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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION



8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

(301) 589-1480 565-7444

March 9, 1978

MEMORANDUM

TO: Historic Advisory Committee Mike Dwyer, Parks Historian Urban Design Division

VIA: Pat Plunkett, Community Relations Office

FROM: Development Review Division

Historic Significance of Houses at 9116 Georgia Avenue SUBJECT: and 18313 Brooke Road

As per recent legislation and procedures subsequently agreed upon regarding the demolition of possible historic sites, we are forwarding the attached copy of a letter from Frances Abrams, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, requesting the recommendation of the Planning Board concerning the demolition of two specific sites which appear within historic districts.

Since it is the responsibility of this division to present this request to the Planning Board no later than April 13, we will have to prepare a staff report by April 6. Your comments and recommendation will therefore be needed by March 31, at the latest, in order for them to be incorporated into our review and report. The house at 18313 Brooke Road does not appear on the microfilm addendum and therefore does not come under review through the Historic Sites Ordinance. Thus, no comment is necessary on this structure.

Please advise this office of any problems you might have with this schedule or contact us if there may be any questions regarding the procedure for handling these requests. For purposes of identification, we have assigned File No. HS 78-1 to the Georgia Avenue site and HS 78-2 to the Brooke Road site.

Attachment

Chairman's Office, MCPB 3/2/78 Date: 219 No. À Letter Dated: 3/1/78 IAN Who Will Handle: Ĵ-Bigit Isterin gen a REMARKS **1**5 á MD NATIONAL CAPITAL <u>TPT</u> ₽⁷. n . . . MAR 6 1978 1,* 54 10 611 HILL OF PLAN ء بىسمارىد . . 57° 16

Office of Director





MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND ROOM 320 • 6110 EXECUTIVE BOULEVARD, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852 • 301-468-4071

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March 1, 1978 PART AT ANTIONAL CAPITAL

Dr. Royce Hanson, Chairman Montgomery County Planning Board Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

Dear Dr. Hanson:

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(1) 9116 Georgia Avenue (SW corner of Georgia Avenue and Grace Church Road), site 36-4, Woodside Historic District, Map 21, PA 36, our reference number 20-1-411.

(2) 18313 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring, site 28-10, Free Negro Settlement, Map 9, PA 28, our reference number 12-2-203.

These two houses are vacant and have been condemned for violations of Chapter 26, Housing Standards, of the Montgomery County Code. They are both part of a program funded by the Community Development Block Grant and operated by the Office of Community Development to demolish <u>condemned houses</u> which the owners have shown no interest in rehabilitating. The first step in the process is an order to demolish issued by the Director. Such an order was issued for the Georgia Avenue house prior to enactment of Bill #41-77. However, I would like to comply with the spirit of this legislation and have been assured by the Office of Community Development that demolition can be delayed for a short time to receive the Planning Board's determination. The house at <u>9116 Georgia</u> Avenue is specifically identified in the microfilmed addenda to the Historic Atlas, but the house at <u>18313 Brooke Road is not</u>. Nevertheless, since the latter is within the boundaries of the Free Negro Settlement Historic District, I would appreciate a Planning Board determination of its significance.

No permit applications are referred with this request because no permits are required or issued when the County orders and performs demolition. Dr. Royce Hanson March 1, 1978 Page Two

The historical significance determination on these two condemned houses is delaying implementation of the Community Development Block Grant condemned house demolition program. Consequently, <u>J would</u> <u>appreciate a determination and reply as soon as possible</u>. Thank you very much.

Sincerely, - U Frances L. Abrams Director

FLA:dlr

cc: J. Rogers

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION **ROUTING SLIP** FROM DATE TO: DATE OUT/ INITIALS (1)(2) . (4) RE: (identify attached correspondence) Appropriate Action tere in Approval 甴 Prepare Draft Reply For Your Signature \Box Full Report H Recommendation and Return □ Per Our Conversation Note and Return Ил For Your Information 3.20 File See me for discussion QA. Prepare reply for the signature of _ Answer or acknowledge on or before pri **REMARKS:** W 1

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8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

(301) 589-1480 565**-7**444

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VIA: Pat Plunkett, Community Relations Office

FROM: Development Review Division

SUBJECT: Historic Significance of Houses at 9116 Georgia Avenue and 18313 Brooke Road

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

ROOM 320 • 6110 EXECUTIVE BOULEVARD, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852 • 301-468-4071

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SILVER SPRING, MD.

