MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT

Address: 4201 Jones Bridge Rd., Chevy Chase  
Meeting Date: 10/14/2020

Resource: Contributing Resource  
Report Date: 10/7/2020

Hawkins Lane Historic District

Applicant: Mark Pasion Andrea Glasco  
Public Notice: 9/30/2019

Review: HAWP  
Tax Credit: n/a

Case Number: 35/54-20B  
Staff: Dan Bruechert

Proposal: Driveway Replacement

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

✔ Approve

☐ Approve with conditions

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource to the Hawkins Lane Historic District
STYLE: Traditional
DATE: c.1913 w/ significant Post-WW II modifications

The exact date of construction for the subject property is unknown and it appears that all of Hawkins Lane is unplatted. Staff’s review of deeds show that the property was originally acquired by James Hawkins in 1983 and was subdivided mostly amongst his family members. The subject property was granted to Samuel Hawkins in 1905 and remained in his family until 2017. The only other change noted in the deeds was a 1953 transfer of a portion of the lot to the County; this was undertaken most likely to accommodate the widening of Jones Bridge Rd.

Tax records date the house to 1913, however Staff does not find that date to be appropriate based on the house form and many of the building materials. Based on the use of CMU block on portions of the building, the stucco finish, and many of the windows, Staff estimates that the current appearance dates to sometime c.1950.
PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to remove the existing gravel and asphalt drive and install a tinted concrete drive.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

Hawkins Lane Historic District Development Guidelines
Both paved and unpaved driveways and parking areas can be found on Hawkins Lane, with the majority being unpaved and covered with gravel; the two driveways serving house on Jones Bridge Road are paved…

The Hawkins Lane Historic District Development Guidelines:
New driveways, parking areas, and walkways on Hawkins Lane and Jones Bridge Road should be compatible, in width, appearance and surface covering, with existing driveways, parking areas, and walkways.

The preferred driveway/parking area/walkway surfacing material on Hawkins Lane is gravel or dirt, since these materials are more compatible with the rural character of the district.

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.

(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 the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive
materials or alteration of features, space and spatial relationships that characterize a property will
be avoided.

5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship
that characterize a property will be preserved.

6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of
deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in
design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be
substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.

STAFF DISCUSSION

The subject property is at the northeast corner of Jones Bridge Rd. and Hawkins Lane at the entrance to
the Hawkins Lane Historic District, facing Jones Bridge Rd. To the west of the subject property is the
campus for Walter Reed National Medical Center. Across Jones Bridge Rd. to the south is the north end
of the Columbia Country Club golf course.

Access to the subject property is from either Jones Bridge Rd. or from Hawkins Lane. The section of the
drive accessed off of Hawkins Lane is gravel that has largely eroded. From Jones Bridge Rd. there is a
section of asphalt that changes to gravel along the left side of the house. The applicant proposes to
remove the existing asphalt and excavating the gravel and installing a new tinted concrete drive (in Coal
Light) in dimensions mating the existing.

The Hawkins Lane Historic District Development Guidelines identifies gravel or dirt as the preferred
materials for driveways, parking pads, and walkway surfaces within the district, but notes that both of the
houses that face Jones Bridge Rd. are paved. The Guidelines also state that new driveways should be
compatible with the existing driveways.

Staff finds that the subject property and the property across Hawkins Lane, 4117 Jones Bridge Rd., are
unique within the district because they are oriented towards Jones Bridge Rd. instead of facing Hawkins
Lane. This orientation creates a formal presence on the street with sidewalks. Ordinarily, Staff would not
recommend approving the installation of a cement driveway within the Hawkins Lane Historic District,
because it would negatively impact on the rural character of the historically developed kinship
community. In this instance, however, Staff finds that the proposed paving will replace a section of
existing paving that is directly connected to Jones Bridge Rd (per 24A–8(b)(1) and (d)). Staff additionally
finds the placement of much of the proposed drive will not have a significant impact on the surrounding
district. More than half of the proposed drive will run along the western edge of the house, which is the
western edge of the historic district. This location is not highly visible from the surrounding district.

The section of the drive that runs in front of the house will be visible when entering the district. The drive
and parking area begin where Hawkins Lane transitions from asphalt to gravel. To mitigate the visual
impact of the driveway and parking area, the applicant proposes to tint the concrete a darker color,
identified as ‘Coal Light’ in the provided specifications. The darker tint will help the drive to better blend
in with the surrounding landscape and avoid the bright white appearance of modern concrete (like the sidewalk and curb installed along the front of the property along Jones Bridge Rd.) per 24A-8(b)(2) and as noted in the Guidelines. Staff finds that this level of mitigation is sufficient in this instance and recommends the HPC approve the HAWP.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the HAWP application under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b)(1), (2), and (d), having found that the proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resources 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 #2, 9, and 10;

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 dan.bruechert@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit.
APPLICATION FOR
HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT

Contact Email: MARKPASSION.003@email.com
Contact Person: MARK PASSION
Daytime Phone No.: 301-807-9331

Tax Account No.: 424495

Name of Property Owner: MARK PASSION
Daytime Phone No.: 301-807-9331

Address: 4201 JONES BRIDGE RD BETHESDA 20815

Construction: VARIOUS-WAITING ON AGA DCC
Contractor Registration No.: ANDREA GLASCO
Agent for Owner: ANDREA GLASCO
Daytime Phone No.: 301-380-6368

LOCATION OF WORK

House Number: 4201 JONES BRIDGE RD
Nearest Cross Street: HAWKINS LANE
Loc: 118 Block: 11A Subdivision: MAP HP31 Parcel: P945

PART ONE - TYPE OF PERMIT, ACTION AND USE

- Conshit
- Demolition
- Alterations/Remodel
- Move
- Revision
- Repair
- Recondition
- New Structure
- Other: TREES

Construction cost estimate: $50,000

1C. If this is a revision of a previously approved active permit, see Permit 

PART TWO - COMPLETE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ADDITIONS

2A. Type of sewage disposal: 01 On Site 02 Septic 03 Other:

2B. Type of water supply: 01 On Site 02 Well 03 Other:

PART THREE - COMPLETE ONLY FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION OR RETAINING WALL

3A. Height: feet inches

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/erement

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 agent:
Date: 8/29/17

Approved:
For Chairperson, Historic Preservation Commission

Disapproved:
Signature:
Date:

Application/Permit No.: Data Filed:
Data Issued:

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INSTRUCTIONS
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES

HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT APPLICATION
Application Date: 8/17/2020

Application No: 923750
AP Type: HISTORIC
Customer No: 1303318

Affidavit Acknowledgement
The Homeowner is the Primary applicant
This application does not violate any covenants and deed restrictions

Primary Applicant Information
Address: 4201 JONES BRIDGE RD
CHEVY CHASE, MD 20815
Homeowner: Pasion
Homeowner Pasion (Primary)

Historic Area Work Permit Details
Work Type: ALTER
Scope of Work: Replace existing gravel/asphalt driveway with concrete driveway.
The color of raw materials or a sample strip is subject to variation from the color chip reproduction above. Colors above are as accurate as can be produced using the finest materials of reproduction. Job site variations from the above color may occur due to the differences in the local raw materials and methods of application. Before final color selection is made, a job site panel should be erected and approved.