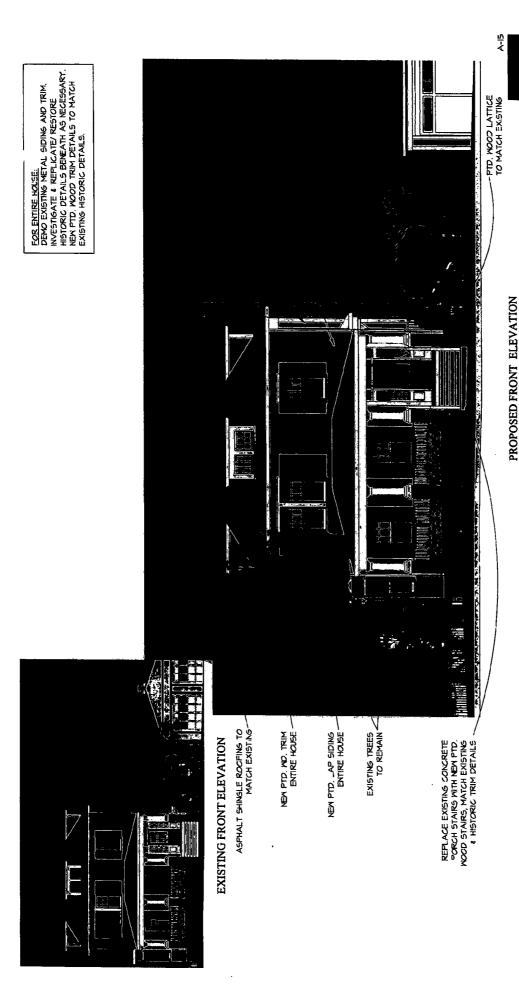
ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPRB MEETING 10/24/2012 - PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION
3223 WASHINGTON ST. RENSINGTON, NO. OCT 03, 2012 #12,12036 COPPUTED ST. GTN AROUTECTS, INC. 7735 OLD GEORGETON

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PRELIMINARY PLAN



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ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION

3923 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12,0308

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 708, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001

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CIM

REVISED PLAN



PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION

GTMARCHITECTS GTM

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001 ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPRB MEETING 10/24/2012 - PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION SECONSWIP OF 104, 2012 4 12,000 COPPRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC 7735 04D GEORGETON

PECLIMINARY PLAN





FOR ENTIRE MOUSE.
DEMO EXISTING METAL SIDING AND TRIM.
INVESTIGATE 4 REPLICATE RESTORE
HISTORIC DETAILS BENEATH AS NECESSARY.
NEW PID, MOOD TRIM DETAILS TO MATCH
EXISTING HISTORIC DETAILS.

PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION

34.46

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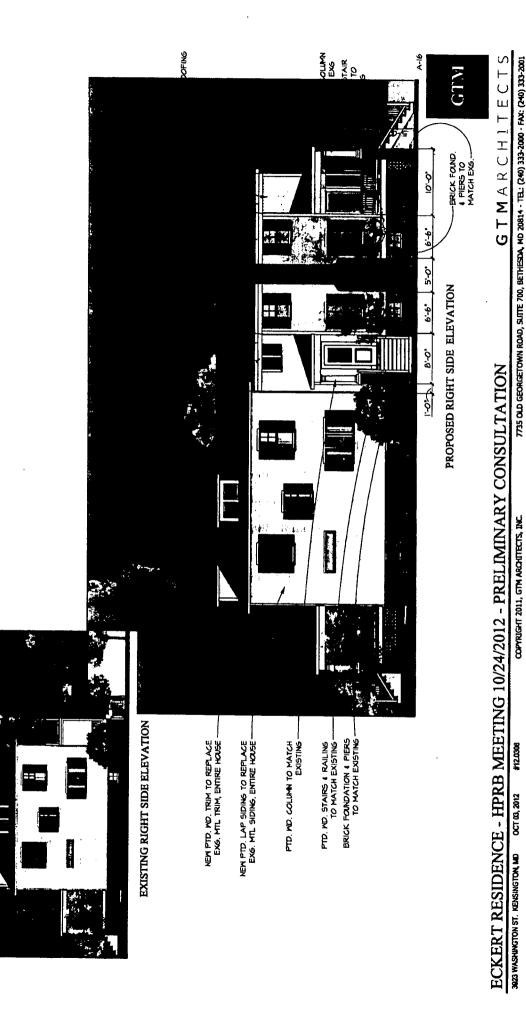
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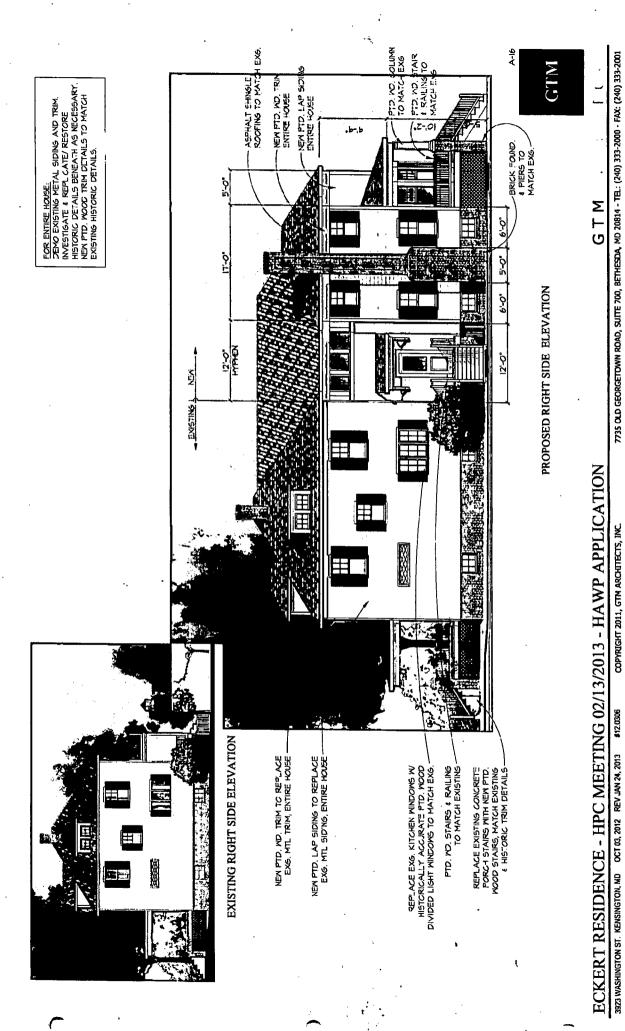
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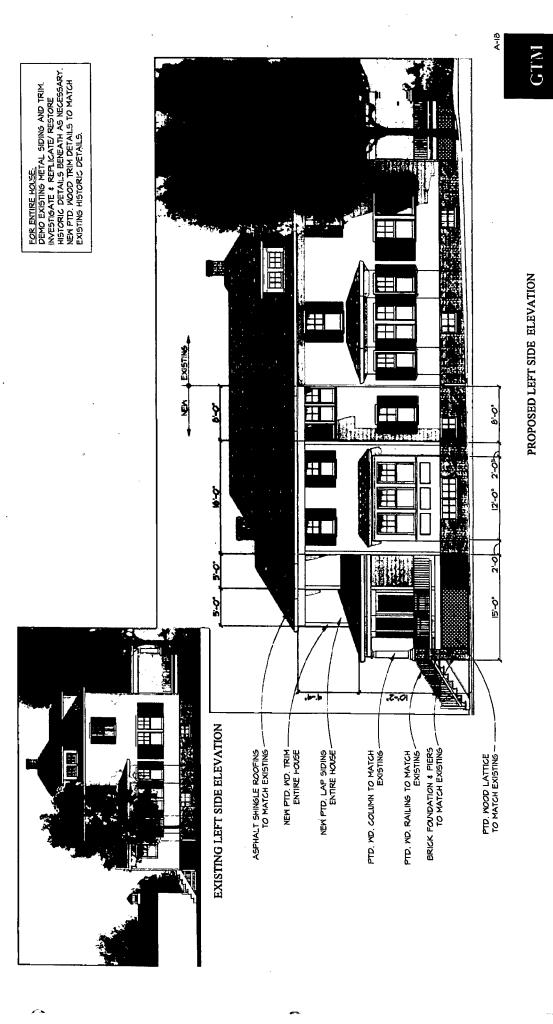
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RELICE PLAN







NEW GARAGE FRONT-RIGHT VIEW



EXISTING GARDEN SHED



EXISTING GARAGE REAR VIEW



EXISTING GARAGE LEFT SIDE VIEW



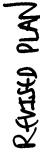


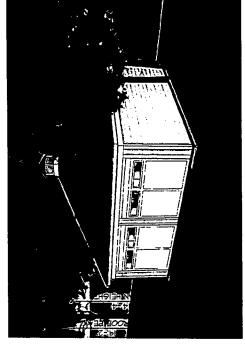
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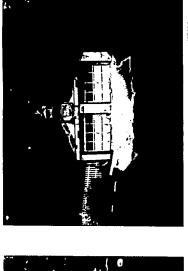
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EXISTING GARAGE FRONT VIEW

EXISTING GARDEN SHED





(animana)

EXISTING GARAGE LEFT SIDE VIEW





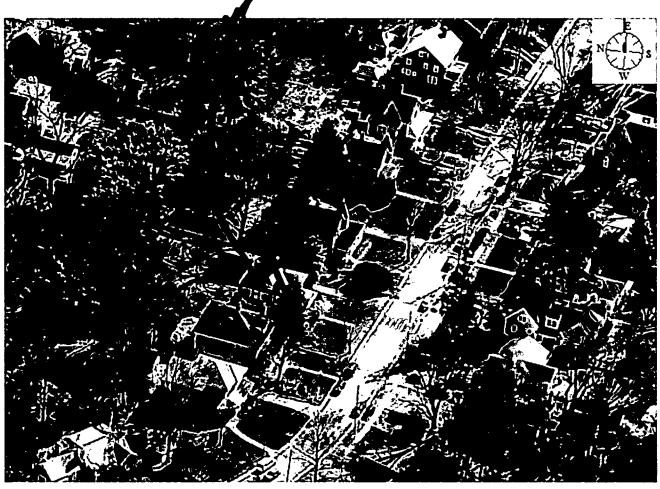
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NEW GARAGE REAR-LEFT VIEW





**HPC Meeting Transcript** 



MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 1 2 3 HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT -5 18 Grafton Street : Case No. 35/13-12Z 6 7 PRELIMINARY CONSULTAION -3923 Washington Street 9 10 A meeting in the above-entitled matter was held on 11 October 24, 2012, commencing at 7:32 p.m., in the MRO 12 Auditorium at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 13 20910, before: 14 COMMISSION MEMBERS 15 Leslie Miles, Chair 16 Bill Kirwan M'Lisa Whitney 17 Sandra Heiler Jorge Rodriguez 18 Paul Treseder 19 Joe Coratola Craiq Swift 20 Max Van Balgooy 21 22 23

## **Deposition Services, Inc.**

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12321 Middlebrook Road, Suite 210
Germantown, MD 20874
Tel: (301) 881-3344 Fax: (301) 881-3338
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## ALSO PRESENT:

Anne Fothergill

Joshua Silver

## **APPEARANCES**

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George Myers	8
Bill Atkins	9
Paul Eckert	23
Luke Olson	26
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MS. MILES: It appears to be unanimous. Thank you very much. Thank you for your patience. Your HAWP has been approved, and you can speak to Anne about how to proceed, tomorrow.

Now we have a preliminary consultation for 3923 Washington Street in Kensington. And do we have a staff report?

MS. FOTHERGILL: We do. This is a Primary-One resource in the Kensington Historic District. Also Colonial Revival house built circa 1910. It is in the, what the Vision of Kensington calls the historic residential core, which consists of most of the primary historic resources in the residential neighborhood. And in Circle 3 you'll see the discussion of what that pattern of development is characterized by expansive open spaces between homes. In this area it is important to preserve these patterns, open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities.

This house has not had substantial additions or alterations, and you can see it here in its context. I also will bring your attention to Circle 34, the last page of your staff report, the 1924 Sanborn, which shows its original setting before the house to the left was constructed. And it also had, at one point, a single car garage, not the garage that it has now.

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The applicants are proposing to remove the aluminum siding and trim on the house. So that is the substantial alteration that's made to the house. salvage the original wood siding where possible, that's underneath the aluminum siding, and then install new wood siding to match where needed. And then, construct a rear addition, which I will discuss. They also propose to construct areaway stairs where the addition connects on the west side; remove the existing front walkway and install a new brick walkway; demolish that two-car garage that you see in this aerial photo; and remove the concrete driveway; and then install new brick paver strips driveway leading to an asphalt driveway at the back; and construct a new two-car garage which will be 24 by 24 by 19-foot 2-inches tall to the roof ridge, a one-and-a-half-story structure. material weren't specified, but appears to match the addition; and then has two garage doors, and we can discuss appropriate materials with the applicants. And remove three Dogwood trees.

The proposed addition is 1170 square feet at the rear. It extends 36 feet out the back including a covered porch, and will be 39 feet wide including a 12-foot extension out beyond the original east side plane of the house. The rear-covered porch has steps to grade and there are steps to the driveway from a new east side entrance.



Also on the east side is a brick chimney, and on the west side is a new bay that is in plane with the existing west side bay window. The proposed materials are wood siding; asphalt shingle roofing; brick foundation; wood windows with simulated divided lights; wood columns; wood porch railings, shutters and trim. And I'm going to show you some photos, and then go through the review criteria with you.

This is the house. You can see that existing bay on the left side that I mentioned. And, this is coming around the right side of the house. The rear, so you can see that it's had that little mud room or shed sort of addition, but otherwise it retains its original form.

Here's that garage that would be demolished. And so here are the plans. Existing is on the right and proposed is on the left. You can see the two-story rear addition that does extend out to the side. You can also see the new garage further back on the lot. And I will go through these fairly quickly, and then the architect can talk in more detail about them if desired.

Again, you can see that there is an inset on the original corners of the house that serve for differentiation. So here are the elevations, existing and proposed. Again, the materials are to match the historic house. Here's the right side, rear. And I can come back to any of these when we're discussing it. Left side. And then



again, the applicant's architect provided aerial views. And here you can get a sense of the side projection beyond the side plane of the house. So, the applicable criteria for this project are the Vision of Kensington, the Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A-8 and the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation. So in using those, and staff also mentioned the design guidelines for Montgomery County, which are not review criteria, but are general guidance when looking at projects and altering historic resources.

The applicant's proposal to remove the aluminum siding and salvage and restore the original wood siding is commendable, and will be a major improvement to the house and the historic district. It will be eligible for tax credits, and certainly, you know, is something we highly encourage. And that would probably nominate for an award or something. It's always good when a homeowner chooses to do that. And they aren't proposing any other changes to the historic house other than at the rear of the house, and that's also commendable. They aren't proposing to alter any character defining features of the historic Primary-One resource.

However, they are proposing to construct an 1170 square foot addition behind the existing 975 square foot house, and staff's main concern, which is noted in the staff report, is with the scale of the addition and, as well as



its visibility since it does extend 12 feet beyond the side plane of the historic house. And the materials of the addition are in keeping with the house. You know, the design is differentiated and compatible in materials. But overall, the rear addition is larger than the original house and staff's concern is that it's out of scale in proportion to the historic house. If the addition was entirely at the rear and didn't extend 12 feet out the side, the overall size would be reduced and it would greatly reduce its visibility and overall impact on the house and the site.

As proposed, it will extend into the yard to the side of the house and compromise that existing pattern of houses and open space that characterize the streetscape. In terms of the garage, staff's understanding is that once the rear addition is built, then the existing garage would be, you know, not behind the primary resource and would be non-conforming in terms of zoning, so I believe the garage couldn't remain where it is. And so they are proposing to demolish it and then construct a new garage with a similar footprint, but it is bigger. It's one and a half stories, and appears at least in this aerial and in plan, to be taller and overall more massive. And so, staff is somewhat concerned about that, although much more concerned about the house.

Staff recommends that the Commission provide the



applicants with clear guidance on the proposed two-story addition, its size and scale. Then extending the two-story addition beyond the side plane of the historic block, and the demolition of the garage and construction of the new larger garage.

MS. MILES: Thank you, Anne. Does anyone have any questions for staff?

MR. CORATOLA: I do. Anne, you mentioned the garage is not original; the two-car garage is not original?

MS. FOTHERGILL: Well, you know, I haven't been there, so I would defer to the architects. But if you look at the 1924 Sanborn, it's clearly a one-car. And we have found that they generally are accurate in terms of sort of the overall size and proportion of accessory buildings. So it either was substantially altered or it's not, it's a more modern construction.

MR. TRESEDER: Anne, can you describe the house to the immediate left of this resource. It was obviously an infill house. Is it a recent infill, or is it an old historic infill house?

MS. FOTHERGILL: And I've been there but I can't. So, again, I'm sure the owner and architect might be able to provide.

MR. TRESEDER: Okay, good. Because obviously, the streetscape pattern is important.

MS. MILES:

1 MR. VAN BALGOOY: Ms. Fothergill, in the color 2 attachment as provided by the applicant, they provide on page A2 and A3 several massing precedents in Kensington. 3 For example, on St. Paul Street, and on Fawcett Street, how 4 5 is what they're proposing different from these precedents? 6 MS. FOTHRERGILL: The applicants were aware that 7 the Commission, this Commission has not been supportive of additions that extend beyond the side plane of the historic 8 block, and so I believe that's why they submitted that so 10 that the Commission would be aware of these precedents. You 11 know, I can't speak to each one specifically, but I'm pretty 12 sure they were all approved by the Historic Preservation 13 Commission, but they just, you know, it's a case-by-case 14 basis, and each Commission has different ways of looking at 15 the review criteria. 16 MS. MILES: Any other questions for staff? Okay, if the applicant could please come forward. 17 If you would 18 please identify yourselves again or de novo, and again you 19 can either make a presentation or respond to questions from 20 the Commission. 21 MR. MYERS: George Myers, GTM Architects. 22 Luke Olson, GTM Architects. MR. OLSON: 23 I'm Paul Eckert. My son, Charlie. MR. ECKERT: 24 MS. ECKERT: I'm Deborah Eckert.

Thank you. Would you like to make a



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presentation about your plan?

MR. ECKERT: Madame Chair, if I might, I just would like to spend about five minutes telling you about this wonderful house and how we came to it, and what our objectives are, so that as you consider what we're proposing you have that in mind.

So I mentioned with me tonight are my wife and my son. We have a 22-month-old daughter at home, and a six-year-old. Both of them would have loved to be here, but it's got some bedtime issues. We came to Kensington in '97 and spent almost a decade trying to find a house in the historic section of the town of Kensington, particularly the area where Washington, Baltimore and Prospect Streets meet, called the Horseshoe, that's the old Kensington Park.

We knocked on a lot of doors. My wife actually identified this house and the seller and convinced her to sell it to us. It was a house that was in significant disrepair. It had a lot that was overgrown with bamboo. It had a homemade duck pond, as you saw in the picture; that was made with cinderblock. The mudroom off the back is actually not a mudroom; it's a handyman bathroom that was built with the sheetrock faced the wrong way, that resulted in significant rot. It had a lot of other charming touches like that, that led our son to name it the creaky house, which is what we still call it.

I wanted to point out two things. We believe in historic preservation. It's a part of what brought us to Kensington. We love this neighborhood. We love the area across Connecticut Avenue as well. But this section of Kensington is just teaming with kids. It's a wonderful place. Second, we approached the house when we bought it eventually in 2007, with the kind of care I hope you would appreciate. That is, we spent five months, over \$100,000 just getting the interior of this house so that we could live in it. We removed dead animals from the walls. We actually removed a live animal from the wall.

We replastered almost, you know, the entire house. We put in period lighting fixtures. We resurfaced the floors and brought them back to their glory.

What we didn't do -- we also in the backyard, by
the way, got rid of the bamboo; got rid of the concrete
cinder block duck pond. We dug up what looked like an odd
landscaping and found out a beautiful brick walkway that
went this side of the house was covered under six inches of
yard waste. So, we've put a lot of time and effort into the
inside of the house. We were putting off exterior
renovations. One of the reasons we've been without a first
floor bathroom for four years is because, the structural
damage to that mudroom we just had to wall it off and put it
off. So we had always planned going out the back. One of



the things that brought us to this particular property was its double lot. It's got two 50 foot lots. To the left of it is a house that was built in the '80s. It's a pretty sizeable house. You can see it in the Google maps picture. It's bigger than our house.

But then, to our right is the second empty lot, that all is there is the garage that was built somewhere around 1950 and the same charmer that built that back mudroom also turned it into sort of a house of horrors in the '80s with a lot of, you know, unfinished work there. We assumed we could, you know, try to go out the back. We go out 12 feet on a 50 foot lot, our house neighbor to the right is further set back from the property line as well.

So, you know if we move that garage back it opens up a lot.

Last point and I'll turn it over to George who knows what he's doing here. We spent over a year picking an architect, and that wasn't because I hope we were just particularly fussy and cranky. We wanted to find someone who shared our vision of embracing what is the best of Kensington and we wanted to find someone who could preserve the original structure, but still make it look like it was always in town. And we saw some of George's projects, the one on Fawcett Street, one on Montgomery Avenue that led us to pick him over a lot of talented architects. We couldn't be happier with his design for our house. It will allow us



not to share a room. It will allow my daughter, when she's old enough to have a closet. It will allow my 85-year-old mother to not only visit us, but able to go up, because we're going to have an elevator for her. And so, it also will allow us to strengthen this house and hopefully for another hundred years. So, I'll turn it over to George, but I wanted you to know what we were trying to do and where we've been to get here.

MR. MYERS: Luke is going to go ahead and make a presentation on the house.

MR. OLSON: Thanks, George and thank you Paul for those kind words. The existing house, as you can see, is a two-story American Foursquare. It's got a covered porch, long overhanging eaves, and a side bay window among other details typical of the American Foursquare. It is a previous addition in the rear of the house that we want to remove. It's got that small covered porch. It's just of no use and, as Paul pointed out, we've had to block it off because there's just no structural integrity to that currently.

There's an areaway in the back that provides access to the basement, which we'd like to retain, especially since we're looking for that handicap access for this house. And then, an elevator, of course, for kind of a

live-in place situation, to keep on extending the life of the house. The house currently sits on two lots, as you can see. And the majority of it is on that left side with the large open space off to the right, and it's about 24 feet from the left side, but 55 feet on the right side. Which is a very good distance, some of which is eaten up by that garage.

Our current design is including a two-story addition on the rear, completely to the rear, and an exterior renovation to really broaden up all the materials and bring them more into par with what this house should be. To retain the significance of the original house we have located the addition entirely in the rear, and we've taken great care to maintain the spacing between homes typical of the neighborhood that's described in the Kensington plan, the Vision of Kensington Planning Study that Anne referenced.

The most important part of that was spacing between homes. And we really feel that although we are projecting off to the side, by moving that garage back we are actually reclaiming almost 22 feet of space between this house and the other that would be read from the street as open space instead of as structure. We've also lowered the eave height of the addition so that it's subordinate to the original house, and made use of a hyphen to clearly denote



the addition and its connection to the original house. We've taken great care to ensure that the design is in keeping with the historical character of the existing house, and the scope of work includes the renovation of the existing exterior, updating all the materials traditionally and historically. Thank you.

MS. MILES: Thank you.

MR. MYERS: I just want to add one thing about the precedence that we included. Most of the projects, most but not all, are our projects from our firm that have been done over the last 10 years or so. We included them because most of them have additions that go to the side. You know, they go to the rear first, set in and then back out to the side. Exactly what we're proposing. And several of them have at least as much square footage as we're proposing. So, you know, the reason we included them was to, you know, I think that most people who saw those projects would say that they fit into the neighborhood in a good way. And so, we thought it was good to just remind the Commission that those projects have been approved and are approvable in the district.

MS. MILES: Thank you. Does anyone have any questions for the applicant? I know someone does.

MS. WHITNEY: I do. Did you look at designing something smaller? I mean, I see rooms that, I see a lot of



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additional rooms. I understand you have a growing family and in-laws who visit. -- Did you look at a smaller addition? Did you look at proposing a smaller addition for us?

The Eckerts came to us with a program MR. MYERS: that they're trying to achieve, one of which was to include an elevator. The problem with, one of the starting points was the elevator and the additional stair that's added on the back before the kitchen and family room start. Okay. That's necessitated, number one, by the existing stair that's there not meeting code. You can't even use it to go to the basement anymore. So, another stair is required. mean, this has just been something that's new in the county over the past few years. If you don't have a, they won't allow you to use this stair down to the basement. So we needed to add a stair, we needed an elevator. So that put us about, you know, nine or 10 feet out before we start with our kitchen and family room, which I think are very reasonably sized.

The issue, you know, the original house is not a large house. It's about 30 by 30, the Foursquare. So our goal when we're adding the square footage is to try to not make any mass as big as that 30 by 30. So, that's a 30 by 30 mass. We have a nine-foot piece, and then we have approximately about a 17 foot piece. So to keep all of our roof lines smaller. But yeah, we acknowledge it's a fair



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MS. MILES:

understanding?

1 amount of square footage. But we're trying; we think it's 2 still secondary and subordinate to the main house. 3 MS. MILES: Can I just clarify with staff that 4 when a stairway is out of code, it doesn't mean that it has 5 to be rebuilt in order for you to have your permits to 6 proceed to do your renovation. 7 MR. MYERS: What --8 MS. MILES: . Can I just let staff, and then you can 9 respond. 10 MS. FOTHERGILL: We have had, there are SmartCodes and we've had great success, but I'm most familiar with 11 12 exterior changes. So I would actually defer to one of the 13 architects on the Commission who has done interior spaces, 14 because we don't, you know, we don't review interior so I don't know. 15 16 MS. MILES: I'll turn first to my colleagues and 17 then you may of course respond. Anybody? 18 MR. CORATOLA: My understanding, and it's only my 19 understanding, somebody can tell me if I'm wrong or not, is 20 if you don't do any work to the stair or don't touch the 21 stair, it can remain. But once you touch it in any manner, 22 then you have to bring it up to code.

MR. MYERS: The issue comes in, for example, if

Does that comport with your



you added, let's just say we have the existing basement and we add new basement space, okay. The issue has come up with us on several non-historic jobs where we were not allowed to, that basement space requires a means of egress and the stair that's there will no longer count as one. It's fine for the existing space, but if you add any new basement space to it, we can't add the new basement space to it without adding another means of egress out because the old basement does not conform as a means of egress. I could provide that info to you.

MR. TRESEDER: Well, yeah, but basically that's, actually it's a market target. The DPS actually changes their minds, you know, over time. But currently, certainly for an addition of this size, the new square footage on the second floor would have to be serviced by a code-legal stair. They couldn't, the existing stair is fine for the existing second floor, but once you increase the second floor by this amount, then you will require a new staircase.

MS. MILES: So is the stair that's currently servicing the second floor not to code either?

MR. MYERS: Neither one. It doesn't meet it for head height or rise and run. This has been a new thing that's, I mean, this has happened to us twice in the last year with the county where, it's a silly rule, but it is, you know, makes it difficult.



