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29/38-05B 8311 Comanche Court MP Site #29/38, Glenmore



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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760



Date: October 27, 2005

# **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Robert Hubbard, Director

FROM: Michele Oaks, Senior Planner M Historic Preservation Section

SUBJECT: Historic Area Work Permit #399795, driveway alterations

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has reviewed the attached application for a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP) at its <u>October 26, 2005</u> public hearing. This application was <u>APPROVED with condition</u>. The conditions of approval are:

• If the applicant desires to resurface the entire driveway in tar and chip, without increasing its footprint, staff may approve this revision to the approved HAWP.

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

Applicant: Nancy Everett and Mike Nannes

Address: 8311 Comanche Court, Bethesda; *Master Plan* Site # 29/38, Glenmore

This HAWP approval is subject to the general condition that, after issuance of the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) permit, the applicant will contact the Historic Preservation Office if any alterations to the approve plans are made prior to the implementation of such changes to the project.

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

WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

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a. Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, inclustructure(s) and environmental setting, including their negatives and significance. See Exhibit 14-HPC Staff Report from 1997 (HAWP' + 2005 HAWP Applications) General description of project and its effect on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district: See EXHIBIT, B

#### 2. SITE PLAN

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

a. the scale, north arrow, and date;

b. dimensions of all existing and proposed structures; and

site features such as walkways, driveways, fences, ponds, streams. Tresh dumpsters, mechanical equipment, and landscaping.

#### 3. PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

You must submit 2 copies of plans and elevations in a formatina larger than 11" x 17". Plans on 8 1/2" x 11" paper are preferred.

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

#### MATERIALS SPECIFICATIONS

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

#### PHOTOGRAPHS

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

#### 6. TREE SURVEY

If you are proposing construction adjacent to or within the cost of any tree \$7 or larger in diameter (at approximately 4 feet above the ground), you must file an accurate tree survey identifying the size, recation, and species of each tree of at least that dimension.

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

For <u>ALL</u> projects, provide an accurate list of adjacent and ophroticing property owners inot tenants), including names, addresses, and zip codes. This list should include the owners of all lots or parcells which action the carcet in question, as well as the owner(s) of lot(s) or parcells, which lie directly across the street/highway from the parcel in question, the carcet in sufformation from the Department of Assessments and Taxation, 51 Monroe Street, Rockville, (301/279-1355)

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

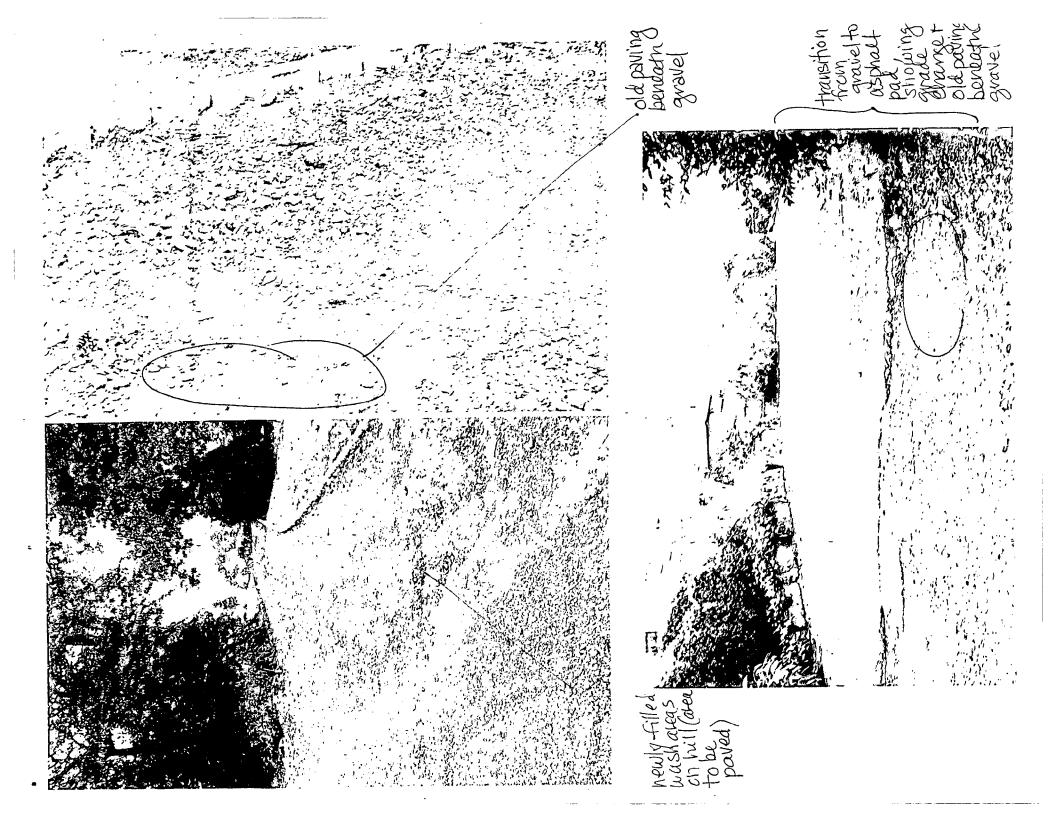
# EXHIBIT B General Description of Project

