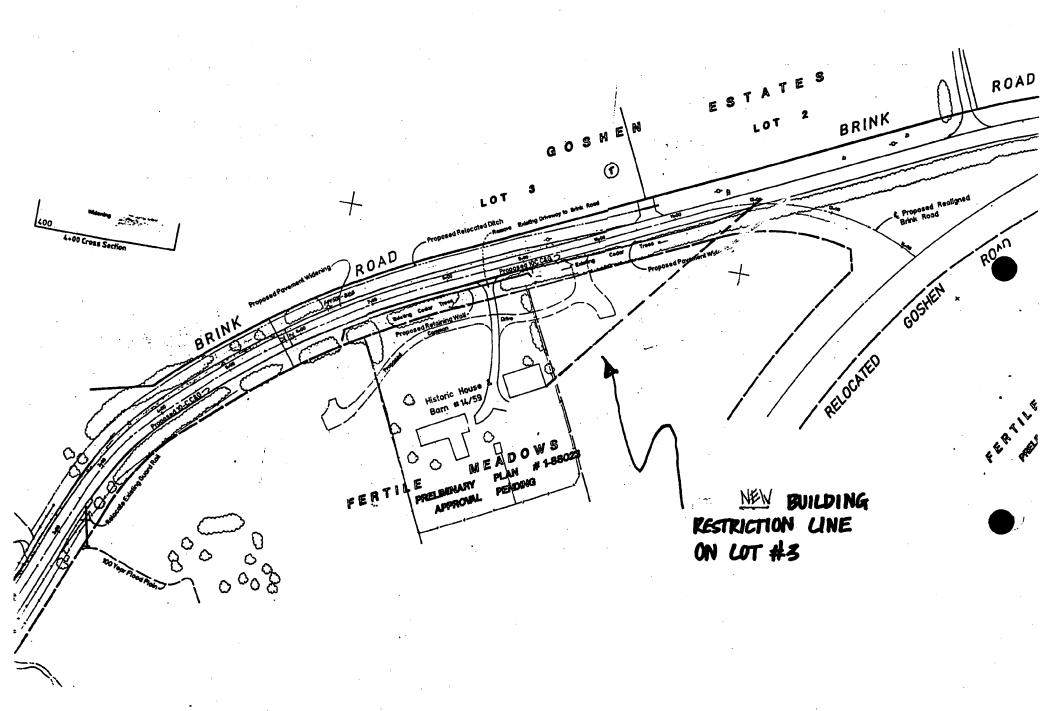
Subdivision 14/59

Fertile Meadows 9000 Brink Road



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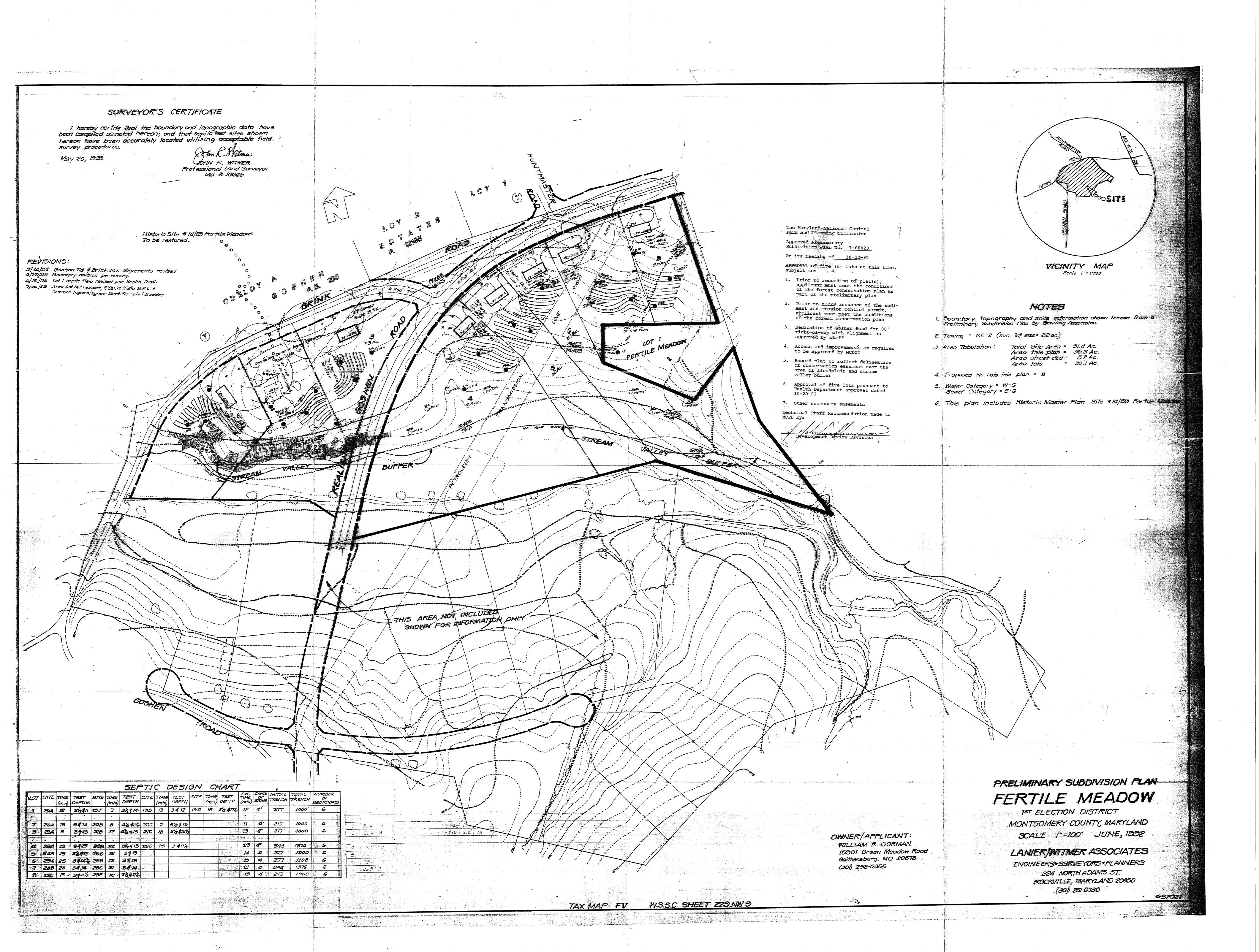
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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION 8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20	
THE MAJA LAND PLATIONAL CAPITAL FARE AND FLANNING COMMISSION	
D JUL 1 6 1993	
FROM: Subdivision Office - M-NCPPC	
NAME: <u>Fertile</u> Meadow	
FILE NO.:/-88023	
Enclosed please find the information checked below. This material will be discussed at the Subdivision Review Committee Meeting of, 19 12 (no meeting scheduled if blank).	
New preliminary plan application with supporting material as appropriate	
Supporting material for previously reviewed preliminary plan	4
Revised preliminary plan drawing	À
New pre-preliminary plan application	•



LAW OFFICES

### LINOWES AND BLOCHER

TENTH FLOOR

SUITE 840 800 K STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 (202) 408-3220 TELECOPIER (202) 408-1719

1010 WAYNE AVENUE P.O. BOX 8728

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20907-8728

(301) 588-8580

64II IVY LANE GREENBELT, MARY LAND 20770 (301) 982-3382 TELECOPIER (301) 982-0595

SUITE 402

TELÉCOPIER (301) 495-9044

April 9, 1993

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER

(301) 650-7057

P.O. BOX 31 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21404 (410) 268-0881 TELECOPIER (301) 261-2603

145 MAIN STREET

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9175 GUILFORD ROAD COLUMBIA, MARYLAND 21046 (410) 740-3337 TELECOPIER (410) 740-3432

BY HAND

Mr. Edgar A. Gonzalez Department of Transportation Executive Office Building, 10th Floor 101 Monroe Street Rockville, Maryland 20850

Preliminary Plan No. 1-88023; Fertile Meadows

Dear Mr. Gonzalez:

On behalf of the Applicant, Moholt and Gorman, the purpose of this letter is to request a modification to what we are advised by Greq Leck will be required improvements on Brink Road in conjunction with approval of the above-referenced preliminary plan. Currently, a Historic House and Barn exist on the property (Site This site is accessed through an existing driveway on #14/59). The current paved cross-section of Brink Road is Brink Road. approximately 20 feet without standard shoulders and ditches on the side that abuts the Subject Property. The frontage along Brink Road and the Historic House contains an embankment and several mature cedar trees that have been identified by the Historic Preservation Commission and Park and Planning as an asset to the historic setting of the House and Barn which should be maintained in their current condition.

Greg Leck has advised that standard MCDOT policy would require the paving on Brink Road to be widened to 24 feet with standard shoulder and ditch work generally from the bridge (750' south of the Historic House) to a point approximately 300' east of said House. To implement such improvements would require the removal of the embankment and cedar trees. Recently, the Applicant, their engineer, the undersigned, Greg Leck and appropriate staff from Park and Planning met to discuss alternative strategies for the treatment of Brink Road. As a result of this meeting, the enclosed Exhibit was prepared to show possible access to Brink Road from the existing Historic House and two proposed houses which we believe addresses the competing concerns of the various agencies and the

### LINOWES AND BLOCHER

Mr. Edgar A. Gonzalez April 9, 1993 Page 2

Applicant.

As shown on the attached Exhibit, the existing driveway from the Historic House would be removed at its point of access with Brink Road. A private common driveway would be installed to serve the Historic House as well as the two new homes. A single point of access from the common drive would be constructed on Brink Road. The slopes on northeast bound Brink Road would be cleared as necessary for approximately 100 feet as shown on the Exhibit so that a minimum of 250 feet of site distance is provided at all points from the new driveway in accordance with existing standards. Such action removes the drive and improvements significantly away from the Historic House so that the embankment and cedar trees that form the historic setting are preserved, while providing safe and adequate access to the existing house and two new lots.

Such a configuration would not increase driveway entrances to Brink Road and, as noted, would be safe and adequate. Furthermore, the proposal would allow the maintenance of the embankment and existing cedar trees along the frontage of the Historic House. As noted on the Preliminary Plan, dedication for a 70' right-of-way for Brink Road is provided. We believe that further study of the ultimate disposition of the Brink Road in conjunction with the relocation of Goshen Road may well render improvements to Brink In the meantime, to require the extensive Road unnecessary. improvements sought which result in the destruction of the historic setting at the Subject Property, makes no sense. The traffic to be generated from the proposed three lots along Brink Road does not bear a reasonable relationship to the improvements currently sought The offered solution of a common driveway and related by MCDOT. slope improvements maintains the existing situation in the vicinity of the Historic House without exacerbating the traffic impact. Moreover, it permits flexibility for future decisions regarding Brink Road without destroying the historic setting perceived to be a valuable asset.

We have requested that Malcolm Shaneman present the Preliminary Plan to the Planning Board in the near future. Therefore, it would be important to resolve MCDOT's position with regard to this matter. We are prepared to assist DOT should further information or discussion be necessary.

Best regards.

### LINOWES AND BLOCHER

Mr. Edgar A. Gonzalez April 9, 1993 Page 3

Very truly yours,

LINOWES AND BLOCHER

Barbara A. Sears

BAS:mje

cc: Mr. Gregory Leck

Ms. Gwen Marcus

Mr. Malcolm Shaneman

Mr. William Gorman

Mr. Peter Moholt

Mr. Richard Witmer

8656.003 gonzalez

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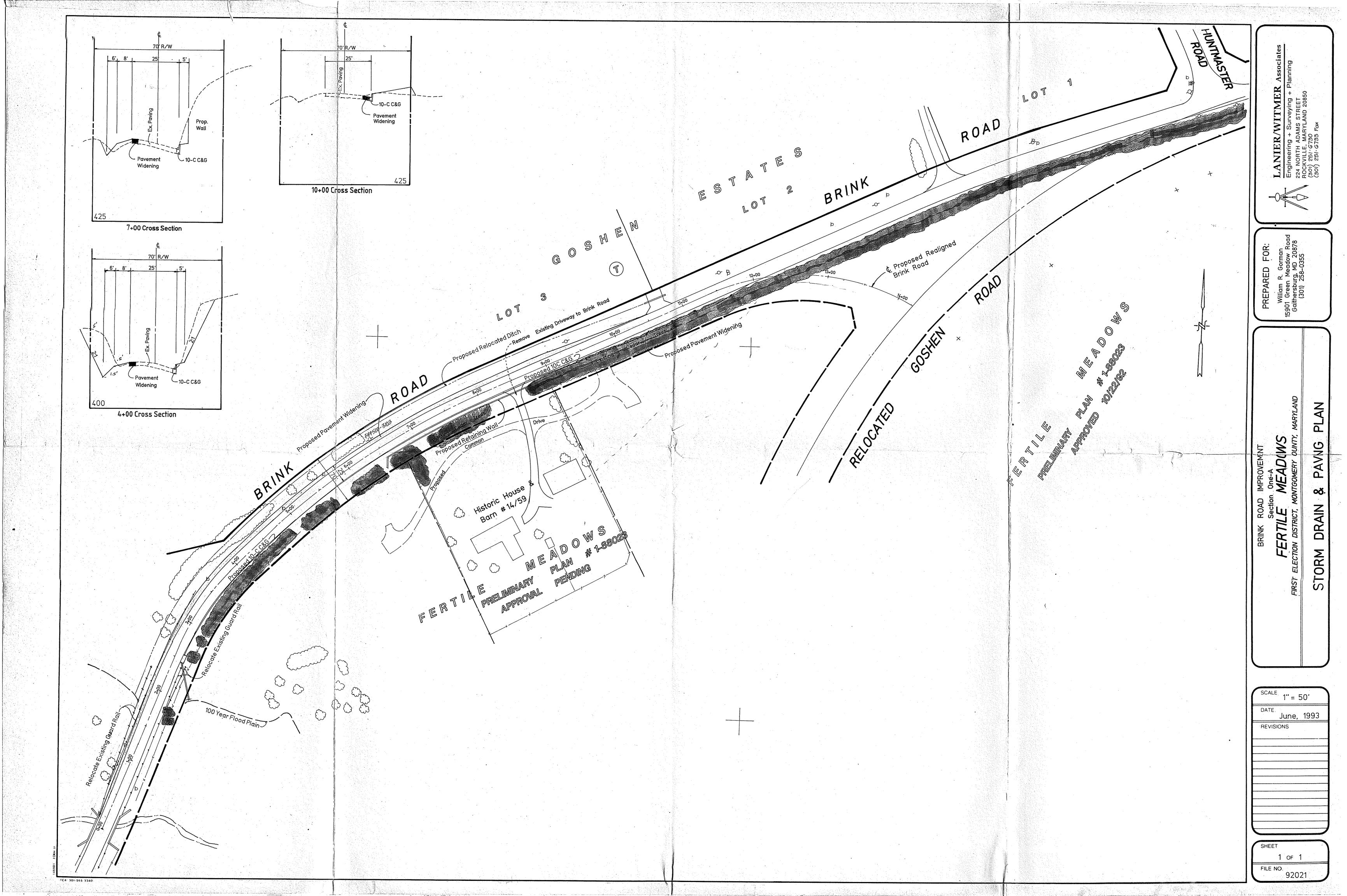
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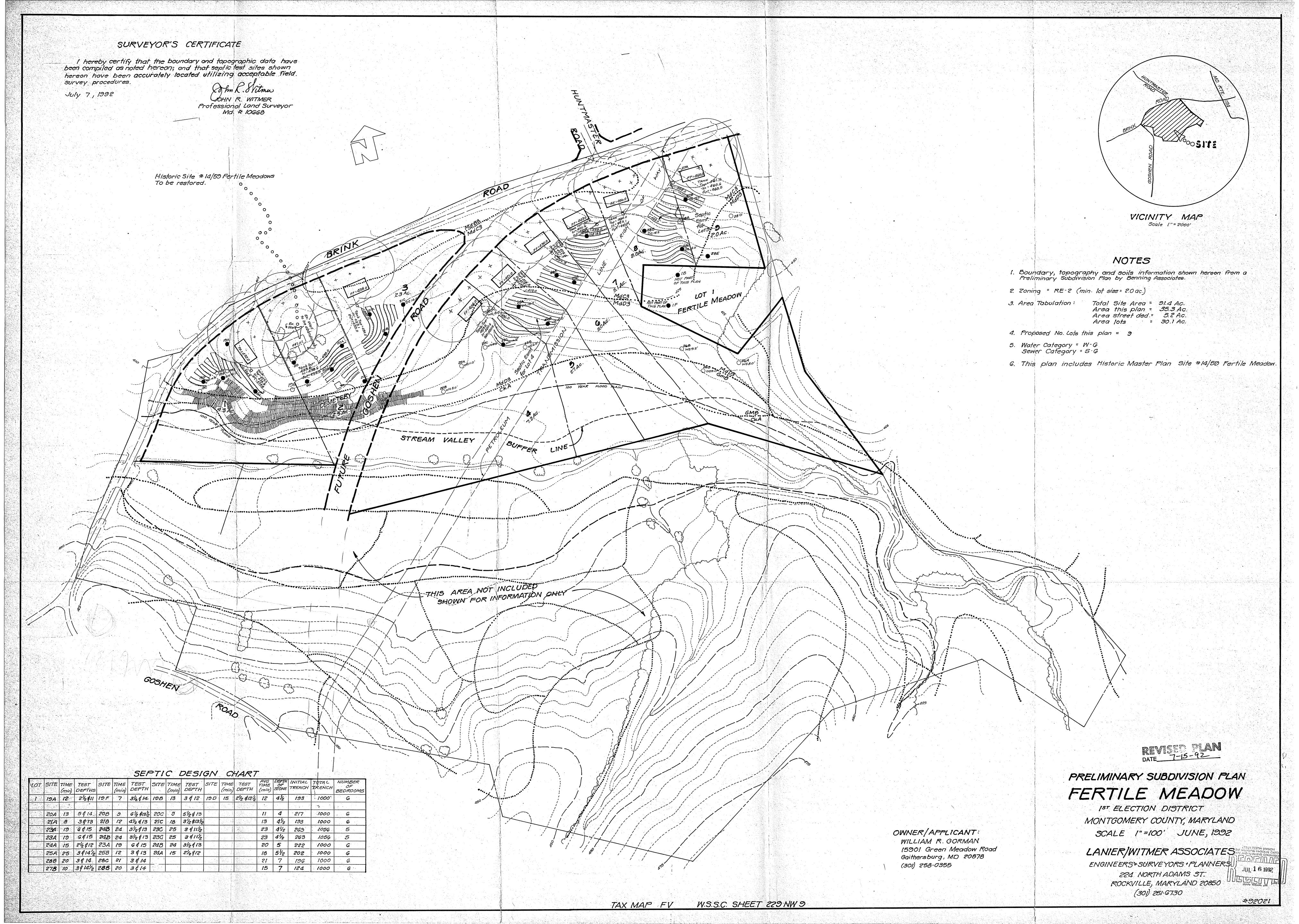
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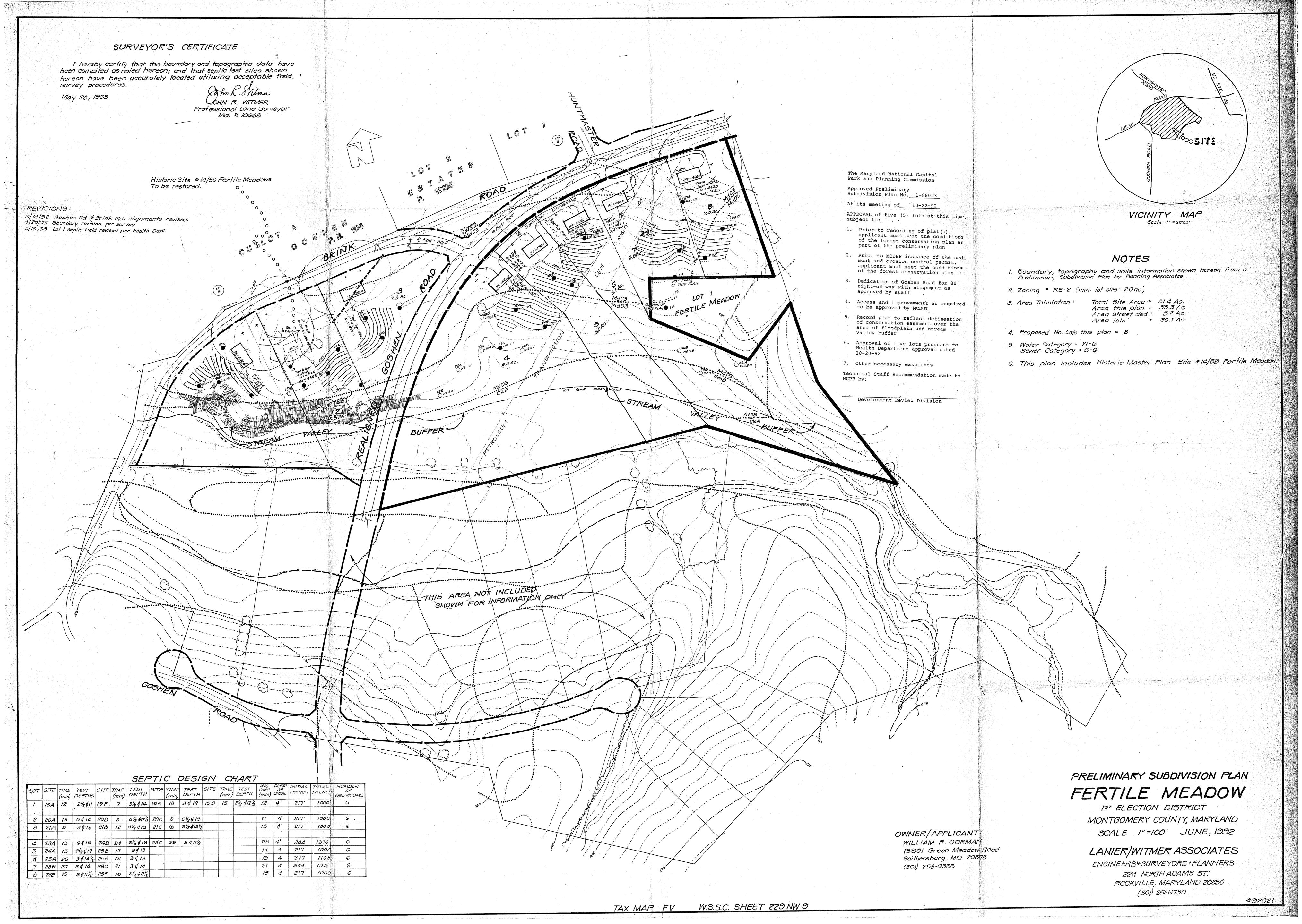
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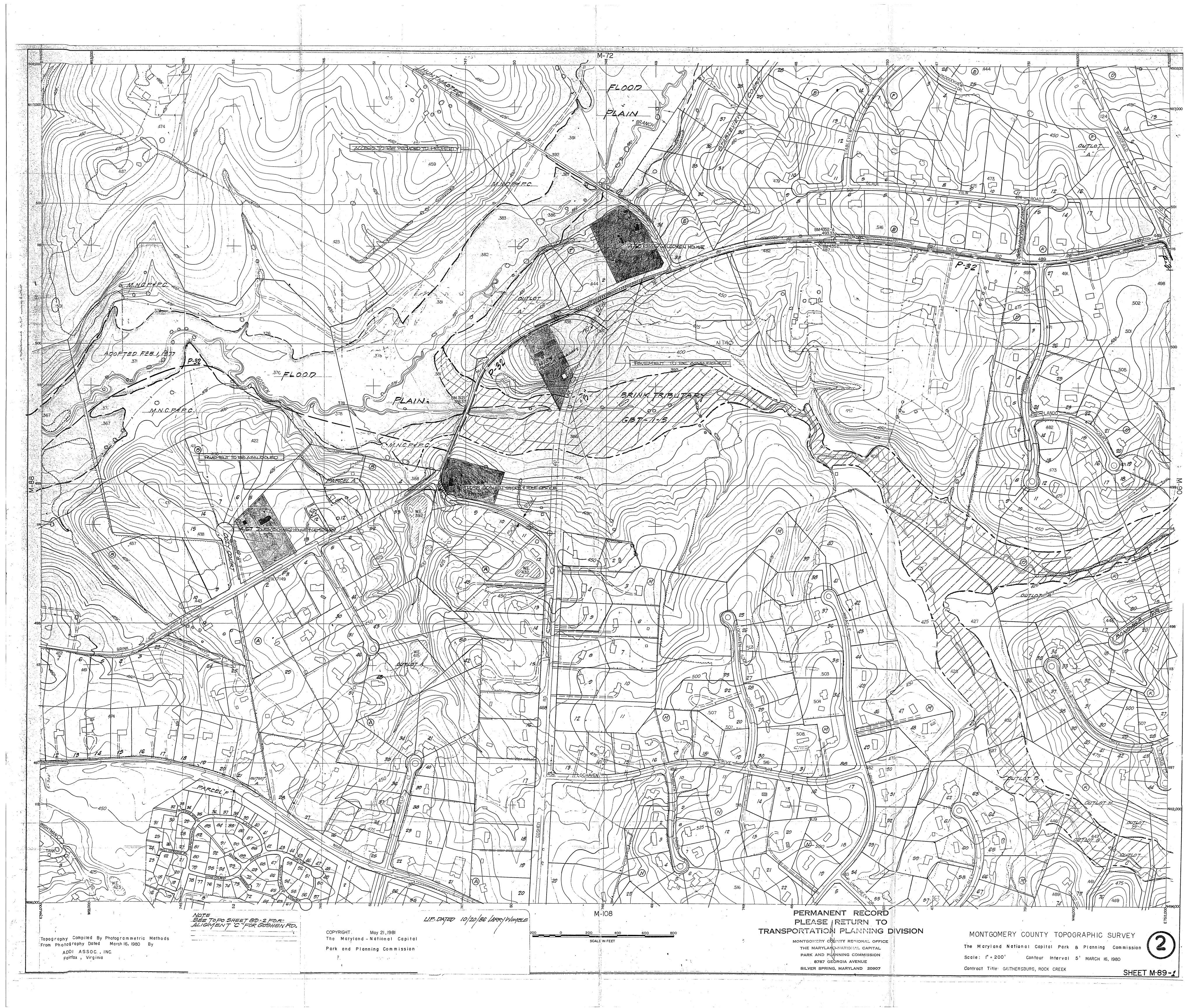
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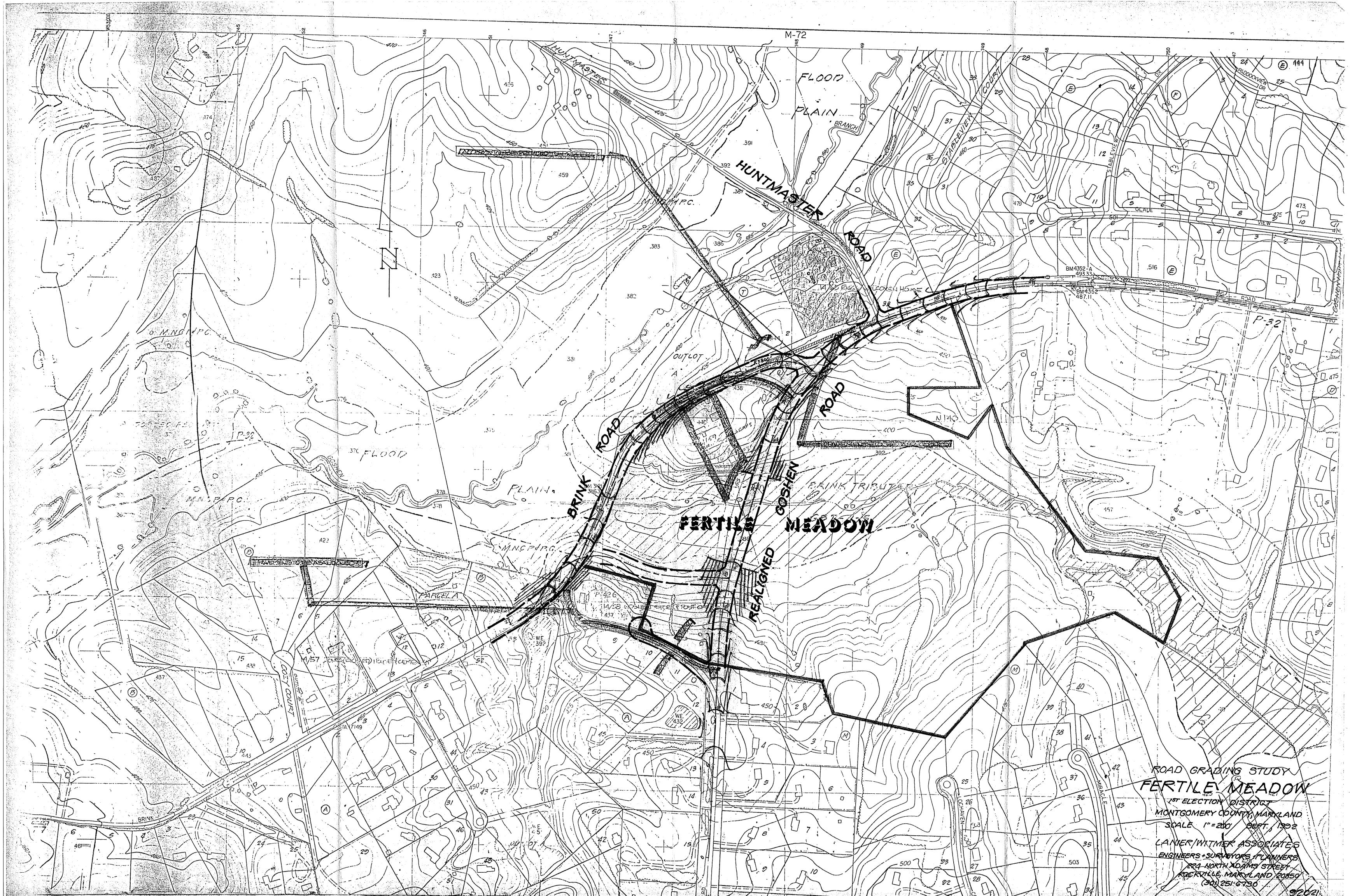












