_31/6-93 0 10415 Armory Avenue Kensington Historic bistrict Mr. John Robinson Kensington Historical Society 9616 Old Spring Road Kensington, MD 20895

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Enclosed are two copies of the verbatim transcript of the George Myers case heard by the HPC on October 27, 1993. As we discussed last week, Mr. Myers has not yet revised his drawings to reflect the conditions imposed by the HPC. As a result, the (still conditionally) approved HAWP has not been sent to the Department of Environmental Protection for issuance.

I have received a copy of your appeal from the Board of Appeals and note that we are scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 1994, at 2:30. I trust that you feel you have sufficient time to prepare your case. When Mr. Myers revises his plans, I'll send you a copy, although the final approved plans should be fairly easy to visualize in the interim since the conditions are so specific.

In the meantime, please call if you have questions about the BOA proceedings or other matters.

Sincerely,

Nancy Witherell

December 6, 1993

Historic Preservation

Planner

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING

Wednesday, October 27, 1993

PRESENT:

Albert Randall, Chairman
Joseph Brenneman, Commissioner
Walter Booth, Commissioner
Gregg Clemmer, Commissioner
Ellen Pratt Harris, Commissioner
George Kousoulas, Commissioner
Martha Lanigan, Commissioner
Ken Norkin, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Gwen Marcus, Historic Preservation Coordinator Patricia Parker, Staff Nancy Witherell, Staff

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1 I'll be happy to make a motion. MS. HARRIS: Ι 2 move that HPC Case 37/3-93HH for L. Steinberg and P. Weiss at 7407 Baltimore Avenue in the Takoma Park 3 Historic District be approved for the reasons stated in 4 the staff report. 5 MR. RANDALL: Second? 6 MR. NORKIN: 7 Second. 8 MR. RANDALL: There is a second. discussion on the motion? 9 10 (No response) MR. RANDALL: There being no discussion on the 11 12 motion, I close the public record. Those in favor of the motion as read, please signify by raising your hand. 13 14 (Vote taken) MR. RANDALL: The motion carries unanimously. 15 16 I thank you very much. 17 MS. STEINBERG: Thank you. MR. RANDALL: I see we have got a full slate 18 here from Kensington. What I would like to do, since 19 20 we've been closeted since 7:00, is to take a five-minute 21 break because this ain't going to be fast. So we'll be 22 back in five minutes. 23 (Brief recess) 24 MR. RANDALL: Let's proceed with the Historic 25 Area Work Permit agenda. The last item on the agenda is

Item J. Could we have the staff report, please?

MS. WITHERELL: This is a primary resource in the Kensington Historic District. It's a transitional Queen Anne style house dating to around the turn of the century. It was the subject of a preliminary consultation before the Commission on September 22nd. There were five members present at that consultation.

The applicant has returned now for an Historic Area Work Permit, and the proposal is to build a very substantial addition, two-story addition at the rear of the house.

I'm standing across the street now, across Armory Avenue, and I'll show these slides which will circle around to the left around the house.

You will note that although it is a primary resource it does have later resources and non-contributing resources around it. It also is on a lot that right now is very green and is very visible.

Here's the view from the front. It's currently being used as an architect's office, and the applicant is the architect. And he wishes to expand to add residential living space in the property. However, it would be reviewed -- it's in the OM zoning, which is moderate density office zoning, and would be reviewed, if it were expanded, under those criteria.

Here's a view just to the north, looking up toward Howard. And then a view of the north elevation of the property. It's largely unaltered except for the application of the later asbestos shingles, which the applicant has stated in his application he would remove.

Here's the backyard. To the left is the Worcester Shop brick wall, and then to the rear are small garden apartments on Fawcett. This is a view to the south. It's of the church, St. Paul's Methodist Church and the parking lot for the church immediately adjacent on the south of this property.

And that's a dark slide. I'm standing in the rear of the yard shooting across the street. Across the street directly is a loading dock area for a grocery store, and then that large building is the union building.

And then here's a view, the southeast corner of the house is just visible on the left, and I'm shooting toward the rear of the yard, showing the plantings and the green space back there. The applicant has filed to have parking go in, and that's one of the issues that would come up during subsequent reviews of this property.

And then just a last shot from the St. Paul parking lot. The addition would extend behind this existing house. Here's another view.

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The application is fairly similar to what was presented at the preliminary consultation, although in comparing the two proposals you'll note that I've attached the September staff report and application behind the current one. It starts after page 18.

In the earlier plan there was a rounded tower projection off the southeast corner. That's been moved around. There's been a slight reconfiguration of the footprint. There's been apparently some reduction in the square footage, although I'm not sure that you were counting the porches the same on both plans. And perhaps you can clarify that.

And the other part of the application concerned a reduction on paper of the number of parking spaces.

This was the subject of a schematic development plan that went through in 1991 and actually was reviewed by the HPC in February of '91. I've put at your places a letter concerning that review.

At that time the zoning was changed from residential to the office, moderate density office, and HPC was generally supportive of that, understanding that any alterations to the exterior would come back for review. At that time a 650 square foot addition was proposed.

Thee applicant now is coming to you first for

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design input. And if he chooses to proceed, he would have to apply for an amendment to the schematic development plan and it would go before the Zoning Hearing Examiner and would require legislative approval and then would go to Site Plan process.

So, again, you're reviewing some of this now, but there are other features of the proposal if the applicant were to prove successful at subsequent stages where you would need to review parking and other types of site issues.

George, you may at some point want to discuss the parking situation and all of that.

Let me go ahead and talk a little bit further about the proposal. As staff, I recommended against an addition of this size at our first preliminary consultation. And the sentiment on the Commission was fairly unanimous that the context here has been altered. Two Commissioners stated that they still were concerned about the size. Others expressed no objection.

The difficulty for staff is that this is listed as a primary resource, and I hesitate to recommend or suggest anything that would go against a designation, you know, done formally through an amendment process. This was designated as a primary resource.

However, part of my decision to go ahead and

support the position of the HPC during the preliminary consultation is that the context has been so altered here, and recognizing that the design overall is designed to be integrated with the property.

You will notice that the Secretary's standards that I cited are the ones calling for reversibility and so forth, stating that the -- I think I stated Standards 9 and 10. It doesn't destroy historic material and it can be reversible if necessary.

I found that in general, given that this is a primary resource, it's hard to say that this addition is compatible, even though it's designed similarly, just because of the scale. The change in scale really changes the character of this house as a historic structure.

However, if -- you know, the applicant is here to get input tonight from you and, hopefully, a HAWP vote, and then will make a decision on whether to proceed further with his amendment through the zoning process.

So based on the discussion at the last meeting, I've recommended approval of his project.

MR. RANDALL: Let me ask staff one question and it's one I try out every several meetings, which is that with this particular structure and with the proposed addition, if it came before us in the first instance would I be seeing in a staff report language that, "no,

it probably ought not to be put on the Master Plan 1 because it has been 'substantially altered'"? 2 MS. WITHERELL: Are you referring to this as 3 part of the historic district or as an individual 5 resource? Because that's the distinction that I have tried to make. 6 MR. RANDALL: Let's look at it as an individual 7 resource. 8 MS. WITHERELL: With an addition of that size, 9 10 I would say not. 11 MR. RANDALL: It would not be substantial alteration? 12 MS. WITHERELL: I would say that it would not, 13 should not be designated; that it would be a substantial 14 alteration if it were to be filed as an individual site. 15 16 And as Gwen is mentioning, you -- I mean, I'm not sure that you would be looking at it as an individual site. 17 18 Now, as a structure within the historic 19 district, it's a different issue. 20 MS. MARCUS: Yes. I think we have to look at this as a structure within the district. If this had 21 been a house just sitting in Germantown or just sitting 22 somewhere without the addition that is being proposed 23 this evening, I don't know if it would meet the standard 24

as an individual landmark on the Master Plan for Historic

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Preservation.

I think it is important, and its significance comes as part of the Kensington Historic District and it certainly is of the period of major historical significance of the district and it is an architecturally contributing structure to the district.

But I do think that -- so I guess the question really is, if this addition had existed on this building when the Kensington Historic District was being designated, would this addition have made this a secondary structure instead of a primary structure, or would it have been excluded from the district entirely because of the addition.

My sense is no, that it would not have been excluded from the district entirely because of the addition, but it probably — if this size addition had been preexisting before the district, it probably wouldn't have been a primary resource either.

MR. RANDALL: Okay. I still want to -- and I understand the point you make, but from my narrow thinking on it, a district is obviously made up of a variety of resources. But at the point at which all or many of those resources might have had something that one calls substantial alteration, it probably doesn't become a district.

And what that kind of suggests to me, kind of backing into the thing, is that when conceivably dramatic changes occur to a structure, that maybe then does have a potentially significant impact on what's around it.

Because if you look at the aggregate, and if you've done it to a variety of those as we've seen in some other initially recommended districts that never got to the point of being districts, substantial alteration to a number of the structures resulted in that.

Okay, but I -- we need to proceed. Any other questions of staff?

MS. WITHERELL: The very last page of the packet you'll see the historic district map. You have other letters at your place as well. I mentioned on the record a letter from St. Paul's Church supporting the project; a letter from the Town of Kensington supporting the project. And then that memo that I referred to, the 1991 memo.

MR. RANDALL: Any other questions of staff? If not, if the applicant would come forward, please, identify yourself for the record, and you may have up to seven minutes to make whatever statement you'd like.

MR. MYERS: My name is George Myers, the applicant on the project.

With regard to what you were talking about with
the -- it seems apparent to me that this structure -we're here because it's part of the historic district.

And I think probably -- I certainly don't think that this
house alone, if it were not -- if it were standing out
somewhere as you said, I don't think it would be a
historic landmark.

It's historic because it's part of the district. However, if you've been on that street, I think you'd be hard pressed to see that that's part of a historic district at this point since it's so radically changed.

There's no other houses like that on that block. Across the street is a Safeway and a tall office building and small commercial structures. So what I'm saying is I think this house was designated as historic because it was part of a number of Victorian structures, and at this point it's really not -- it doesn't seem or appear in any way like it's part of a street of Victorian structures.

If it were down the street where it is part, I wouldn't be here before you because I wouldn't think it's right to add onto this. But at this point, the historic district around it, it really doesn't exist, is what I'm saying. The reason for this being historic really

1 does

doesn't exist anymore as far as that street is concerned.

But in any case, just to explain the process of this -- the addition, the addition basically is -- the goal of it was twofold. Phase 1, as you'll see in your packet, was to be able to -- is going to be for living space. And you'll see that the Site Plan only shows a few parking spaces because the plan is I will live in the back part of the house with my family and the front part will remain my office.

At this point, we're very tight on our office space, so it may be sort of combined and the office may expand. The front building is really only 1500 square feet of usable space. It's really quite small.

The second part of -- Phase 2 will be expansion into office space at some point. This could happen two years from now, it could happen in ten years from now. With any luck at all, I could make a profitable business and stay exactly that size and live and work in Kensington indefinitely, which would be great for me. That's what I'd like to do. That's really what I would like to see happen.

So as far as the size of it goes, it's really basically designed around -- I mean the back part of the building is about 2000 square feet of living space, which is a moderate size house. I wouldn't say it's a mansion

or anything. I don't think it's over-sized.

It also would explain the design which has sort of a duplex look, both to accommodate the staff opinion that the original building be clearly distinguishable.

And there's just a couple other points I would just like to make. This house -- I would hope it's not looked on as a precedent, because it clearly is unique. There's not another house like this in the Kensington district zoned office, zoned commercial. There's not another house like it surrounded by the high level of commercial that it is.

It's not the kind of place that will ever be probably used as a residential structure again, except probably for someone -- I mean, it's unique to me at this point because I don't see anybody buying this house because of the commercial nature of the street.

It shouldn't be regarded as a precedent that if you let me do this that, you know, the other houses back on the next street over or in the historic district would do it because this is totally different. Those are residential zones, those are part of a number of residential structures which make a street, which together make a district.

This is out sitting by itself. Maybe at one time it was part of -- it looked like -- before these

now the context has changed so dramatically it's easily the smallest structure there on that street.

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The other thing is that what I'm proposing to do in terms of square footage on the site is still less than half of what is allowed in that zone in terms of the square footage. I'm not asking for that. I'm not coming in here proposing to build something five stories tall, which technically is something you could ask for. I'm still way below what the zoning has allowed.

I know there's other processes you have to go through, but I don't think it's appropriate. I think what I'm doing is appropriate.

There also is some precedent for -- even back in the historic district of not only houses of this size but additions of this size. The yellow house on the corner, for example, is about the comparable square footage, the one on the circle there. I think it's on Fawcett.

One other thing that I do want to make a point to the people who are going to come up and speak against me here, is that unlike some other people in Kensington who have tried to come in and take some smaller lots and divide them up and make big houses there to make money, this is not about money at all. This is really about my

desire to live and work and stay in Kensington and what it will take in terms of square footage for that to happen.

That's really why I'm here. The fact of the matter is if I can't really add onto this building in a significant way, unfortunately I'm going to end up having to move because my office is already -- it's a very small amount of office space.

I don't want that to happen. I want to be able to stay here. I want to do it in an appropriate way, but I want the project and this property to change its use and still be part of the character of Kensington. I don't want to change it. I just want -- the use has changed.

Everybody should acknowledge that it's not a house anymore. It deserves to be a bigger Victorian structure because it's a commercial use now, it's an office use now. If it ends up looking like an office kind of office park or something, well, it's maybe not that bad because that's really what the use is now and it needs to change.

MR. RANDALL: We have a number of speakers.

You may have some initial questions for the applicant.

My presumption is that the applicant will be visiting again with us in a few minutes after we hear the other

1 witnesses from Kensington. So you can either proceed with some questions, or if you want to hold them until 2 after we've heard the other observations from the other 3 folks in Kensington, we can do that as well. 4 Any questions, or do you want to hold off on 5 6 it? 7 (No response) MR. RANDALL: All right. Let me suggest then, 8 Mr. Myers, that we bring forth the other individuals, if 9 10 you can remain available to come back in a few minutes. 11 Dr. Schulman, Ms. O'Malley, Mr. O'Malley, and Ms. Wagner, if I can ask you all to come up? I think 12 that's four. I see three seats. Maybe it's possible to 13 14 grab another one. And if you can identify yourself for the record. 15 And, Dr. Schulman, representing the LAP, if you 16 could kick things off, you may have five minutes and the 17 others each may have three minutes to present whatever 18 19 views they'd like. 20 DR. SCHULMAN: My name is Ray Schulman, 21 Montgomery Avenue, Kensington. The property under consideration was rezoned in 22 23

1991 for limited office use with the restriction that the site would not be developed more intensely than indicated in a plan showing 650 square foot addition, including a

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deck; seven spaces for parking; and extensive plantings.

Mr. Myers now wants to double the approved square footage, have ten parking spaces, and omit plantings except for screening at the borders. This would require rezoning approval for more intensive use. He wants the opinion of the HPC before proceeding with the Zoning Board, which entails an expense.

Mr. Myers' house abuts that part of the Kensington business section which is entirely in the historic district. The house is a primary historic resource with a very pleasing Victorian design and is highly visible on three sides from Howard, Armory and Knolls Avenues. It heralds the character of areas immediately outside the commercial district and is an excellent transitional property.

were arrived at by lengthy and open processes, as was pointed out by the HPC staff. The proposed development does not show respect for the primary resource or surrounding open spaces. The north and south aspects of the existing house would be completely overwhelmed by the proposed equal size, mirror-image addition with ornamentation not characteristic of the original, making the structure look like a modern Victorian style apartment house.

Also, the proposed wrap-around porch would markedly change the west and south facades. Moreover, any open grounds would be converted to parking spaces and driveways, with all plantings removed except for screening at the edges.

The present proposal should not be approved for a number of reasons. First, the house is a primary historic resource and should be treated like any other historic house in Kensington. To my knowledge, highly visible additions of the proposed relative size have not been approved in Kensington.

Second, open spaces around a primary resource is a leading attribute of the Kensington Historic District. The proposed expanded structures would not only alter the streetscape by filling the lot but also would significantly obliterate the open view of trees and the sky when looking north or south on Armory.

Third, proximity to a commercial area has not by precedent been a reason to allow inappropriate changes to a primary historic resource. It is apparent on visiting the site that an enlarged three-story structure on its elevated lot would oppressively overshadow adjacent low-level properties and would detract from one of the most attractive commercial areas in town.

Fourth, limited development was part of the

Intensity of use as well as appearance are important considerations in preserving neighborhoods. Unless transitional properties like this are limited to a transitional degree of usage, further encroachment of commercial and residential zones can be anticipated. For example, why does the proposed plan show a possible connection to the next-door R60-zoned parking lot?

Finally, there are several confusing aspects of the application itself which may have led to unwarranted positive comments by the HPC staff. The footprint of additions in the plans submitted for consultation is actually not decreased in the present plan. It appears that a planned new porch is simply subtracted from the category of new structures and added to the category of existing structures.

Also, the patio, fewer parking spaces and more greenery, which the staff commended, is only a transitional plan which actually will be changed in the final form to add several more parking spaces, delete the patio, and remove the greenery.

To summarize, changes should be limited to the 1991 rezoning agreement. Thank you.

MR. RANDALL: Next?

MS. O'MALLEY: I'm Julie O'Malley, and I'm

reading a letter from Helen Wilkes for the Kensington Historical Society.

"Dear Members of the Historic Preservation

Commission, I am writing to express my opinion on behalf

of the Kensington Historical Society regarding the

proposed addition to 10415 Armory Avenue. The applicant

has proposed some changes to the existing house which are

laudable, notably the restoration of the original wood

siding and the treatment of detailing and the material in

general.

"The applicant has also shown some sensitivity to the compatibility of massing of the new addition. However, the proposed addition is disproportionately scaled, such that the primary resource is overshadowed, perhaps even overwhelmed by the new addition.

"The proposed addition reverses the appropriate relationship of a primary resource to its addition. That is, by overshadowing the original structure by virtue of its greater size, it detracts from the reading of that historic resource's primary.

"Because of the depth and breadth of the adjacent church parking lot, the proposed south facade would be highly visible and prominent and would, due to its greater size and forward-projecting massing, compete with the reading of the original house as a primary

resource. The addition should certainly be reduced to a size which defers appropriately to the original structure.

"In spite of its unique position as an 'isolated historic resource,' the house is still a primary resource, and the proposed addition should be denied in keeping with Section 24(a)(8) of the Historic Preservation Ordinance as the alteration would be inappropriate or inconsistent with or detrimental to the preservation enhancements or ultimate protection of the historic site or historic resource.

"Sincerely, Helen Wilkes, Historic Preservation
Chair."

And I would like to add that the rezoning of this property in 1991 was only agreed to after the Town Council was assured that it would have certain binding elements. The present owner did know this, about the zoning restrictions when he purchased the property. And yet already we're faced with a request to double the coverage which is presently permitted.

MR. O'MALLEY: I'm T.J. O'Malley. I've spoken to you before as the president of the Historical Society in Kensington. I've stepped down from that, so I'm just talking as a concerned citizen. A little bit of an annoyed citizen.

I sat in with a lot of contentious council meetings in Kensington while we hammered out the compromise to a -- that allowed this zoning change to take place. A lot of us were moved by the hardship of the previous owner. It is a difficult site. We all understand that.

The current owner has no claim for hardship.

Eyes were open and that deal had been hammered out.

We've run into that thing here like an earlier one where,

of course, the zoning is another issue that needs to be

set up. So let's talk about the history a little bit.

I'm concerned from reading about the preliminary hearing and what I've heard from the applicant about people underestimating the historicity of the commercial district of Kensington.

There's been a modest commercial district along the railroad since the B&O came through in 1873 and Kensington was still Knoll Station. Not the same buildings, of course, and they are modest little buildings there by and large. But the gas station and two of the buildings adjacent are both turn-of-thecentury buildings. That area does have some historic qualities.

It was a conscious decision through the proper procedures to place that in the historic district. And I

don't think we can make that go away. It still deserves that. And the context of that area, I mean, we may look at it now and we may see the Safeway and the Baker's Union, but that context was the same at the designation. That is known and I believe that we have to proceed on that basis.

In general, I echo the comments of the LAP.

The massing is simply too large for that. We are talking about swamping what is there. I agree with the staff's initial consideration which went along with that. This is simply too big. It does not respect the historical quality of that area and I ask that you reject the application.

Thank you.

MS. WAGNER: I'm Barbara Wagner, and I'm speaking as a private citizen. I live on Baltimore Street in Kensington.

I would just like to reiterate that when the HPC reviewed the change in zoning, it was with the understanding that the binding elements were in place. The thrust of our approval was that this would protect the resource because it would give it a viable life. It did not have a viable life as a residence. We thought that it would protect the structure to bring in a commercial activity. We were not in any way thinking

that the OM Maximums could be applied to this building.

I think that the whole proposal should be reviewed in the context of the existing commercial district. The buildings are small. They do not have a large mass. If this building has an addition as proposed, it could well be the largest building in that block.

The other thing to consider is that when we see tables that talk about the maximums allowed under the zone, all of the little small buildings that go back to the turn-of-the-century are zoned C2. Do we really want to set a precedent and have those owners in suggesting that their buildings are not of very much significance, that they should be able to go up?

I think it's a very dangerous precedent. I think that it needs to be rejected.

MR. RANDALL: Questions from the Commissioners?