March 1, 1978

Dr. Royce Hanson, Chairman Montgomery County Planning Board Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

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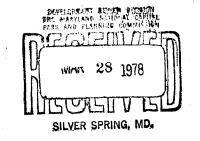
cc: J. Rogers

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

> (301) 589-1480 565-7408

March 27, 1978

Mrs. Frances L. Abrams, Director Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection 6110 Executive Boulevard Rockville, Maryland 20852



Déar Mrs. Abrams:

The Montgomery County Planning Board at its regular meeting of March 23, 1978, considered your referral of March 1, 1978, of the condemned building at 9116 Georgia Avenue.

The Planning Board is of the opinion that this building <u>in</u> <u>its present condition</u> will not be placed in the Preliminary Draft Master Plan of Historic Sites. Despite the fact that the Board is of the opinion the house will not be placed in the Master Plan, we still support the historic value of the Historic District of which this building is a part.

We appreciate your cooperation in referring these condemned buildings to the Planning Board under the Historic Sites Ordinance. Perhaps if your staff could go over the full listing of condemned buildings and identify those which come under the jurisdiction of the Historic Sites Ordinance and refer those to us, we could make full use of the Historic Sites identification process in a more orderly fashion.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Royce Ha

Royce Hanson Chairman

RH:PEP:djg

bcc: Hanson (#219) Tustian (#225) Perrine

Montgomery County Planning Board



Department of Environmental Protection

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND ROOM 320 • 6110 EXECUTIVE BOULEVARD, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

March 23, 1978

Dr. Royce Hanson, Chairman Montgomery County Planning Board 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

Dear Dr. Hanson:

I understand that consideration of the historic significance of a house at 9116 Georgia Avenue, at the corner of Grace Church Road, is on the Planning Board's schedule for today. In considering its recommendation, the Planning Board should be aware of the condition of the structure.

As you may already know, demolition was started ahead of schedule, resulting in the porches being removed. At least, this error has relieved a hazard, since the porches were poorly supported and dangerous.

With the porches gone, the foundations and wooden sills and joists were exposed to examination. The sills and joists were rotten and soft. There were holes and loose bricks in the foundation. In summary, the basic support of the structure is seriously weakened. A member of the Fire Marshal's office has also examined the property and found the building to be unsafe (see attached memorandum).

Sincerely, Frances L. Abrams Director

FLA:MET:ev

Attachment

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1978

TO: Mel Tull, Housing and Animal Control

FROM: Sgt. T.L. Suddath, Division of Fire Prevention 114

SUBJECT: 9112 Georgia Avenue (Vacant House)

I have made an on-site inspection of the above-subject property and have found that it is vacant and in an unsafe condition. The unsafe condition is precipitated by the fact that the front and rear doors are open and the structural stability of this house is questionable.

Your immediate attention is requested so that demolition may continue or boarding up of all openings is accomplished.

Please advise me of your actions. Thank you.

TLS/smw

HOUSES DEMOLISHED SINCE COMPLETION OF HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY (1976)

- (1) Fair Hill (23-98)
- (2) Snyder-King Barn (19-18)
- (3) Sprigg-Poole House (26-21)
- (4) Wilkins Estate Gatehouse (30-1)
- (5) Benjamin Reed House (13-16)
- (6) Dr. Ed Huges House (14-48)
- (7) Noah Watkins Farm (14-31)
- (8) The Highlands (28-26)
- (9) Seneca Stone Barn (17-59)
- (10) Colonel Boyd House (18-9)
- (11) Slidel1 School (13-28)
- (12) Nicholson Farm (14-18)