MS. MILES: All right, thank you. Does anyone else have any questions?

MR. VAN BALGOOY: Madame Chair. Mr. Myers or Mr. Olson is it?

MR. OLSON: Yes.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: Just some questions. One of the things I need to look at as a commissioner is the design guidelines for historic sites and districts in Montgomery County, Maryland, and I'm looking at section 18. In particular, 18.3, which states that additions should be designed to remain\_subordinate\_to\_the\_main\_structure, and 18.7 that, for the roof\_form\_and\_slope\_that it should be in character and subordinate\_to\_that\_of\_the\_primary=building.

And also that larger additions\_should be broken\_up, the mass should be broken up with the\_addition into smaller modules.

So can you explain to me how you've achieved that or how you've met those design guidelines?

MR. MYERS: Well, I think we've done exactly that.

Again, the main, like I said before, the main house is 30 by

30. We have a hyphen and then we have a smaller, you know,

I think it's maybe=18 feet wide, is that right, 18 foot

wide. So the widest gable that we have is 18 compared to

30, okay. It's lower by several feet from the main house.

So I feel like that we understand that guideline and I think

that we were designing to that.



MR. OLSON: And we've also lowered the actual eave height to further differentiate between the two. And then in the connector it has a little slope there, so you definitely can tell the main massing of the roof, the hyphen, and then the secondary massing of the roof. And that addition step up from that little front porch as a side entry into that second-story space so it kind of reads as a gradual progression instead of a sudden and immediate addition.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: And then the guidelines, one part you didn't address is about breaking up the mass into smaller modules. Is that not appropriate for this project or did you consider that?

MR. MYERS: Well, I think we have by going to an 18, you know, a nine-foot and then an 18-foot module, and then plus we have a one-story piece for the mudroom. We have a one-story piece on the back, which is the porch. So I feel like it has been broken up into pieces.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: Okay, thank you.

MS. MILES: Other questions?

MR. TRESEDER: I was just going to ask you to elaborate a little bit more on the house to the left, because it does, in the aerial photo, look to be quite a, sort of a large Foursquare infill development and of a larger scale. And certainly, if you were to come back with



a proposal that did a little bit analysis of the adjoining houses, it might help make the case for this house being compatible with the streetscape. Because it looks to me currently this house is sort of the smallest of the ones along the streetscape, and that that, you know, talking about how big this is, indeed it is, but that might help put it in context.

MR. MYERS: Well, I think that the streetscape to the left of the house has been lost, frankly. I mean, at one point this house was sitting in a garden setting with a 50-foot lot on either side. It now has an extremely large infill house that's probably 12, 15 feet away. It goes back another 20 feet. It's a big box of siding. The garage that exists, that was built on the right, effectively visually fills in the other lot. So, I think that this open space that once existed no longer exists. I think, to me when I see this, I think there's the ability to save the open space on the right.

And the most important thing to do that is by pushing that garage all the way back to the back of the lot where -- which frees up that lot. And so, to me that's the most important thing to create the space. And yes, we've come out 12 feet, but effectively, I feel like we've picked up, we're subtracting 22 from the garage to create open space, we're coming back 12, but we've effectively opened up

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the space between these two houses by, you know, 10 or 12 feet. And I think, so I mean, that I felt was the most important part of this project is what it felt like between the two houses there.

Because I do think the context on the left because of that house is no longer exists. That house, if we, would never be approved. I mean, that house was built before the historic district existed. What I think is probably one of the reasons there is a historic district now because of infill houses like that.

MR. ECKERT: It actually was the picture, that house was the picture of what Kensington is in a Washington Post story. A picture of that house to the left.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: Well, I think we would all venture, that's not a model building for this project or for you. And I certainly appreciate why you're sort of going the other direction. Because this is a preliminary consultation, I hope we could talk a little less formally here.

MR. MYERS: Sure.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: One of the things that I see in the Kensington Guidelines, what they want to achieve is sort of that park-like setting in the back. And I'm a little Concerned. I'm looking at sort of the aerial plans. I understand why you want to put the garage to the back,



because that does solve that sort of side yard problem, but now by putting the garage in the back, then that park-like setting that you have in the back-that you share with your neighbor suddenly has this garage placed there. Now, of course, I can't walk back through without being worried if I might get shot by somebody, so can you explain to me, how do we alleviate neighbors concerns about that backyard? I mean that is pretty nice that you have that, when you look in your backyard you can see everyone else's backyard. It's sort of park-like.

MR. MYERS: Well, Kensington has a lot of outbuildings throughout the town. There is, over on the other side there's actually a little barn building that's there. So detached garages and sizeable ones are common in that area in the backyards throughout the town. And, you know, I guess, and I think there's enough space back in there to have an attractive building there, adds to the landscape. So, and again, I think it's paramount that the open space from a public point of view really probably ought to take precedence in any case. So I think moving the garage back still is the right move because of the open space that it creates on the side yard. But again, I don't think it's inappropriate at all.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: How are you thinking about the finish on the other -- I know what you're doing on the door



side, but the other three elevations which are seen by the backyard, how are you treating those?

MR. MYERS: I'm thinking, you know, windows and shutters. The same traditional materials that you would have seen.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: It'll be finished off? It won't be blank walls that people are looking at?

MR. MYERS: No.

MR. ECKERT: Our neighbors to both sides have garages in the back just where we intend to put them or sort of, I don't know what the historical significance of these things are, but they're very old. Most of the houses on the street except for ours, I think, have the garages in the back of the property where we're trying to move them.

MS. MILES: Can I ask what your intention is for the program for the second floor of the garage?

MR. ECKERT: I married into a family that has huge family gatherings, and we have thirty-some people staying over at our house on the holidays, and the idea was guest space over the garage. There's a better than ever chance that we'll have some in-law extended visits when they retire next year. We expect to put them in the basement, which will be a nice living space actually. But, yeah, if they're there for several months at a time, it's guest quarters.

MS. MILES: Are you planning an elevator for the



garage given the issues you raised earlier? 2 MR. ECKERT: The elevator is for the main house. 3 MS. MILES: I understand. But for the garage, 4 given that you're planning on putting people in, do you need 5 an elevator into the garage? Are you planning a --6 MR. ECKERT: I think we have the ability, you 7 know, to be flexible about where they stay. The older, the idea is that the in-laws would stay in the main house, my 8 9 mother, when she is able to come over, whose wheelchair 10 bound, is the person who needs the elevator right now. 11 MS. MILES: Thank you. Any other questions? 12 MR. KIRWAN: I have a question. George, could 13 you, was there any exploration to weighting the addition to the left side of the house as opposed to the right side in 14 15 order to preserve that sort of larger setback you have on the side now? 16 17 MR. MYERS: Well, I --18 MR. KIRWAN: It seems to be about 20 feet, plus or 19 minus, on that side? 20 MR. MYERS: Well, I don't think we did. 21 Kensington has actually a 10-foot setback, which we have to 22 abide by. I think there's probably a couple feet. 23 I think we're at right about 12 already. So the only thing 24 we could probably do is shift a little bit of it towards the

left maybe two feet before we're already at the town



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setback. On the left side.

MR. KIRWAN: Yeah, on the left side. Currently what is the setback from the house to the property line? It scales to about 20 feet.

MR. MYERS: My initial thought was that it's so tight on that side already that it seemed to be, I understand your point though, to maybe --

MR. KIRWAN: I mean, in some ways with that new house that was put next door to it, that side is almost lost now. I mean it's not really contributing to the park-like setting of Kensington. So, I'm wondering if --

MR. MYERS: No, you're right. We have 21 feet. So we have 10 or 11 feet that we could probably shift.

MR.-KIRWAN: - And on the other side you're at 12 feet past the side of the house.

MR. MYERS: Right, correct, yeah. Yeah, my initial thought was that it was so tight there already but, you know, if you, I can see that point though; I can see the merit of that.

MR. TRESEDER: I'm just going to throw another suggestion. That is, that I know that so often when people build two-car garages they don't really put two cars in them. The other bay is often used for something else, and you may intend to use both of them, in which case this design probably suits your needs but, one way to sort of



reclaim the historic nature of the outbuilding would be to make a single-car garage even if that structure itself was the same size. If you thought that the chances are of only using one bay for the garage, there would be a way of designing it with a single door which would be much more in keeping with the one-car garage tradition. Even though I'm sure currently there's lots of two-car garages in the area. So just an idea that if indeed that would fit your program, it might be a nice opportunity to get away from the, you know, the two-car garage. I know I've done houses before where people were shocked there was only a one-car garage and you know, some people need that thing. But other times you find that that second bay is never really, a car is never really parked there. So, if there's some way to have the single bay look reclaimed. Just a suggestion.

MS. HEILER: One of the things that the staff brought up and I think has bothered many is the 12-foot extension into the side. When you look at this house, this is a very large addition to a house whose, I think, defining characteristic, it's a Foursquare, so it's a square box. And what's happened with this, and maybe it's much more visible in your perspective view, that the square box now has a large rectangular box on the back of it, and if there were a way to pull it in or maybe even extend, it further to the back, but the defining characteristic is



almost lost by being attached to another very different shape that extends into that side yard, and especially from the front view, I think you loose that definition that this is a Foursquare. I don't know what the solution is, but I can imagine if you say center the addition so that it extended the same distance on one side as the other, or if it extended further into the backyard and less into the side, it would not have the effect of changing that characteristic Foursquare look.

The other\_thing\_that\_I:think\_is-a-little\_bit\_bothersome\_about\_that\_is\_the\_little\_porch on the side. It's a one-story; I guess it's a porch with a low roof. What you have\_is\_a\_perfectly\_symmetrical\_building\_and\_what\_s\_being\_added\_to\_it\_is\_now\_something\_that\_s\_a\_little\_bit\_jarring\_because\_it\_fails\_to\_match\_that\_symmetrical—square\_building.

I don't think it's a problem to put a very large addition on it, but, and, you know, so far as the surface, the decoration, the design of it, all of the details are perfectly in keeping with that original house, but the overall\_shape,\_I-think,\_does\_not\_enhance\_the\_original\_house.

MR. MYERS: Well, the tough thing about, you know, adding on to, you know adding that kind of square footage to basically a 30 by 30 box, you know, one of the criteria that I know the HPC likes to see is that it is distinguished from the old house. That it's clear where the old house was and

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where the new house is. And it's slightly different than the old house, which, and it's deliberately so. So, I think when you look at the side of this house, you know, three sides are preserved intact. So the old Foursquare is clearly visible, it's clearly there and I don't think there's much doubt as to what's new and what's old. sort of a little bit more persuaded by Bill's argument that we have sort, you know, one really good side left in openness, you know, between these two houses and maybe it's better to shift towards the side where the town, you know, sort of, I mean the area has sort of already lost its openness. You know what I'm saying, in terms of, you know, we have the square footage we need to get. The question is, is it right to slide this way or this way, right. we could probably make it work in either case. It's just a question, you know, what seems most appropriate. But again, it's deliberately made to look like an addition.

MS. HEILER: I guess that's not what I, maybe I haven't been very clear. I certainly appreciate the fact that it's distinguished from the old house. You put in the hyphen, you know, it is an addition. I guess my-concern is that the materials are compatible, but the fact that the addition looks to be the same, at least as big as the original house. This is essentially; this is not a house with a little addition attached to it. This is the



equivalent of two houses stuck together and finding a way to stick them together that is less jarring to that side yard I think would benefit it. If you did a house, if you turned the addition by 90 degrees, you know, so it would be much longer. I don't think that would be objectionable. And that's probably not feasible for your program, but the fact that this is an addition that is as big as the house keeps it from looking like an addition. It looks like a house of a different style, a different shape attached. I don't know what the solution is, but I think it's a little bit of a problem for the house.

MS. MILES: Commissioners, one moment. Before we all begin to fully comment, I just wanted to confirm, are there any other questions for the applicant or for the staff, and then I am going to ask everyone to react, not only as Commissioner Heiler did about the size and scale of the addition, but also the demolition of the garage and the construction of a new garage. So if we could confirm that we have no other questions.

MR. CORATOLA: If you could briefly explain to me the trim details that you're doing on the addition versus the original house. I'm looking at the drawings and I see a freeze board on the addition where none exists on the house, and what appears to have larger corner boards in the house and whether the house has corner boards or not. And then my



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other question is, on your garage you have two different style dormers, and I didn't know were you showing us like option one and option two or was there a specific reason for that?

MR. MYERS: Well, our intent, if we go to the next level, when we go to the next level, would be to match all the details with the existing house. So, I wouldn't put a lot\_of\_stock\_into\_the\_sketch\_up\_model\_with\_the\_freeze board. We'll match\_all\_the-details exactly. Part of it's going to be\_what=we=find-when we pull that old-siding-off-that=house. You know, we'll see what's there and try to restore it and match\_it? The dormers on the garage actually, we felt like, we're trying to get some space above that garage and in the county we're kind of right at the height limit there, which is max 20 feet and you can do dormers that are half the width of the roof and still have that work. A shed dormer in the back gets us more square footage, but when we put it. on the front we thought it looked inappropriate. changed the front to a hip roof dormer thinking that the, you know, we'd get the square footage on the back, but on the front we lowered the dormer down and give up some square footage on the front. That's why we have two different dormers there.

MR. CORATOLA: And the shape of the dormers seem to be, there's flared walls on the rear part of the dormer,

was that intentional or was that just --2 MR. MYERS: No. 3 MR. CORATOLA: Okay. MS. WHITNEY: Can you tell me the existing size, 4 5 the size of the existing garage. 6 MR. OLSON: Yeah, it's 22 and a half by 22 and a 7 quarter feet. . 8 MS. WHITNEY: So the new garage is only a foot and a half, two feet? 9 10 MR. OLSON: Yeah, a foot and a half or two feet each side. The existing garage is, it's a two-car garage, 11 12 and it has two garage doors. It's rather large. It just 13 has a very low-pitched roof. 14 MS. WHITNEY: Thank you. 15 MS. MILES: Any other questions? Do you have a question, Commissioner? Okay, if there are no other 16 17 questions, I'm going to ask everyone to react to the 18 proposed two-story addition, the extension of the addition 19 out to the side, and the demolition of the existing garage 20 and construction of the new and relocation of the new 21 garage. Commissioner Coratola, can I begin with you and 22 we'll start at my left. 23 MR. CORATOLA: Well, I have to state that, pulling 24 off the siding and restoring the original house is

commendable. There are not a lot of people that like to do

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that, and it's nice when people decide to do that. And you'll probably find the details that you're looking for.

As my question towards the differentiation, I think, you don't have to differentiate in trim styles; you can do it in your massing. So, I would recommend looking at matching the details that are on the house. If there were no water table on the house, I wouldn't introduce a water table trim on there.

I'll just go down the list. The massing, as Commissioner Heiler and Commissioner Kirwan were talking about, I think the issue we're having is, from me, the square footage you're adding, I don't have an issue with I think that if you're trying to achieve and meet a program, I think the lot allows for that. I think there's room on the property for the additional square footage that's needed. As Commissioner Kirwan had asked about looking at moving it to the left side versus the right side, I think that might be a better solution. Reading the component pushing that far off to the right and losing as in the vision, Kensington Vision, losing that openness between houses since it still exists a bit on the right, might be, you know, keep that space and looking at moving it more to the left side.

I don't know, as you're looking at the massing and your forms, your roof forms, it might not be necessary to



drop the roofline. Dropping the roofline but mimicking the materials and the styles, it just is a little disconcerting to me. I think it would be better if you just studied how you broke up the square footage and not drop the roofline, and then pull in the details from the original house into the addition.

Let's see, the garage, as far as the demolition, the garage that's there is not original. I don't have an issue with the demolition of the existing garage. I think it works well by pulling it in the rear yard the way you have it. You know, maybe, if you needed the two-car bay for two cars, rather than just doing a rectangular box, maybe you pull one door forward from the other so the other is pulled back, just so it's not reading as a square, a 24 foot square.

And then, look at the dormers. The character of the dormer on the front I think works really well. You're picking up the image, the hip roof image of the main house, and I think that's, that complements the house. That's typically what they did with the garages in the period when they started introducing them to these properties is, they pulled that image without directly applying it, and I think you're doing that in your roof forms. The other piece, again, I go back to that massing study. Look at how you worked that. But the other piece you want to look at is



your, I go back to the historic details. There are several windows in the addition that show where they're ganged together, you have the right mullions spacing, but you have a single shutter on each one and it's very clear on the main house where you have double windows, they actually have a double shutter unit. So when you have that situation, it would make sense to repeat that in the new work. In getting that image, that massing on the street front is key. So I would look at that as well.

MS. MILES: Commissioner, could you also react to something else actually. I think we should comment on the large amount of hardscape that is proposed for the driveway, in pushing the driveway back. Would you react to that as well, please?

MR. CORATOLA: It looks, let me find the drawing, it looks like on your driveway you're showing for the original sort of section a brick track with grass in between. Is that what I'm reading?

MR. OLSON: Yes.

MR. CORATOLA: I think that's commendable to keep that image going to the back. You know, I understand the need for a modern driveway. Maybe if you introduce the brick pavers, they run all the way through and intersperse the remaining of the mass with an alternate material. I don't have a problem with what you're showing here. I think



that, yeah, you've gone the length. You're going almost 60 feet with the grass and the brick, so I don't really have an issue with the amount of hardscape you're showing there.

Again, it's more towards how you detail the driveway.

MS. MILES: Thank you. Commissioner Heiler, would you also speak about the garage and if you have anything else to add.

MS. HEILER: Yes, I also think that it's beneficial to demolish the current garage and to move it to the back. I think that it's much better located there, and I think that using the strips, the brick strips instead of concrete all the way out to the street is another important touch for not having so much visible concrete. I've told you what I think about the massing, and I think, you know, what you propose for the detailing of these buildings is absolutely appropriate.

MS. WHITNEY: I commend you on the amount of restoration, the interior that you've done, and unfortunately, that's not our purview tonight, but thank you for doing so and for preserving all of that. I commend you for the split driveway. I think that was a good idea. The difference, of course, in original and an addition comes in details like the materials and things like that which, of course, what we see in front of us, the materials are all exactly the same. And I think that is probably contributing



to our astonishment of the size of this massing because it is all the same color and all the same size, and in that, I cannot support an addition of this size that sticks out 12 feet into the view of the park, of the park setting of the area, and I hope that you find a way to reduce some of the rooms or whatever you have to do to bring that back in line closer to the house. It is simply the footprint of the house, of the addition that I am objecting to. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you again.

MR. VAN BALGOOY: I'm not sure if I'm going to make things even more confusing, but I do want to say first of all to the Eckert family, Kensington is a wonderful neighborhood. I think you made a good choice, and this is a great house, and I appreciate all of the things you are doing to save the house and preserve it. And, I certainly appreciate your need to modify it to fit your family's current and future needs, which I think is great. And I think you've hired an architect who is sensitive to this in trying to figure out how to do this. On the previous project I didn't get to say this to you, about Chevy Chase, I thought was very beautifully designed, except for the dormer, but that's a little quibble. We can figure that out. I thought your design was very sensitive.

On this one though, if I look at sheets A18 or these are the side elevations, A16, the house, I have to



say, I'm just struck by how large the house, the addition just seems like an overwhelming wall, and you know, square footage and massing and scale are different things. So, I don't think I'd be, I'm so bothered by the square footage addition that you're putting onto it, I think it has to do with massing and scale. And I don't know if the hyphen needs to be changed or the height of the roof. I mean, you're architects and I think you can figure this out, but I'm just struck by that, and I don't have a great solution. So, I don't know if moving, how to solve that. But that just seems, it's a little bit overwhelming to me.

The moving the garage back, I think seems to be a great solution. I like your approach to the landscape. I don't have a problem with that. But I do with the massing and scale. And I don't know if there's other ways you can solve that or how to treat that. But this is just a preliminary consultation, so if you have some solutions, you know, maybe we can give you some more directions for that. But, we also have lots of other architects on this commission that might have suggestions. So that's just my initial sort of reaction to it. It's not about the square footage so much, but it is about the massing and scale, and if that could be solved, that would be great.

MR. KIRWAN: I do commend the Eckerts for your commitment to the community and to this resource. I think



you're clearly showing you are really going to follow up with what you believe in and renovating this house. To go through real quick, I mean, I think you've already heard some of my suggestions. I do think weighting the addition more to the left side of the property, if not completely, significantly to the left side will go a long way in making this a little bit more compatible with that garden setting, since that left side is sort of already been lost. I think one point that I want to make that sort of builds upon something I heard Commissioner Heiler say is, and also a comment that you all made referring to this connector as a hyphen.

I think one of the problems that some of us are having, I know I am a little bit, in looking at the massing of this is, and partially this might have to do with the flatness of the drawings the way they're reading right now and sort of this monochromatic color siding, and roof, is if the hyphen really read more as a hyphen. I think right now it's, we re=calling-it-a-hyphen-but-it-doesn't=really seem like-a-hyphen-to-me.—It-doesn't have sort-of the characteristics—that—would=sort=of=make=it=different. You know, a hyphen-almost-usual-ly-is-really characterized by being something very different than the two masses you're connecting, often characterized with-a-lot-of-glass.

And I think you could, one possible solution with



this hyphen is to introduce a lot more glass into it. Not in a very modern and contemporary way, but in a way where you gang the windows together. You've got a wonderful opportunity on the left side where there's a stair to group windows together and really flood that stair with light.

And you've got this mudroom on the first floor, which could have a lot more glass in it as well. I know you've got this closet upstairs that might be problematic, but maybe there's some rearranging of the floor plan that might, again, provide you an opportunity with that hyphen to introduce a lot more glass. So I think that would sort of help begin to break up the massing a little bit and really separate the addition from and connect it back to the main resource.

On the other points, so again, I'm generally fine with the addition. I think it would go a long way for all of us if you came back and showed us that you tightened it a little bit and made it a little bit smaller. And you'll probably hear some of us say we're okay with the size, some of us say we want to see it smaller. I think, again, nobody's going to argue with you if you make it smaller. I think, and again, I think the addition is generally in the place, but again, I think we need to get it sort of weighted to the left.

The demolition of the garage, I think that speaks to the first two points in the staff recommendations that



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you want us to look at. I think also the demolition of the garage I'm fine with. I think the way you're pulling that back really sort of accentuates that and reinforces that garden-like setting. So I think all those things combined would make this a very workable HAWP in the end. Thank you.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: And I wanted to commend for your dedication to the house and to preserve it. I want to pick up on something that Commissioner Heiler mentioned earlier, that has to do with the massing, and I want to turn around and show you the roof plan. And I think that, for me, talks about the issue. You have a house that is a very simple house, a Foursquare house with a pyramidal roof to which you are adding this addition, that when I look at from the roof looks like a hundred pieces collide together, and then collide against the house. And I think if you go to look at this from the top, and probably a more simplified roof organization, a house that gets tied in closer together, some area gets reduced and the house moves farther behind the other house, and maybe the hyphen, as suggested by Commissioner Kirwan, becomes a hyphen so you practically do, you basically duplicate the house with the same simplicity of the massing and the treatment would be a much successful $^\prime$ ~project.

I think it, for me, when I'm trying to translate what Commissioner Heiler was saying, what it came to me was



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the roof plan. And I start seeing too many things going on. Like there are too many volumes, too many pieces, and none of them are really well tied together, in my opinion. So, my recommendation would be simplify it, tighten it, and try to make it as simple as possible. I think in that sense, for me, as not as much the square footage as some of the commissioners had said before, but it's the sense of/scale that the addition gives. I do have concerns with the garage. I think it's too tall. I think I would recommend to either, -- the -garage - gets - lowered - or - something happens; but I-think-it, when\_you\_look\_at-the-proposed-elevation-even with-the garage so far back because of the garage, you are going to get the presence of that building much closer visually than because of the height. it's pushed so far back.

I don't have any concerns regarding the demolition of the existing garage. I think it needs to happen. I think if you look at the house to the right, the house has an addition in the back; and it's a very successful addition. You barely notice from the house. So I would say probably there are some clues in the house on the right for how to do it. Anne, can you put back the aerial view; that probably will help a little bit. But, I think that house successfully does put an addition in a way that is very sympathetic to the existing house. I think it needs to be a

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higher, differentiation between what is addition, what is the existing house. I think it will help a lot in terms of the project. You see the house has something in the back that you barely notice.

And then I would say, working with a landscape architect, I think the amount of pavement that you are proposing looks very large, and I think that that will be a concern in the terms of, the guidelines for Kensington basically says, we want the houses to read as a series of buildings in a park setting. So how you treat the surface of the ground becomes very important. There are many way -do it today; there are paving materials, there are porous materials. There is many ways to do it, and I think I would recommend you to start looking at that and put that in front of-us-so we can understand that you are caring about, because it\_looks\_very.large\_as\_a paved\_area. And I don't have any concerns regarding the materials. We have seen projects from GTM before and we know that they are able to do a very good job. So, in that sense, I don't, I think once you start removing the siding you will probably find a lot of nice things below that give you the clue on how to attach the addition to the house.

MR. SWIFT: With regards to the garage, I don't have any objection to the demolition and moving to the rear of the property. I do agree that the ridge height should be



lowered a little bit and the dormers carefully considered as far as making it still seem like a garage and not part of the main house, not competing with it. I do think being careful with the size of the driveway and, maybe more importantly, the material to reduce the hardscape, the appearance of hardscape in that area because of the length required to reach the garage. I also agree with previous commissioners as far as less extension beyond the side plane and shifting towards the left side of the property or the plans for us.

The one thing I don't think has been brought up, I think my biggest objection with the extension to the right side is actually the very dominant chimney and also the mudroom and the steps to the mudroom. I think all of those elements come together and suggest something that's very primary and is almost a main entrance to the house. I think the mudroom also kind of; I think the mudroom is actually the biggest problem with the hyphen as far as not allowing good differentiation. So I, when I focus on that extension, I think it doesn't need to be less, but I think that the bigger problem with it is the mudroom, the porch, the grand stairs that are really more than your front entry stairs, and the chimney, which is much more visible than anything in the main house. And so I think those are elements that I would be looking for in a revised design. Otherwise, I



think it's heading in the right direction and I generally agree with the previous comments, too.

MR. TRESEDER: Okay. When everyone's at the Commission, there's a lot of opinions. When everyone shows up. So I'm just going to associate myself with Commissioner Coratola's remarks at the beginning. Although I'm going to disagree with him on one thing. I think the lower eave line that you've suggested for this addition goes to great lengths to mitigate its massing and its, you know, how big it is. And that's one of the reasons that in addition to breaking up the bays to make none of the bays compete with the size of the bay of the original, I think those two things do the job. I think that they are able to make what is a large addition not compatible with the house. So on the other points, again, I would agree with the previous commissioners.

Although I do say that some of these ideas that have come up would probably be additions as well. So it's not that I disagree with some of these other ideas, it's just that I personally would not feel it's, there would be requirements.

