

Preliminary Consultation
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT

Address:	4807 Dorset Ave., Chevy Chase	Meeting Date:	5/23/2018
Resource:	Contributing Resource, (Secondary/Post-1915) (Somerset Historic District)	Report Date:	5/16/2018
Applicant:	Maya Weil (Adam Greene, Agent)	Public Notice:	5/9/2018
Review:	Preliminary Consultation	Tax Credit:	No
Case Number:	N/A	Staff:	Michael Kyne
PROPOSAL:	Pedestrian access construction		

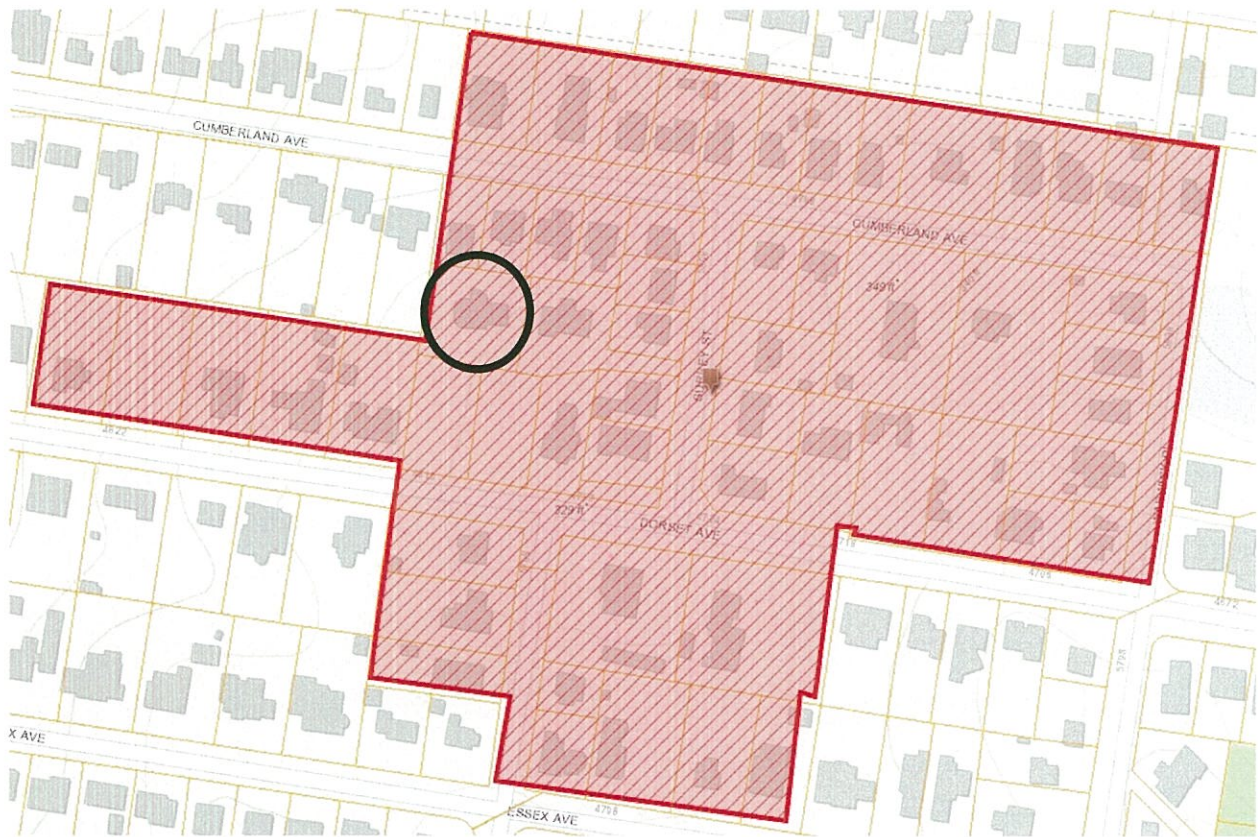
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the applicant make any revisions based on the HPC's recommendations and return for a HAWP application.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource within the Somerset District, (Secondary/Post-1915)
STYLE: Eclectic-Craftsman
DATE: c. 1918

The subject property is a c. 1918 Contributing Resource within the Somerset Historic District. The historic house was originally constructed as a "Siberian cedar log home," and, while it has experienced additions and alterations throughout the years, it retains a high level of integrity and an eclectic architectural vocabulary that contributes to the significance of the Somerset Historic District. The front elevation of the house faces Dorset Avenue, which is more than 200' from the house, with two side-by-side platted lots between the house and Dorset Avenue. The house is currently accessed via a long, shared driveway off of Surrey Street. According to the 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (see image in Staff Discussion), the subject property has always had a Dorset Avenue address.



Somerset Historic District Boundary (Subject Property Circled)

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes the following work items at the subject property:

- Construction of a pedestrian access gate with stone and concrete entry walls adjacent to the public sidewalk at Dorset Avenue.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

When reviewing alterations and new construction within the Somerset Historic District several documents are to be utilized as guidelines to assist the Commission in developing their decision. These documents include *Montgomery County Code Chapter 24A (Chapter 24A)*, the *Somerset Historic District Guidelines (Guidelines)*, and the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation (Standards)*. The pertinent information in these documents is outlined below.

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:
 - (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.
- (c) It is not the intent of this chapter to limit new construction, alteration or repairs to any 1 period or architectural style.

Somerset Historic District Guidelines

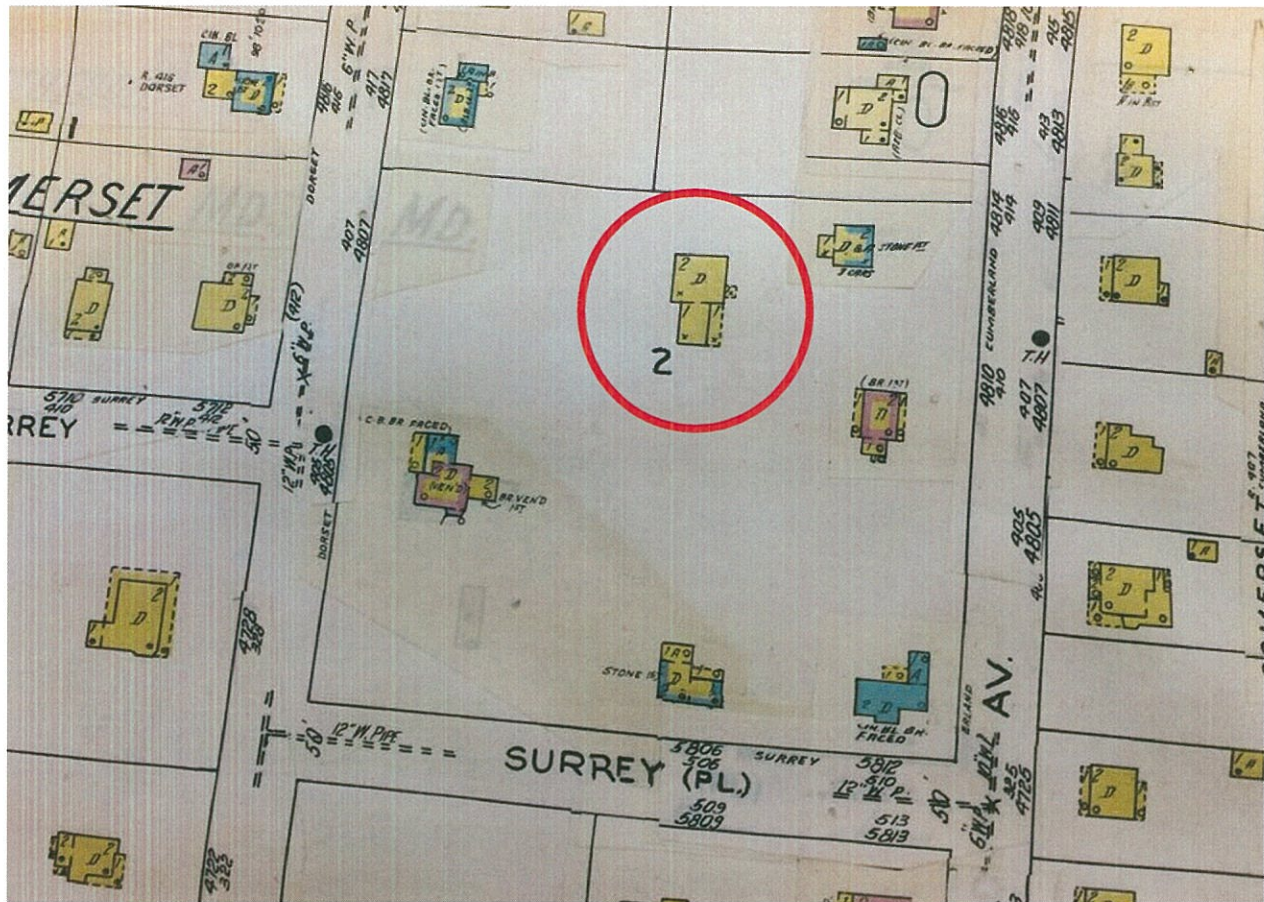
- Other important features which create and enhance the historic character of the Somerset community include: the spacing and rhythm of buildings, the uniform scale of existing houses, the relationship of houses to the street, the ample size lots and patterns of open space in the neighborhood, the mature trees and landscaping, and the grid system of streets with clearly defined streetscapes. These elements should be retained and preserved as the area continues to grow and develop.