### Verification Report

Date: Aug 03

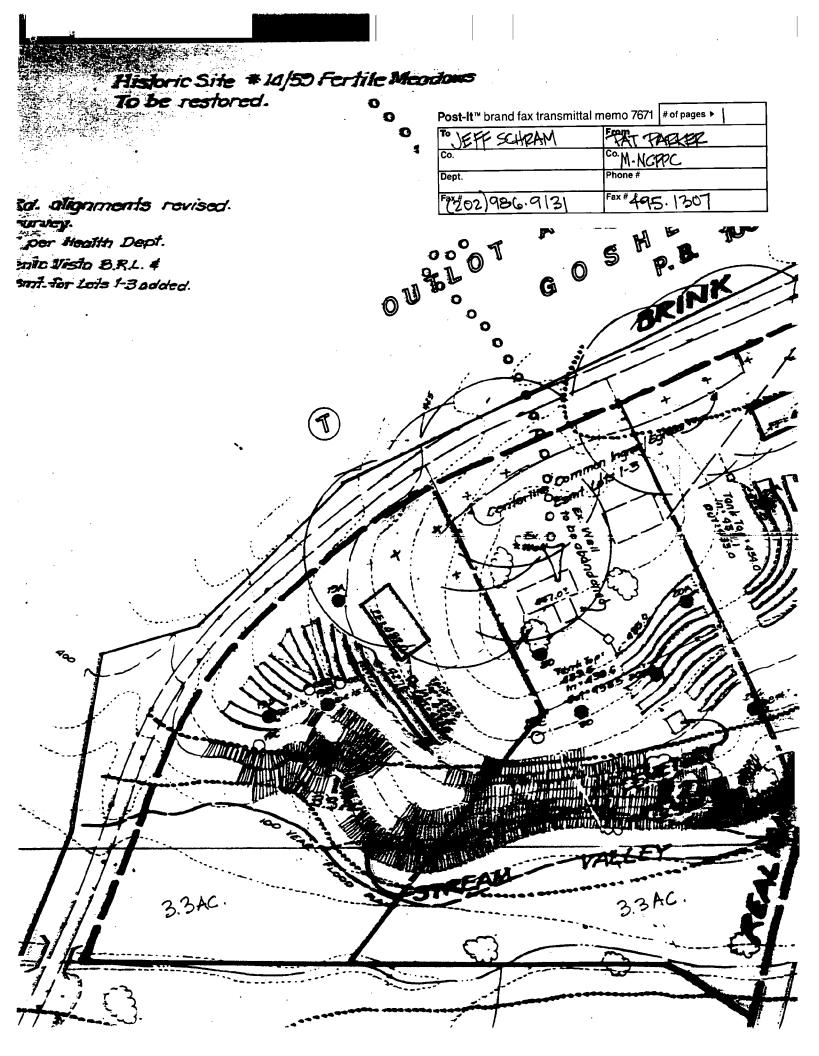
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1 page sent to:

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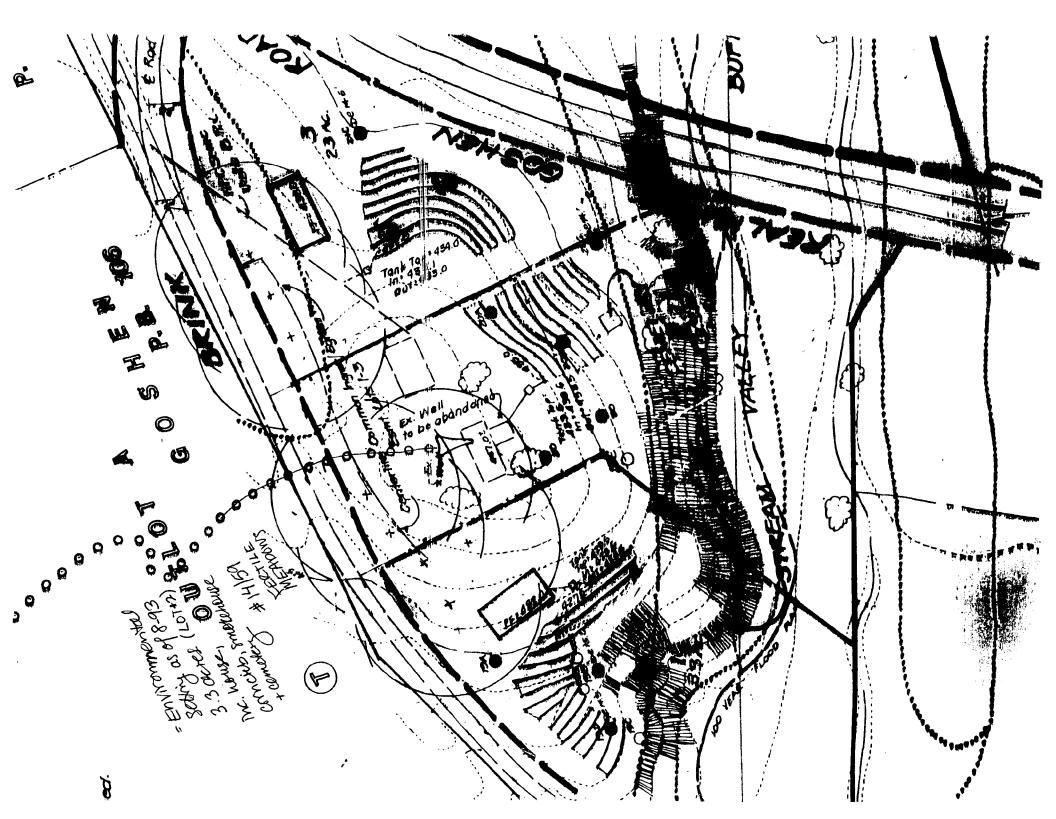
## LANIER/WITMER Associates

Engineering+Surveying+Planning

JOHN R. (DICK) WITMER, L.S.

224 NORTH ADAMS STREET ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 (301) 251-6730 (301) 251-6733 (FAX) Engineir Dave Ber Rogers & Basics

110	
	1-88023 FERTILE MEADOW
	1-08025 PERTICE MEADOW
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	AMENDED PLAN TO BE REVIEWED
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	DICK WITMER
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	to Pl. Bd.
	Staff Report by Aug 5 m.
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July 28, 1993

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Joe Davis

Malcolm Shaneman

Development Review Division

FROM:

Gwen Marcus, Historic Preservation Coordinator Patricia Parker, Historic Preservation Planner

Design, Zoning, and Preservation

SUBJECT: Preliminary Plan #1-88023, Fertile Meadows

On July 14, 1993, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) met and reviewed several plans of subdivisions involving identified historic resources. This memo summarizes the Commission's concerns on a subdivision which affects <u>Master Plan</u> Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows, and are as follows:

Preliminary Plan #1-88023, Fertile Meadows, which involves <u>Master Plan</u> Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows has been recommended by the HPC for approval with the following conditions:

- 1. All historic structures on the property must be stabilized and maintained to avoid further deterioration. All openings of all structures shall be protected. Debris and overgrown vegetation shall be removed and all improvements shall be posted.
- 2. Lot #2, which includes the historic house, barn/corncrib, log meathouse and family cemetery, must be enlarged to approximately 3.3 acres.
- 3. A building restriction line must be created on Lot #3, east of Lot #2, and should be located starting at the rear corner of the barn/corncrib and angling northeast approximately 45 degrees to the front of the site. This line will revise the proposed location for new construction on Lot #3 (see attached drawing).
- 4. To the extent possible, all existing cedars along the property fronting on Brink Road, shall be protected. This may mean extending the retaining wall to the west, and/or moving the joint driveway to the east as necessary.

- 5. A minimum of two cedars (with size set by M-NCPPC Land-scape Architect) shall be added to the right of the driveway entrance as you face Lot #2.
- 6. Historic preservation planning staff must be provided with a description of the new house to be built on Lot #1 because of land topography and because of the proximity of the new house to the historic setting.

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

SITE: Master Plan Site #14/59

Fertile Meadows

<u>DATE:</u> July 7, 1993

CASE NUMBER: #1-88023

TYPE OF REVIEW: Subdivision

PREPARED BY: Patricia Parker

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9000 Brink

Road

### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

This subdivision plan proposes the creation of three lots of 2.3 to 4.3 acres each, including Master Plan Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows - a historic house, appurtenances and cemetery (all on one lot) located on the south side of Brink Road near the Goshen Branch of the Great Seneca Creek Valley. Five lots, further to the east and separated from the historic site by realigned Goshen Road, were previously approved by the Planning Board and houses are currently being constructed on the lots.

Fertile Meadows is a 1790 frame and brick house, associated with the Riggs family (a prominent farming and mercantile family in Montgomery County), with accompanying corncrib/barn, meat house and family cemetery. Fertile Meadows was placed on the Master Plan in 1984 with the entire parcel of 91.38 acres as an environmental setting, to be reduced at the time of subdivision. The HPC reviewed an earlier subdivision proposal in February, 1988 and recommended a combination of three lots as a reduced setting north of the future Goshen Road realignment. This triangular shaped piece would be bounded by the new Goshen Road, Brink Road, and the Goshen Branch stream valley (see attached memo).

On July 8, 1992 the HPC reviewed a Historic Area Work Permit involving the relocation of the corncrib/barn on the property, but the applicant withdrew this proposal before any vote. The staff recommendation was against relocation of the barn because of its value to the site. No mention was made about the deteriorated condition of the meathouse. The Staff Report further recommends "the best preservation plan for this site would be to keep all the resources, including the cemetery, grouped on one lot."

This current subdivision request proposes reducing the environmental setting of Fertile Meadows to 2.3 acres as defined by existing fence lines and including the house, barn, meathouse and cemetery on one lot. It also proposes creating a lot on either side of the historic resource on the south side of Brink Road. The historic setting would have frontage on both Brink

Road and the new Goshen Road (although all structures would be oriented to Brink Road), and all elements of the historic resource would be located on the same parcel. A stream valley buffer would wind across Lot 1, the rear of Lot 2 (the lot containing Fertile Meadows) and portions of the remaining lots.

The County's Department of Transportation (DOT) is requiring substantial road improvements to Brink Road as a condition of this subdivision. The improvements to Brink Road will have a major impact on the setting for Fertile Meadows - specifically, removal of the existing driveway leading to the historic house from Brink Road and replacement with a shared driveway accessing Brink Road further to the east, pavement widening on the north and south shoulders of Brink Road in front of the site, and intrusion into the existing line of cedar trees (see attached plan.) The applicant has worked with DOT and is proposing a retaining wall in front of the historic house as a means of mitigating some of the impact of the road improvements.

Development of the 4.3 acre lot to the west of Fertile Meadows (Lot #1) is also of concern - it is a particularly sensitive area due to the topography of the site and the row of large cedar trees planted along Brink Road which provide a screen and windbreak for the historic site. Access to all the lots would be a shared driveway, and this driveway would have to cut across the front of the historic property to get to Lot #1. The front of the house on Lot #1 will face the historic house, with a vista toward the rear across the stream valley. The new house may be larger than the 1-1/2 story historic resource; but because of the topography, the new house will be placed at a lower elevation.

Finally, the condition of maintenance of the historic site is very poor. In addition to the main house being open and accessible to vandals, the deterioration of the log meathouse, from photos taken in 1984, shows an example of serious neglect which needs to be rectified. The meathouse is a significant part of the setting, and should be restored.

### ISSUES:

There are several issues of importance in review of this subdivision proposal. First, the location of a new building restriction line on Lot #3 would require the house to be moved farther southeast behind the line and would maintain a vista for the historic house to Brink Road with less intrusion (see attached plan).

The length of the retaining wall should be increased to adequately protect existing and new cedars to be planted. This wall would help to maintain the existing screening along Brink Road which is an important aspect of the character and setting of the historic property.

The existing driveway entrance from Brink Road to the historic site (which will be closed) should be sensitively filled in and augmented with additional cedars planted at the entrance. The driveway is important to the historic setting, as is preservation of the row of cedars which lines Brink Road. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards #1 and #2 address the issue of altering the site:

A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

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

Another very important issue is that the house and its appurtenances should be adequately protected. During a recent field visit, staff noted that the house was open and accessible to vandals, window openings had no weather protection, and excessive vegetation and debris has accumulated around the barn/corn crib and house. As noted above, the meathouse is in a state of collapse.

Finally, it would be appropriate to decrease the size of Lot #1 at the streambed and add acreage to Lot #2 by angling southward. This would strengthen the environmental setting and add to its openness by maintaining the semi-rural environment of the house. Due to its proximity and the land topography, the architectural design of the new house on Lot #1 should be fully described so as to ensure that it will complement Fertile Meadows as much as possible.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Based on the issues discussed above, staff recommends approval of this subdivision plan with the following conditions:

- o Enlarge Lot #2 to include as much as 1 additional acre for a setting of approximately 3.3 acres for <u>Master Plan</u> Site #14/59 Fertile Meadows, including the house, barn/corncrib, log meathouse and family cemetery.
- O Create a building restriction line on Lot #3, with the new house moved farther to the southeast.
- o Protect all possible cedars along property fronting on Brink Road. This may mean extending the proposed retaining wall to the west as necessary.

- o Add a minimum of two cedars (with size to be set by M-NCPPC Landscape Architect) to the right of driveway entrance as you face Lot #2.
- o Post and protect (board-up) all openings for house and barn. Remove all debris and overgrown vegetation for protection of outbuildings and house.
- o Provide staff with a description of the new house to be built on Lot #1 so as to complement Fertile Meadows. The new house will be very visible from the historic house. This requirement should be met because of the promixity of the new house to the historic setting and land topography.

