National Sand and Gravel Association & National Ready Mixed Concrete Association Headquarters

Listing in the Locational Atlas & Index of Historic Sites
Outline

• Relevant historic preservation policies
• Discussion of the building and its history
• Preservation options
• Staff recommendation
**Historic Preservation Ordinance Purpose**

- Identify, designate, and regulate for the purposes of protection sites of architectural, archaeological, and/or cultural value
- Preserve the quality of life, safeguard historical and cultural heritage, strengthen the local economy, and stabilize and improve property values
- Foster civic beauty and to preserve continued utilization of the site for the pleasure of our citizens

**Historic Preservation Designation Criteria**

- Historical and Cultural Significance
- Architectural and Design Significance

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**NSGA & NRMCA Headquarters**
Designation Criteria

Architectural and Design Significance

2.A) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction

2.E) Represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood
Description of the Building
Figure 1: Environmental Setting, 900 Spring Street

NSGA & NRMCA Headquarters
Description of the Headquarters
Historical Significance of 900 Spring Street
NSGA & NRMCA

History

• Organized in 1911 (under a different name); Reorganized as the NSGA in 1923.

• NRMCA organized in 1930.

• Headquarters of both organizations in Washington, D.C. prior to moving to Silver Spring in 1964.

• Associations hire John H. Sullivan, Jr., to design the shared headquarters in Montgomery County.
John H. and Joan Marie Sullivan

- WWII Veteran.
- Graduate of Catholic University School of Architecture.
- Prolific architect in Montgomery County and the region.
Smaller-Scale Brutalism
Corporate Architecture

Corporate architecture can:

- Leverage architectural design to project elements of their goals, vision, and products;
- Visually communicate identity;
- Express an organizational message; and
- Create a presence in a built environment.
Corporate Architecture
"The Man who Made Concrete Beautiful"

John Joseph Earley
“[The building] will make ample provision for housing the staff of the associations and will also allow for utilization of additional space as the requirements of the association make it necessary. The building will symbolize the two industries which the associations represent…”

- Report on the NSGA Directors Meeting, December 1962

“A milestone in the history of NSGA-NRMCA was the completion of the new $460,000 office building in Silver Spring, MD.”

- Report on the NSGA President’s address noted in Pitt & Quarry, April 1965.
Historic Preservation, Redevelopment Schemes, and Sector Plan Guidance
Preservation Options
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<th>Master Plan for Historic Preservation</th>
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<td>Silver Theatre and Shopping Center 8500 Colesville Road</td>
<td>Silver Spring CBD Historic District</td>
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<td>Tastee Diner 8676 Georgia Avenue</td>
<td>National Association of Dryers and Cleaners Institute 8021 Georgia Avenue</td>
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<td>Montgomery Arms Apartments 8627 Fenton and 8700 Colesville Road</td>
<td>Canada Dry Bottling Plant 1201 East-West Highway</td>
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<td>Silver Spring Train Station 8100 Georgia Avenue</td>
<td>Spring Garden Apartments 8001 Eastern Avenue</td>
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<td>Silver Spring Post Office 8412 Georgia Avenue</td>
<td>Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department 8131 Georgia Avenue</td>
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<td>Falkland Apartments 16th Street and East-West Highway</td>
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<td>NE DC/MC Boundary Stone</td>
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<td>Acom Park and the Silver Spring 8060 Newell Street</td>
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Historic Preservation and Placemaking

Historic buildings stand out on the urban landscape; they look different and they resonate with meaning, recalling memories and experiences. Silver Spring’s historic buildings are also good urban neighbors. They are well designed, oriented to the street and pedestrian, because they were built at a human scale.

-- Silver Spring CBD Sector Plan (2000)
Staff Recommendation

Based on the property meeting two designation criteria, list the NSGA and NRMCA Headquarters, 900 Spring Street, in the *Locational Atlas & Index of Historic Sites.*
Questions/Comments

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