MS. MILES: I would concur that the scale and massing are issues, and I think that I would like to associate myself with Commissioner Rodriguez's remarks. I think that, essentially, that although breaking up the



massing was a good place to start, it's too complicated. And I also agree that the side entrance looks too primary, especially off of the driveway, which I would also say is too much hardscape and that it's too long and too large to be a long, large concrete pad and that either it needs to be, the strips continued or use of materials in some other way that makes it look a little less non-contributing to that park-like setting. But I think the notion of essentially a second Foursquare behind the existing Foursquare differentiated lowered eave and perhaps with a more glazed hyphen is probably a better solution than what looks like a very large addition on the back. It's not a matter of the size. It's really a matter of the scale and the massing and the way that it's developed.

And, I would also agree that if it does have to not fully read behind the house that going to the left side would be a more satisfying solution. I also think that the eave height is too high and the dormer's too high on the garage; and it reads as too much of a part of the house since it practically abuts; and that it would need to be, I think, lower to be a more successful garage.

So I think you've got pretty uniform comments from the Commission, and since everybody is here tonight, I don't think you would get a very different read on another evening. Do you have any questions for us? I would suggest



1	that you come back for another preliminary, meet with the
2	staff, and we'll look forward to seeing you again. All
3	right, thank you.
4	All right. Minutes. Do we have minutes from
5	September 19th?
6	MS. FOTHERGILL: We do. Ready to be approved.
7	MR. VAN BALGOOY: I would move we accept the
8	minutes for September 19th, 2012.
9	MS. MILES: Is there a second?
10	MR. KIRWAN: Second.
11	MS. MILES: Raise your hands if you're in favor.
12	VOTE.
13	MS. MILES: Unanimously approved. Do we have
14	minutes from October 10th?
15	MS. FOTHERGILL: We do not.
16	MS. MILES: Okay. And who would like to step up
17	and offer to do tonight's minutes?
18	MR. RODRIGUEZ: I will.
19	MS. MILES: Thank you, Commissioner. Do we have
20	any Commission items? Do we have any staff items?
21	MS. FOTHERGILL: We do. I e-mailed one around
22	which is a revision to an approved HAWP for the Chevy Chase
23	Village Hall outdoor equipment shelter. Hopefully you all
24	got the e-mail. They are shifting the location of the
25	approved equipment shelter, and they're making a slight



**Materials Submitted by Applicants** 

## PAUL & DEBORAH ECKERT 3923 WASHINGTON STREET KENSINGTON, MARYLAND 20895

January 24, 2013

Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Letters of Support

### To Whom It May Concern:

Attached are twenty two letters of support for our proposed project, including letters from neighbors immediately adjacent to our property and a letter from the Mayor and Town Council approved unanimously after the plans were reviewed at a public meeting.

### Town of Kensington

A complete set of the proposed plans was distributed and reviewed by the Mayor and Town Council at its January 14, 2013 meeting. Town residents and neighbors were in attendance. Remarks on the design and its consistency with the historic nature of the neighborhood and the Town were entirely positive. A resolution and letter of support was approved 5-0 after deliberation and public comment.

### **Neighbors**

We obtained twenty letters of support from our neighbors, including those who border the property. We provided to each person approached a copy set of the plans in advance. Every person who was approached agreed to submit a letter of support. Not one person voiced any objections to our project and, indeed, many expressed very strong views on the desirability of our proposed addition, its consistency with the character of the neighborhood, and the enhancement it would bring to our block. Many of these neighbors personally spent considerable time, talent, and treasure on restoration and enhancement projects of their own to address similarly dilapidated historic houses on Washington, Baltimore, or Prospect Streets. These stakeholders — many of whom have lived in the neighborhood for decades — were particually supportive and encouraging.

- 1. Knecht, 3919 Washington Street (adjacent, right)
- 2. Kenny, 3922 Washington Street (across)
- 3. M. Strachan, 3924 Washington Street (across)
- 4. R. Strachan, 3925 Washington Street (adjacent, left)

Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland January 24, 2013 Page 2

- 5. Collins, 3926 Washington Street (across)
- 6. Bragg, 3924 Prospect Street (behind)
- 7. Carr, 3904 Washington Street
- 8. Uhlman, 3905 Washington Street
- 9. Stablow, 3912 Washington Street
- 10. FitzPatrick, 3913 Washington Street
- 11. Averbeck, 3914 Washington Street
- 12. S. O'Connell, 3915 Washington Street
- 13. M. O'Connell, 3916 Washington Street
- 14. Noyes, 3928 Washington Street
- 15. Longo, 3932 Washington Street
- 16. Bruch, 3936 Washington Street
- 17. Bagshaw, 3947 Baltimore Street
- 18. Oleson, 3948 Baltimore Street
- 19. O'Shea, 3951 Baltimore Street
- 20. Lynn, 3908 Prospect Street

### **Gary Ditto**

We sought and received a letter of support from Gary Ditto, the leading realtor in the Town of Kensington and a years-long director and benefactor of the Kensington Historical Society. He is perhaps the most knowledgeable real estate professional when it comes to the Kensington Historic District. Gary advised us gratis in connection with our efforts to identify an historic home for purchase and did not serve as buyer's or seller's agent for the property.

At the time of the Town Council meeting and during our efforts to obtain letters of support, our plans included a one-story mudroom that extended 3 feet from the "hyphen" – a substantial reduction from the version previously reviewed by the Commission. At the request of the Commission staff, we have since eliminated the mudroom from our proposed plans accompanying the HAWP. While we are very disappointed our family will not have this entirely ordinary feature that appears in additions to many of the historic houses on our street, we understand that the request was designed to address concerns voiced by a few of the Commissioners during the October preliminary.

Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland January 24, 2013 Page 3

We hope that these letters help demonstrate the considerable support that we have in the Town and in our community for our plan as proposed.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Eckert

### Mayor Peter C. Fosselman

### Council Member Mackie Barch Council Member Tracey Furman



Council Member Sean McMullen Council Member John Thompson

January 16, 2013

Ms. Leslie Miles, Chair Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring MD 20910

Re: Preliminary Consultation - 3923 Washington Street, Kensington

Dear Madam Chair:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Kensington Town Council in support of Paul and Deborah Eckert and their efforts to obtain a HAWP for a two-story addition, along with the demolition and construction of a new garage for the property located at 3923 Washington Street.

Mr. Eckert presented the proposed plans to the Town Council at our January 14, 2013 Council Meeting, in which, the Council reviewed the plans and opened the project up for public comment. Following no public objections, and support from the adjacent neighbors, the Council concurred unanimously to support the Eckerts undertaking before the Historic Preservation Commission.

The Eckerts have been working judiciously with their architect, Luke Olson, along with consulting various Kensington Residents, to uphold the charm and standards of Kensington's Historic District. The Town Council believes that the Eckerts, along with Mr. Olson, will acknowledge the HPC's recommendations and allow for their new additions to seamlessly blend into the existing ambiance of the Town.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Fosselman

Cc: Mayor and Town Council
Paul and Deborah Eckert

### Mayor Peter C. Fosselman

### Council Member Mackie Barch Council Member Tracey Furman



Council Member Sean McMullen Council Member John Thompson

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Sincerely,

Peter C. Fosselman

Cc: Mayor and Town Council
Paul and Deborah Eckert

Name

Signature

Address

(165)

Neil Stablew

Address 39/2 Washing ton St.



Mouren O'Connell

Mauren a. O Cornel 3915 No Shington St.

RICHARD B STEACHAN Alary Stracher
Mary D. Strachan Mary St. Stracher

Name

Lauknecht

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3919 Washington St.

Name
REID COLLINS

Seid Collins

Address 1926 WASHINGTON

NEWSINGTON, MD 20895

<u>Name</u>

Brooks of Peter Kenny

Signature

<u>Address</u>

3922 Washingtonst

Name Michele Strachan

<u>Signature</u> Muhele Strachan

Address
3924 Washington

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

**Address** 

Bourse Carr

Raylan

3904 Washington St.

<u>Name</u>

**Signature** 

Address

Michael Uhlman

3905 Washington st.

Name

Signature

**Address** 

Margaret Titi Patrick

3913 Washington

<u>Name</u>

Karin Averbeck

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3914 Washington Kensington, MD 20895



<u>Name</u>

Shala Donnell

**Signature** 

<u>Address</u>

3916 Washington I Kensington MJ

**Name** 

<u>Signature</u>

Address-

Michelle Noyes

Moy

3928 Washington St

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Jodi Lau60

Glago

3932 WMShwgton SI

Name

CHRIS BRUCH

Ranelle Bruch

**Signature** 

<u>Address</u>

3936 UNSHINGTON STREET.

sulle Il Buch 3936 Washington St.

Name

Brett Bagshaw

Signature,

<u>Address</u>

3947 Baltimbe St. Kens. MO 20895

<u>Name</u>

Signature

<u>Address</u>

Kristine Oleson

Lustini Cleson

3948 Baltimore St.

<u>Name</u>

**Signature** 

**Address** 

Katie and Kieran O'Shea

4808ha

3951 Baltimore St Kensington MD

**Name** 

**Signature** 

<u>Address</u>

3908 Prospect St. Kinsinghow, MD

ExTINALYNN Detafox



LONG & FOSTER® REAL ESTATE, INC.
PROSPERITY MORTGAGE® COMPANY
LONG & FOSTER® SETTLEMENT SERVICES
LONG & FOSTER® INSURANCE

January 17, 2013

Planning Department M-NCPPC 8787 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Sir/Madam:

**BETHESDA GATEWAY OFFICE** 

4650 East West Highway Bethesda, Maryland 20814 Office: 301-907-7600

Fax: 301-907-6610

Headquarters 14501 George Carter Way Chantilly, VA 20151 703-653-8500 www.longandfoster.com

I am writing in support of an application for an Historic Area Work Permit for the property located at 3923 Washington Street, owned by Paul and Deborah Eckert. Prior to purchasing this property the Eckerts sought out my opinion regarding the house and the Kensington Historic District. I am in a unique position to offer advice about both subjects given my 34 year career as a real estate agent, and as a long time board member of the Kensington Historical Society. My wife and I are honored to be a part of the Kensington community and we are both deeply committed to it as well.

When Paul and Deborah decided to purchase a new home they wanted it to be in the Kensington Historic District. Indeed, they saw themselves as making a serious and long term commitment of stewardship to the community and to the architectural integrity of the home they would eventually purchase. Having been involved in the transfer of numerous historic properties in Kensington, it is my experience that all of them have been in rather poor to dismal condition. The people who purchased these properties have dedicated significant personal and financial resources to the restoration and enlargement of the original structure and hence these same people have added immeasurably to the larger Kensington community. It is my opinion that the Eckerts are representative of that group of people who work to keep the Kensington community vital and growing. I would like to add that most of the prospective purchasers I meet are looking for homes that do not require the commitment of tears, sweat and funds to bring a house to "modern" sensibilities.

One of the many qualities that I have always admired about Kensington is the eclectic mix of housing stock and styles. A tour of the Town of Kensington will quickly reveal spacious and grand structures carefully and artfully crafted in the Queen Anne, Georgian and Four Square styles to name a few. One will quickly notice modest bungalows nestled amongst these larger homes and, of course, there is everything in between. This diverse housing stock allows for a mix of people of different socio-economic backgrounds who live graciously with each other, side by side.

It is my hope that you will favorably review and approve said Historic Area Work Permit so that the community can retain a family that will continue to enhance and foster the Kensington community. I also advise that said approval will help to ensure that in the future families and individuals with the resources and commitment similar to that evidenced by the Eckerts, will want to make the Kensington Historic District the place they call home. Conversely not to approve this gracious project will send a "chilling" message to those future buyers.

Sincerely,

Gary H. Ditto

— Worldwide Connections —













# MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address:

3923 Washington Street, Kensington

Meeting Date: 4/10/13

Applicant:

Paul and Deborah Eckert (Luke Olson, Agent)

Report Date: 4/3/13

Resource:

Primary-One Resource.

Public Notice: 3/27/13

Kensington Historic District

Tax Credit:

Partial

Review:

**HAWP** 

Staff:

Josh Silver

Case Number: 36/02-13E

PROPOSAL: Construction of addition, demolition of garage, new garage construction

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the HPC <u>approve</u> the Historic Area Work Permit application <u>with the following</u> condition:

1. The applicants must contact HPC staff upon removing the siding on the historic massing to determine appropriate exterior material treatments and details for the addition. Final materials to be reviewed and approved by HPC staff.

### **PROPERTY DESCRIPTION**

SIGNIFICANCE:

Primary One Resource within the Kensington Historic District

STYLE:

Colonial Revival

DATE:

1910

### **BACKGROUND:**

The HPC considered a proposal for construction of an addition and the demolition of an existing garage and construction of a new garage at the subject property at the February 13, 2013 meeting. The HPC denied the applicant's HAWP. In response the HPC's decision, the applicants made revisions to their plans and have submitted a new application for consideration. The applicants have included a detailed summary of the HPC's comments and the actions taken to the address those comments. (See pages 21-31)

The applicants have resubmitted letters of support for their project in response to the design considered by the HPC at the February 13, 2013 meeting. (See pages 32 - 56).

The applicants' architect met with the Kensington Local Advisory Panel on Tuesday, March 26, 2013 to review the revised design.

### **PROPOSAL**

The applicants are proposing to:

- Remove aluminum siding and trim on house
- Salvage original wood siding where possible; install new wood siding to match where needed
- Construct a rear addition (see below)
- Remove existing front walkway and install new brick walkway
- Remove and replace concrete front porch stairs with wooden stairs and railing
- Demolish an existing two-car garage and remove concrete driveway
- Install new brick paver strips driveway and tinted concrete driveway at the right side of the house
- Construct new two-car garage; garage will be 24' x 24' x 19'2" tall (to roof ridge) and will be 1story; materials will match those proposed for the addition including wooden siding and asphalt shingle roofing. The front elevation will consist of wooden carriage style doors.
- Remove three Dogwood trees.

The proposed 1,050 square foot (foot print) rear addition will extend in a rectilinear shape from the rear of the existing house. Design features include a covered porch at the rear, a 9'6" side addition extension beyond the original west (left) side plane of the house and new brick chimney on the east (right) elevation. The rear covered porch has wooden steps to grade and there are steps to the driveway from the new east (right) side entrance. Both sets of steps will connect to the proposed driveway via a brick pathway. The proposal calls for wooden siding, asphalt shingle roofing, and brick foundation.

The proposed material treatments consist of wooden, double-hung, simulated-divided light, windows and doors and one set of ganged, wooden, casement windows at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, right side elevation. All columns, porch railings, shutters, and trim will be fabricated from wood and painted.

### **APPLICABLE GUIDELINES**

When reviewing alterations within the Kensington Historic District, the Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan (Vision), Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A) and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards) are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. The pertinent information in these documents is outlined below.

### Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan

The HPC formally adopted the planning study, *Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan*, and is directed by the Executive Regulations, which were approved by the County Council, to use this plan when considering changes and alterations to the Kensington Historic District. The goal of this preservation plan "was to establish a sound database of information from, which to produce a document that would serve the HPC, M-NCPPC, their staff and the community in wrestling with the protection of historic districts amidst the pressures of life in the 21st century." The plan provides a specific physical description of the district as it is; an analysis of character-defining features of the district; a discussion of the challenges facing the district; and a discussion of proposed strategies for maintaining the character of the district while allowing for appropriate growth and change.



### Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8:

- (a) The commission shall instruct the director to deny a permit if it finds, based on the evidence and information presented to or before the commission that the alteration for which the permit is sought would be inappropriate, inconsistent with or detrimental to the preservation, enhancement or ultimate protection of the historic site or historic resource within an historic district, and to the purposes of this chapter.
- (b) The commission shall instruct the director to issue a permit, or issue a permit subject to such conditions as are found to be necessary to insure conformity with the purposes and requirements of this chapter, if it finds that:
  - (1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
  - (2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or
  - (3) The proposal would enhance or aid in the protection, preservation and public or private utilization of the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district in a manner compatible with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value of the historic site or historic district in which an historic resource is located; or
  - (4) The proposal is necessary in order that unsafe conditions or health hazards be remedied; or
  - (5) The proposal is necessary in order that the owner of the subject property not be deprived of reasonable use of the property or suffer undue hardship; or
  - (6) In balancing the interests of the public in preserving the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district, with the interests of the public from the use and benefit of the alternative proposal, the general public welfare is better served by granting the permit.
- (c) It is not the intent of this chapter to limit new construction, alteration or repairs to any one period or architectural style.
- (d) In the case of an application for work on an historic resource located within an historic district, the commission shall be lenient in its judgment of plans for structures of little historical or design significance or for plans involving new construction, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the historic district. (Ord. No. 9-4, § 1; Ord. No. 11-59.)

### Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation:

Standard #9: New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

Standard # 10: New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

### STAFF DISCUSSION

The Vision of Kensington: A Long-Range Preservation Plan states that within the Historic District, "the houses share a uniformity of scale, set backs and construction materials that contributes to the cohesiveness of the district's streetscapes." The Vision discusses specifically the Historic Residential Core, where the house at 3923 Washington Street is located, which "consists of most of the primary historic resources in the residential neighborhood. This includes historic resources built from 1890 to 1930 which exemplify the historic pattern of development characterized by expansive open spaces between homes. In this area it is important to preserve these patterns of open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities."

The Design Guidelines for Historic Sites and Districts in Montgomery County, Maryland state:

### **Basic Principles for an Addition**

The overall design of an addition should be in keeping with the design of the primary structure. Design elements should take their cue from the primary structure, but this does not preclude contemporary interpretations, nor discourage differentiating the addition from the historic building. Keeping the size of the addition small, in relation to the main structure, also will help minimize its visual impacts. It is also important that an addition not obscure any significant features of a building. If the addition is placed to the rear of the existing structure, it is less likely to affect such features. Side additions are generally discouraged.

### 18.0 DESIGN OF NEW ADDITIONS

Design a new addition to be compatible with the primary structure.

- **18.1** Place an addition at the rear of a building to minimize its visual impacts.
- This will allow the original proportions and character to remain prominent.
- Locating an addition at the front of a structure is inappropriate
- Locating an addition to the side of a structure is generally inappropriate. However, special site constraints, such as sloping topography or location of a champion or specimen tree, may require a side addition.
- An addition to the rear of a structure must also conform to Montgomery County and municipality setback requirements.
- **18.2** Do not obscure, damage, destroy or remove original architectural details and materials of the primary structure.
- **18.3** An addition should be compatible in scale with the primary structure.
- An addition should relate to the historic house in mass, scale and form. It should be designed to remain subordinate to the main structure.
- One option to help visually separate an addition from the primary building is to link the primary structure with a smaller breezeway.
- For a larger addition, break up the mass of the addition into smaller modules that relate to the historic house.
- An addition should be simple in design to prevent it from competing with the primary structure.
- **18.4** Use building materials that are compatible with those of the primary structure.

- 18.5 An addition should be compatible in character with the primary structure.
- An addition should be made distinguishable from the historic building, even in subtle ways, such
  that the character of the original can be interpreted. An addition should draw design elements
  from the historic structure, expressing them in a simplified or contemporary manner rather
  than striving to perfectly recreate historic building features.
- A change in setbacks of the addition from the historic building, or applying a new trim board at the connection point can help define the addition.
- An addition that seeks to imply an earlier period than that of the primary building also is inappropriate. For example, an addition that is more ornate than the original building would be out of character.
- 18.6 Use windows that are similar in character to those of the main structure.
- If the original windows were a wood, double-hung style, for example, then new windows that
  appear similar to them would be appropriate. Windows of suitable contemporary design
  might also be appropriate.
- **18.7** The roof form and slope of a new addition should be in character with and subordinate to that of the primary building.
- It is important to repeat the roof lines and slopes found on the primary structure. Typically, gable, hip and shed roofs are appropriate for residential-type building additions. Flat roofs may be appropriate in certain cases, such as for some commercial buildings.
- Eave lines on the additions should be no higher, and preferably lower, than those of the historic building or structure.

### 14.0 ACCESSORY STRUCTURES AND OUTBUILDINGS

New accessory structures and outbuildings should be compatible with the primary structure on a property.

- 14.2 New accessory structures and outbuildings should be compatible with the primary structure.
- New construction should be similar in style but recognizable as new.
- Architectural details, materials, and style should be compatible to the primary structure.
- The mass and scale should be in proportion to the primary structure.
- New accessory structures and outbuildings should be located in the rear yard and conform to Montgomery County and municipality zoning and building regulations.

Staff finds the proposal as being consistent with Chapter 24A-8 (b) (1) & (2).

### Addition

The proposed addition does not substantially alter the exterior features of the property and is compatible in character with the architectural features of the historic district.

The proposed addition is located at the rear of the existing house. The roof and eave height of the addition are lower than the historic massing. The addition is inset to preserve the corners of the historic massing. The proposed building materials are compatible with those of the primary structure.

The location of the addition at the rear of the primary structure helps preserve the open space that currently exists on the right side of the property and that the *Vision of Kensington* identifies as an important characteristic in this area of the historic district.

The proposed material treatments are sensitive to the subject property and preserve the streetscape qualities that define the Kensington Historic District.

The proposed materials details take cues from the existing house. The applicants have stated the details for the proposed addition would match those of the historic massing. Currently the historic massing is sheathed in aluminum siding. Upon removal of the siding the applicants intend to evaluate the existing siding, trim and details to determine appropriate exterior material selections for the proposed additions. Consistent with the condition of approval the applicants must contact HPC staff upon removing the siding on the historic massing to determine appropriate exterior material treatments and details for the addition.

Staff recommends that the HPC approve the design of the addition as submitted.

### Garage and Hardscape

The proposed garage size, design and materials are compatible in character with the main house.

Staff recommends that the HPC approve demolition of the existing garage and construction of a new garage as submitted.

### **Hardscape**

Staff recommends that the HPC approve the removal and replacement of the non-original concrete front porch steps with wooden stairs and railings and the installation of brick in lieu of concrete for the front walkway. A wooden stair unit and railing and front brick walkway is in keeping with the style and characteristics of the house and historic district. The proposed new brick, double-track driveway is in keeping with the character of the district. The proposed tinted concrete driveway area in front of the proposed garage is small in size and setback from the street and therefore will have negligible impact on the streetscape of the historic district

Staff recommends that the HPC approve the proposed hardscape plan as submitted.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Commission <u>approve with the condition specified on Circle 1</u> the HAWP application, under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b), having found that the proposal is consistent with the Vision of Kensington identified above, and therefore will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resource and is compatible in character with the district and the purposes of Chapter 24A;

and with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall present the 3 permit sets of drawings, if applicable to Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) staff for review and stamping prior to submission for the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) building permits;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall notify the Historic Preservation Staff if they propose to make **any alterations** to the approved plans. Once the work is completed the applicant will <u>contact the staff person</u> assigned to this application at 301-563-3400 or <u>joshua.silver@mncppc-mc.org</u> to schedule a follow-up site visit.



Edit 8/21/99

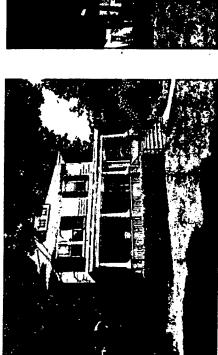
# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301/563-3400

# **APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT**

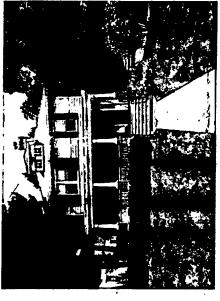
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SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

