24/29-06A 14800 Seneca Rd Samuel Thomas Magnider Farm, 24/29



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Douglas M. Duncan County Executive Julia O'Malley Chairperson

Date: 5/25/2006

MEMORANDUM

| TO: | Robert Hubbard, Director |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | Department of Permitting Services |
| | |

FROM: Anne Fothergill, Senior Planner Historic Preservation Section Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission

SUBJECT: Historic Area Work Permit #419502, terrace installation and landscape alterations

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) has reviewed the attached application for a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). This application was <u>Approved</u> at the 5/24/2006 meeting.

The HPC staff has reviewed and stamped the attached construction drawings.

THE BUILDING PERMIT FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE ISSUED AND CONDITIONAL UPON ADHERENCE TO THE ABOVE APPROVED HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT (HAWP) CONDITIONS AND MAY REQUIRE APPROVAL BY DPS OR ANOTHER TOWN GOVERNMENT AGENCY BEFORE WORK CAN COMMENCE.

Applicant: Richard Gault & Nancy Slomowitz

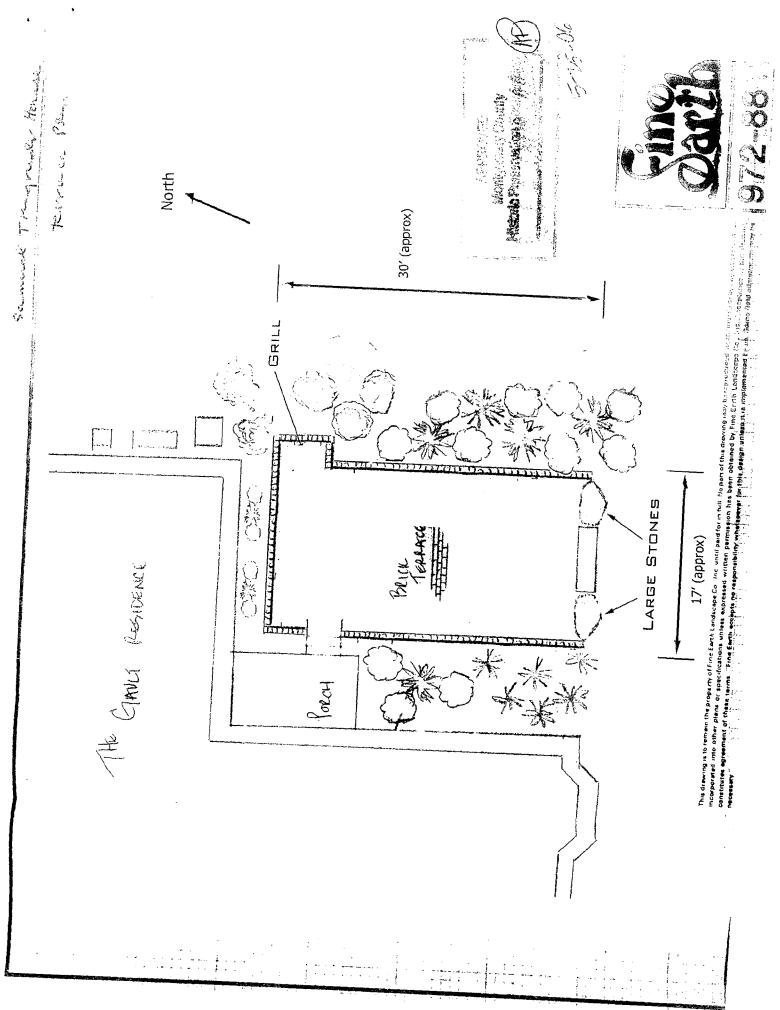
Address: 14800 Seneca Rd, Darnestown

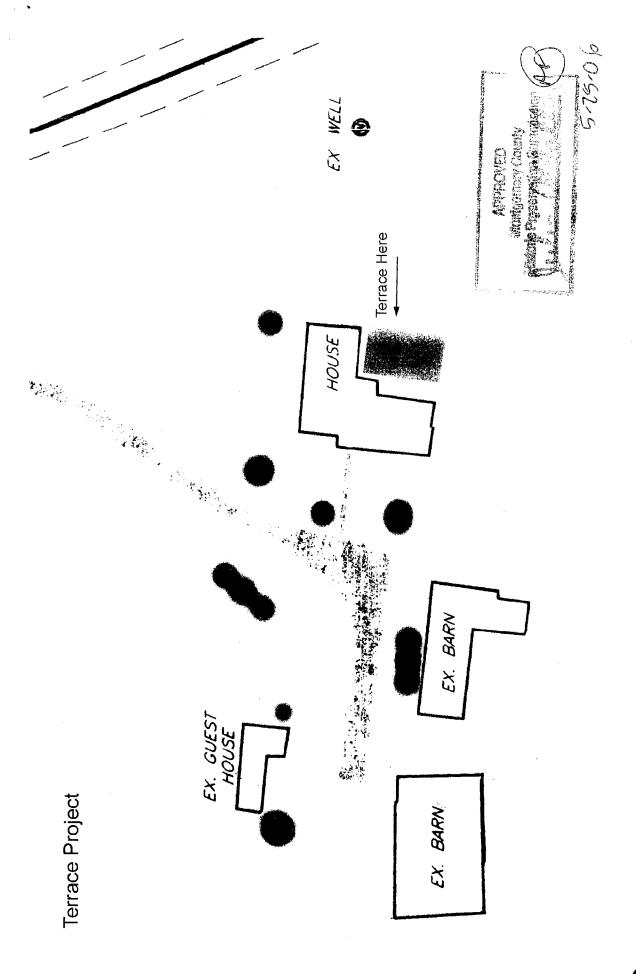
This HAWP approval is subject to the general condition that the applicant will obtain all other applicable Montgomery County or local government agency permits. After the issuance of these permits the applicant must contact this Historic Preservation Office if any changes to the approved plan are made.



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| | | | Contect Person | H. Richard Gault | |
| | | | Daugime Phone No : | 202-366-0465 | |
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| | r. H. Richard Gault & Nan | | | | |
| Address 14800 | | Darnestown | MD | 20874 | |
| Site | ost Menber | Cily | | | |
| Contractort: | Fine Earth Landscape, Inc. | | Phone No.: | 201-2/5-2810 | |
| | N/A | | | N1/A | |
| Agent for Owner: | N/A | | _ Daytime Phone No.: | N/A | |
| LOCATION OF BUILD | | | | | |
| House Number: | 14800 | Steet _ | Senec | ca Road | See attached |
| Town/City: | Darnestown | Nearest Cross Street: | Deaki | ns Lane | MD Dept of Assessmer |
| | Block:Subdivis | | 75 | | Real Property |
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Magruder House, 14800 Seneca Road, Seneca, MD 20874

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Brick Terrace - Samuel T. Magruder House

Attachment 6

Materials specifications

The following materials will be used:

Stone dust and sand as a base for the bricks. Aged bricks Flagstone or slate for steps Two large [existing] stones bordering the steps. Plants:

Some of these plants, such as boxwood, holly and dogwood are already present on the property.