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.” The *Standards* are as follows:

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.
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.

STAFF DISCUSSION:



1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (Subject Property Circled in Red)

The proposed pedestrian access will be 10'-4" W x 12'-6" L and will consist of bluestone pavers set on concrete, with a 3'-2" H concrete wall at its left side and a 3'-3" H stacked stone wall at its right side. There will be a pivoting gate constructed from horizontal steel rods and wood slats between the two walls. A backlit address plate will be installed on the concrete wall facing Dorset Avenue. The pedestrian access is designed to take cues from the historic house and a 2014 left-side addition, which was approved by the HPC. The historic house is more than 200' from Dorset Avenue, with two side-by-side platted lots between the historic house and Dorset Avenue, and, at 12'-6" in length, the proposed pedestrian access will terminate a great distance from the historic house.

Currently, there is a temporary aluminum arbor with gate and a small walkway consisting of widely spaced flagstone pavers set on dirt in the location of the proposed pedestrian access. The existing walkway is of average width (approximately 3') and only extends a short distance from the sidewalk. There are also temporary address signs for the subject property staked in the ground in the same location. At staff's request, the applicant has provided photographic examples of similar features located within the historic district; however, the submitted photographs depict stone retaining walls and/or masonry piers that flank traditional walkways or driveways that extend from the sidewalk or street to the front of the house. The applicant has not provided any examples of similar features to demonstrate compatibility with the streetscape, and staff could not locate any similar features within the historic district.

As proposed, the pedestrian access is more characteristic of a parking entrance than walkway, due to its prominent location and the size of the proposed hardscape, the gate, and the tall, flanking entry walls. A

parking pad or driveway in this location would require a new curb cut, and the applicant has not demonstrated that a curb cut would be or has been approved by the Town or County. Although many of the other properties on Dorset Avenue have short driveways and or walkways at the front, those features are generally consistent in their proximity to the house, material, and respective dimensions.

Staff finds that proposed pedestrian access is incompatible with the streetscape of the historic district in design, location, and material. The proposed pedestrian access will be located adjacent to the public sidewalk not far removed from Dorset Avenue, which serves as the primary entrance to the historic district, and it has the potential to detract from the character-defining features of the streetscape and historic district as a whole. Staff recommends that the proposed pedestrian access not be approved; however, staff does find that a new pedestrian access that is compatible with the streetscape in design and dimensions would be appropriate in this location. Staff recommends that the applicant explore compatible and appropriate alternatives and return with a revised HAWP application.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

- Staff recommends that the proposed pedestrian access not be approved.
- Staff recommends that the applicant explore compatible and appropriate alternatives and return with a revised HAWP application.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
301/563-3400

DPB - #8

APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

Contact Email: AGREENE@BONSTRA.COM Contact Person: ADAM GREENE
Daytime Phone No.: 202-328-5715
Tax Account No.: 00537256
Name of Property Owner: MAYA WEIL Daytime Phone No.: 703-409-3832
Address: 4807 DORSET AVE. CHEVY CHASE MD 20815
Street Number City State Zip Code
Contractor: TBD Phone No.: _____
Contractor Registration No.: _____
Agent for Owner: _____ Daytime Phone No.: _____

LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE

House Number: 4807 Street: DORSET AVENUE
Town/City: SOMERSET/CHEVY CHASE Nearest Cross Street: SURREY STREET
Lot: 36 Block: 2 Subdivision: 0044
Liber: 15135 Folio: 0061 Parcel: N/A

PART ONE: TYPE OF PERMIT ACTION AND USE

1A. CHECK ALL APPLICABLE:

- ☒ Construct ☐ Extend ☐ Alter/Renovate
☐ Move ☐ Install ☐ Wreck/Raze
☐ Revision ☐ Repair ☐ Revocable

CHECK ALL APPLICABLE:

- ☐ A/C ☐ Slab ☐ Room Addition ☐ Porch ☒ Deck ☐ Shed
☐ Solar ☐ Fireplace ☐ Woodburning Stove ☒ Single Family
☒ Fence/Wall (complete Section 4) ☐ Other: _____

1B. Construction cost estimate: \$ \$50,000

1C. If this is a revision of a previously approved active permit, see Permit #: N/A

PART TWO: COMPLETE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND EXTEND/ADDITIONS

2A. Type of sewage disposal: 01 ☐ WSSC 02 ☐ Septic 03 ☐ Other: _____
2B. Type of water supply: 01 ☐ WSSC 02 ☐ Well 03 ☐ Other: _____

PART THREE: COMPLETE ONLY FOR FENCE/RETAINING WALL

3A. Height _____ feet _____ inches FRONT WALL: 39" FROM GRADE TO T.O. WALL
WALL AT TOP OF DRIVEWAY: 48" FROM GRADE TO T.O. WALL
3B. Indicate whether the fence or retaining wall is to be constructed on one of the following locations:
☐ On party line/property line ☒ Entirely on land of owner ☐ On public right of way/easement

I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the foregoing application, that the application is correct, and that the construction will comply with plans approved by all agencies listed and I hereby acknowledge and accept this to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.

Signature of owner or authorized agent

4/18/2018

Date

Approved: _____ For Chairperson, Historic Preservation Commission

Disapproved: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application/Permit No.: _____ Date Filed: _____ Date Issued: _____

Edit 6/21/99

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS

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

1. WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

- a. Description of existing structure(s) and environmental setting, including their historical features and significance:

RECENTLY COMPLETED RENOVATION AND ADDITION TO HISTORIC HOME BUILT IN 1919. PROPERTY INCLUDES A LARGE LAWN FRONTING DORSET AVENUE WITH EXISTING STONE WALL FEATURES AT THE SHARED DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE AND THE SIDE YARD TO THE WEST OF THE HOUSE.

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

RENOVATION OF EXISTING HOME AND ADDITION OF NEW STONE AND CONCRETE ENTRY WALLS AND GATE (LIGHTING, ADDRESS PLACARD AND LANDSCAPING TO BE COMPLETED AS PART OF THIS WORK OUTSIDE OF APPROVALS), AND STAIR AT REAR OF HOUSE WITH CONCRETE WALKWAY AND WOOD WASTE BIN.

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

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.

- 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 (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.

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 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 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

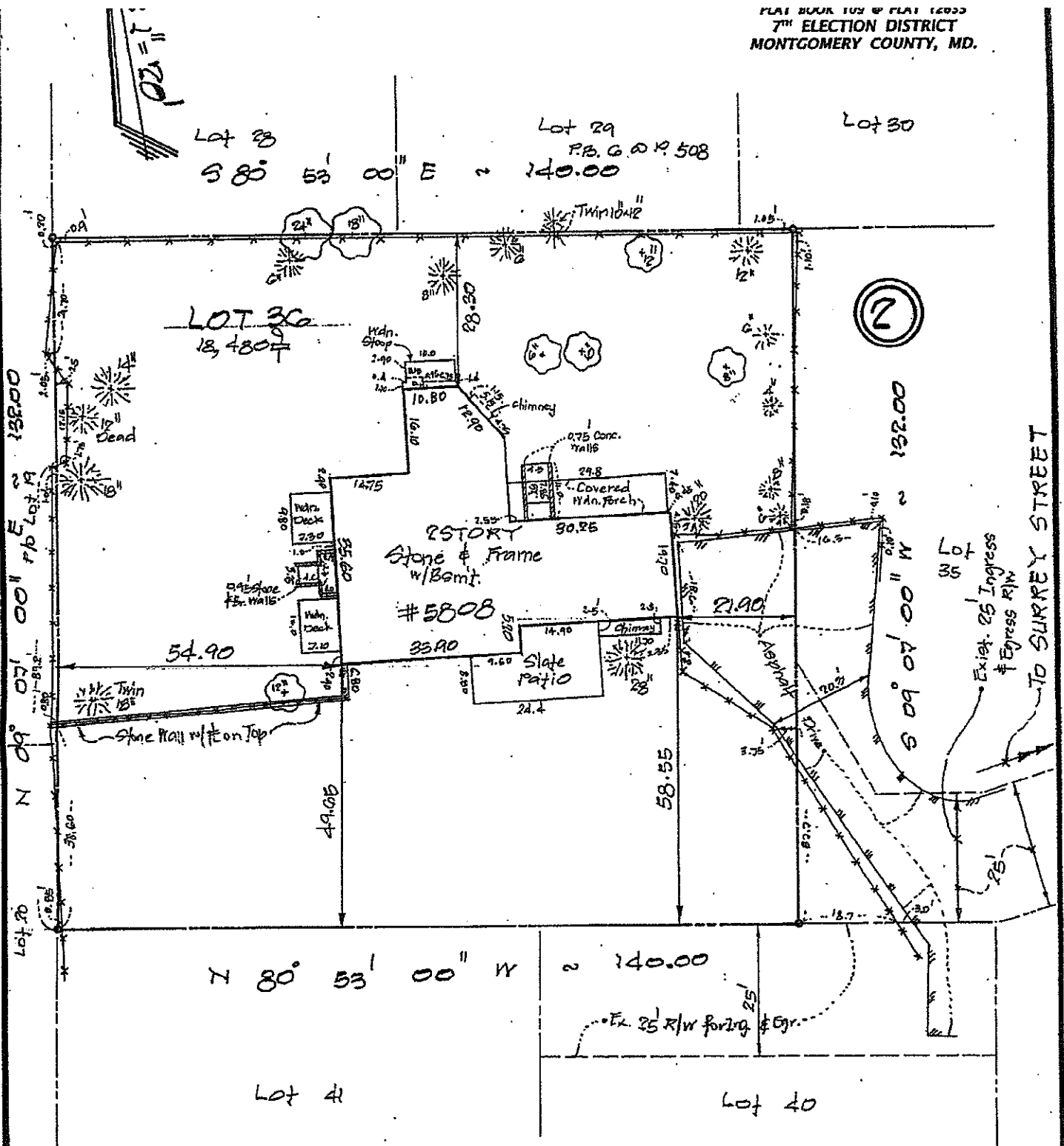
If you are proposing construction adjacent to or within the dripline of any tree 6" or larger in diameter (at approximately 4 feet above the ground), you must file an accurate tree survey identifying the size, location, and species of each tree of at least that dimension.