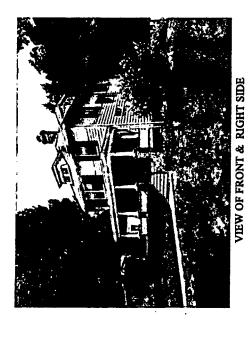


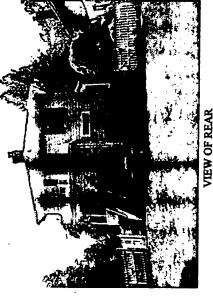


VIEW OF REAR & PARTIAL RIGHT SIDE

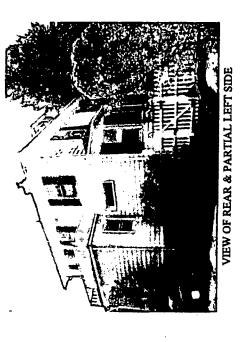


VIEW OF FRONT





VIEW OF RIGHT SIDE

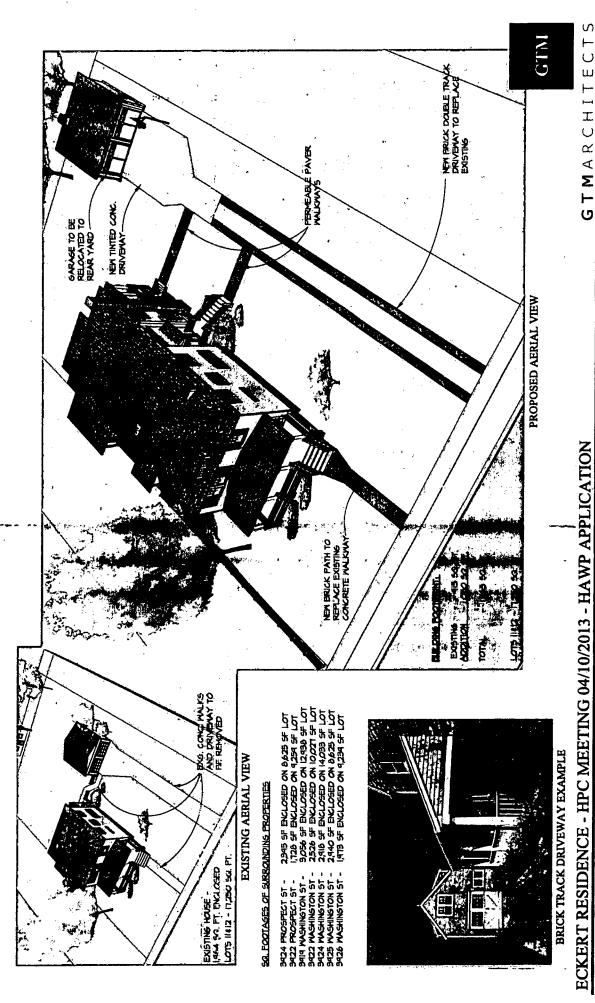


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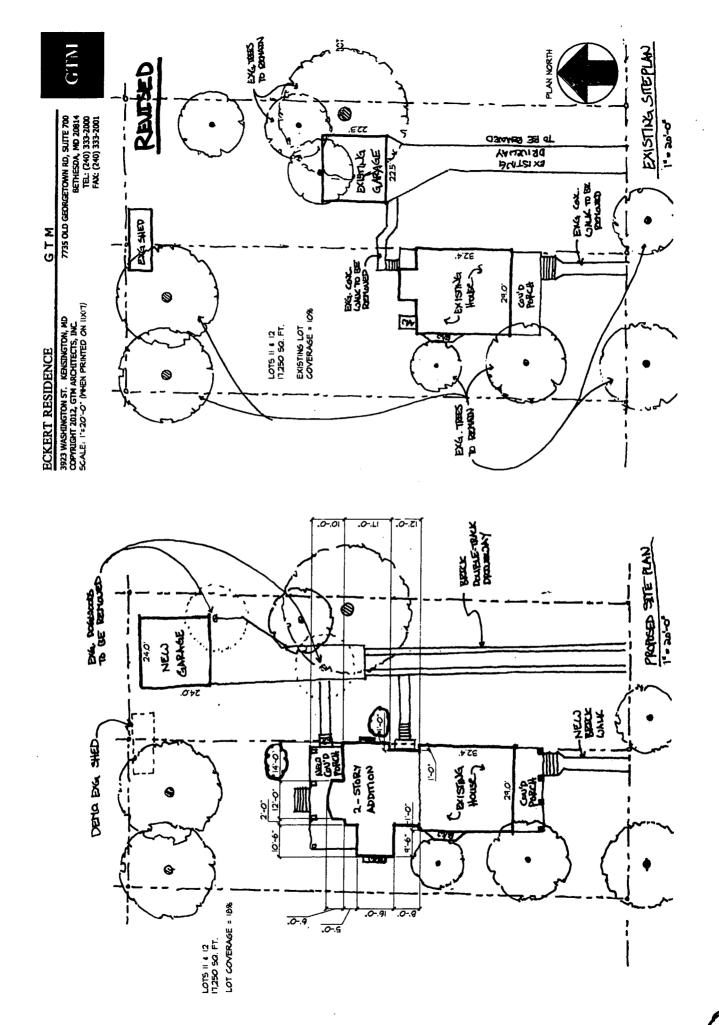
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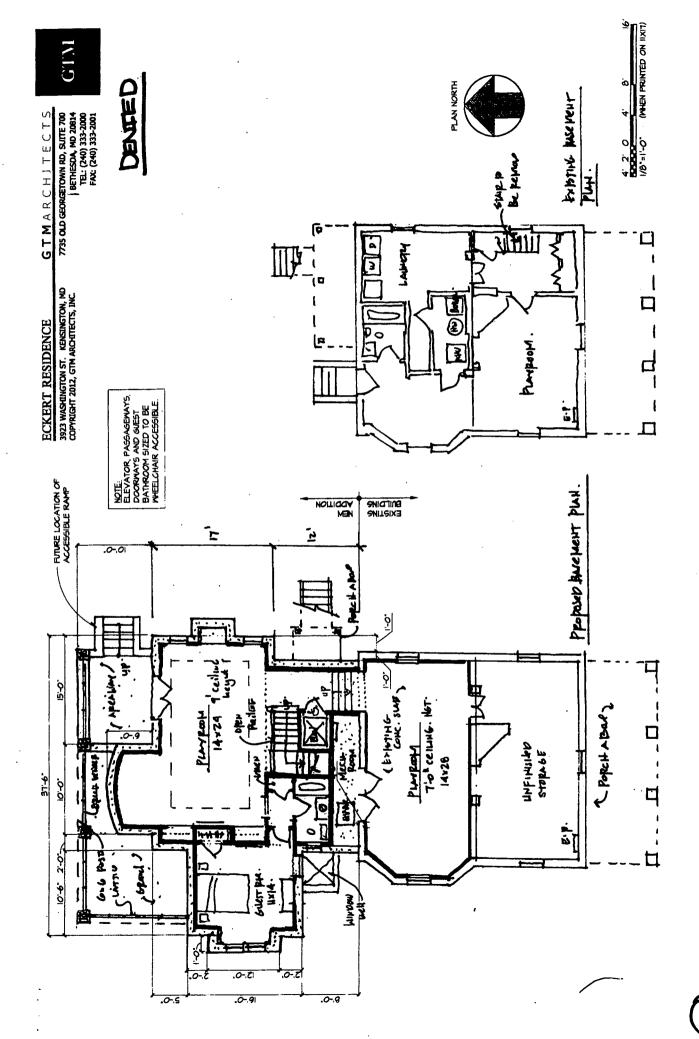
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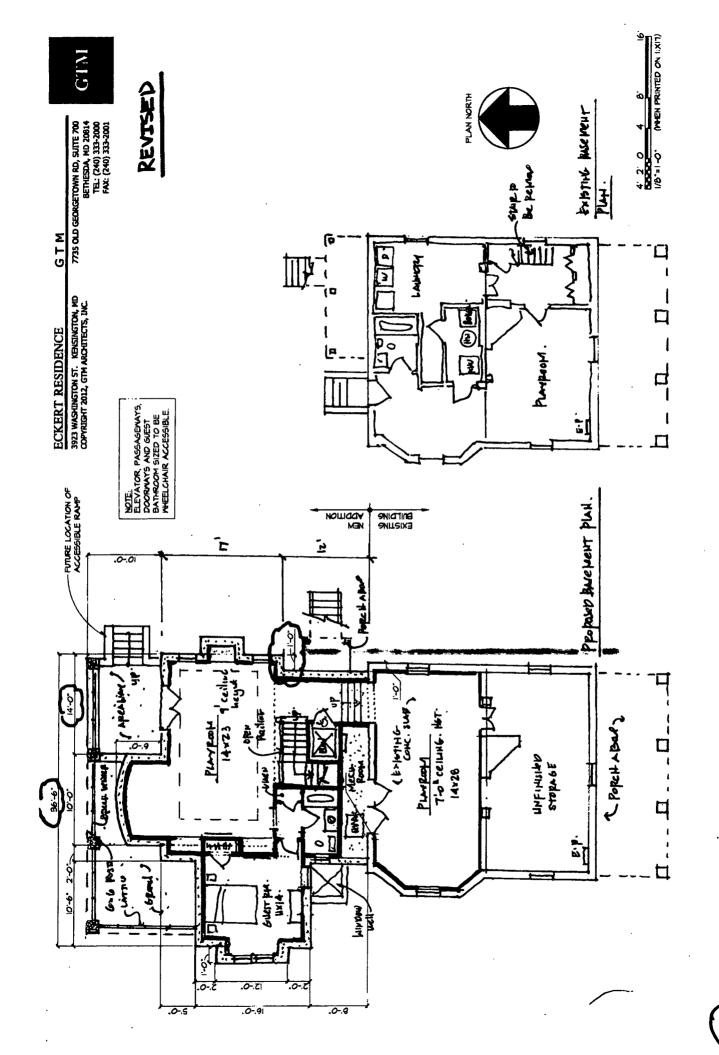


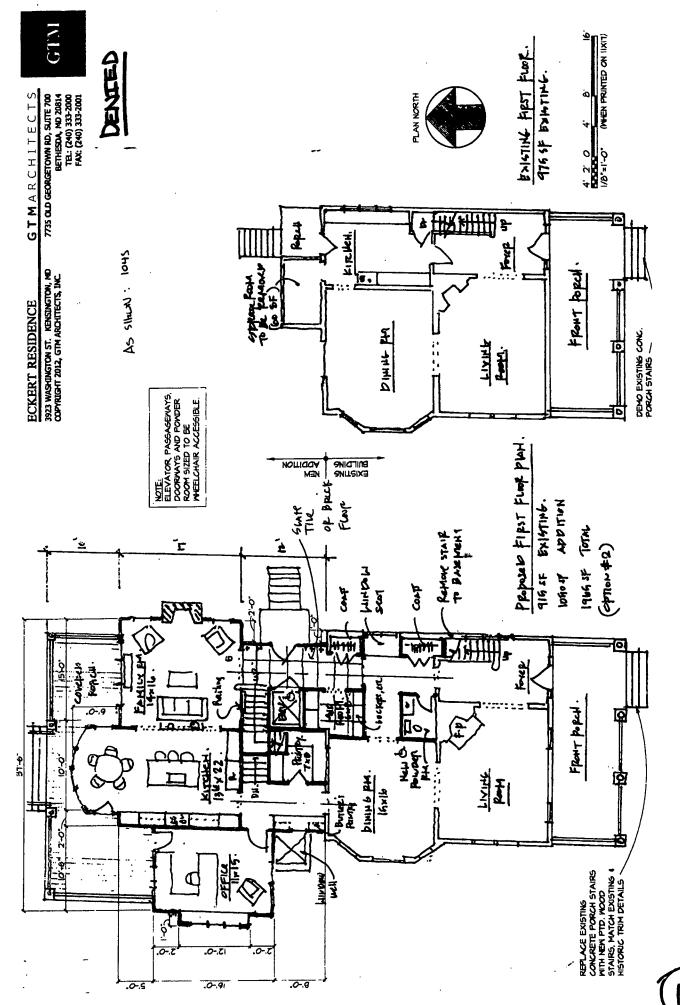
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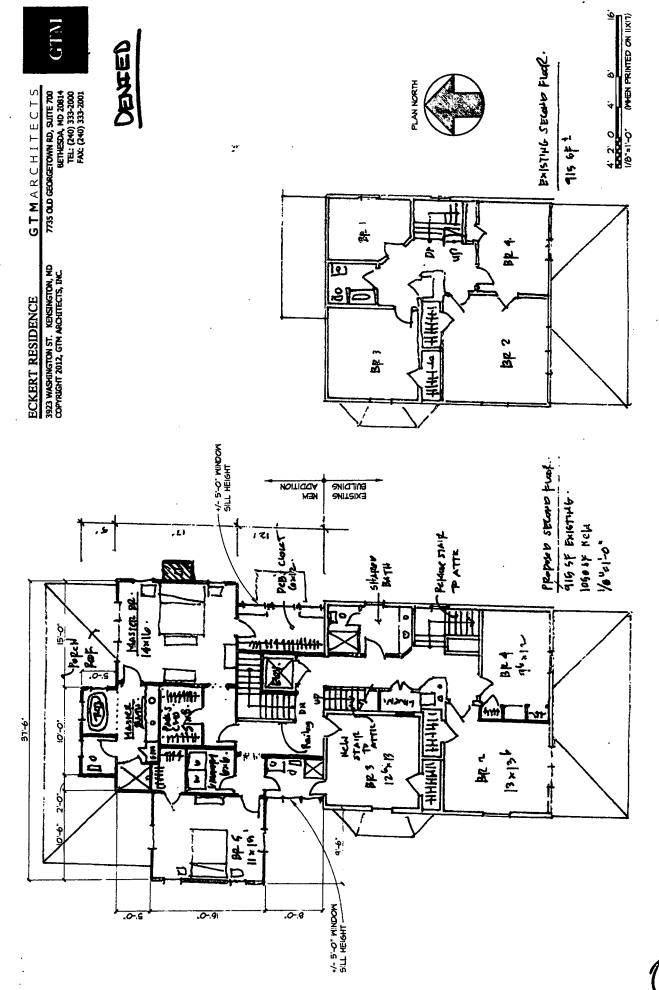
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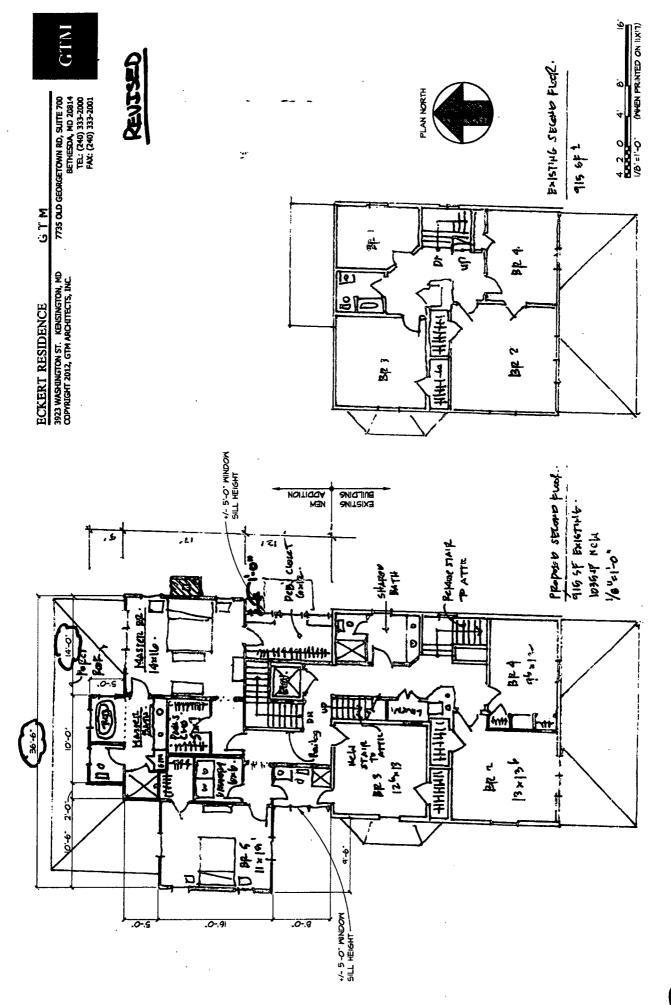












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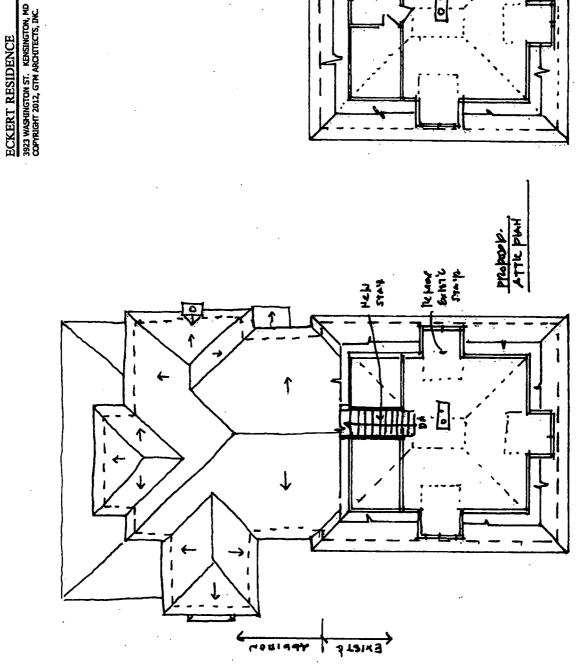
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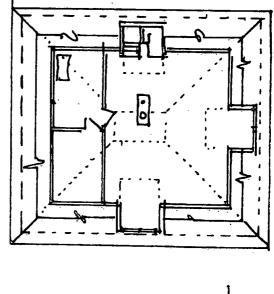


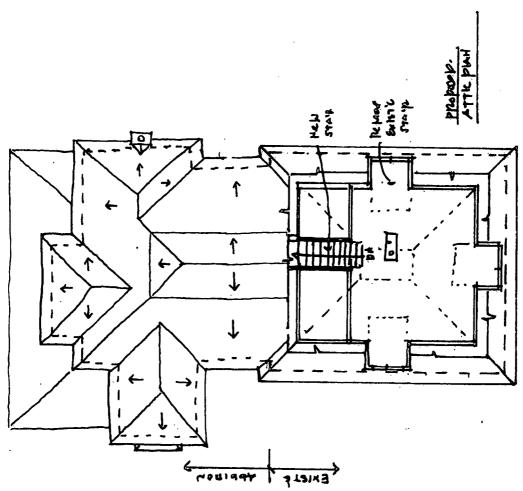
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ECKERT RESIDENCE
3923 WASHINSTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD
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INVESTIGATE & REPLICATE/ RESTORE
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PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION

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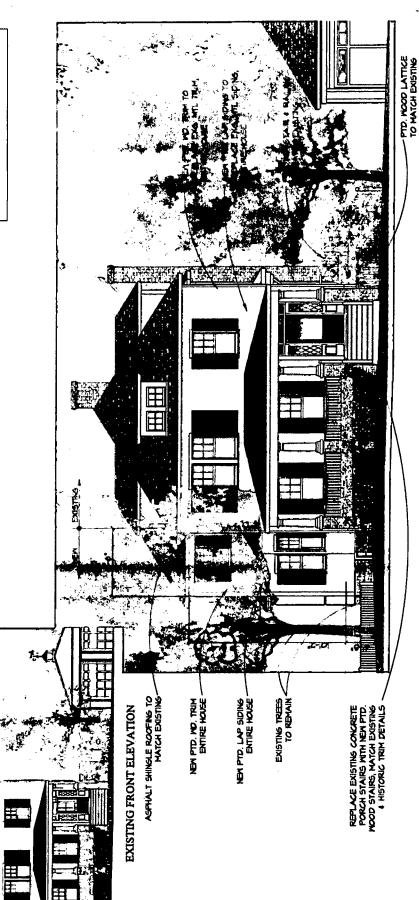
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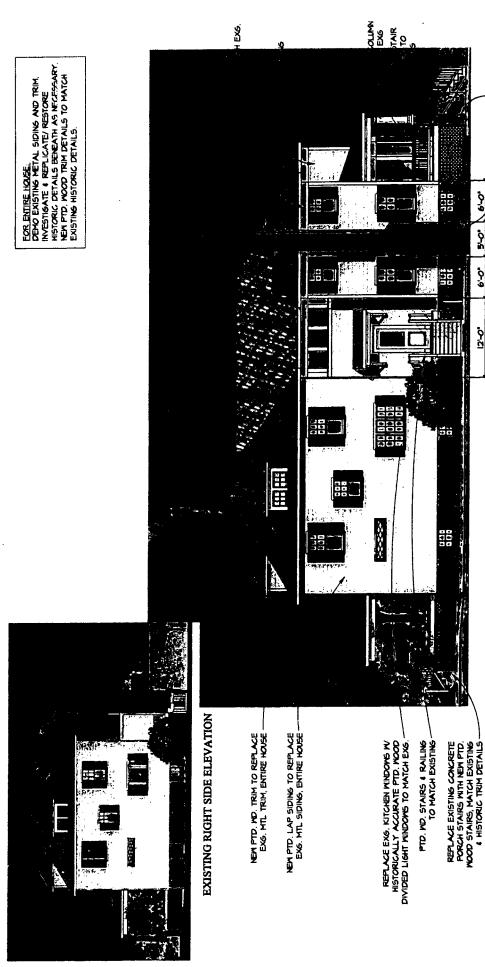
PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION

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ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 04/10/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION SEZ WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, NO. OCT 03, 2012 REV MARCH 20, 2013 #12,030 COPPLICATION COPPLIED SEZ WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, NO. OCT 03, 2012 REV MARCH 20, 2013 #12,030 COPPLIED SEZ WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON ST.

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PROPOSED RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION

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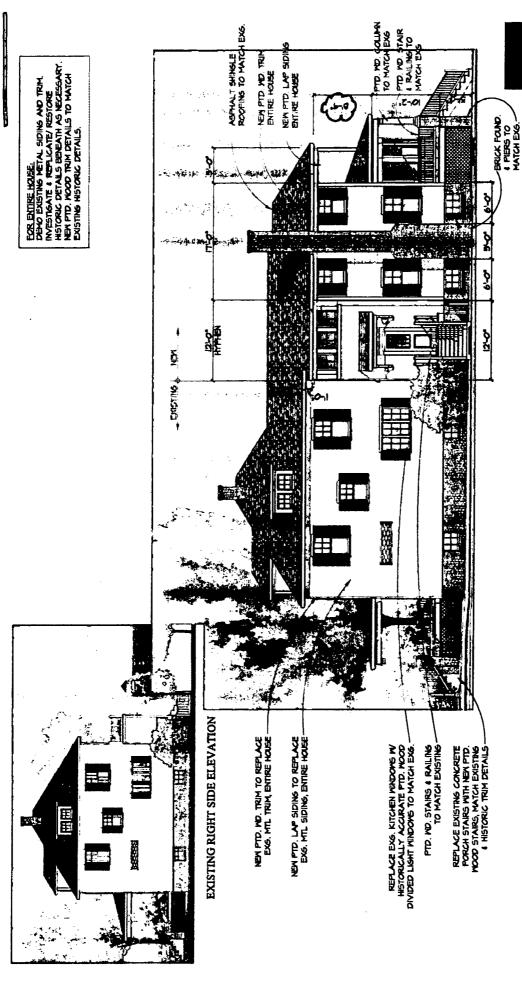
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PROPOSED RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION

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PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION

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EXISTING REAR ELEVATION

PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION

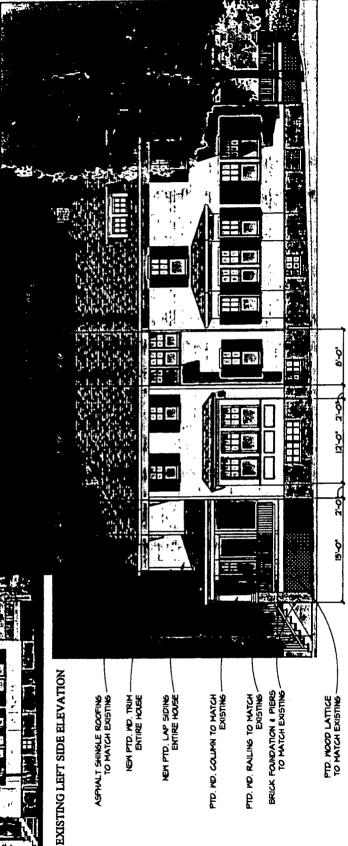
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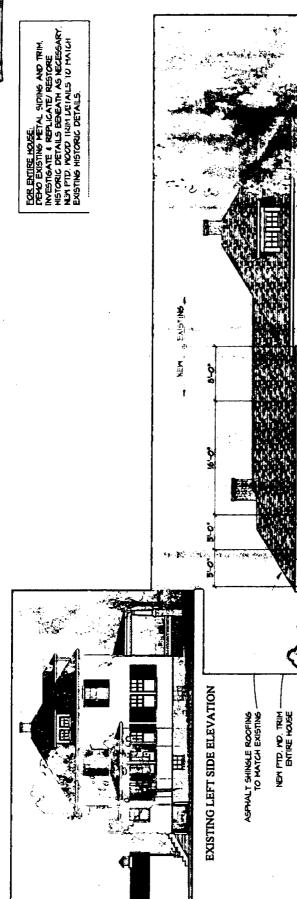
# PROPOSED LEFT SIDE ELEVATION

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ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 02/13/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION 3023 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 03, 2012 REV JAN 24, 2013 #12,0306

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NEW PTD. LAP SIDING ENTIRE HOUSE

.T-O

PTD. WD. COLUMN TO MATCH EXISTING

BRICK FOANDATION & PIERS TO MATCH EXISTING

PTD. WOOD LATTICE TO MATCH EXISTING

PTD. WD. RAILING TO MATCH EXISTING

PROPOSED LEFT SIDE ELEVATION

12-0" 2-0"

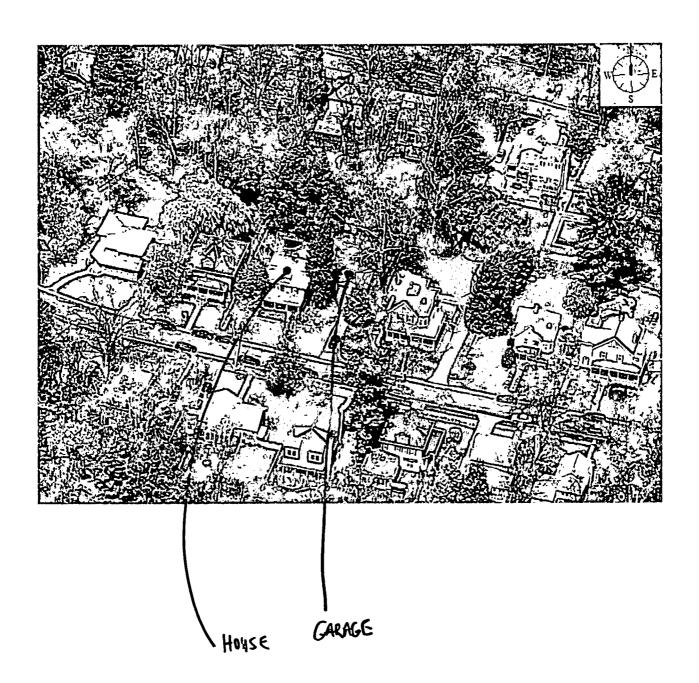
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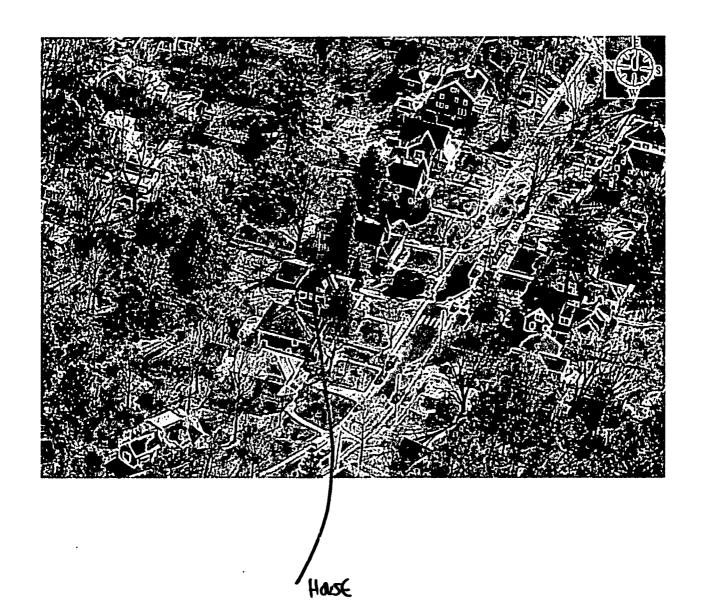
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3823 WASHINGTON ST. KENSWOTON, IMD OCT 03, 2012 REV MARCH 20, 2013 #12,0306

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7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SLITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001





28)

# Mr. Coratola:

#### **COMMENTS:**

Takes no exception to the staff report as written and recommended by staff, believes we have "...addressed all of our comments from the previous prelim..." and have "...gone above and beyond accommodating our requests and comments from the prelim..." (HPC February 27, 2013\_DRAFT, p. 34)

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

None

#### Mr. Kirwan:

#### **COMMENTS:**

Takes no exception to the staff report as written and recommended by staff

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

None

# Mr. Van Balgooy:

#### **COMMENTS:**

- "...I'm not talking about square footage. In section 18.7 it states that the roof form and slope of the new addition should be in character with and subordinate to that of the primary building." (HPC February 27, 2013\_DRAFT, p. 21)
- "...the biggest thing that concerns me is the height of that roof ridge." (HPC February 27, 2013\_DRAFT, p. 31)

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

We have lowered the eave height by 1' and have lowered the height of the roof ridge significantly so that the scale and massing are subordinate to that of the primary building while keeping in character with the existing roof slope and form.

#### Mr. Treseder:

#### **COMMENTS:**

Agrees with Commissioner Van Balgooy. "the original proposal had a height with a lower roof pitch, which allowed the roof line to be lower. ... there are opportunities to reduce the ridgeline without changing the square footage or the viability of any of the spaces... so that the addition could feel more subordinate"

Recommends dropping the gutter line (eave height) and would like to see some of the aforementioned opportunities take advantage of (HPC February 27, 2013\_DRAFT, p. 31-32)

ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:

We have lowered the eave height by 1' and have lowered the height of the roof ridge significantly so that the scale and massing are subordinate to that of the primary building

#### Mr. Rodriguez:

#### **COMMENTS:**

Does not see a "...clear differentiation between what is added..." and "...what is the historic part of the house..." and thinks that "..the treatment of the roof is basically one of the biggest concerns that I will have with the application."

