

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 7219 Spruce Avenue	Meeting Date: 5/12/93
Resource: Takoma Park Historic District	Preliminary Consultation
Case Number: n/a	Tax Credit: No
Public Notice: 4/28/93	Report Date: 5/5/93
Applicant: J. Hurst/J. Murphy	Staff: Nancy Witherell
PROPOSAL: Addition	RECOMMEND: Option B

The applicants would like to expand bedroom space on the second floor, meet code requirements for height on the second story, and rebuild an interior staircase to the second floor that presently does not meet code, either. The house is a contributing bungalow in the historic district. The applicants have submitted photographs of models showing two options.

Option A retains the existing roof slope, pushing the ridge farther back on the house. Shed dormers are shown on the model; a sketch of a jerkinhead dormer on this roof is shown in the accompanying materials. Option B raises the pitch of the roof, but maintains the ridge in the center of the house. A gabled front dormer and a shed rear dormer have been shown on the model.

The area at the left rear (northeast) corner would be expanded in both options to provide room for a new staircase. The ridge of the lower roof would be altered in either option, reflecting the change to the main roof ridge.

STAFF DISCUSSION

Of these two basic options, the staff prefers Option B, which in the staff's judgment, is more similar to the existing house and more consistent with the Takoma Park guidelines. The guidelines recommend the retention of the character of the house and its style; in the staff's judgment, Option A changes that character too much, especially through the use of an off-center gable ridge and an elongated dormer.

Even though the Commission has recommended against changing the roof pitch in previous cases of a similar nature in Takoma Park, the staff recommends that this option be given preference in this case. The applicants hope to remove the asbestos shingles on the house at a future date. They propose using wood shingles on the newly constructed wall surfaces to be matched at a later date with the newly exposed shingles. The staff supports this suggestion for the side walls. The new dormers could be shingles, but could also be clapboard or stucco to differentiate the new from the old. The applicants will need to address the position of the windows on the second story side elevations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the applicants proceed with plans for Option B, using a gabled dormer at the front and a shed dormer at the rear. The staff finds this approach to meet the intent of the Takoma Park guidelines for small houses.

To: MNCPP Historic Preservation Commission Re: Proposed Renovation of Murphy/Hurst House, 7219 Spruce Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland

Problem:

7219 Spruce Avenue is a bungalow with a renovated second floor currently in use as bedrooms for our two growing children. There are two problems associated with the second floor. First, the ceiling clearance, as the enclosed photo indicates, is not sufficient. It is also below code. In addition, the stairs, which are a later addition to the house, have insufficient height clearance and are below code.

Solution:

We love the historic character of this house and this street, and plan to make our renovation with minimal impact to the bungalow style of the house and the streetscape. To this end we plan the following:

-Keep the wrap-around porch as it is, and replace patched roof boards with materials matching the original

-Use cedar shakes above the current asbestos siding, with an eye toward eventually returning the house to the original cedar

-Add space for the stairs in the rear of the house, maintaining the annex proportions

-Use one of the two options enclosed to increase the headroom upstairs and add a shed dormer to the rear of the house

NOTE: We cannot go back through the rear of the house to increase the floor space in our house due to the lack of storm drains on the two streets above Spruce Ave. A cement runoff behind our house handles stormwater runoff from Park Ave., Crescent Ave., and part of Holt Place. The water runs down our driveway and into the storm drains on Spruce Ave.

Rationale:

7219 Spruce Avenue has been added to at least twice, possibly three times. We do not know when the kitchen was added, but the stairs were added about 15 years ago. We believe the front dormer was added also at that time. In expanding the house

somewhat, we are in keeping with the tradition of the house. This, of course, is also part of the bungalow style, which was made to be expanded as a family's needs change.

Our use of interior space will keep the essential shape of the rooms as they currently exist. Irregular floor plans will be maintained. We will, however, be able to bring this interior space up to code.

All of our proposed changes have precedent in bungalows on ours or on neighboring streets. From the front, our house will still look like a bungalow with a dormer.