1.b. Applicants seek permission to extend the paved driveway apron approximately 35 feet to address a steep slope which causes significant ruts and washing of gravel. The Glenmore driveway is a double-circular drive approximately 400 feet long (see attached site plan for further detail). There is a concrete apron at the base which (we believe) was required to be installed by the county prior to Applicants' ownership (approximately 10 feet), and two asphalt pads that preceded Applicants' ownership: one in front of the driveway has a gravel layer over deteriorated asphalt or tar and chip. It appears that at one point the entire driveway was paved (see photos) but in many places the underlying pavement has deteriorated and cracked through to soil underneath. The gravel cannot properly sit on the paved surface so it is constantly washing away. The dispersal is especially serious wherever there is any slope.

The steepest slope is at the base of the driveway adjacent to the existing concrete apron up to the divide in the driveway (see site plan and photos). After even a moderate rain, significant amounts of gravel wash into the street and deep ruts develop that make use of the driveway difficult and potentially dangerous. Applicants have tried pouring more gravel over this area and re-grading the ruts, but this band-aid approach is successful for only a few weeks before the grooves reappear and the gravel again washes away. Prior to the most recent regrading (shown in the photos and occurring only 5 days before the picture was taken) the driveway had deteriorated to the point that the electrical conduit underneath the driveway was exposed.

After discussing the issue with several contractors, the easiest fix is clearly to pave the entire driveway, and since the driveway appears to have been paved at one point, Applicants believe that this solution should be permitted. However, Applicants are sensitive to Commission Staff's preference for maintenance of the gravel drive, and for this HAWP are prepared to continue to use gravel over the substantial majority of the driveway, provided that only the steep slope area noted can be paved. This would be an asphalt extension of the existing concrete apron to the point of the divide, where the steep slope becomes somewhat more, although not completely, level. The area proposed to be paved represents less than 10% of the driveway. The surface would be gray, matching the gravel, rather than the off-white of the concrete pad. The footprint of the driveway will hot be affect.

In addition to remediating this slope area, Applicants will dig out the other areas of washing and provide a better base than the deteriorating old asphalt, and will utilize gravel over the re-prepared surface. The two existing asphalt pads, which are the minimum needed for snow removal control, will remain and become better integrated or cut into the new gravel surface so that the transition from gravel to pavement is smoother. Presently there is a 2 - 2-1/2 inch level differential between the asphalt pads and the gravel.





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### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address:	8311 Comanche Court, Bethesda	Meeting Date:	10/26/2005
Applicant:	Nancy Everett & Mike Nannes (Pollard Construction/Viers Paving, Agents)	<b>Report Date:</b>	10/19/2005
Resource:	Master Plan Site #29/38	Public Notice:	10/12/2005
10000100.	Glenmore	Tax Credit:	N/A
<b>Review:</b>	HAWP	Staff:	Michele Oaks
Case Number:	29/38-05B		с. С. 2
PROPOSAL:	Driveway alterations	<b>RECOMMENDA</b> Approve with cond	

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Commission approves this HAWP application with the condition that:

• If the applicant desires to resurface the entire driveway in tar and chip, without increasing its footprint, staff could approve this revision to the approved HAWP.