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.

(8)
(7)



The property shown hereon is not within
Zone A-Special Flood Hazard Area per
F.E.M.A. Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

+ = Shade Trees

* = Evergreen Trees

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATES:

I hereby certify that the position of the existing improvements
on the above described property has been carefully
established by a transit - tape survey and that unless
otherwise shown, there are no visible encroachments.

DATE: 30th May 2014

I hereby certify that I have carefully surveyed the property as
shown by this plat and iron pipe are in place as shown.

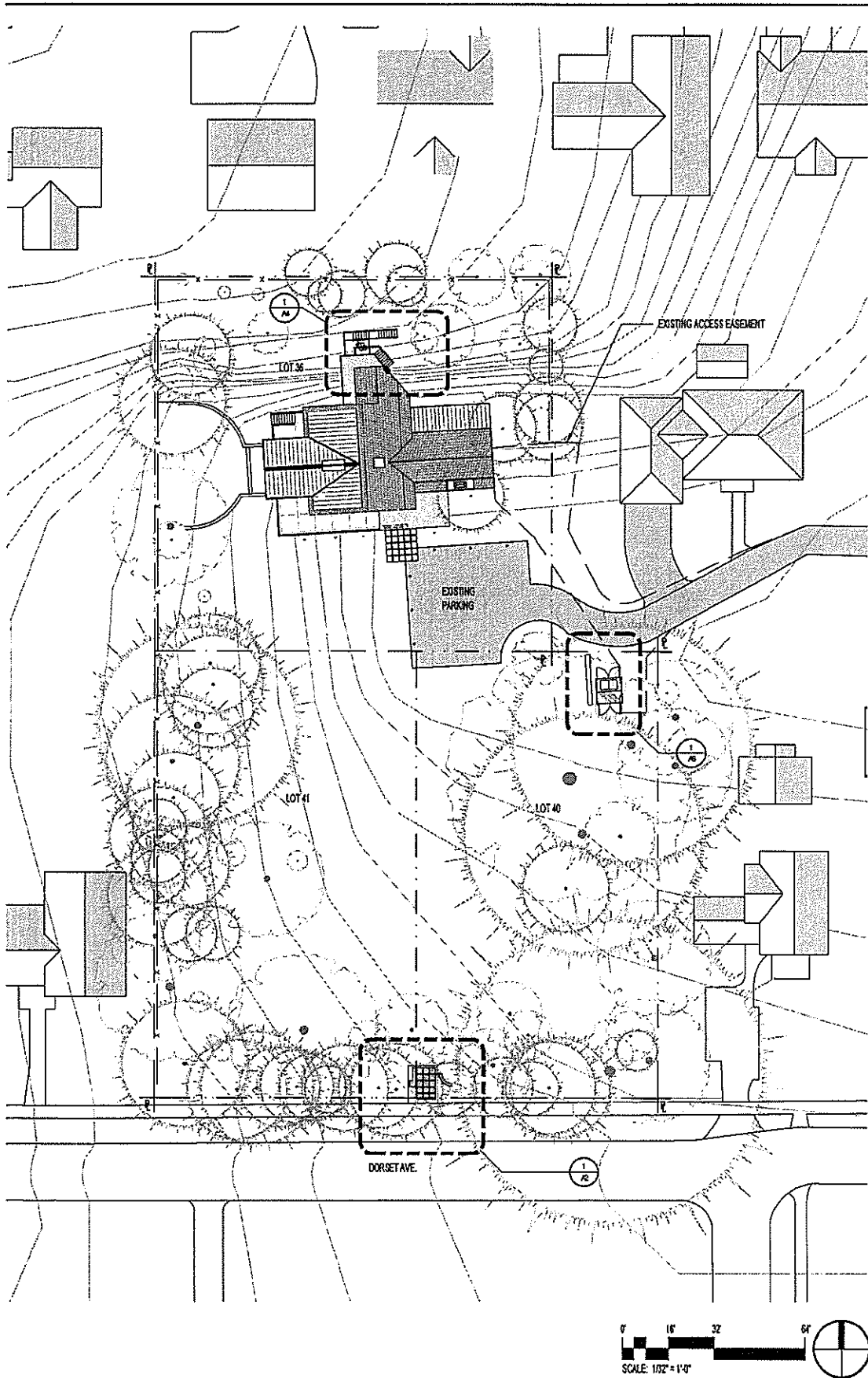
DATE:



W. L. MEEKINS, INC.

3101 RITCHIE ROAD
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747
TEL: 301-736-6387 / 7115

8



HAWP APPROVAL

APRIL 25, 2018
© 2014 - Bonsha Haresign Architects

SITE PLAN

1'-0" = 1/32"

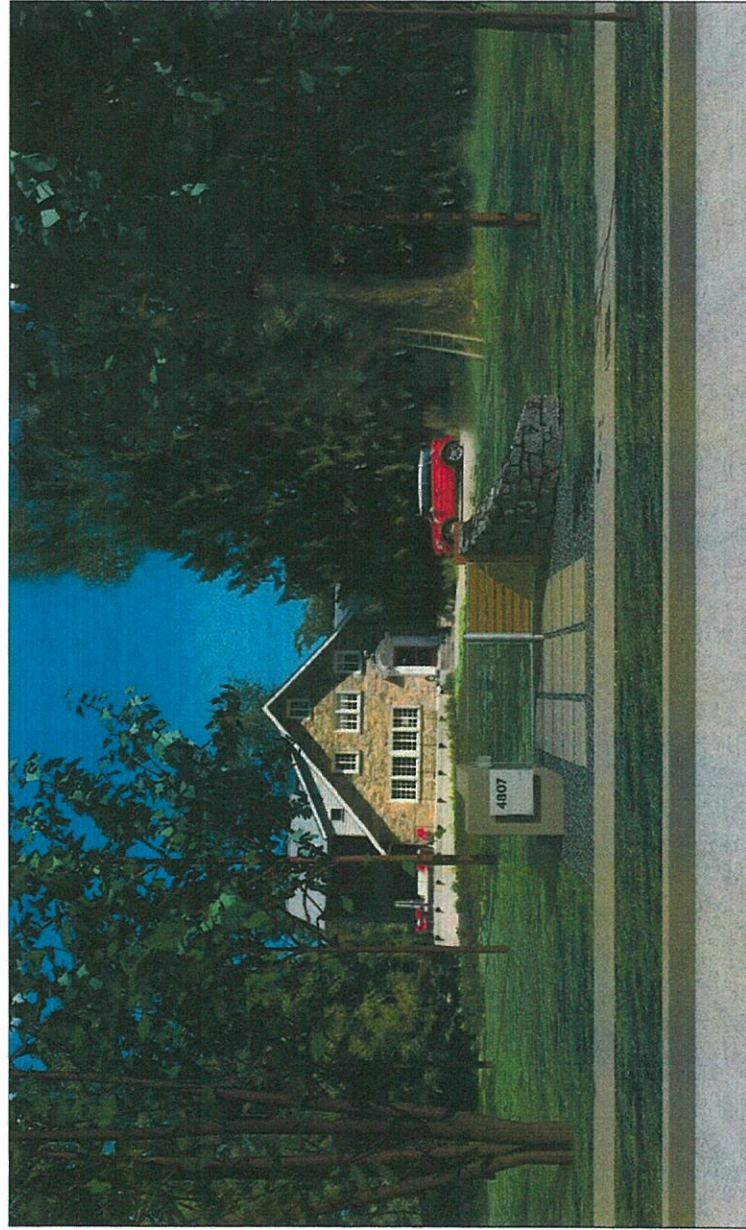
44807 DORSET AVE.