We have had to make some compromises in coming up with the two options enclosed in order to make minimal impact on the current facade of the house. To maintain the essential appearance of the front of the house we have sacrificed one bedroom, closet space, and possibly a window in the bathroom.

Submitted by:

Jane Hurst

Jane Hurst 7219 Spruce Ave. Takoma Park, Maryland

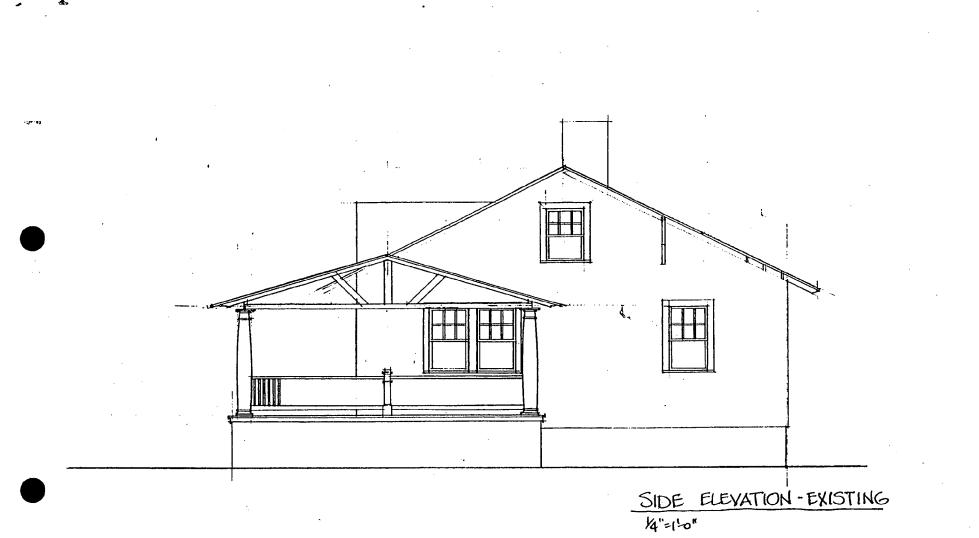
Joseph M. Murphy / DH Joseph M. Murphy



FRONT ELEVATION-EXISTING

1/4"=('-0"

7219 SPRUCE ST. TIMOTHY DUVE ARCHITECTS 410.539.0777



7219 SPRUCE ST. TIMOTITY DUKE ARCHITECTS 410.539.0777

Option A. 7219 Spruce

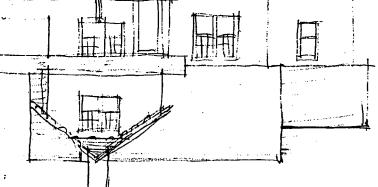
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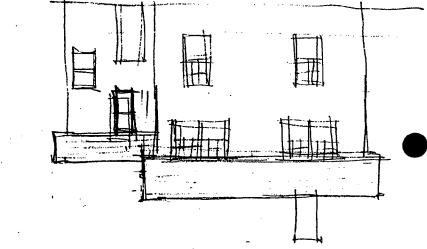
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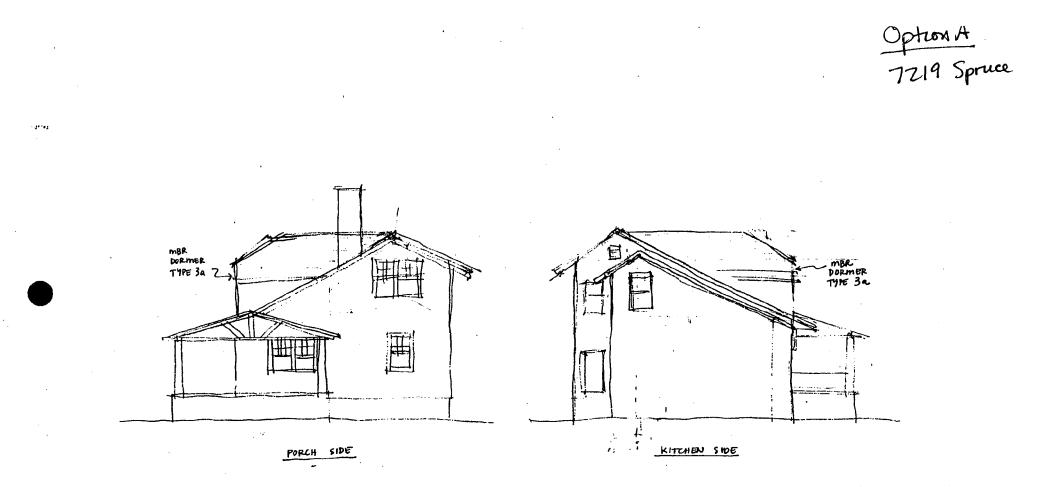