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

SITE NAME:	Master Plan Site #29/38 Glenmore
STYLE:	Vernacular/ Italianate/ Colonial Revival
DATES:	pre 1860 / mid 1860s / late1930s
PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:	1870-1955

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

This house is a classic example of the evolution of a simple Montgomery County vernacular dwelling. The original massing, built in the pre-1860s, is believed to have been a 1-1/2 story, two-bay dwelling detailed with an exterior-end chimney. This massing is currently encased in the existing two-story wing. The box staircase is the only visible feature that remains in the wing to date. The current main massing of the house was built in the mid-1860s, when Charles and Elizabeth Dodge purchased the property. This structure was originally built as a frame, two-story, Italianate, hipped-roof dwelling detailed with a denticulated cornice, a widow's walk and a full-width, hipped roofed, front porch ornamented with brackets. In 1879, John and Sarah Moore, the parents of Lilly Stone Moore, purchased the property and the Italianate house. Prior to 1910, the roof of the 1-1/2 story frame section was raised and joined to the Italianate section of the house. In 1937, the entire house underwent a major renovation to bring it to its current configuration. The Victorian, one-story, full-width, hipped roof, front porch was replaced by a pedimented, two-story Classical Revival portico detailed with two, colossal columns. Most of the windows in the two-story wing and five of the windows in the second story of the main block were replaced. The widow's walk and cornice detail work were removed from the house and the entire house was clad in a quarried stone veneer. The one-story wing was constructed at this time.

The environmental setting of the historic resource is 1.3 acres. The ten-acre setting at the time of Master Plan designation in 1993 was subdivided in 1994 into 13 lots. Houses now surround a stone retaining wall that encircles the elevated setting of the house, several very large trees, an out-of-period garage, and a greenhouse. Preservation of an appropriate setting for the house was the subject of considerable neighborhood controversy in Carderock Springs at the time of its designation and subdivision hearings.

## **HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

Glenmore was built in 1864 by Charles Dodge and his wife Elizabeth Davidson Dodge. Dodge was a paymaster for the Army and in 1889 collector of customs for the District of Columbia. John and Sarah Moore purchased the house in 1879. Their daughter Lilly Moore Stone (1861 - 1960) lived there for most of her life.

Lilly Moore Stone was a civic leader who founded the Montgomery County Historical Society and a businesswoman who operated the dormant Stoneyhurst Stone Quarries. The house itself is sheathed in Stoneyhurst stone, a granite-like mica schist known for its color, versatility, and durability.

The house was in Lilly Moore Stone's family from 1879, when purchased by her father, John D. W. Moore, until 1993, when sold by a granddaughter. Lilly lived here in her early life as a child, newlywed and young mother, and then came back, after residing in the house at Stoneyhurst (#29/41), to live at Glenmore as a widow and businesswoman. In 1937, she updated the Italianate style house, built c1864-1870, adding stone sheathing from her quarry, constructing a classical front portico and adding a west wing.

After the death of her husband, Frank Pelham Stone, in 1921, followed by a disastrous barn fire, Lilly, in her early sixties, turned to a career in stone quarrying. Under Stone's direction over the next 30 years, Stoneyhurst stone gained a reputation as an excellent building material and was used in buildings and structures throughout the metro region, including the Washington Cathedral's Chapel of Aramathea and the National Zoo's birdhouse.

Lilly Moore Stone (1861-1960) is a significant local figure who was active in many civic and fraternal organizations. A founding member of the Hermon Presbyterian Church, Stone served as organist for 50 years. She was regent, chaplain and charter member of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. With her keen interest in local history, she hosted a meeting at Glenmore in 1944 and organized a group of people to found the Montgomery County Historical Society.