AS0 Bonsha Haresign

10
(9)

4807 DORSET AVE. - FRONT ENTRYWAY

HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT



DRAWING INDEX

CS0.1	COVER SHEET
A1.1	KEY PLAN
A2	ENTRY WALL AND GATE PLAN
A3	ENTRY WALL AND GATE ELEVATION
A4	<NOT USED>
A5.1	TREE REMOVAL PLAN

HAWP APPROVAL

COVER SHEET

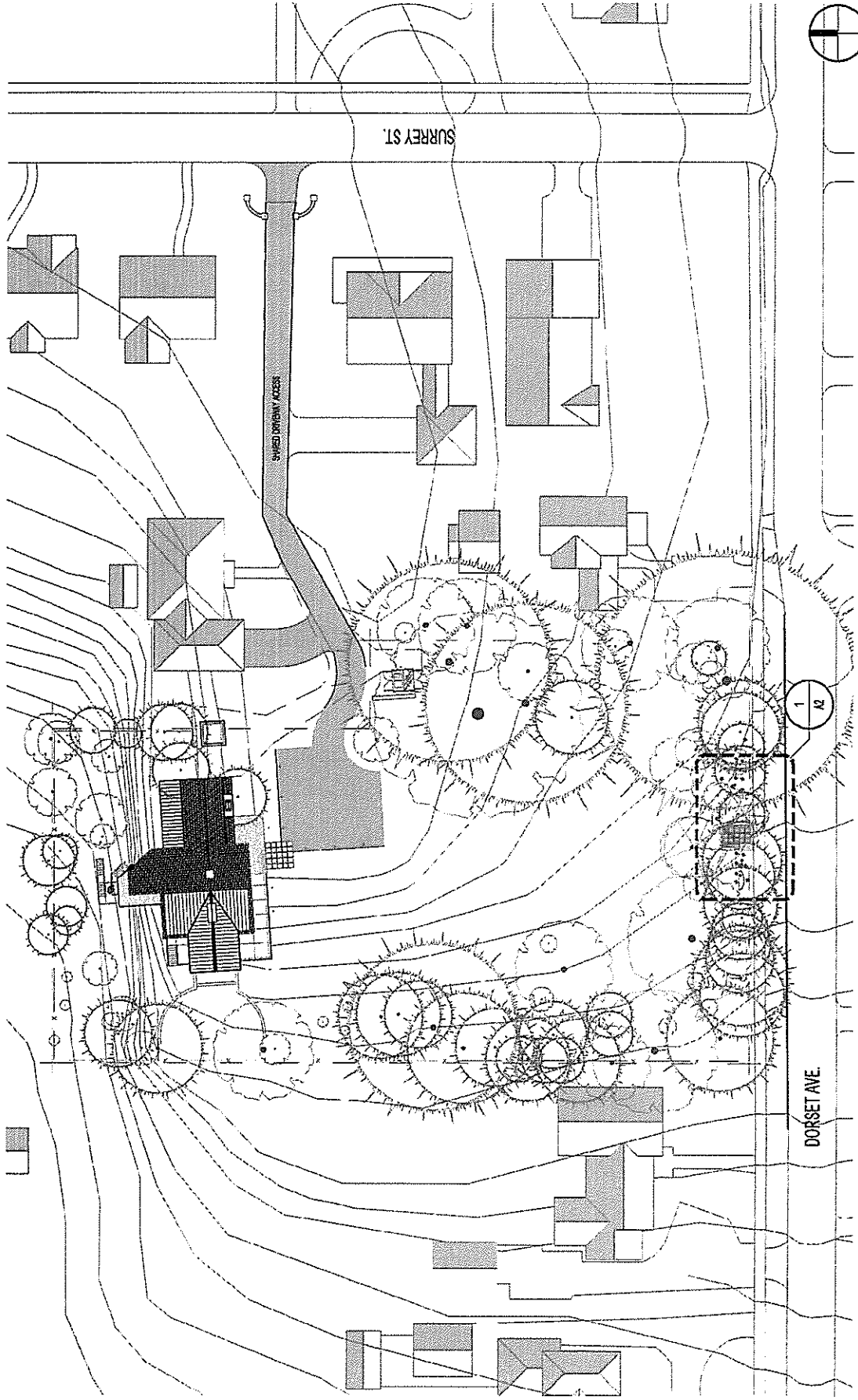
4807 DORSET AVE.

Bonstra | Harsign

CS0.1

APRIL 25, 2018
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(10)



HAWP APPROVAL

APRIL 25, 2018
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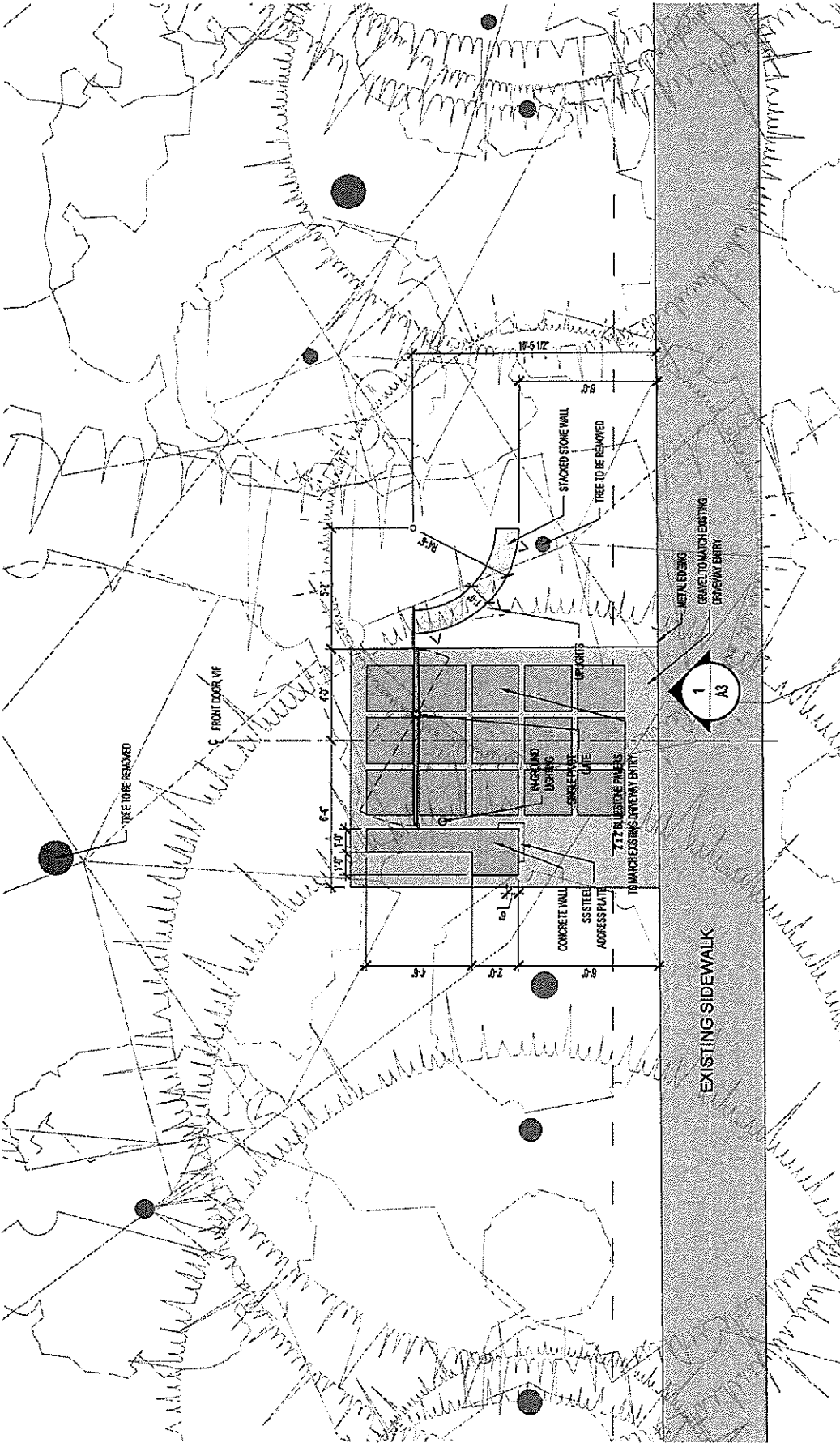
KEY PLAN

NTS

4807 DORSET AVE.

A1 Bosttra Haresign





HAWP APPROVAL

APRIL 25, 2018
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FRONT ENTRY WALL AND GATE PLAN

1/4" = 1'-0"

4807 DORSET AVE.

Bonstra | Hays | Architects

A2

18
12



ADDRESS PLATE



GATE PRECEDENT



STONE WALL PRECEDENT

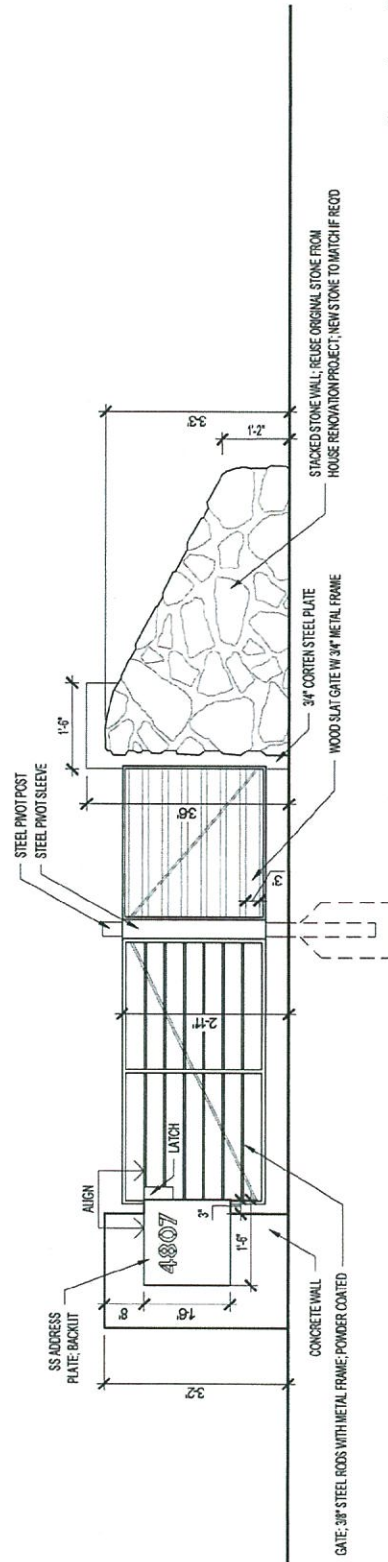


Figure 1 is a vertical bar chart showing the percentage of total sample for each age group. The y-axis is labeled 'AGE' with categories 0', 1', 2', and 4'. The x-axis is labeled 'SCALE: 100 = 1.0'. The bars show approximately 10% for 0', 10% for 1', 20% for 2', and 60% for 4'.