Would also like to see the house moved one foot towards the west so that the addition aligns with the east façade of the original house (HPC February 27, 2013\_DRAFT, p. 33)

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

We have lowered the eave height by 1' and have lowered the height of the roof ridge significantly so that the scale and massing are subordinate to that of the primary building.

We have also pushed the right side of the addition in by one foot so that it aligns with the east façade of the house.

#### Ms. Heiler:

#### **COMMENTS:**

Echoes the comments of the previous three commissioners The difficulty Ms. Heiler has with the proposal is "...not so much the size, but the massing, and the perception that the addition is not subservient to the main block. And a lot of that has to do with, as Commissioner Rodriguez has said, the fact that it extends little bit, I guess to the right of the main block. But the main thing is the height of the ridge line... it does not appear to drop down enough to make this clear that this is an addition and it is subservient to the main block."

Believes we can keep the size that we think we need and still create a massing that "preserves the dominant position of the main block." (HPC February 27, 2013\_DRAFT, p. 33-34)

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

We have lowered the eave height by 1' and have lowered the height of the roof ridge significantly so that the scale and massing are subordinate to that of the primary building.

We have also pushed the right side of the addition in by one foot so that it aligns with the east façade of the house.



# Ms. Whitney:

#### **COMMENTS:**

Objects to the footprint of the addition alone and cannot recommend approval until she sees a smaller footprint.

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

We understand Ms. Whitney's point of view, and have taken steps to reduce the footprint, but our client's program and accessibility requirements do not allow us to reduce the footprint by enough to meet her standards.

#### Mr. Swift:

Was not in attendance at the February 27<sup>th</sup>, meeting but in the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting he had asked that we shift the addition to the left side, which we have done. He also had issue with the chimney and mudroom, which he felt created a sense of a main entry which competed with the actual main entry. We have since relocated the chimney and removed the mudroom entirely. In the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting Mr. Swift was ok with the addition massing and size. Since these items have since been reduced, and it was stated at the Oct 24<sup>th</sup> meeting that no one would be opposed to us reducing the size and scale of the addition, we believe that Mr. Swift would be ok with the revised massing and size of the addition

# Ms. Miles;

#### **COMMENTS:**

Echoes the comments of the first four speakers: (Van Balgooy, Treseder, Rodrigues & Heiler).

Has never seen such a strongly worded LAP and thinks the HPC must give that weight

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS COMMENTS:**

We have lowered the eave height by 1' and have lowered the height of the roof ridge significantly so that the scale and massing are subordinate to that of the primary building.

We have also pushed the right side of the addition in by one foot so that it aligns with the east facade of the house.

We have taken steps to meet with the LAP ahead of time to present our revised design, and explain how the concerns they have about the size and massing of the addition are unwarranted.

# Paul & Deborah Eckert 3923 Washington Street Kensington, Maryland 20895

January 24, 2013

Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Letters of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached are twenty two letters of support for our proposed project, including letters from neighbors immediately adjacent to our property and a letter from the Mayor and Town Council approved unanimously after the plans were reviewed at a public meeting.

# Town of Kensington

A complete set of the proposed plans was distributed and reviewed by the Mayor and Town Council at its January 14, 2013 meeting. Town residents and neighbors were in attendance. Remarks on the design and its consistency with the historic nature of the neighborhood and the Town were entirely positive. A resolution and letter of support was approved 5-0 after deliberation and public comment.

# <u>Neighbors</u>

We obtained twenty letters of support from our neighbors, including those who border the property. We provided to each person approached a copy set of the plans in advance. Every person who was approached agreed to submit a letter of support. Not one person voiced any objections to our project and, indeed, many expressed very strong views on the desirability of our proposed addition, its consistency with the character of the neighborhood, and the enhancement it would bring to our block. Many of these neighbors personally spent considerable time, talent, and treasure on restoration and enhancement projects of their own to address similarly dilapidated historic houses on Washington, Baltimore, or Prospect Streets. These stakeholders — many of whom have lived in the neighborhood for decades — were particually supportive and encouraging.

- 1. Knecht, 3919 Washington Street (adjacent, right)
- 2. Kenny, 3922 Washington Street (across)
- 3. M. Strachan, 3924 Washington Street (across)
- 4. R. Strachan, 3925 Washington Street (adjacent, left)

Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland January 24, 2013 Page 2

- 5. Collins, 3926 Washington Street (across)
- 6. Bragg, 3924 Prospect Street (behind)
- 7. Carr, 3904 Washington Street
- 8. Uhlman, 3905 Washington Street
- 9. Stablow, 3912 Washington Street
- 10. FitzPatrick, 3913 Washington Street
- 11. Averbeck, 3914 Washington Street
- 12. S. O'Connell, 3915 Washington Street
- 13. M. O'Connell, 3916 Washington Street
- 14. Noyes, 3928 Washington Street
- 15. Longo, 3932 Washington Street
- 16. Bruch, 3936 Washington Street
- 17. Bagshaw, 3947 Baltimore Street
- 18. Oleson, 3948 Baltimore Street
- 19. O'Shea, 3951 Baltimore Street
- 20. Lynn, 3908 Prospect Street

#### **Gary Ditto**

We sought and received a letter of support from Gary Ditto, the leading realtor in the Town of Kensington and a years-long director and benefactor of the Kensington Historical Society. He is perhaps the most knowledgeable real estate professional when it comes to the Kensington Historic District. Gary advised us gratis in connection with our efforts to identify an historic home for purchase and did not serve as buyer's or seller's agent for the property.

At the time of the Town Council meeting and during our efforts to obtain letters of support, our plans included a one-story mudroom that extended 3 feet from the "hyphen" – a substantial reduction from the version previously reviewed by the Commission. At the request of the Commission staff, we have since eliminated the mudroom from our proposed plans accompanying the HAWP. While we are very disappointed our family will not have this entirely ordinary feature that appears in additions to many of the historic houses on our street, we understand that the request was designed to address concerns voiced by a few of the Commissioners during the October preliminary.



Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland January 24, 2013 Page 3

We hope that these letters help demonstrate the considerable support that we have in the Town and in our community for our plan as proposed.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Eckert

# Mayor Peter C. Fosselman

# Council Member Mackie Barch Council Member Tracey Furman



Council Member Sean McMullen Council Member John Thompson

January 16, 2013

Ms. Leslie Miles, Chair Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring MD 20910

Re: Preliminary Consultation - 3923 Washington Street, Kensington

Dear Madam Chair:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Kensington Town Council in support of Paul and Deborah Eckert and their efforts to obtain a HAWP for a two-story addition, along with the demolition and construction of a new garage for the property located at 3923 Washington Street.

Mr. Eckert presented the proposed plans to the Town Council at our January 14, 2013 Council Meeting, in which, the Council reviewed the plans and opened the project up for public comment. Following no public objections, and support from the adjacent neighbors, the Council concurred unanimously to support the Eckerts undertaking before the Historic Preservation Commission.

The Eckerts have been working judiciously with their architect, Luke Olson, along with consulting various Kensington Residents, to uphold the charm and standards of Kensington's Historic District. The Town Council believes that the Eckerts, along with Mr. Olson, will acknowledge the HPC's recommendations and allow for their new additions to seamlessly blend into the existing ambiance of the Town.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Fosselman

Cc: Mayor and Town Council
Paul and Deborah Eckert

(3:

Name

Signature

Address

Neil Stablow

Plublum 39/2 Washington St.



Mauren OConnell

Mauron a O Consol 3915 No Shington St.

RICHARD & STEDCHAN ALDERAL 3925 WASHINGTON ST Mary D. Strachan Mary St. Stracher 11

<u>Address</u>

3919 Washington St.

Name REID COLLINS

Signature

Address
3926 WASHINGTON ST
NEWSINGTON, MD 20895

<u>Name</u>

Brooks & Feber Kenny

**Signature** 

<u>Address</u>

3922 Washington St

Name Michele Strachan <u>Signature</u> Muhele Strachan

Address 3924 Washington

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Bourse Car

Roslan

3904 Washington St.

Name

Uichael Uhlman

<u>Signature</u>

Address

3905 Washington st.

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Margaret Fitz Patrick Warguet Fithaltet

3913 Washington St. M.D.

<u>Name</u>

avia Averbeck

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Kensington, MD

Name

Shala Olonnell

Signature

<u>Address</u>

3916 Washington & Kensington Mil

<u>Name</u>

**Signature** 

**Address** 

Michelle Noyes

Muon

3928 Washington St

<u>Name</u>

JoDi LauGO

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

393ZWMShwgtans?

<u>Name</u>

CHRIS BRUCH

Ranelle Bruch

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3936 WASHINGTON STREET.

peuble Il Bruch 3936 Washington St.

Name

Brett Bagshaw

Signature

Address

3947 Baltimbre Ste Kens. MO 20895

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Kristine Oleson

Lustini Oleson

3948 Baltimore St.

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

Address

Katie and Kieran O'Shea

4808ha

3951 Baitimore St Kensington MD

<u>Name</u>

BESTINALYNN

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3908 Prospect St. Kunsmyton, M

Detrify's

**SUBJECT:** Revision to approved HAWP (HPC Case No. 36/02-13E), for construction of addition, demolition of garage and new garage construction at 3923 Washington Street, a Primary-One Resource within the **Kensington Historic District** 

**DATE:** June 12, 2013

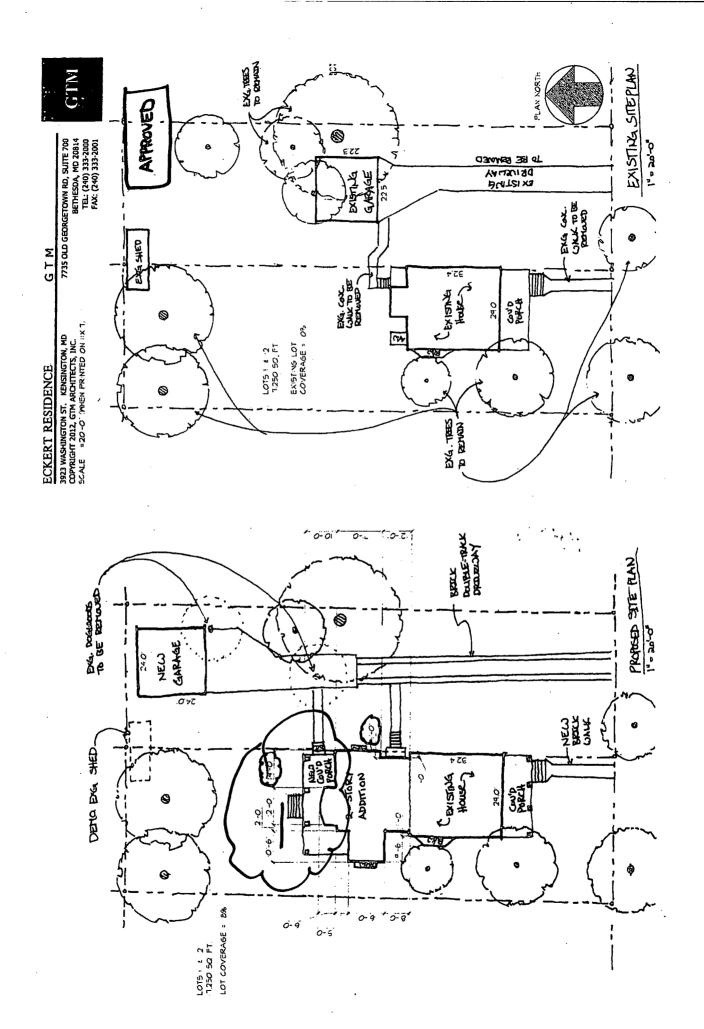
BACKGROUND: On April 10, 2013 the HPC approved with conditions the subject work above.

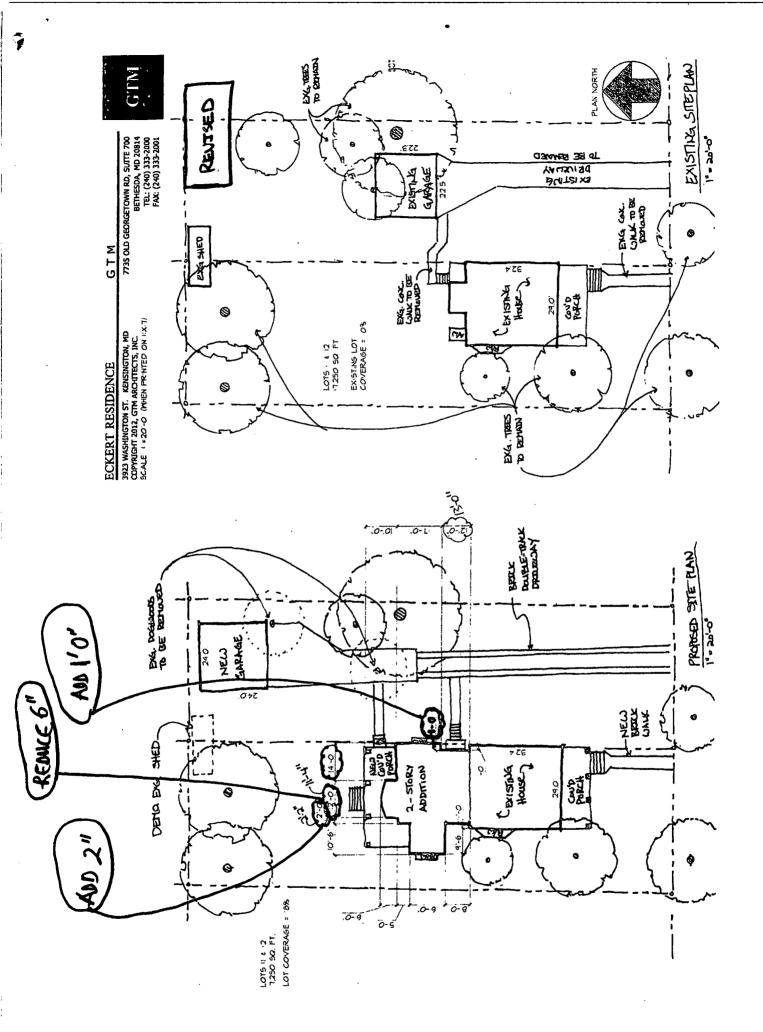
**REVISED PROPOSAL:** The applicants are requesting mirror dimensional changes to the footprint of the proposed addition section (see attached plans **APPROVED** and **REVISED**). The changes are necessary to accommodate a code compliant clearance for the new interior elevator shaft and associated hallway doors. The changes amount to no new net increase in the size of the footprint.

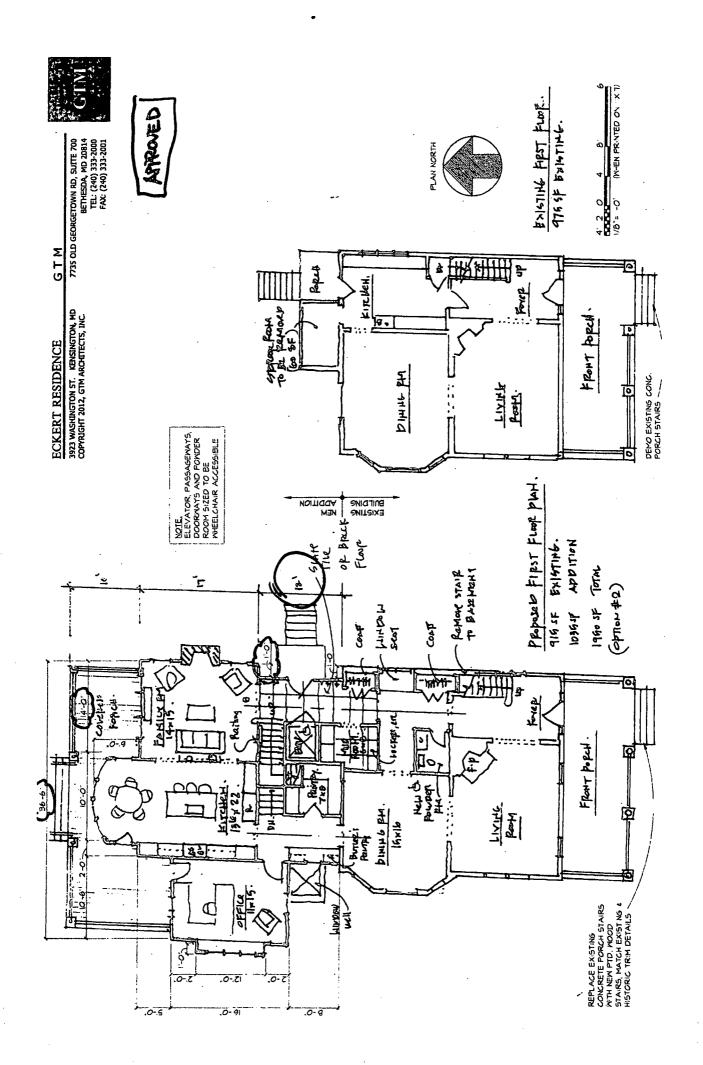
**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve the revised proposal described above finding it as being consistent with Chapter 24A-8(bi(1) & (2):

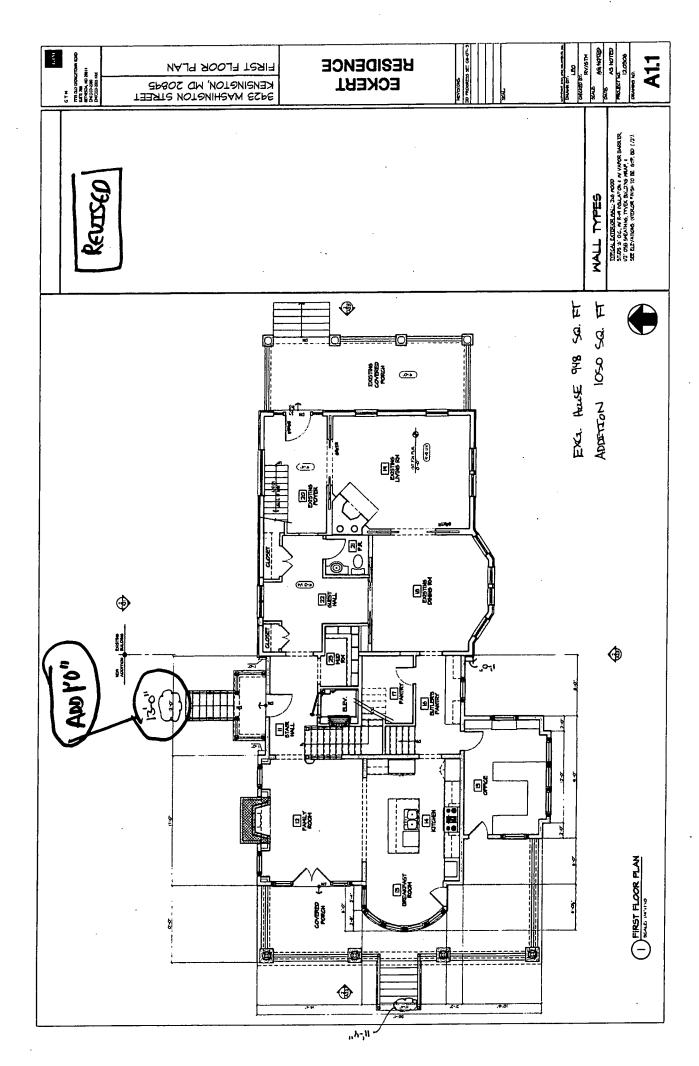
- (1) The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site or historic resource within an historic district; or
- (2) The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or

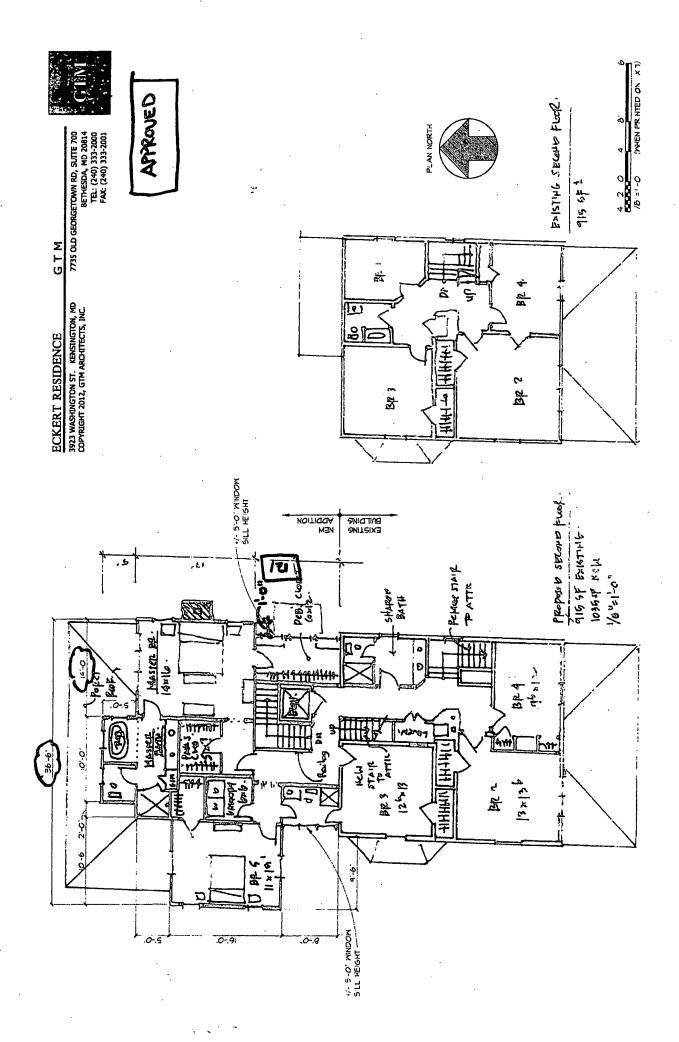
HPC DECISION: APPONED

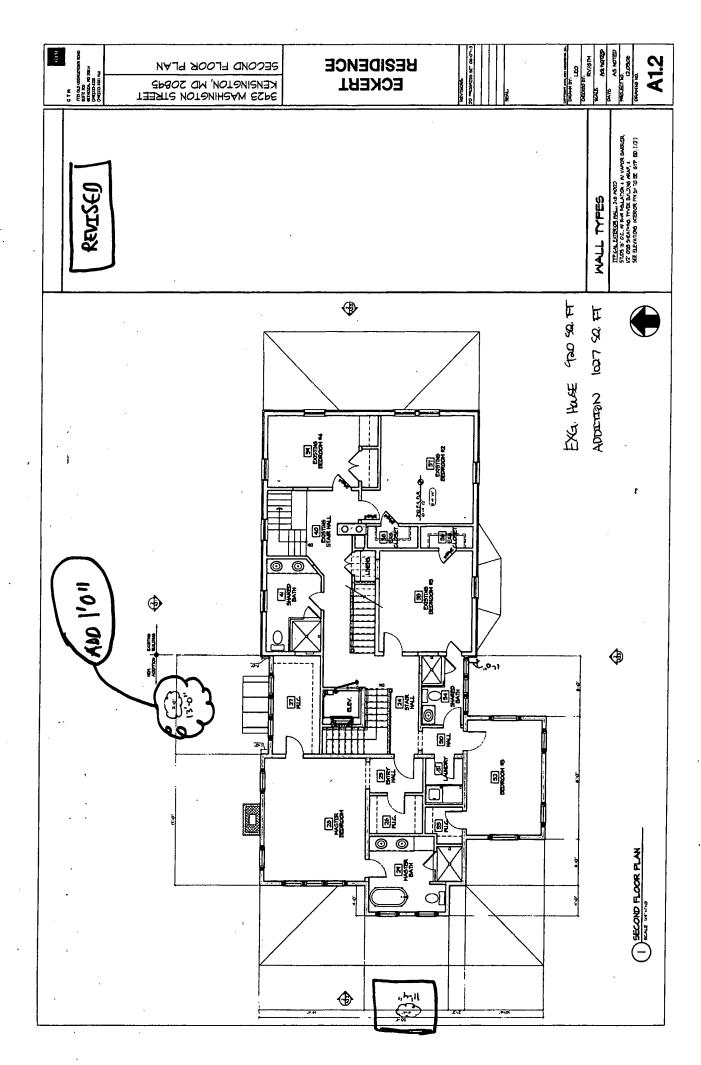




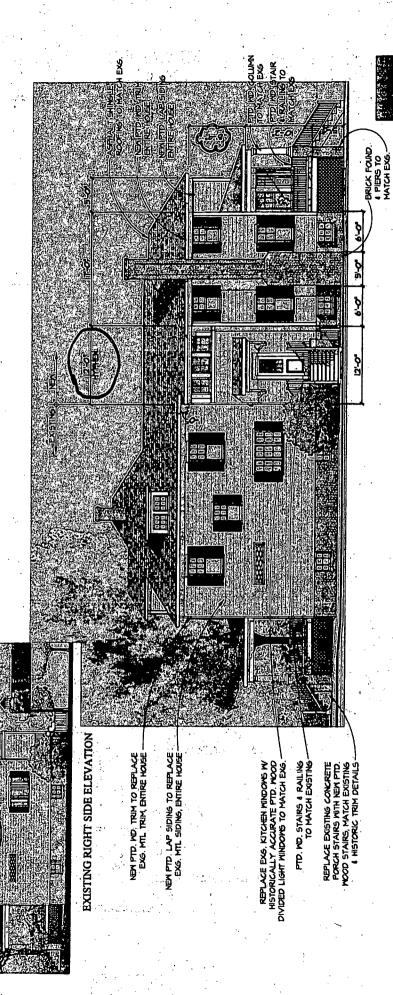








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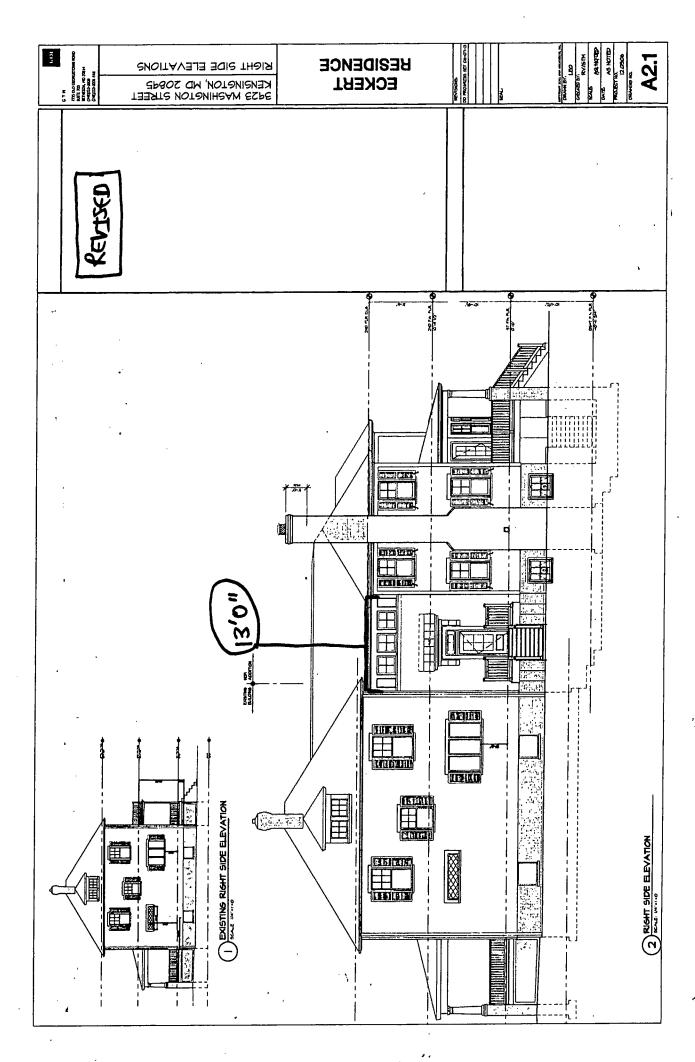


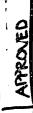
ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 04/10/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION 3223 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON ND OCT 02, 2012 REV MARCH 20, 2013 #12,1203 COPPUGENT 2011, GTH ARCHITECTS, INC.