- Hydrangeia
- White Dogwood
- American Boxwood
- Mahonia
- Lady's Mantle
- Wintergreen Boxwood
- Itea
- Cherry Laurel
- Dragonlady Holly
- Hellebores
- Peonies
- Cryptomeria

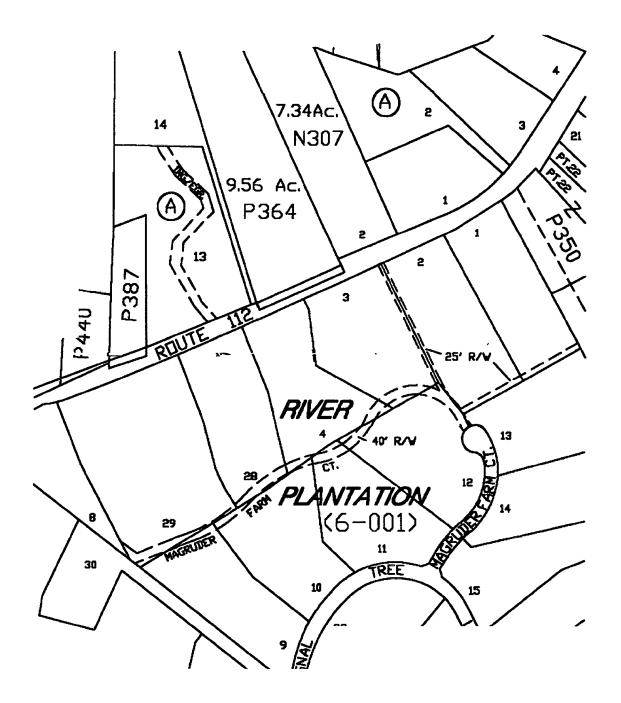
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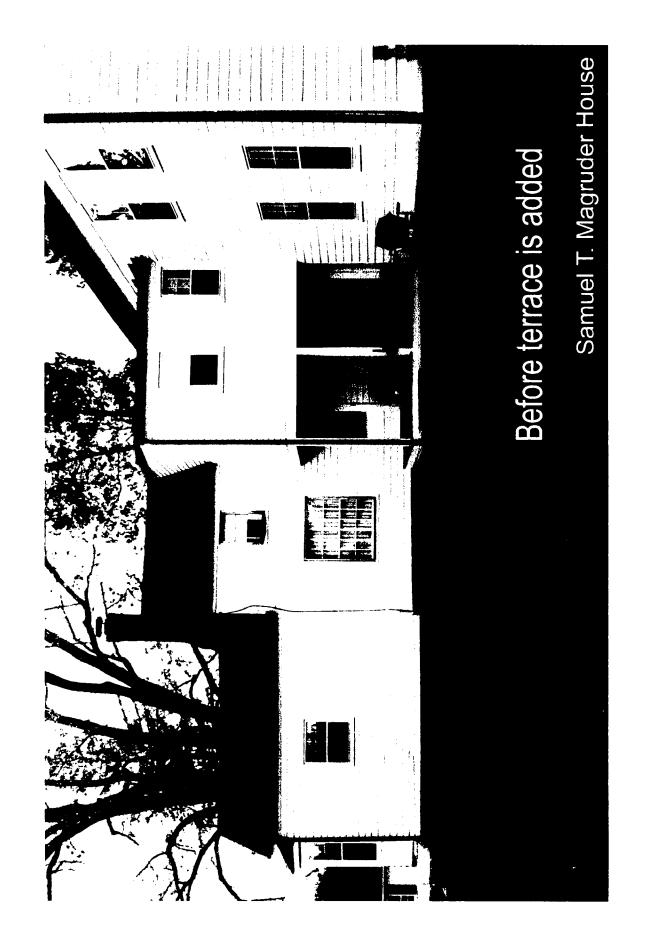
Samuel T. Magruder House 14800 Seneca Road Darnestown, MD 20814