### MEMORANDUM

February 29, 1988

TO:

Charles Loehr

Subdivision Review, MNCPPC

FROM:

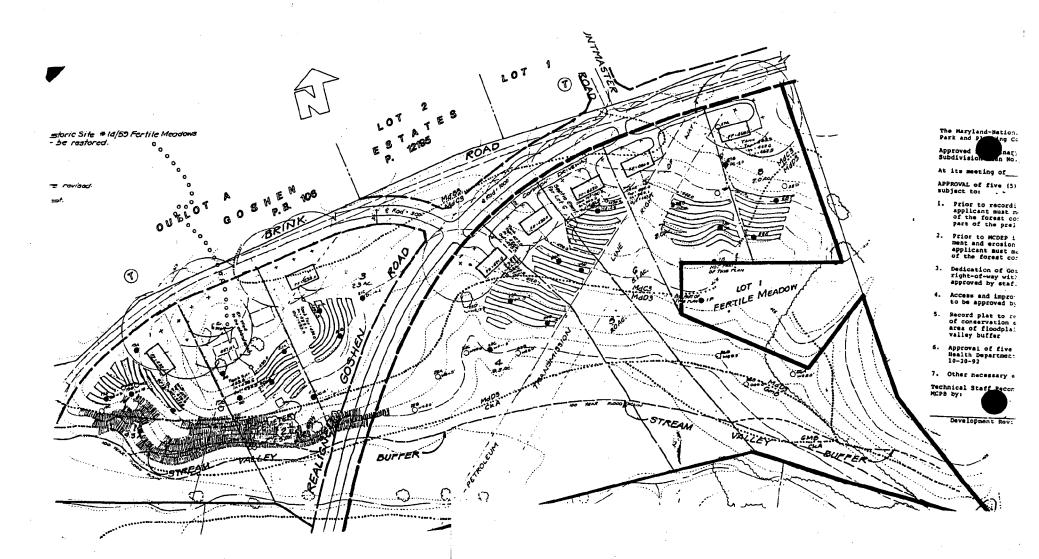
Bobbi Hahn, Executive Director BH. Historic Preservation Commission

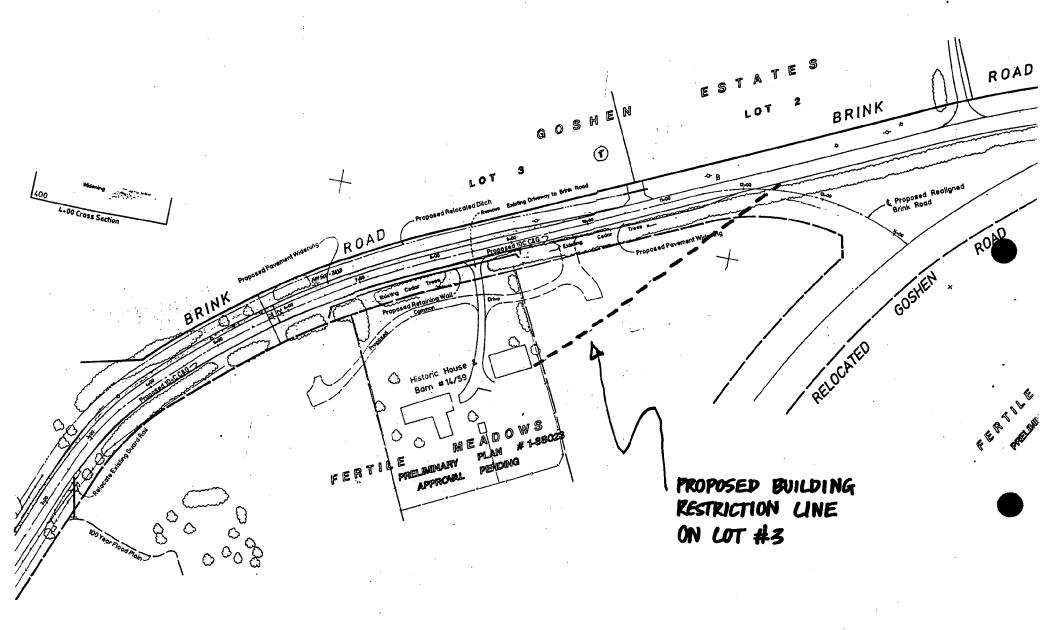
SUBJECT: Subdivision involving historic resources

At its February 18, 1988 meeting the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed several plans of subdivisions involving identified historic resources.

- ٦. Plan 1-87282 Cohen Property which is immediately adjacent to Atlas historic site #13/19 the Elizabeth Waters House. The Commission had no objections to the plan as submitted.
- 2. Plan 1-88006 Kings Crossing which involves Atlas historic site #19/14 the Hoyle Farm which has been recommended by the HPC for placement on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation on architectural grounds. The Commission found that although the environmental setting of the historic resource may be reduced from the entire parcel to a smaller amount of acreage, the developer should provide sufficient space for the retention of the house, barn, and stone outbuilding in a substantial setting. Commission also expressed an interest in looking at the Hilton house, which is located on the north edge of the subject property, as part of the on-going survey of 20th century resource survey of Montgomery County. In addition, the Commission opposed the abandonment of Hoyle's Mill Road and favors the proposal of the Germantown Citizens Association that the present road be designated a scenic rural by way.
- 3. Plan 1-88023 Fertile Meadows which is located within the environmental setting of Master Plan site #14/59 Fertile Meadows and is\_immediately adjacent to Master Plan #14/58 Goshen Store and Post Office. The Commission recommends that lot 18 next to the Goshen Store be eliminated so that the historic vista from the store is maintained. In addition the Commission recommends that lots 19,20, and 21 be combined into one lot as a reduced environmental setting of Fertile Meadows: because this area will be separated from the remainder of the proposed development by the future realignment of Goshen Road and because it borders on the 100 year flood plan, an area which cannot be developed, there exists the unusual opportunity to preserve the historic resource in a semi-rural setting.

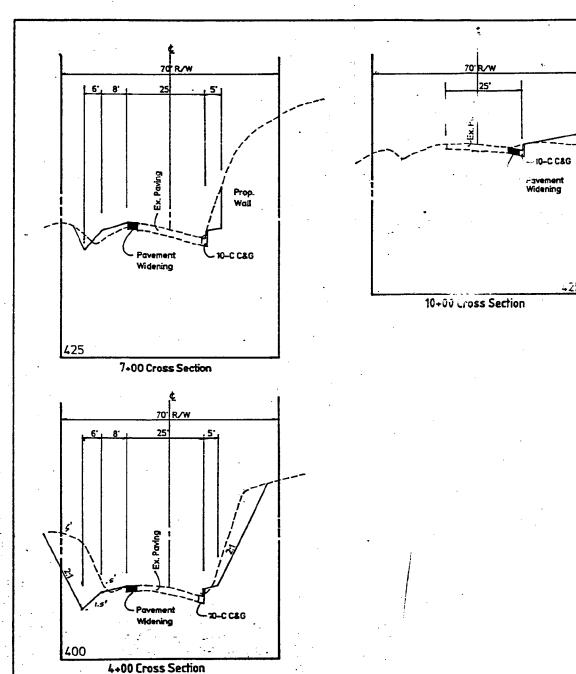
# CURRENT PROPOSAL





4.35 12

# BRINK ROAD -PROPOSED ROAD CROSS SECTIONS



_		
1.	Name: Fertile Meadows	
2.	Planning Area/Site Number: 14/59	3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 8 Coordinate C-10
+•	Address: 9000 Brink Rd. Laytonsville, Md.	
5.	Classification Summary	
	Category building Ownership private Public Acquisition N/A Status occupied	Previous Survey Recording MNCPPC Title and Date: Historic Sites Inventor 1976
	Accessible no Present use private residence	FederalState_x_County_x_Local
6.	Date: c. 1790 7. Orig	inal Owner: Joshua Pigman
8.	Apparent Condition	
	a. excellent b. altered	c. original site
9.	frame; the east end is brick on the end is a one-story brick chimney wi tion has an internal chimney where nal one-story chimney on the west e The frame section is five bays with som. The windows are nine-over-nin broken by three dormer windows on t	y structure, the west end of which is first floor and frame above. At the earth a free-standing stack. The frame sec it adjoins the brick wing, and and extend, with a narrow, free-standing stack. a central doorway and a four-light transe double-hung sash. The steep "A" roof he main facade. The sheathing is claposee bed molding. On the gable sides,

The brick section has a two-bay facade, and is a half level lower than the main house. The east bay was a door but has been altered into a window There is one dormer on the north slope of the roof.

Near the house is a small log smokehouse with an external brick smoke-10. Significance:

The Fertile Meadows is an excellent example of a later 18th century farm house. The property is associated with the Riggs family, prominent in Montgomery County history.

In 1743 a large tract was granted to Benjamin Wallingford and before 1792 Joshua Pigman bought the land and built a house on a hill overlooking a mill.

That year he sold the land. The house had several owners before being purchased by George Washington Riggs in 1819.

George Riggs was a self-made man. He started out as a silversmith in Georgetown and soon had a thriving business. In 1820, the year after he purchased Fertile Meadows, he had a license to be a storekeeper in Montgome County, and eventually he moved to Baltimore where he became an exporter in the lucrative tobacco trade. He purchased several other large, expensive tracts of land in the county.

George gave his son Remus a small farm in 1859 and in 1864 sold him 28 acres, including Fertile Meadows. Remus farmed the land while selling off parcels, and in 1901 gave the remaining 60 acres to his wife. His son Geor sold the house in 1912. It changed hands several times before being bough by Lee Counselman, a finance expert from Detroit.

by Lee Counselman, a finance expert from Detroit.
11. Researcher and date researched: Donald M. Leavitt/7/79 Mike Dwyer/Arch. Des







#### CHECK ONE CONDITION

CHECK ONE

XEXCELLENT \_G00D

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED \_RUINS \_UNEXPOSED

\_\_UNALTERED X ALTERED

**XORIGINAL SITE** \_\_MOVED DATE

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a one-and-one-half story structure, the west end of which is frame; the east end is brick on the first floor and frame above. At the east end is a one-story brick chimney with a free-standing stack. frame section has an internal chimney where it adjoins the brick wing, and an external one-story chimney on the west end, with a narrow, free-standing stack. The frame section is five bays with a central doorway and a fourlight transom. The windows are nine-over-nine double hung sash. The steep "A" roof is broken by three dormer windows on the main facade. The sheathing is clapboard and the cornice boxed with an ogee bed molding. the gable sides, there is a fascia with a wide bead.

The brick section has a two-bay facade, and is a half level lower than the main house. The east bay was a door but has been altered into a window There is one dormer on the north slope of the roof.

In plan, the brick wing is one room with a corner boxed staircase. mantel has been removed. The second floor has been divided into several rooms; all have simple detailing.

The main house has a central hall with flanking parlors. The east room is divided from the hall by a vertically beaded board partition along which the staircase rises. The boarding continues around the east room as wainscotting. The fireplace has a jack arch over the opening; a molding surrounds the opening and above is a shelf with a bed molding. To the north of the fireplace is an open cupboard with butterfly shelves and an enclosed cupboard.

The west room has a plaster partition wall. The room is plastered, with a chair rail. The fireplace has a wood surround with a molding around the outside edge. The frieze is plain; the shelf has a deep bed molding above a row of fretwork. The corner posts and plates are exposed in this room as well as the hall and east room; the posts and plate have a quirked bead on the exposed edge.

On the second floor, there are two rooms on either side of the hall. The partition walls are vertical beaded boards. The east room has a small fireplace; the west room none. The door to the west room is six panelled and the walls plastered. The east room has a door of three beaded boards. The mantel shelf is attached to the wall. The chair rail is a double beaded board with an astragal in the center. The door frames are moldings applied to the partition walls.

Doors throughout the house have six raised panels and iron hardware. Hinges are rat-tail in the main rooms, H or HL for the secondary rooms and strap on the exterior doors. The floors are wide boards.

The wing to the south has been added by the present owners. Near the house is a small log smokehouse with an external brick smokestack. The gable ends have horizontal weatherboarding.



# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC	Fertile Meadows	DESIGNAT	ED ON MASTER PL	AN 1-11-1984
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATIO	N			· ·
STREET & NUMBER	9000 Brink Ros	ad		
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
	aytonsville	X VICINITY OF Goshen	<u> </u>	
STATE M	aryland		COUNTY Montgomery	
CLASSIFIC			HOTTUS	
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS ·	PRES	SENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X.OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
Z_BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
_STRUCTURE	_вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDE
_SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ON ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:
	OF PROPERTY			
	Lee Counselman		Telephone #: 9	26 <b>-</b> 3055
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Roa		Telephone #: 9	26-3055 zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER	Lee Counselman		Telephone #: 9	
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Roa	ad <u>X</u> vicinity of Goshen	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland	zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville	ad <u>X</u> vicinity of Goshen	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572	zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN LOCATIO COURTHOUSE.	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES	ad  X VICINITY OF Goshen  CRIPTION	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland	zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN LOCATIO COURTHOUSE.	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES	ad  X VICINITY OF Goshen  CRIPTION	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572	zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN LOCATIO COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES	ad  X VICINITY OF Goshen  CRIPTION	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572	zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN LOCATIO COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED STREET & NUMBER	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES	ad  X VICINITY OF Goshen  CRIPTION	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572  Folio #: 232	zip code
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN LOCATIO COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES SETC Montgomery Co	X VICINITY OF Goshen CRIPTION cunty Courthouse	Telephone #: 9  STATE, Maryland  Liber #: 572 Folio #: 232	zip code 20760
NAME Mrs. STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN LOCATIO COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESE:	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES SETC Montgomery Co	ad  X VICINITY OF Goshen  CRIPTION	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572  Folio #: 232	zip code 20760
NAME Mrs.  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  LOCATIO  COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  REPRESE.  TITLE  M-NC	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Ros Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES SETC Montgomery Co	X VICINITY OF Goshen CRIPTION cunty Courthouse	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572  Folio #: 232	zip code 20760
NAME Mrs.  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  LOCATIO  COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  REPRESE  TITLE  M-NC  DATE	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Roa Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES SETC Montgomery Co	x vicinity of Goshen CRIPTION cunty Courthouse STING SURVEYS Historical Sites	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572  Folio #: 232  STATE  Maryland	zip code 20760 20850
NAME Mrs.  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  LOCATIO  COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  REPRESE  TITLE  M-NC  DATE	Dee Counselman  9000 Brink Roa  Laytonsville  N OF LEGAL DES  SETC. Montgomery Con  Rockville  NTATION IN EXI  PPC Inventory of	x vicinity of Goshen CRIPTION cunty Courthouse STING SURVEYS Historical Sitesfederal 2	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572  Folio #: 232	zip code 20760 20850
NAME Mrs.  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  LOCATIO  COURTHOUSE.  REGISTRY OF DEED  STREET & NUMBER  CITY. TOWN  REPRESE.  TITLE  M-NC  DATE  DEPOSITORY FOR	Lee Counselman 9000 Brink Roa Laytonsville N OF LEGAL DES SETC Montgomery Co	x vicinity of Goshen CRIPTION cunty Courthouse STING SURVEYS Historical Sitesfederal 2	Telephone #: 9  STATE,  Maryland  Liber #: 572  Folio #: 232  STATE  Maryland	zip code 20760 20850



PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

\_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_PREHISTORIC \_\_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_\_RELIGION \_LAW \_\_CONSERVATION \_SCIENCE \_1400-1499 \_\_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC \_\_1500-1599 \_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_ECONOMICS \_\_LITERATURE \_\_SCULPTURE

\_MILITARY \_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN **XARCHITECTURE** \_EDUCATION \_1600-1699

X 1700-1799 \_ART \_ENGINEERING \_\_MUSIC \_THEATER \_1800-1899 \_COMMERCE \_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT \_\_PHILOSOPHY \_TRANSPORTATION

\_1900-\_INQUSTRY \_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT X\_OTHER (SPECIFY) \_\_COMMUNICATIONS Local History \_\_INVENTION

### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES

Fertile Meadows is an excellent example of a late 18th century farm The property is associated with the Riggs family, prominent in

Montgomery County history.

c. 1790

In 1743 Benjamin Wallingford was granted the land upon which Fertile Meadows now sits, calling it "Benjamin's Square". Some years later the land was resurveyed and a mill was built where the road from Laytonsville to Clarksburg crosses Goshen Branch, providing the nearby town with its name, Goshen Mills. Joshua Pigman came into possession of a part of the Resurvey on Benjamin Square and it is believed that he built the Fertile Meadows house on the hill overlooking the mill sometime before 1792. In that year he sold the land, and improvements, and the house passed through several owners before being purchased by George Washington Riggs in 1819.

George Riggs was a self-made man. He started out as a silversmith in Georgetown and soon had a thriving business. In 1820, the year after he purchased Fertile Meadows, he had a license to be a storekeeper in Montgomery County, and eventually he moved to Baltimore where he became an exporter in the lucrative tobacco trade. He purchased several other large

expensive tracts of land in the county.

He gave his son Remus a small farm in 1859, 3 and in 1864 sold to him for \$1 all 288 agres of "Goshen Farm and Mills", a parcel that included Although Remus owned the milis he did not run them and Fertile Meadows. Although Remus owned the mills he did not run them a instead farmed. As he grew older he sold off pieces of the land until 1901 when he gave the remaining 60 acres to his wife in consideration of "her promise to take care of me and provide for me for and during my natural life". After Remus' death his son George lived in the house before selling it in 1912. Several other parties owned Fertile Meadows before the Counselmans bought it in 1934. Lee Counselman had been a finance expert in Detroit ar

helped organize several auto firms. Mrs. Counselman had been a fashior

model. Fertile Meadows in 1934 had been spared the threat of "modernization" and the Counselmans successfully retained its primitive atmosphere while making the house livable.

The name "Fertile Meadows" came from a small tract which made up part of the original farm. FOOTNOTES:

- 1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., E/167, (4/13/1792).
- 2. Ibid., V/19, (11/13/1819). 3. Ibid., JGH 7/512, (8/30/1859).
- 4. Ibid., EBP 1/97, (2/19/1864).
  5. Ibid., TD 17/195, (5/31/1901).
  6. Ibid., 230/204, (10/15/1912).
  6. CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGR. PHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.

Scharf, Thomas J., <u>History of Western Maryland</u>. Vol. I, Philadelphia: Lewis H. Everts, 1882.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke, Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, MD. Washington, D.C., Judd and Detweiler, 1962.
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

### 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 93.68 acres

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located on the south side of Brink Road, approximately 1 mile west of Route 124.

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

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/ TITLE	Mike Dwyer
Donald M. Leavitt	Architectural Description
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Sugarloaf Regional Trails	July 19 <b>7</b> 9
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Box 87	926-4510
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Dickerson	Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

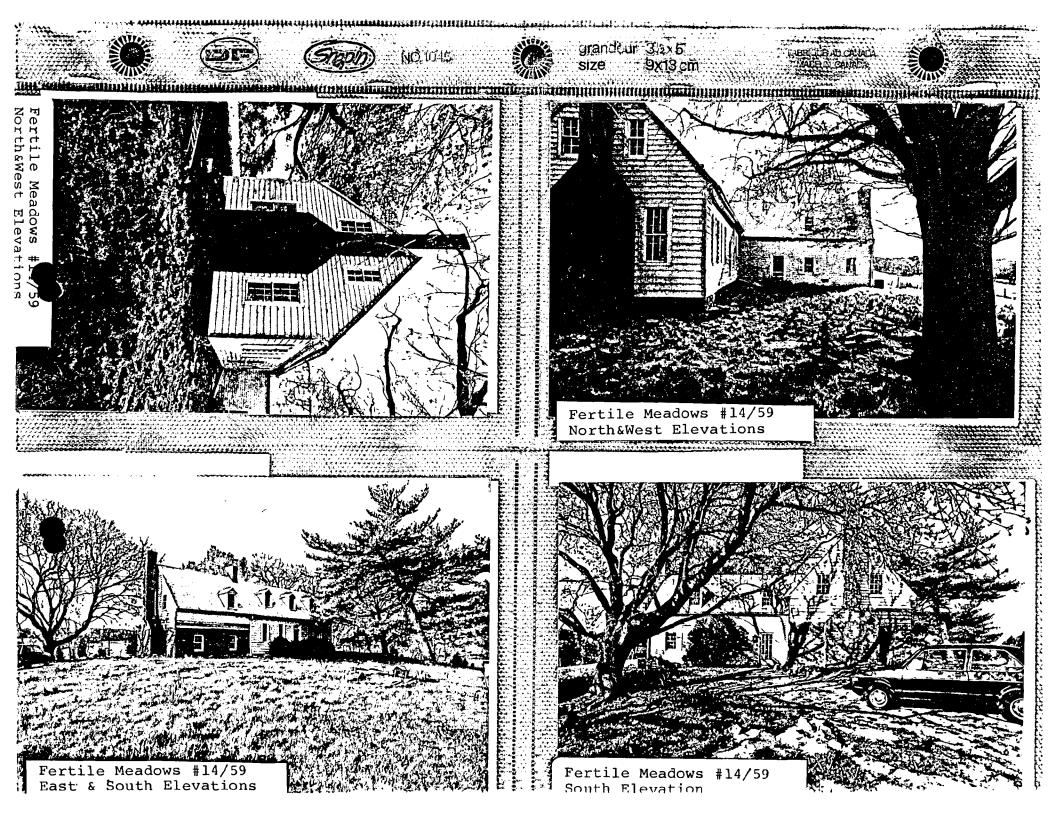
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