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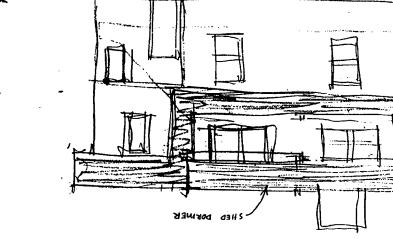
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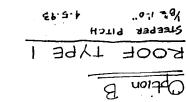


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Option B

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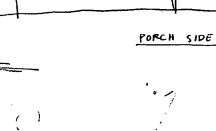
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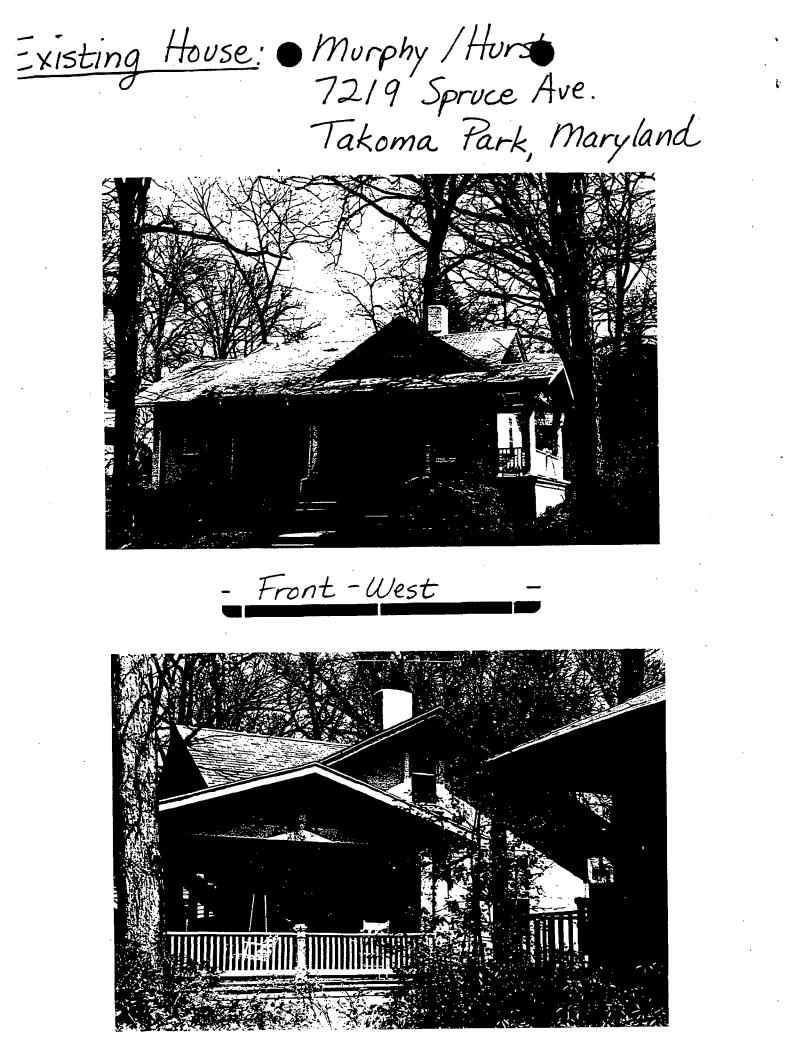
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Option B 7219 Spruce





Existing House Murphy/Hurst 7219 Spruce Ave.

