### MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 5912 Cedar Parkway., Chevy Chase Meeting Date: 8/16/2017

Resource: Contributing Resource Report Date: 8/9/2017

Chevy Chase Village Historic District

Applicant: Blake and Sydney Bath Public Notice: 8/2/2017

(Adele O'Dowd, Agent)

Review: HAWP Tax Credit: N/A

Case Number: 35/13-17BB Staff: Michael Kyne

**PROPOSAL:** Hardscape and landscape alterations

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission approve the HAWP application.

### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource

STYLE: Colonial Revival DATE: c. 1916 -1927

### PROPOSAL:

- Replace the existing paver driveway and concrete parking pad with Belgian block cobble and permeable pea gravel driveway in the same approximate footprint.
- Replace the paver patio set on concrete at the rear of the property with a bluestone patio set on stone dust.
- Rebuild the existing 2'-5" high curved retaining wall at the rear, making it straight.
- Replace the amoeba shaped swimming pool at the rear with a rectangular swimming pool.
- Replace the curved brick walkway and steps from sidewalk at the front of the property with a straight bluestone walkway set on stone dust.

### **APPLICABLE GUIDELINES:**

In accordance with section 1.5 of the Historic Preservation Commission Rules, Guidelines, and Procedures (Regulation No. 27-97) ("Regulations"), in developing its decision when reviewing a Historic Area Work Permit application for an undertaking at a Master Plan site the Commission uses section 24A-8 of the Montgomery County Code ("Chapter 24A"), the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation ("Standards"), and pertinent guidance in applicable master plans. [Note: where guidance in an applicable master plan is inconsistent with the Standards, the master plan guidance shall take precedence (section 1.5(b) of the Regulations).] The pertinent information in these documents, incorporated in their entirety by reference herein, is outlined below.

- (a) The commission shall instruct the director to deny a permit if it finds, based on the evidence and information presented to or before the commission that the alteration for which the permit is sought would be inappropriate, inconsistent with or detrimental to the preservation, enhancement or ultimate protection of the historic site or historic resource within an historic district, and to the purposes of this chapter.
- (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; [emphasis added] 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.
- (c) It is not the intent of this chapter to limit new construction, alteration or repairs to any 1 period or architectural style.
- (d) In the case of an application for work on an historic resource located within an historic district, the commission shall be lenient in its judgment of plans for structures of little historical or design significance or for plans involving new construction, unless such plans would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding historic resources or would impair the character of the historic district. (Ord No. 9-4, § 1; Ord No. 11-59.)

### Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

The Secretary of the Interior defines rehabilitation 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." Standards 2, 5, and 6 most directly apply to the application before the commission:

- 1. 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.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.
- 4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

- 5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a historic property shall be preserved.
- 6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.
- 7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.
- 8. Significant archaeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.
- 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
- 10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

### Chevy Chase Historic District Guidelines

The guidelines break down specific projects into three levels of review – Lenient, Moderate and Strict Scrutiny.

"Lenient Scrutiny" means that the emphasis of the review should be on issues of general massing and scale, and compatibility with the surrounding streetscape, and should allow for a very liberal interpretation of preservation rules. Most changes should be permitted unless there are major problems with massing, scale and compatibility.

"Moderate Scrutiny" involves a higher standard of review than "lenient scrutiny." Besides issues of massing, scale and compatibility, preserving the integrity of the resource is taken into account. Alterations should be designed so that the altered structure still contributes to the district. Use of compatible new materials, rather than the original building materials, should be permitted. Planned changes should be compatible with the structure's existing design, but should not be required to replicate its architectural style.

"Strict Scrutiny" means that the planned changes should be reviewed to insure that the integrity of the significant exterior architectural or landscaping features and details is not compromised. However, strict scrutiny should not be "strict in theory but fatal in fact" i.e. it does not mean that there can be no changes but simply that the proposed changes should be reviewed with extra care.

The Guidelines state three basic policies that should be adhered to, including:

Preserving the integrity of the contributing structures in the district. Alterations to contributing structures should be designed in such a way that the altered structure still contributes to the district.

Design review emphasis should be restricted to changes that will be visible from the front or side public right-of-way, or that would be visible in the absence of vegetation or landscaping.

Alterations to the portion of a property that are not visible from the public right-of-way should be subject to very lenient review. Most changes to rear of the properties should be approved as a matter of course.