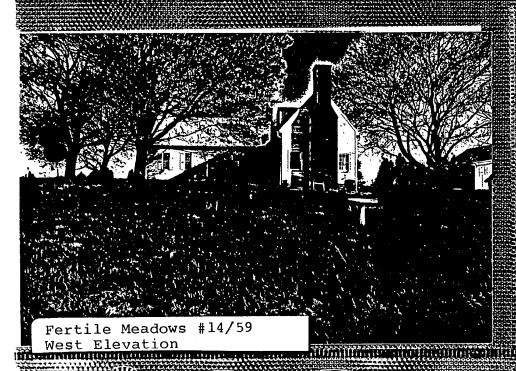
(301) 267-1438

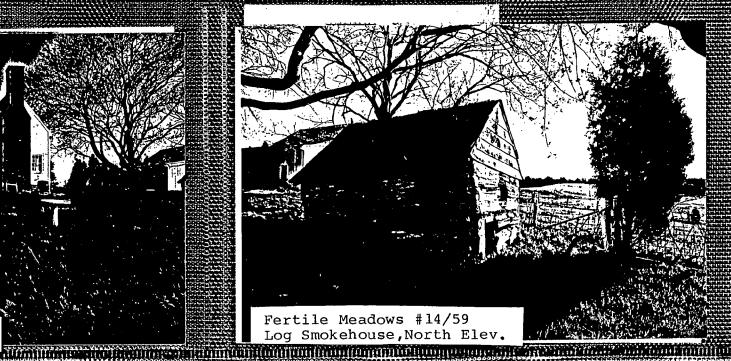


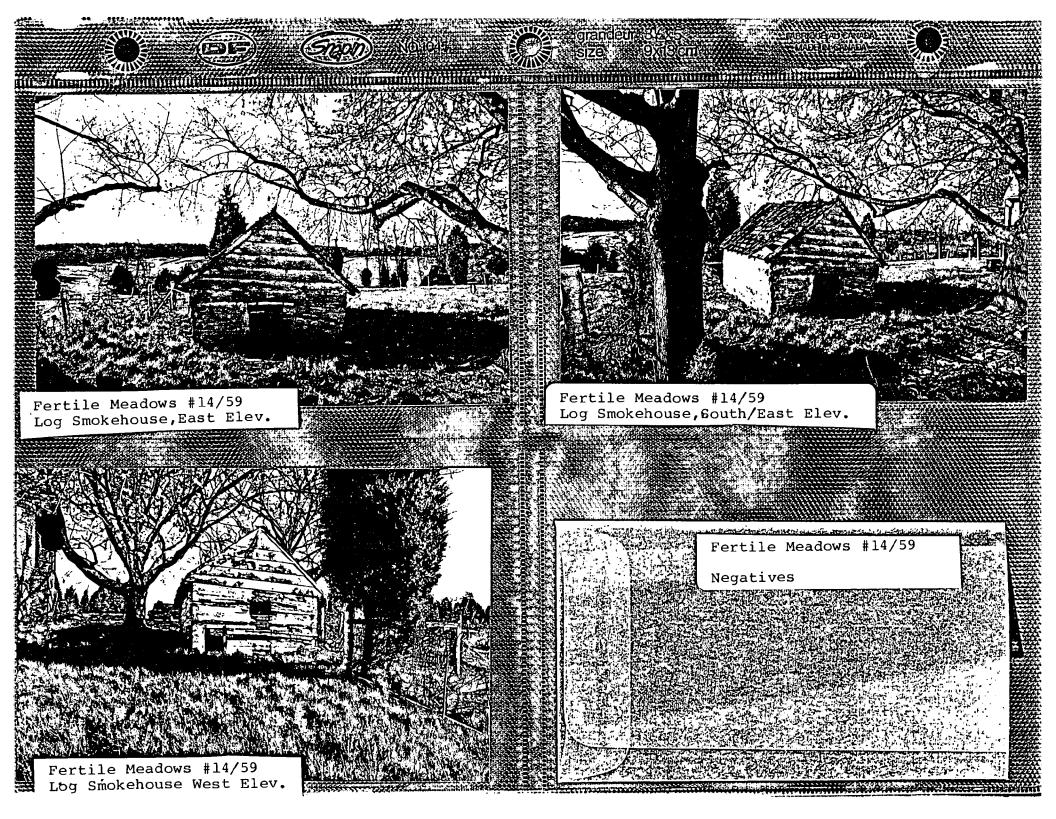




Fertile Meadows #14/59 South & West Elevations







Request

DiverProtection

Mano

Discotional

driveway

3 Extent of Store

retaining well-

#### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

SITE: Master Plan Site #14/59

<u>DATE:</u> July 7, 1993

Fertile Meadows

CASE NUMBER: #1-88023

TYPE OF REVIEW: Subdivision

PREPARED BY: Patricia Parker

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9000 Brink

Road

#### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

This subdivision plan proposes the creation of three lots of 2.3 to 4.3 acres each, including Master Plan Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows - a historic house, appurtenances and cemetery (all on one lot) located on the south side of Brink Road near the Goshen Branch of the Great Seneca Creek Valley. Five lots, further to the east and separated from the historic site by realigned Goshen Road, were previously approved by the Planning Board and houses are currently being constructed on the lots.

Fertile Meadows is a 1790 frame and brick house, associated with the Riggs family (a prominent farming and mercantile family in Montgomery County), with accompanying corncrib/barn, meat house and family cemetery. Fertile Meadows was placed on the Master Plan in 1984 with the entire parcel of 91.38 acres as an environmental setting, to be reduced at the time of subdivision. The HPC reviewed an earlier subdivision proposal in February, 1988 and recommended a combination of three lots as a reduced setting north of the future Goshen Road realignment. This triangular shaped piece would be bounded by the new Goshen Road, Brink Road, and the Goshen Branch stream valley (see attached memo).

On July 8, 1992 the HPC reviewed a Historic Area Work Permit involving the relocation of the corncrib/barn on the property, but the applicant withdrew this proposal before any vote. The staff recommendation was against relocation of the barn because of its value to the site. No mention was made about the deteriorated condition of the meathouse. The Staff Report further recommends "the best preservation plan for this site would be to keep all the resources, including the cemetery, grouped on one lot."

This current subdivision request proposes reducing the environmental setting of Fertile Meadows to 2.3 acres as defined by existing fence lines and including the house, barn, meathouse and cemetery on one lot. It also proposes creating a lot on either side of the historic resource on the south side of Brink Road. The historic setting would have frontage on both Brink

Road and the new Goshen Road (although all structures would be oriented to Brink Road), and all elements of the historic resource would be located on the same parcel. A stream valley buffer would wind across Lot 1, the rear of Lot 2 (the lot containing Fertile Meadows) and portions of the remaining lots.

The County's Department of Transportation (DOT) is requiring substantial road improvements to Brink Road as a condition of this subdivision. The improvements to Brink Road will have a major impact on the setting for Fertile Meadows - specifically, removal of the existing driveway leading to the historic house from Brink Road and replacement with a shared driveway accessing Brink Road further to the east, pavement widening on the north and south shoulders of Brink Road in front of the site, and intrusion into the existing line of cedar trees (see attached plan.) The applicant has worked with DOT and is proposing a retaining wall in front of the historic house as a means of mitigating some of the impact of the road improvements.

Development of the 4.3 acre lot to the west of Fertile Meadows (Lot #1) is also of concern - it is a particularly sensitive area due to the topography of the site and the row of large cedar trees planted along Brink Road which provide a screen and windbreak for the historic site. Access to all the lots would be a shared driveway, and this driveway would have to cut across the front of the historic property to get to Lot #1. The front of the house on Lot #1 will face the historic house, with a vista toward the rear across the stream valley. The new house may be larger than the 1-1/2 story historic resource; but because of the topography, the new house will be placed at a lower elevation.

Finally, the condition of maintenance of the historic site is very poor. In addition to the main house being open and accessible to vandals, the deterioration of the log meathouse, from photos taken in 1984, shows an example of serious neglect which needs to be rectified. The meathouse is a significant part of the setting, and should be restored.

#### **ISSUES:**

There are several issues of importance in review of this subdivision proposal. First, the location of a new building restriction line on Lot #3 would require the house to be moved farther southeast behind the line and would maintain a vista for the historic house to Brink Road with less intrusion (see attached plan).

The length of the retaining wall should be increased to adequately protect existing and new cedars to be planted. This wall would help to maintain the existing screening along Brink Road which is an important aspect of the character and setting of the historic property.

The existing driveway entrance from Brink Road to the historic site (which will be closed) should be sensitively filled in and augmented with additional cedars planted at the entrance. The driveway is important to the historic setting, as is preservation of the row of cedars which lines Brink Road. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards #1 and #2 address the issue of altering the site:

A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

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

Another very important issue is that the house and its appurtenances should be adequately protected. During a recent field visit, staff noted that the house was open and accessible to vandals, window openings had no weather protection, and excessive vegetation and debris has accumulated around the barn/corn crib and house. As noted above, the meathouse is in a state of collapse.

Finally, it would be appropriate to decrease the size of Lot #1 at the streambed and add acreage to Lot #2 by angling southward. This would strengthen the environmental setting and add to its openness by maintaining the semi-rural environment of the house. Due to its proximity and the land topography, the architectural design of the new house on Lot #1 should be fully described so as to ensure that it will complement Fertile Meadows as much as possible.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Based on the issues discussed above, staff recommends approval of this subdivision plan with the following conditions:

- o Enlarge Lot #2 to include as much as 1 additional acre for a setting of approximately 3.3 acres for Master Plan Site #14/59 Fertile Meadows, including the house, barn/corncrib, log meathouse and family cemetery.
- o Create a building restriction line on Lot #3, with the new house moved farther to the southeast.
- o Protect all possible cedars along property fronting on Brink Road. This may mean extending the proposed retaining wall to the west as necessary.

- o Add a minimum of two cedars (with size to be set by M-NCPPC Landscape Architect) to the right of driveway entrance as you face Lot #2.
- o Post and protect (board-up) all openings for house and barn. Remove all debris and overgrown vegetation for protection of outbuildings and house.
- Provide staff with a description of the new house to be built on Lot #1 so as to complement Fertile Meadows. The new house will be very visible from the historic house. This requirement should be met because of the promixity of the new house to the historic setting and land topography.

#### MEMORANDUM

February 29, 1988

TO:

Charles Loehr

Subdivision Review, MNCPPC

FROM:

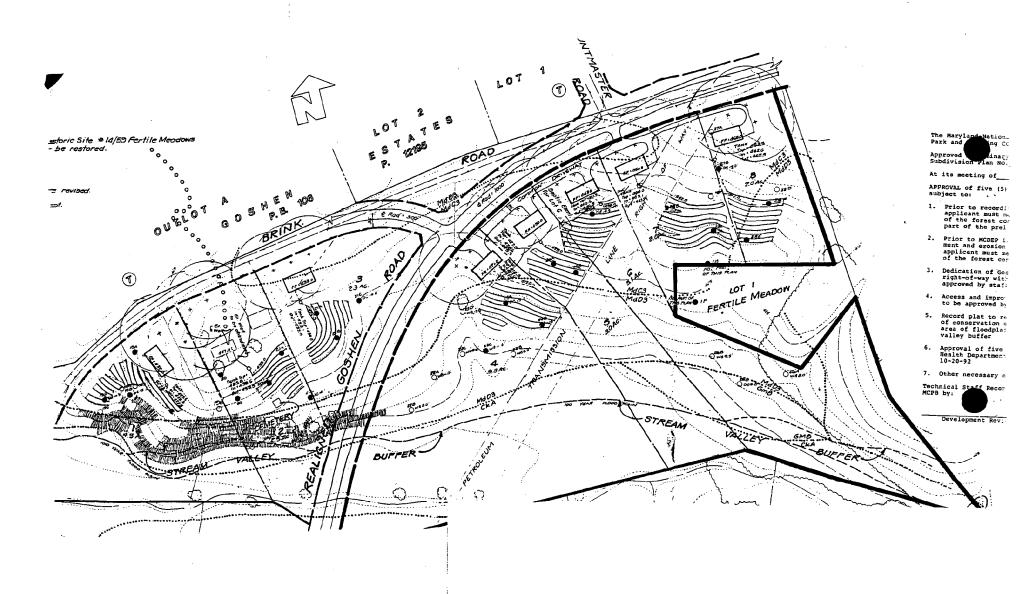
Bobbi Hahn, Executive Director BH Historic Preservation Commission

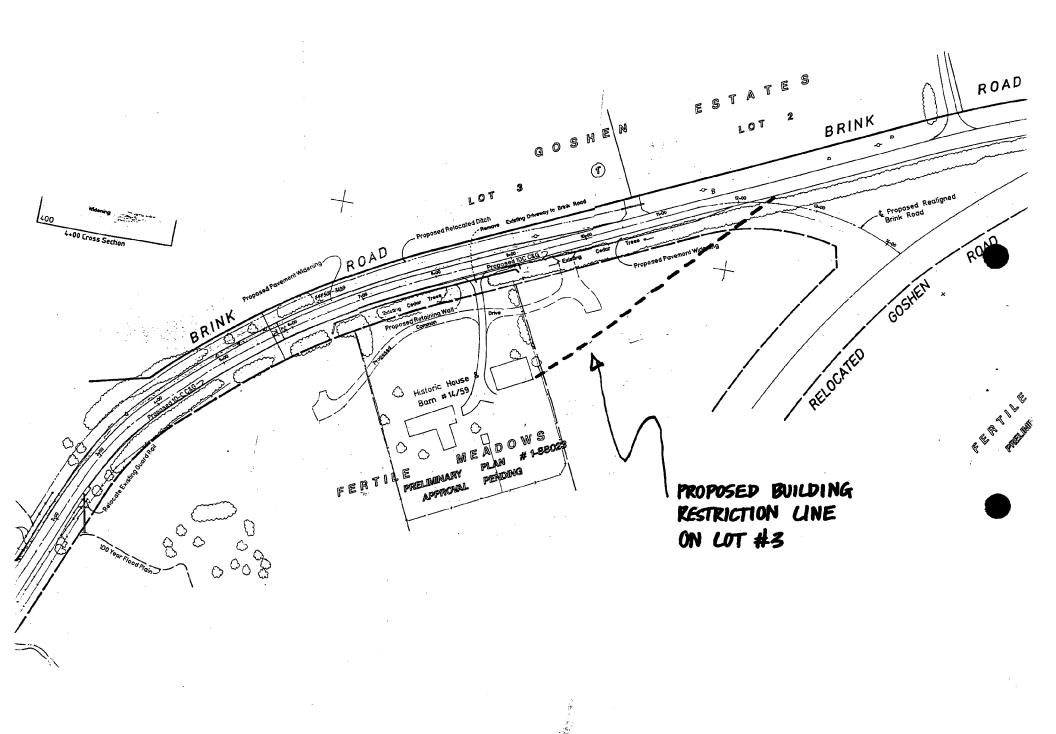
SUBJECT: Subdivision involving historic resources

At its February 18, 1988 meeting the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed several plans of subdivisions involving identified historic resources.

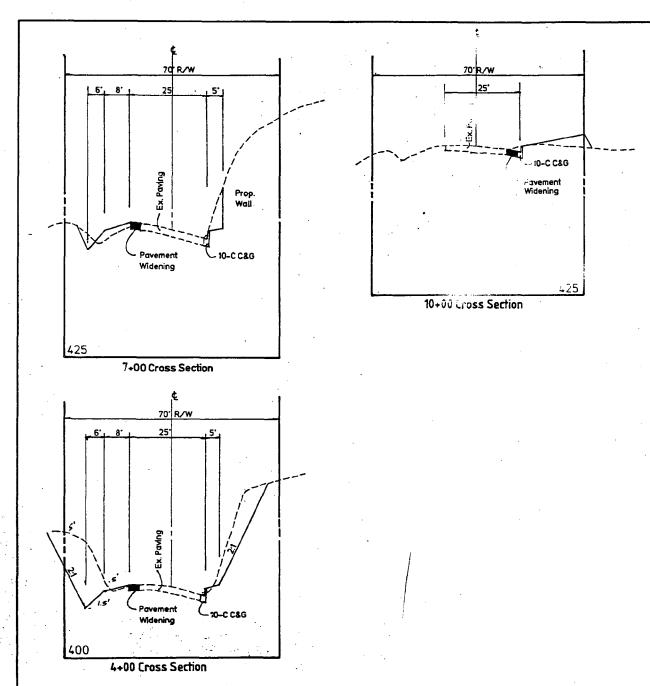
- 1. Plan 1-87282 Cohen Property which is immediately adjacent to Atlas historic site #13/19 the Elizabeth Waters House. The Commission had no objections to the plan as submitted.
- 2. Plan 1-88006 Kings Crossing which involves Atlas historic site #19/14 the Hoyle Farm which has been recommended by the HPC for placement on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation on architectural grounds. The Commission found that although the environmental setting of the historic resource may be reduced from the entire parcel to a smaller amount of acreage, the developer should provide sufficient space for the retention of the house, barn, and stone outbuilding in a substantial setting. Commission also expressed an interest in looking at the Hilton house, which is located on the north edge of the subject property, as part of the on-going survey of 20th century resource survey of Montgomery County. In addition, the Commission opposed the abandonment of Hoyle's Mill Road and favors the proposal of the Germantown Citizens Association that the present road be designated a scenic rural by way.
- 3. Plan 1-88023 Fertile Meadows which is located within the environmental setting of Master Plan site #14/59 Fertile Meadows and is immediately adjacent to Master Plan #14/58 Goshen Store and Post Office. The Commission recommends that lot 18 next to the Goshen Store be eliminated so that the historic vista from the store is maintained. In addition the Commission recommends that lots 19,20, and 21 be combined into one lot as a reduced environmental setting of Fertile Meadows: because this area will be separated from the remainder of the proposed development by the future realignment of Goshen Road and because it borders on the 100 year flood plan, an area which cannot be developed, there exists the unusual opportunity to preserve the historic resource in a semi-rural setting.

# CURRENT PROPOSAL





# BRINK ROAD -PROPOSED ROAD CROSS SECTIONS



OWNER:

Peter Moholt #24 Mont. Village Avr. Gaitheraburg, MD.

20879

840-0414

ENGINEER:

Dick Witmer
Lanier/Witmer Abarc.
224 North Adams St.
Rockville, MD.
CONTRACT PURCHASER:
Peter Papa dopoulos
Spring brook Builders
15950 Derwood Rd.
Rockville, MD.
20855 984-0500 or
540-0020

Peter Moholt (OWNER) 840 - 0414

Springbrook Builders (CONTRACT 984-0500 PURCHASEK)

Ivel Brodoky

Cathy Conlon Steve Cary

June 29, 1993

#### Dear Property Owner:

Please be notified that the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission will be holding a public meeting and worksession on Wednesday, July 14, 1993, in order to evaluate the proposed subdivision of Fertile Meadows, #1-88023, located at 9000 Brink Road, Laytonsville. It involves Master Plan Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission auditorium at 8787 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring.

This evaluation is taking place pursuant to your request for subdivision of the property. The Historic Preservation Commission will review the proposal as it impacts the historic resource, and make recommendations to the Planning Board regarding its environmental setting.

As the Property Owner, you are encouraged to either attend the meeting or submit written comments to the HPC at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

This item may not be first on the agenda, so please be prepared for a short delay. Enclosed please find a copy of the meeting agenda (subject to change). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 495-4570.

Sincerely,

Gwen Marcus

Historic Preservation

Coordinator

Enclosure

cc: Peter Papadopoulos, Springbrook Builders
Dick Witmer, Lanier/Witmer Associates

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

CASE NUMBER: #1-88023 TYPE OF REVIEW: Subdivision

Review

SITE NAME: Fertile Meadows ADDRESS: 9000 Brink Road

Master Plan Site #14/59 Laytonsville, MD

#### DISCUSSION

This subdivision involves <u>Master Plan</u> Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows, a 1790 frame and brick house associated with the Riggs Family with accompanying corncrib/barn, meat house, and family cemetery. It is located on the south side of Brink Road near the Goshen Branch of the Great Seneca Creek Valley.

Fertile Meadows was placed on the <u>Master Plan</u> in 1984 with the entire parcel of 91.38 acres as an environmental setting, to be reduced at the time of subdivision. The HPC reviewed an earlier subdivision proposal in February, 1988 and recommended a combination of three lots as a reduced setting north of the future Goshen Road realignment. This triangular shaped piece would be bounded by the new Goshen Road, Brink Road, and the Goshen Branch stream valley.

On July 8, 1992 the HPC reviewed a Historic Area Work Permit involving the relocation of the corncrib/barn on the property, but the applicant withdrew this proposal before any vote. The staff recommendation was against relocation of the barn because of its value to the site. No mention was made about the deteriorated condition of the meathouse.

This current subdivision request proposes reducing the environmental setting of Fertile Meadows to 2.3 acres bounded by existing fence lines including the house, barn, meathouse and cemetery on one lot. It also proposes creating a lot on either side of the historic resource on the south side of Brink Road. The historic setting would front on both Brink Road and the new Goshen Road, and all elements of the historic resource would be located on the same parcel.

At Subdivision Review, however, the Transportation Planning Division proposed a redesign of the intersection of Brink Road with the new Goshen Road involving a 300' radius turn of Brink Road to intersect the new Goshen Road. (See attached plan.) The road right-of-way would reduce the size of the lot to the east of Fertile Meadows (Lot #3) causing it to be less than the required two acres. Thus the environmental setting for the historic site could include this land adjacent to the barn and enhance its semi-rural setting.

Development of the 4.3 acre lot to the west of Fertile Meadows (Lot #1) is also problematic due to the high embankment and row of large Cedar trees planted along Brink Road providing a screen and windbreak for the historic site. Since access to this lot would be on a curve and driveway visibility onto Brink Road would be poor, a driveway connection would have to be made across the front of the

historic property, using the same driveway cut as the historic house. The front of this house on Lot # 1 would therefore face the historic house, with a vista toward the rear across the stream valley. While the new house may be larger than the 1 1/2 story historic resource, it will be placed at a lower elevation.

Another alternative to this driveway access might be to approach the house from the base of the hill near the stream valley bridge on Brink Road and orient the new house toward the road. However, there may be conflicts with both the septic and DOT right-of-way regulations. In either case, additional plantings are needed along the fence row between Lots #1 & #2 for privacy for both the new house and the historic house.