Adjoining Properties

Adjoining Properties

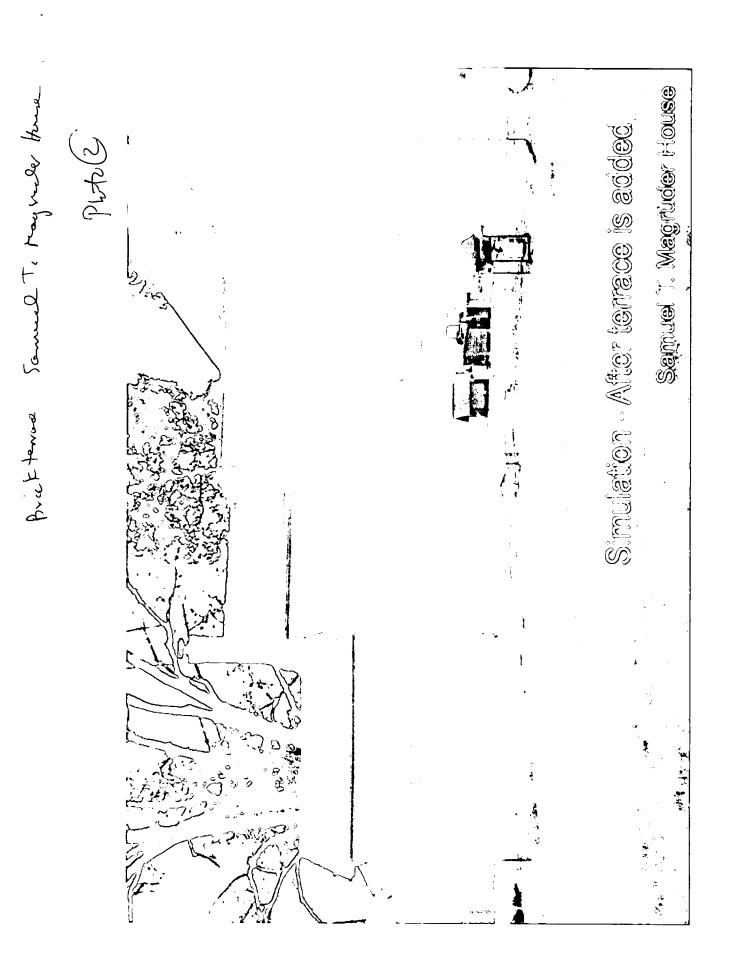
Magruder House

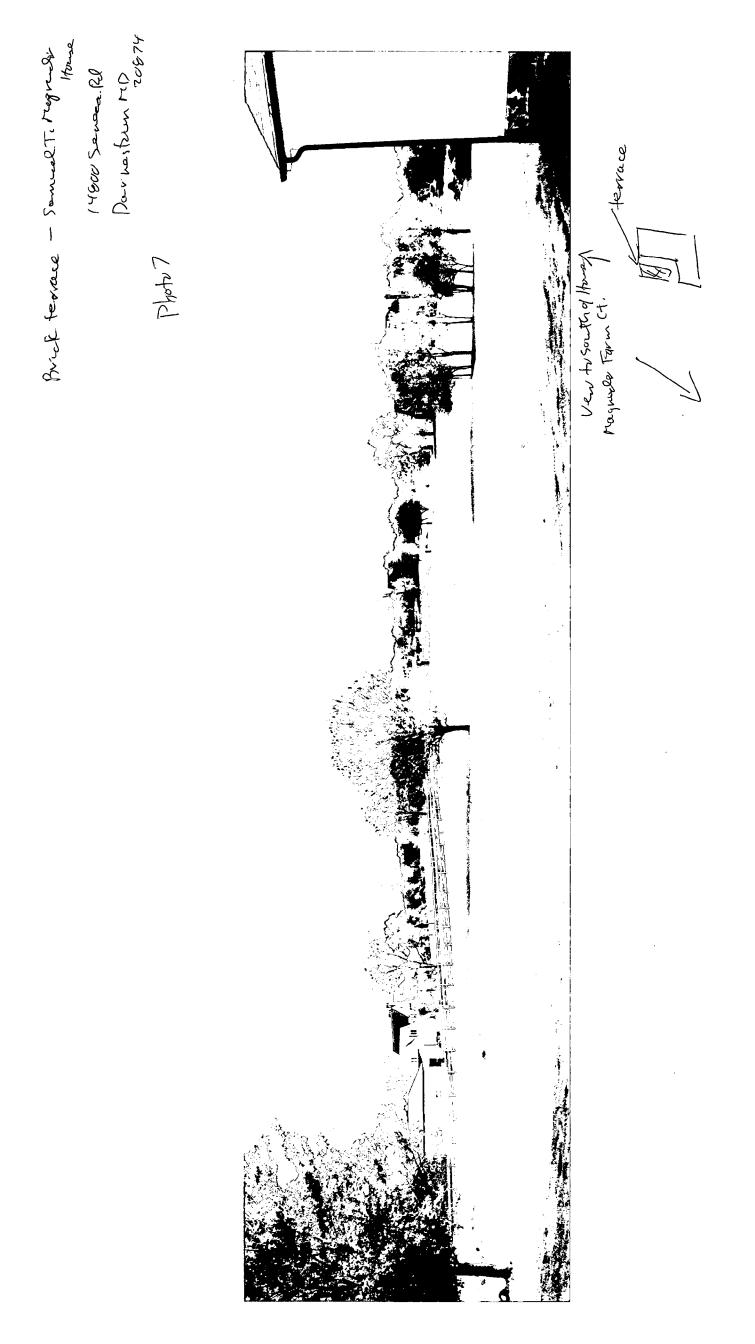


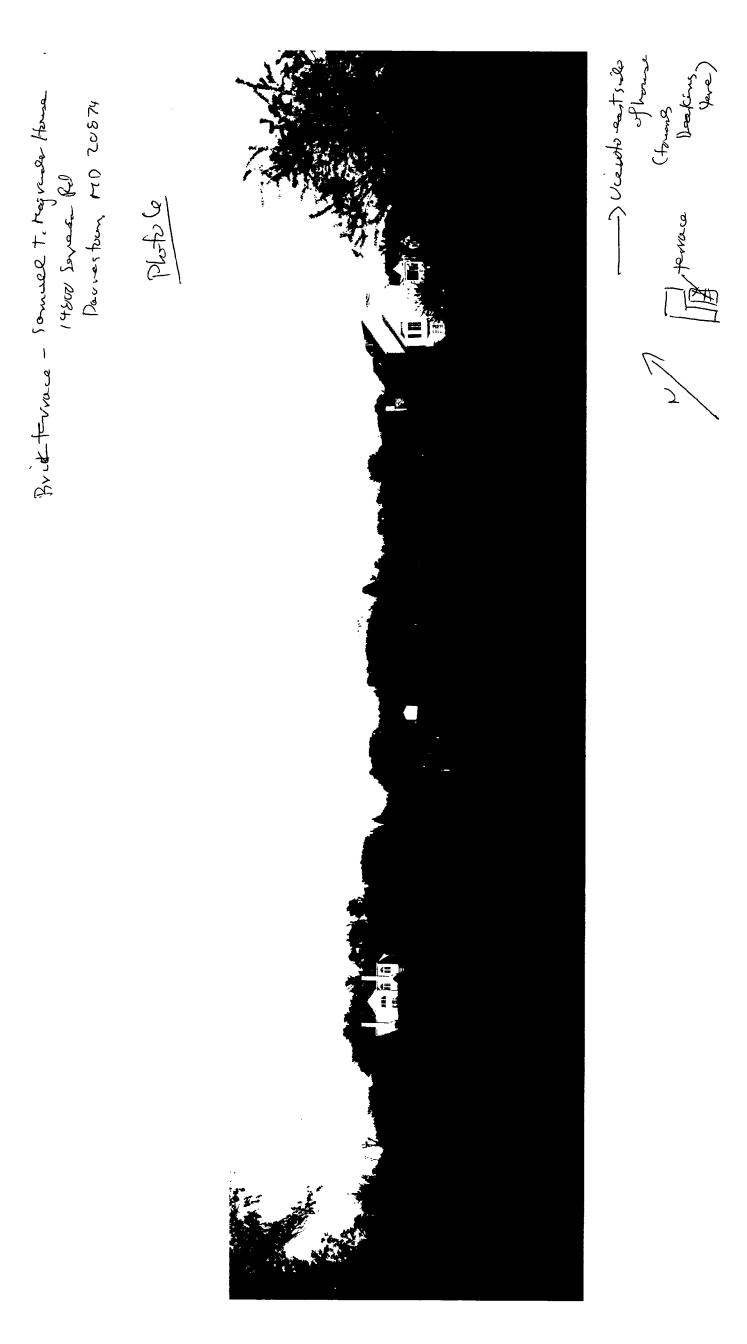


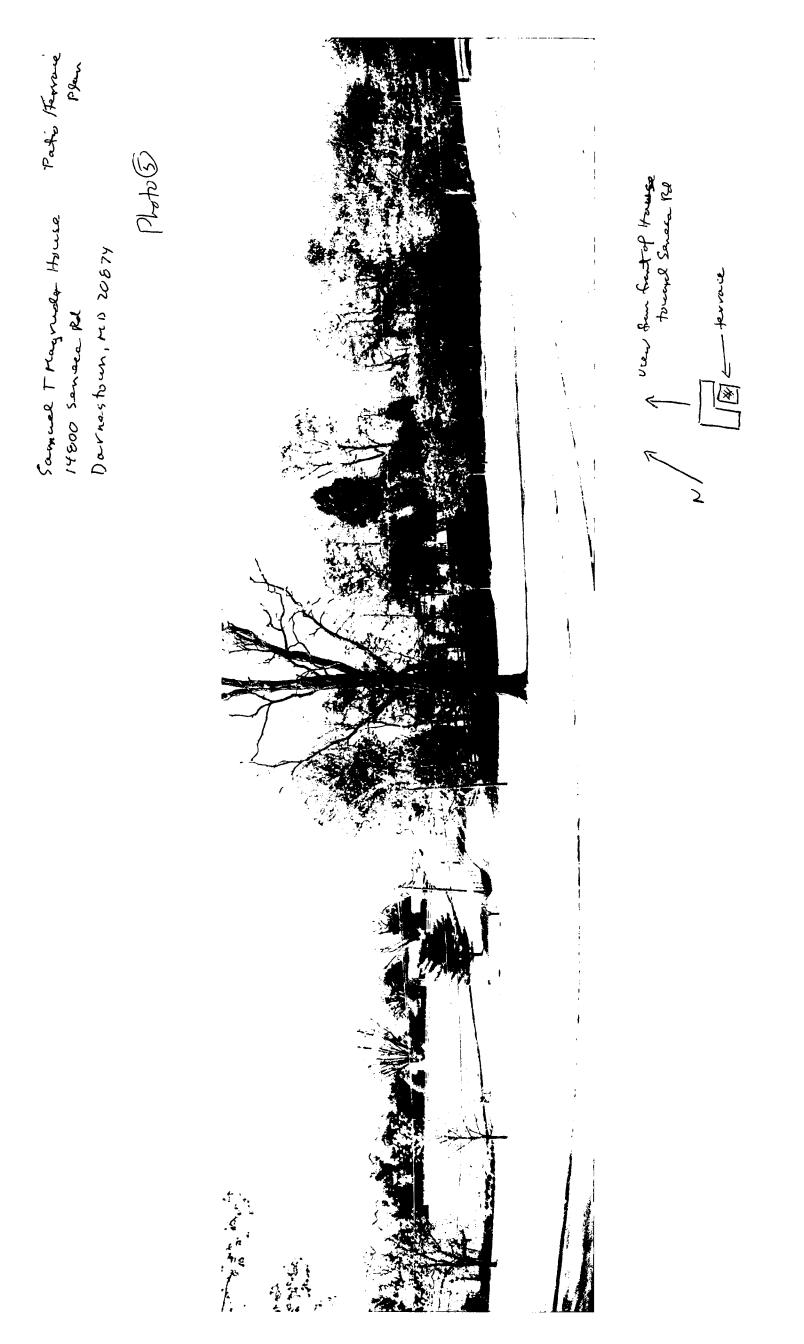
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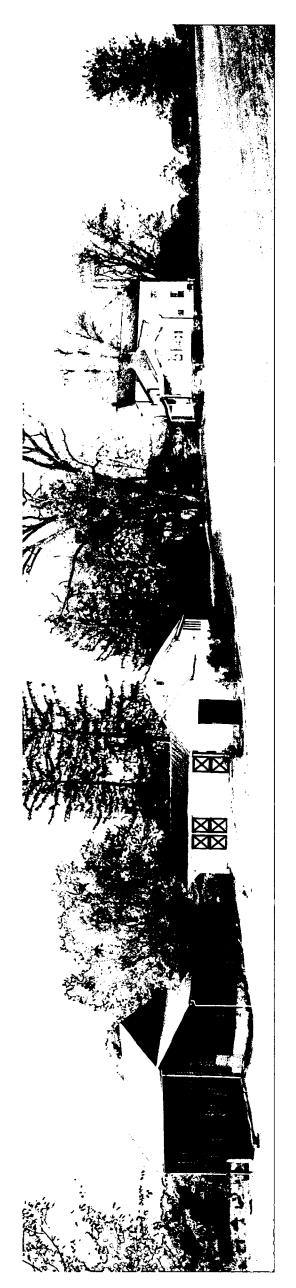


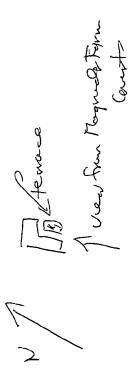


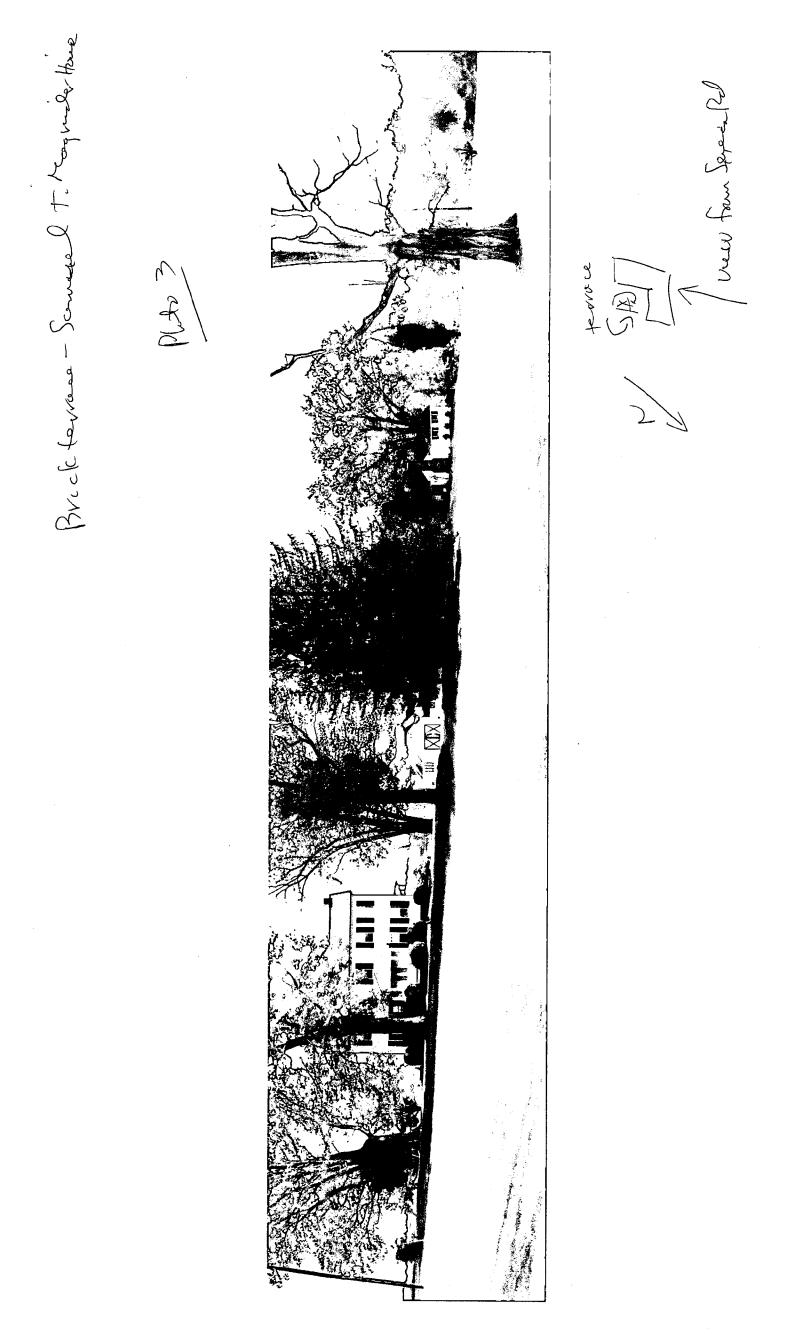


Prick terrace - Samuel T. Majuelle Hune. 1980 Savera (1) Darrestrum, M) 20874

Putry 4







EXPEDITED HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

| Address: | 14800 Seneca Road, Darnestown | Meeting Date: | 05/24/06 |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Applicant: | H. Richard Gault and Nancy Slomowitz | Report Date: | 05/17/06 |
| Resource: | Samuel Thomas Magruder Farm <i>Master Plan</i> Site # 24/29 | Public Notice: | 05/10/06 |
| Review: | HAWP | Tax Credit: | None |
| Case Number: | 24/29-06A | Staff: | Anne Fothergill |
| PROPOSAL: | Terrace installation | | |
| RECOMMEND | ATION: Approval | | |

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE:Samuel Thomas Magruder Farm, Master Plan Site #24/29STYLE:c. 1830s; c. 1858DATE:

The earliest section of this house is the rear ell, likely built in the 1830s. The front section, built by Samuel Thomas Magruder probably in the late 1850s, exhibits Greek Revival influence, including flush board siding on the main facade, wide cornice, and full pediments in both gable ends.