The Guidelines that pertain to this project are as follows:

<u>Driveways</u> should be subject to strict scrutiny only with regard to their impact on landscaping, particularly mature trees. In all other respects, driveways should be subject to lenient scrutiny. Parking pads and other paving in front yards should be discouraged.

<u>Lot coverage</u> should be subject to strict scrutiny, in view of the critical importance of preserving the Village's open park-like character.

<u>Sidewalks</u> should be subject to strict scrutiny with regard to their impact on landscaping, particularly mature trees. In addition, sidewalks pertaining to outstanding resources should be subject to strict scrutiny. In all other respects, sidewalks should subject to moderate scrutiny.

<u>Swimming pools</u> should be subject to lenient scrutiny. However, tree removal should be subject to strict scrutiny as noted below.

### **STAFF DISCUSSION**

### Driveway

In accordance with the *Guidelines*, driveways should be subject to lenient scrutiny. The proposed driveway will be in the same approximate location as the existing driveway and will result in a reduction of impermeable surface. In accordance with the *Standards*, the proposed driveway replacement will not alter or remove features that characterize the property.

### Patio

Staff is supportive of the proposed patio alteration. The patio is at the rear of the property, where it is minimally visible from the public right-of-way, at best. In accordance with the *Standards*, the proposed patio alteration will not alter or remove features that characterize the property.

### Retaining Wall

Staff is supportive of the proposed retaining wall alteration. The retaining wall is at the rear of the property, where it is minimally visible from the public right-of-way, at best. In accordance with the *Standards*, the proposed retaining wall alteration will not alter or remove features that characterize the property.

### Swimming Pool

In accordance with the *Guidelines*, swimming pools should be subject to lenient. The proposed swimming is at the rear of the property, where it is minimally visible from the public right-of-way, at best, and the proposed swimming pool will be in the same approximate location as the existing swimming pool. In accordance with the *Standards*, the proposed driveway replacement will not alter or remove features that characterize the property.

### Walkway

In accordance with the *Guidelines*, sidewalks (and walkways) should be subject to moderate scrutiny. While the proposed work will alter the materials and design of the existing walkway, the proposed

materials and design are entirely consistent with the streetscape of the Chevy Chase Village Historic District. Although the proposed walkway might result in a minimal increase in hardscaping in the front yard of the subject property, there will be a net decrease in impermeable surfaces at the subject property, due to the driveway alteration. The proposed walkway alteration is unlikely to detract from the district's open park-like character, and, in accordance with the *Standards*, the proposed will not alter or remove features that the characterize the property.

After full and fair consideration of the applicant's submission staff finds the proposal as being consistent with the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-(b) 1 and 2, having found the proposal is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation #2 and #9, and the Chevy Chase Village Historic District Guidelines outlined above.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission <u>approve</u> the HAWP application under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b), having found that the proposal is consistent with the *Chevy Chase Village Historic District Guidelines* identified above, and therefore will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resource and is compatible in character with the district and the purposes of Chapter 24A;

and 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, if applicable to Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) staff for review and stamping prior to submission for the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (DPS) building permits;

and with the general condition that final project design details, not specifically delineated by the Commission, shall be approved by HPC staff or brought back to the Commission as a revised HAWP application at staff's discretion;

and with the general condition that the applicant shall notify the Historic Preservation Staff if they propose to make **any alterations** to the approved plans. Once the work is completed the applicant will contact the staff person assigned to this application at 301-563-3400 or michael.kyne@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit

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### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301/563-3400

## APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

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

١.	W	ATTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT
	a.	Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance:  2.5 story center hall colonial, circa 1920
		Existing curvy brick front walk, impervious paver driveway and concrete pad, impervious rear patio, curvy retaining
		wall and contemporary "amoeba" style swimming pool.
	b.	General description of project and its effect on the historic resource(s), the environmental setting, and, where applicable, the historic district
	Re	emove impervious paver driveway and concrete pad and replace with sections of belgian block cobble and permeable pea
	gr	avel to match neighbor at 5910. Remove paver patio (currently set entirely on concrete) and replace with traditional bluestone
	wi	th the lower portion to be set on stone dust instead of concrete and to integrate more planting beds within the patio area and throughout
	th	e back and front yard. Low retaining wall to be rebuilt (2' - 0.5") removing curve. Replace contemporary swimming pool with
	re	ctangular shape and raditional bluestone coping. Replace curvey brick front walk currently set on concrete with rectalinear
	ble	uestone walk set on stone dust. Landscape design to generally better reflect landscape tradition set by Rose Greely in CCV.
2.	SITE	<u>FLAN</u>
	Site	and environmental setting, drawn to scale. You may use your plat. Your site plan must include:
	a. 1	the scale, north arrow, and data;
	b. (	dimensions of all existing and proposed structures; and

### 3. PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

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" paper are preferred.