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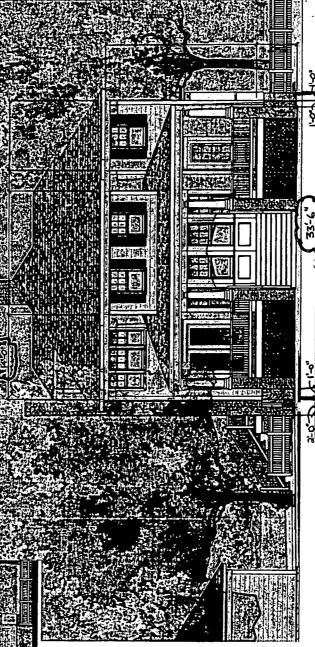
PROPOSED RIGHT SIDE ELEVATION

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001





**EXISTING REAR ELEVATION** 



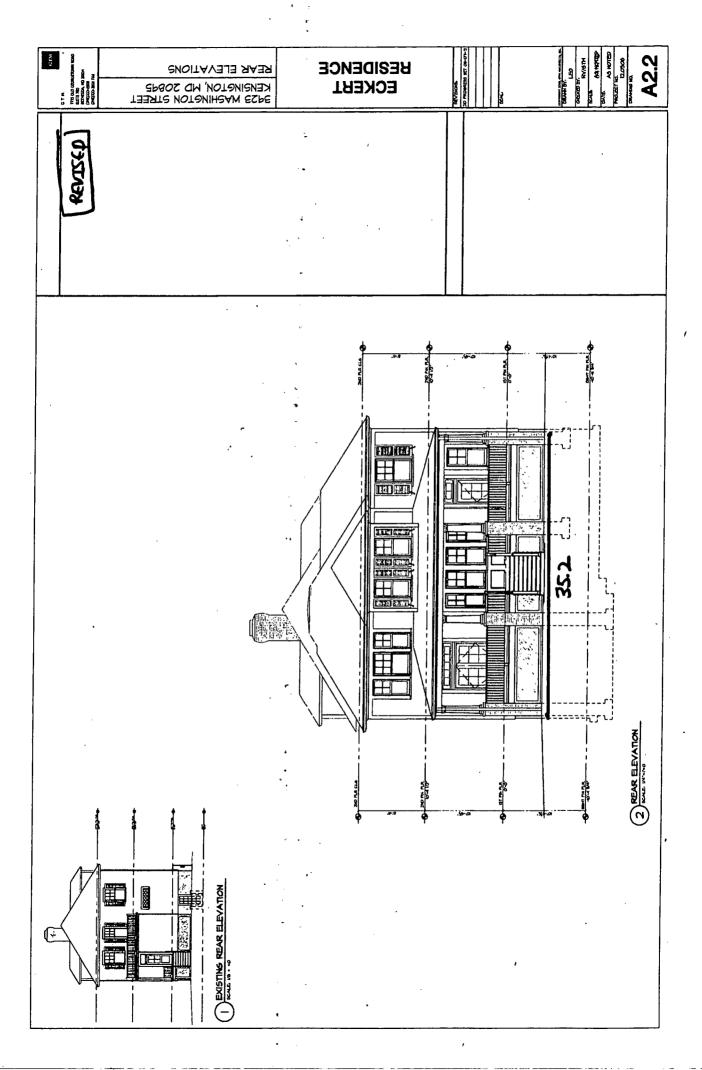
PROPOSED REAR ELEVATION



ECKERT RESIDENCE - HPC MEETING 04/10/2013 - HAWP APPLICATION 3223 WASHINGTON ST. KENSINGTON, MD OCT 02, 2012 REV MARCH 20, 2013 8120308 COPPRIGHT 2011, GTM ARCHITECTS, INC.

**GTMT**5

7735 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD, SUITE 700, BETHESDA, MD 20814 - TEL: (240) 333-2000 - FAX: (240) 333-2001



#### **MEMO**

To: Historic Preservation Staff

From: Kensington Local Advisory Panel

Date: April 8, 2013

Re: 3923 Washington Street, revised HAWP application

The Kensington Local Advisory Panel met with architect George Myers on March 26 to discuss revisions to the HAWP application for 3923 Washington Street. All four LAP members were present. The following comments summarize our discussion and conclusions:

- George walked us through changes made to accommodate concerns expressed by the LAP and some HPC commissioners at the previous hearing in February. He also explained why certain suggested changes were not desirable from the architect's and the owners' perspectives and were therefore not incorporated in the design.
- LAP members expressed uniform approval of the lowered roofline, which does help to reduce the massing of the addition and which now better defers to the historic house. The slightly reduced footprint further helps to reduce the relative impact of the addition.
- LAP members expressed appreciation that George took the time to discuss the revised project with us. We continued our discussion after George left. There was general appreciation for the owners' willingness to work with their architect to accommodate expressed concerns.
- There remained some concern that the addition is so substantial in size as to be controversial for its impact on the historic resource and on the historic district. It was acknowledged that there are other historic properties in the historic district that have large additions as well as some newer infill houses that obscure the relative significance of adjacent historic homes, which can give the impression of irregular application of historic preservation standards in the Kensington historic district. We discussed how and why additions that are relatively large and impacting on the historic district have gained approval at different times during the history of the town and have contributed to an uneven impression of how historic preservation has, and has not, been successfully carried out in Kensington.
- We discussed whether there might be additional means of reducing the impact, in this particular case, without compromising the many positive aspects of the design. One suggestion was to reduce the massing on the left side of the house by reducing the two-story projection to one story. Reducing the vertical massing could substantially help to preserve the visual flow of space around the house + addition, thereby further mitigating the impact of the addition on the original structure and better preserving the relationship of the original house to the streetscape.
- Three members voted to approve the current proposal and one voted against. We agreed that
  this report would convey those lingering concerns that were discussed at our meeting to the
  HPC for its consideration in its deliberations.
- We reiterate that we understand and respect the owners' needs and constraints related to
  accessibility. Those needs must, together with the impact of the addition as a whole, be
  balanced with the fact that this historic resource will remain, for many more decades, as an
  important contributing resource in Kensington's historic garden suburb. The relationship of all

#### **MEMO**

- houses in the historic district to the landscape they inhabit and to one another is paramount, as described in the Vision of Kensington guidelines. This is particularly true of primary-one resources.
- We appreciate and commend the extent to which the owners and their architect have devoted
  attention and resources to restoring original historic features, for locating the new garage
  toward the back corner so as to allow a greater flow of space around the house and its addition,
  and for designing the additions in a compatible style with careful attention to detail and
  materials.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Wilkes
on behalf of the Kensington LAP

## Mayor Peter C. Fosselman

### Council Member Mackie Barch Council Member Tracey Furman



# Council Member Sean McMullen Council Member John Thompson

January 16, 2013

Ms. Leslie Miles, Chair Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring MD 20910

Re: HAWP - 3904 Washington Street, Kensington

Dear Madam Chair:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Kensington Town Council in support of Al and Barrie Carr and their effort to obtain a HAWP for a four (4) foot high wooden fence for the property located at 3904 Washington Street.

The Carrs request for the fence is directly related to the recent extension of the Connecticut Avenue sidewalk between Saul Road and Washington Street, in which, the Carrs side lot is now exposed to a substantial grade variance. Considering the safety concerns, the State Highway Administration has agreed to put in place the fence, subject to the Historic Preservation Commission's approval.

Mr. Carr presented the proposed fence to the Town Council at our January 14, 2013 Council Meeting, where the Council reviewed the plans and opened the project up for public comment. Following no public objection, and considering the safety risks involved, the Council concurred unanimously to support the Carrs fence.

The Kensington Town Council fully supports the construction of a four (4) foot high wooden fence at 3904 Washington Street.

Sincerely

Peter C. Fosselman

Cc: Mayor and Town Council

Al and Barrie Carr



LONG & FOSTER® REAL ESTATE, INC. PROSPERITY MORTGAGE® COMPANY LONG & FOSTER® SETTLEMENT SERVICES LONG & FOSTER® INSURANCE

January 17, 2013

Planning Department M-NCPPC 8787 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Sir/Madam:



4650 East West Highway Bethesda, Maryland 20814 Office: 301-907-7600

Fax: 301-907-6610

Headquarters

14501 George Carter Way Chantilly, VA 20151 703-653-8500 www.longandfoster.com

RECEIVED M-NCPPC JAN 1 8 2013 MONTGOMERY, COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

I am writing in support of an application for an Historic Area Work Permit for the property located at 3923 Washington Street, owned by Paul and Deborah Eckert. Prior to purchasing this property the Eckerts sought out my opinion regarding the house and the Kensington Historic District. I am in a unique position to offer advice about both subjects given my 34 year career as a real estate agent, and as a long time board member of the Kensington Historical Society. My wife and I are honored to be a part of the Kensington community and we are both deeply committed to it as well.

When Paul and Deborah decided to purchase a new home they wanted it to be in the Kensington Historic District. Indeed, they saw themselves as making a serious and long term commitment of stewardship to the community and to the architectural integrity of the home they would eventually purchase. Having been involved in the transfer of numerous historic properties in Kensington, it is my experience that all of them have been in rather poor to dismal condition. The people who purchased these properties have dedicated significant personal and financial resources to the restoration and enlargement of the original structure and hence these same people have added immeasurably to the larger Kensington community. It is my opinion that the Eckerts are representative of that group of people who work to keep the Kensington community vital and growing. I would like to add that most of the prospective purchasers I meet are looking for homes that do not require the commitment of tears, sweat and funds to bring a house to "modern" sensibilities.

One of the many qualities that I have always admired about Kensington is the eclectic mix of housing stock and styles. A tour of the Town of Kensington will quickly reveal spacious and grand structures carefully and artfully crafted in the Queen Anne, Georgian and Four Square styles to name a few. One will quickly notice modest bungalows nestled amongst these larger homes and, of course, there is everything in between. This diverse housing stock allows for a mix of people of different socio-economic backgrounds who live graciously with each other, side by side.

It is my hope that you will favorably review and approve said Historic Area Work Permit so that the community can retain a family that will continue to enhance and foster the Kensington community. 'I also advise that said approval will help to ensure that in the future families and individuals with the resources and commitment similar to that evidenced by the Eckerts, will want to make the Kensington Historic District the place they call home. Conversely not to approve this gracious project will send a "chilling" message to those future buyers.

Sincerely,

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Signature

<u>Address</u>

3924 Rusped S

Name

Neil Stablow

Signature

Address

39/2 Weekington St.

Maureen OConnell

Mauren a Commel 3915 No hington St.

<u>Name</u>

RICHARD & STEDCHAN Alachan Mary D. Stracher

Address 3919 Washington St.

Name REID COLLINS

Signature Signature <u>Address</u>

3926 WASHINGTON SI WENSINGTON, MD 20895

Name

Brooks of Peter Kenny

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3922 Washingtonst

<u>Name</u> Michele Strachan Muhele Strachan

Address
3924 Washington
St.

<u>Name</u>

Signature

<u>Address</u>

Barre Carr

Roslan

3904 Washington St.

<u>Name</u>

Signature

Address

wheel Uhlman Much

3905 Washington st.

Name

Signature

<u>Address</u>

Margaret Fitz Patrick

3913 Washington Kens-MD.

<u>Name</u>

Karin Averbeck

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3914 Washington? Kensington, MD

<u>Name</u>

Shala Donnell

Signature

<u>Address</u>

3916 Washington Kensington

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Michelle Noyes

Mono

3928 Washington St

<u>Name</u>

JoDi Lau60

Signature

Zfago

<u>Address</u>

3932 WMShwgtan ST

Name

CHRIS BRUCH

Ranelle Bruch

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

3936 WASHINGTON STREET

Jourelle Il Buch

of Bruch 3936 Washington St.

Name

Brett Bayshaw

Signature,

<u>Address</u>

3947 Baltimure St. Kens. MD 20895

<u>Name</u>

Signature

<u>Address</u>

Kristine Oleson

Lustine Cleson

3948 Baltimore St.

<u>Name</u>

<u>Signature</u>

<u>Address</u>

Katie and Kieran O'Shea X80

4808noa

3951 Baltimore St Kensington MD

<u>Name</u>

Signature

<u>Address</u>

3908 Prospect St. Kinsmyton, MD

# Mayor Peter C. Fosselman

# Council Member Mackie Barch Council Member Tracey Furman



# Council Member Sean McMullen Council Member John Thompson

January 16, 2013

Ms. Leslie Miles, Chair Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring MD 20910

Re: Preliminary Consultation - 3923 Washington Street, Kensington

Dear Madam Chair:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Kensington Town Council in support of Paul and Deborah Eckert and their efforts to obtain a HAWP for a two-story addition, along with the demolition and construction of a new garage for the property located at 3923 Washington Street.

Mr. Eckert presented the proposed plans to the Town Council at our January 14, 2013 Council Meeting, in which, the Council reviewed the plans and opened the project up for public comment. Following no public objections, and support from the adjacent neighbors, the Council concurred unanimously to support the Eckerts undertaking before the Historic Preservation Commission.

The Eckerts have been working judiciously with their architect, Luke Olson, along with consulting various Kensington Residents, to uphold the charm and standards of Kensington's Historic District. The Town Council believes that the Eckerts, along with Mr. Olson, will acknowledge the HPC's recommendations and allow for their new additions to seamlessly blend into the existing ambiance of the Town.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Fosselman

Cc: Mayor and Town Council

Paul and Deborah Eckert

## Silver, Joshua

From:

Luke Olson < lolson@GTMarchitects.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, January 23, 2013 10:37 AM

To:

Silver, Joshua

Cc:

Paul.Eckert@wilmerhale.com; deborahanneckert@yahoo.com

**Subject:** 

RE: 12.0468 Guilder HAWP application

**Attachments:** 

12.0306 Eckert HAWP concept 2013-01-23.pdf

Josh,

I've attached an option for the Eckert Residence HAWP application that we would like you opinion on. Paul and Deborah have decided to forego the Mudroom and add glazing to the Second floor to help the hyphen read more as a visual break between the existing house and the addition. Given this option, would you be able to provide us with a favorable staff report to bring to the commission on February 13<sup>th</sup>? I think we can both agree that Paul and Deborah have conceded a lot in this latest design, and are really working to find a solution that is suitable for everyone. If, for some reason, you are unable to approve of this design, I think it best if we just go forward with the original submission.

I was also hoping you could clarify if I needed to submit an additional HAWP application for this project today, or if I had until Friday to submit. Please feel free to call with any additional questions or comments. Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you.

# Luke Olson GTMARCHITECTS

240-333-2021 direct 240-333-2001 fax

From: Silver, Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Silver@montgomeryplanning.org]

Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 9:33 AM

To: Luke Olson

**Cc:** George Myers; <a href="mailto:jquilder@gmail.com">jquilder@gmail.com</a>; <a href="mailto:samanthaguilder@gmail.com">samanthaguilder@gmail.com</a>; <a href="mailto:samanthaguilder@gmai

Subject: RE: 12.0468 Guilder HAWP application

Hi Luke,

I very quickly reviewed the plans and it appears the project can be considered as a HAWP. I will review the plans more closely and follow up with any questions.

Josh

From: Luke Olson [mailto:lolson@GTMarchitects.com]

**Sent:** Monday, January 21, 2013 10:46 AM

**To:** Silver, Joshua; <a href="mailto:ccvpermitting@montgomerycountymd.gov">ccvpermitting@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>

Cc: George Myers; jquilder@qmail.com; samanthaquilder@qmail.com

**Subject:** 12.0468 Guilder HAWP application

Josh and Ellen,

Attached is the package we plan on submitting this Wednesday with our HAWP application for your review and comment.

Josh, could you please look this over and let us know if 1.) in your opinion is this a HAWP application and 2.) there are any additional comments, material notes, site conditions etc. that you think I need to address in the application package. I'll be working on the application itself this afternoon and will forward it along once completed.

Ellen, thanks for the preliminary review and comments. I've added notes to the package regarding the tree and the garage, both of which are to remain. Lot coverage is +/-21% including all decks/porches and the garage sf. Do we need to include the lot coverage form with the HAWP application or is that for the building permit? Similar to the lot coverage, we need to provide a stormwater management plan for the building permit application, correct? Would you like it to be referenced in the HAWP application? I've attached a plat for your reference as requested. We will include it with the application package.

Thanks again, and please feel free to call or email with any comments or questions.

Luke Olson
Project Coordinator
GTMARCHITECTS
7735 Old Georgetown Road
Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814
240-333-2021 direct
240-333-2001 fax
mailto:lolson@gtmarchitects.com
www.gtmarchitects.com

## Silver, Joshua

From:

Eckert, Paul < Paul. Eckert@wilmerhale.com>

Sent:

Thursday, February 14, 2013 9:45 AM

To:

Silver, Joshua

Cc:

Eckert, Paul

Subject:

3923 Washington Street, Kensington

Josh,

Three requests for the HPC staff concerning our application.

- 1. Would you please send me a list of the members of the Kensington LAP? Neither the Mayor (Pete Fosselman) nor the Town of Kensington office had any record of an active LAP and was unable to provide it to us.
- 2. Also would you or your manager please let me know as soon as a definitive decision is reached by the Commission as to whether it will consider Helen Wilkes' comments that were putatively made in the name of the LAP. I specifically request notice of the decision sufficiently in advance of the next meeting so that we can consider it and evaluate next steps with our counsel.
- 3. I request that each of the Commissioners state for the public record at or before the next meeting whether they have had any ex parte communications with Paul or Deborah Eckert (the applicants), Ms. Wilkes, or Ms. O'Malley since the date of our preliminary hearing. I would ask that they also specifically identify any communications to or from any individual at my law firm, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, in which I am an equity partner.

Thanks.

Paul Eckert

Paul R. Eckert | Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP 1875 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20006 USA +1 202 663 6537 (t) +1 202 663 6363 (f) paul.eckert@wilmerhale.com

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# Silver, Joshua

From:

Julie O'Malley <julie@omalleyfamily.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 13, 2013 4:54 PM

To:

Manarolla, Kevin; Silver, Joshua

Subject:

3923 Washington Street

Dear Historic Commission Members:

I would like to emphasize some of the comments made by staff Josh Silver in his staff report on 3923 Washington Street.

Staff quotes the *Vision of Kensington* that in this historic core of the District "...it is important to preserve these patterns of open space, front yard setbacks, building scale, architectural character, and the streetscape qualities."

18.3 An addition should be <u>compatible in scale with the primary structure</u>. An addition should relate to the historic house in mass, scale and form. It should be designed to be <u>subordinate to the main structure</u>. (My emphasis added.)

It seems that this addition is not subordinate. It is in fact larger than the historic original. The applicants have an addition which is equal to the historic homes 975 square feet and that has an additional 200 square feet. When viewed from the street, the height of the extension to the left adds to the overall visual massing of the addition. I cannot tell from the drawings but I assume the left side of the building is the required 10 feet from the property line as required in Kensington?

The addition still needs to be smaller than the original historic resource.

The rear roofed porch and grand staircase do not seem to be compatible with the design of the house or the size of the property.

It is very commendable that the owner wants to restore the original siding. He should be made aware of all available tax credits.

Sincerely,

Julia O'Malley

Past Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission

I would like to add that the Town's review did not include any discussion as to the appropriateness of the size and scale in relation to the Historic District. They did not discuss the *Vision of Kensington*. In fact the mayor replied when questioned previously that they do not use any guidelines when reviewing HAWPS.

I also have to comment that when letters of endorsement are solicited from neighbors I have been told on many occasions that the neighbors feel obligated to approve of them and often are not aware of any guidelines that need to be followed.

# Paul & Deborah Eckert 3923 Washington Street Kensington, Maryland 20895

February 13, 2013

Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County Maryland 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Re: 3923 Washington Street, Kensington, Maryland

To Whom It May Concern:

We received just this afternoon – hours before our hearing – a copy of a letter purporting to come from the Kensington Local Advisory Panel, though issued solely in the name of Helen Crettier Wilkes. We understand that she had previously submitted comments about our property in October 2012 under the name of the LAP, though we were not provided a copy of that letter until last month. That letter was also submitted to the Commission on the afternoon of our preliminary hearing, giving us no notice or opportunity to respond. These letters are attached.

We are quite troubled by Ms. Wilkes letters, both in terms of their substance – this most recent letter, for example, raises several new objections not previously raised – but also because neither letter contained *any* disclosure that she was previously engaged to prepare a competing architectural plan for this very property. A copy of her previously commissioned plans are attached.

Rule 2.301 of the AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Standards requires that any architect involved in civic activities refrain from making public statements about matters for which they received compensation without making full disclosure about the relevant engagement.

Similarly, and without any exception for disclosure, the Montgomery County Public Ethics Law strictly prohibits any "public employee" – which has been construed to include citizens serving in a voluntary capacity on advisory boards and commissions – from participating in any matter involving a property in which that person had a financial interest. See Montgomery County Public Ethics Law Section 19A-11(a)(1)(A). Ms. Wilkes' prior engagement unquestionably presents just such an interest without any resort to the more general appearance provisions.

As you can see from Ms. Wilkes' plans for this property, she had proposed something quite different from our HAWP. Many of her comments purportedly made on behalf of the LAP are drawn directly from her prior commissioned work, such as:

# Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission Page 2

- 1. She objected to our "doubling" the size of the original structure. Her competing plan proposed an addition of approximately 80% of the existing structure.
- 2. She objected to the appearance of the proposed rear-facing addition. Her competing plan proposed a windowless expanse interrupted only by a back door.
- 3. She recommended that the rear porch not be covered, and that it be replaced by a backyard deck. Her competing plan proposed an uncovered rear porch opening onto a backyard deck.

We did not like Ms. Wilkes' plans for the property, did not find her plans functional or aesthetically pleasing, and chose instead to work with a local architect with a solid track record of successful work in the Kensington Historic District. We hope that you will agree that, as between the two competing visions for the property that we purchased, ours is preferable on the merits.

More to the point, we ask that the Commission disregard the comments purporting to be from the LAP in light of their having been tainted by Ms. Wilkes' prior work and issued in violation of both AIA ethics rules and the Montgomery County Public Ethics Law. We plan to preserve this issue as a basis for appeal to the Board of Appeals should they be considered by the Commission.

We have included with our application a letter unanimously approved by the Kensington Town Council supporting our project, as well as 20 letters of support from our neighbors, including adjacent neighbors on every side of our property. There would be no deficit of local input from the Town of Kensington or our neighborhood were Ms. Wilkes' participation to be disallowed as required by the Code.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Eckert

# Ex. 1

## **MEMO**

To: Historic Preservation Staff

From: Helen Wilkes, Chair, Kensington LAP

Date: October 24, 2012

Re: Comments from the Kensington LAP

## 1. 10300 Fawcett Street:

- a. No comments were received from other LAP members.
- b. As the windows appear to be 1/1, it would seem that the Anderson replacements do not affect the appearance adversely.
- Defer to HPC judgment re: appropriateness of materials composition of replacement windows.