The Samuel Thomas Magruder Farm is historically significant for its function during the Civil War as the headquarters for the Union Army and station for the U.S. Signal Corps. Strategically located on a high point of land overlooking the Potomac River, the recently built and commodious farmhouse was the headquarters for General Nathaniel Banks and his staff in 1861. The U.S. Signal Corps operated a station built in a large chestnut tree on the farm, relaying signals between Sugarloaf Mountain and Washington, DC. A topographic camp was also established on this site at the time.

The 117 acre property was subdivided in the 1990s, and the location of the signal tree is now on another property. The historic house has a five acre environmental setting.

PROPOSAL

The applicants are proposing to install a brick terrace behind the house. The 17' x 30' terrace will be brick on top of rock dust and sand. There will be two flagstone or slate steps to grade and two large stones will be placed on the side of the steps. The applicants also intend to plant a number of bushes and trees including dogwoods, boxwoods, and others.

As shown in the site plan (Circle <u>12</u>) the patio will be located behind the house and will not have an adverse impact on the historic house or setting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approval

Approval with conditions

Approval is based on the following criteria from Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code, Section 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:

- ☑ 1. The proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of an historic site, or historic resource within an historic district; or
- ✓ 2. The proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historical, archeological, architectural or cultural features of the historic site, or the historic district in which an historic resource is located and would not be detrimental thereto or to the achievement of the purposes of this chapter; or
- 3. 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
- 4. The proposal is necessary in order that unsafe conditions or health hazards be remedied; or
- 5. The proposal is necessary in order that the owner of the subject property not be deprived of reasonable use of the property or suffer undue hardship; or
- 6. In balancing the interests of the public in preserving the historic site, or historic resource located within an historic district, with the interests of the public from the use and benefit of the alternative proposal, the general public welfare is better served by granting the permit.

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.

| | | 1 | Brick Terrace - Sar | nuel T. Magruder House |
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| HISTORIC | PRESERVA 301/563 | ATION COMMI 3-3400 | SSION | |
| APPL HISTORIC A | | ON FO | | r |
| | | Contact Person: | H. Richard Gault | · · · |
| Tex Account No.: | | Daytime Phone No.: | 202-366-0465 | |
| Neme of Property Owner: H. Richard Gault & Nanc | y Slomowitz | Daytime Phone No.: | | |
| Address 14800 Seneca Road | | . MD | 20874 | |
| Singer thanber | City | Start | Lip Co | 000 |
| Contractor: Fine Earth Landscape, Inc. | | Phone No.: | 301-972-8810 | |
| Contractor Begistration No. MD Home Improvem | ent License: 9809 | | | - |
| Agent for Owner:N/A | | Daytime Phone No.: | N/A | |
| LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE House Number:14800 | Street | Sene | ca Road | See attached |
| Town/City:Darnestown | Nearest Cross Street: | Deak | ins Lane | MD Dept of Assessments |
| Lot: 3 Block: Subdivisi | | 75 | ······································ | Real Property |
| Liber: Folio: Par | | | | |
| PART ONE: TYPE OF PERMIT ACTION AND USE | | | | |
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| 18. Construction cost estimate: \$ \$27,50 | 0: (Terrace: \$14 | | | · |
| 1C. If this is a revision of a previously approved active perm | it, see Permit # | N | /A | |
| PART TWO: COMPLETE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION | AND EXTEND/ADDI | nons | ······································ | |
| 2A Type of sewage disposal; 01 🗋 WSSC | 02 🗋 Septic | 03 🗌 Other: | N/A | · |
| 2B. Type of water supply: 01 🗇 WSSC | 02 🗔 Wel | 03 🗖 Other: | N/A | |
| PART THREE: COMPLETE ONLY FOR FENCE/BETAIN | ING WALL | | | |
| 3A Height feel inches N/A | | | | |
| 38. Indicate whether the tence or retaining wall is to be o | enstructed on one of the | lallowing locations: | | |
| 🖸 On party line/property line 🛛 Entirely i | on land of owner | 🗋 On public right of (| way/easement | |
| I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the forego approved by all agencies listed and I hereby acknowledge | Rog application, that the and accept this to be a | application is correct, and condition for the issuance | that the construction will con of this permit. | mply with plans |
| intor (| 7 5 | | | |
| Martintrut | \mathcal{D}^{-} | | 4/30/2006 | |
| Signature to many or sector by Signature of | | | Dete | · |
| Approved: | For Cha | iporson, Historic Preservet | ion Commission | |
| Disapproved:Signature: | | | Date; | New Advantum war war a constraints or war |
| | | | | |
| Application/Permit Ho.: 419502 | Octa | Filed: | Date Issued: | |

3)

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

1. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

Bescription of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance;

See Attached

b. General description of project and its effect on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district;

See Attached

2. SITE PLAN See Attached

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

3. PLANS AND ELEVATIONS See Attached

You must submit 2 copies of plans and elevations in a format no larger than 11" x 17". Plans on 8 1/2" x 11" opport are preferred.

- a. Schematic construction plans, with marked dimensions, indicating location, size and general type of wells, window and door openings, and other fued features of both the existing resource(s) and the proposed work.
- b. Elevations (lacades), 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 lacade affected by the proposed work is required.

4. MATERIALS SPECIFICATIONS See Attached

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

5. PHOTOGRAPHS See Attached

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

6. THEE SURVEY See Attached

If you are proposing construction adjacent to or within the cricine of any tree 6° or larger in diameter (at approximately 4 feet above the ground), you must like an accurate tree survey identifying the size, location, and species of each tree of at least that dimension.

7. ADDRESSES OF ADJACENT AND CONFRONTING PROPERTY OWNERS See Attached

For <u>ALL</u> projects, provide an accurate list of adjacent and confronting property owners (not tenants), including names, addresses, and tip codes. This list should include the owners of all lots or parcels which adjoin the carcel in question, as well as the owner(s) of lot(s) or parcel(s) which lie directly across the street/highway from the parcel in question. You can octain this information from the Department of Assessments and Taxation, 51 Monroe Street, Rockwile, (301/279-1355).

PLEASE PRINT (IN BLUE OR BLACK INX) OR TYPE THIS INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.

Brick Terrace - Samuel T. Magruder House

Attachment 9: Adjacent Property Owners

| HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING {Owner. Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners} | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Owner's mailing address | Owner's Agent's mailing address | | |
| H. Richard Gault & Nancy Slomowitz 14800 Seneca Road Darnestown, MD 20874 | N/A | | |
| Adjacent and confronting | Property Owners mailing addresses | | |
| Kamron Loghman-Adham 14700 Seneca Road Darnestown, MD 20874 | Nicole Kobrine & Paul Garrett 13513 Magruder Farm Ct Potomac, MD 20854 | | |
| Jeffrey & Sandra Goodman 14811 Seneca Road Germantown, MD 20874 | John M Kennedy 13504 Magruder Farm Ct Potomac, MD 20854-6002 | | |
| Melvin Gienau 14821 Seneca Road Germantown, MD 20874-3427 | H. Richard Gault & Nancy Slomowitz 13517 Magruder Farm Ct Potomac, MD 20854-6002 | | |

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- 1. Application for Historic Area Work Permit
- 2. Written description of project
- 3. General description of project and effect on historic resources, environmental setting, and historic district.
- 4. Site Plan
- 5. Plans and elevations
- 6. Materials specifications
- 7. Photographs
- 8. Tree survey
- 9. Addresses of adjacent and confronting property owners

Written Description of Project (a): Existing structures and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance.