HOUSES DEMOLISHED SINCE PASSAGE OF ANTI-DEMOLITION ORDINANCE (JAN. '78)

- (1) Germantown RR Station (19-13)
- (2) Hazel Cashell Farm (22-18)
- (3) Elizabeth Powers House (13-15)
- (4) Harry Griffith Farm (14-40)

COMPILED BY:

PARK HISTORIAN'S OFFICE

<u>Bill No. 41-7</u>

Introduced: December 6, 1977 Enacted: January 17, 1978 Executive: January 18, 1978 Effective: January 18, 1978

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND December Legislative Session 1977

. Chapter. 21

AN EMERGENCY ACT to add to Article III, title "Permits" of Chapter 8 of the

Montgomery County Code 1972, as amended, title "Buildings", a new Section 8-29A, title "Moratorium on Alteration or Demolition of Historic Sites"; to specify the legislative purpose and intent; to specify legislative findings concerning the preservation of historic sites in Montgomery County; to define those structures which have certain significance, merit or value; to require all applicants for permits to demolish or substantially alter such historic sites to disclose the same on the application; to require the Montgomery County Planning Board to advise the Director as to whether or not the historic site will be placed in a preliminary draft of a master plan for the preservation thereof; to specify hearing notice requirements; to require the Director to hold public hearings to weigh certain. factors concerning the significance of certain historic sites and issue a decision; to specify certain time limits for the application process; to allow the Director, in certain cases, to withhold issuance of such permits for a maximum period of eighteen months or until the application is governed by a fully-implemented legislative program for the location and preservation of historic sites; to provide the Director with authority to initiate remedial action concerning the state of disrepair of any historic site which imperils the exterior facade of same; to provide for a stay of any permit or order issued hereunder pending appeal; to provide for the automatic expiration of this legislation; to provide a standard for interpreting this legislation; to provide that this legislation shall be retroactive; and to provide that this is emergency legislation and shall take effect on the date on which it becomes law.

Be It Enacted by the County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, that --

Sec. 1. A new Section 8-29A, title "Moratorium on Alteration or Demolition of Historic Sites" be and hereby is added to Article III, title "Permits", of Chapter 8, Montgomery County Code, 1972, as amended, title "Buildings", to read as follows:

8-29A. Moratorium on Alteration or Demolition of Historic Sites.

(a) Purpose and Intent: The preservation of areas and structures of historic and architectural value together with their appurtenances and environmental settings is a public purpose in Montgomery County. Accordingly, the purpose of this legislation is (1) to safeguard the heritage of Montgomery County by preserving its historic sites until a master plan of historic sites and districts shall be approved by the District Council and adopted by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and other ordinances are enacted

for the protection of said historic sites and districts; (2) to stabilize and improve property values in and around such historic areas; (3) to foster civic beauty; and (4) to promote the use and preservation of historic sites for the education, welfare and pleasure of the residents of the County.

(b) Legislative Findings: the Montgomery County Council finds that:

(1) The United States Congress has declared the preservation of national historic sites to be a national policy, and has enacted comprehensive legislation in this area to implement this intent. (See, Historic Sites Act, 16 U.S.C. 461-470t) Local governments are encouraged therein "to expand and accelerate their historic programs and activities".

(2) The General Assembly of Maryland has specifically granted both the District Council and Montgomery County the power to undertake a comprehensive regulatory and legislative program for the delineation and preservation of historic sites and districts in Montgomery County and that portion of the Maryland-Washington Regional District located in Montgomery County. (See, Annotated Code of Maryland (1976 Cum Supp) Article 66D §8-101 (c) and Article 25A §BB) A master plan of historic sites and districts and a comprehensive regulatory program provided for by Art. 66D, is currently being formulated by the Maryland-National Capital

Park and Planning Commission.

(3) Montgomery County is an area which, because of its colonial origins and proximity to the nation's capital, is particularly significant historically, and is unusually rich in significant historic sites.

(4) The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission has published a "Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland" (hereinafter "Locational Atlas") dated October 1976 and is using that document in the development of the Master Plan of Historic Sites and Districts.