MR. NORKIN: I'm curious to know whether this zoning consensus or agreement, compromise, whatever it was from several years ago, has the force of law, and is that a legal limit on development?

MS. WITHERELL: Yes. As it stands now, the most that can happen here is a 650 square foot addition. That was part of the limitations that were set when the zoning was changed from residential to office.

MR. NORKIN: And if that's --1 MS. WITHERELL: That's shown in your packet. 2 I'll look for the page number. 3 I'm going to address that. VOICE: MR. NORKIN: You're going to address that? 5 6 Well, maybe there's an application in for an appeal. But 7 if that's the limit --MS. MARCUS: I think what --8 9 MR. NORKIN: -- why do we have an application 10 out of conformance with the law? 11 MS. MARCUS: There would have to be a revision 12 to the schematic development plan. 13 MS. WITHERELL: An amendment. 14 MS. MARCUS: Yes. And I think what Nancy said, the reason the applicant is coming in now is to find out 15 16 bottom line if there's any chance from the HPC 17 perspective that he can do an addition of this size, and 18 if there is a chance then he'll proceed with the other amendments --19 20 MS. WITHERELL: With --21 MS. MARCUS: -- development plan. 22 MS. WITHERELL: This is on page 11 of the 23 packet. 24 MS. MARCUS: But I think as the applicant said --25

MS. WITHERELL: -- 1991 proposal. The hatch at the rear is the 650 square feet. It was approved under this agreement that everyone has referred to as negotiated.

MS. MARCUS: And I think as the applicant said, he's not going to pursue this if the HPC doesn't approve it

MR. RANDALL: Well, we're getting into a little bit of a chicken-and-egg thing here. And as Commissioner Booth mentioned earlier about the ripeness of us to be acting, we in theory would be approving something that we know not to be in accordance with law this evening.

We are where we are, but I would just like, off line from this discussion, to take a look at what our ability is to await the ripeness of some of these cases before we start spending a lot of people's time and effort on things that maybe aren't appropriately before

But let's put that aside for the moment. Well, Commissioner Booth, you were about to say something?

MR. BOOTH: Well, it's the same point I raised earlier. We have things that -- this is going to go in front of the Zoning Board. The earlier one had to go in front of the Board of Appeals and then had to get an agreement from DOT.

jurisdiction. it, it's not legally permissible. of issue. the HPC first is because --MR. RANDALL: We're cheaper. MR. BOOTH: I also don't want to see us

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I guess in law we call that whether the issue is actually ripe for us to rule on or not. And I had doubts about the other one and I have doubts about this I don't really know that it's within our

I guess the aesthetic qualities are certainly there, but is there really authority in our situation to review something, knowing that at the moment we review

MS. MARCUS: The same could be said of the Zoning Board. They could review a schematic development plan, and let's say they approved it, but it might not be permissible because the HPC might not issue an Historic Area Work Permit on it. So it is a chicken-and-egg kind

And I think the reason a lot of people come to

MS. MARCUS: We're cheaper, that's one. think some people consider it a bottom-line issue.

becoming a lever. You know, people going in front of this next board, which is actually -- the legal board is going to give them the authority or the building permit and saying, "Gee, I don't know why you're turning me

1 down. The HPC approved me." MS. WAGNER: The HPC did not approve the 650 2 square foot addition, and the Zoning Board did approve 3 the zoning change. MR. BOOTH: That's the Zoning Board for 5 Kensington? 6 7 MS. WAGNER: This is the Zoning Board of No. Montgomery County. 8 It's Montgomery County ---MS. MARCUS: 9 Kensington has no --MS. WAGNER: 10 -- Zoning Board. MS. MARCUS: 11 MS. WAGNER: -- authority. 12 MR. RANDALL: Well, again, we are where we are. 13 I would like to take this up in a broader context, and 14 15 maybe we need counsel here and so forth. So let's put a mental tick mark to get back to that. But any other 16 17 questions of this panel? 18 MS. HARRIS: I think we need a clarification on something Ms. Wagner just said. Did I hear you just say 19 that the 650 square foot addition was not approved? 20 21 that because it was never brought to us? 22 MS. WAGNER: It was never brought forward. That was set as the maximum size of any addition. 23 24 not a foregone conclusion that it could have a 650 square

foot addition. It would not ever have one that is larger

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MS. WITHERELL:

That's correct.

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MR. NORKIN: Well, I can see the situation then. You issue a HAWP and it's a standing approval to do something whether some later body approves or not.

I'm beginning to be swayed by our lawyerly opinion on the ripeness of the issue. And, yes, I realize that as staff said it's a chicken-or-egg situation, but the HPC unlike other bodies offers a preliminary consultation. I'm not aware that you can go before the Planning Board and get a sense from the Planning Board about whether you can rezone something.

consultation would suffice and provide someone whatever level of confidence, comfort or reassurance that they need to carry forward. And the applicant came before the HPC, and granted there were only five of us in attendance that night, and heard what a consensus was, or heard some members saying that what they saw that night was to their mind approvable or buildable. And you heard some, myself included, saying we'd like to see something smaller.

I'm not comfortable at all with an actual application brought before us to build something that is clearly not consistent with existing law, and if presented a motion I would vote against it on that basis alone, regardless of what I think about the design, because I think that what's being presented is legally

not buildable, and I have no reason to cast a vote for it.

MR. RANDALL: Other jail-house lawyers? Other comments?

MR. KOUSOULAS: Yes. I can appreciate all the procedure stuff that just happened. But I guess I'd like to cut a bit closer to this thing. And that is if this was surrounded by compatible fabric, maybe secondary resources, maybe a couple of other primary ones, but something that was compatible, more like the interior part of the district, we wouldn't be worrying so much about the neighbors first, but first we would start with the resource.

And I couldn't approve this addition on the resource, let alone what it might be doing to the neighbors. I mean, the resource itself would be harmed. If it was surrounded by modern buildings all around it the way the Withers House is in Bethesda, I still couldn't approve an addition like this.

It happens to be surrounded by something else, sort of a slightly mediocre parking lot, kind of it's not quite there. So there's a tendency to say, well, it's not going to hurt anything; it's kind of bad anyway, it's not going to hurt anything around it.

And I think that's kind of screwed up. It's

going to hurt the resource. And I don't care what the context for the resource looks like at this point. Maybe in the future it will get better because it's all subject to our review. But the resource just -- with this proposal gets changed dramatically. MR. RANDALL: Other Commissioners with observations? (No response) MR. RANDALL: Then why don't we ask the applicant to return. Than you very much, panel. Why don't you come back, and first of all we're provide you the opportunity to respond to issues you heard raised. MR. MYERS: One of the issues that they just spoke about was the fact that this agreement with the site was hammered out in a town council thing to limit it to the size that it is, you know, 1991 or whatever; and this is why this was like this. I'll remind you that the town council -there's a letter before you -- the town council voted on this Monday night and approved it. In effect, basically telling me that this is now fine with them. So they're not speaking for the town council at this point.

town council has approved exactly what you see before you

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in terms of the size.

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As far as the zoning issues, I've ben with preliminary -- had preliminary discussions with Zoning. The site is not a problem. The zoning issues are all whether or not I can provide parking setbacks, enough parking for the square footage of office, if it goes to office.

All of these things are not a problem and they're more like it's just -- they're easily solvable on the site as it is right now. And, in fact, what you see there has pretty much solved it. I have to get an exception for a one-way driveway. It's been indicated that that's okay. It shouldn't be that much of a problem considering that there's not that many spaces and it's not many people coming in and out of there.

As far as what you were saying in terms of why do I come here first, well, what we're hearing now is a perfect example, because if I had taken a preliminary discussion and said based on that, oh, well, it's going to be approved, which it looked like; it was very favorable and hopefully still is to a number of you, and taken that; and then you're talking about the serious commitment both financially and time-wise to go through the process, it basically is you just have to pay a big fee to the County Council to amend the schematic site plan. And then they kick it back to Zoning, and Zoning

works it out, and they kick it back.

obstacle first. That was really my feeling for it, because whatever the site plan says, it will be contingent on approval by Historic Preservation. So what's the point in getting the approval for this footprint of a building and parking and solving all that if the building itself will not be approved. I would have spent a lot of time and money for nothing. So that's where I'm coming from.

Some things that I find, you know, being an architect and being someone who does this for a living, and most of our work is residential additions, the one thing that I feel strongly about is any time you add onto a structure, you change it, any time you add onto it.

So to say that if I decrease the size of this structure by ten percent, by 15 percent, or even by 50 percent, it's going to change that structure in a big way. It may -- you know, there are examples in Kensington of buildings that have been added onto in very, very significant ways. Big additions.

Maybe it's not so much of an issue because, you know, a lot of it is in the back and that sort of thing.

But this is not the first time this has been done in Kensington. So I don't want that to be -- they were

sort of making it out to be like this was something out of left field.

As far as some of these other issues, for example, there are some inconsistencies. He says -- it's exactly the same height of the old building, everything matches. I'm going to improve the old building, I'm going to take off the asbestos siding. I'm going to make the investment to make that better.

I happen to disagree that this hurts the commercial district. I think it brings more business to the commercial district. The Kensington Town Council agreed with me. They want to encourage revitalization here, and they agreed with me, and I want that to be very clear, that the town council supported me.

Of course, you never -- normally the people who supported these things, as you well know, are the ones who usually come to these meetings. So I may wish I had gone around and gotten a petition to sign up who's for and against it. But just keep in mind it was the town council who was for it on this.

That's all I can say in refuting some of their claims.

MR. BRENNEMAN: What is the actual size of the house once you put the addition on?

MR. MYERS: The actual -- in terms of footprint

size, there's a sheet in there that MS. MARCUS: I think it's Circle 14. 2 I think the new one is -- well, one 3 MR. MYERS: 4 second, excuse me. I'll find it for you. We have a 5 table in here. It's page five. 6 MS. MARCUS: It is Circle 14 in your packet. 7 MR. MYERS: The existing building, the footprint is 1230. And I agree that it counts the new 8 side porch. If you take off the side porch, which is 9 about six feet wide by 30 feet, take 180 feet off. So 10 11 the existing building footprint probably is more like 1100. The addition is also 1180 square feet. So -- in 12 13 terms of footprint size. 14 So it's in effect doubling it, and I'm being creative with some square footage inside to get more 15 square footage. 16 So, again, I feel the thing is very compatible 17 and I wouldn't propose it if I didn't. I spent a lot of 18 19 time and worked with staff on a number of different 20 additions and tried to get the massing the way they've liked it. And that's why they've recommended approval. 21 22 MR. RANDALL: Okay. Other --23 MR. BRENNEMAN: So the gross floor space is 24 3500 square feet? 25 That's correct, of the entire

MR. MYERS:

MR. BRENNEMAN: Which is not a large home really, by today's standards.

MR. MYERS: I agree. I think what may be throwing people off is the fact that it's doubling the size. You forget that this is not a big structure. The square footage of this house is 1500 feet of usable footage in this house. It's two floors and then there's an attic and a basement, both of which are not usable in terms of living space.

MR. RANDALL: Then I guess it's in fact more than doubling the size. It's going to --

MR. MYERS: The footprint doesn't double. The square footage is more than doubled. The footprint doesn't.

MR. RANDALL: Other Commissioners?

MR. CLEMMER: Mr. Myers, how many parking spaces do you have on your property right now?

MR. MYERS: Right now all there is is the existing residential driveway, which is two cars back-to-back essentially.

MR. CLEMMER: And I look at Circle 12 and it says parking for three cars, and then I go to Circle 13 and there's parking for ten spaces. The question I have is, ultimately, how many parking spaces would you put on

this property or would you want to put on this property?

MR. MYERS: To be honest with you, I would -my intention is to live here in the back. And as far
as -- I'm putting three spaces there because the zoning
will require me to park three spaces for the existing
office space. Plus in that area it would be nice to have
off-street parking for three cars just for residential
use. I prefer just to have two cars.

MR. CLEMMER: What's the reason for the ten parking spaces on Circle --

MR. MYERS: The reason for ten parking spaces is if at some point in the future the whole structure becomes office, I will more than likely -- the zoning has indicated they want me to show as much parking as I can off street. In lieu of that, they also indicated that I could lease spaces off site, which --

MS. WITHERELL: I wanted to bring up that issue. I don't know if you feel prepared to discuss that.

I should mention that I spoke today with Dennis Canavan of our Zoning Office. And he said that if this plan were to be amended and were to be approved that the parking would have to be put in. Even though you're using it for residential, it has to be provided for any future use.

However, he also stated --

MR. MYERS: He told me that only when I went for the certificate of occupancy for the office permit, that's when I'd have to put all the space in.

MS. WITHERELL: And he also stated that it might be possible to use off-site space. Do you want to -- can you address that?

MR. MYERS: Yes. He indicated that I didn't, by zoning, have to exactly provide the parking on site for this office space if I leased or provided parking elsewhere. Currently, I have an arrangement with the church next door because nobody uses their lot Monday through Friday, and that's where we park. My three employees park in that lot.

I would prefer not to have to rely on other parking, but if that were a condition, if there's a big problem with the fact that there's so much paving on the site, I could live with finding — there's plenty of parking in the building across the street, with Safeway and the church where I can make arrangements. It's only a matter of four employees, and at tops would probably be about seven or eight for the entire building.

MR. RANDALL: Do any other Commissioners have concerns you'd like to get out there to shape the discussion? Not necessarily questions for the applicant.

I will go on record that I think the addition is excessively large, and I'm troubled as well by the chicken-and-egg thing. That wouldn't be -- the latter wouldn't be, to me, reason to vote against the application, but I've got some real problems with the huge size of that structure. I mean, doubling of any historic building is not something to be taken lightly.

MR. BOOTH: I'd like to add that I think

Commissioner Kousoulas made a nice point when he stated

that one thing we have to consider is that this is a

primary resource. It may have a parking lot sitting next

to it, but the house is still a primary resource in the

historic district.

Also, I thought some of the speakers also made interesting points when they discussed the fact that this business district is part of the historic district and it is a low scale. If not particularly an ornate or fancy business district, it is one of small scale and some older buildings.

One thing that this addition would do is would sort of almost cut off, because of it's very size, this business district from the rest of the district and almost create a wall.

I'd have to also agree with Commissioner
Randall, I just think it's too large. And that's not

even withstanding the points that I've raised and 1 Commissioner Norkin has raised as to whether in fact it's 2 ripe before us, whether we should be acting, period, and 3 whether we're actually voting on something that is theoretically or even practically illegal at this 5 particular juncture. 6 MR. RANDALL: Commissioner Lanigan? 7 MS. LANIGAN: I think the addition is very 8 large. However, I know in the past we've approved very 9 large additions. The reason I would be almost tempted to 10 go along with this is because I think it's going to be 11 very hard to find a good use for this property. I think 12 for -- I think a good use for the property is extremely 13 14 important. MR. RANDALL: Mr. Clemmer? 15 16 MS. LANIGAN: It's a hard one. 17 MR. RANDALL: I'm sorry. 18 MR. CLEMMER: Yes. This is another good old 19 Kensington tough nut to crack. I've dug my heels in as hard as I can dig on some of these properties, trying to 20 21 preserve the open space of Kensington because I think 22 that's one of its highest qualities. 23 You remember the property up at St. Paul and 24 Oberon where they were going to try to put a fairly large

house on that corner lot. It was a Juraselski or --

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correct me, staff. I don't know if that happened or not, but I lost on that one.

I don't think you should fill up these open spaces. And when I look down through Baltimore Street and Washington Street, I see other battles that we fought, and we've kept houses from going in on some of these "buildable" lots.

But when I look at the geographical location of this property, it is isolated. It's a primary resource, but it's isolated, and it's in a sea of commercial property. And I look next door at the church president's letter, and instead of seeing a wall, like Commissioner Booth says, he sees a buffer from that. And he doesn't use the word "unsightly," but I will. From the unsightly commercial development in the so-called historic commercial district there, which consists I think of a 1930s gas station and one other structure.

VOICE: 1900.

MR. CLEMMER: Thank you. A modified 1900s gas station. But I don't see a wall there, I do see a buffer. And that might be somewhat different from the way I normally would come down on this, but it's an isolated property. It's not down in the heart of the historic district, which is residential, it's open space.

The open space here is essentially long

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compromised. I sort of lean with Commissioner Lanigan on this one.

MR. BRENNEMAN: I would like to say, too, I think if it was being up for demolition I would be against it, very much against it. The church presenting a letter saying they would encourage it or go for it, I think means a lot. If it were up on Baltimore or Washington Street, it would be a different story here. It's in a highly commercial area.

And I can't help but think about the big addition we did on the beautiful ten blocks away up in Garrett Park on Strathmore Avenue on the corner. There, I think, we ruined a property by allowing a very large addition, and we're not doing that here.

MR. RANDALL: Ms. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: I think I would tend to agree with some of the comments tonight. This is a little bit of a special case because of its context and being surrounded by more commercial-type structures.

I, however, am still a little bit troubled by the size of it and the fact that the rear mimics the front so much. And, quite frankly, I really dislike the turret because it's on the back of a structure and a Victorian house would not have had a turret on the back. It would have been on the front. So I think that

particularly that articulation is not appropriate.

I don't have there any trouble with there being an addition to this building. I don't have any trouble with the addition being relatively large. But I think it still is a little bit too large.

We have certainly approved additions to buildings that were almost doubling the structure in size or doubling the main part of the house in size, but they still were somewhat less than what the existing house was. And they still seemed like rear additions. They didn't seem to be like they were building another house on the back. At least the ones that I'm most familiar with.

any problem with proceeding with this. Somebody has got to say something. And Mr. Myers has gone through all the trouble of being here tonight. I can perfectly understand that he would want to have our opinion before he goes through the other hoops of getting something like this approved, which are certainly more onerous than coming before us.

MR. RANDALL: Okay. Further discussion, or is there a motion? There seem to be two distinct schools of thought with some mush in the middle. I would think that we ought to have a motion at one end of the spectrum or

the other to just see where folks stand. 1 MR. BRENNEMAN: I guess to break the ice and 2 find out, I'll make a motion that an Historic Area Work 3 Permit be granted to George T. Myers, Case Number 31/6-4 930, based on staff's approval with the conditions cited. 5 6 MR. RANDALL: Is there a second? 7 MR. CLEMMER: I would be tempted to second that, but I'm concerned about this turret issue that has 8 been raised. 9 10 MR. MYERS: Consider it gone. 11 MS. HARRIS: Is that a "consider it gone"? 12 MR. MYERS: I have no problem with the turret not being there, if that's what's troubling you. 13 a style issue which really I could -- it doesn't matter 14 I don't have a problem with it being on the front 15 or the back. 16 17 MR. RANDALL: Well, I don't want to get into 18 further discussion with the pending motion. The motionmaker may wish to --19 MS. HARRIS: Well, it was never seconded. 20 MR. CLEMMER: 21 I never seconded it. 22 raised that issue. MR. RANDALL: Right. And I'm waiting for a 23 24 second, or otherwise we probably won't discuss that 25 motion and we'll move on to another motion. But if the

motion-maker would like to recast that to take into 1 2 account what I believe to be an amended Historic Area Work Permit that takes the turret out of the design of 3 the structure. 4 MR. BRENNEMAN: That would be fine with me. 5 MR. RANDALL: Is there a second? 6 MR. CLEMMER: Second. 7 8 MS. HARRIS: I'm not --9 MR. RANDALL: Now we can discuss the motion. The problem with the motion is we 10 MS. HARRIS: 11 don't know what we're approving, or would be approving. 12 And certainly we're taking the turret out, but how does 13 that affect the rest of the design and how the floor plan is going to work and everything else? 14 MR. RANDALL: Well, the floor plan really isn't 15 our interest. 16 17 MS. HARRIS: Well, it has to do with how the building works. 18 19 MR. CLEMMER: Could we assume we go back to a 20 square corner? 21 MR. MYERS: Certainly. That's what would 22 happen. The hip roof would just come down and it would 23 land on a hip corner. That's it. 24 MR. RANDALL: Okay. So that is what the motion 25 would incorporate in the amended HAWP. I think we've got

1 that all down. We have a reasonable sense of that. So is there further discussion on the motion? 2 3 (No response) MR. RANDALL: Hearing no further discussion on 4 5 the emotion, I'd like to close the public record and ask for all of those who are in favor of the motion to please 6 7 signify by raising your hand. 8 (Vote taken) MR. RANDALL: Four in favor of the motion. All 9 those who oppose the motion, please signify by raising 10 your hand. 11 12 (Vote taken) MR. RANDALL: Okay. It's four against the 13 motion. 14 The motion does not carry. Is there a second 15 motion? 16 MR. CLEMMER: Mr. Chairman, are you sure on that point? The tie goes to the runner? 17 18 MR. RANDALL: No. The HAWP is not approved. 19 mean, the fact of it, it's disapproved. 20 MS. MARCUS: I wish we had counsel here. I 21 would say the motion did not have a majority and there 22 needs to be another motion of some sort. 23 MS. HARRIS: But that doesn't -- we didn't just 24 deny the HAWP either. 25

MS. MARCUS: Correct, correct. All that

happened was that that specific motion failed. 1 2 MR. RANDALL: But if we cannot reach agreement, 3 I think a ruling of the Chair subject to counsel having a different perspective later would be that it is a de 4 facto a denial of the HAWP in that the HAWP has not been 5 approved. Otherwise the failure of the HPC to act on a 6 7 HAWP provides for automatic approval in 45 days. So I think it's a de facto denial of the HAWP 8 9 if the HAWP is not approved by an affirmative motion. We 10 can talk to counsel later. 11 MS. WITHERELL: Staff doesn't want to have to 12 write a denial. 13 MR. RANDALL: Well, is there a --14 MR. BOOTH: I would say that it's certainly a 15 non-approval. There was a HAWP that came in front of this Commission and it was not approved. 16 17 MS. MARCUS: The ordinance says we can do three 18 things. We can approve, we can deny, we can approve with 19 conditions. It doesn't say anything about non-approval. 20 It just says only those three things. So my 21 interpretation would be you need a motion to do one of 22 those three things. 23

MR. KOUSOULAS: There was a case several months ago and our counsel said that -- it had to do with -- there were so many abstentions that the thing was like

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1 two-to-one-to seven or, you know, two-to-one-to-six. I think what came out of that was that it failed because 2 you needed a majority of, at least a quorum. 3 MS. MARCUS: I think there were five people there, which was a quorum, and one person abstained. And 5 four people voted and it was three-to-one. The question was -- and I think Walter brought up the question, which 7 was if there are only a minimum number of people here for 8 a quorum and not all of those people vote, is the vote 9 still legal. Is that what you remember, Walter? 10 11 MR. BOOTH: Well, that was one of them, but there was also the issue of numerous abstentions, where 12 13 you would have seven votes and it would be two-two, with three abstentions. 14 15 MS. MARCUS: I don't know if we've ever had that actually arise, though. 16 17 MR. KOUSOULAS: But we asked that as a 18 hypothetical. 19 MS. WITHERELL: And the answer was, yes, abstentions count as people present for the quorum. 20 21 MR. RANDALL: Okay. We could --22 MR. MYERS: Can I ask one thing? If there were 23 seven here and I -- it's just a majority, is that what 24 the issue was?