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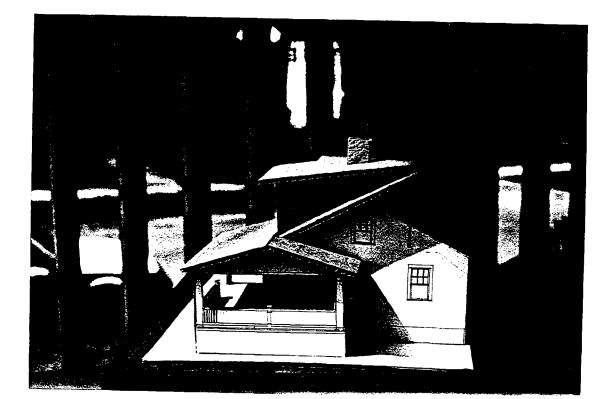


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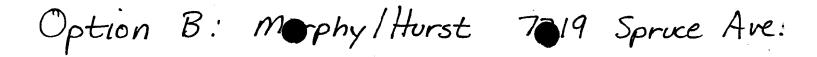


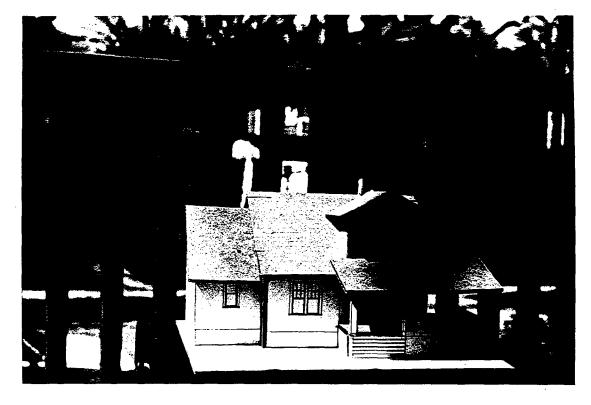
Front - West



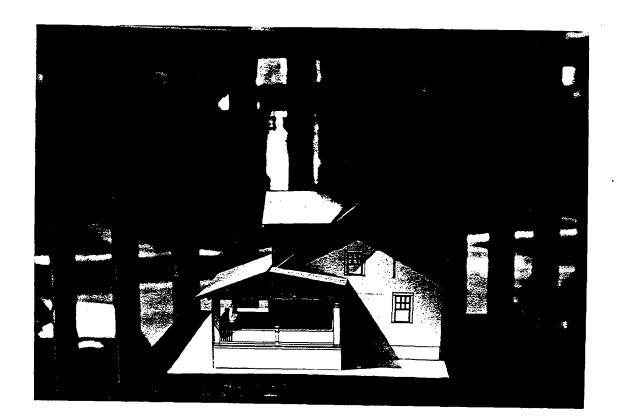
Side - North

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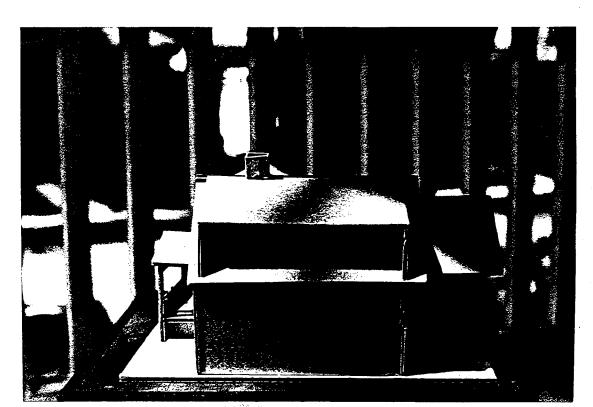
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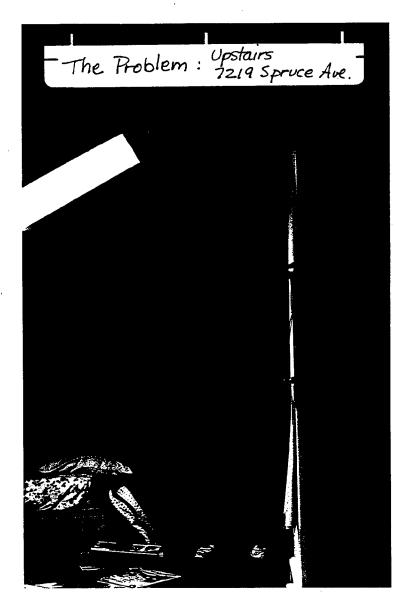