4807 DORSET AVE.

Bonstra | Haresign

HAWP APPROVAL

APRIL 25, 2018
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 $1\frac{1}{2}" = 1' 0"$

FRONT ENTRY WALL AND GATE ELEVATION

A3

Bonstra | Haresign

Existing Property Condition Photographs (duplicate as needed)



Detail: EXISTING SHARED DRIVEWAY ENTRY @ SURREY STREET



Detail: FRONT PARKING COURT, LANDSCAPING & HOME ADDITION/ RENOVATION

19
14

Existing Property Condition Photographs (duplicate as needed)



Detail: REAR PORCH AND BACK YARD



Detail: SIDE YARD RETAINING WALL

Applicant: _____

Page: __

~~10~~
(15)

Existing Property Condition Photographs (duplicate as needed)



Detail: ORIGINAL SIDE YARD RETAINING WALL

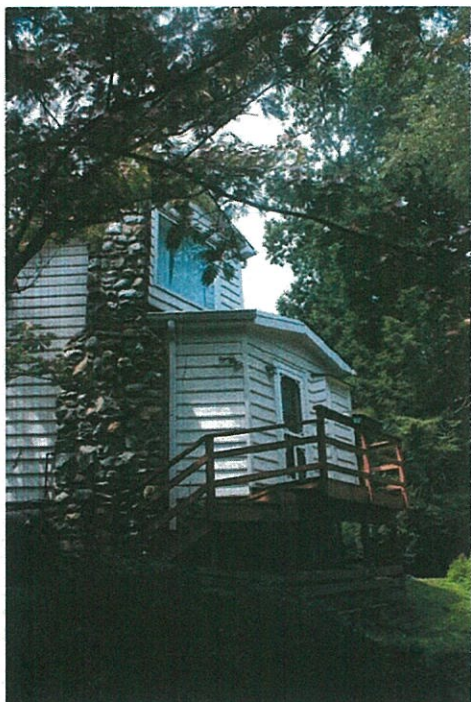


Detail: FRONT PARKING COURT AND LANDSCAPING

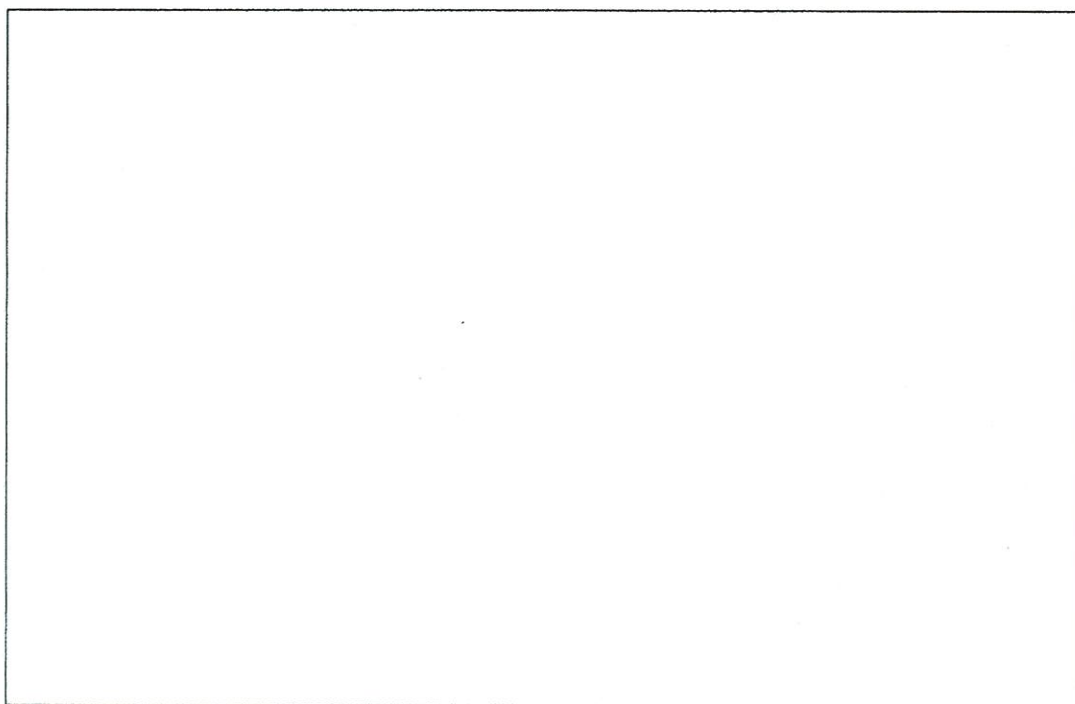
Applicant: _____

Page: __

Existing Property Condition Photographs (duplicate as needed)



Detail: REAR DECK AND STAIR



Detail: _____

Applicant: _____

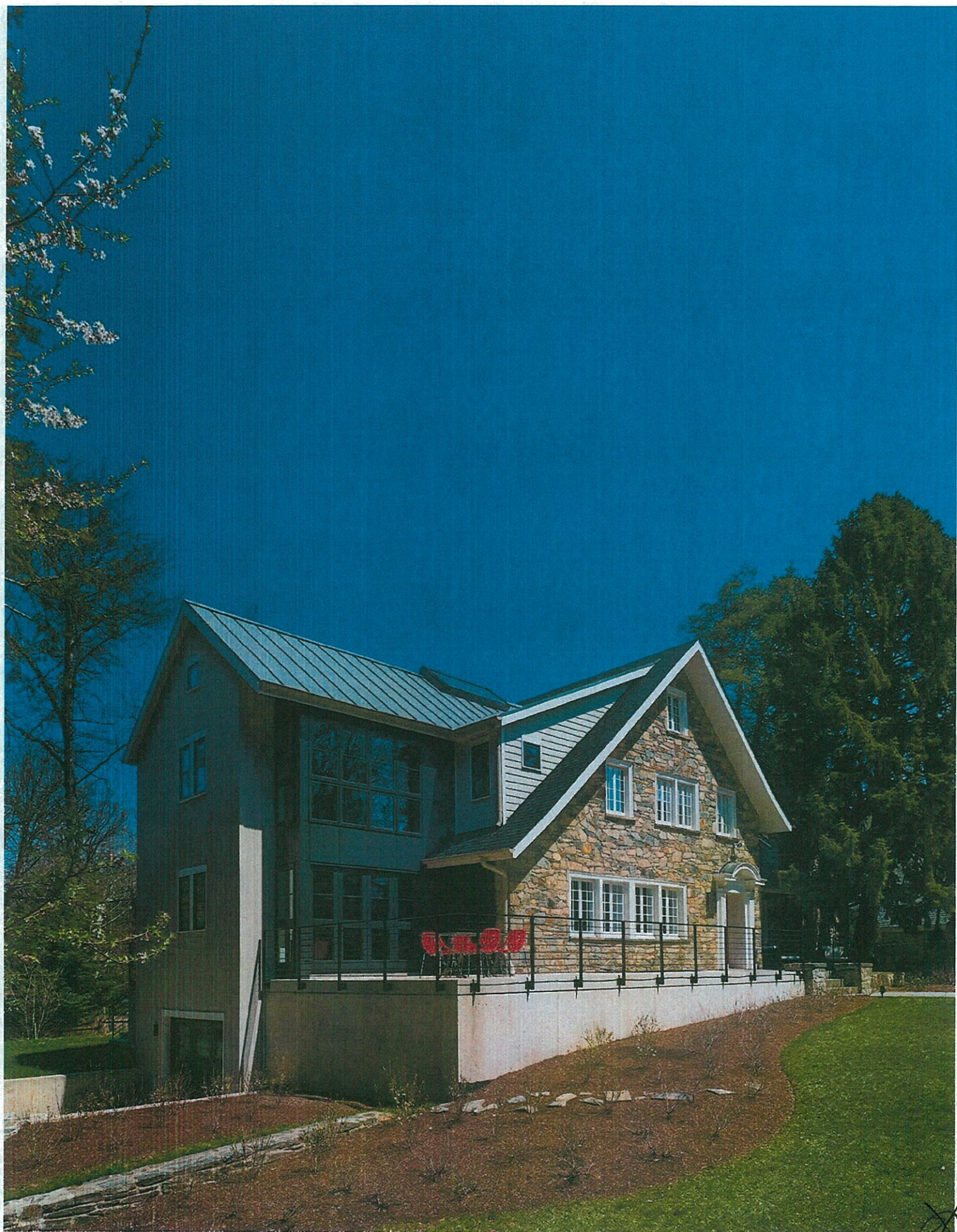
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EXITING ENTRY DRIVE ON SURREY STREET