MR. RANDALL: Yes.

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MR. MYERS: Okay.

MR. RANDALL: Okay. Now --

MR. MYERS: One other question. Is there anyone who voted against the last motion, I would like to know what it is it would take, if anything --

MS. HARRIS: Well, my question, and maybe I can help you along with this a little bit, is if there was a design -- and this is just a question for those people who voted against this particular motion, just to help Mr. Myers out.

If there was a design before us that was a revised design that had a slightly smaller footprint than what we're seeing but was essentially still a large addition, but it was somewhat smaller than what we're seeing now, bringing more in proportion to some of the projects that we have approved in the past; and my second suggestion is that the roof line of the addition be lower than the existing house; are any of those people willing to reconsider?

MR. RANDALL: Yeah, but I don't --

MS. HARRIS: I'm just trying to help him out to tell him this size addition or something close to it is never, ever going to work, forget it, or it may be something that's going to be possible.

MR. RANDALL: Well, we haven't gotten -- there

are only several iterations of motions we can have. 1 We're clearly not going to b in a position to redesign a 2 structure tonight. 3 MS. HARRIS: No, I'm not suggesting that. I 4 was suggesting --5 MR. RANDALL: And I think --6 MS. HARRIS: -- continued and --7 MR. RANDALL: -- of those that voted against 8 it, I think at least the clear message that I believe I 9 heard was concerns that we were doubling the footprint of 10 a structure. Now, whether you can get up to replicating 11 it by three quarters or five-ninths or whatever, I don't 12 13 know. But clearly there -- I didn't hear anybody say, 14 gee, nothing is buildable. 15 So I think the inference one can draw is that a different plan that is less large would clearly be more 16 17 inclined to get the votes of those that were opposed to 18 it. And I think that's probably a fair inference. But 19 we're not going to -- I mean, there's no way --MR. MYERS: I'd like to say one thing. 20 exactly in the staff report, it mentions other cases in 21 22 the Kensington Historic District where the -- this is a quote, "where the footprint of the house has expanded 23 24 appreciably or even doubled, and the staff was satisfied

that the Commission fully considered the effect of such -

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I mean, what I'm getting at is this has been done. And I think it seems as though it's the luck of a draw because if I was here a month ago and asked for a vote, it appeared to me, especially there have been some people here who were singing a different tune than they did a month ago.

MR. RANDALL: Well, that may be --

MR. MYERS: I honestly wonder if I should just keep coming back until the right people show up, which is — I know it's ridiculous, but this is how important this is to me. And it seems how funny that it's just a luck of the draw, and such an important matter as this could just be who happens to be here.

MR. RANDALL: But I think if we check with counsel, there is probably a concept of law that one can't keep coming back with the same denied or unapproved HAWP without the passage of some time. But I don't want to get into an extended discussion. I think we're at the point where we close the public record. We're dealing with motions. We have one that was not approved.

As I say, in the absence of a motion that affirmatively disapproves it, the Chair will rule that it's a <u>de facto</u> disapproval, subject to counsel making a different motion. Because it's clearly not an approval,

it's clearly not an approval with a condition. 1 2 MS. MARCUS: Would it be worth having someone make a motion for denial and see if anyone changes --3 MR. RANDALL: That's where I'm heading. That's the other alternative. Commissioner Kousoulas, would you 5 be willing to offer a motion to deny the Historic Area 6 Work Permit? 7 MR. KOUSOULAS: I see a dead-lock. I won't 8 make the motion. 9 10 MR. RANDALL: You see a deadlock? Okay. Then the Chair will step down from the Chair. The Chair will 11 offer a motion to deny the Historic Area Work Permit 12 13 that's in front of us in that it's incompatible with the historic structure there. 14 Is there a second? 15 16 MR. BOOTH: Second. 17 MR. RANDALL: There's a second. Discussion on the motion? 18 19 MR. CLEMMER: What would this get us if this 20 ends up with a four-four vote? 21 MR. RANDALL: It puts us back to the same place 22 we started. MR. CLEMMER: It gives Christopher Hitchens 23 24 something solid to work with? 25 (Laughter)

1	MR. RANDALL: There are only three ways that we
2	can try to approach this. I'm willing to exhaust two of
3 .	them. And then I can't really see any likelihood of
4	approval with conditions unless somebody is more
5	creative.
6	MR. NORKIN: And what if this motion clearly
7	fails?
8	MR. BOOTH: It still hasn't been approved.
9	MR. RANDALL: Yes. All right. There is a
10	second. Go ahead, further discussion?
11	MS. HARRIS: The emotion that is on the table
12	is a motion that is to deny the drawings as we see before
13	us?
14	MR. RANDALL: Right, that is correct.
15	MS. HARRIS: Those of us who voted for the
16	first motion weren't approving those drawings anyway.
17	MR. RANDALL: That is correct.
18	MS. HARRIS: So the motion that's before us
19	is
20	MS. MARCUS: The motion before you is to deny
21	the Historic Area Work Permit as amended. It may be that
22	the vote will come out differently, but there's only one
23	way to find out.
24	MR. RANDALL: Yes. That's
25	MS. MARCUS: It has been amended.

1	MR. RANDALL: I don't think any of us are going
2	to be so persuasive that we're going to do a tremendous
3	thing. Why don't we just call for the question and
4	proceed.
5	MR. CLEMMER: Mr. Chairman, there is one other
6	possibility that could happen as a result of a tie vote
7	and this motion being defeated. He could go make an
8	appeal.
9	MR. BOOTH: Yes.
10	MR. RANDALL: He could. Absolutely right.
11	MR. CLEMMER: So there are two more options.
12	MR. RANDALL: Certainly
13	MR. CLEMMER: or wins.
14	MR. RANDALL: Certainly the applicant, if he's
15	not granted the approval of the HAWP, has the ability to
16	appeal that and would be notified after staff checks with
17	counsel.
18	In any event, a question is called for. All
19	those in favor of a motion to deny the amended Historic
20	Area Work Permit please signify by raising their hand.
21	(Vote taken)
22	MS. HARRIS: Wait a minute. You just amended
23	it.
24	MS. MARCUS: He amended it earlier to remove
25	the turret. So it's the same issue before you.

Okay, I'm sorry. 1 MS. HARRIS: 2 MS. MARCUS: The plans is exactly as you've seen with no turret. 3. MS. HARRIS: Okay, I apologize. Go ahead. 4 5 MR. RANDALL: Let's just proceed. 6 opposed to the motion please signify by raising their hand. 7 (Vote taken) 8 9 MR. RANDALL: Five opposed to the motion to 10 deny the HAWP. Okay. So then that would suggest that 11 maybe somebody would like to go back to a motion to approve the HAWP as one last effort to see if their votes 12 have shifted. And then we are going to move on. 13 MR. CLEMMER: Can we legally have a second vote 14 on the same motion in the same meeting? 15 MS. HARRIS: Well, I'll fix that. I would like 16 17 to move that the Historic Area Work Permit that we've been discussing for quite a while here be approved with 18 19 two conditions. One is that the turret be eliminated and 20 that that corner be square, and that the roof line of the 21 addition be made slightly lower than the front part of 22 the house. 23 MR. RANDALL: Is there a second? 24 MR. BRENNEMAN: I will second.

MR. RANDALL: There is a second.

Is there

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1	discussion on the emotion:
2	MR. CLEMMER: Would you put a specific figure
3	on how much it needs to be lowered?
4	MS. HARRIS: Typically, they're about two feet
5	lower. Approximately two feet.
6	MR. CLEMMER: I don't want to get into
7	semantics. Two inches. He comes back with a plan for
8	two inches. He's done that. That doesn't accomplish
9	anything.
10	MS. HARRIS: Right. Approximately two feet.
11	MR. RANDALL: So now we've had clarification.
12	And I presume the seconder agrees with it as clarified?
13	Okay.
14	All right. Any discussion on the motion? No
15	discussion. Those in favor of the motion please signify
16	by raising their hand.
17	(Vote taken)
18	MR. RANDALL: Four. Those opposing the motion
19	please signify by raising their hand.
20	(Vote taken)
21	MR. RANDALL: Three. Those abstaining? One
22	abstention. So I think we're in a position where the
23	motion carries. Okay.
24	MS. MARCUS: So just to clarify
25	MS. HARRIS: Do you understand what happened?

MR. MYERS: Yes. Absolutely. 1 2 MS. MARCUS: As we have it, the two conditions are no turret and the roof line of the addition being two 3 feet lower. 4 5 MS. HARRIS: Or thereabout. MS. MARCUS: Or thereabout of the existing 6 7 house. 8 MR. MYERS: Thank you. MS. WITHERELL: Do you want to see it? 9 MS. HARRIS: I think it's contingent on staff 10 approval. That's fine. 11 MR. RANDALL: Let's move on to the next item on 12 the agenda, if I can find my agenda, which I believe is 13 grants. On the grants, everybody has had the 14 15 applications in their package. I hope everybody has 16 taken a glance at it. The dollar amounts match up with what the people have requested. It is left -- \$3500, I 17 18 believe Gwen had said earlier. So rather than substantively getting into each 19 20 and every grant, let me ask if anybody has any objections 21 or by exception needs some information on a particular 22 grant. MS. LANIGAN: I do. 23

MR. RANDALL: Okay, go ahead, Martha.

MS. LANIGAN: (Inaudible)

24

25

	Det No.	A-3990
	Date Filed	11-30-93
COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS HORHOCO DESIGN & ZONIN	Hearing Date	3-2-94@ Z:30
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION	<u>.</u>	
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APPEAD CHARGING ÉRRO		
IN ADMINISTRATIVE RULING OR	ACTION	
PLEASE NOTE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVEN	SESIOE. DR-ANSWERS.	
ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETHAFOMEDUTRED-FO		

Appeal is hereby made pursuant to Section 2-112 of the Montgomery County Code 1984, as amended, from the decision or other action of an official or agency of Montgomery County specified below which Appellant contends was erroneous. Histotical Official or agency from whose ruling of action this appeal is made: ammission (IHPC) Brief description of ruling or action from which this appeal is made (Atlach duplicate copy of ruling or document inhere is no document, no is it clear dicating such action): coverletter hus been taken. See the HPC on October Date of that ruling or action: Meeting Of Brief description of what, in appellant's view, the ruling or action should have been Prolication in HPC case No. The Citations IS to Chanter 214 of Number of section, and subsection if any, of the Montgomery County Code 1984, as amended, or citation of other statutor, provision, which appellant contends was misinterpreted: 1507104 PRECULTION OF OF MEMORY CHAPTER Error of fact, if any, involved in the ruling or action from which this appeal is made: somportificity with character of a historical site Error of law, if any, involved in the ruling og action from which this appeal is made: Implico The historical IMPORTANCE of the Commiscial Question(s) of fact, if any, presented to the Board by this appeal: Judge wont of the HPC ON historical Preservation on Hotared District: Decision making process of it Description of real property, if any, involved in this appeal: Lot . Town Kensing ton, UD , Street and Number - See averhuert Zone Classification Appellant's present legal interest in above property if any:

Owner (including joint ownership).

Lessee. The servation of the Contract to lease or rent. Contract to purchase. C Other (describe) Wer slugten Historiaal Character and nuture of the Nisdotical Disters Description of taxicab or other personal property, if any, involved in this appeal: Statement of appellant's interest, i.e., manner in which appellant is aggricated by the ruling or action complained of e Kensington Historical society is concluded w Diesetuation in Kennington. This action off Society and its individual members living with Further comments, if any: I hereby affirm that all of the statements and information contained in or filed with this appeal are true and correct. Typed Summery is attached 20882 Spring Herry Mensington (MW

£4.

Kensington Historical Society P.O.Box 453 Kensington, Maryland 20895

November 29, 1993

The Montgomery County Board of Appeals To:

Re: Appeal of the Kensington Historical Society

in Historical Preservation Commission Case No. 31/6-93 O

To the Board:

1:

The Kensington Historical Society (Society) is filing an appeal of a discussion held by the Historical Preservation Commission (HPC) on October 27, 1993 in the captioned case. attached appeals form does not comply with the Board's printed requirements, nor can it given the current procedural posture in of the captioned case before the HPC. The HPC voted to approve the application subject to conditions; however, no approval letter or HOP notification authorizing a building permit has been Therefore no document indicating final agency action is available as required by the appeals form. Nor are copies of the transcript of the October 27, 1993 meeting, nor is it known when the transcript will be available. The appeal is filed at this time solely because the County Attorney's office has informally advised the Society that an appeal may be due 30 days after the HPC meeting with which Society is concerned.

The Board should be advised that the Board, the Society, the HPC (through its Staff), nor even the Applicant in HPC Case Number 31/6-93 O, Mr. Meyers, knows what the final design will be for the property at 10415 Armory Avenue, if approved, and as such, what it will look like if and when it is reconfigured. This is because no revised plans have been submitted to the HPC. As such, it is possible the Applicant might chose not to proceed with the project, or that the revised plans would require further by the HPC if the HPC staff concludes that further review of the case is warranted based on questions that may be raised by the revised application. In short, the Kensington Historical Society has been forced to appeal at a time when no interested party, including the HPC Staff, knows for certain what plans for the building at 10415 will look like. The best information that can be is the HPC Staff report dated 10/20/93 on the subject property, which does not reflect the HPC's October 27 deliberations in this case. Since the appeal form the Society has filed is incomplete on its face, the Society understands that the Board may reject it. If Board does so, please advise the Society in writing with a copy to the undersigned at 9616 Old Spring Road, Kensington, MD 20895.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Robinson

President

Typed version, with minor amendment, of Appeal by the Kensington Historical Society on Historical Preservation Commission Case Number 31/6-93 0

The appeal is from the Historical Preservation Commission.

There is not document evidencing agency action, nor is it clear that a final action has been taken. See cover Letter.

The appeal concerns a vote by the HPC at its meeting of October 27, 1993, to approve the application in Case Number 31/6-93 0 subject to a two foot reduction in the roof line.

The proper action is denial of the application in HPC Case 31/6-93 0.

The citation is to the Montgomery County Historical Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A.

The error of fact is compatibility with the character of the historical site. (See page 3 of Staff Report.)

The error of law is the improper evaluation of the role of the historical importance of the commercial district of Kensington, MD.

The question of fact presented to this appeal is the judgement of the HPC on historical preservation in Kensington in this case.

The question of law presented in this appeal is the interpretation of the purpose of the Kensington Historical District; The decision making process of the HPC in this case.

The property description is Lot 1 and part of 2, Block 2, Derrick Subdivision, Kensington MD, at 10415 Armory Avenue.

Appellant's interest is preservation of the historical character and nature of the Kensington MD Historical District.

The Kensington Historical Society is concerned with Historical Preservation under its charter and has consistently worked to uphold historical preservation in Kensington. This action offends the Society and its individual members in the Kensington area.

Attachments include the HPC Staff Report date 10/20/93, and a list of adjacent and confronting property owners.

I certify that this is the same information contained on the previous appeal form, as amended on the nature of the HPC action, and I adopt the certification affixed thereto.

John M. Robinson
Werember 24/213

Substitute Form 5

Attached to the Appeal of The Kensington Historical Society Regarding Historical Preservation Commission Case 31/6-93-0

The adjacent and confronting property owners and their addresses for the subject property located at 10415 Armory Avenue are as follow. The source is pp. 3 and 4 of the HPC Staff report attached to the appeal form.

- 1. St. Paul's Methodist Church Pt. 2 Lot 2 R.B. Detricks Sub 10401 Armory Avenue Kensington, MD 20895 10409 Armory Ave
- 2. Robert McChesney Jr.
 4429 Haverford Drive
 Rockville, MD 20853

 Lot 9 Block 2 RBDetricks Sub
 10417 Armory Avenue
- 3. Wyster Corporation
 3760 Howard Avenue
 Kensington, MD 20895 Lot | Wood & Pauls Sub
- 4. Jane S. Davoli
 2501 East Meridith
 Vienna, Virginia 22180
 10422 Fauxett St.
- 5. Safeway Stores 98 Inc.
 4th and Jackson Street
 Oakland, California 94660

 Lots 2,34 78 9 10 11

 P195

HPC Case No.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 10415 Armory Avenue Meeting Date: 10/27/93

Resource: Kensington Historic District Review: HAWP/Alteration

Case Number: 31/6-93 O Tax Credit: No

Public Notice: 10/14/93 Report Date: 10/20/93

Applicant: George T. Myers Staff: Nancy Witherell

PROPOSAL: Construct rear addition RECOMMEND: Approve with

condition

The proposal before the Commission is similar to a preliminary consultation held between the applicant and the HPC on September 22, 1993. The applicant's previous submission and the staff report for that review are attached at the back of this report.

At that meeting, the applicant presented a proposal to build an addition that would more than double the size of a primary resource in the Kensington Historic District. The house is situated in the commercial part of Kensington and is, in fact, not adjacent to any other primary resourcs. On either side are a church parking lot and a non-historic one-story brick commercial structure, across Armory Avenue are large scale commercial structures and parking lots, and behind the property are brick apartment buildings listed as secondary resources.

The five commissioners at the September 22 meeting discussed the issue of compatibility of the addition with the house's context, as opposed to the compatibility of the addition to the house itself. It was understood by all that the addition would radically alter the house, but was also acknowledged by all that the house's original context has been radically changed. Several Commissioners questioned the inclusion of the resource in the historic district. All agreed that the site is unique and that a decision concerning this property would not reflect on decisions made about proposed additions to other primary residential structures in the historic district in the past or future.

Two Commissioners stated that the addition should be reduced somewhat; three Commissioners stated that the addition was acceptable as proposed. All Commissioners agreed that a fully attached addition (as opposed to the use of a hypenated structure or a separate structure) was most appropriate.

STAFF DISCUSSION

In the HAWP proposal before the Commission, the applicant has redesigned the rear addition, altering the roof form and the projections, especially on the south and east elevations. The turret has been moved to the north elevation. The footprint of the new addition has been reduced by 160 square feet and the gross floor area by 150 square feet. New materials, including windows and roofing, would match the existing. The asbestos cladding on the house would be removed and the existing wood siding underneath would be patched, repaired, or replaced as necessary.

The applicant previously showed the Commission two options for treatment of the front porch. The staff had recommended the simpler treatment, which left the front porch intact and created a separate stoop on the south elevation. There was no discussion of this issue at the September meeting, and the applicant has elected to proceed with his preferred design, which is to continue the porch around the corner to create a wrap-around porch. The staff acknowledges that the wrap-around porch provides additional articulation on this elevation—the most exposed side of the building—but still expresses reservations at altering the front porch of the house.

The staff continues to focus in the analysis of this project on the designation of this house as a primary resource in the historic district, while fully recognizing the arguments concerning loss of original context put forth by the applicant and concurred in by the Commission during the preliminary consultation. The staff, therefore, is troubled not only by a proposal that would so substantially alter a primary resource but by the apparent consensus that the designation process erred in the determination made about this property. Staff believes that it is important to uphold decisions previously made about properties during the lengthy and open designation process.

Despite this concern, however, the staff also fully concurs with the analysis of the site's context as discussed at the September meeting and is prepared to recommend that the project be approved. The staff has come to this conclusion also in part because other large-scale additions have been approved by the HPC for houses of a similar size in the past year. In each of these other cases—in the Kensington Historic District and in other districts—the footprint of the house was expanded appreciably or even doubled and staff was satisfied that the Commission fully considered the effect of such additions on the character of not only the house but the character of the historic district as a whole.