Side - North



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Submitted by:

Jane Hurst

Jane Hurst 7219 Spruce Ave. Takoma Park, Maryland

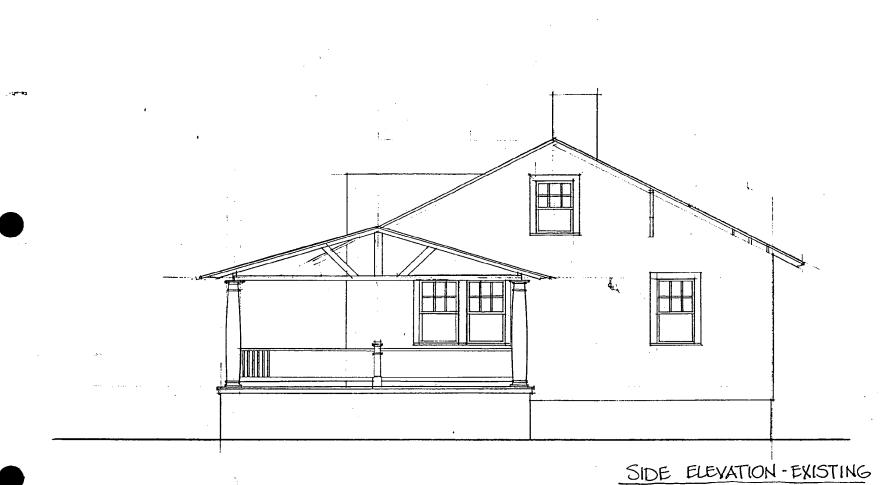
Joseph M. Murphy / DH Joseph M. Murphy



FRONT ELEVATION-EXISTING

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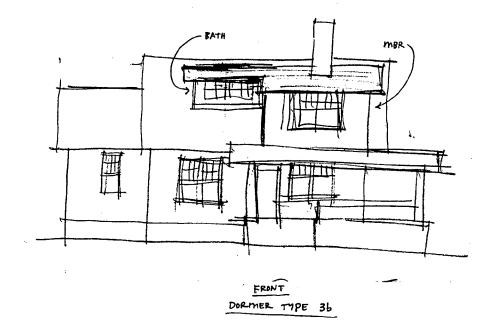


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14"=1'-0"