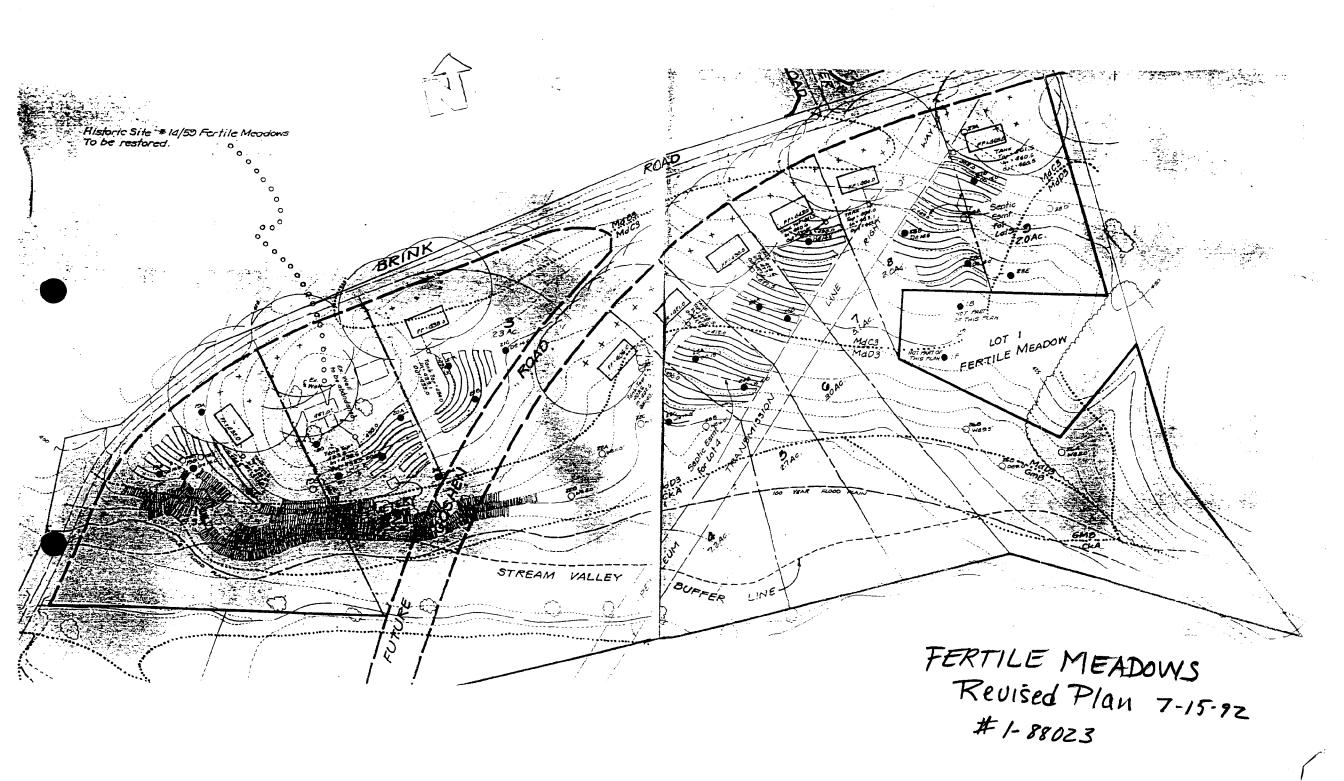
Finally, the deterioration of the log meathouse, from photos taken in 1984, shows an example of serious neglect which needs to be rectified. The meathouse is a significant part of the setting, and should be restored.

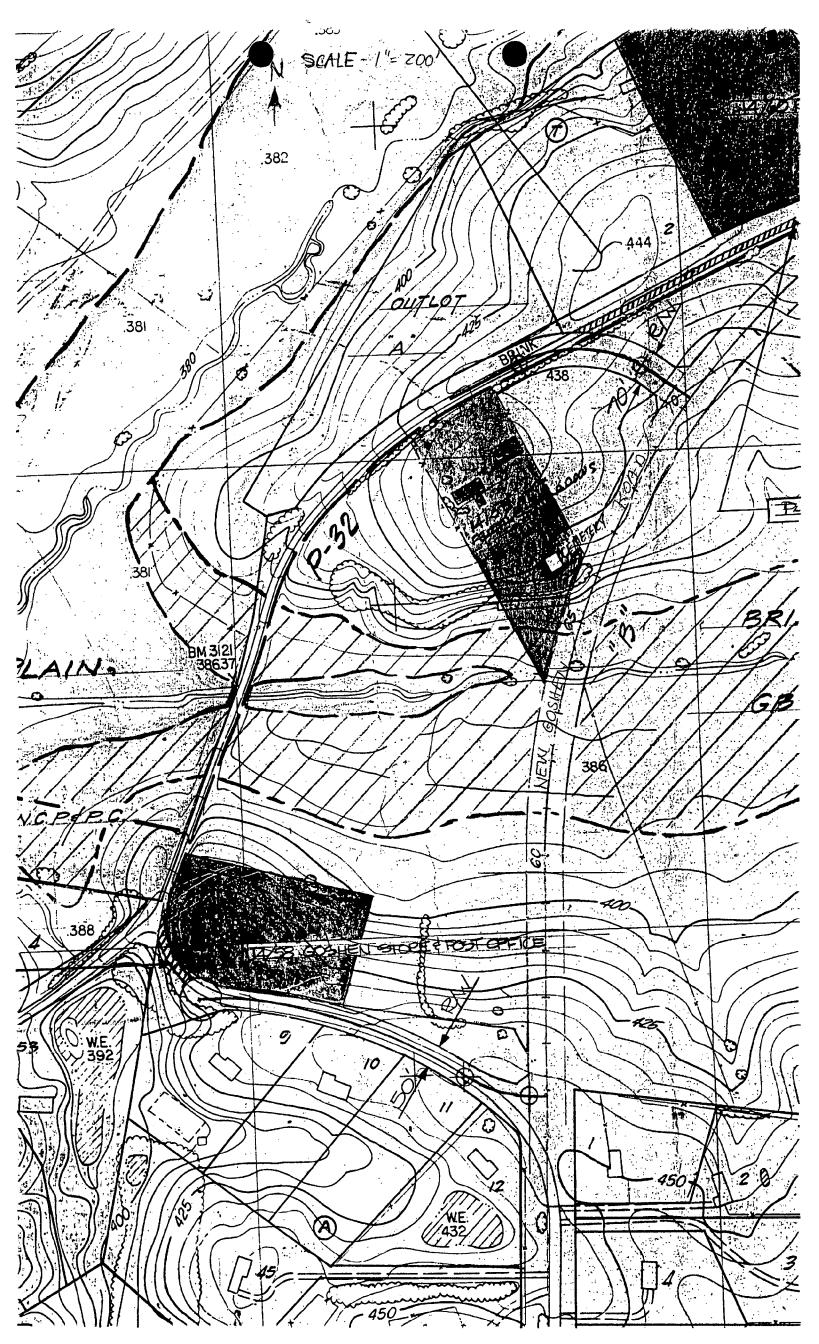
#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

As it is unlikely that Lot #3 will be a buildable lot with the design of the intersection of Brink Road and New Goshen Road, staff recommends that the environmental setting of Fertile Meadows include Lot #3. This would enhance the use of the barn and maintain the semi-rural environment of the house. It would also enhance the view of Fertile Meadows from the east and south as an established early historic site on the scenic knoll.

Therefore, staff recommends the following conditions for approval of this subdivision:

- o Inclusion of lots #2 and #3 as a setting of approximately 4 acres for Master Plan Site #14/59 Fertile Meadows, including the house, barn/corncrib, log meathouse and family cemetery.
- o Satisfactory access to Lot #1 and the proposed house to the west of Fertile Meadows. This could include a shared driveway across the front yard of the historic house with review of the HPC, thus preserving the hedgerow of cedar trees and the high embankment along Brink Road. Or, an access to Lot #1 could be provided directly from Brink Road from the south.
- o Restoration of the log meathouse to its condition shown in the designation photographs.
- o Fencing of the historic family cemetery to protect it from further deterioration.
- o Additional screening along the fenceline between Lots #1 and #2 for privacy.





July 27, 1992

#### Dear Property Owner:

Please be notified that the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will be holding a public meeting and worksession on Wednesday, August 12, 1992, in order to evaluate the proposed subdivision of Fertile Meadows, #1-88023, located at 9000 Brink Road, Laytonsville. This subdivision involves Master Plan Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission auditorium at 8787 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring.

This evaluation is taking place pursuant to your request for subdivision of the property. The HPC will review the proposal as it impacts the historic site, and make recommendations to the Planning Board regarding its environmental setting.

As the property owner, you are encouraged to either attend the meeting or submit written comments to the HPC at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

This item may not be first on the agenda, so please be prepared for a short delay. Enclosed please find a copy of the meeting agenda (subject to change). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 495-4570.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Rolland

Historic Preservation

Planner

Enclosure

cc: Dick Witmer

Jody Kline

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 495-4570

## \*\*WEDNESDAY\*\* AUGUST 12, 1992

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION BUILDING MRO AUDITORIUM

8787 GEORGIA AVENUE SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910

#### PLEASE NOTE:

THE HPC AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE ANYTIME AFTER PRINTING OR DURING THE COMMISSION MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AT THE NUMBER ABOVE TO OBTAIN CURRENT INFORMATION.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA, YOU OR YOUR REPRESENTATIVE ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

- I. HPC WORKSESSION 7:00 p.m. in Third Floor Conference Room
- II. HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMITS 7:30 p.m.
  - A. Cheryl Johnson and Clarence Ellison for alterations at 8806 Hawkins Lane, Chevy Chase (HPC Case No. 35/54-92B) (Hawkins Lane Historic District)
  - B. Jeanie Ahearn for alterations at 3920 Baltimore Street, Kensington (HPC Case No. 31/6-92E) (Kensington Historic District)
  - C. Eugene Jurasinski/Carey E. Hoobler for new construction at 10535 St. Paul Street, Kensington (HPC Case No. 31/6-92F) (Kensington Historic District)

### III. PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION

A. Michael and Lou Knecht for alterations at 3919 Washington Street, Kensington (Kensington Historic District)

#### IV. SUBDIVISIONS

A. #1-88023, Fertile Meadows, which involves <u>Master Plan</u> Site #14/59, Fertile Meadows.

#### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. July 8, 1992

#### VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Commission Items
- B. Staff Items

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

#### MEMORANDUM

February 29, 1988

TO:

Charles Loehr

Subdivision Review, MNCPPC

FROM:

Bobbi Hahn, Executive Director B

Historic Preservation Commission

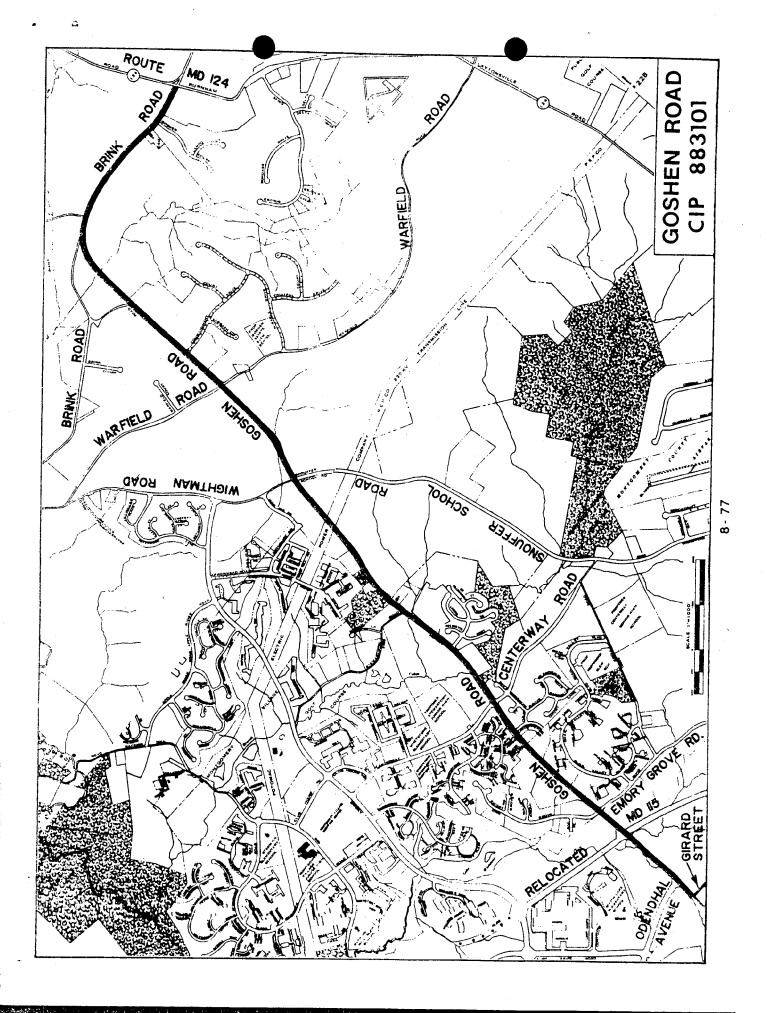
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At its February 18, 1988 meeting the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed several plans of subdivisions involving identified historic resources.

- 1. Plan 1-87282 Cohen Property which is immediately adjacent to Atlas historic site #13/19 the Elizabeth Waters House. The Commission had no objections to the plan as submitted.
- 2. Plan 1-88006 Kings Crossing which involves Atlas historic site #19/14 the Hoyle Farm which has been recommended by the HPC for placement on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation on architectural grounds. The Commission found that although the environmental setting of the historic resource may be reduced from the entire parcel to a smaller amount of acreage, the developer should provide sufficient space for the retention of the house, barn, and stone outbuilding in a substantial setting. The Commission also expressed an interest in looking at the Hilton house, which is located on the north edge of the subject property, as part of the on-going survey of 20th century resource survey of Montgomery County. In addition, the Commission opposed the abandonment of Hoyle's Mill Road and favors the proposal of the Germantown Citizens Association that the present road be designated a scenic rural by way.
- 3. Plan 1-88023 Fertile Meadows which is located within the environmental setting of Master Plan site #14/59 Fertile Meadows and is immediately adjacent to Master Plan #14/58 Goshen Store and Post Office. The Commission recommends that lot 18 next to the Goshen Store be eliminated so that the historic vista from the store is maintained. In addition the Commission recommends that lots 19,20, and 21 be combined into one lot as a reduced environmental setting of Fertile Meadows: because this area will be separated from the remainder of the proposed development by the future realignment of Goshen Road and because it borders on the 100 year flood plan, an area which cannot be developed, there exists the unusual opportunity to preserve the historic resource in a semi-rural setting.

Montgomery	RAPID MEMO			
County (1)	TO: Alison Va	wher, Historic	Presavation Commiss	<u>مز</u>
Government	SUBJECT: God Mad	gram, Dot	T. Design Sed.	
MESSAGE	SUBJECT: Goshan k	01		
I hav	ve attached as 4	ou reaccested	a copy of the	
PDF for this pro	ject. As you can	see it has	been delayed	
beyond the 6 as	lan program. We	were on the	Verge of moving	
	ing Stage to po			
	on halfed Therefor	e we have	no plans that	
I can Send you	V 111 -	Magran	DATE 2/28/90	
<del></del>				
REPLY C. Harry	anssman			
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	SIGNED		DATE	

THIS COPY FOR PERSON ADDRESSED



. . . . .

8 - 76 1 Project Number A. IDENTIFICATION AND CODING INFORMATION Agency No 8 REQ ADEQ. PUB 7 PRE, PDF PG NO E APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA 2 Date DEC - 20 - 1989 (\$000) Date First Appropriation 883101 7-75 toitial Cost Estimate 10.702 REVISED 15,689 First Cost Est Current Scone (9.0) 3 Project Name GOSHEN ROAD 15,589 5 Agency TRANSPORTATION Last EY's Cost Estimate 4 Program TRANSPORTATION 6 Planning Area GAITHERSBURG VICINITY Present Cost Estimate 11 17,925 8 EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000) Cumulative Expenditures/ Unencumbered Appropriation Encumbrances Balance (10) (11) (12) (18) (13) Total Thru Estimate Total Year 1 Year 3 Year 4 Year 6 745 29 710 Year 2 Year 5 Beyond Y89 FY90 6 Years FY91 6 Years Cost Elements FY92 FY93 FY94 FY95 Y96 1 Planning, De-sign & Suprv Appropriation Request Budget Yr FY 91 -710 2374 29 5 700 300 400 1640 Supplemental Appropriation Request Current Year FY 30 0 2 Land 1230 1230 3 Site Improvements G. RELOCATION IMPACT and Utilities 1310 1310 4 Construction 13014 13014 5 Furniture H, MAP Map Reference Code ind Equipment 6. Total 17928 29 5 700 300 400 17194 C. **FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000)** G.O. BONDS 17928 29 5 700 300 400 17194 SEE MAP ON NEXT PAGE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (000 S) DEBT SVC 1 129 39 90 NET IMPACT 129 90 39 WORK YRS

DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION - PROJECT NO. 863101 PROJECT NAME GOSHEN RDAD DESCRIPTION: This project provides for reconstruction of Goshen Road in two phases. Phase I is the reconstruction of Goshen Road from Girard Street to Warfield Road as a four lane divided curb and gutter major dual highway within a 120' wide right-of-way, for a distance of approximately 3.2 miles. Phase II is the relocation/reconstruction of 1.8 miles of Goshen Road and Brink Road from Warfield Road to MD 124. as a vo lane, undivided, open-section arterial roadway within an 80° wide right-of way. Total project length is proximately 5 miles. Appropriate pedestrian and bicycle facilities, stormwater management, and landscaping will be provided. Capacity: Upon project completion, the capacity of the four lane road will be approximately 36.600 vehicles per day. Service Area: Gaithersburg East and Goshen Policy Areas. JUSTIFICATION: Plans and Studies: Goshen Road is shown as M-25 and A-14 on the Master Plan of Highways. Specific Data: Needed improvements include: reducing horizontal and vertical curves; constructing intersection improvements: and widening and relocating Goshen Road to the east of the existing sharp curve near Brink Road. Average daily traffic (ADT) volume on Goshen Road in 1984 ranges from 4,550 to 9,850 vehicles. Cost Increase: The cost increase is based on a preliminary cost estimate which includes increased construction costs, increased land acquisition costs, and inflation. STATUS: Preliminary Design Stage. OTHER: The project scope has remained the same. Much of the right of way required will be dedicated. Design of Phase I has been postponed five years due to fiscal constraints.

I. COORDINATION & OTHER INFORMATION (INCL SUBPROLS & WORK PRIGM LISTS)

GOSHEN ROAD
Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission.
Maryland State Highway Administration (MD 115 Relocated)
(No. 8831D4)
Montgomery Village Ave. Widening Project (No. 8831D6)
Historic Preservation Commission

Special Legislation (Bill No. 13-87, effective on August 17, 1987). Citizens Advisory Committee

#### MEMORANDUM

February 29, 1988

T0:

Charles Loehr

Subdivision Review, MNCPPC

FROM:

Bobbi Hahn, Executive Director B+

Historic Preservation Commission.

SUBJECT: Subdivision involving historic resources

At its February 18, 1988 meeting the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed several plans of subdivisions involving identified historic resources.

- 1. Plan 1-87282 Cohen Property which is immediately adjacent to Atlas historic site #13/19 the Elizabeth Waters House. The Commission had no objections to the plan as submitted.
- 2. Plan <u>1-88006</u> Kings Crossing which involves Atlas historic site #19/14 the Hoyle Farm which has been recommended by the HPC for placement on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation on architectural grounds. The Commission found that although the environmental setting of the historic resource may be reduced from the entire parcel to a smaller amount of acreage, the developer should provide sufficient space for the retention of the house, barn, and stone outbuilding in a substantial setting. The Commission also expressed an interest in looking at the Hilton house, which is located on the north edge of the subject property, as part of the on-going survey of 20th century resource survey of Montgomery County. In addition, the Commission opposed the abandonment of Hoyle's Mill Road and favors the proposal of the Germantown Citizens Association that the present road be designated a scenic rural by way.
- 3. Plan 1-88023 Fertile Meadows which is located within the environmental setting of Master Plan site #14/59 Fertile Meadows and is immediately adjacent to Master Plan #14/58 Goshen Store and Post Office. The Commission recommends that lot 18 next to the Goshen Store be eliminated so that the historic vista from the store is maintained. In addition the Commission recommends that lots 19,20, and 21 be combined into one lot as a reduced environmental setting of Fertile Meadows: because this area will be separated from the remainder of the proposed development by the future realignment of Goshen Road and because it borders on the 100 year flood plan, an area which cannot be developed, there exists the unusual opportunity to preserve the historic resource in a semi-rural setting.

## THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION 8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

FROM: Subdivision Office - M-NCPPC

NAME: Fertile Meadows
FILE NO.: 1-88023

New pre-preliminary plan application

New preliminary plan application with supporting material as appropriate

Supporting material for previously reviewed preliminary plan

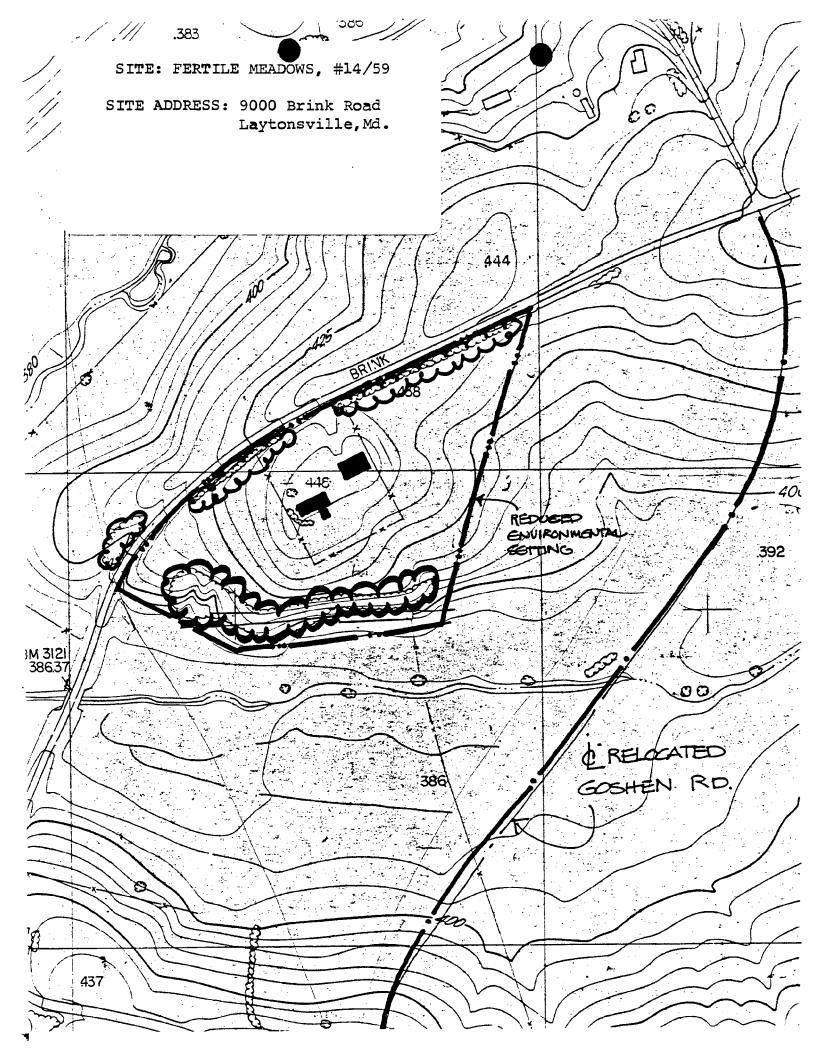
Revised preliminary plan drawing

Map 8

INVOLVES Site 14/5-9

Fertile Meadows.