The applicant has responded positively to the recommendation in the previous staff report to enhance landscaping at the rear of the house. Decreased parking spaces, increased greenspace, and a patio are the result.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff strongly recommends that the Commission direct the applicant to find ways to reduce the addition further as a condition of approval, but recommends that the proposal be found consistent with the purposes of Chapter 24A. The staff bases its recommendation on the stated judgment of Commissioners at the September 22, 1993, meeting, the subtantially altered context of the house, and the precedent of other approved large additions to primary resources in this and other historic districts.

The staff relies on the following criteria:

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 Standards #9 and #10:

New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment;

New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environnment would be unimpaired. Montgomery County

Historic Preservation Commission

maren to enurse bousse Montoe Street, Suite 1001, Rockville, Maryland 20850 217-3625

AX ACCOUNT # 13 / 0/ 0/ 92 54			
IAME OF PROPERTY OWNER GEORGE T. MYERS:	TELEPHONE NO.	301 942.9041	<u>ا</u>
DDRESS 10415 ARMORY AVENUE KENSING	(Include Area Code)	20895	
ONTRACTOR TO BE SELECTED	STATE TELEPHONE ND.	ZIF	
LANS PREPARED BY GTM A CHITERTS	N NUMBER TELEPHONE NO	301 942 9862	
REGISTRATION NUMBER	出 8385		i ling Tai
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I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the foregoing application, that the application is correct, and that the construction will

plans approved by all agencies listed and I hereby acknowledge and accept this to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

ı. Wi	RITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT
a.	Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance:
	EXISTING STRUCTURE 1) A 21/2 STORY RESIDENTIAL TIPE
	STRUCTURE, VICTORIAN IN STYLE. IT IS PART OF
	KENSINGTON HISTORICAL DISTRICT THOUGH IT IS
	JURROJUDED BY NOW-HISTORICAL PROPERTIES, ALL
	OF NON-RESIDENTIAL (SINGLE FAMILY) USE.
	
b.	General description of project and its impact on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district:
	THE PROPOSAL IS TO ADD AN APPROXIMATERY 2,000 SF
	EXPANSION, TO BE USED INITIALLY FOR RESIDENTIAL
	PIRPOSES. HOWEVER, THE STRICTURE WILL AT
	SOME POINT BE USED FOR OFFICE COMMERCIAL
	PURPOUS (THE PROPERTY IS OM ZONED), AND THEREFOR
	SHOULD BE REVIEWED AS SICH.

2. Statement of Project Intent:

Short, written statement that describes:

REFER TO DRAWINGS.

a. the proposed design of the new work, in terms of scale, massing, materials, details, and landscaping:

ALL STYLING, DETAILS, ETC WILL MATCH EXISTING.
 IN ADDITION, WE PROPOSE TO DEMONE THE NON- HISTORICAL
ASBETOS JUINE AR FROM THE DELEMENT STRUCTURE &
 RENPH IT TO ITS ORIGINAL PAINTED CLAPBOARD.

b. the relationship of this design to the existing resource(s):

c. the way in which the proposed work conforms to the specific requirements of the Ordinance (Chapter 24A):

RFFER	70	DRAWINGS	

3. Project Plan:

Site and environmental setting, drawn to scale (staff will advise on area required). Plan to include:

- a. the scale, north arrow, and date;
- b. dimensions and heights of all existing and proposed structures;
- c. brief description and age of all structures (e.g., 2 story, frame house c.1900);
- d. grading at no less than 5' contours (contour maps can be obtained from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring; telephone 495-4610); and
- e. site features such as walks, drives, fences, ponds, streams, trash dumpsters, mechanical equipment, and landscaping.
- 4. <u>Tree Survey</u>: If applicable, tree survey indicating location, caliper and species of all trees within project area which are 6" in caliper or larger (including those to be removed).

- 5. Design Features: Schematic construction plans drawn to scale at 1/2 = 1'-0", or 1/4" = 1'-0", indicating location, size and general type or walls, window and door openings, roof profiles, and other fixed features of both the existing resource(s) and the proposed work.
- 6. Facades: Elevation drawings, drawn to scale at 1/8" = 1'0", or 1/4" = 1'0", clearly indicating proposed work in relation to existing construction and, when appropriate, context. All materials and fixtures proposed for 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.
- 7. <u>Materials Specifications</u>: General description of materials and manufactured items proposed for incorporation in the work of the project.
- 8. <u>Photos of Resources</u>: Clearly labeled color photographic prints of each facade of existing resource, including details of the affected portions. All labels should be placed on the front of photographs.
- 9. <u>Photos of Context</u>: Clearly labeled color photographic prints of the resource as viewed from the public right-of-way and from adjoining properties, and of the adjoining and facing properties.

Color renderings and models are encouraged, but not generally required.

Applicant shall submit 2 copies of all materials in a format no larger than 8 1/2" x 14"; black and white photocopies of color photos are acceptable with the submission of one original photo.

- 10. Addresses of Adjacent 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. If you need assistance obtaining this information, call the Department of Assessments and Taxation, at 279-1355.
- 1. Name ST. PAUL'S METHODIST CHURCH

 Address MARGER RUSSEATO 10401 ARMORY WE.

 City/Zip KENSINGTON U.D. 20895.
- 2. Name <u>POBERT MCCHESNEY JR.</u> (1041) ARMOFY ARMOFY ARMOFY AD.)

 Address <u>A429 HNER FORD DRIVE</u> NO.)

 City/Zip <u>Pockviue</u> MD. 20853

3.	Name .	MASIER CORPORATION
	Address	3760 HOWARD AVE.
	City/Zip	- ICENSINGTON, 20895
4.	Name .	JANES, DAVOLI (APARTMENTS)
	Address	2501 EAST MEREDITH ST.
	City/Zip	VIENNA, VIRGINIA 22180
5.	Name	GAFEWAY STORES 98 INC.
	Address	4TH & JACKSON ST.
		OAKLAND, CA. & 94660
6.	Name .	
	Address	
	City/Zip	
7.	Name	
	Address	
	City/Zip	
8.	Name	
	Address	
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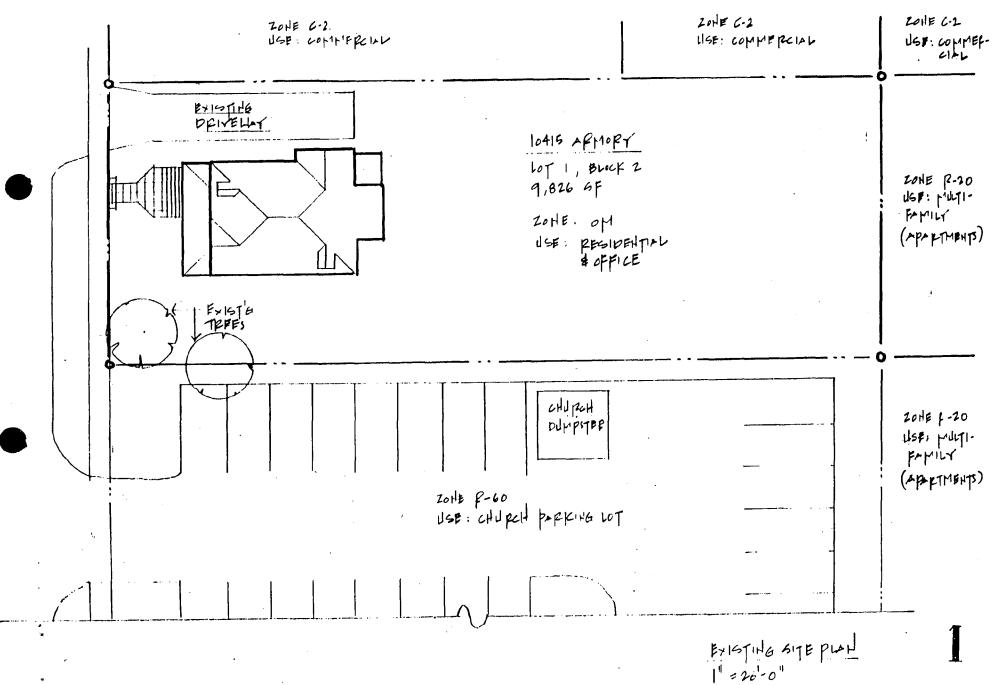


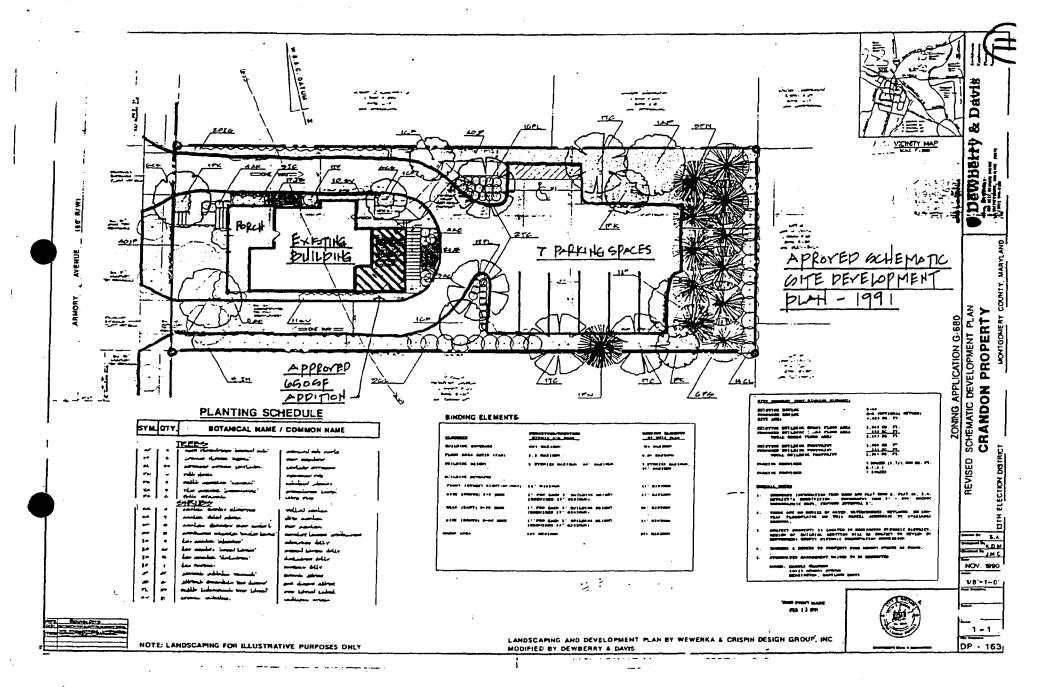
PROPOSED ADDITION TO 10415 ARMORY AVENUE

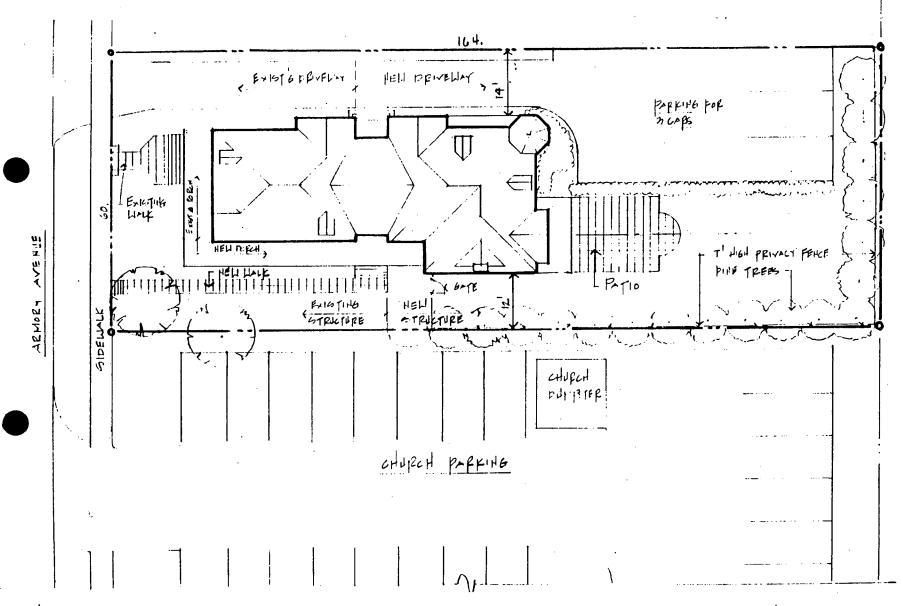
GTM Architects

OCTOBER 6, 1993







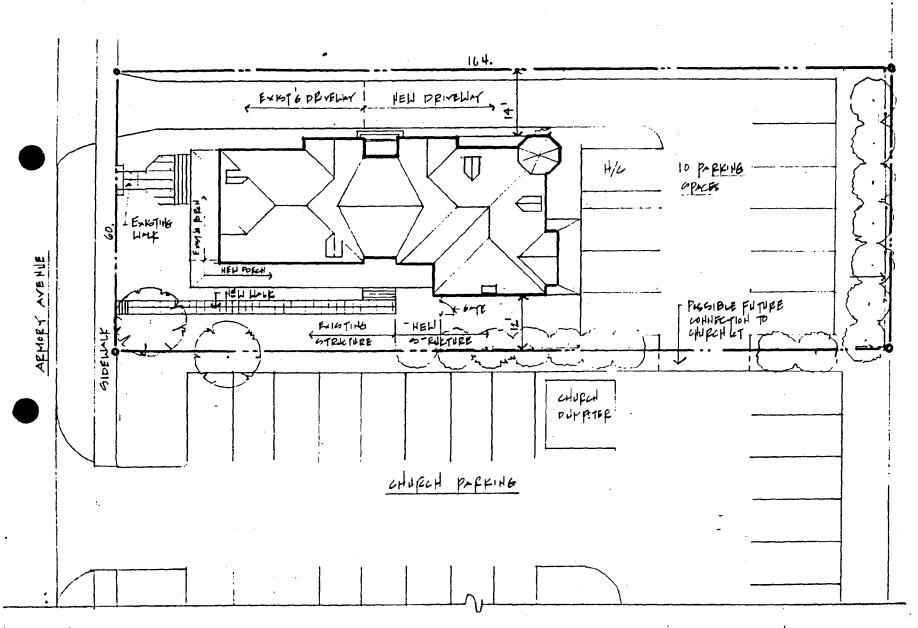


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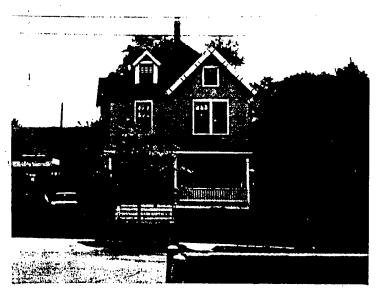
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GIDE (HOPTH) ELEVATION



FRONT (WBST) FLEVATION

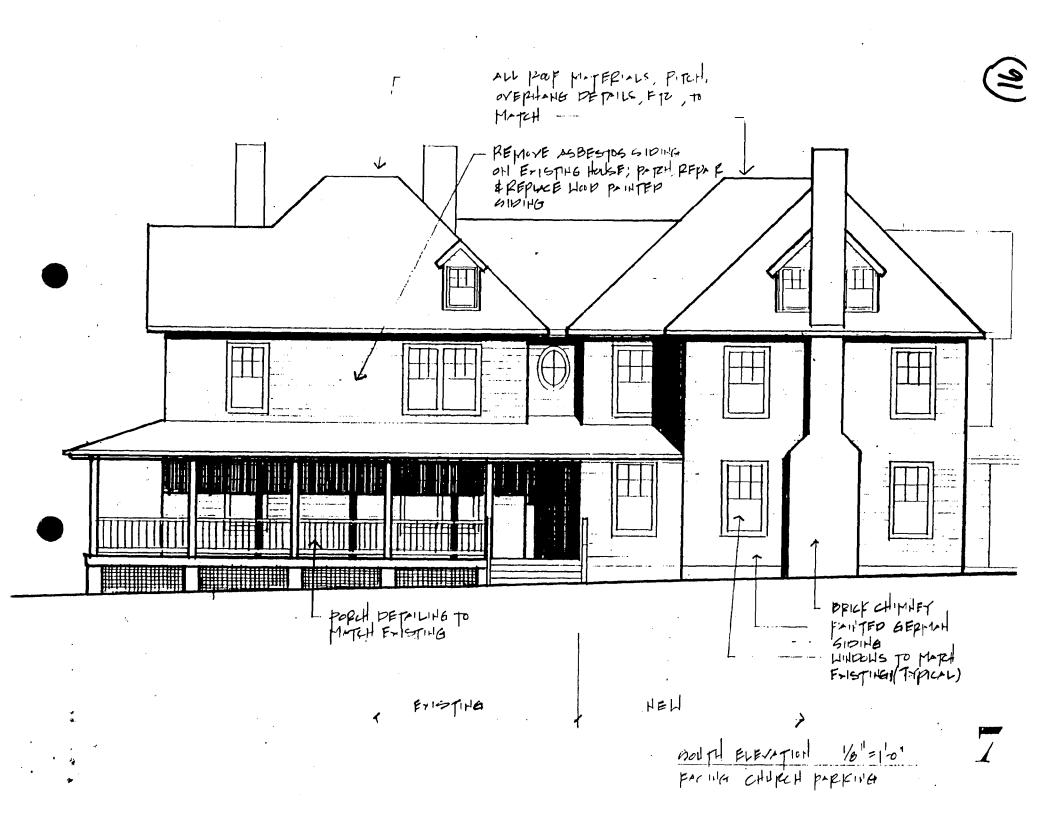


KEAK (EAST) ELEVATION



OIDE (2011) ELEVATION









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RAPR ELEVATION 1/8=1-0'
(FACING APARTMENTS)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 10415 Armory Avenue Meeting Date: 9/22/93

Resource: Kensington Historic District Preliminary Consultation

Case Number: n/a Tax Credit: No

Public Notice: 9/8/93 Report Date: 9/16/93

Applicant: George T. Myers Staff: Nancy Witherell

PROPOSAL: Rear addition RECOMMEND: Further study

This preliminary consultation involves the proposed construction of an addition to a primary resource in the Kensington Historic District. Formerly a residence, the structure is now zoned for office use and is occupied by the applicant's architectural firm.

The map on the last page of the packet is marked to show the location of the property. Although the structure remains residential in character, it's original context has been lost. The building is surrounded by commercial development, including small non-contributing structures to the north, a parking lot to the south, and parking lots and large-scale buildings across the street to the west. However, the building is near a park across the street, and structures designated as secondary resources face Fawcett Street to the east of the applicant's property.

The building's footprint measures 1,060 square feet on a lot measuring 9,825 square feet, for coverage of under 11%. The applicant proposes a two-story addition that would more than double the footprint of the building to 2,400 square feet, for coverage of under 25%. The proposed addition, which retains the roof ridge height and general character of the house, is designed to incorporate the materials and irregular massing of the Queen Anne-style house.

The applicant has submitted two schemes, the first of which integrates a side porch on the south elevation with the existing front porch, and a longer one-story section on the north elevation. The second scheme leaves the front porch intact and utilizes a small entrance porch on the south elevation, instead. In addition, the north elevation features a smaller porch and a projecting bay.

STAFF DISCUSSION

Constructing an addition on this structure would meet the purposes of Chapter_24A and be consistent with approved rear additions to primary resources in the Kensington Historic District. However, in the staff's judgment, the proposed addition is too large for the building. Although the addition's massing has been fairly well articulated, it would create, if built, a structure fundamentally different than the existing structure. Instead of a house that is fairly square in plan and organized under a hip roof, the structure would become a very long rectangle, with a length and massing that did not occur in houses of the period.

The staff would suggest, however, that a smaller addition could be constructed behind the existing house. The rear elevation is fairly flat and a well-articulated addition could be attached to it without distorting the architectural character of the building. The addition, if shorter, would solve the problem inherent in this proposal, particularly in scheme 1, of apparent bisymmetry on the north elevation. In general, the staff would recommend the approach shown in scheme 2, which keeps the original front porch separate from the new entrance on the side (south) elevation.

It is ironic that a longer addition, such as that proposed, would actually block views of non-contributing buildings and features to the north and south of the property. Nevertheless, the scale and architectural character of the resource itself must be preserved.

The applicant has submitted on page 3 of the packet the schematic site plan approved in 1991. It includes 7 parking spaces accessed by two driveways. Although some areas of greenspace would be preserved, the house would be virtually surrounded by paving when seen from the street. Pages 5 and 6 show, in two phases, the site plan the applicant would propose if an addition were approved by the HPC. In both schemes, only one driveway is proposed, thus saving greenspace at the front of the lot.

The staff notes, however, that the proposed site plan on page 6 shows the addition extending all the way to the paved parking lot. The absence of appropriate greenspace directly behind the structure—so that the building can continue to read as a historic residential structure—reinforces the staff's recommendation that the addition be made smaller and more sympathetic to the scale of the existing primary resource.

The applicant has done well to use the building as his office without altering its original residential character. His office sign, reviewed by the Commission in 1992, was designed to maintain that character. A smaller rear addition and appropriate landscaping could be designed to retain that historic residential character, as well.

November 1, 1993

Albert Randall, Chairperson, HPC 23340 Frederick Road Clarksburg, Maryland 20871

Dear Mr. Randall,

I am disturbed by the capricious behavior of the Historic Preservation Commission in reaching its decision on the property at 10415 Armory Ave. in Kensington (HPC Case No. 31/6-930.) I do not believe it was proper for the Commission to approve a plan which more than doubled the footprint of a primary resource in the Historic District, nor to indicate approval of increased density of use well beyond that approved in the rezoning site plan, in order to spare the applicant the trouble of coming back with another plan!