7219 SPRUCE ST. TIMOTITY DUKE ARCHITECTS 410.539.0777

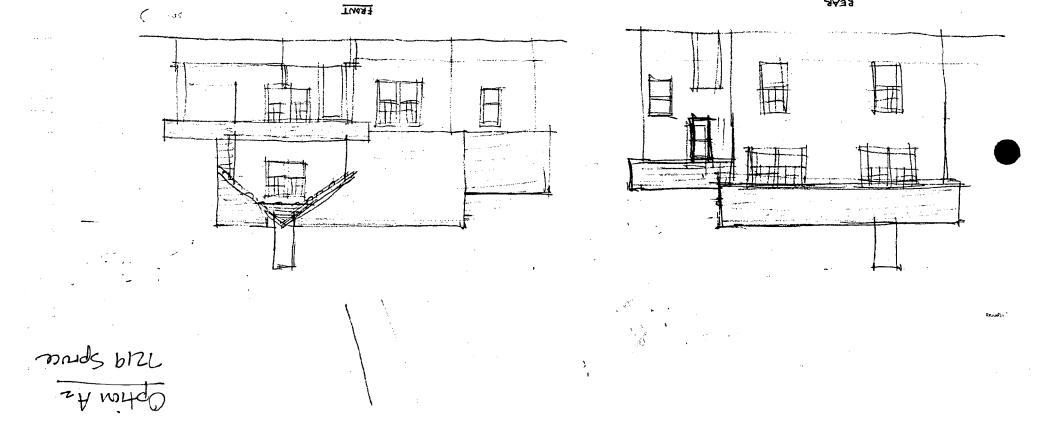
Option A: 7219 Spruce



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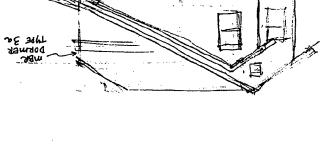
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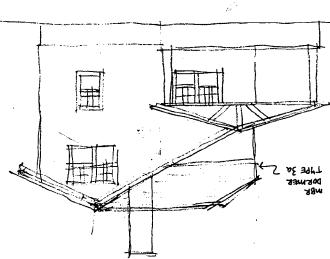
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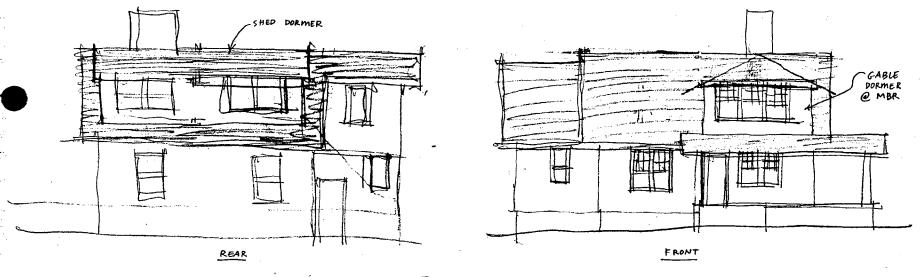
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Option B 7219 Spruce





Option B ROOF TYPE 1 STEEPER PITCH 1/6°= 1-0" 4.5.93

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ROOF

TYPE 1

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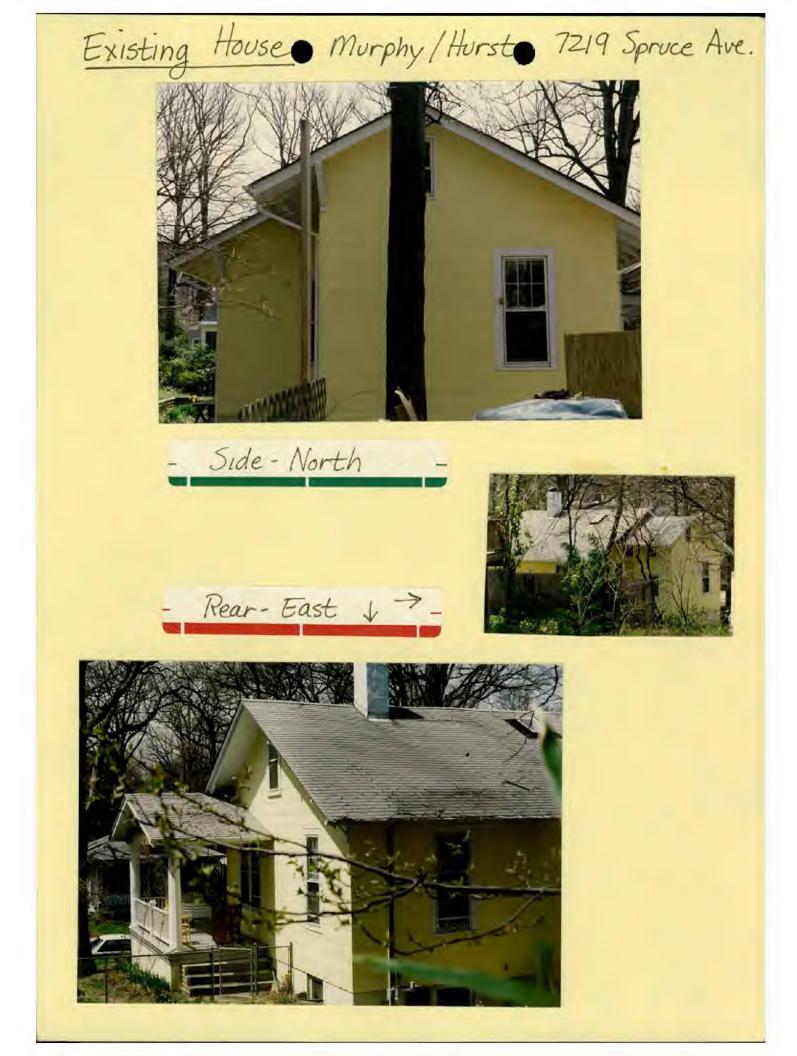