### BACKGROUND

Owners have been excellent stewards of this property. To date they have complete the following rehabilitation work to the house to restore it to its former glory:

- Meticulous rehabilitation of 16 original wood windows on the house
- Replacement of 10 non-original sashes with Pella Architect Series sashes (HPC approved 5/11/05)
- Rebuilt stone walls connected to foundation
- New gutters throughout
- Greenhouse Rehabilitation
- Stripping and refinishing original Italianate front doors, and restoring frame around door
- New shutters milled to match existing exactly
- Restoration of columns the bases were rotted and needed to be replaced

- Radon remediation
- New furnace, air conditioning and hot water heater
- Full electrical upgrade
- Refinishing of cast-iron tubs
- Repair extensive termite damage; add support beams to maintain stability
- Complete interior restoration plaster work, refinishing of huge pine double-doors, woodwork, update/remodel 3 baths (keeping original tile and fixtures wherever possible), kitchen remodel
- Stabilize deterioration of basement foundation (re-mortaring, sealing, re-plastering, etc.)
- Address recurring mold in basement
- Driveway stabilization there is crushed gravel on top of asphalt.
- Planted about 66 trees and over 250 shrubs, with most of the work done by owner.

## **APPLICABLE GUIDELINES:**

Proposed alterations to individual *Master Plan* Sites are reviewed under Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A) and the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features, which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

## Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8(b)

The Commission shall instruct the director to issue a permit, or issue a permit subject to such conditions as are found to be necessary to insure conformity with the purposes and requirements of this chapter, if it finds that:

- The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of a historic site or historic resource within a historic district; or
- The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical archaeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site or the historic district in which a historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto of to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or
- The proposal would enhance or aid in the protection, preservation and public or private utilization of the historic site or historic resource located within an historic district in a manner compatible with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural value of the historic site or historic district in which an historic resource is located; or

### The applicable Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are:

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

## PROPOSAL:

The homeowners seek permission to extend the paved driveway apron approximately 35 feet to address a steep slope in their current driveway application.

The current Glenmore driveway is a double-circular drive approximately 400 feet long (see attached site plan on circle ). There is a concrete apron "curb cut" which was required by the County during the subdivision process, and two asphalt pads that preceded the current applicants ownership: one in front of the garage and one in front of the front door of the house. The remainder of the current driveway has a gravel layer over deteriorated asphalt or tar and chip. It appears that at one point the entire driveway was paved but in many placed the underlying pavement has deteriorated and cracked through to soil underneath.

### **STAFF DISCUSSION:**

At a minimum the applicants are requesting that the Commission approve a 35' asphalt extension to the current driveway apron to address the erosion problem they are currently having with the existing gravel/asphalt driveway. This extension was a compromise that the owners are seeking noting they are very sensitive to the concerns the Commission has regarding changes to gravel surfaces on a historic property to an impermeable surface such as asphalt.

Staff would suggest, however, that there is physical evidence that this driveway was originally paved, and a mix of asphalt pads with gravel does give an inconsistent visual appearance to this very elegant estate. A mix of surfacing materials is a concern. The current look is very awkward and staff would like to see a more cohesive solution to this problem. We would recommend that based on the evidence that the driveway was at one time entirely paved the Commission approve the current application as submitted with the condition that if the applicant desires to resurface the entire driveway in tar and chip (without increasing its footprint) staff could approve this revision to the approved HAWP.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commission **approve with the above stated condition** the HAWP application as being consistent with Chapter 24A-8(b)(1) & (2);

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

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

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#### 1. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

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HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTICING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners] Owner's mailing address Owner's Agent's mailing address Nonay EVEVEH/Mike Nannes 8311 Comandia Court N/A Bethesda MD 20817 Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses Jeff and leggy May 8318 Comandie Ct. Samir Jain & Jie Wang 8303 Com'anche Ct. Betnesda MD 20817 Betnesdo MD 20817 John & Catole Annelark Ky & Almuth Ewing B377 Comanche et. 8316 Comandue Ct. Betnesda MD 2017 Bethesda MD 20812 Rob Steinwartzel + Sara Strang Jack & Lisa Lauroesch. 8314' Comondue Court 8305 Comonche Court Bethesda MD 20517 Betnesda MD 20517 Chris & Sold Lynch 8312' Comandhe Ct. Betwisdo MD 20x17 graddresses: noticing table