Perhaps the Commission was unduly influenced by communications from the Mayor and Council of the Town of Kensington. The Mayor and Council do not represent the opinions of many Town residents who are concerned with the preservation of the Historic District.

Mr. Myers' surprise apppearance at the beginning of the Town meeting on October 25 was not on the agenda, and those residents who might have spoken against his plan were not alerted to be present. I was present, and I heard Mr. Myers do the same thing he did before the HPC: he predicted easy approval by the HPC and "no problem" obtaining intensified site use, in order to gain approval from the Town. Subsequently, he claimed approval from the Town as a reason to get approval from the HPC. Next, no doubt, he will go before the Zoning Examiner and claim approval from the Town and the HPC in order to get zoning approval for intensified use. I find this a very manipulative way of operating. Unfortunately, it seems to work.

It should be noted that the only Kensington Town Council member with any history of interest in preservation, Mr. Wagner, voted against Mr. Myers' plan. He pointed out that Mr. Myers had neglected to mention HPC and Staff reservations about the size of his design. In addition, the Town engineer expressed concern about increased storm water run-off and potential storm drain problems associated with intensified use (paved parking, less green space.) The applicant said he had not yet considered these issues.

The HPC Commissioners did have an opportunity to hear many cogent arguments against the size of this project from concerned Kensington residents. They chose to ignore these arguments and their own reservations, apparently in order to "help" the applicant and spare him the trouble of coming before them again. Many people have been back many times for less. Such inconsistency is, at the least, lamentable.

Sincerely yours,

Ilene Shulman

10221 Montgomery Ave. Kensington, Md. 20895

Ilene Shulman

cc: Commission members

Kensington LAP Report on Case #31/6-93 0

The property under consideration was re-zoned in 1991 for limited office use with the restriction that the site would not be developed more intensely than indicated in a plan showing a 650 square foot addition with a deck, 7 parking spaces and extensive plantings. Mr. Meyers now wants to double the approved square footage, have 10 parking spaces, and omit plantings except for screening at the borders. This would require re-zoning approval for more intense use. He wants the opinion of the HPC before proceeding with the zoning Board which entails an expense.

Mr. Meyers' house abuts that part of the Kensington business section which is in the historic district. The house is a primary historic resource with a very pleasing Victorian design and is highly visible on three sides from Howard, Armory, and Knowles Avenues. It heralds the character of areas immediately outside the commercial district and is an excellent transitional property. Historic designation and limited office use were arrived at by lenghty and open processes as was pointed out the HPC North.

The proposed development does not show respect for the primary resource or surrounding open spaces. The N and S aspects of the existing house would be completely overwhelmed by an the proposed equal-sized mirror image addition with ornamentation not characteristic of the original, making the structure look like a modern Victorian-style apartment house. Also, the proposed wraparound porch would markedly change the W and S facades. Furthermore, any open grounds would be converted to parking spaces and driveways with all plantings removed except for screening at the edges.

The present proposal should not be approved for a number of reasons.

1. First, the house is a primary historic resource and should be treated like any other historic house in Kensington. Additions of the proposed size have not been approved in Kensington.

- 2. Second, open space around a primary resource is a leading attribute of Kensington, The proposed expanded structures would not only alter the streetscape by filling the lot, but also would obliterate the view of trees and sky when looking N or S on Armory.
- 3. Third, proximity to a commercial area has not by precedent been a reason to allow inappropriate changes to a primary historic resource. It is apparent on visiting the site that an enlarged 3-story structure on high ground would oppressively overshadow adjacent low level properties and would detract from one of the most attractive commercial areas in Town.
- 4. Fourth, limited development was part of the 1991 rezoning procedure and should not be abrogated. Intensity of use as well as appearance are important considerations in preserving neighborhoods. Unless transitional properties like this are limited to a transitional degree of useage, further encroachment of commercial on redidential zones can be anticipated. For example, why does the proposed plan show a possible connection to the nextdoor R-60 zoned parking lot?
- 5. Finally, there are several confusing aspects to the application itself which led to unwarranted positive comments by The footprint of additions in the plan submitted for consultation is actually not decreased in the present plan; it appears that a planned new porch is simply subtracted from the category of new structures and added to the category of existing structures. Also, the patio, fewer parking spaces, and more greenery, which the staff commended is part of a transitional plan which actually will be changed to several more parking spaces, no patio, and no greenery in the final form.

to summarine changes should MA Shulman be limited to the 1991 reyoung N.R. Shulman agreement.



October 26, 1993

Ms. Nancy Witherell Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Nancy:

At the regular meeting of Mayor and Council on October 25, 1993, the majority of the Town Council voted to support George Myer's proposed addition and site alterations at 10415 Armory Ave. with the conditions that, at the proper time, the Town will review parking, stormwater management and public space improvements.

Sincerely,

Jack Jones

Mayor

cc. George Myers Town Council

Kensington Historical Society P.O. Box 453 Kensington, Maryland 20895

25 October 1993

Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Commission:

3019421371

I am writing to express my opinion, on behalf of the Kensington Historical Society, regarding the proposed addition to 10415 Armory Avenue.

The applicant has proposed some changes to the existing house which are laudable--notably, the restoration of the original wood siding and the treatment of detailing and of materials in general. The applicant has also shown some sensitivity to the compatibility of massing of the new addition. However, the proposed addition is disproportionately scaled, such that the primary resource is overshadowed, perhaps even overwhelmed, by the new addition.

The proposed addition reverses the appropriate relationship of a primary resource to its additionthat is, by overshadowing the original structure by virtue of its greater size, it detracts from the reading of that historic resource as "primary". Because of the depth and breadth of the adjacent church parking lot, the proposed south facade would be highly visible and prominent and would, due to its greater size and forward-projected massing, compete with the reading of the original house as a primary resource.

The addition should certainly be reduced to a size which defers appropriately to the original structure. In spite of its unique position as an "isolated" historic resource, the house is still a primary resource, and the proposed addition should be denied in keeping with Section 24A-8 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, as "the alteration...would be inappropriate or inconsistent with, or detrimental to the preservation, enhancement, or ultimate protection of the historic site, or historic resource..."

Sincerely yours,

Helen Crettier Wilkes, A.I.A. Historic Preservation Chair

Pastors CHESTER W. KIRK ANNE YARBROUGH Telephons (301)933-7933

Minister of Education & Youth: RICHARD L. BUCKINGHAM

October 25, 1993

Historic Preservation Commission Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20919-3760

Re: Proposed Addition to 10415 Armory Avenue Application of George T. Myers

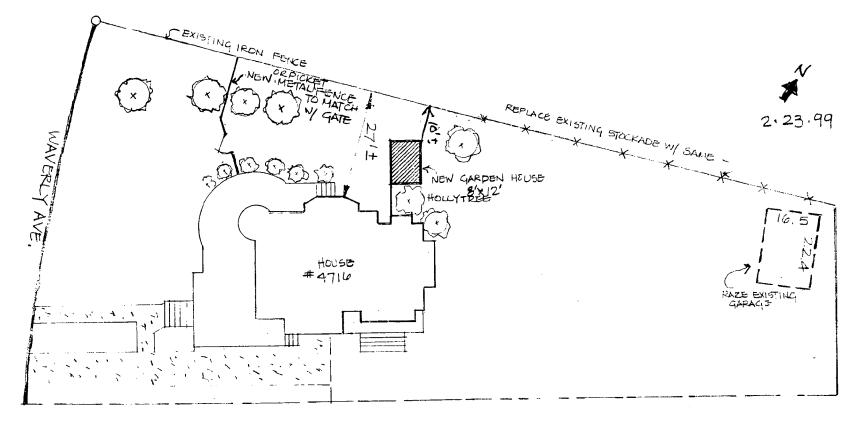
To the Commission:

On behalf of St. Paul's Methodist Church, I have reviewed the proposed plans for the above referenced addition. I find that the new addition will not only improve the aesthetic quality of the structure as a whole, but it will also visually block the unsightly low commercial structures to the north. In short, the structure as shown on the drawings, combined with the landscaping along the property line, will be a welcome improvement as far as the church is concerned. We sincerely hope that the Commission approves the application.

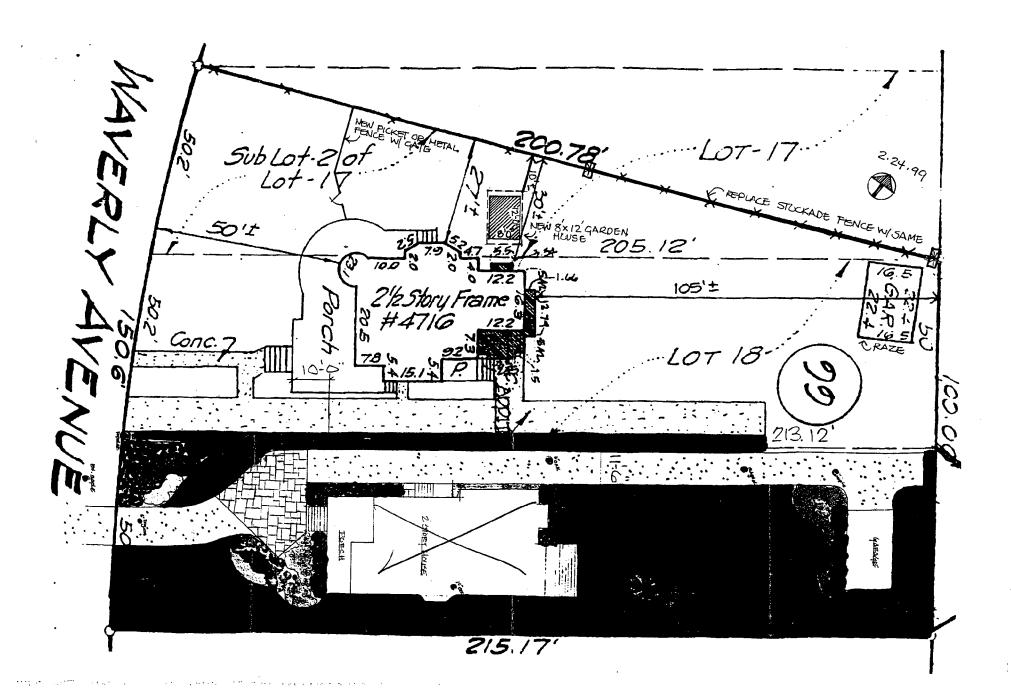
Sincerely,

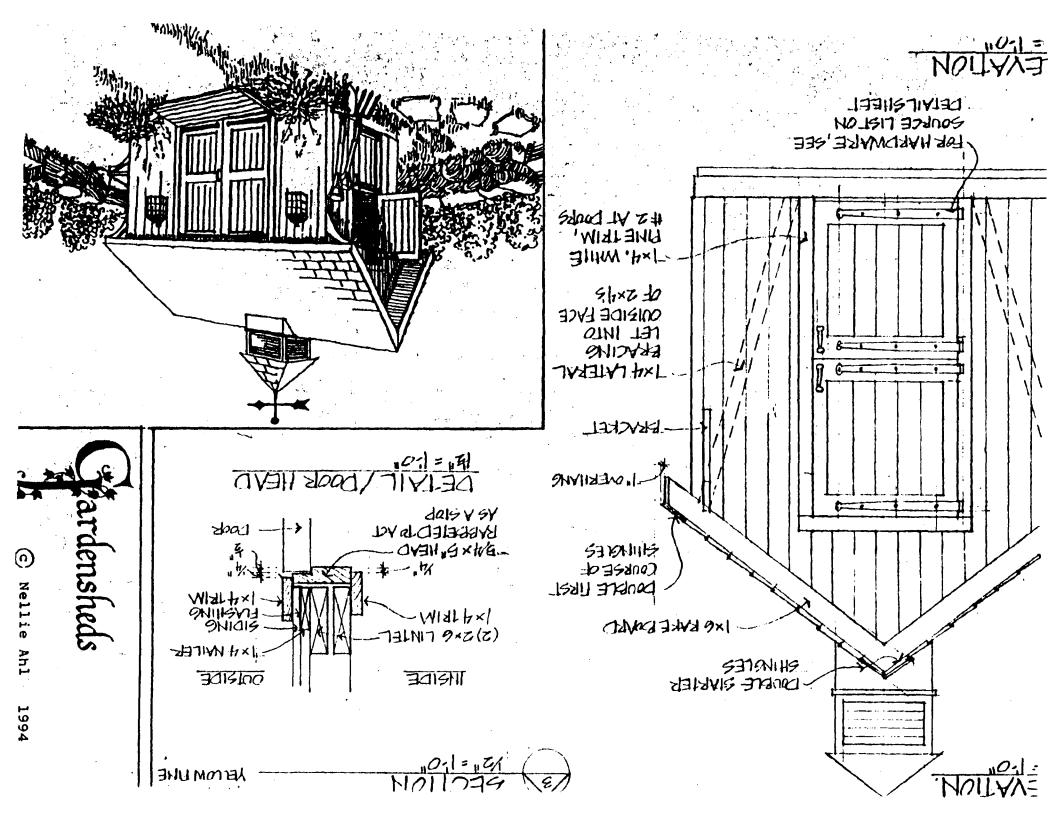
Ken Rhodes

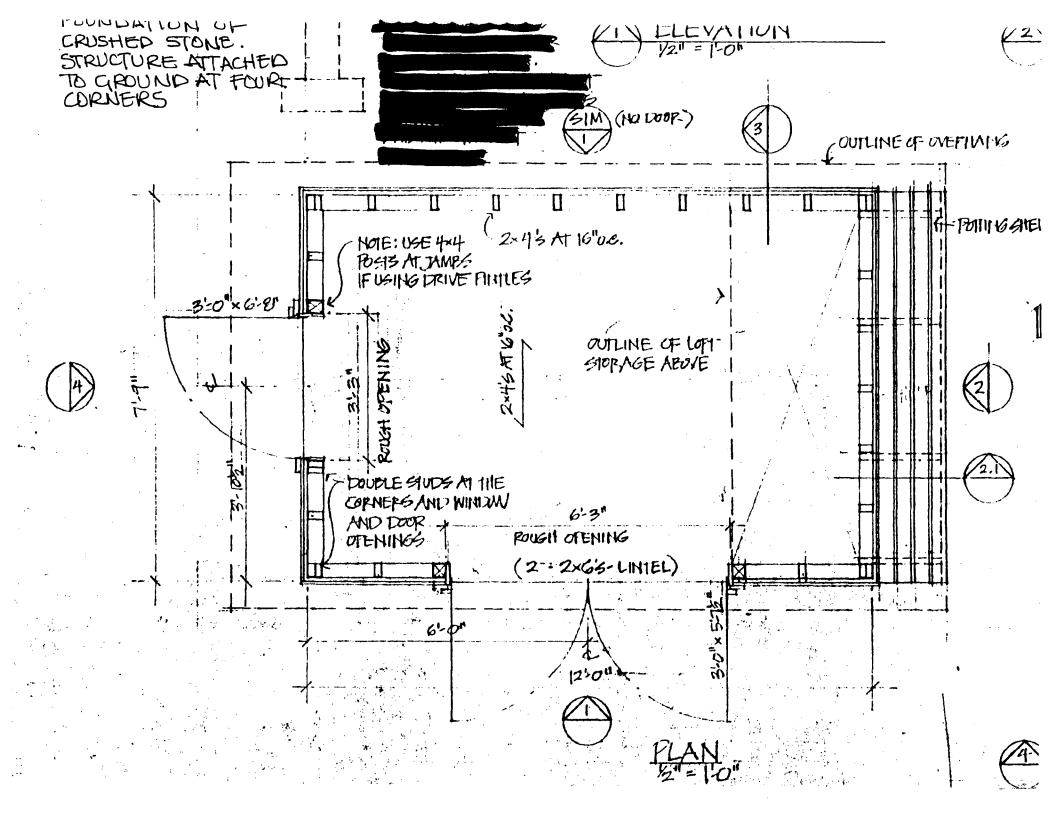
President, Board of Trustees

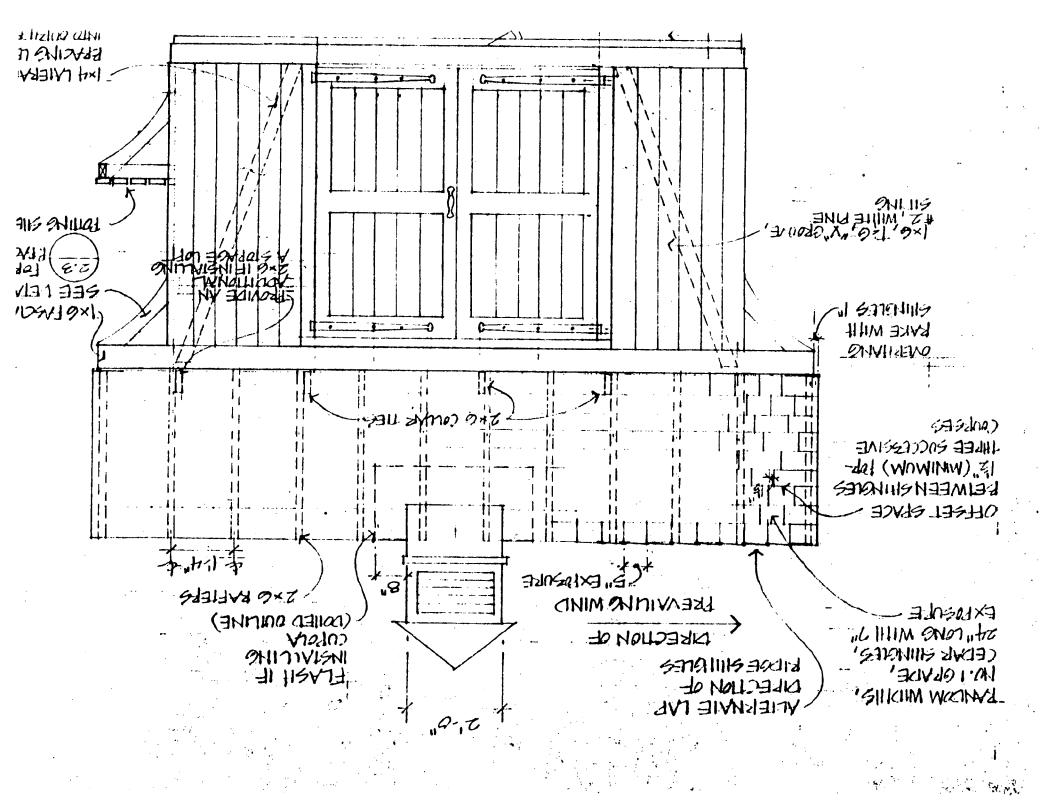


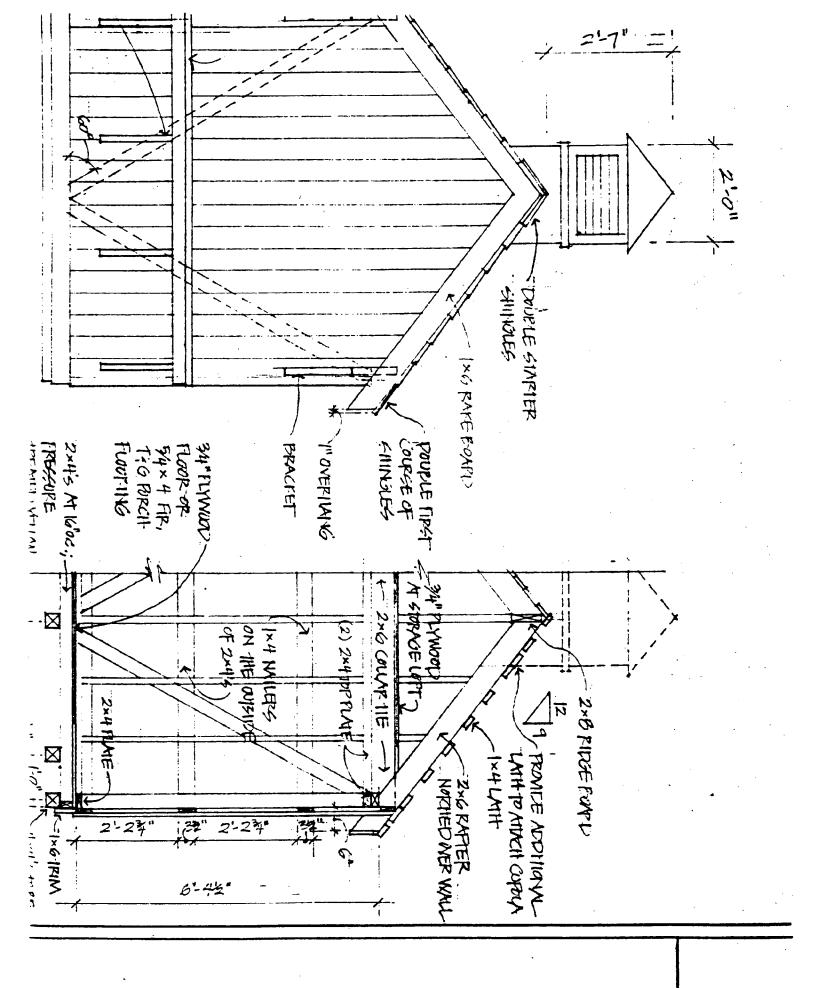
OPTION 1 - GARDEN HOUSE : SALCMON 2124,99

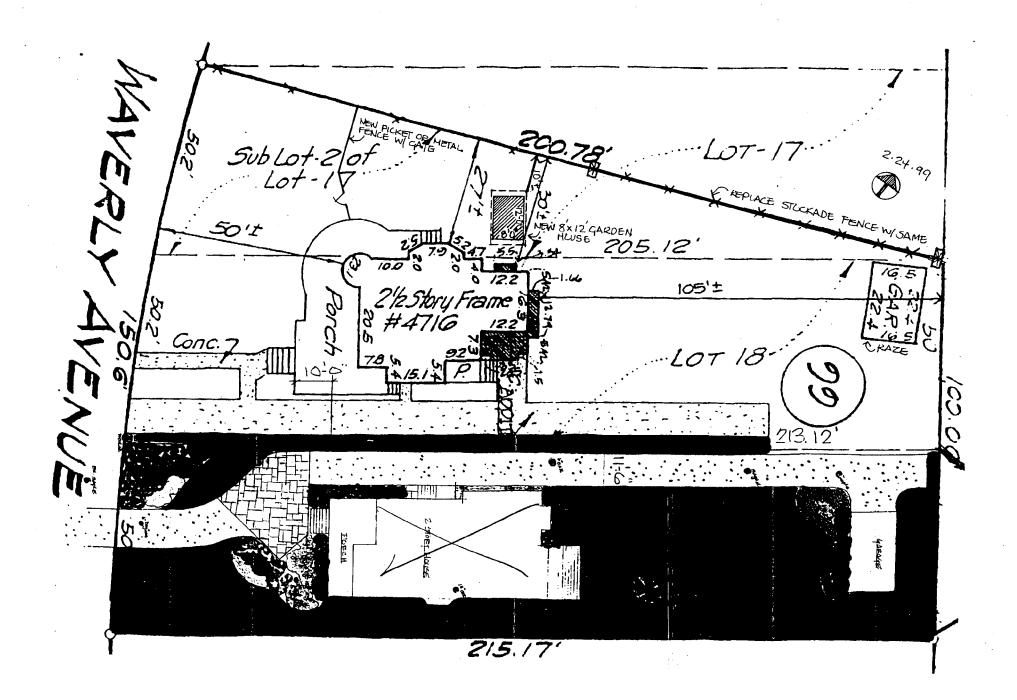












MEMORANDUM

.1	O'.	:	

Robert Hubbard, Acting Chief

Division of Development Services and Regulation

Department of Environmental Protection

FROM:

Gwen Marcus, Historic Preservation Coordinator

Design, Zoning, and Preservation Division

M-NCPPC

SUBJECT:

Historic Area Work Permit

DATE:

2.24.9A

The Montgomery Historic Preservation Commission Pattached application for a Historic Area Work Percation was:	
Approved	Denied
Approved with Conditions:	·
1) two-way Surreay day north side of D	mounts
2) aron strip adjacon to house dues i	wh
Sois & behisse house and drivered	^)-
	2

The Building Permit for this project should be issued conditional upon adherance to the approved Historic Area Work Permit.