(5) It is necessary to undertake immediately to halt, for a limited period of time, demolition of, or substantial exterior alteration to, historic sites determined to be significant in Montgomery County until a comprehensive regulatory program for the preservation thereof can be established and implemented. The irreplaceable nature of such sites makes this interim measure necessary as emergency legislation.

(6) It is in the interests of the citizens of Montgomery County to cause a moratorium to be placed on the demolition or substantial exterior alteration of significant historic sites in Montgomery County.

(c) Definition: An Historic Site shall mean any building, or structure, landmark, object, area, district or site, of significant historical, architectural, archeological or cultural value within Montgomery County and specifically identified as such in the Locational Atlas published by the Montgomery County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission or the microfilmed addenda to the Locational Atlas. Where any structure is located within an historic district in the Locational Atlas, it shall be deemed to be an historic site if it is specifically identified in the Locational Atlas or its microfilmed addenda as being of historic, architectural, archeological or cultural significance, value, or merit.

(d) Applications: Applicants for permits to demolish or substantially alter the exterior of any historic site are required to disclose its identification as such in writing on any application therefor. Failure of an applicant to disclose that the application concerns an historic site shall be a violation of this Chapter and is deemed to be a "misrepresentation of fact" on such application.

- 3 -

The Director is authorized to require any further information from such applicant as may be necessary to process the application.

(e) Referral to Planning Board: Upon receipt of such application, the Director shall forward the same to the Montgomery County Planning Board to make a finding as to the significance of the historic site and determine whether, in its opinion, it will be placed in the preliminary draft Master Plan of Historic Sites. In making its finding the Planning Board shall consider the following:

(1) The historic, architectural, archeological and cultural uniqueness, value and significance of the site or district, together with its appurtenances and environmental setting, as products of distinct periods of County, State or national history, and its relationship to historical, architectural, archeological and cultural events, eras and personages.

(2) The relationship of the site or district together with its appurtenances and environmental setting, to other sites or districts of historical, architectural, archeological and cultural significance.

(3) The educational, cultural or recreational value and utility to the public which may be expected to be derived from the preservation, protection and enhancement of the historic site together with its appurtenances and environmental setting.

(4) The effect on the preservation, protection, enhancement and continued use of the historic site, together with its appurtenances and environmental setting, toward the implementation of the recommendations and purposes of the General Plan, area master plans, functional plans and other pertinent County policies and plans.

(f) Determination: Where the Planning Board determines that the historic site will not be included in the preliminary draft of the Master Plan of Historic . Sites, the Director shall thereupon issue the permit. Where the Planning Board determines that the historic site will be included in the preliminary draft of the Master Plan of Historic Sites, the Director shall thereupon notify the owner and order a public hearing to be held pursuant to Chapter 8-12(f) hereof.

- 4

(g) Notice of Hearing: Notice shall summarize the application and be sent to the owner and applicant, the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States, the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Maryland Historical Trust, adjacent property owners and other citizens or organizations who the Director feels may be interested in commenting on the alteration, destruction or preservation of the historic sites. In addition to other notice requirements of this Chapter, the applicant within three (3) days after the filing of such application shall erect a sign to be furnished by the Director on the property proposed to be altered or demolished giving notice of the application. Such signs shall be erected in a manner prescribed by the Director and shall be in a conspicuous position so as to be observed readily from the nearest, most-travelled public road. Such sign shall remain in place until completion of the permit process.

(h) Issues: At the public hearing, the Director shall receive evidence on any of the considerations and criteria contained in Section 8-29A(e) in addition to the following:

(1) The feasibility of preserving, protecting, enhancing and continuing the use of the historic site, together with its appurtenances and environmental setting, considering the nature, type, location, value, possible uses, age and condition thereof.

(2) The anticipated cost of restoration, maintenance and repair of the historic site, together with its appurtenances and environmental setting.

(3) The extent to which the preservation, protection and enhancement of the historic site, together with its appurtenances and environmental setting, will effectuate the purposes of this Section.