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

- a. Schematic construction plans, with marked dimensions, indicating location, size and general type of walls, window and door openings, and other fixed features of both the existing resource(s) and the proposed work.
- b. Elevations (facedes), with marked dimensions, clearly indicating proposed work in relation to existing construction and, when appropriate, context. All materials and fedures 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.

### 4. 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.

### 5. PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. Clearly tabeled 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 prints 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

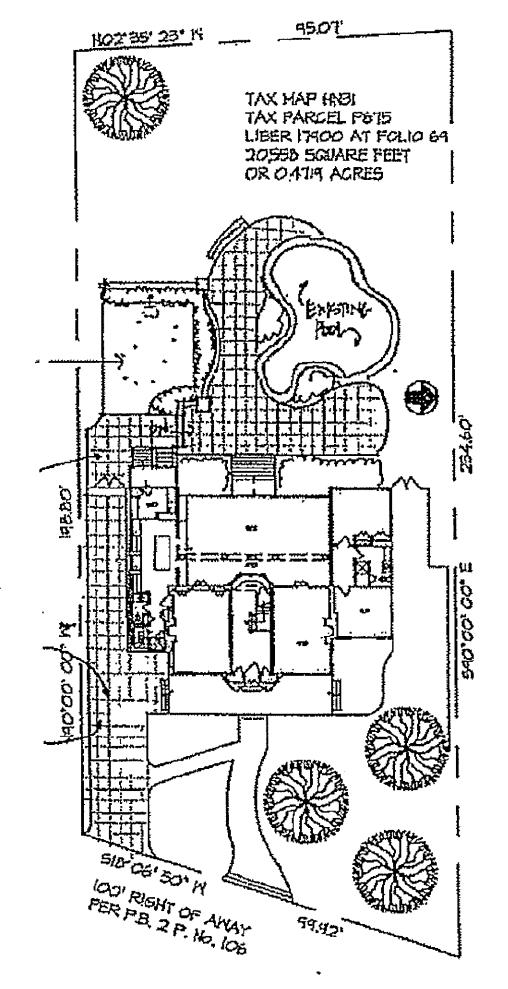
If you are proposing construction adjacent to or within the dripline of any tree 5" or larger in diameter (at approximately 4 feet above the ground), you must file an accurate tree survey identifying the size, location, and species of each tree of at least that dimension.

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

For ALL projects, provide an accurate list of adjacent and confronting property owners (not tenants), including names, addresses, and zip codes. This list should include the owners of all lots or parcels which adjoin the parcel 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.

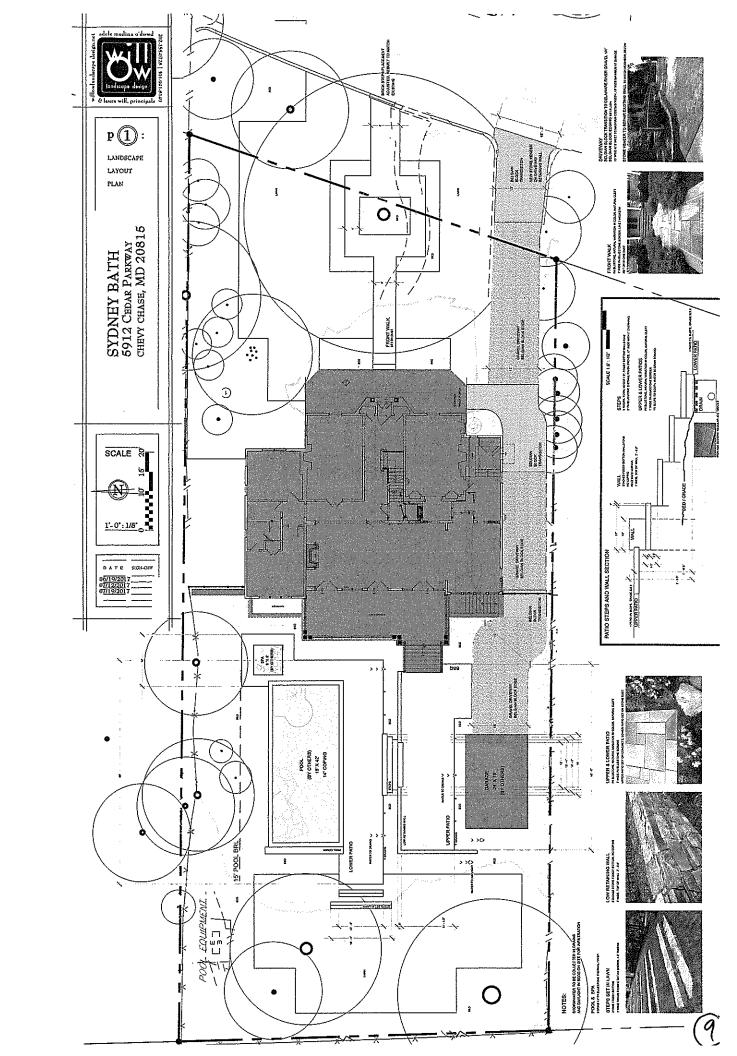
PLEASE PRINT (IN BLUE OR BLACK INK) OR TYPE THIS INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE. PLEASE STAY WITHIN THE GUIDES OF THE TEMPLATE, AS THIS WILL BE PHOTOCOPIED DIRECTLY ONTO MAILING LABELS.