Applicant: GOVOST WYWS

Address: 10415 Armory Lorive VENSUATUL



Historic Preservation Commission

51 Monroe Street, Suite 1001, Rockville, Maryland 20850 217-3625

APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

TAX ACCOUNT # 13 / 0/0/92 54 07 6/304				
NAME OF PROPERTY OWNER GEORGE T. MYERS (Contract/Purchaser) ADDRESS 10415 ARMUR AVENUE KENSINGTON CITY CONTRACTOR 70 BE SELECTRY	TELEPHONE NO. 301 942 9662			
ADDRESS 10415 ARMORA AVENUE . FENSINGTEN	3 MD. 20895			
CITY	ZIP ZIP			
CONTRACTOR / BE CELECTOR OF OFFICE ATTION N	_ TELEPHUNE ND			
CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION N PLANS PREPARED BY				
PLANS PREPAREUBY CATTOL FILE	(Include Area Code)			
REGISTRATION NUMBER <u>#</u>				
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE				
House Number 10415 Street ApmoE1	AVENUE			
Town/City KEINSINGTON Election	District			
Nearest Cross Street KNCWLES AVENJE				
Lot Block 2 PART OF Subdivision P.B. DET	FICK'S SJBDIULSION PRATEROK B DIAJ 30			
Liber Folio Parcel				
1A. TYPE OF PERMIT ACTION: (circle one) Construct Extend/Add Alter/Renovate Repair Wreck/Raze Move Install Revocable Revision	Circle One: A/C Slab Room Addition Porch Deck Fireplace Shed Solar Woodburning Stove Fence/Wall (complete Section 4) Other 2 5454 8 2017 - 10			
1B. CONSTRUCTION COSTS ESTIMATE \$ UNKNOWN.				
1C. IF THIS IS A REVISION OF A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIVE PERI	MIT SEE PERMIT #			
1D. INDICATE NAME OF ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANY PEFC	0			
IE. IS THIS PROPERTY A HISTORICAL SITE? YES.				
	of the second second			
PART TWO: COMPLETE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND EXTEND/ADDITION	VS (1)			
2A. TYPE OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL 28	01 (~) WSSC 02 () Well			
03 () Other	03 () Other			
00 () Other				
PART THREE: COMPLETE ONLY FOR FENCE/RETAINING WALL	•			
4A. HEIGHTfeetinches	No.			
4B. Indicate whether the fence or retaining wall is to be constructed on one of t				
1. On party line/Property line				
Entirely on land of owner				
3. On public right of way/tasement	tevocanie Letter Medaneur.			
I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the foregoing application, that	at the application is correct, and that the construction will comply with			
plans approved by all agencies listed and I hereby acknowledge and accept this to be				
	•			
	10.5.92			
Signature of-owner or authorized agent (agent must have signature notarized on ba	nck) Date			
************	***************			
APPROVED For Chairperson, Historic Preservati	on Commission			
OISAPPROVED Signature	andalose			
APPLICATION/PERMIT NO: 920505	ILING FEE:\$			
DATE FILED: P	ERMIT FEE: \$			
DATE ISSUEO:B	ALANCE \$			
WNERSHIP CODE: FEE WAIVED: FEE WAIVED:				

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 10415 Armory Avenue Meeting Date: 10/27/93

Resource: Kensington Historic District Review: HAWP/Alteration

Case Number: 31/6-93 O Tax Credit: No

Public Notice: 10/14/93 Report Date: 10/20/93

Applicant: George T. Myers Staff: Nancy Witherell

PROPOSAL: Construct rear addition RECOMMEND: Approve with

condition

The proposal before the Commission is similar to a preliminary consultation held between the applicant and the HPC on September 22, 1993. The applicant's previous submission and the staff report for that review are attached at the back of this report.

At that meeting, the applicant presented a proposal to build an addition that would more than double the size of a primary resource in the Kensington Historic District. The house is situated in the commercial part of Kensington and is, in fact, not adjacent to any other primary resourcs. On either side are a church parking lot and a non-historic one-story brick commercial structure, across Armory Avenue are large scale commercial structures and parking lots, and behind the property are brick apartment buildings listed as secondary resources.

The five commissioners at the September 22 meeting discussed the issue of compatibility of the addition with the house's context, as opposed to the compatibility of the addition to the house itself. It was understood by all that the addition would radically alter the house, but was also acknowledged by all that the house's original context has been radically changed. Several Commissioners questioned the inclusion of the resource in the historic district. All agreed that the site is unique and that a decision concerning this property would not reflect on decisions made about proposed additions to other primary residential structures in the historic district in the past or future.

Two Commissioners stated that the addition should be reduced somewhat; three Commissioners stated that the addition was acceptable as proposed. All Commissioners agreed that a fully attached addition (as opposed to the use of a hypenated structure or a separate structure) was most appropriate.

STAFF DISCUSSION

In the HAWP proposal before the Commission, the applicant has redesigned the rear addition, altering the roof form and the projections, especially on the south and east elevations. The turret has been moved to the north elevation. The footprint of the new addition has been reduced by 160 square feet and the gross floor area by 150 square feet. New materials, including windows and roofing, would match the existing. The asbestos cladding on the house would be removed and the existing wood siding underneath would be patched, repaired, or replaced as necessary.

The applicant previously showed the Commission two options for treatment of the front porch. The staff had recommended the simpler treatment, which left the front porch intact and created a separate stoop on the south elevation. There was no discussion of this issue at the September meeting, and the applicant has elected to proceed with his preferred design, which is to continue the porch around the corner to create a wrap-around porch. The staff acknowledges that the wrap-around porch provides additional articulation on this elevation—the most exposed side of the building—but still expresses reservations at altering the front porch of the house.

The staff continues to focus in the analysis of this project on the designation of this house as a primary resource in the historic district, while fully recognizing the arguments concerning loss of original context put forth by the applicant and concurred in by the Commission during the preliminary consultation. The staff, therefore, is troubled not only by a proposal that would so substantially alter a primary resource but by the apparent consensus that the designation process erred in the determination made about this property. Staff believes that it is important to uphold decisions previously made about properties during the lengthy and open designation process.

Despite this concern, however, the staff also fully concurs with the analysis of the site's context as discussed at the September meeting and is prepared to recommend that the project be approved. The staff has come to this conclusion also in part because other large-scale additions have been approved by the HPC for houses of a similar size in the past year. In each of these other cases—in the Kensington Historic District and in other districts—the footprint of the house was expanded appreciably or even doubled and staff was satisfied that the Commission fully considered the effect of such additions on the character of not only the house but the character of the historic district as a whole.

The applicant has responded positively to the recommendation in the previous staff report to enhance landscaping at the rear of the house. Decreased parking spaces, increased greenspace, and a patio are the result.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff strongly recommends that the Commission direct the applicant to find ways to reduce the addition further as a condition of approval, but recommends that the proposal be found consistent with the purposes of Chapter 24A. The staff bases its recommendation on the stated judgment of Commissioners at the September 22, 1993, meeting, the subtantially altered context of the house, and the precedent of other approved large additions to primary resources in this and other historic districts.

The staff relies on the following criteria:

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 Standards #9 and #10:

New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment;

New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environnment would be unimpaired.

THE FOUND INTERNST BE COMPLETED AND THE EXCUSION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY OF THE

Montgomery County (1987) Covernment

Historic Preservation Commission

colstant in enumers ba-5† Moñröë 'Street, Suiter 10017 Rockville, Maryland 20850 1250 217-3625

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AP	PPLICATION FOR	
ПΙЗ	STORIC AREA WORK PERMIT—	None of the second seco
TAX A	ACCOUNT # 13 / 0/019254	
NAME	ME OF PROPERTY OWNER BEOFEE T. MYERS :	TELEPHONE NO. 301 942.9042
	(Contract/Purchaser)	(Include Area Code)
	DRESS 10415 ARMORA AVENUE KENSINGT	STATE ZIP
CONT	NTRACTOR TO BE SELECTED CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION	TELEPHONE NO.
PLANS	INSPREPARED BY GTM ACCHITECTS	TELEPHONE NO. 301 942 9002
	REGISTRATION NUMBER	(Indiude Area Code) = 83 8 5
LOCA	CATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE	
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	- City	
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1A.		Circle One: A/C Slab Room Addition JDBF Porch G/Dack/OTFinapilaceTA Street R Solaria (Woodbilming Stove
	Wreck/Raze Move Install Revocable Revision	Fence/Wall (complete Section 4) Other CHROTZIH
		2 SPECKTAPRIMERIA COI
18.	CONSTRUCTION COSTS ESTIMATE \$ UN KNOWN.	
1C.	IF THIS IS A REVISION OF A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIVE PE	
10.	INDICATE NAME OF ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANYPEP	· <u> </u>
1E.	IS THIS PROPERTY A HISTORICAL SITE? YES,	
PART	RT TWO: COMPLETE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND EXTEND/ADDITION	ONS
2A.		2B. TYPE DE WATER SUPPLY
	01 (V) WSSC 02 () Septic	01 (Y WSSC 02 () Well
	03 () Other	03 () Other
PART	RT THREE: COMPLETE ONLY FOR FENCE/RETAINING WALL	_
4A.	•	·
4B.	indicate whether the fence or retaining wall is to be constructed on one o	f the following locations:
•	1. On party line/Property line	
	2. Entirely on land of owner	
	3. On public right of way/easement	(Revocable Letter Required).

I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the foregoing application, that the application is correct, and that the construction will come

plans approved by all agencies listed and I hereby acknowledge and accept this to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

١.	WRIT	TTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT
	a.	Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance:
		EXISTING STRUCTURE 1) A 212 STORY RESIDENTIAL TIPE
		STRUCTURE, VICTORIAN IN STYLE. IT IS PART OF
		KENSINGTON HISTORICAL DISTRICT THOUGH IT IS
		SURRIUMED BY NON-HISTORICAL PROPERTIES, ALL
		OF NON- RESIDENTIAL (SINGLE FAMILY) USE.
	<u>-</u>	
,		resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district:
		THE PROPOSAL IS TO ADD AN APPROXIMATERY 2,000 SF
	·	EXPANSION, TO BE WED INITIALLY FOR RESIDENTIAL
		PURPOSES. HOWER, THE STRUCTURE WILL AT
		SOME POINT BE USED FOR OFFICE COMMERCIAL
		PLRPOJES (THE PROPERTY IS OM ZONED), AND THEREFOR
	<u> </u>	SHOULD BE REVIEWED AS SICH.

2. Statement of Project Intent:

Short, written statement that describes:

a. the proposed design of the new work, in terms of scale, massing, materials, details, and landscaping:

ALL STYLING, DETAILS, ETC WILL MATCH EXISTING.

IN ADDITION, WE PROPOSE TO DEMONE THE NON-HISTORICAL
ASBOTOS SIDING AND FROM THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURE &

RENRY IT TO ITS ORIGINAL PAINTED CLAPBOARD.

b. the relationship of this design to the existing resource(s):

BEFER TO	DRAWINGS.	

c. the way in which the proposed work conforms to the specific requirements of the Ordinance (Chapter 24A):

{	25	FE	2	70	DRA	44	5	GS	

3. Project Plan:

Site and environmental setting, drawn to scale (staff will advise on area required). Plan to include:

- a. the scale, north arrow, and date;
- b. dimensions and heights of all existing and proposed structures;
- c. brief description and age of all structures (e.g., 2 story, frame house c.1900);
- d. grading at no less than 5' contours (contour maps can be obtained from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring; telephone 495-4610); and
- e. site features such as walks, drives, fences, ponds, streams, trash dumpsters, mechanical equipment, and landscaping.
- 4. <u>Tree Survey</u>: If applicable, tree survey indicating location, caliper and species of all trees within project area which are 6" in caliper or larger (including those to be removed).

- 5. <u>Design Features</u>: Schematic construction plans drawn to scale at 1/8" =1'-0", or 1/4" = 1'-0", indicating location, size and general type of walls, window and door openings, roof profiles, and other fixed features of both the existing resource(s) and the proposed work.
- 6. <u>Facades</u>: Elevation drawings, drawn to scale at 1/8" = 1'0", or 1/4" = 1'0", clearly indicating proposed work in relation to existing construction and, when appropriate, context. All materials and fixtures proposed for exterior must be noted on the elevations drawings. <u>An existing and a proposed elevation drawing of each facade affected by the proposed work is required</u>.
- 7. <u>Materials Specifications</u>: General description of materials and manufactured items proposed for incorporation in the work of the project.
- 8. Photos of Resources: Clearly labeled color photographic prints of each facade of existing resource, including details of the affected portions. All labels should be placed on the front of photographs.
- 9. <u>Photos of Context</u>: Clearly labeled color photographic prints of the resource as viewed from the public right-of-way and from adjoining properties, and of the adjoining and facing properties.

Color renderings and models are encouraged, but not generally required.

Applicant shall submit 2 copies of all materials in a format no larger than $8\ 1/2$ " x 14"; black and white photocopies of color photos are acceptable with the submission of one original photo.

- 10. Addresses of Adjacent 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. If you need assistance obtaining this information, call the Department of Assessments and Taxation, at 279-1355.
- 1. Name ST. PAUL'S METHODIST CHURCH

 Address MANGELLA 10401 ARMORY WE.

 City/Zip KENSINGTON WD. 20895.
- 2. Name <u>POBERT MCCHESNEY JR.</u> (1041) ARMORY #A

 Address <u>4429 HNER FORD DRNE</u> NE.)

 City/Zip <u>Pockviue</u> MD. 20853

3.	Name	MASIER CORPORATION
	Address	3760 HOWARD ADE.
	City/Zip	(CENSINGTON, 20895
4.	Name	JANES, DAVOLI (APARTMENTS)
	Address	2501 EAST MEREDITH ST.
	City/Zip	VIENNA, VIRGINIA 22180
5.	Name	GAFEWAY STORES 98 INC.
	Address	4TH & Jackson ST.
4	City/Zip	OAKLAND, CA. & 94660
6.	Name	
	Address	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	City/Zip _	
7.	Name	· , ·
	Address	
	City/Zip	
8.	Name	
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1757E	J. 03/ 2.P	

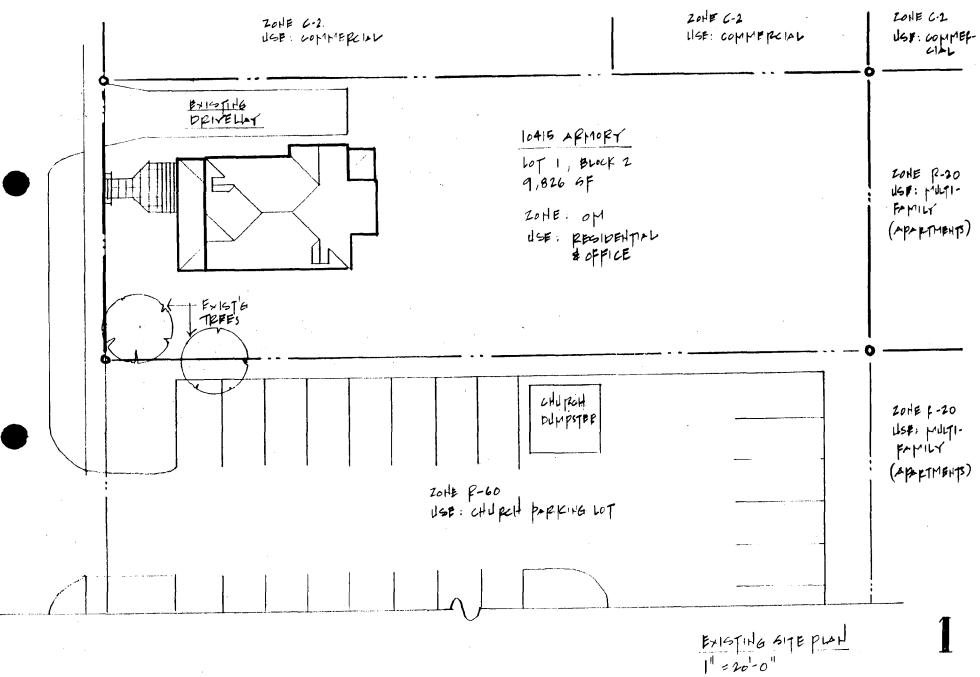


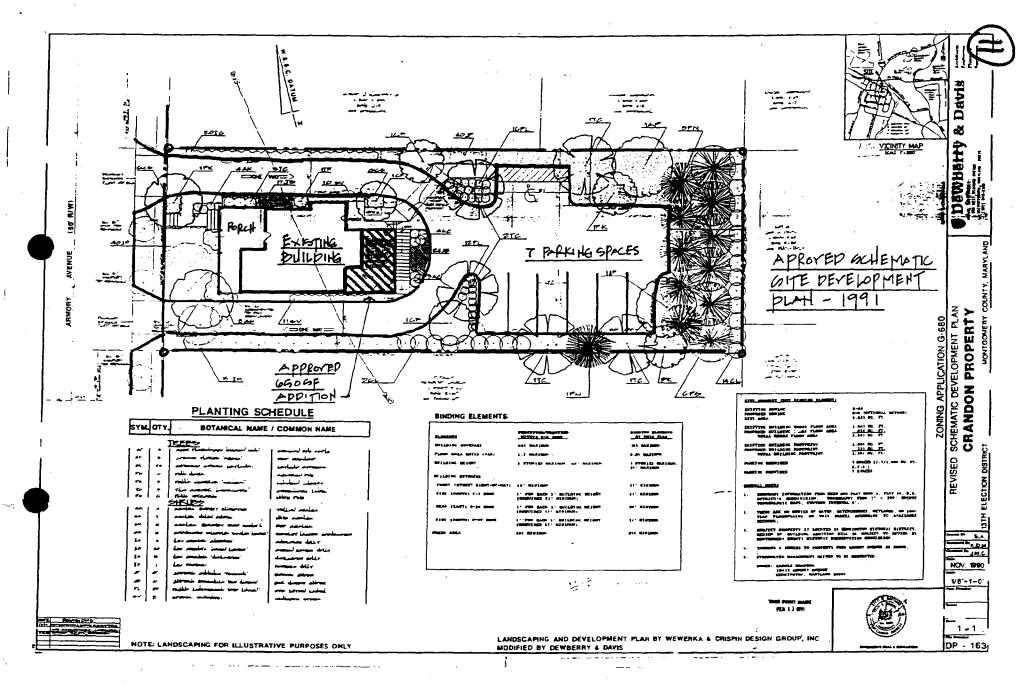
PROPOSED ADDITION TO 10415 ARMORY AVENUE