## 2. 3923 Washington Street:

- a. No comments were received from other LAP members.
- b. Owners are to be commended for restoring original historic features to the house and for designing new additions in compatible style; for locating the proposed addition to the rear of the house; and for setting the new garage further back on the property, which promotes the flow of open space around the house.
- c. General comment: As in at least one recent example of new construction in the Kensington HD, I'm concerned about what happens when an existing shed is torn down and the square footage of the footprint of the one-story shed becomes a "credit" toward the new lot coverage figure. It's not "apples to apples", as the same square footage is now extruded vertically into a two or three story structure and the visual impact of that same square footage is accordingly amplified. Tearing down a seemingly insignificant shed, if regarded strictly in terms of the numbers, helps to reduce the new lot coverage figure, but the visual impact of adding that same square footage to the total footprint of new additions is far greater. I hope that the HPC will take this into consideration not only in considering this project, but on all projects in Kensington, where diminution of Kensington's essential, character-defining historic garden park setting impacts not only the HAWP applicant's property, but the entire adjacent and surrounding historic setting.
- d. Agree with staff comments regarding concerns about the size of the addition.
- e. Garage:
  - i. No dimensions are shown to indicate difference in size between existing and new. Please ensure that all added square footage is reflected in new lot coverage figure. Note also that the existing garage is one story whereas the proposed is 1 1/2 stories, which, per note 2. c., has a greater impact on the "vertical footprint".
  - il. Prefer that new garage doors reflect historic proportions to extent possible, such as compatible models offered by Designer Doors.
- f. Deck: Stairs to ground level appear on site plan but not on floor plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Wilkes

#### **MEMÓ**

To: Historic Preservation Staff

From: Helen Crettier Wilkes, Chairman, Kensington Local Advisory Panel

Date: February 13, 2013

Re: HAWP application for 3923 Washington Street

The Kensington Local Advisory Panel met on February 10 to discuss the HAWP application for 3923 Washington Street. The following comments summarize our conclusions:

- As stated in comments submitted for the previous preliminary consultation heard on October 24, 2012, we agree with staff comments regarding concerns about the size of the addition. However, we note that concerns about the size have not been resolved, so it remains as a concern, since the proposed addition more than doubles the size of the primary historic resource.
- We understand the owners' needs and constraints related to accessibility. Those needs must, however, be balanced with the fact that this historic resource is slated to remain, for many more decades, as an important contributing resource in Kensington's historic garden suburb. The relationship of houses all houses in the historic district to the landscape they inhabit is paramount, as described in the Vision of Kensington guidelines. This is particularly true of primary-one resources.
- The HPC's charge is to balance historic preservation concerns with owners' needs to modernize, so it is important to ask, at what point does an addition dominate, rather than defer to, an existing primary resource? It seems to us that an addition that more than doubles the area of a historic house has certainly, by the numbers if not by the visual weight of its proportions, tipped the balance, regardless of how much of the bulk is "hidden" from the streetscape. Note that, according to the Vision of Kensington guidelines, the average lot coverage for primary one historic resources in Kensington's historic district is 9% (range is from 5% to 25%) and that the average for the entire historic district is 15%. This proposal has a total lot coverage of 18%.
- In this case, however, the bulk of the addition can be viewed upon approach from the east. This resource is located, in the best tradition of the oldest Kensington houses, on an ample piece of land (i.e. on two 50' lots, and perhaps three originally, if the pre-historic district infill house on the left side was built on its third lot). The property is part of a historic district that includes several curvilinear streets designed to allow multiple angles of view. This ability to view houses "in the round" was an intended result of Kensington's idealized plan.
- Note that none of the examples of historic resources with additions that are cited in the
  application are located on the west side of Washington Street, where the majority of houses
  are more densely situated on smaller parcels, and are proportionately smaller, than in some of
  the other oldest areas of the historic district. The immediate context—most significantly, those
  historic properties that are adjacent to and surrounding this property—is important to consider
  in this deliberation.
- The proposed large covered porch on the rear (north side) of the house has the scale and appearance of a front porch and is uncharacteristic of rear porches in the Kensington historic district. Moreover, it adds to the visual bulk of the addition by extending the massing of the

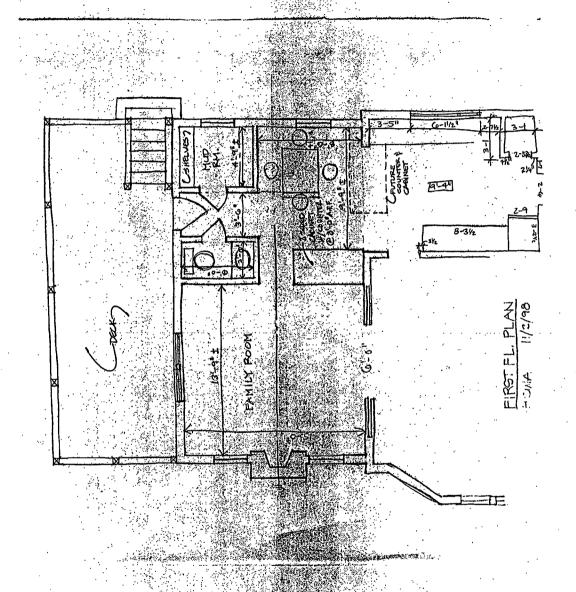
# **MEMO**

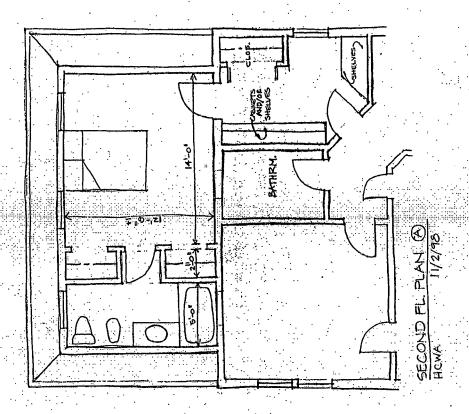
porch deck both vertically and horizontally; further contributes to "urbanizing", by virtue of the size of the extension, the proportions of a house that was, in its original form, a typical turn-of-the-century Kensington house designed compactly such that space flowed around the structure and it was an object in the landscape; and greatly enhances the possibility that these, or future, owners might request and receive, at some point, a HAWP to enclose an already-roofed porch space. In our opinion, the rear porch should not be covered, as designing it to be a backyard deck would help mitigate these concerns. However, it must also be said that our preference would be for a more modest deck, or even a terrace in place of some part of it, to reduce the total footprint of the additions.

The owners and their architect are to be commended for the obvious care and attention paid to
restoring original historic features, for locating the new garage toward the back corner so as to
allow a greater flow of space around the house and its addition, and for designing the additions
in a compatible style with careful attention to detail and materials.

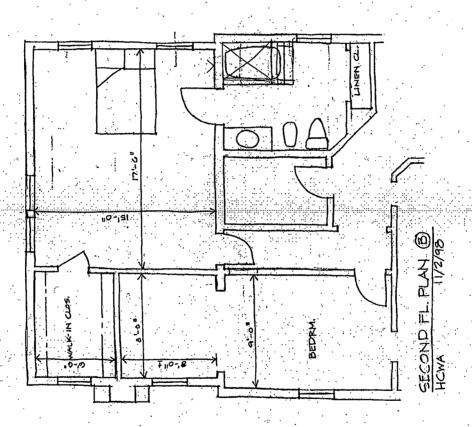
Respectfully submitted, Helen Wilkes

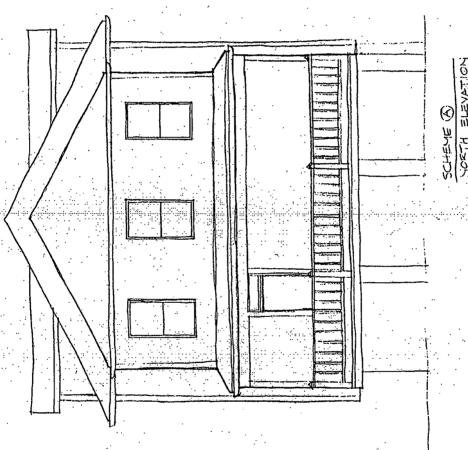
# Ex. 2



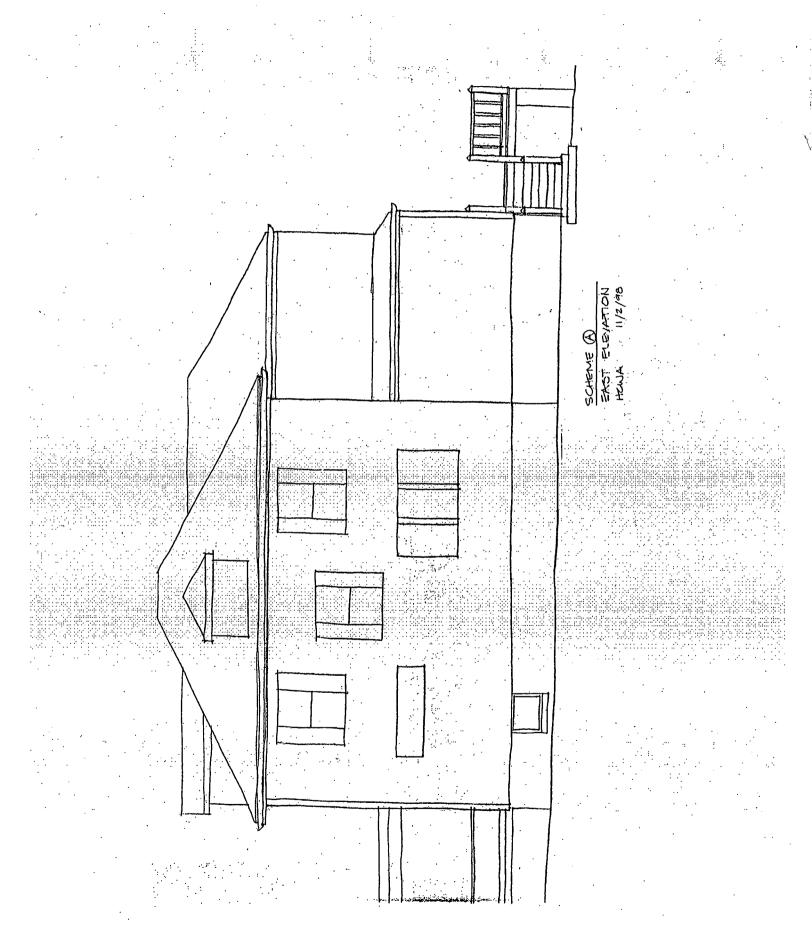


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NORTH ELEVATION HOME (1/2/03)



# Reasons To Approve the HAWP 3923 Washington Street, Kensington Paul & Deborah Eckert

- 1. The original house will remain 100 percent historically unaltered on the front, right, and left sides. Historical features altered by prior owners will be restored.
  - 1.1 Aluminum siding will be removed and original wood restored or matched;
  - 1.2 Concrete front porch stairs replaced with wood stairs; and
  - 1.3 Front walkway will be restored to the original brick-pattern. Currently, the walkway is mostly concrete, with only a few feet of brickwork remaining immediately adjacent to street.
- 2. The project will <u>increase</u> the open green space fully consistent with the *Vision of Kensington* by relocating the garage site to the rear of property.
  - 2.1 The relocation of the garage site was supported by Commissioners at October 24th preliminary consultation.
  - 2.2 Plans were revised to reduce and reorient the side addition toward the more densely filled left/west side of property.
- 3. The lot size supports square footage of addition, which has been <u>decreased by 120 square feet</u> since the October 24th preliminary consultation.
  - 3.1 The new house and garage would cover 2,541 square feet of a 17,250 square foot lot, representing a 14.7 percent lot coverage.
  - 3.2 The completed project would be <u>less than</u> the 15 percent average lot coverage for the Kensington historical district contained in the 1992 *Vision of Kensington* survey. That survey was conducted over <u>twenty years ago</u> and does not reflect any of the significant additions approved and built in our immediate neighborhood on Washington, Baltimore, and Prospect Streets since 1992.
  - 3.3 Massing and scale **not square footage** was identified as a concern during the preliminary consultation by Chairwoman Miles, and Commissioners Coratola, Van Balgooy, and Rodriguez.
- 4. The project would be compatible with neighborhood streetscape and additions to other primary resources on the street and in the immediate neighborhood. Please see submitted exhibits.
  - 4.1 Commissioner Treseder had requested information on this point.

# 5. The revised proposal responds to HPC feedback offered at the preliminary consultation and to the concerns raised by HPC staff:

- 5.1 The proposed addition was revised to extend to left/west side of property instead of right/east, as suggested by Commissioner Kirwan, and supported by Chairwoman Miles and Commissioners Heiler, Coratola, Whitney, and Swift. This change was requested to preserve the open green space of right/east lot and take advantage of natural landscape coverage on more dense left side of property.
- 5.2 A more pronounced hyphen was introduced to better distinguish the addition from original home; including the addition of more glazing, as had been suggested by Commissioner Kirwan and supported by Chairwoman Miles.
- The front and rear-dormers on the new garage were eliminated; and the roof changed to hipped style to mirror original house in response to comments by Chairwoman Miles and Commissioners Coratola and Swift.

  This concession was made in spite of it frustrating a key part of the architectural program to allow for increased guest space and multigenerational living.
- 5.4. The enclosed porch on right/east side eliminated in response to concerns

  by Chairwoman Miles Commissioners Heiler and Swift and HPC staff

  member/Silver.
- 5.5 The pavement portion of driveway/decreased and changed to tinted concrete; in response to concerns by Chairwoman Miles, Commissioners Rodriguez and Swift; and HPC staff member Josh Silver.
- 6. The project was recommended for approval by the HPC staff and has overwhelming support from the Town of Kensington and surrounding neighbors.
  - 6.1 The HPC staff report recommends approval;
  - 6.2 Town of Kensington passed a resolution of support, unanimously and without objection, at meeting attended by at least one LAP member,
  - 6.3 Twenty immediate neighbors signed letters of support after receiving and reviewing copies of the full proposal, including neighbors adjacent on both sides, across the street, and directly behind; and
  - 6.4 Former Kensington Historical Society President (and current KHS Committee Chair) and town realtor Gary Ditto submitted a letter urging approval.

- 7. Two last minute letters of opposition use incorrect data and implicate significant conflict-of-interest issues.
  - 7.1 Both letters were submitted hours before scheduled February 13th hearing, leaving inadequate time to respond.
  - 7.2 Letter by Ms. Wilkes, purporting to be on behalf of Kensington LAP.
    - (a) Omits any disclosure that she had drafted competing plans for this very property, raising potential financial or wounded-pride conflicts of interest:
    - (b) Overstated lot coverage by more than three percent;
    - (c) Fails the "glass house" standard in light of the large addition she put on her own house. A copy of portions of her HAWP is attached giving us serious concerns about disparate treatment should our own, smaller project be denied:
      - (i) 2002 HAWP approved the expansion of her compound from 1,685 square feet to 3,285 square feet (including a 1.5-story guesthouse for which she sought and received HPC approval), an increase of 1,600 square feet (95%);
      - (ii) Lot coverage increased from 7.7 to 15.0 percent more than our proposed project;
      - (iii) A 3-car, 952 square foot "parking pad" not included in the lot coverage numbers was approved on the basis of her desire to meet the needs of her modern family.
      - (iv) Although she argued that our accessibility and eldercare needs must yield, she submitted a letter that took a starkly different position when defending her own plans: "As homeowners who appreciate the Victorian beauty of the block and are keen to preserve its heritage, we also are very much appreciative of the need to create homes and inner and outer living areas that meet the needs of our families."
      - (A) In 2002, she explained to the HPC that the 3-car parking pad was necessary because "we're facing the reality of having teenage children coming and going late at night . . . you know, what we're talking about here is balancing our needs with the garden setting." Tr. at 16-17.
    - (d) Raises objections not raised in her letter submitted on eve of the October 24th preliminary consultation.

# 7.3 Email by Julie O'Malley.

- (a) While on the HPC, Julie O'Malley approved the doubling of the Wilkes mansion, its 1.5-story guest house, and the 950 square foot "parking pad." Tr. at 1-2.
- (b) Her email closely tracks the ethically-tainted letter submitted by Ms. Wilkes, and was submitted 90 minutes following our objections to it;
- (c) Overstates our addition's footprint by 125 square feet;
- (d) Contains insulting conjecture about the motivation for neighborhood support – suggesting that the letters of support were the product of pressure or ignorance. Letters were submitted by multiple neighbors who have gone through the HPC process (Carr, Fitzpatrick, Knecht, Strachan, Longo, Collins, Bruch), by a former member of the Kensington LAP (Bruch), and by the Town of Kensington Building Inspector (Stablow), each of whom are demonstrably knowledgeable about the Kensington Historic District and the rules and guidance that pertain.
- (e) Inaccurately characterized the meeting of the Town Council during which the resolution of support was unanimously approved. The size and scale of the project was in fact discussed, as was the HPC preliminary consultation. Our efforts to address the HPC recommendations received favorable comment from the Mayor and Councilmembers and was in fact noted in the subsequent letter to the HPC. In attendance were neighbors and at least one member of the LAP, who raised no objection to the project at the time.

# Appendix of Wilkes and O'Malley Materials



# DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES

Douglas M. Duncan County Executive

Robert C. Hubbard Director

# HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

IssueDate:

5/20/2002

Permit No:

275095

Expires: X Ref: Rev. No:

**Approved With Conditions** 

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:

CHARLES C & H C WILKES
3923 PROSPECT ST
KENSINGTON MD 208950000

HAS PERMISSION TO:

CONSTRUCT

PERMIT CONDITIONS:

TWO STORY ADDITION, CONSTRUCT 1 1/2 STORY GUEST HOUSE, REMOVAL OF EXISTING DRIVEWAY, REMOVAL OF TWO TREES. Condition: The applicant will return to the HPC with more developed landscape plan, including their driveway and parking plan.

\$0.00

PREMISE ADDRESS

3923 PROSPECT ST

KENSINGTON MD 20895-

LOT P10

LIBER FOLIO

PERMIT FEE:

BLOCK 11

ELECTION DISTRICT

SUBDIVISION TAX ACCOUNT NO.:

PARCEL

PLATE

KENSINGTON

ZONE

GRID

HISTORIC MASTER:

Y

HISTORIC ATLAS:

Director. Department of Permitting Services

HISTORIC APPROVAL ONLY BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED



# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address:

1923 Prospect Street

Meeting Date \$/8/02

Applicant:

litelen and Sandy Wilkes

Report Date:

5/01/02

Resource:

Kensington Historic District

Public Notice: 4/24/02

Review:

HAWP

Tax Credit:

**Partial** 

District Number:

#31/6-02K

Staff:

Robin D. Ziek

PROPOSAL: Remove existing rear addition; add new 1- and 2-story rear additions to main house; build separate guest house; remove existing drive and add new driveway; remove two mature hollies.

RECOMMEND: Approval

RESOURCE:

Primary

STYLE:

Queen Anne

DATE:

1905

The applicant came to the HPC on 10/10/01 for a Preliminary Consultation for this project. The HPC was generally favorable, and also provided some suggestions for consideration prior to applying for the HAWP. Concerns included the extension of the wrap-around porch on the Victorian house, questions about using a full-width front porch on the guest house/studio, questions about the amount of paving for the new driveway.

The subject property consists of 2.5 platted lots (21,875 sf), with the house on the lot on the west edge, and the remaining property in landscape and garden. The 2-1/2 story frame Victorian (ca. 1352 sf) has a deep wrap-around porch with turned columns and side brackets. A small pediment serves to announce the location of the front door. There is a large bay on the east side for the dining room, and a large bay at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor facing the street. The broad eaves crown the 2<sup>nd</sup> story, while the attic pediment climbs above. The gable end has wood shingles, while the rest of the house is sided with wood clapboard. There is a 1-story rear addition off of the kitchen leading to the back yard.

There are two small outbuildings. One is the original garage, which has been renovated to serve as an architecture studio (190 sf). The other shed is more recent, and was built as a sauna and is now used for storage (144 sf). The existing driveway runs along the west edge of the property; the asphalt paving extends from the curb to the edge of the front steps.

Kin: plotion to approve rear additions · Coustmetion of Suest house; x defer laudscape · dive arm plan to Futire meeting. 6-1 (wat Kno apposed).

The property is screened with heavy vegetation along the west edge. Much of the property is open grass, but there are several mature trees including several hollies on the east side of the house, as well as a mature cherry at the rear east corner.

### **PROPOSAL**

The applicant proposes to remove the existing rear addition, and remove the existing driveway. New construction would include a new rear addition; a small cottage/guest house/studio on the property to the east of the original Victorian; and, installation of new sitework, including a new driveway with off-street parking, and extensive new landscape material.

The new rear addition has been slightly modified since the Preliminary consultation to include additional 2<sup>nd</sup> story space above the new sun room. The proposal for the extension of the wrap-around porch has been deleted, so that the original porch stops at the side entrance (the old dining room, now to be an entry hall), and new stairs are added which lead out to the east yard. The small porch extension in front of the dining room will be removed. In addition, the 1-story portion of the rear addition will be brought out to the line of the front porch, with many windows along this side (see Circle ).

The HPC did not see a west elevation in the Preliminary Consultation, and this is present now. Staff notes that a window which is shown on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor plan does not appear on the west elevation, and this needs clarification. In addition, the 2<sup>nd</sup> story portion of this rear addition has no windows proposed, although the massing is complementary to the original house. The plan indicates extensive closet space and a shower along this west wall. There does appear to be an opportunity for a window at the entrance to the Dressing Room, and this should be discussed. This elevation is well out of view from the public right-of-way, and this may be acceptable.

The design of the small cottage has been modified slightly, The plan has been flipped, so that the bay window faces to the west. The porch columns have been simplified. The HPC had some concern about the use of a full-width front porch on this cottage. The applicant felt that this was an important feature, but moved the proposed new building further back on the site to make it less prominent. The old sauna/storage shed would be moved from the center of the back property line to the NE corner.

The third aspect of the project is to remove the existing driveway on the west side of the house, and install a new driveway with off-street parking on the east side of the property. One of the two mature hollies in this side yard would be removed to make room for the driveway. The existing holly which will remain is the larger of the two, and, in conjunction with an existing cherry, will help screen the off-street parking area. Extensive plantings are proposed (see Circle ), and the applicant is working with a landscape architect to provide screening along the property's edges, as well as extensive landscaping at the front of the house. The applicant proposes to formalize the area of the rear yard which is currently used for outside dining with the installation of a new patio.

Landscaping includes the addition of stone landings at the side and rear steps, and the installation of stepping stones along the west side of the house to keep the sense of the original driveway.

Lot coverage was discussed at the Preliminary Consultation. The existing lot coverage was noted as 7.7%, of the 21,875 sf property. The new work proposed at the Preliminary resulted in 14.4% lot coverage. The project now has 15% lot coverage. This calculation includes the existing from porch, but coes not include the new paving for the driveway and parking, or for the new patio and landings at the steps. The new parking area is 28' x 34', to provide parking for three cars. The driveway is 10' wide, and includes a stub for either a turn-arcund or for additional parking. The paving will be tar and chip, with stone steps leading up to the stone terrace by the side entrance.

# **STAFF DISCUSSION**

This project is viewed by staff as changes and alterations to an existing historic property. The Vision of Kensington ("Vision Pian") has been used as guidance, as it provides an overview of the character defining elements of the Town. Staff notes, however, that the recommendations regarding let coverage for new construction in the Vision Plan were directed (see Circle ) to wholky new construction of a new family home on an individual property. In other words, the Vision Plan addressed the potential for increased density in the historic district. The applicants, in this particular project, are treating their property as a unity. They are building additional room for their family, rather than additional room, for a distinct family. The difference, in staff's opinion, is that the sense of space which has been historically associated with this Victorian house will remain as a single, intact entity.

## CURRENT LOT COVERAGE

Property	21,875 sf	
Existing house footprint	1,332 sf	;
Original garage	188 sf	
Storage shed	165 sf	
Total: 1.68	<u>st</u>	Lot coverage: 7.7%

# <u>NEW PROPOSAL</u>

Proposed new footprint:		2095 sf	(house and perch)
New Office/guest quarters	<u>.</u>	837 sf	• •
Original garage		188 sf	
Storage shed		165 sf	•

Total 3.285 sf. Lat coverage: 15.1%

The applicant proposes to double the lot coverage with the new construction. The sexisting lot coverage is below the average lot coverage for Primary Resources. The proposed lot coverage is above the average lot coverage for these Primary Resources, but well below the maximum lot coverage for Primary Resources. The proposed lot coverage is also below the average lot coverage for the entire district (see Circle.)

While this project will take this property from the low end to the middle range of Lot Coverage, staff feels that the overall project supports the historic development pattern in the district. Of primary importance, in staff's opinion, is that the proposal will retain the unity of property which is a character-defining element of the district.

The proposed new cottage has been moved as far to the back of the property as will be permitted by the county. It is subsidiary to the main structure in terms of size, height, scale and massing and, design. It will be built with compatible materials (wood siding, wood windows), and the simplified design of the columns also helps to emphasize the secondary nature of the building. Secondary buildings occur throughout the historic district, and range in size from a large barn to small sheds.

While HCP staff has commented on the extensive new paving to this applicant, and has typically brought this to applicants' attention on other projects, this is not typically included in the lot coverage calculations. Nevertheless, staff would recommend that the paving be minimized to the maximum extent. Staff notes, however, that at this particular site, the parking will not be readily visible from the public right-of-way.

Overall, staff feels that this is a sensitive proposal which is respectful of the historic both the specific historic property and the historic district.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends, with the following Conditions, that the Commission find this proposal consistent with the purposes of Chapter 24A-8(b)2:

The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site, or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter;

and with Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation #2:

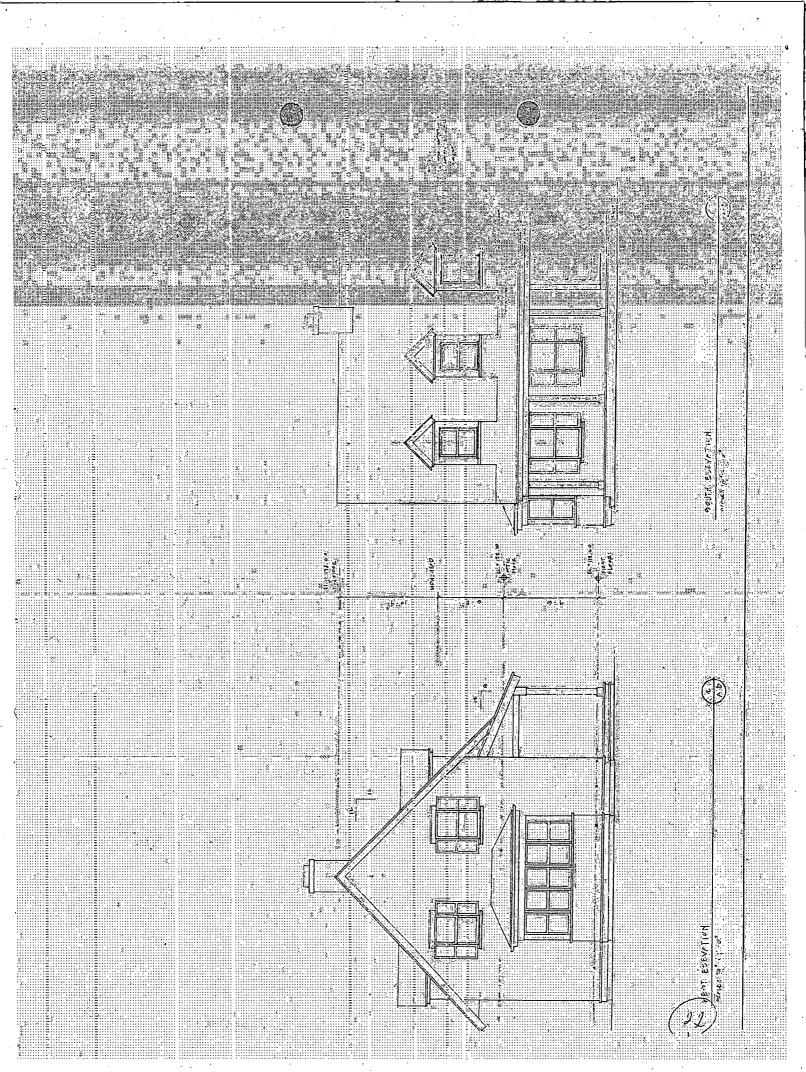
The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

and subject to the general condition that the applicant shall present 3 permit sets of drawings to HPC staff for review and stamping prior to submission for building permits (1 set for HPC files) and that, after issuance of the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) permit, the applicant arrange for a field inspection by calling the DPS Field Services Office at (301) 217-6240 prior to commencement of work and not more than two weeks following completion of work.

SOUTH ELEVASCALE 1/2 = 1/2

PROPOSED AT PRE-UM (NAME of the control of the cont

DIADASED



/ June 22, 2002 \

To the Chairman of the HPC,

We are neighbors of the Wilkes, writing in strong support of their current landscape plan, supplemental to their proposed renovation. We in no way believe that this plan, with its proposed drive and 3 car parking pad, will affect the suburban garden streetscape of our block. First, the car pad will not be visible from the street, and in that regard does not affect the flowing rhythm of their beautiful, sloped property. More specifically, it does not in any way add building mass or height that can be seen from the street. Second, their current drive, situated as it is in directly in front of their front staircase, is far less pleasing to the eye, and more obstructive to the flow of the streetscape than the proposed drive. Third, neighbors in this area have always had considerable discretion in how they choose to design their front, side and backyard area. Some have extended the paved area in in order to accommodate basketball hoops, others have torn up grass and planted perennial gardens and brick walks in its place, still others have torn up the perennial gardens they have inherited and reverted to grass. The yard area serves to meet individual family needs and preferences without affecting the overall massing on the lots and the overall Victorian garden suburb feel of the block.

As homeowners who appreciate the Victorian beauty of the block and are keen to preserve its heritage, we also are very much appreciative of the need? to create homes and inner and outer living areas that meet the needs of our families. We believe the Wilkes's plans are most respectful of the historic nature of the area and, in calling for a reconfiguration of the drive and parking area, will enhanced the presentation of their Victorian house and the overall streetscape.