The current property includes the main house, a barn, garage/stable, and a restored guest cottage/office. There is a narrow porch on the west side of the house, but this is not useful for entertainment, since it is too narrow for more than a few chairs.

There are two portions to the house. The "original" house, built in the 1830's, is made up of the kitchen, dining room, bath and a small bedroom/office on the second floor. The newer portion, a large two-story addition built in the 1860's, includes the living room, library, two bedrooms, and the main bathroom located over the back porch. These two portions form an "L" shape, with the inner side of the "L" on the east side of the house. This area is grassy and slopes down toward the south. Plant beds extend from the house about 3' within this area. A small covered porch provides cover over the side door, which enters into the dining room.

All buildings are wood frame, with white wood siding. The foundation is made of red Seneca stone and can be clearly seen in the side yard area.

The historical significance of the house is the signal station which was located in a tree on the property during the Civil War. The house was used as a headquarters for Union soldiers during this time, and it was believed to also be a stopover for southern sympathizers escaping from Maryland to the South. It was also one of the largest homes in the town, belonging to the Magruder family, with a large amount of adjacent land. Since the sale and subdivision of the property in the 1990's, the location of the signal tree is now on another owner's property. However, the historical significance of the main house remains.

Since taking ownership of the property, we have restored the barn, the cottage (built in the 1950's) and the garage/stable area. We added a driveway and a nicely landscaped area at the street entrance. We have also added plants around the cottage and garage/stable buildings. We have tried to maintain consistency with what would have been available during the home's historic period while enhancing the current value of the home. We hope that this proposed enhancement is viewed as both a current and historical enhancement.

To our knowledge, there is no specific historical significance to the portion of the house where we intend to install the terrace.

Written Description of Project (b): General description of project and effect on historic resources, environmental setting, and historic district.

We propose to add a brick terrace behind the house. There is currently no patio/terrace with the house, and we feel this will add value and usefulness to the back yard, for both entertaining and for personal use. We feel that a terrace would have been possible during the home's historic period and would have used similar materials and building methodology to what we are proposing.

As can be seen by the property map, the house is "L" shaped, with the east rear side of the house forming the internal portion of the L. Within this area we propose to add a rectangular terrace surrounded by plantings.

The terrace will be built on top of rock dust and sand, which should be appropriate to the home's historic period.

We also plan to use "old" bricks to provide an aged look and be more appropriate to the home's historic period. There will be a small extension to the terrace, where we plan to locate an outdoor gas grill. Otherwise, the terrace will be rectangular, approximately 17' by 30' in size.

Because the yard slopes down toward the back of the house (to the south), the yard will have to be built up at the bottom of the terrace. Two broad stone steps will be placed there for access to and from the terrace. Two large stones, currently sitting next to the house in the same area (existing at time of purchase) will be placed on either side of a steps.

A variety of plants and small trees will be located around the terrace as a border and to provide some privacy. A list of the proposed plants can be found in Attachment 6, Materials Specifications.

The design is intended to fit the period of the house – simple, using natural materials and construction methods that would have been available during the home's historic period. We feel that the terrace will be personally useful, will add significantly to the home's property value, and will enhance the environmental setting. This was one of the most significant homes in Darnestown during the early years of the town. We feel that a terrace will add distinction to the house in a manner that is consistent with its historic period.

Site Plan

See attached drawing. Please note that the plants in the drawing are not intended to simulate specific plants or trees. They are intended to show placement within the environmental setting. The terrace will be to the rear of the house, to the east of the old portion and behind the newer portion of the house.

Plans and elevations

This proposal is for a terrace and there is no formal construction plan or elevation map. All construction will be at ground level.

We have included the proposed design plan from our landscaping firm, Fine Earth Landscaping, Inc. - see attached drawing. Please note that the plants in the drawing are not intended to simulate specific plants or trees. They are intended to show placement within the environmental setting. The terrace will be to the rear of the house, to the east of the old portion and behind the newer portion of the house.

Materials specifications

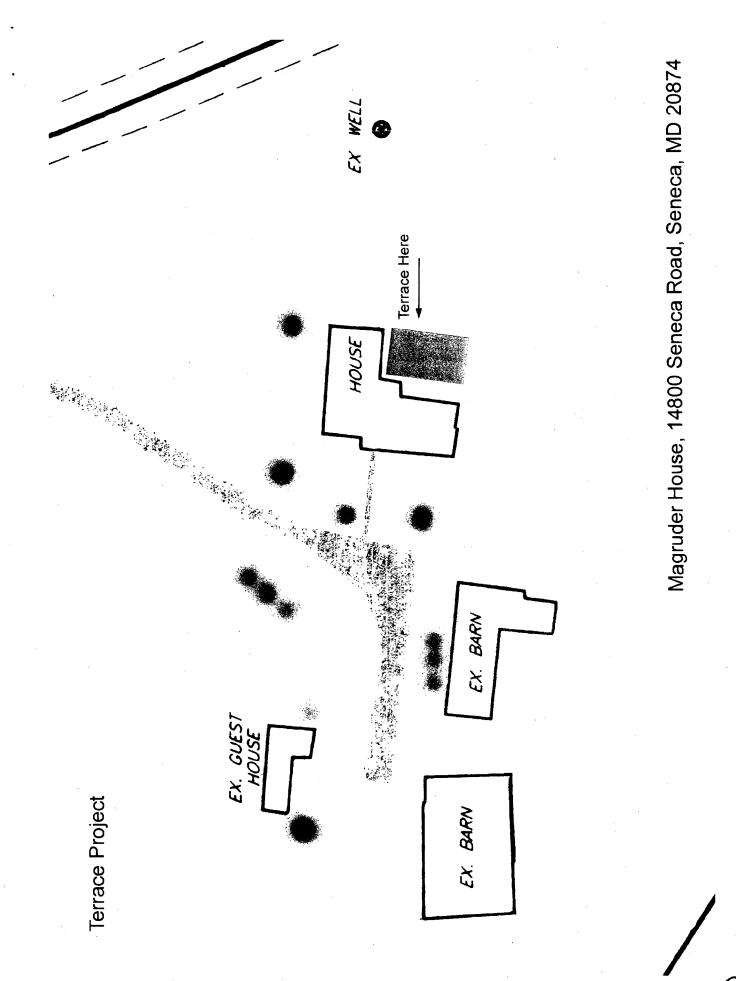
The following materials will be used:

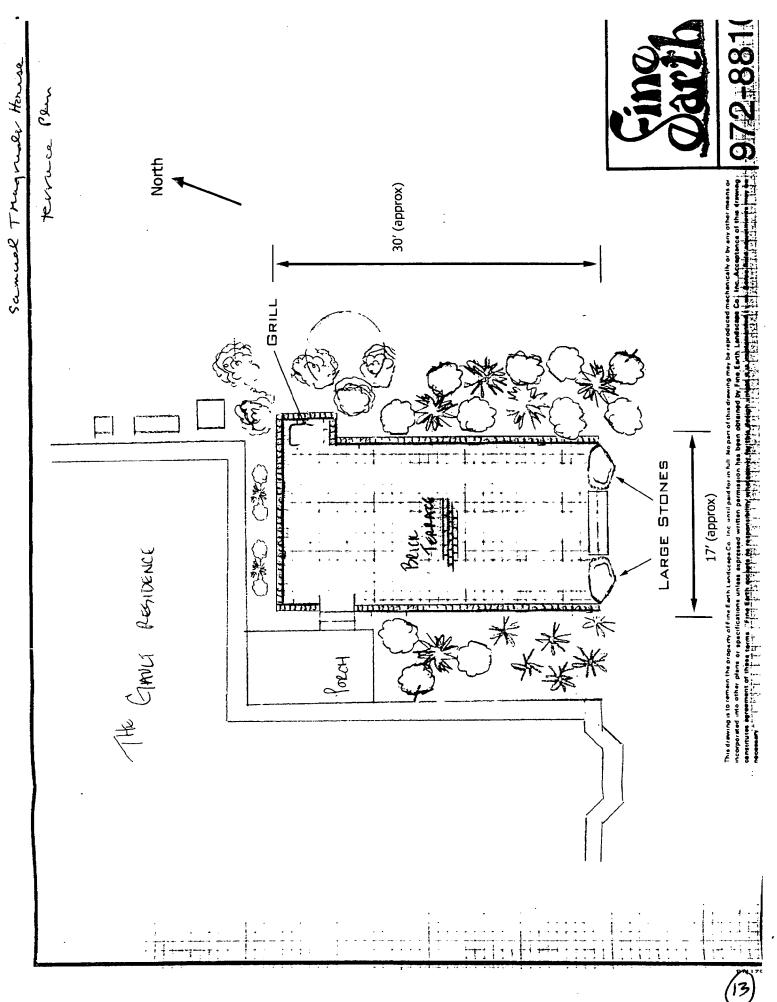
Stone dust and sand as a base for the bricks. Aged bricks Flagstone or slate for steps Two large [existing] stones bordering the steps. Plants:

Some of these plants, such as boxwood, holly and dogwood are already present on the property.

- Hydrangeia
- White Dogwood
- American Boxwood
- Mahonia
- Lady's Mantle
- Wintergreen Boxwood
- Itea
- Cherry Laurel
- Dragonlady Holly
- Hellebores
- Peonies
- Cryptomeria

14800 Seneca Road 🗆 Darnestown, Maryland 20874 🗇 Voice: (301) 330-0769 🗇 Fax: (301) 330-2541

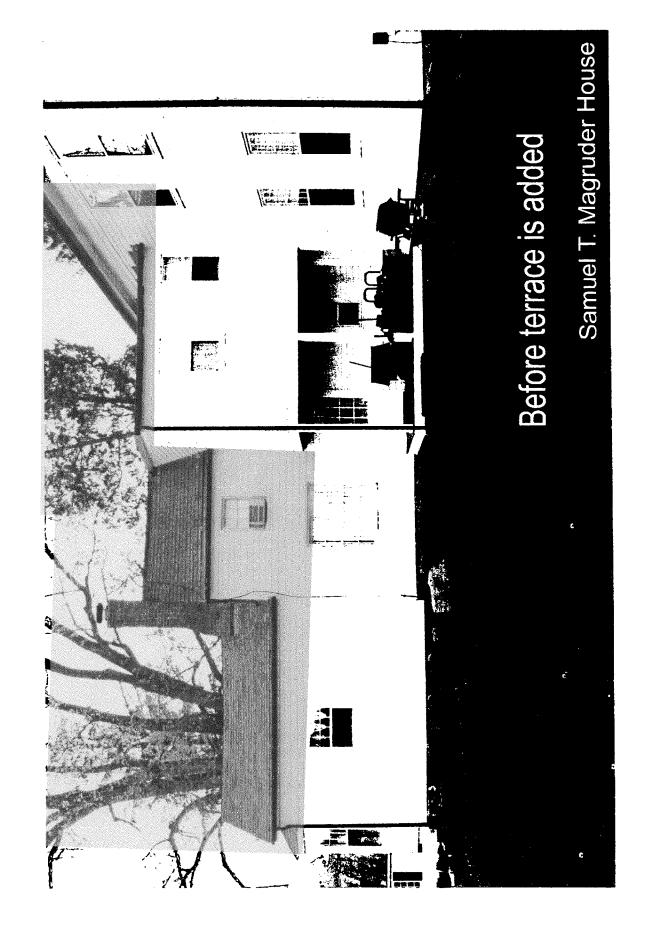




Photographs

- 1. East/rear side of house before proposed terrace
- 2. East/rear side of house after proposed terrace (with simulated terrace)
- 3. Wide front view of the entire property looking towards house from Seneca Road
- 4. Wide rear view of the entire property looking towards house from Magruder Farm Court
- 5. Wide front view of neighbors across Seneca Road looking from the front of the house
- 6. Wide side view of neighbors to the east looking from the east/rear of the house (the view from the proposed terrace to the east)
- 7. Wide rear view of neighbors to the south (across Magruder Farm Court) looking from the east/rear of the house (the view from the proposed terrace to the east)