14/5-8



#### MEMORANDUM

February 1, 1988

T0:

Charles Loehr

Subdivision Review

MNCPPC

FROM:

Bobbi Hahn

Historic Preservation Commission

SUBJECT: Subdivision Review

I have reviewed the following plans of subdivision and found them not to involve any identified historic resources.

1-88017	Shady Gro <b>v</b> e	
1-88011	Luxmanor	
1-88012	Wildcat Woods	
1-88013	Richard Kettler	
1-88014	Walkins Overlook	
1-88016	Warfield Road	
1-88018	Ashley Acres	
7-88001	Valley Stream Estates	
1-88019	Lake Potomac	
1-88020	Grimes Property	
1-88021	Young Property	
1-88022	Emory Grove Park	

Plan 1-88023 Fertile Meadows involves two Master Plan historic sites: #1458 Goshen Store and Post Office (identified as the Freeman Property) and site #14/59 Fertile Meadows (located on lot 20). I will schedule the plan for Commission review at its February 18th meeting and get comments to you as soon as possible. I would expect that the lots of most concern to the HPC would be lot 19, which shows a proposed structure within 100 feet of the historic structure, and lot 18 which falls within the historic vista of the Goshen Store and Post Office.

Plan 1-88015 Ligon Property is immediately adjacent to master plan historic site #23/58 the Gustavus Jones farm. The plan does not appear to have a negative impact on the historic structures or the environmental setting.

cc: Office of Planning Policy Gwen Marcus

BH:tb:0616E

#### MEMORANDUM

December 17, 1987

TO:

Bobbi Hahn, Program Assistant

Montgomery Historic Preservation Commission

FROM:

Gail Tait Nouri, Planning Specialist III

Office of Planning and Project Development

SUBJECT: Goshen Road Extended Project Historic Sites Review

We appreciate that you were able to meet with us on such short notice regarding the historic sites affected by the extension of Goshen Road and the concurrent widening of Brink Road. As a result of our meeting, we will be proceeding with our design work and will keep you updated.

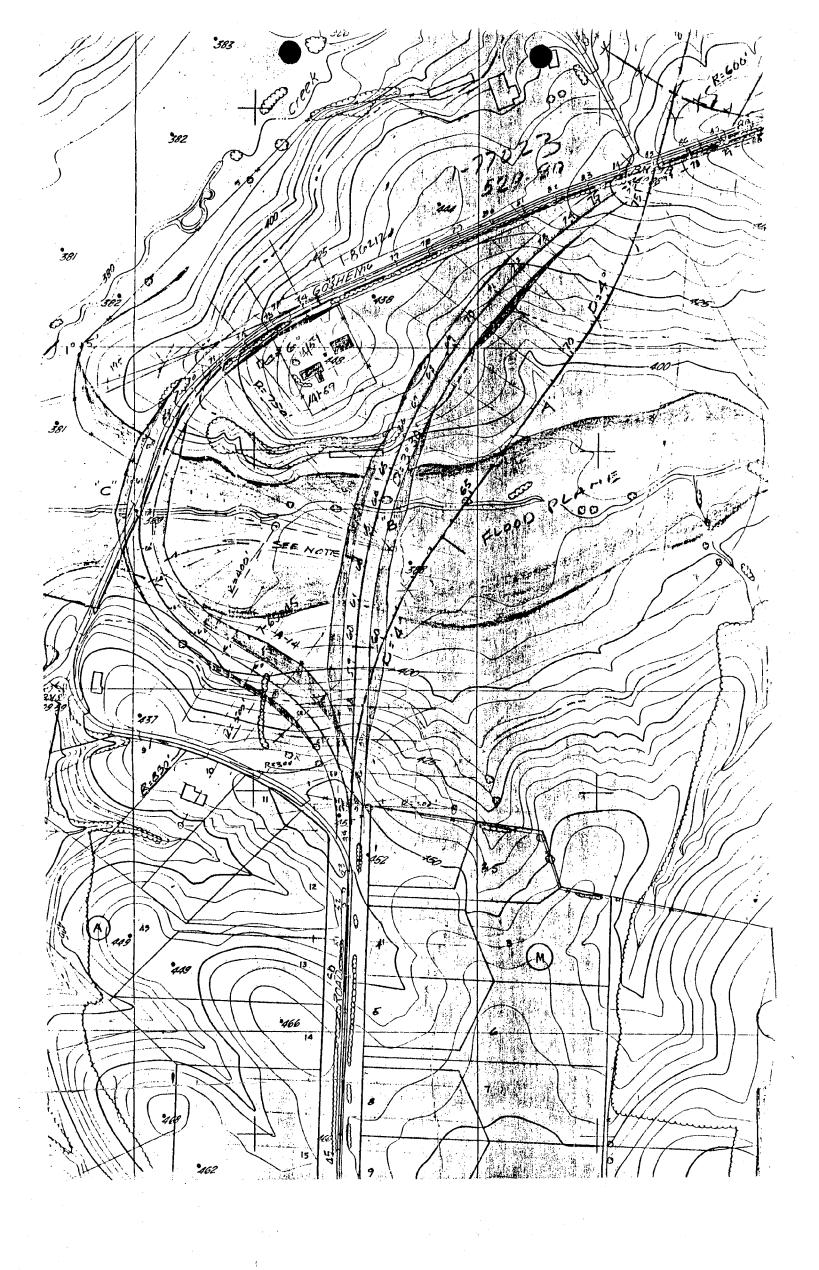
The major comments made during our meeting are summarized below.

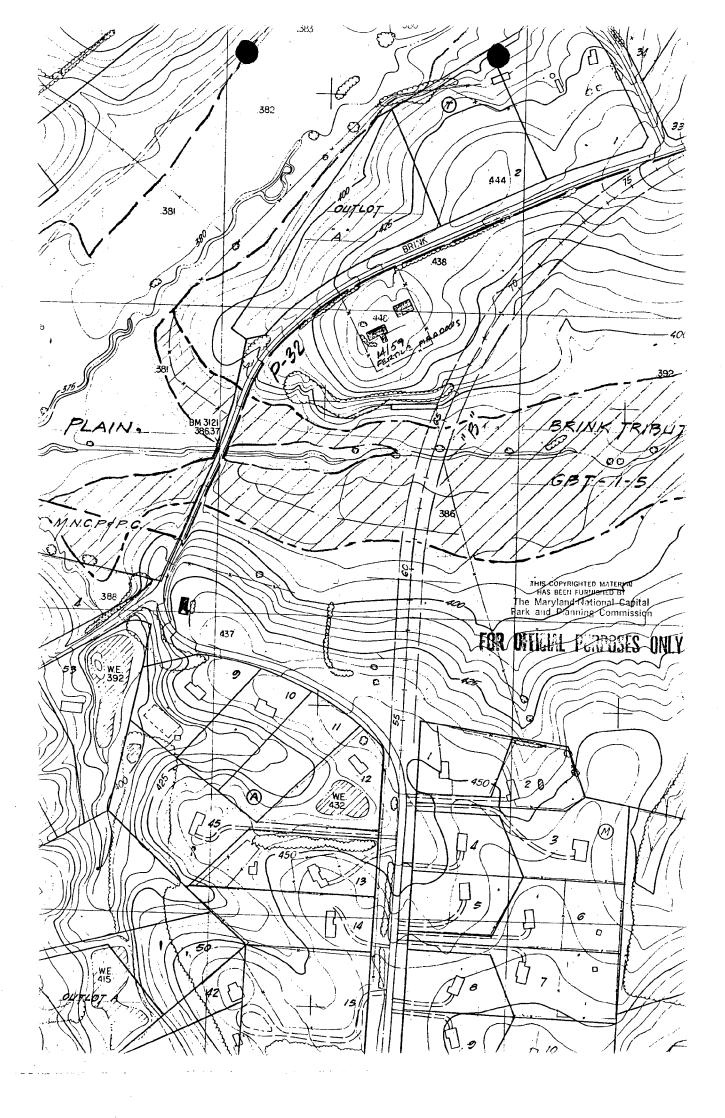
- 1) The Historic Area Work Permit application must be submitted and approved prior to construction of the project. The Historic Preservation Commission may decide to review the project before the work permit application is submitted but need the final alignments before the project can be approved. We would like the Commission to review the project prior to the application submission if possible. Our Design Section will then submit the application as soon as the alignments have been finalized.
- 2) The alignment of Goshen Road within the Fertile Meadows historic area will probably be acceptable to the Commission if, after study, it is determined to be the most feasible alignment from an engineering standpoint. In addition, the Goshen Road extended project will not visually affect the Fertile Meadows historic building site, the most significant concern of the HPC. The roadway alignment falls beyond a significant tree line and vegetation at the bottom of a steep slope at the rear of the building so it will not be visible from the building.
- 3) The alignment of Brink Road will probably be acceptable because it cannot be resituated since the right-of-way was previously established within the subdivision plans on the opposite side of the road from the historic Church site. In addition, although the Brink Road widening will affect the Goshen Mennonite Church historic site by the purchase of right-of-way, it will not visually affect the building. If the brick entranceway falls within the right-of-way, steps should be taken to maintain it at its present orientation, or, if the entranceway falls within the area of construction, or it is not possible to maintain it within the right-of-way, attempts to preserve it by relocation may be necessary.

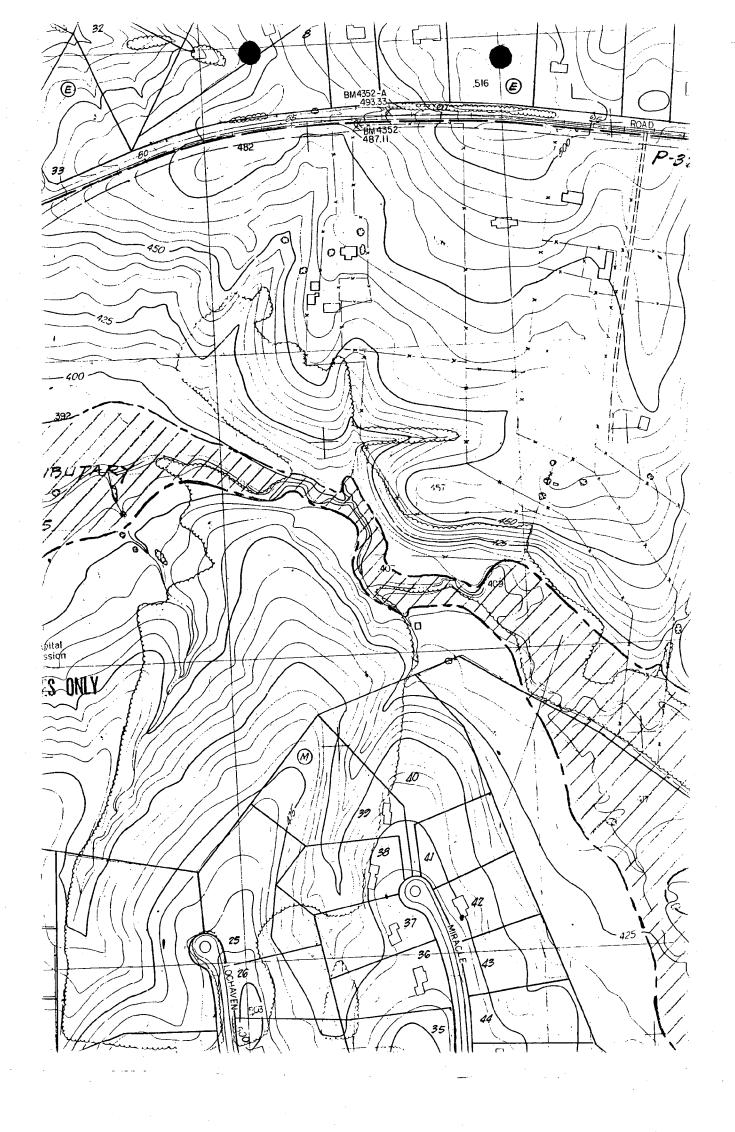
Bobbi Hahn Page 2 December 17, 1987

In conclusion, both of these historic sites will be impacted by the project but the historic buildings will not be visually affected by the project. Therefore, if the alignments are determined the only feasible possibility during the final design stage, and the sites are not visually impacted by the project, then the Historic Preservation Commission will most likely accept them.

GTN:mjo 4190U







MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

June 24, 1987



#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Files

FROM:

Patricia B. Willard, Highway Coordinator

Transportation Planning Division

SUBJECT: Goshen Road

Bob Simpson of OPPD, MCDOT, requested input for the Coordinated Planning Information document which he is preparing for the subject CIP project. I have provided him with the following:

Parks. Program Open Space funds were used to purchase several parcels of Stewartown Park. Cabin Branch Park was purchased entirely with local funds. There is a State procedure which we will have to follow in order to convey the parkland to MCDOT for roadway right-of-way.

Number of Travel Lanes. I discussed this item with Ki Kim. We are recommending that south of O'dendhal (between O'dendhal and Girard) this road be a four-lane undivided arterial road with appropriate turn lane at the O'dendhal intersection.

Between O'dendhal Road and Warfield Road, Goshen Road is classified as a major highway. We are recommending six lanes between O'dendhal and Snouffers School Road and four lanes between Snouffers School Road and Warfield Road. The four lanes should be the outside lanes of an ultimate six-lane crosssection. North of Warfield Road, the road is an arterial and will be constructed as a two-lane rural arterial.

Sidewalk/Bicycle. I recommended that the major highway portion have, as a first choice, an eight (8) foot bikeway/sidewalk on each side of the roadway with a six (6) foot tree space. I also suggested that, as a safety feature, they may want to construct a wide curb lane since many bicyclists insist on riding on the roadway surface. I also referred Bob to the intersection plans for Centerway and Goshen because, based on what Carol

Truppi told me, I felt that the ultimate sidewalk/tree space area had been included as part of that intersection project.

After conversations with Carol Truppi and Ki Kim, I recommended an eight (8) foot bikeway on one side of the roadway behind the drainage ditch for the arterial section north of Warfield Road.

<u>Historic</u>. I provided Bob Simpson with pages from the Atlas and the Mater Plan concerning Fertile Meadows, the historic house that fronts on Brink Road. I also gave him, not because it was important to the project but as a piece of information, a copy of our letter to the owner of the historic property and a summary of the discussions we had had with him concerning the location of the new portion of Goshen Road.

Alignment. Andy had previously given a copy of the 200-scale topo with the master plan alignment of this road.

PBW:dlf/Files.pbw

cc: Bill Gries
Ki Kim
Carol Truppi
Melissa Banach
Andy Dempster
Susan Cianci

#### MEMORANDUM

June 11, 1987

TO:

HPC Commissioners

FROM:

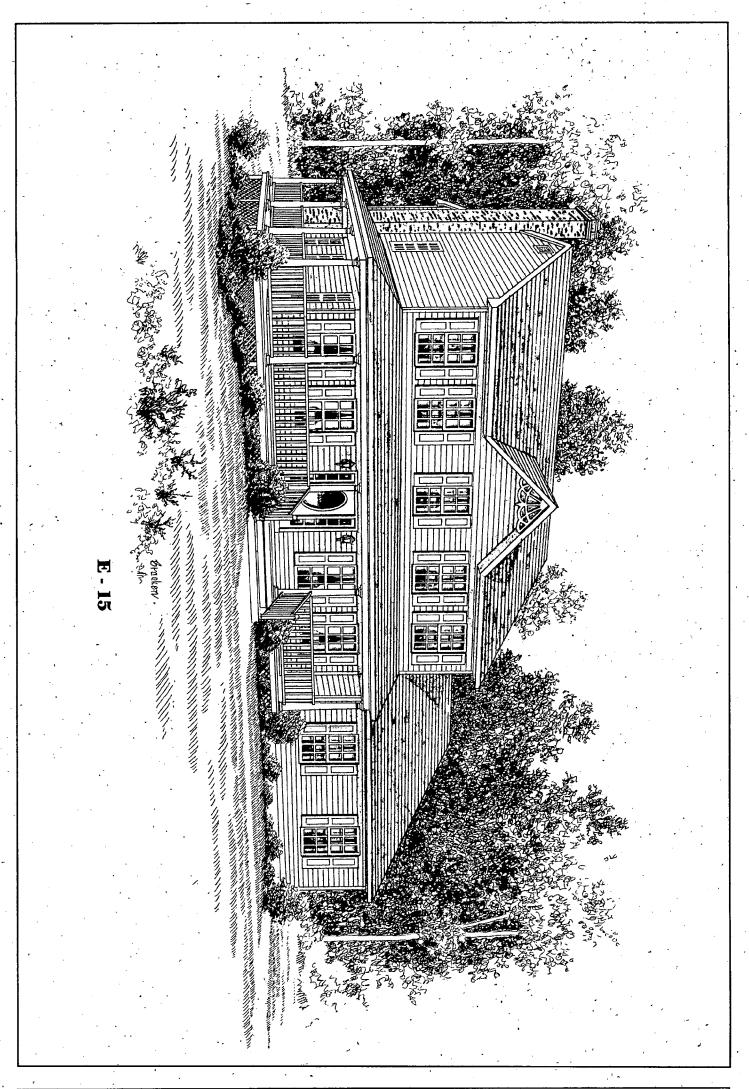
Bobbi Hahn

SUBJECT:

Agenda Item V.

Regarding the request of John Houston for the reduction in the environmental setting of Fertile Meadows, my thought is that it is premature to give any final approval for the reduction prior to the filing of a plan of subdivision. The proposed reduction of the setting referred to in Mr. Houston's letter (as shown on the attachment) was recommended by the HPC and Planning Board. It is best to have the setting be entirely in one ownership if possible and to have it correspond to lot lines if possible. Given the fact that the property has 2 acre zoning it is possible that the proposed 7.5 acres could include more than one lot but that can only be decided at the time of subdivision. The Commission certainly wants input into the location of new construction close to the house even if the construction setting is finally reduced to less than 7.5 a.

BH: gk: 0195E



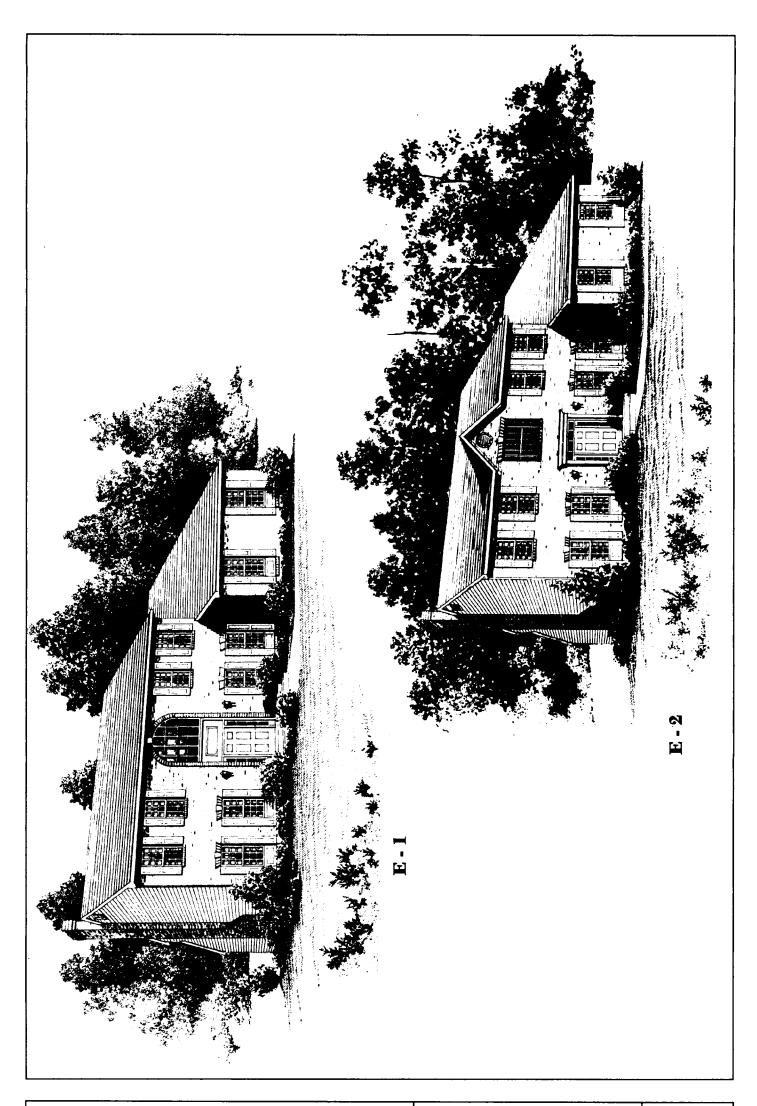
Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 15

Quality Construction with 10-year warranty program





#### Traditional 2-Story Colonial Homes

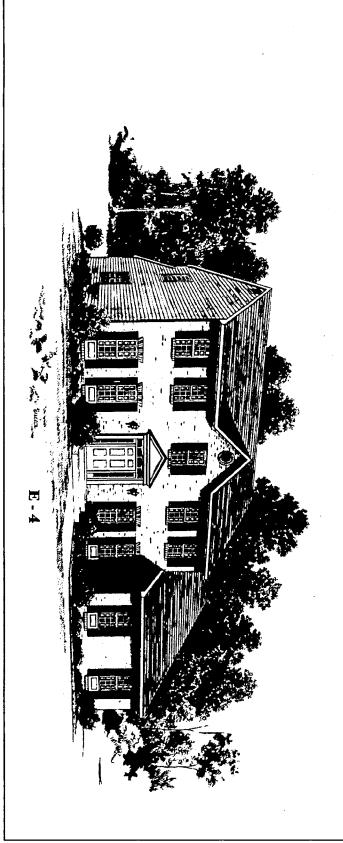
NVBIA
NORTHERN VIRGINIA
BUILDING INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATION

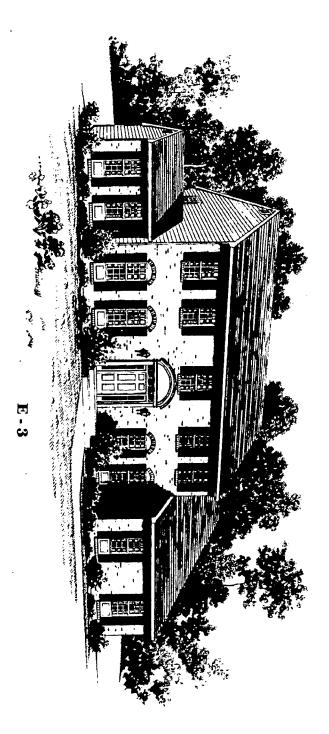
Renderings and floor plans are the artist's conception. Details and dimensions may differ from actual plans. Standard and optional features may vary. Springbrook Builders reserves the right to initiate changes without prior notice. See Community Sales Manager for information.

Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 1 and 2





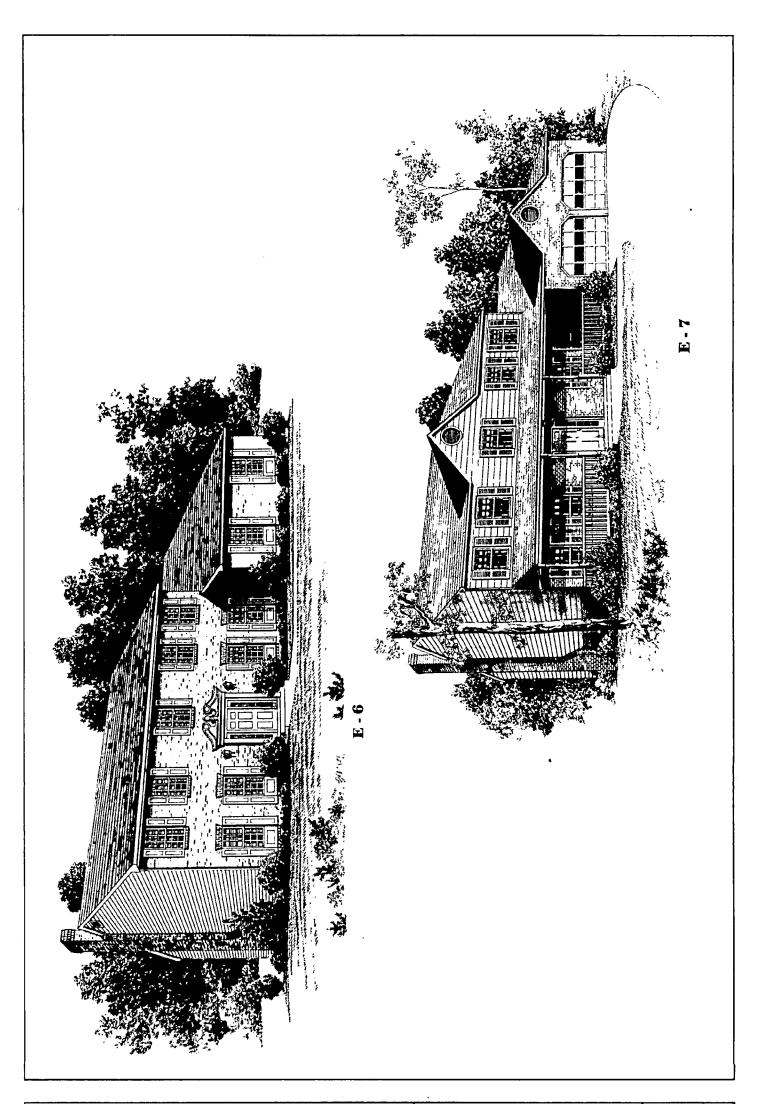
Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 3 and 4

Quality construction with 10-year warranty program





#### **Energy Efficient Homes**

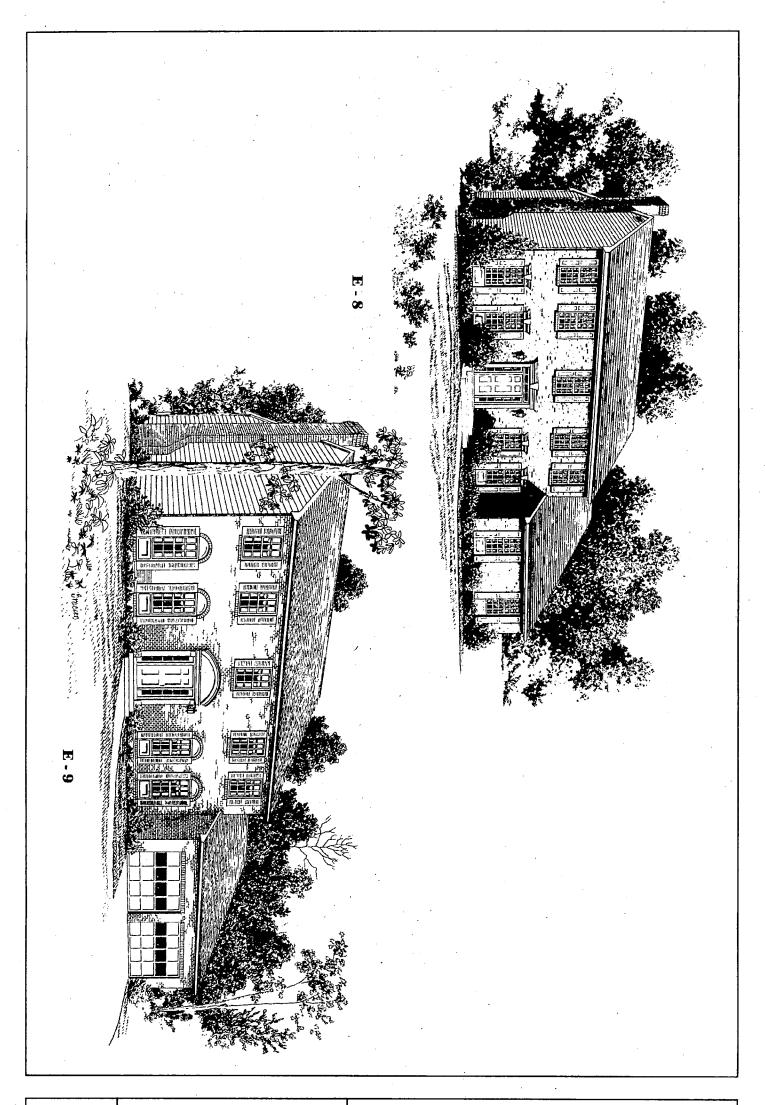


Renderings and floor plans are the artist's conception. Details and dimensions may differ from actual plans. Standard and optional features mayvary. Springbrook Builders reserves the right to initiate changes without prior notice. See Community Sales Manager for information.

Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 6 and 7





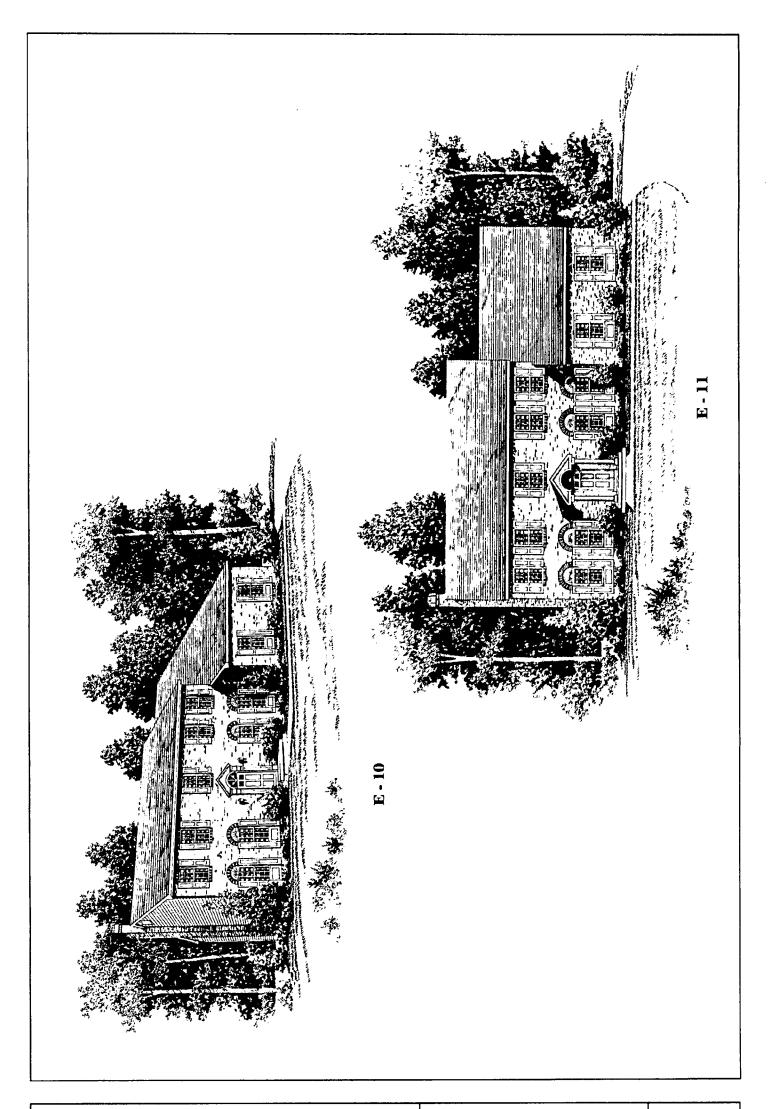
Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 8 and 9

#### More Square Feet for the Money





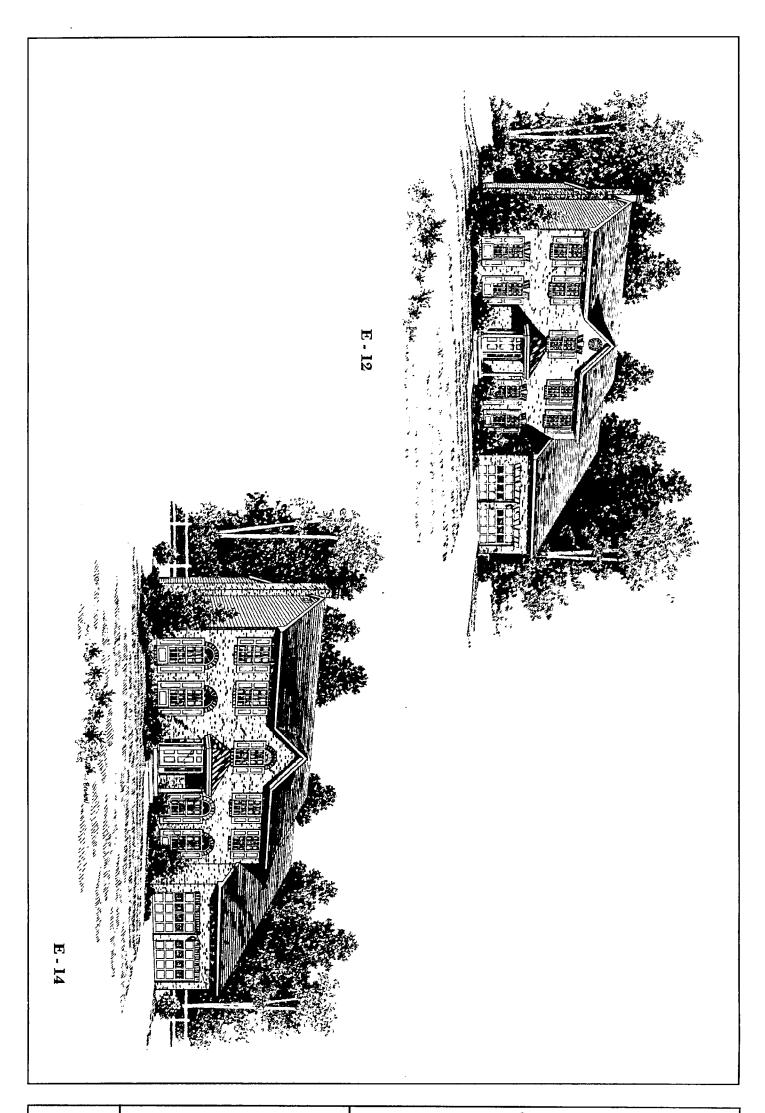
#### VALUE • VALUE • VALUE

10-year Warranty Program Renderings and floor plans are the artist's conception. Details and dimensions may differ from actual plans. Standard and optional features may vary. Springbrook Builders reserves the right to initiate changes without prior notice. See Community Sales Manager for information.

Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevations 10 and 11





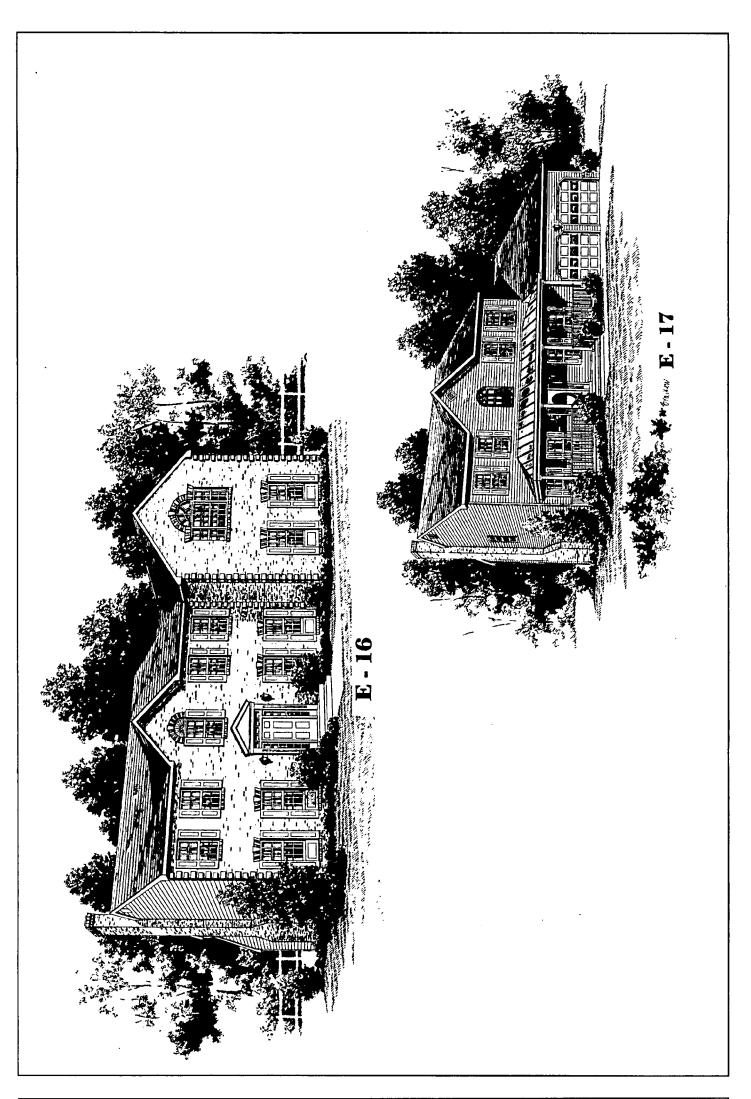
Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 12 and 14

#### Best New Home Values in Maryland & Virginia





#### Best New Home Values in Virginia & Maryland



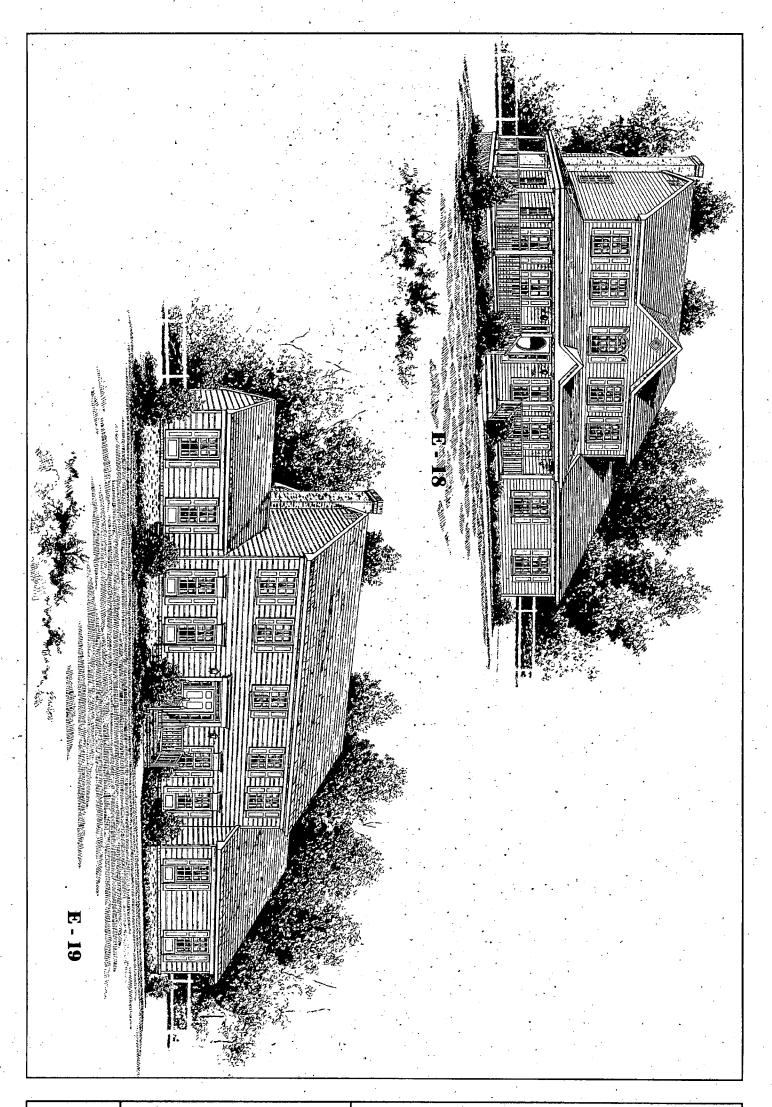
Renderings and floor plans are the artist's conception. Details and dimensions may differ from actual plans. Standard and optional features may vary. Springbrook Builders reserves the right to initiate changes without prior notice. See Community Sales Manager for information.

Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 16 only on AS-6

Elevation 17



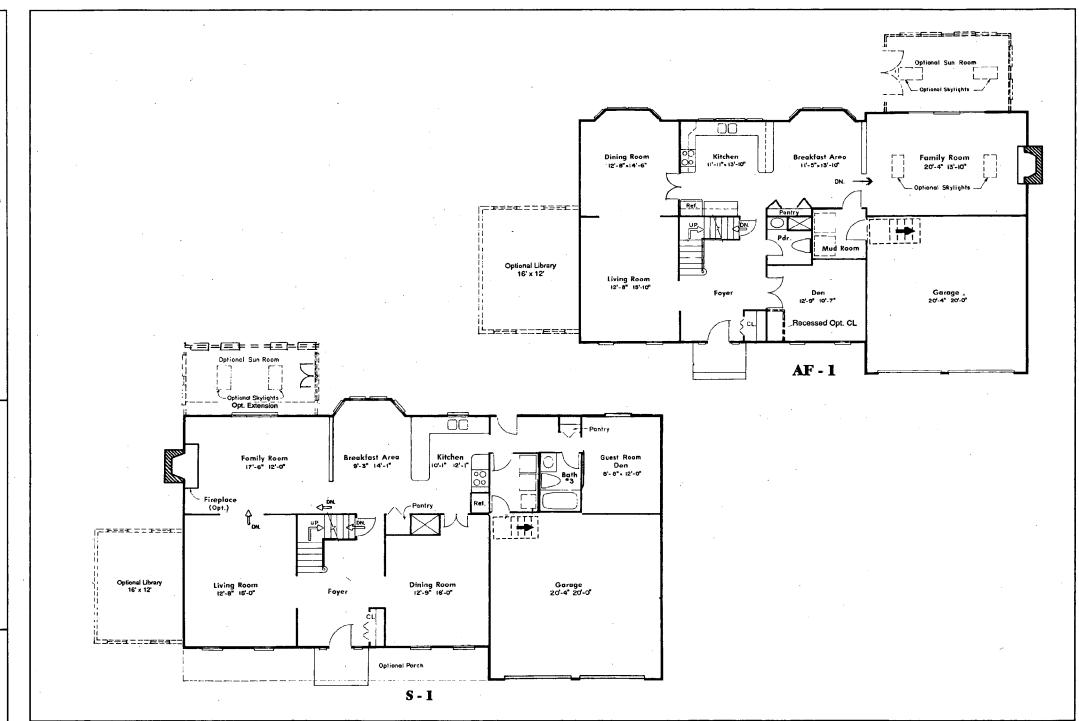
Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Elevation 18 & 19

Best New Home Values in Virginia & Maryland







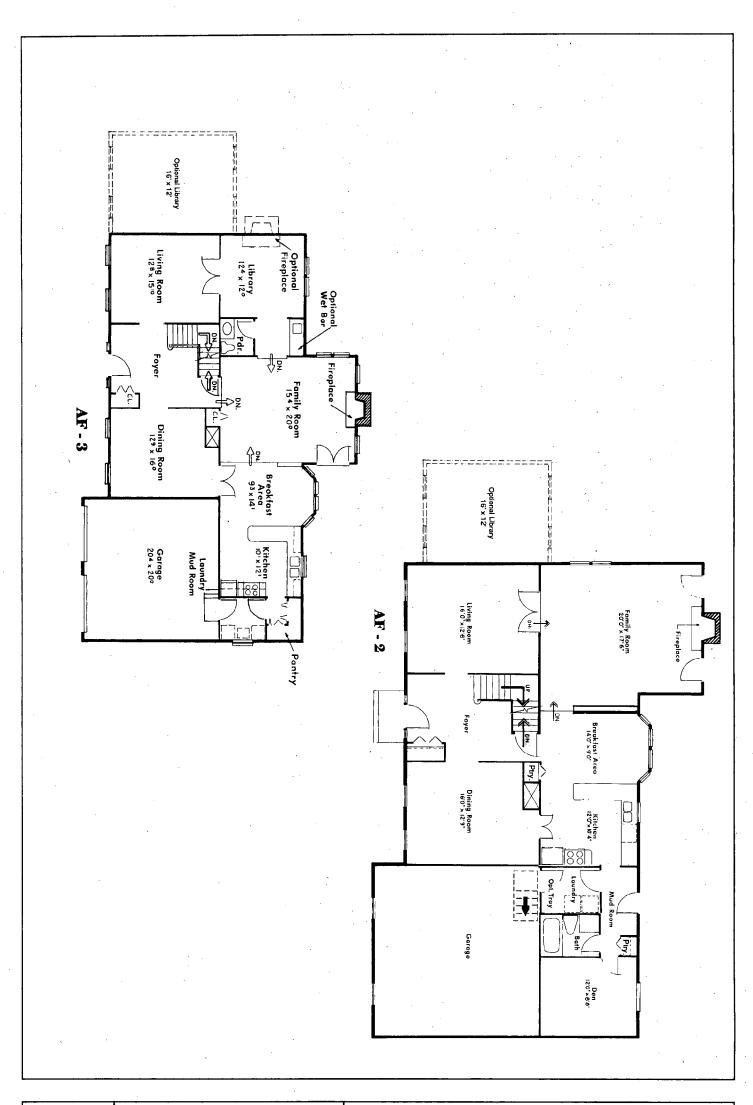
# Spacious living areas

Renderings and floor plans are the artist's conception. Details and dimensions may differ from actual plans. Standard and optional features may vary. Springbrook Builders reserves the right to initiate changes without prior notice. See Community Sales Manager for information.

Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Floor Plans S-1 & AF-1



Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Floor Plans AF-2 & AF-3

Many upgrades and options to choose from





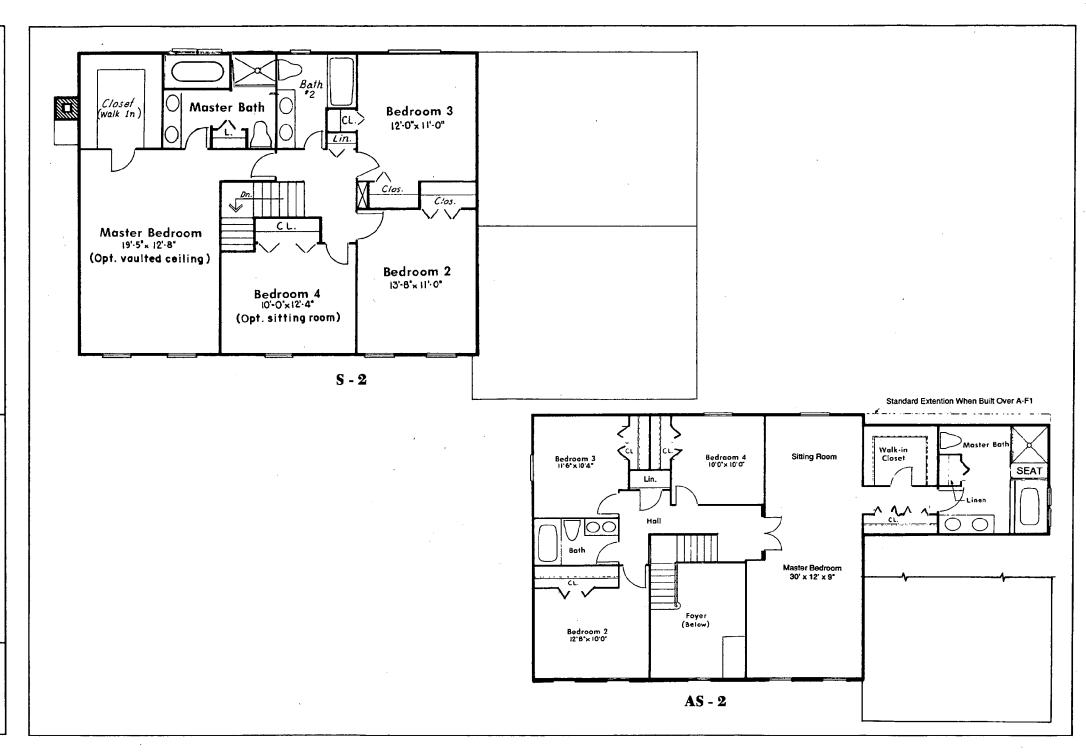
# **Energy Efficient Homes**

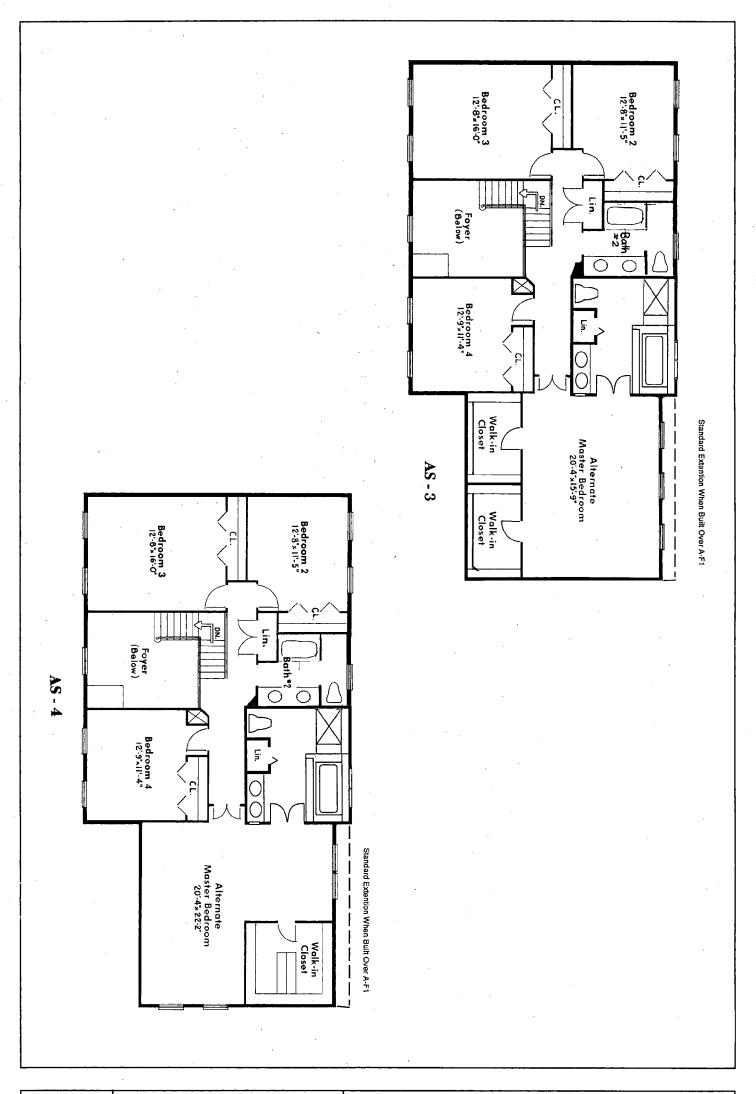
oor plans are the artist's conception. Details and differ from actual plans, Standard and optional Springbrook Builders reserves the right to initiate prior notice. See Community Sales Manager for

Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

Floor Plans S-2 & AS-2





Springbrook Builders

Dartmouth

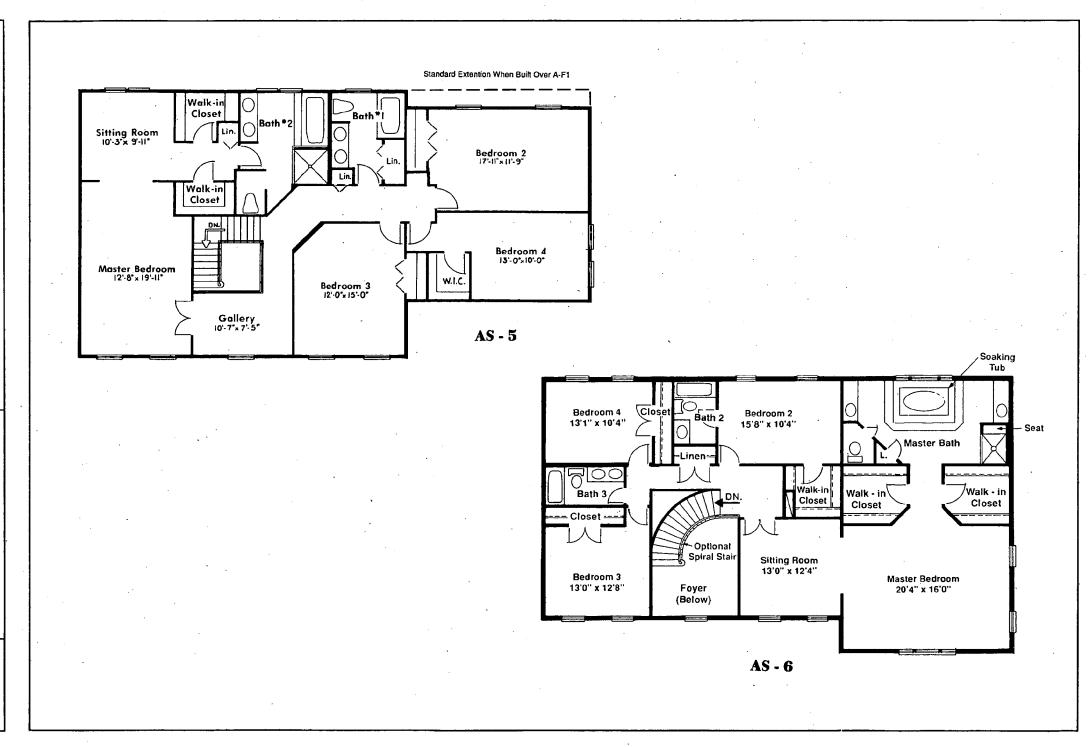
Floor Plans AS-3 & AS-4

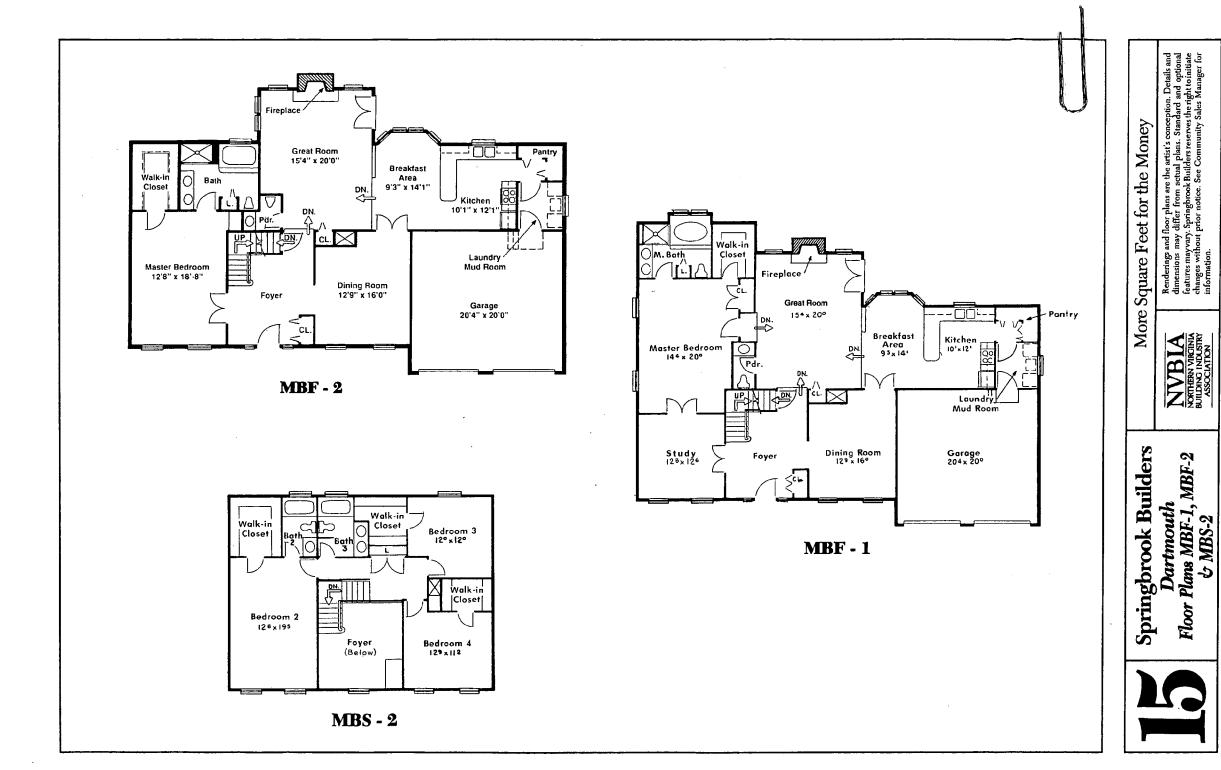
#### VALUE • VALUE • VALUE

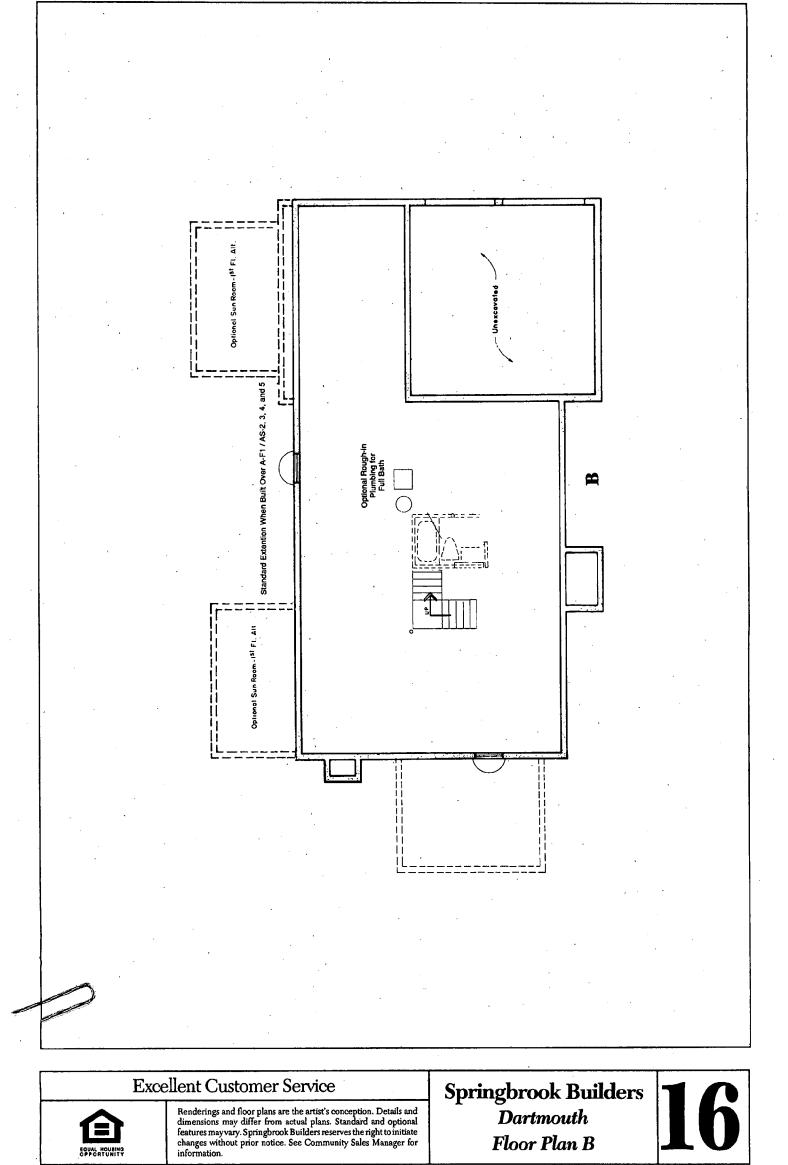


Quality construction with 10-year warranty program

Floor Plans AS-5 & AS-6 Springbrook Builders **Dartmouth** 







Floor Plan B

### DARTMOUTH STANDARD FEATURES

#### **EXTERIOR**

- Large Lots
- 10 Year Warranty Program
- Two Stories with Full Basement
- Two Car Garage
- Wood Double Pane Insulated Windows
- Underground Utilities
- Waterproof Electrical Outlets and Frostproof Hose Bibs in Front and Rear of Home
- Walkways and Front Step
- Brick Formed Poured Concrete Foundation
- Maintenance-Free Vinyl Siding
- Seamless Maintenance-Free Gutters and Downspouts
- Maintenance-Free Fascia, Soffit and Shutters
- Insulated Exterior Door
- Professionally Designed Landscape Package
- Seeded Yards

#### **INTERIOR**

- High First Floor Ceilings
- Formal Living Room and Dining Room
- Step Down Family Room
- Separate Laundry Room on First Floor
- Hardwood Floor in Foyer
- French Door in Family Room
- Six Panel Colonial Doors
- Washer & Dryer Connections
- Crown Moulding in Foyer
- Crown Moulding and Chair Rail in Dining Room
- Wall-to-Wall Carpeting
- Door Chime
- Smoke Detectors on All Levels
- Energy Efficient Airstop
- Gas Heating
- Electric Air Conditioning
- Pre-Wire for Telephone and Television
- Full Basement
- Fifty Gallon Quick Recovery Gas Hot Water Heater
- R-30 Insulation in Ceiling
- R-13 Insulation in Exterior Walls

#### KITCHEN

- Breakfast Area Bay Window
- Peninsula Food Preparation Area
- Continuous Clean Double Gas Oven
- 18 cu. ft. Frostfree Refrigerator
- Energy Efficient Multi-Cycle Sound Insulated Dishwasher
- Double Bowl Stainless Steel Sink with Waste Disposal
- Choice of Oak Wood Cabinets

#### **BATHS**

#### FIRST FLOOR BATH:

- Dartmouth Standard Floor Plan Features Full Bath with Ceramic Tile/Tub Surround
- Dartmouth Alternate Floor Plan Features One-Half Bath Powder Room
- Oak Vanity with Cultured Marble Top

#### SECOND FLOOR HALL BATH:

- Full Bath with Ceramic Tile/Tub Surround
- Oak Vanity with Double Bowl Cultured Marble Top MASTER BATH:
- Lavish Bath with Six Foot Soaking Tub and Separate Shower with Ceramic Tile Surrounds
- Spacious Linen Closet
- Oak Vanity with Double Bowl Cultured Marble Top

# uality • Value – Crattsmanship



## Springbrook Builders Dartmouth Standard Features





## SPRINGBROOK BUILDERS, INC.

#### "A TRADITION IN HOME BUILDING"

SPRINGBROOK BUILDERS, INC. and its affiliate companies have continued a family building tradition that dates back well over 40 years in the Washington area. Our families have been builders in this area for three generations, and have built over 5,000 single family homes and townhomes, garden apartments, and commercial projects. They have built homes from under \$100,000 to the \$1 million range.

SPRINGBROOK BUILDERS, INC. is a well-respected name in the industry, and we take pride in our product. Our homes carry 10 year warranty program, and we have a strong commitment to excellent customer service.

Buying a SPRINGBROOK home will put you in good company. Our motto is "Compare...We Dare". A SPRINGBROOK project will give our purchasers a good value. That is the key to our success. Every SPRINGBROOK home is an investment in your future. Welcome to our homes, and we hope, to your new home.

#### JOHN CHARLES HOUSTON

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW 3017 CLARENDON BOULEVARD, SUITE C • ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201 (703) 528-4433

June 8, 1987

Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission Suite 1009 51 Monroe Street Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Board Members, Attn. Bobbie Hahn

Pursuant to my conversation with Bobbie Hahn about our house on what is known as Fertile Meadows or the Gaither Estate, we wish to receive your approval as it may be required for the subdivision of the house from the rest of the property.

We propose to do two things in this regard. We have conveyed the bulk of the property to a buyer who is interested in developing the property with very nice and compatable homes to the one which we own there. As you may know the property is zoned R-2, so the development will be nominal given the circa 92 acres available for it.

We were notified for the first time last week that an area of 7.5 acres is proposed as a historical "setting" for the house. We have done significant historical restoration to the house because we love what it is. We are also interested in preserving the house's character and historic value.

Because of this we proposed to Maryland Park and Planning the re-routing of the proposed road through the property to minimize the intrusion on the land itself and the house. As you may note from the proposed road, the road would itself intrude on the historical proposal. Purusant to this we would strongly urge you to consider the proposed re-routing of the road to preserve the house and lands historic, esthetic and ecological value. We fully support the improvement in the road.

Because we believe that the historical quality of the house can be preserved with a modification of the original proposal, we propose for your approval the subdivision of the property on two acres, as illustrated in the enclosed plat. This is in fact what we own, as the property itself has been conveyed to another party. A physical re-drawing of the lines at his stage would cause enourmous financial problems to us, and would in fact entail legal action by us against any party forcing such an issue upon us.

Given the agreed upon historic quality of the house, we and the buyer of the land, would agree to reasonable intrusions on both parties' use of the land as it relates to your concerns. We would appreciate the opportunity to appear before you, and explain our proposal, and better understand your concerns in this regard. We look forward to meeting with you at your next board meeting and seeking a mutually agreeable decision.

Sincerely yours,

ghn Charles Houston, ESQ.

Enclosure JCH/ar