Sincerely yours, NANCY Shorman

Namy Shorme 3927 Prospect St, Kensington min

Manhell Parm 3927 Prospect St, Kensington

Raulle Herich 3924 Rospect St, Kensington

CONA 1)

Jun-24-02 09:52A Sherman-Presser

3908 Prospect St.

Janut Jones 3908 Prospect St.

Janut Jones 3911 Prospect St.

Janut H. Sensenbal-WI 3911 Prospect St.

Userstine Blazeria 3918 Prospect St.

Lora Weisman 3926 Prospect Struck Kensington

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: 6/26/02 Address: BOLB Prospect Street

Applicant: Miles and Sandy Wilkes Report Date: 6 PART

Resource: Kensington Historic District Public Notice: 6/12/02

Review: **HAWP - REVISION** Tax Credit: No

District Number: #31/6-02K REV Staff: Robin D. Ziek

PROPOSAL: Remove existing drive and add new driveway; remove two mature hollies.

**RECOMMEND**: Approval with Conditions:

1. The applicant should reduce the paved parking area by using grasscrete (or equal) for the turn-around.

2. The applicant to work with staff to find a rustic paving material for the parking area.

The applicant came to the HPC on 10/10/01 for a Preliminary Consultation, and then returned on 5/8/02 for a HAWP. At that meeting, the HPC approved the application with the condition that the applicant provide a more developed landscape plan, including the driveway and parking plan. Several commissioners expressed concern about the amount of proposed paving.

RESOURCE: Primary

STYLE: Queen Anne

DATE: 1905

The subject property consists of 2.5 platted lots (21,875 sf), with the house on the lot on the west edge, and the remaining property in lawn and garden. The 2-1/2 story frame Victorian (ca. 1352 sf) is sited at the west edge of the property. There are also two small outbuildings at the rear of the property, including the original garage, which has been renovated for an architecture studio (190 sf); and, a shed that was built as a sauna and is now used for storage (144 sf). The existing driveway runs along the west edge of the property; the asphalt paving extends from the curb to the edge of the front steps.

The property is heavily screened with trees and shrubs along the street edge. Approximately 70' back from the edge of the sidewalk, the property opens up to a grassy lawn. Topographically, the site is higher than the sidewalk, and the back yard is very private.

#### **PROPOSAL**

The applicant proposes to remove the existing driveway in the front of the house, and replace the existing concrete sidewalk and steps with brick. The west edge of the property will be landscaped with low shrubs and lawn to frame the front entrance to the house.

The new driveway will be located approximately where today there is a grassy path between existing trees and shrubs. The new driveway would curve through the front landscaping to a new parking area located where there is now existing open lawn. The south edge of the parking area (30' wide, to provide space for three cars) would be edged with a stone retaining wall (no height specified) and stone steps on the west edge. These step up to a narrow flagstone walk which leads to the side porch steps (see Circle /0).

The new landscape plan calls for extensive plantings in the back yard where there is now open lawn. The back property line will be edged with trees and shrubs. The new Studio/Guest House will be edged almost all around with extensive plantings. The applicant has reduced the amount of flagstone paving at the east side of the Studio/Guest House porch, but retained the flagstone walk link from the side porch steps to the new Studio/Guest House, to the new patio space at the rearm, and to the original Garage in the NW corner of the property. This flagstone walkway will be landscaped with trees and shrubs.

The applicant has also removed from the proposal a new exterior stair on the west side of the house, as well as some flagstone paving along the east side of the Garage. Additional planting material has been provided along the east side of the proposed new driveway, with a mix of trees and shrubs. This will help screen the parking area from the neighboring house. Additional planting material has also been proposed by the large Holly to deepen the vegetative buffer for the parking, as viewed from the public right-of-way. Finally, additional planting is also suggested along the edge of the stone steps to soften the west edge of the parking area as viewed from the house and porch.

The new parking area measures approximately 28° x 34°, and provides parking for three cars. The driveway is 10° wide, and includes a stub for a turn-around. The applicant has considered tar and chip paving, but as this may not be the most environmentally "friendly" paving, the material specification is pending.

#### STAFF DISCUSSION

This proposal is a hybrid, where the applicant seeks to accommodate family spatial needs while preserving the integrity of both the historic house and the historic district. Typically, the HPC would review a proposal for a large addition to the historic house; or, the HPC would review an application for a new house on a side lot. This proposal is a hybrid, because it has a small addition and a small new structure, all within a clearly defined hierarchy of primary residence to outbuilding. In the past, the HPC has been successful in establishing a greater setback for new infill construction, but never to the position of an outbuilding. This project clearly defines the new Studio/Guest House as an outbuilding with the maximum setback allowed by zoning, and an architectural design which is subsidiary to that of the house.

The remainder of the project has been conceived as landscaping, with both hardscape and greenscape. The view from the public right-of-way has been emphasized and controlled. The

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privacy of the backyard has been maintained, while the garden aspect from the public sidewalk has been reinforced with additional plantings, softer materials (brick for the front walk), and a driveway with a picturesque curve.

The HPC has expressed concern with the shear amount of on-site parking proposed. Staff notes that paving has never been included in any calculations for lot coverage, and staff has not included that type of analysis here. On the other hand, driveways have always been discussed in terms of the impact on the potential garden space for the neighbors and the overall district. Staff notes that the parking area would be located in an area that is currently open lawn, and which is not visible from the public right-of-way. One small (and unhealthy) dogwood will be removed, while 11 new trees will be planted in and around the parking area (see Circle /o). In terms of run-off, the applicant could grade the parking area so the run-off drains to a planted area on the property, thus promoting natural filtering of the run-off rather than adding more into the city sewer system.

The applicant could also reduce the apparent parking area by using a material that is 50% paving and 50% grass, perhaps for the turn-around space. This has been used with varying success at other sites, and would increase the apparent amount of lawn as viewed from the applicant's house.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends, with the following Conditions, that the Commission find this proposal consistent with the purposes of Chapter 24A-8(b)2:

The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site, or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter;

and with Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation #2:

The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

#### **CONDITIONS:**

- 1. The applicant should reduce the paved parking area by using grasscrete (or equal) for the turn-around.
- 2. The applicant to work with staff to find a rustic paving material for the parking area.

and subject to the general condition that the applicant shall present 3 permit sets of drawings to HPC staff for review and stamping prior to submission for building permits (1 set for HPC files) and that, after issuance of the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) permit, the applicant arrange for a field inspection by calling the DPS Field Services Office at (301) 217-6240 prior to commencement of work and not more than two weeks following completion of work.

•	MN	0	$\circ$
THE	MARYLA	ND-NATIONAL	CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION 8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760
			July 16, 2002
	MEMORAN	<u>IDUM</u>	

TO:

Robert Hubbard, Director

Department of Permitting Services

FROM:

Gwen Wright, Coordinator CHistoric Preservation

SUBJECT:

Historic Area Work Permit 31/6-02A

**#275095 REVISION** 

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission has reviewed the attached application for a Historic Area Work Permit. This application was:

	Approved	Denied	. <u>X</u>	Approved with Conditions
--	----------	--------	------------	--------------------------

1. The applicant will work with staff to find a rustic paving material for the parking area. An appropriate material for the turn-around could be the same as the rest of the paving, or different.

and subject to the general conditions that 1) HPC Staff will review and stamp the construction drawings prior to the applicant's applying for a building permit with DPS; and 2) after issuance of Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) permit, applicant to arrange for a field inspection by calling the DPS Field Services Office at (301) 217-6240 prior to commencement of work and not more than two weeks following completion of work.

THE BUILDING PERMIT FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE ISSUED CONDITIONAL UPON ADHERENCE TO THE APPROVED HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT (HAWP).

Applicant:

Helen and Sandy Wilkes

3923 Prospect Street Kensington, MD 20895 1

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#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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24 25 HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMITS

A hearing in the above-entitled matter was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2002, commencing at 7:40 p.m., at the MRO Auditorium, 2787 Georgia Averue, Silver Spring, Maryland, before:

# STEVEN L. SPURLOCK Chairman

JULIA O'MALLEY
LYNNE B. WATKINS
STEVEN BRESLIN
NANCY LESSER
DOUGLAS HARBIT
Board Members

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just keeping it grass. But you know, the reality is that we 1 would be backing into grass, and I don't know. 2 3 MS. O'MALLEY: Or just backing down to the street. That will get them really good at driving. 4 5 MS. WILKES: I don't think I want to do that. MS. O'MALLEY: That's how we do ours. 6 7 MS. WILKES: I know. And I'm terrible with the driveway actually. And I think I ran over one of your flashy 8 9 light --MR. SPURLOCK: Children --10 MS. WILKES: No, I don't want to do that. 11 you know, why design it that way when you can design it so 12 that, you know, why design accidents in. 13 14 MS. O'MALLEY: Well then you would have less 15 impervious material. MS. WILKES: Right, right. Well, I appreciate the 16 17 intent. MS. WILLIAMS: There is also the benefit of having 18 19 on street parking to slow traffic down, you know, street. There's always that as an issue. I mean I'm not opposed to 20 on street parking. 21 MS. WILKES: Oh, I'm not either, but it's, you 22 know, again, we're facing the reality of having teenage 23 children coming and going late at night. 24 It's awfully nice to be able to bring them into the fold, so to speak, if we 25

can do it, so. But I can understand, you know, what we're talking about here is balancing our needs with the garden setting.

MR. BRESLIN: Well, as far as that goes, the garden setting, in addition to the parking, you've quite a bit of patio space. It seems a couple of hundred feet of patio space and walkway space. And I think that just makes a lot coverage situation worse.

MS. WILKES: Right.

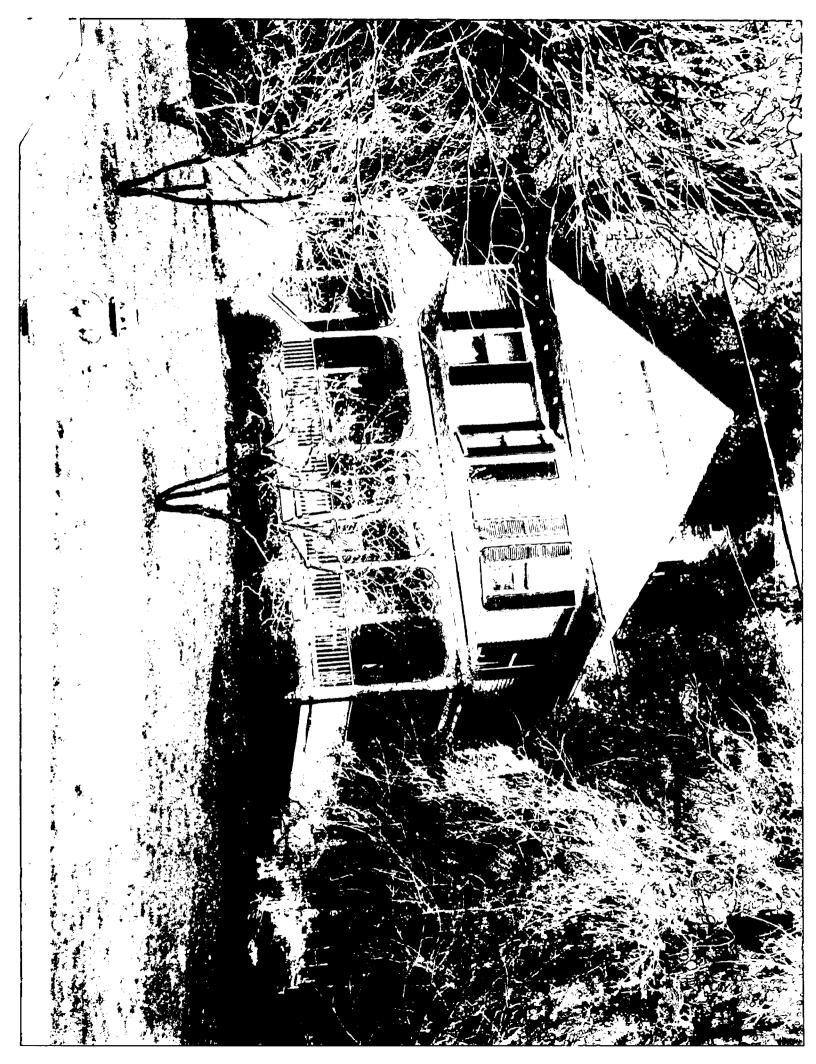
MR. BRESLIN: And offhand it seems like the compounds have multiple outbuildings plus couple hundred feet of patio space, plus a very large parking area.

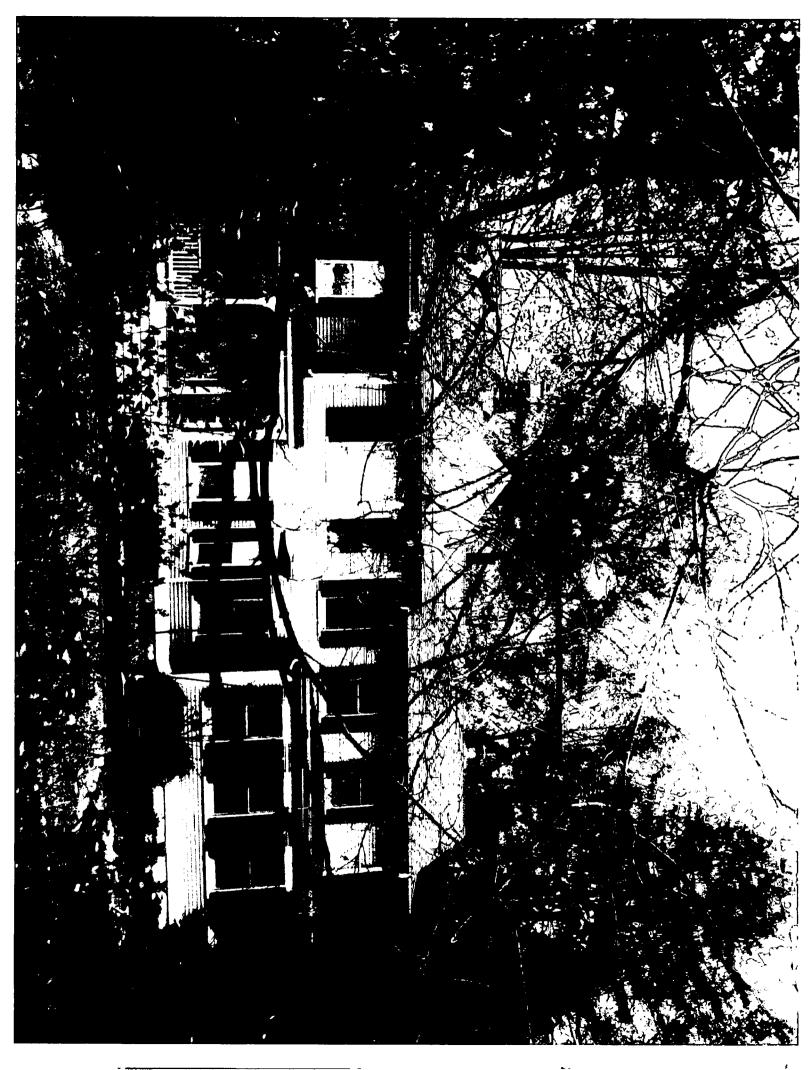
MS. WILKES: Sure.

MR. BRESLIN: And I think your lot is large enough to absorb an awful lot of this, but all those things in total, I think it's close to being overwhelming.

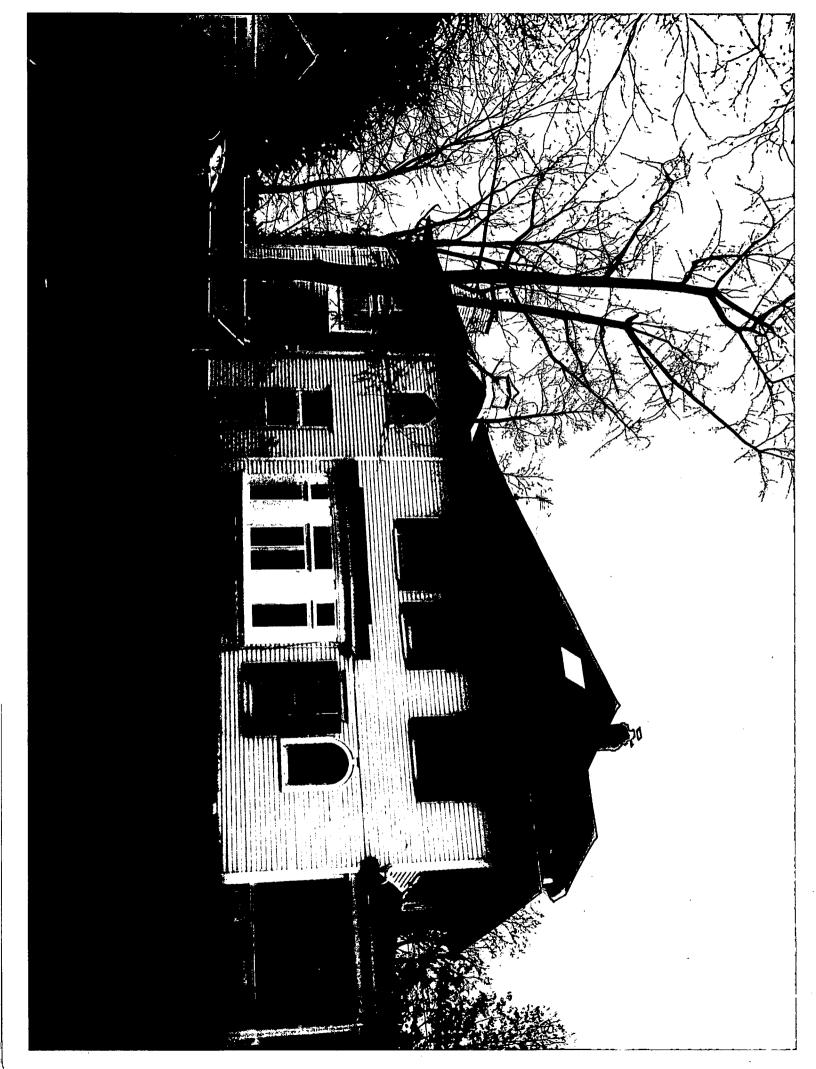
MS. WILKES: Well, I have talked with the landscape architect about reducing the stepping stone aspects. I do want to have the patio out back because in reality, we've been using, I've wanted an outdoor room for many years. We just haven't done it. And so that's important in terms of a priority. And then I suppose that we can reduce the number of pavers and connections.

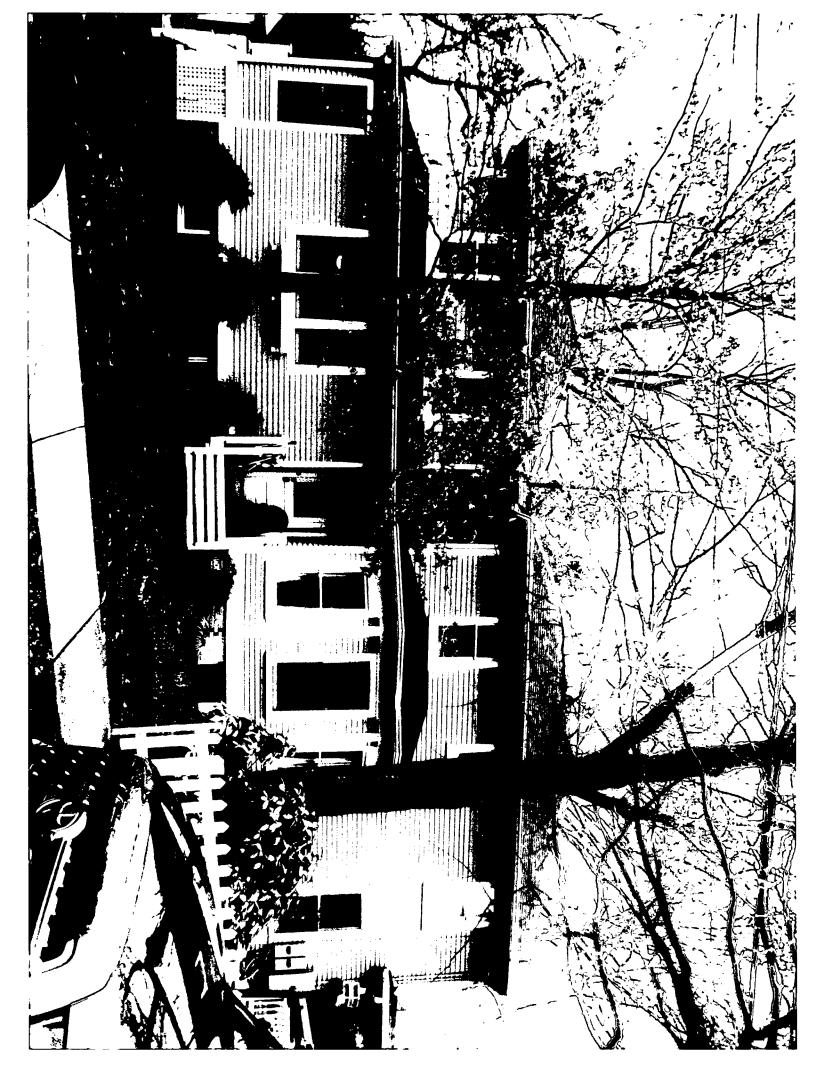
MR. BRESLIN: And it's also a patio on the east side of the parking area?

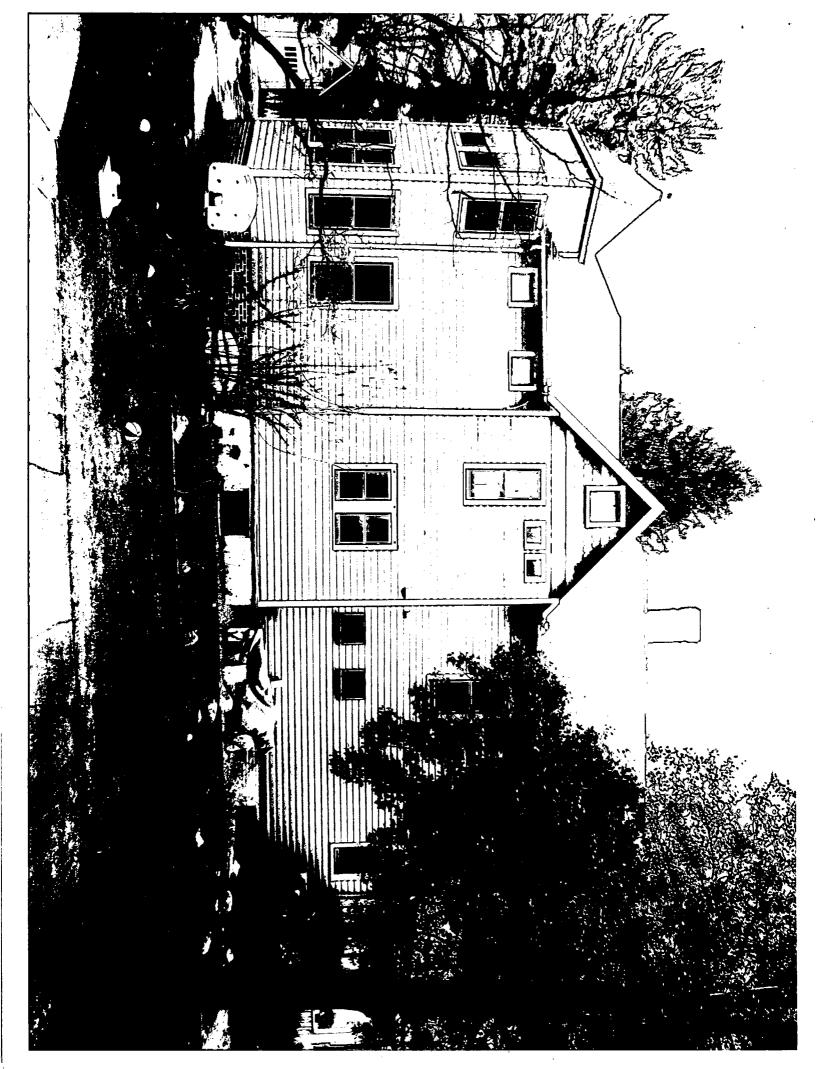








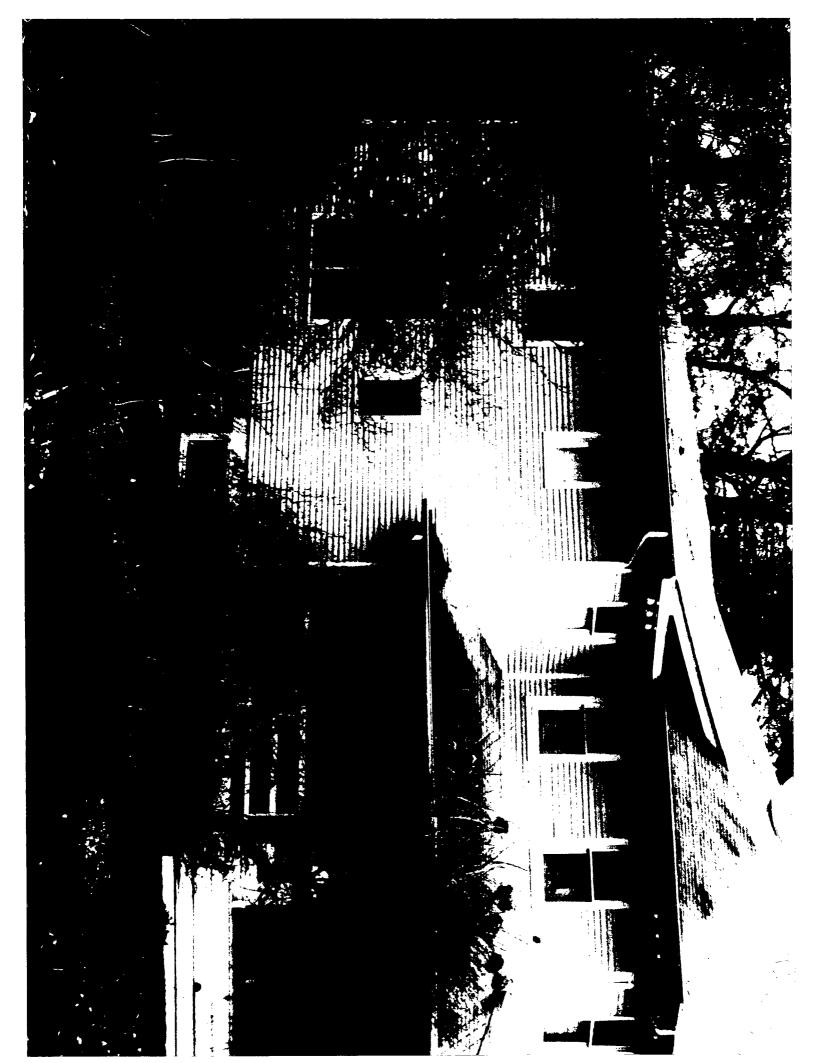
















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