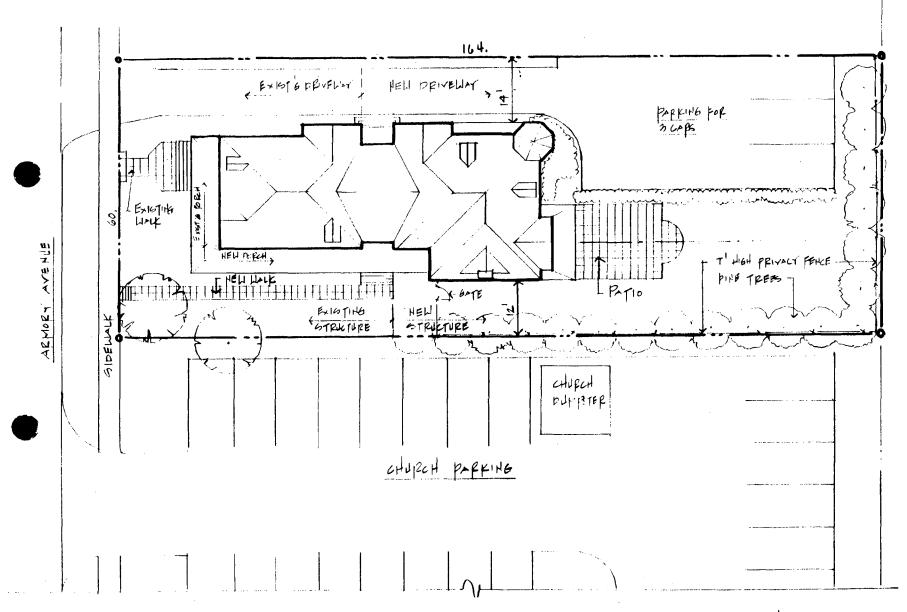
GTM Architects

OCTOBER 6, 1993





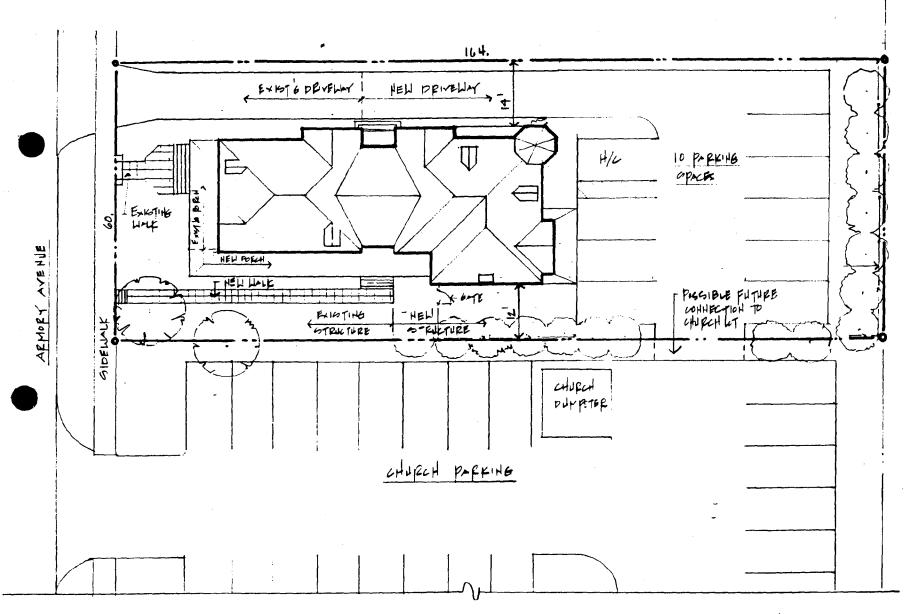




OITE PLAN- PHUSE ONE

1" = 20'-0" REGIDENTIAL

* (FRICE LISE



GITE PLAN- PHOSE TWO- OFFICE

1" = 20'-C"

USE ONLY

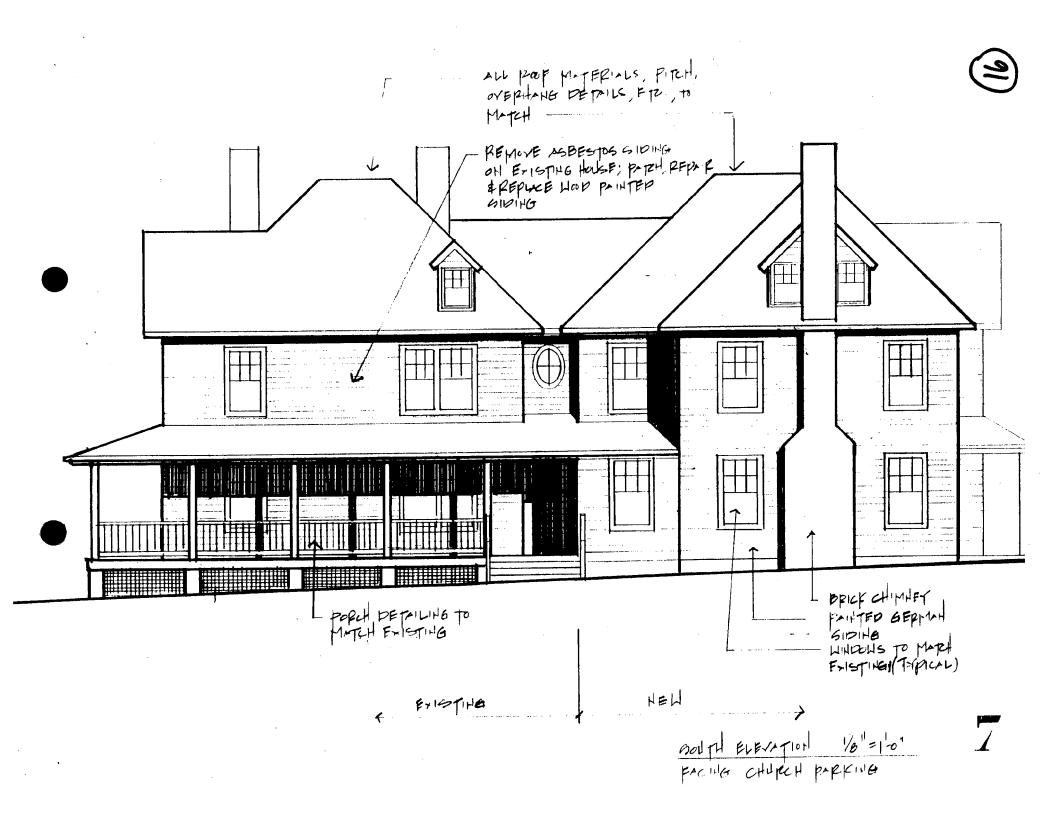


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ADDITION HICHOPS POPULES	1180 SF.	2050 GF
TO TAL	2400 6F 2280	7,580 6=











PEAR ELEVATION 1/8 = 1-0"
(FACTHE APARTMENTS)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 10415 Armory Avenue Meeting Date: 9/22/93

Resource: Kensington Historic District Preliminary Consultation

Case Number: n/a Tax Credit: No

Public Notice: 9/8/93 Report Date: 9/16/93

Applicant: George T. Myers Staff: Nancy Witherell

PROPOSAL: Rear addition RECOMMEND: Further study

This preliminary consultation involves the proposed construction of an addition to a primary resource in the Kensington Historic District. Formerly a residence, the structure is now zoned for office use and is occupied by the applicant's architectural firm.

The map on the last page of the packet is marked to show the location of the property. Although the structure remains residential in character, it's original context has been lost. The building is surrounded by commercial development, including small non-contributing structures to the north, a parking lot to the south, and parking lots and large-scale buildings across the street to the west. However, the building is near a park across the street, and structures designated as secondary resources face Fawcett Street to the east of the applicant's property.

The building's footprint measures 1,060 square feet on a lot measuring 9,825 square feet, for coverage of under 11%. The applicant proposes a two-story addition that would more than double the footprint of the building to 2,400 square feet, for coverage of under 25%. The proposed addition, which retains the roof ridge height and general character of the house, is designed to incorporate the materials and irregular massing of the Queen Anne-style house.

The applicant has submitted two schemes, the first of which integrates a side porch on the south elevation with the existing front porch, and a longer one-story section on the north elevation. The second scheme leaves the front porch intact and utilizes a small entrance porch on the south elevation, instead. In addition, the north elevation features a smaller porch and a projecting bay.



STAFF DISCUSSION

Constructing an addition on this structure would meet the purposes of Chapter 24A and be consistent with approved rear additions to primary resources in the Kensington Historic District. However, in the staff's judgment, the proposed addition is too large for the building. Although the addition's massing has been fairly well articulated, it would create, if built, a structure fundamentally different than the existing structure. Instead of a house that is fairly square in plan and organized under a hip roof, the structure would become a very long rectangle, with a length and massing that did not occur in houses of the period.

The staff would suggest, however, that a smaller addition could be constructed behind the existing house. The rear elevation is fairly flat and a well-articulated addition could be attached to it without distorting the architectural character of the building. The addition, if shorter, would solve the problem inherent in this proposal, particularly in scheme 1, of apparent bisymmetry on the north elevation. In general, the staff would recommend the approach shown in scheme 2, which keeps the original front porch separate from the new entrance on the side (south) elevation.

It is ironic that a longer addition, such as that proposed, would actually block views of non-contributing buildings and features to the north and south of the property. Nevertheless, the scale and architectural character of the resource itself must be preserved.

The applicant has submitted on page 3 of the packet the schematic site plan approved in 1991. It includes 7 parking spaces accessed by two driveways. Although some areas of greenspace would be preserved, the house would be virtually surrounded by paving when seen from the street. Pages 5 and 6 show, in two phases, the site plan the applicant would propose if an addition were approved by the HPC. In both schemes, only one driveway is proposed, thus saving greenspace at the front of the lot.

The staff notes, however, that the proposed site plan on page 6 shows the addition extending all the way to the paved parking lot. The absence of appropriate greenspace directly behind the structure—so that the building can continue to read as a historic residential structure—reinforces the staff's recommendation that the addition be made smaller and more sympathetic to the scale of the existing primary resource.

The applicant has done well to use the building as his office without altering its original residential character. His office sign, reviewed by the Commission in 1992, was designed to maintain that character. A smaller rear addition and appropriate landscaping could be designed to retain that historic residential character, as well.



August 27,1993

Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Md. 20910-3760 Re: 10415 Armory Avenue Kensington, Md. 20895 Proposed Addition

To whom it may concern,

As per HPC requirements, enclosed is an 8-1/2"x 11" package describing the addition I am proposing to my office. As I described to HPC planners Nancy Witherell and Pat Parker, the site was rezoned for office use(OM) by the previous owner in 1991. However, as part of the rezoning, it was agreed that the site would be developed according to the schematic development plan shown on page one of the enclosed package. This plan greatly limits the development of the site, and in my opinion leaves much to be desired, in that it seems as though the entire site is being paved for seven parking spaces.

I have had preliminary discussions with the zoning and land use offices, and they have indicated that the site plan that I am proposing would be able to meet all necessary requirements (with a few minor adjustments). However, it will be necessary to apply for a modification to the approved schematic development plan. While I am not sure whether the HPC would have to approve the new site plan, I know the HPC will have to approve the new structure, and there is no point in going through the process to change the site plan if the structure will not be approved.

On page five of the package is a site summary showing the changes that I am proposing to the schematic site development plan. While I am seeking increases in several areas, the numbers I am proposing still do not even approach the typical OM development standards. In any case, I believe the location (in a largely commercial area) and the size of the lot warrant a larger structure, provided it is done in the same style and character of the original building.

At this time, I am contemplating using the new structure for my home and my office. However, the long term plan will be strictly office use only, and the structure therefore will be required to meet all commercial codes.