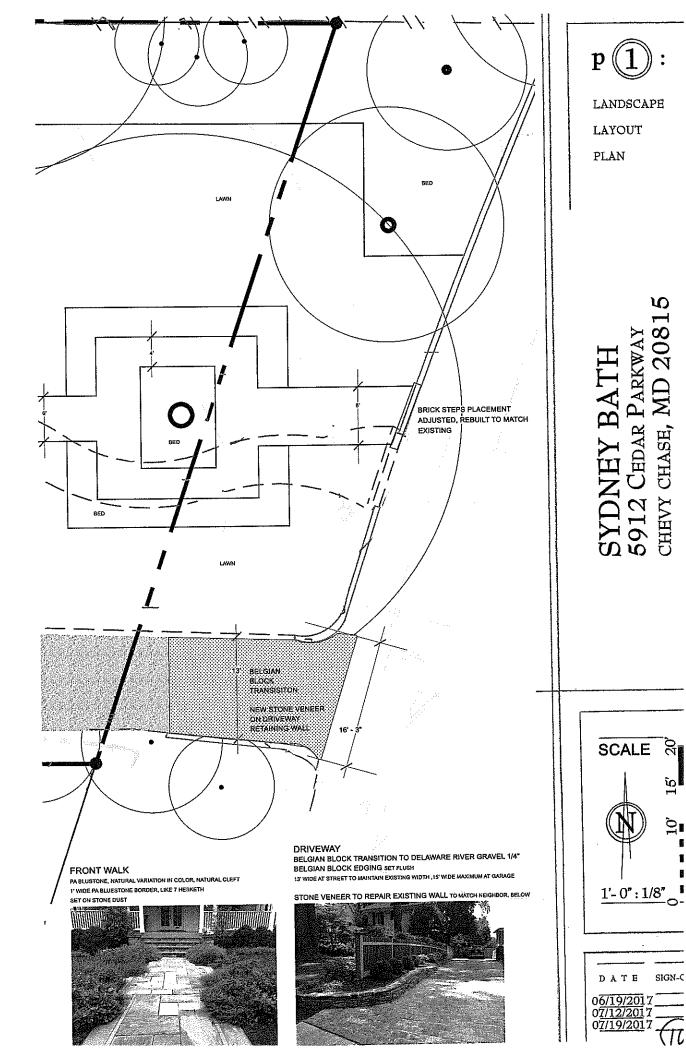


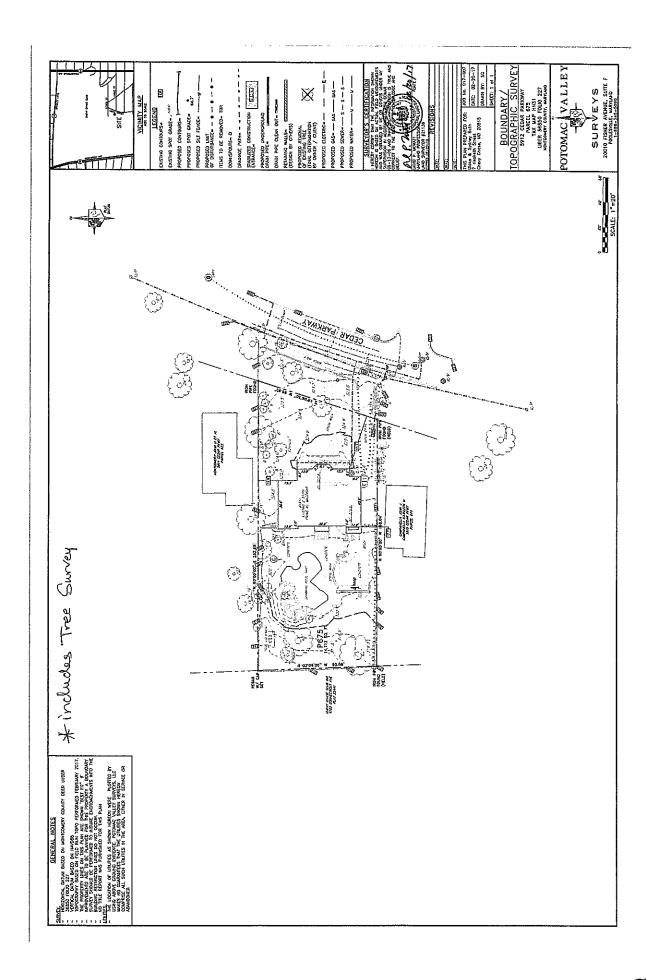


Provided by Staff

EXISTING SITE PLAN









Detail: IMPERVIOUS FRONT WALK SET IN CONCRETE TO BE REPLACED WITH PABLUESTONE
SET ON DUST



Detail: BRICK STEPS TO BE REBUILT IN LINE WITH STRAIGHT BLUESTONE FRONT WALK

Applicant: Sydney Bath (agent adele O'Dored)
5912 Cedar Pkwy

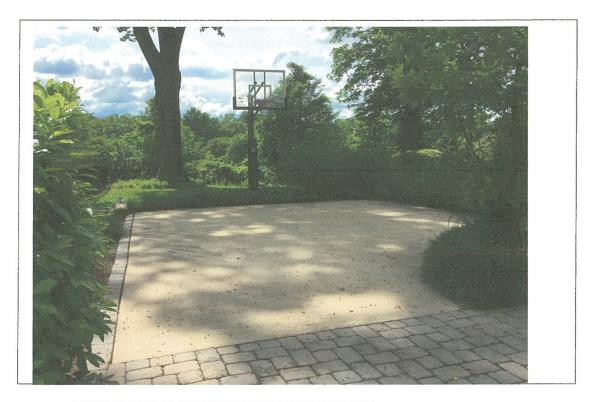


Detail: EXISTING IMPERVIOUS PAVER DRIVEWAY



Detail: \_\_\_\_\_EXISTING IMPERVIOUS DRIVEWAY AND FRONT WALK SET ON CONCRETE

Applicant: Sydney Bath (agent adele O'Dowd)
5912 Cedar Pkwy



Detail: CONCRETE PAD PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FOR REMOVAL:

HPC CASE NO. 35/13-17B AND IT WAS APPROVED AT THE 1/25/17 HPC MEETING



EXISTING IMPERVIOUS PAVER DRIVEWAY TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH SECTIONS OF Detail: COBBLE AND PERMEABLE GRAVEL, HISTORICALLY APPROPRIATE



Detail: EXISTING AMOEBA STYLE POOL WITH IMPERVIOUS BRICK PAVER PATIO TO BE REPLACED ON LOWER PATIO WITH HISTORICALLY APPROPRIATE BLUESTONE SET ON DUST



Detail: EXISTING IMPERVIOUS PAVER PATIO, AMOEBA STYLE POO, INVASSIVE GRASSES
NEW POOL COPING WILL BE BLUESTONE

Applicant: Sydney Bath Cagent adde O'Dowd

# HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]

[Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]					
Owner's mailing address	Owner's Agent's mailing address				
Blake and Sydney Bath 7 Hesketh Street Chevy Chase, MD 20815	Adele O'Dowd 4628 Hunt Ave Chevy Chase, MD 20815				
Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses					
Charles Hobbs 33 West Kirke Street Chevy Chase, MD 20815	John and Kathleen Campanella 5910 Cedar Pkwy Chevy Chase, MD 20815				
Melissa and Tom Dann 34 West Kirke Street Chevy Chase, MD 20815	John Montgomery 5914 Cedar Pkwy Chevy Chase, MD 20815				
Chevy Chase Club, Inc 6100 Connecticut Ave Chevy Chase, MD 20815					