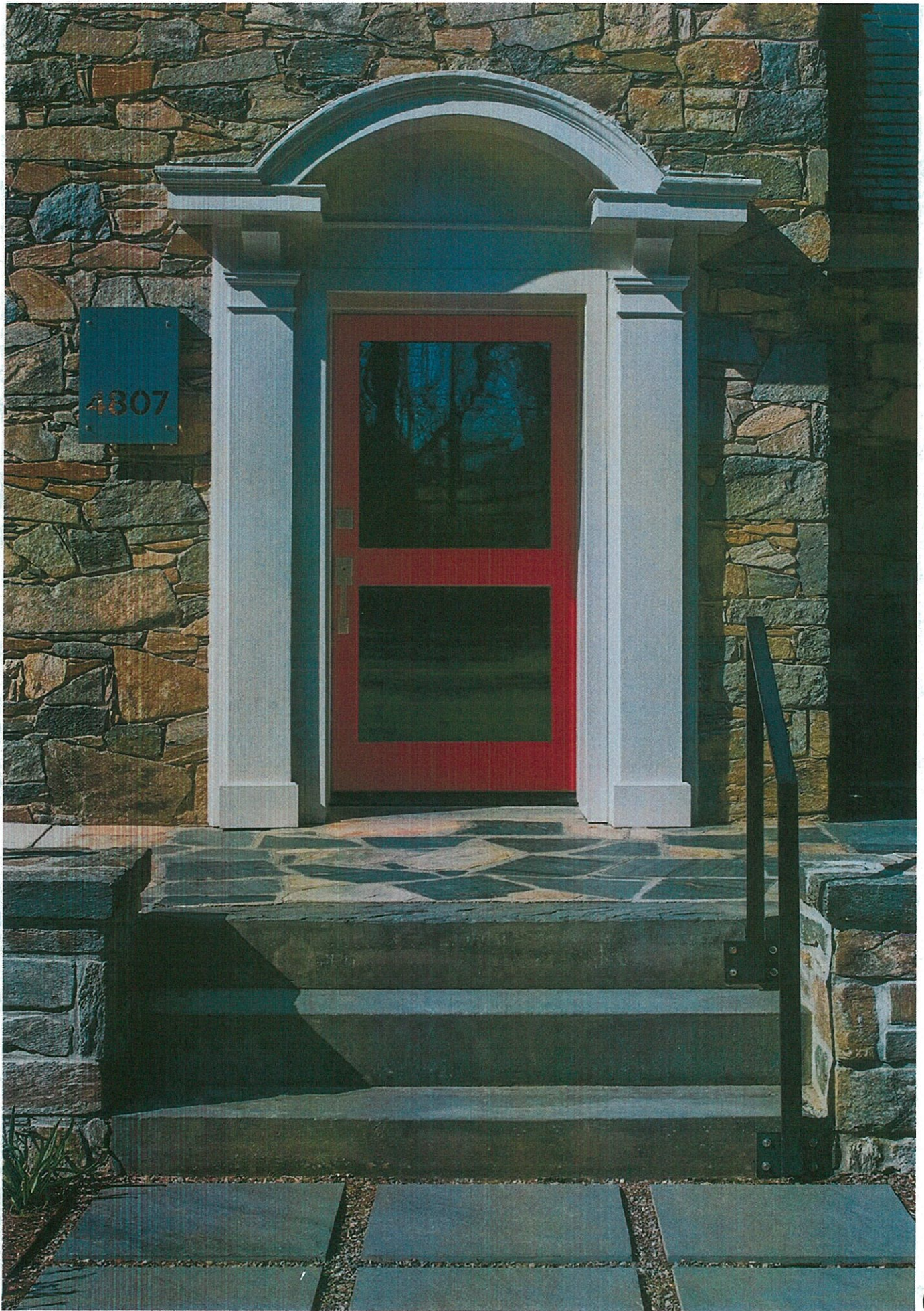




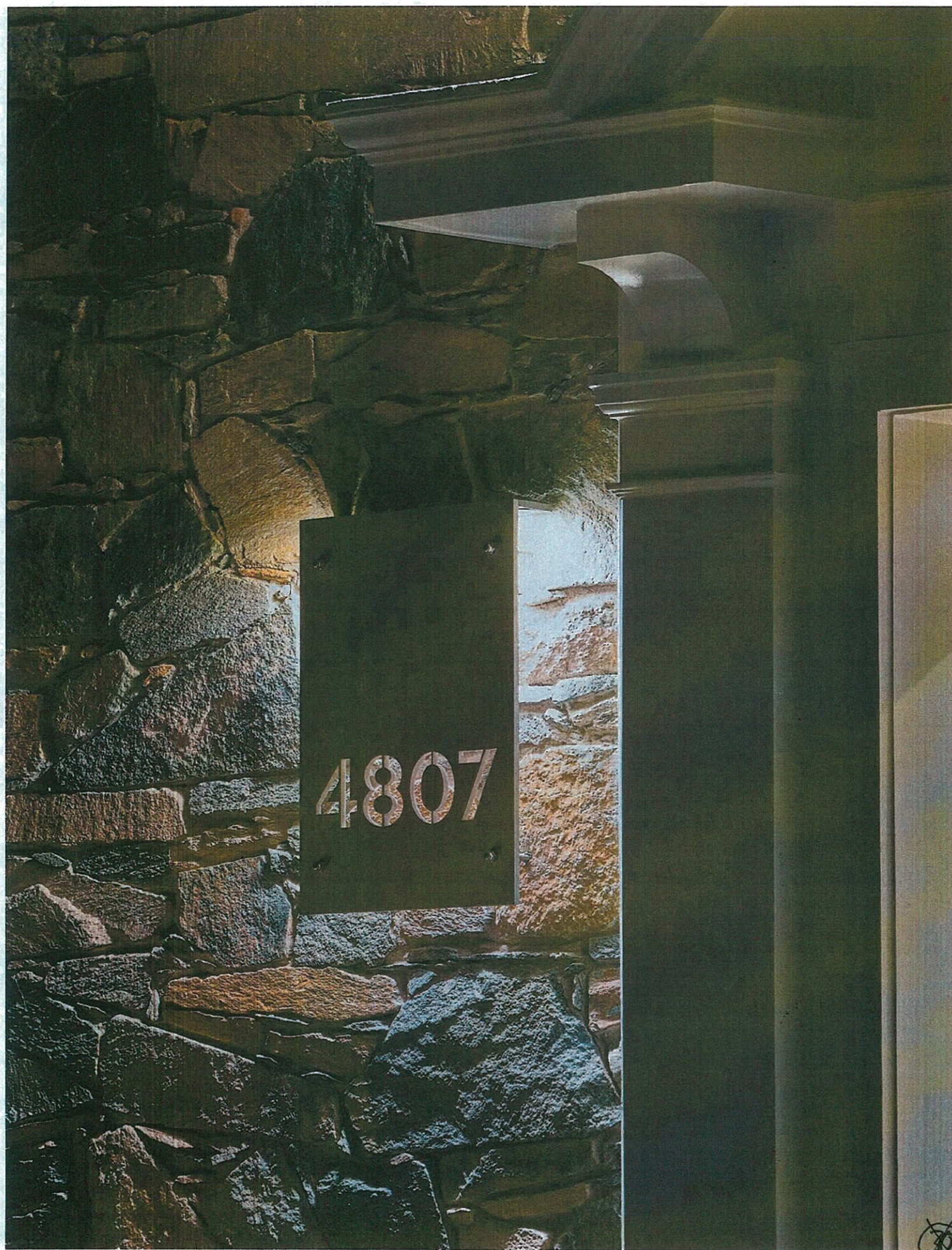


20/21











LOCATION OF PROPOSED
PEDESTRIAN ENTRYWAY

EXISTING PEDESTRIAN
ENTRYWAY



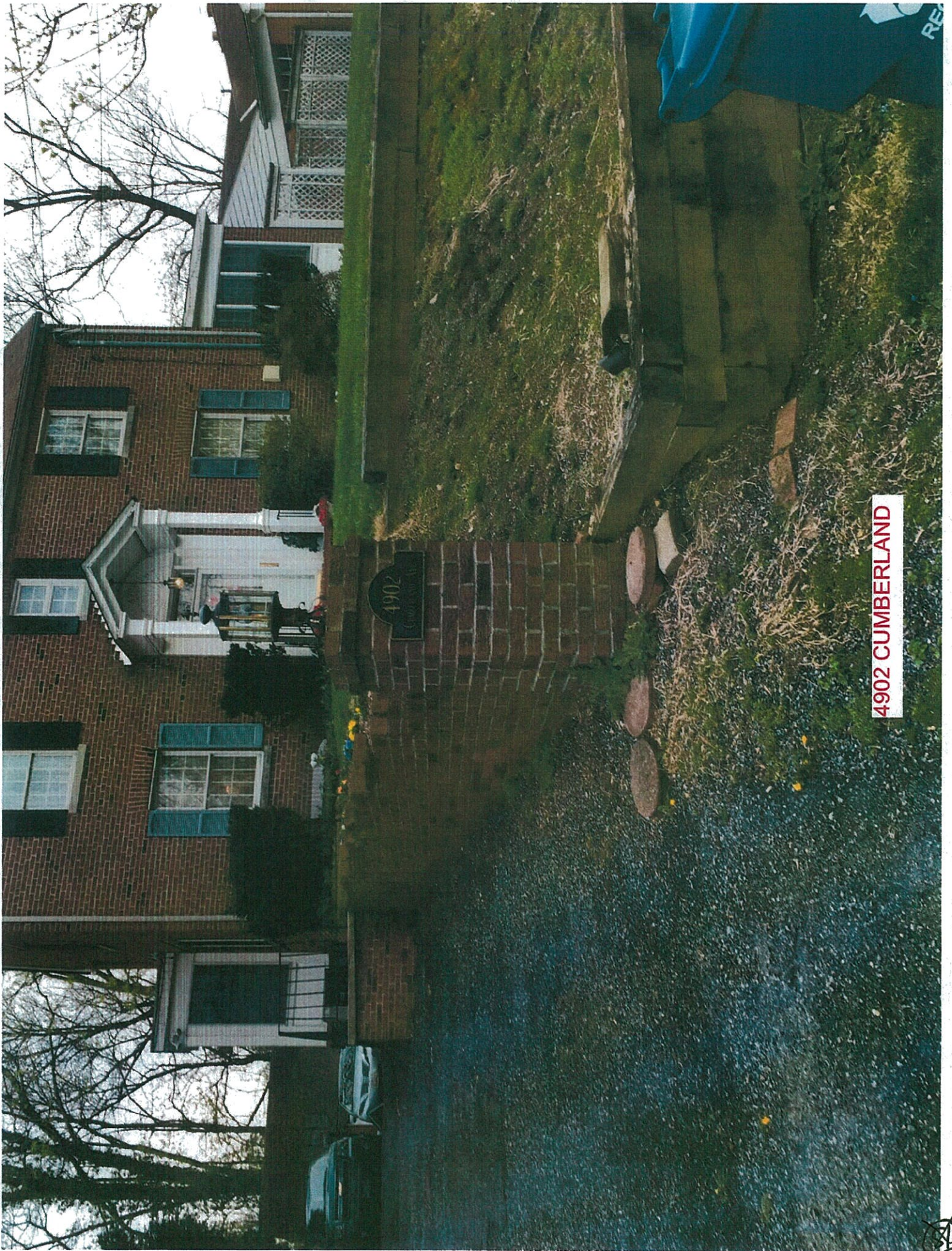
EXISTING PEDESTRIAN
ENTRYWAY



LOCATION OF PROPOSED
PEDESTRIAN ENTRYWAY



LOCATION OF PROPOSED
PEDESTRIAN ENTRYWAY



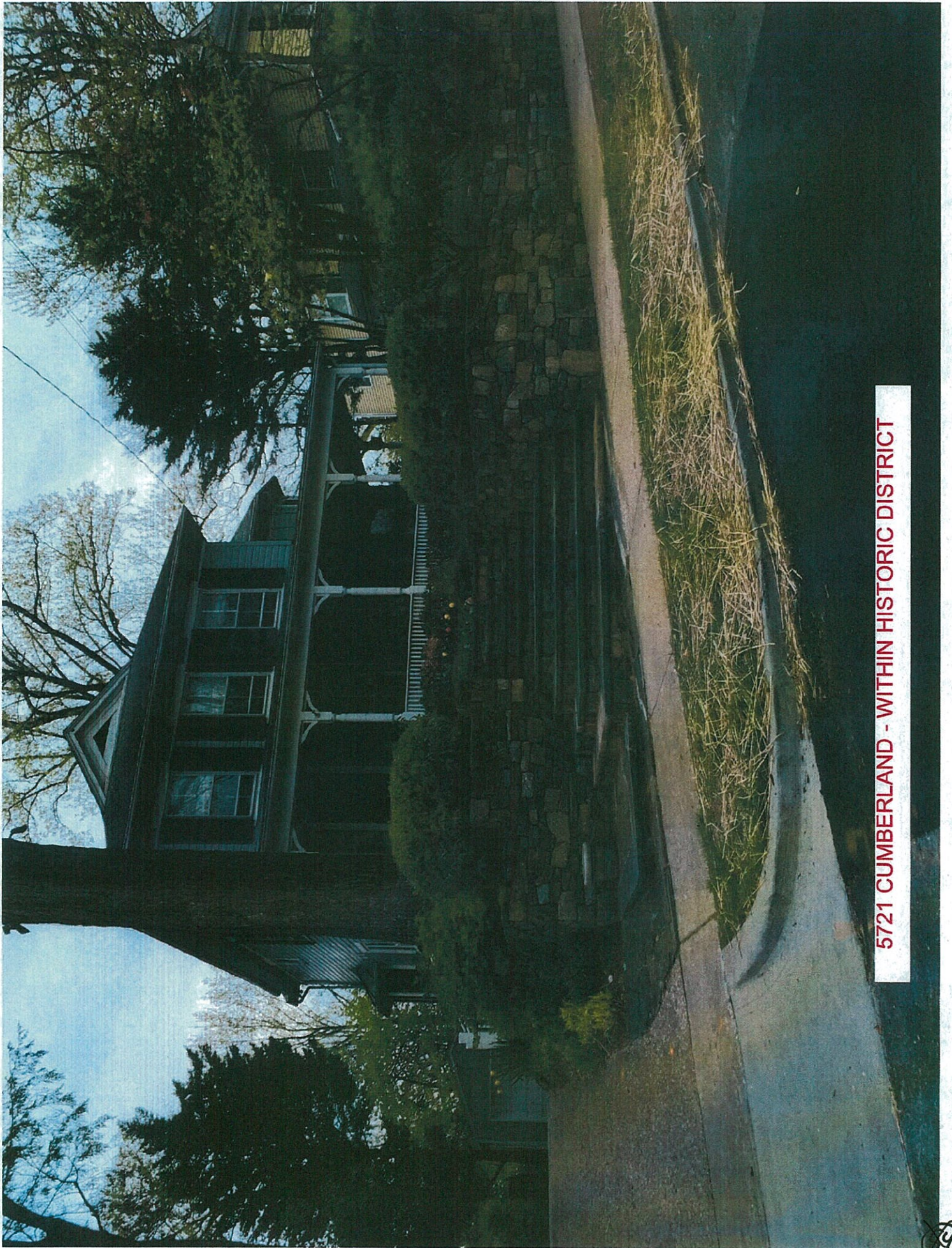
4902 CUMBERLAND



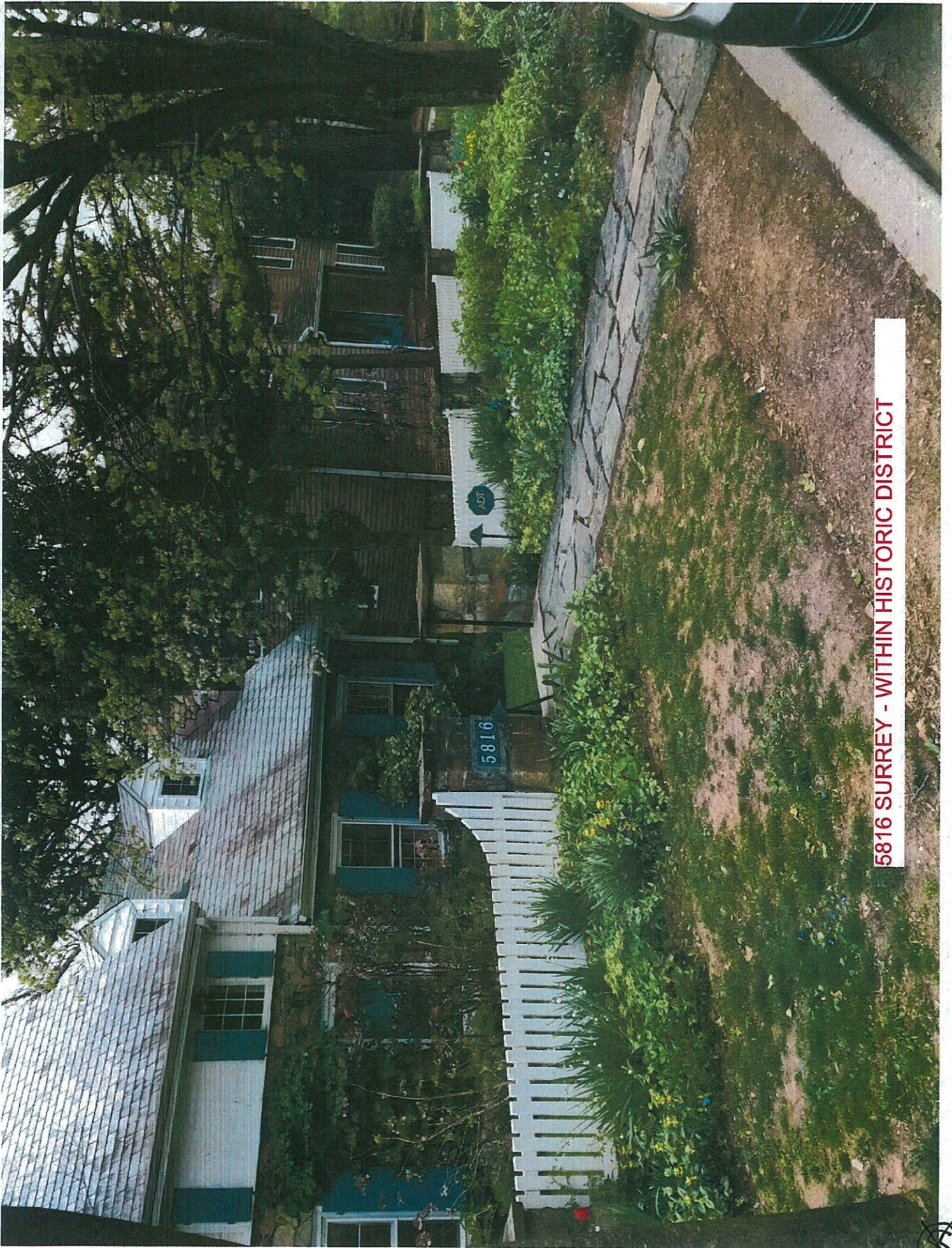
4824 DORSET



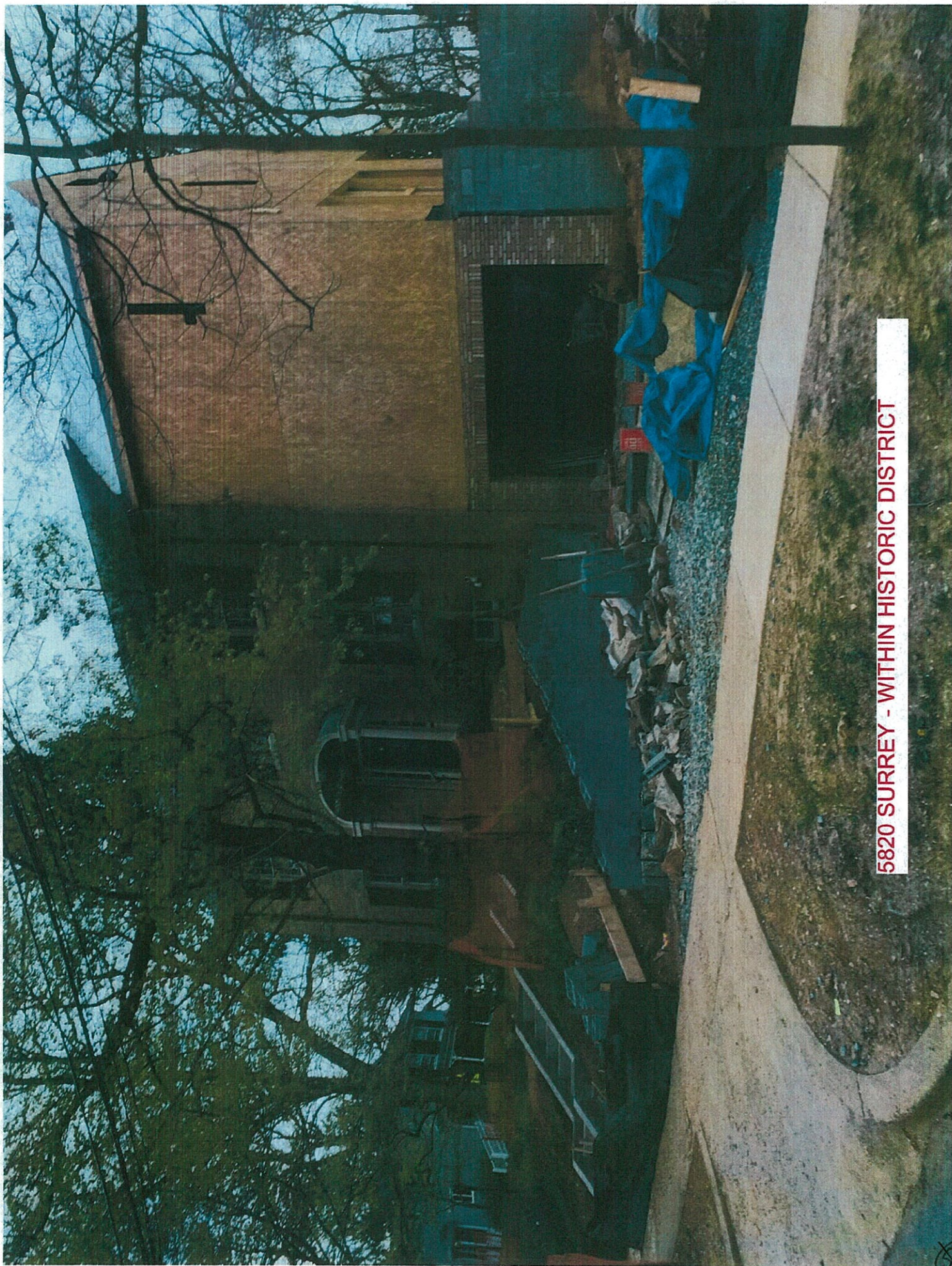
4824 CUMBERLAND



5721 CUMBERLAND - WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICT



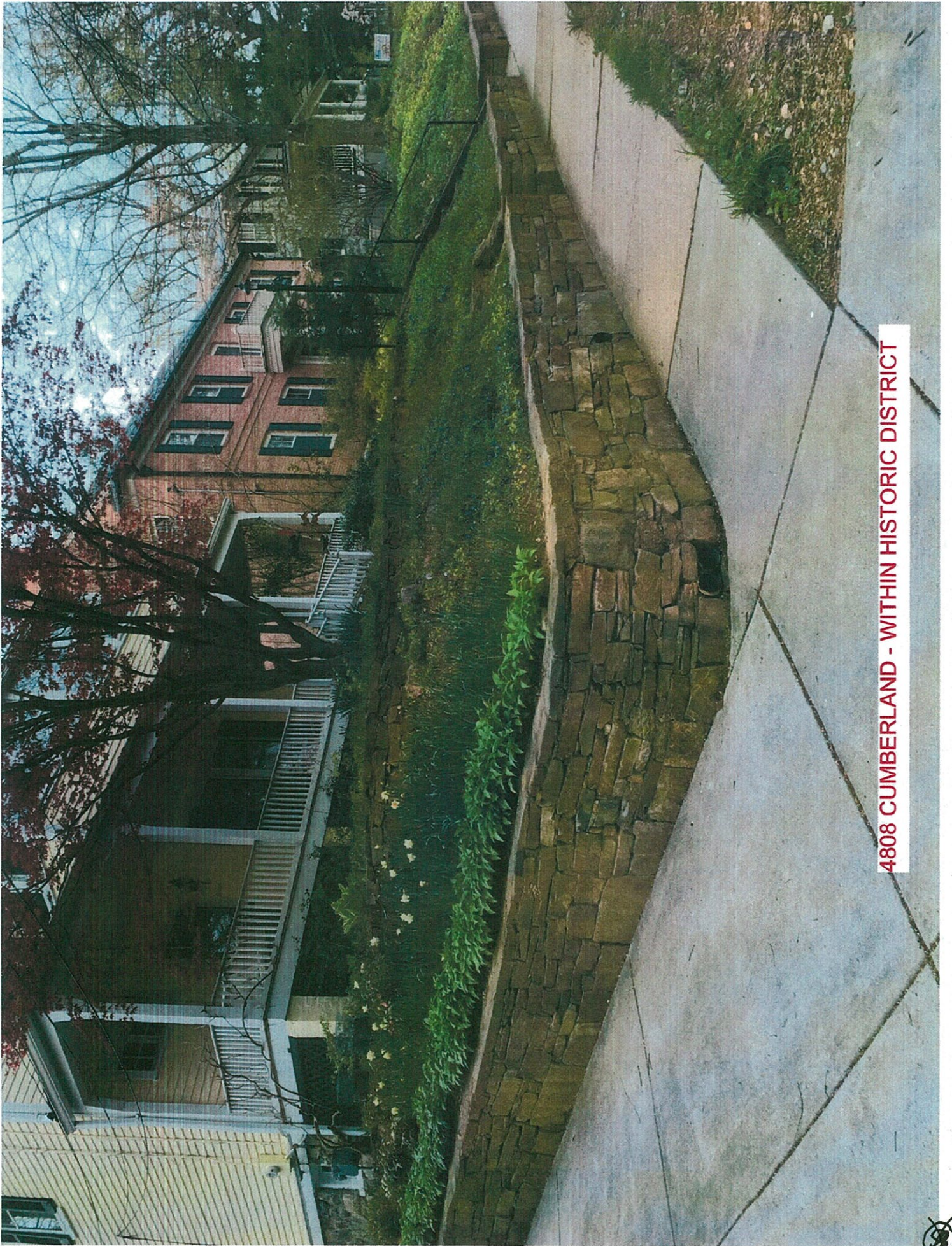
5816 SURREY - WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICT



5820 SURREY - WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICT



5811 CUMBERLAND - WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICT



4808 CUMBERLAND - WITHIN HISTORIC DISTRICT

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

Owner's mailing address

Maya Weil
4807 Dorset Ave
Chevy Chase MD 20815

Owner's Agent's mailing address

Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses

Maya Weil
4807 Dorset Ave
Chevy Chase MD 20815

Jody and Rodd Macklin
4817 Dorset Ave
Chevy Chase MD 20815

Patricia and Robert Gage
4805 Dorset Ave
Chevy Chase MD 20815

Dabney and James Goold
5812 Surrey St
Chevy Chase MD 20815

Leslie and Phyllis Wiesenfelder
4812 Cumberland Ave
Chevy Chase MD 20815

David Brown
4814 Cumberland Ave
Chevy Chase MD 20815

Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses	
Megan Spellacy and Perry Urken 4816 Cumberland Ave Chevy Chase MD 20815	Jay Klug and Jamie Hechinger 4816 Dorset Ave Chevy Chase MD 20815
Nancy Galler 5712 Surrey St Chevy Chase MD 20815	