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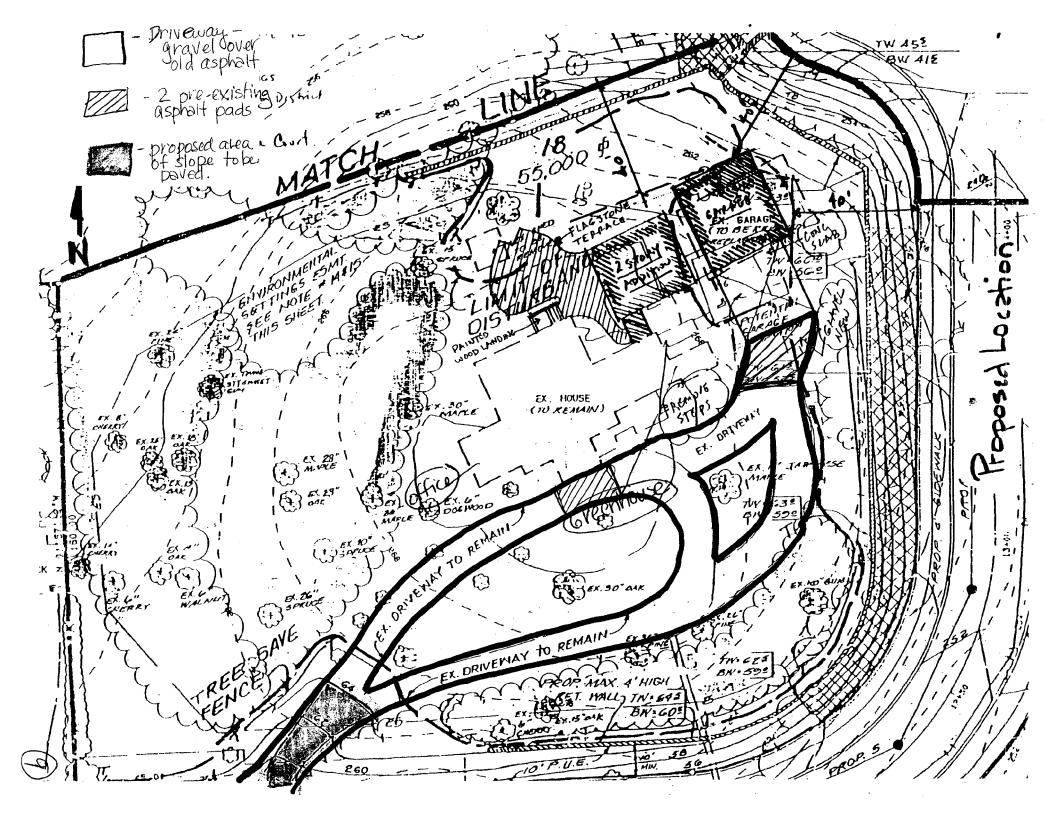
# EXHIBIT B General Description of Project

1.b. Applicants seek permission to extend the paved driveway apron approximately 35 feet to address a steep slope which causes significant ruts and washing of gravel. The Glenmore driveway is a double-circular drive approximately 400 feet long (see attached site plan for further detail). There is a concrete apron at the base which (we believe) was required to be installed by the county prior to Applicants' ownership (approximately 10 feet), and two asphalt pads that preceded Applicants' ownership: one in front of the driveway and one in front of the front door. The remainder of the driveway has a gravel layer over deteriorated asphalt or tar and chip. It appears that at one point the entire driveway was paved (see photos) but in many places the underlying pavement has deteriorated and cracked through to soil underneath. The gravel cannot properly sit on the paved surface so it is constantly washing away. The dispersal is especially serious wherever there is any slope.

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After discussing the issue with several contractors, the easiest fix is clearly to pave the entire driveway, and since the driveway appears to have been paved at one point, Applicants believe that this solution should be permitted. However, Applicants are sensitive to Commission Staff's preference for maintenance of the gravel drive, and for this HAWP are prepared to continue to use gravel over the substantial majority of the driveway, provided that only the steep slope area noted can be paved. This would be an asphalt extension of the existing concrete apron to the point of the divide, where the steep slope becomes somewhat more, although not completely, level. The area proposed to be paved represents less than 10% of the driveway. The surface would be gray, matching the gravel, rather than the off-white of the concrete pad. The footprint of the driveway Will hot be differed.

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