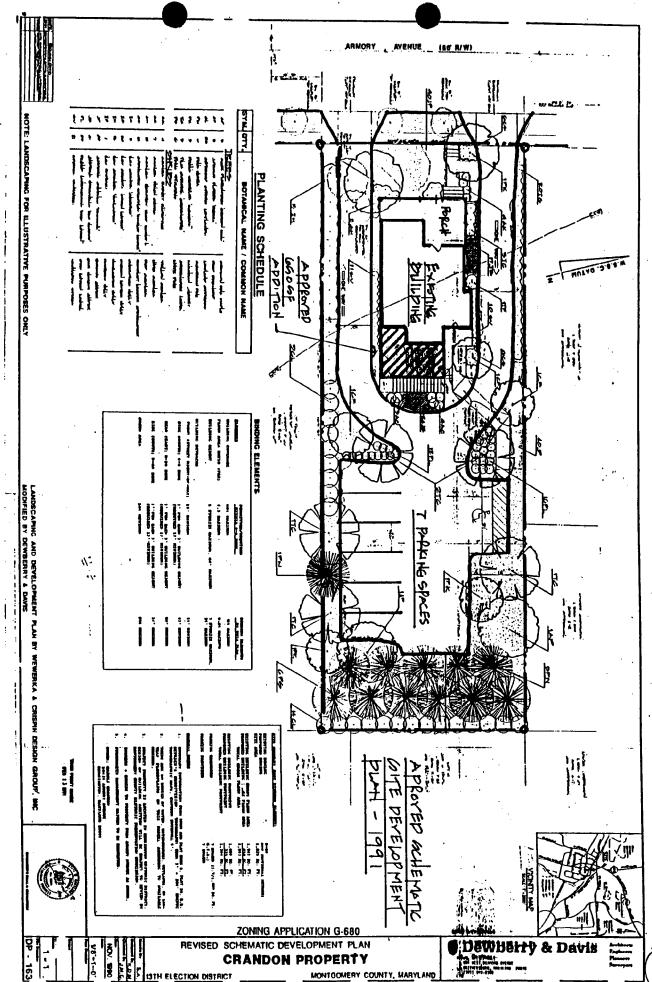
Sincerely

George T. Myers, AIA

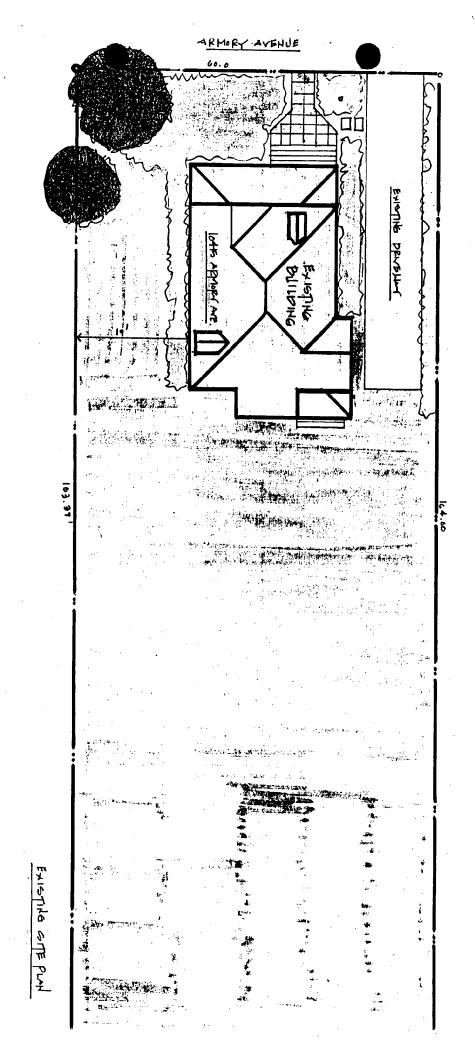


PROPOSED ADDITION TO 10415 ARMORY AVENUE

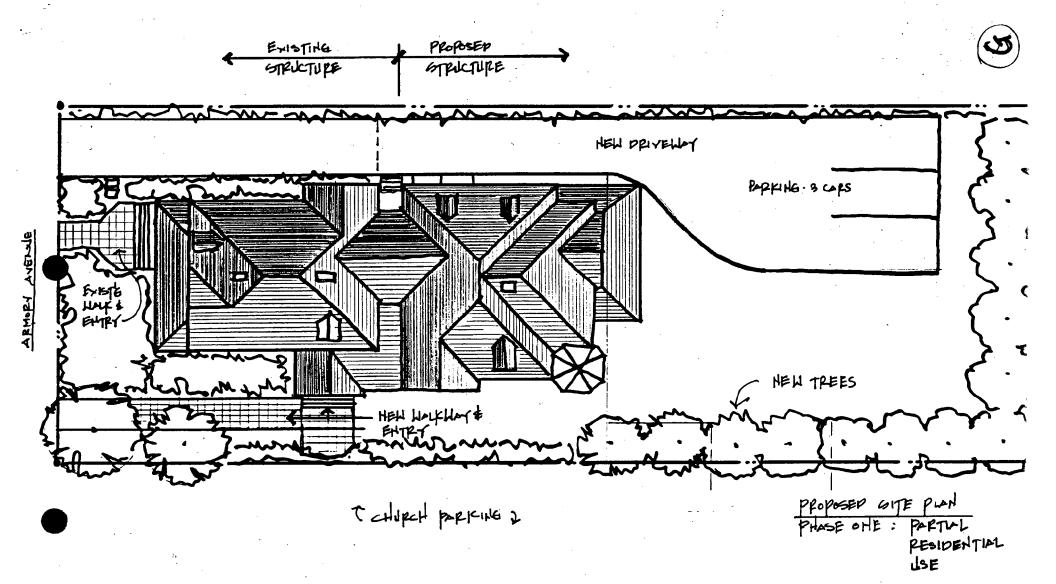
GTM Architects August 17, 1993

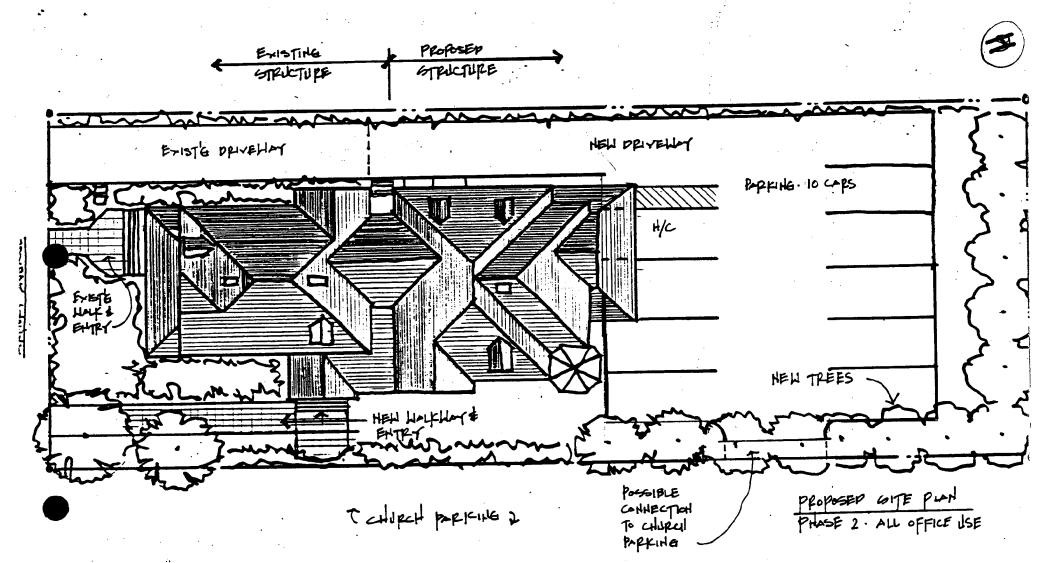


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GIDE (HOPTH) ELEVATION



FRONT (WEST) FLEVATION



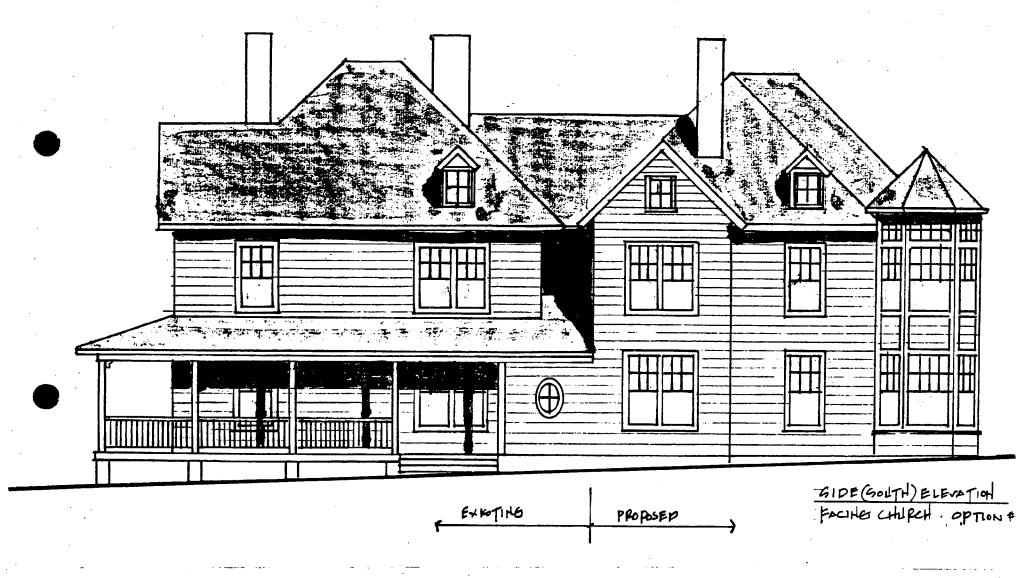
REAR (EAST) ELEVATION



GIDE (SOUTH) ELEVATION



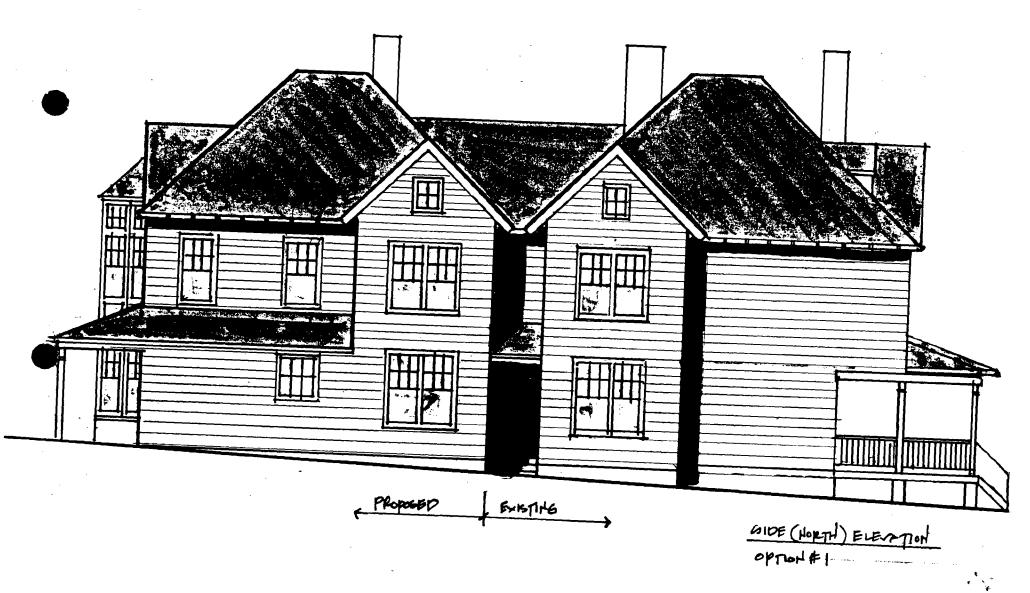




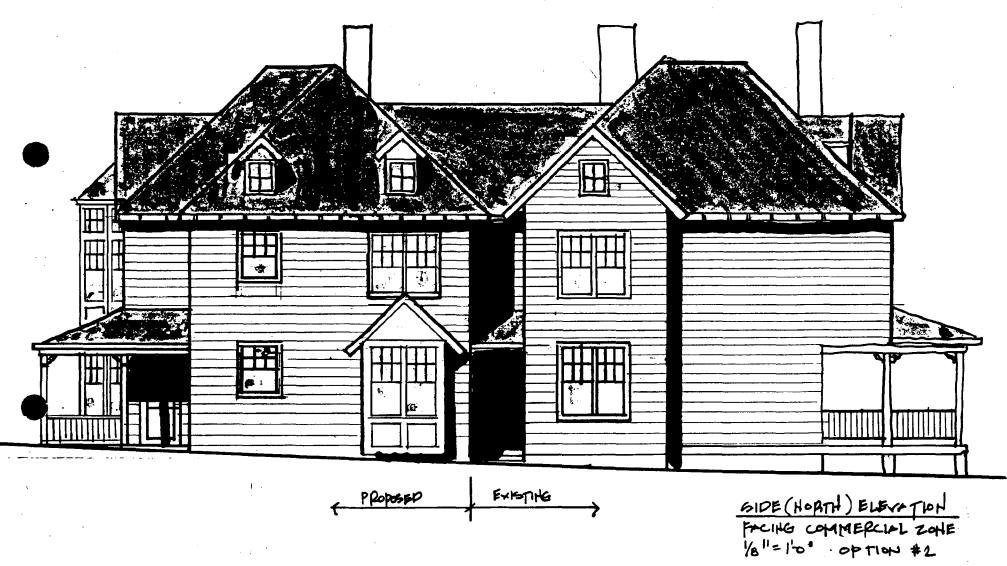








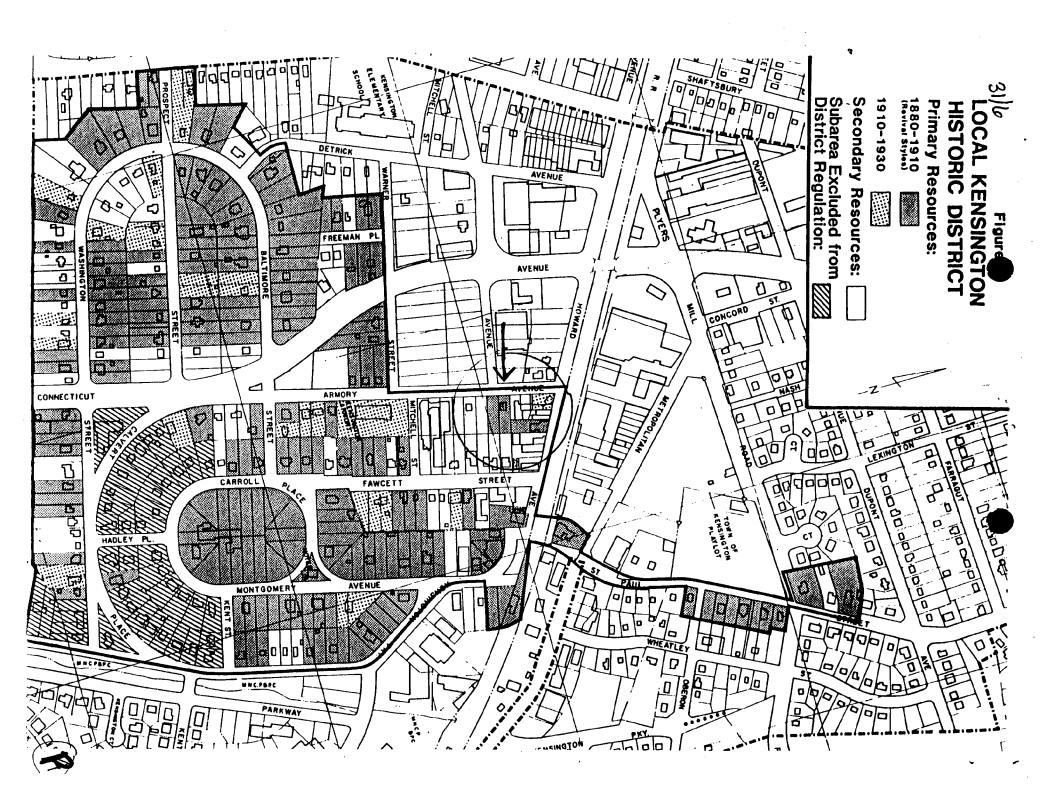








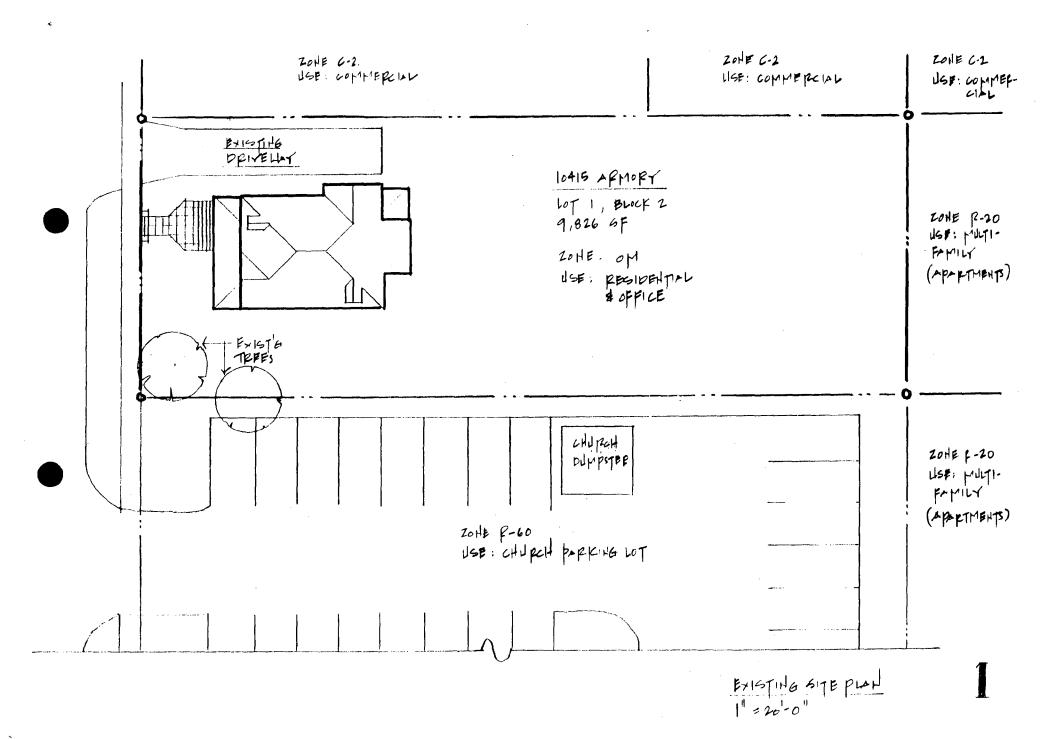
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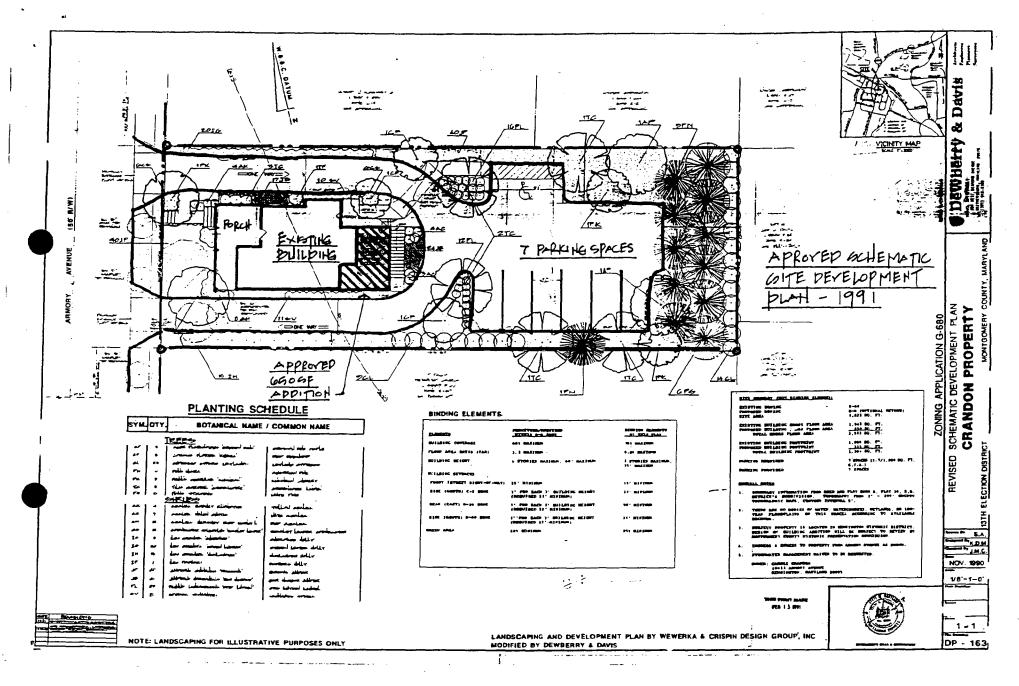


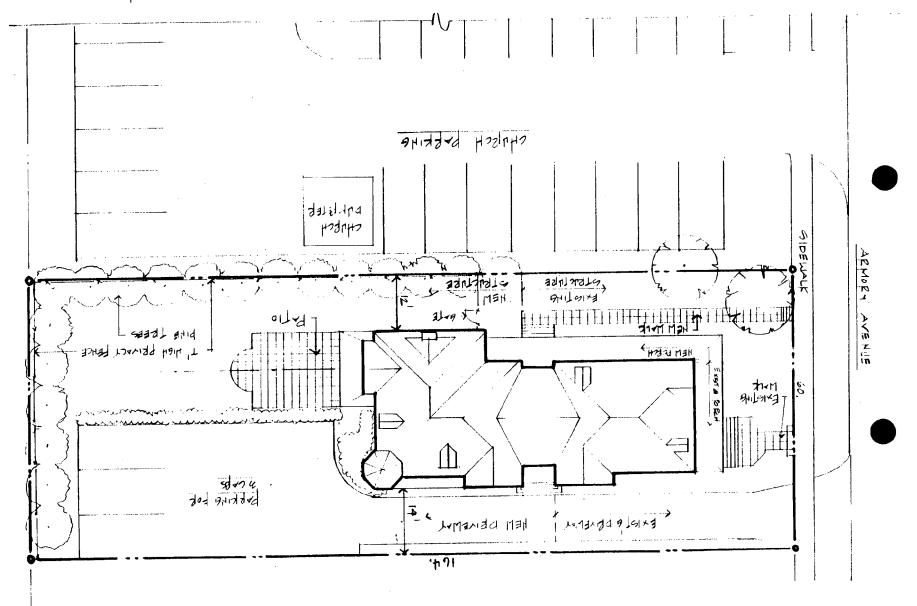
PROPOSED ADDITION TO 10415 ARMORY AVENUE

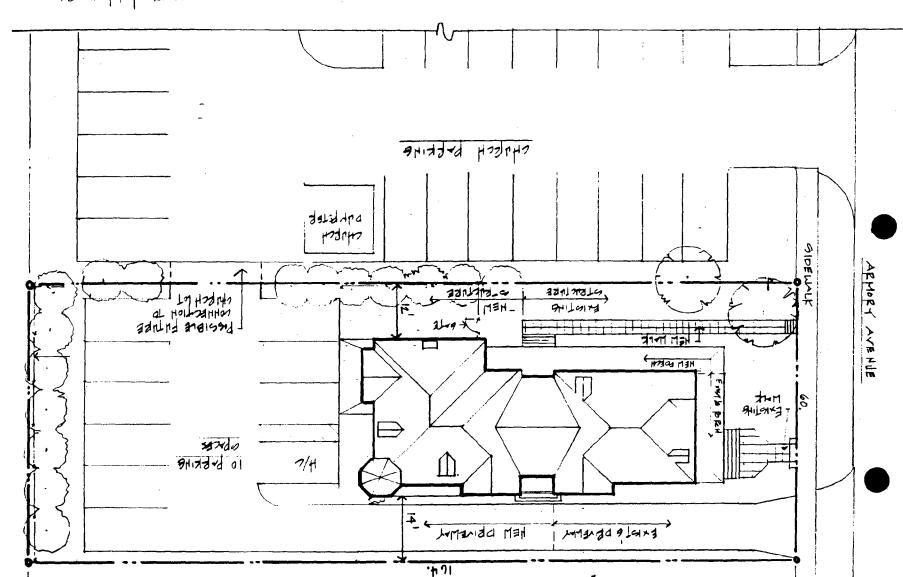
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OCTOBER 6, 1993









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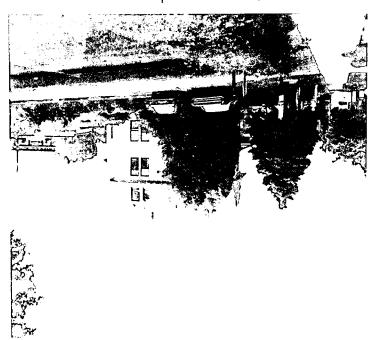
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ADDITION INCLUDES POPULIES	1180 SF.	2050 GF
TOTAL	2400 6F	7,580 0=

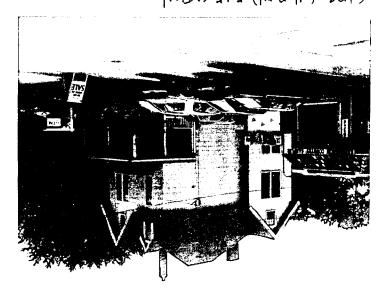


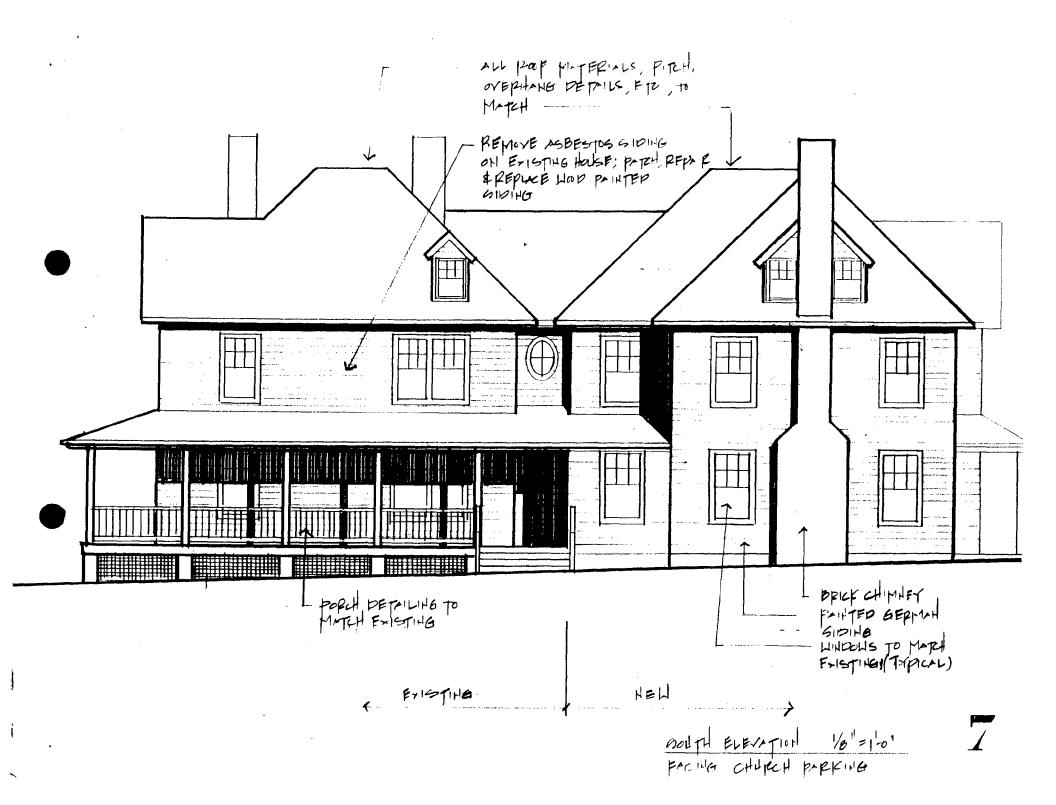


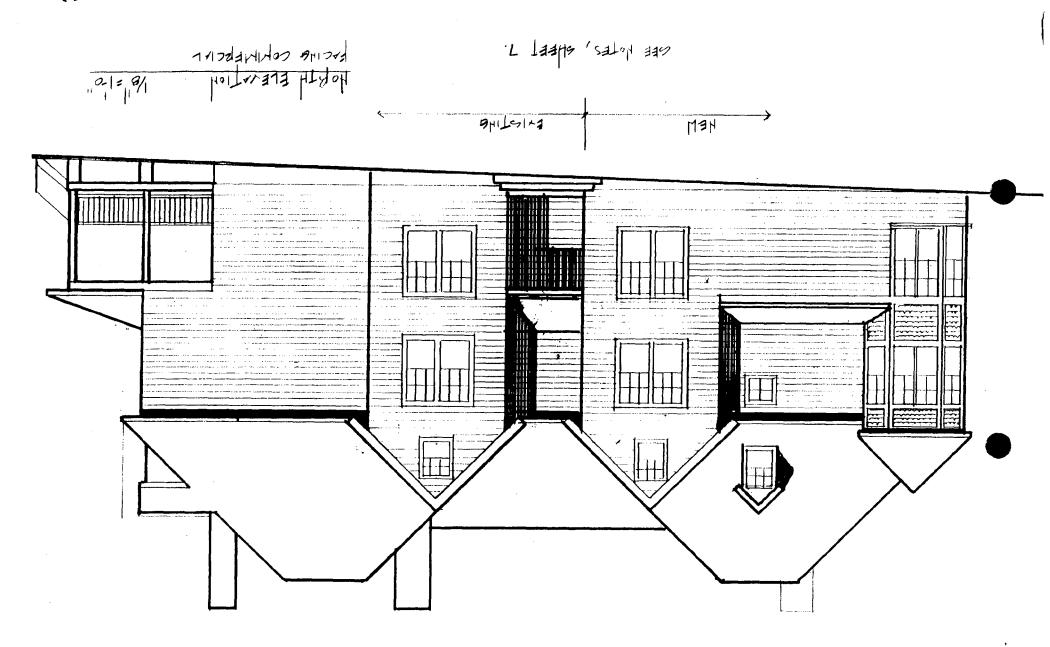
BEAR (EAST) ELEVATION



HOPTAN 3 (HF40H) 3010









PARR ELEVATION 1/8"=10"
(FACING APARTMENTS)

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HOLTWAIS (TONS) AARA



610 E (HORTH) ELEVATION