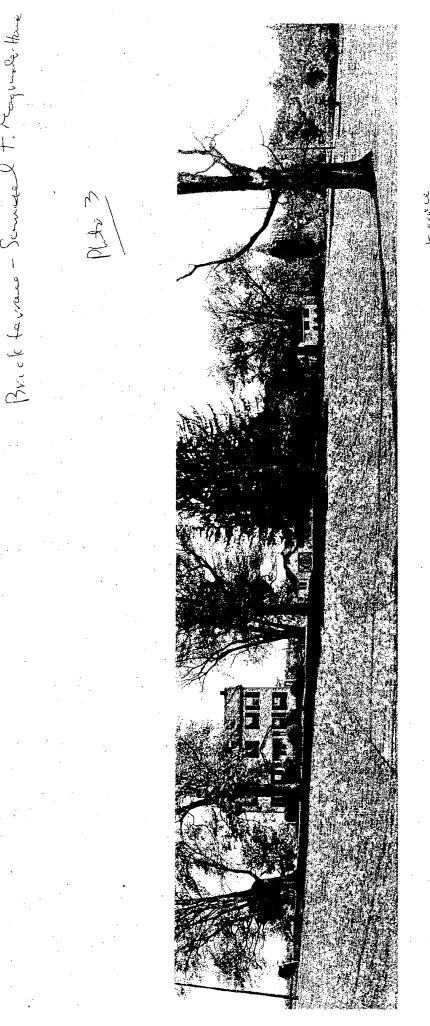
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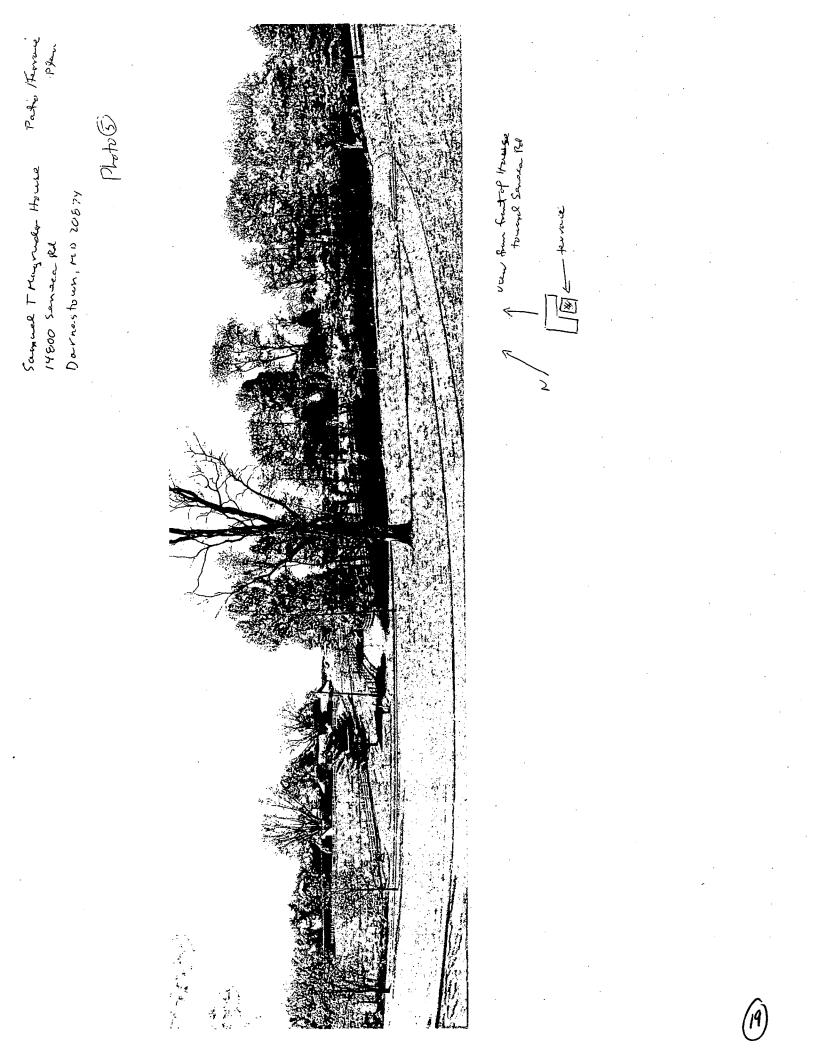
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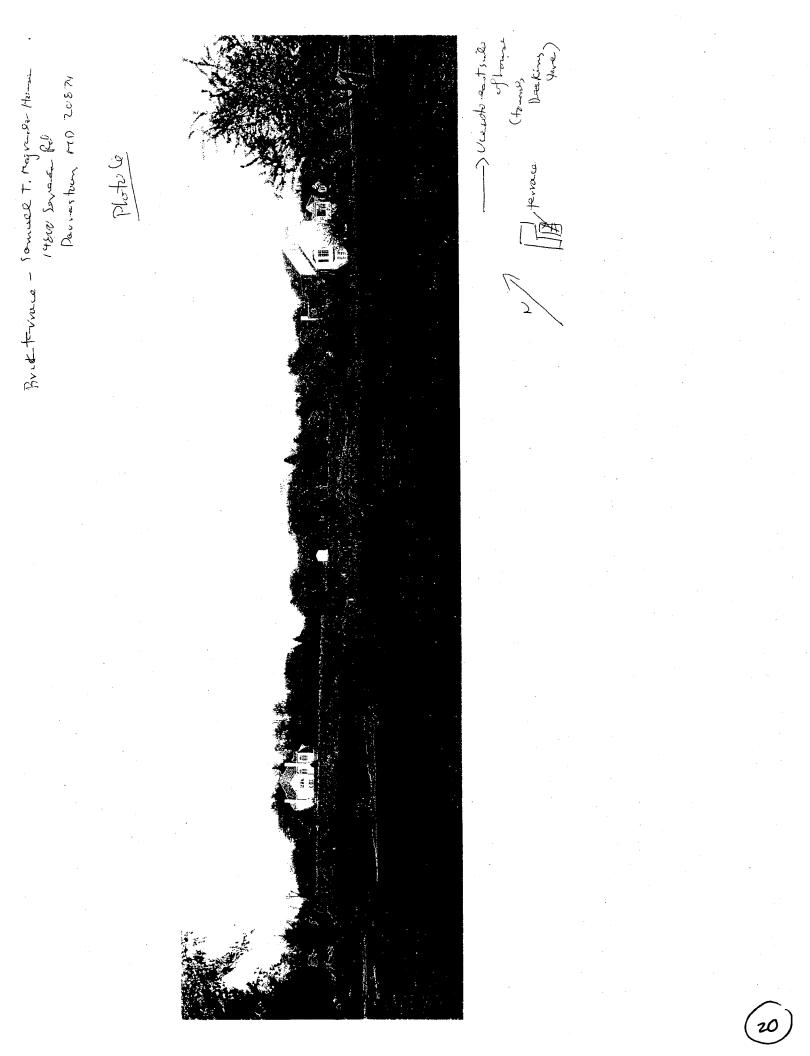
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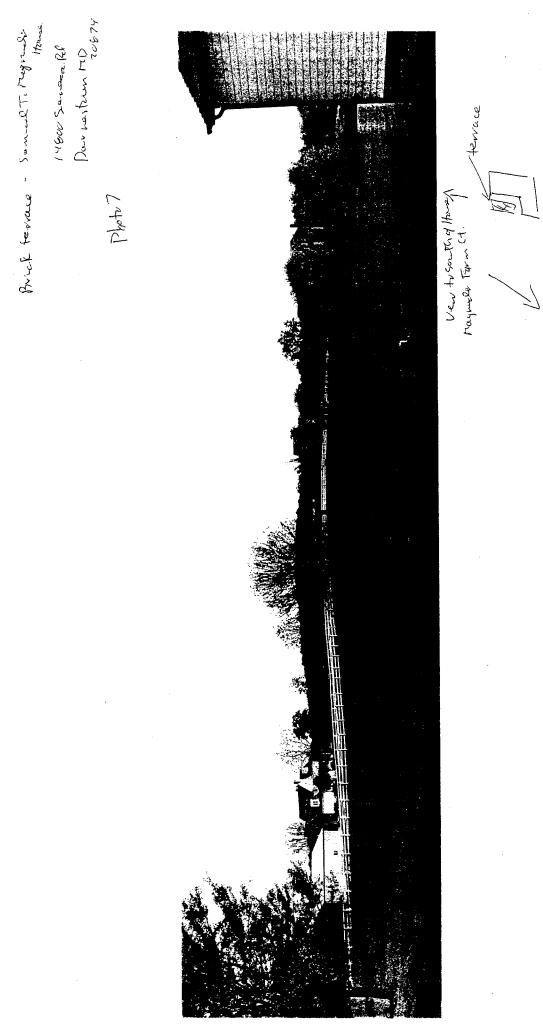
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Tree survey

There are no trees close to the area where the proposed terrace will be constructed.

14800 Seneca Road 🛛 Darnestown, Maryland 20874 🗇 Voice: (301) 330-0769 🗇 Fax: (301) 330-2541

H. Richard Gault & Nancy J. Slomowitz

April 30, 2006

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission Historic Preservation Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 Voice: (301) 563-3400 FAX: (301) 563-3412 E-Mail: mcp-historic@mncppc-mc.org

Re: Brick Terrace - Samuel T. Magruder House, 14800 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this application for a Historic Area Work Permit to add a terrace and surrounding landscaping behind our house, the Samuel T. Magruder house listed on the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

This application is in response to a letter from the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), dated April 21, 2006, requesting the following items not included in my initial request, dated April 20, 2006, to the HPC:

- Formal Application to the Department of Permitting Services (DPS)
- Photographs
- Adjacent/Confronting Property Owner Addresses

I hope that these proposed modifications meet with your approval. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me during the day at (202) 366-0465.

Sincerely,

a the

H. Richard Gault