(4) Whether regulation of the historic site would have the effect of depriving owners of substantial use of their property, or imposing a substantial hardship on the owner, and whether alternatives are available to the owner.

(5) The findings of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and other organizations listed in Section 8-29A(g). (6) Whether denial of the application will operate to delay a major improvement program which will be of substantial benefit to Montgomery County.

(7) Whether retention of the structure would not be in the best interests of a majority of persons in the County.

(8) Whether issuance of the permit would cause a substantial injury to the overall value of a historic neighborhood or district designated as such in the Locational Atlas.

(i) Decision:

(1) Based on the evidence received at the hearing, the Director shall weigh the interest of the public in preserving the site against the hardship or deprivation of use of the applicant. Where the Director determines that the applicant's hardship or deprivation of use outweighs the public interest in preserving the site, he or she shall thereupon issue the permit. Where the Director determines that the public interest in preserving the site outweighs the applicant's hardship or deprivation of use, he or she shall withhold the issuance of the permit for the time period set forth below. The decision of the Director shall be in writing, shall set forth findings of fact and conclusions, and shall be sent to all persons who commented on the application or participated at the public hearing.

(2) Time Limits: The Planning Board shall have forty-five (45) days after referral to it by the Director to render its findings and determinations with respect to an application. The Director shall have forty-five (45) days after receipt of the Planning Board's determination to hold a hearing and issue a decision. Failure to adhere to these time limits shall cause the permit to issue by operation of law.

(j) Deferral of Permit: Where the Director determines to withhold issuance of the permit pursuant to this Section it may be withheld once for a maximum period of eighteen months from the date of the Director's decision or until the application is considered under a fully-implemented program for the preservation of historic sites in Montgomery County at which time the application shall be governed fully thereby.

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(k) Demolition by Neglect: The Director may initiate action to determine whether or not the state of disrepair of any historic site imperils the preservation of the exterior facade of such site. Upon initiation of such action, the . Director shall refer the matter to the Planning Board for the finding and determination specified under Section 8-29A(e). If the Planning Board determines that the historic site will be included in the preliminary draft of the Master Plan of Historic Sites, the Director shall determine the state of disrepair of the historic site and, after a hearing following the requirements of Section 8-29A(g), (h) and (i), may order such specific remedial steps to be performed within a stated period of time as shall be necessary to preserve the facade of the historic site. In the event the owner does not comply with the remedial steps as ordered, the Director may effect the necessary remedial steps and the cost thereof shall become a lien against the owner's property.

(1) Stay Pending Appeal: Any permit or order issued hereunder shall not take effect for a period of thirty (30) days to permit all parties an opportunity to file an appeal with the County Board of Appeals as provided in Section 8-23 of this Chapter. When an appeal is filed, the permit or order shall not be effective until thirty (30) days after such appeal is decided.

Sec. 2. Expiration Date: This legislation shall cease to have force and effect from and after July 1, 1980, unless it shall be extended by further action of the County Council.

Sec. 3. Interpretation: This is remedial legislation and shall be interpreted liberally to accomplish its purposes.

Sec. 4. Applicability: This legislation shall apply to any existing permit which has not been implemented as of the effective date hereof.

Sec. 5. Severability.

The provisions of this Act are severable and if any provision, clause, sentence, section, word or part thereof is held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional, or inapplicable to any person or circumstances, such illegality, invalidity or unconstitutionality, or inapplicability shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, clauses, sentences, sections, words, or parts of the Act or their application to other persons or circumstances. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that this Act would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional provision, clause, sentence, section, word or part had not been included therein, and if the person or circumstances to which the Act or part thereof is inapplicable had been specifically exempted therefrom.

Sec. 6. Effective date.

The County Council hereby declares that an emergency exists and that this legislation is necessary for the immediate protection of the public health, safety and welfare. Therefore, this Act shall take effect on the date on which it becomes law.

Approved:

<u>Elesterh</u> <u>F</u> <u>Scull</u> President, Montgomery County Council January 18, 1978 Date ** ounty Executive ATTEST: Sunty Council the Secretary of

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