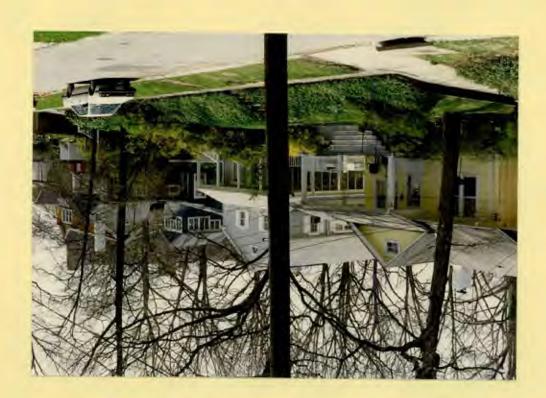
Option B 7219 Spruce

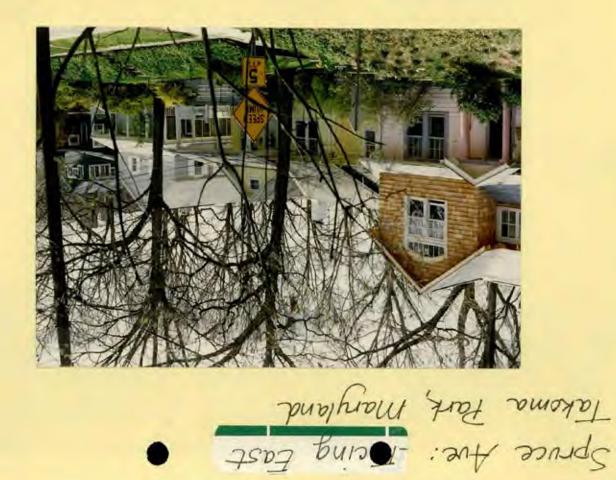
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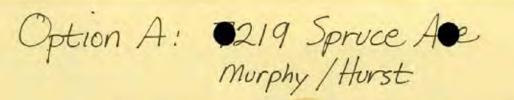














Front-West

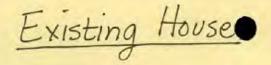


Side - South

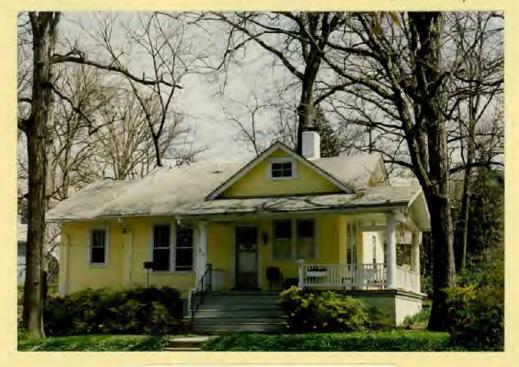




Side - North



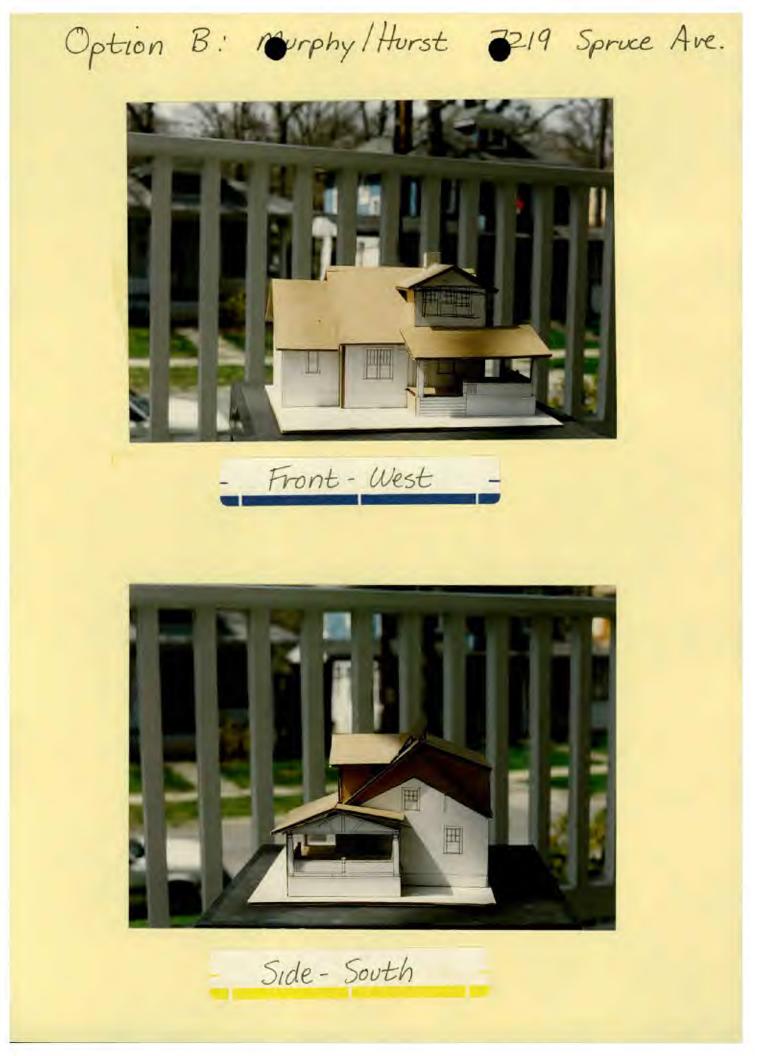
Existing House Murphy / Hut 7219 Spruce Ave. Takoma Park, Maryland



- Front - West



Side - South

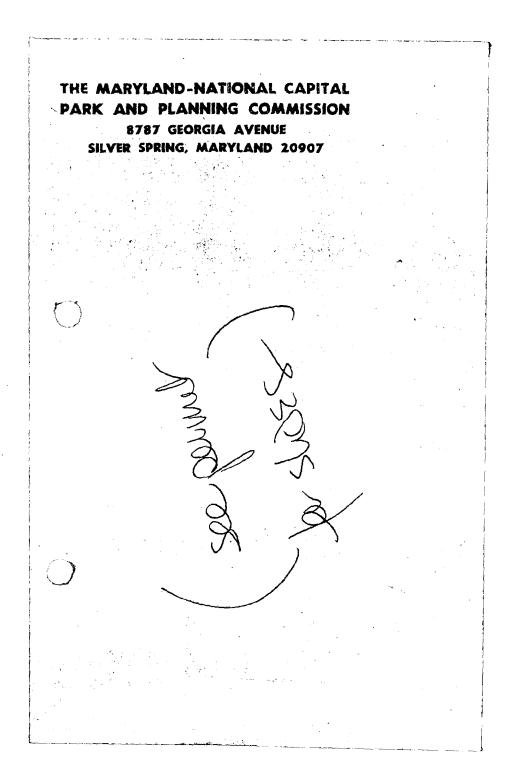






Side - North





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