MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION					
	STAFF REPOR	<u>r</u>			
Address:	23310 Frederick Road, Clarksburg	Meeting Date:	1/6/2021		
Resource:	Contributing Resource	Report Date:	12/30/2020		
	Clarksburg Historic District	Public Notice:	12/23/2020		
Applicant:	JAISAI Properties	T C 14	NT/A		
	(Ben Dorsey, Architect)	Tax Credit:	N/A		
Review:	Preliminary Consultation	Staff:	Michael Kyne		
Permit Number: N/A					

Preliminary Consultation

PROPOSAL: For conceptual review of siting and design for a new daycare center

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the applicants make any revisions based upon the HPC's comments and return for a second preliminary consultation concurrent with the next phase of preliminary and/or site plan review.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

SIGNIFICANCE:	Contributing Resource within the Clarksburg Historic District
STYLE:	Queen Anne
DATE:	c. 1891-1900



Fig. 1: Subject property.

PROPOSAL:

The applicants propose to construct a new daycare/preschool center within the environmental setting of the Clarksburg Historic District.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES:

When reviewing alterations and new construction within the Clarksburg 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 *Vision of Clarksburg: A Long-Range Preservation Plan (Vision)*, 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

- (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 ensure 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.
- (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

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:

- 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.

Background & Site Constraints

The subject property is a c. 1891-1900 Queen Anne-style Contributing Resource within the Clarksburg Historic District. The house was built by Clarksburg physician Dr. James Deetz and his wife Sarah. The property is known as Hammer Hill, which was the tract name given to the land in 1752. The property is located on the west side of Frederick Road (MD 355) at the southern end of the Clarksburg Historic District, where Frederick Road (MD 355) intersects with Stringtown Road. The house is located on top of a knoll with a deep setback from Frederick Road, and it is accessed via a long driveway. The existing driveway is paved and is at least 20' wide, making it compliant with current fire department requirements. There is an existing, non-original outbuilding with red siding located to the north (right side) of the historic house. The owner of Hammer Hill recently undertook a comprehensive rehabilitation and restoration of the house, and it is utilized as a doctor's office. The owner is the applicant for the newly proposed daycare center.

This application has been discussed internally with County staff through the Planning Department's Design Review Committee (DRC). The purpose of review at the DRC is to solicit input from all County agencies, including but not limited to Planning, MCDOT, WSSC, Fire & Rescue, and Parks, among others, prior to an applicant filing a development proposal. Prior to bringing the case to the DRC, the owner discussed the site constraints and zoning limitations with the HP Office.

Proposal

The applicants propose to construct a new daycare/preschool center at the rear of the subject property. The daycare/preschool center will be oriented toward Stringtown Road and partially located on two lots – the subject property lot and an adjacent undeveloped lot to the west, which is protected by the East Environmental Overlay Zone. The proposed location was recommended by Montgomery Planning and HPC staff to be consistent with the setback of the majority of properties within the historic district and the existing development on Stringtown Road. The new construction cannot be located entirely within the undeveloped lot to the west, due to impervious surface limits.

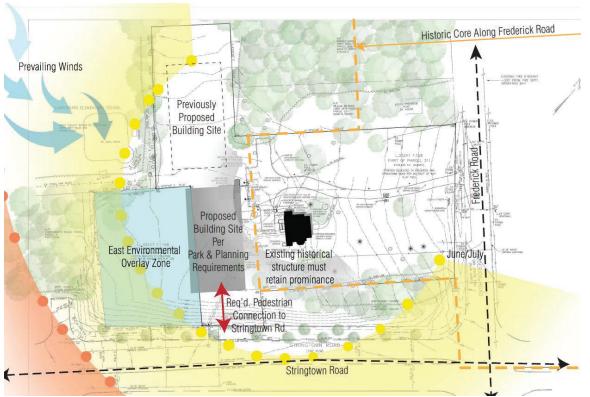


Fig. 2: Proposed building location.

No work is proposed to the historic Hammer Hill house, but the existing, non-original outbuilding will be removed. The current HP Supervisor as well as the former Supervisor evaluated this outbuilding in 2016 and again in 2018, and determined that it did not date to the period of significance of the house or historic district. Additionally, two trees are proposed to be removed from the proposed parking lot area northwest of the historic house. Grading will also be required for a pedestrian access ramp from Stringtown Road, parking areas, pedestrian circulation, stormwater management, the building footprint, and adjacent playground area.

The proposed new daycare/preschool center will be a one-story, 13,500 sf building. It will have a contemporary design, but it will be compatible in scale, proportion, and materials with the historic house and with the architectural character of the historic district. Elements the applicants considered in the proposed design include the character defining features of Hammer Hill and the Clarksburg Historic District, the HPC's design guidelines, and the standardized architectural program developed by the Primrose School (the proposed daycare/preschool center will be a Primrose School, but it will be managed by an independent operator).

The proposed building's design is intended to reference, but not duplicate, the designs of late 18th through early 20th century rural and agricultural outbuildings. Other design strategies intended to ensure compatibility include low scale, staggered massing, integration of mechanical equipment within the building envelope, the use of screen walls, and the use of traditional and compatible new materials (i.e., standing seam metal roofing, aluminum, and fiber cement siding).

The applicant has submitted three concepts for the HPC's consideration, with the main differences being the expression of the roof and the building finishes. Concepts One and Two are similar, in that they both feature a non-continuous, two-part gable roof, with a flat roof between. As viewed directly from the front, the northernmost roof form in Concept One will be directly behind the historic house, whereas, in Concept Two the two roof forms will frame the historic house. In Concept One, the gable ends will be

covered with fiber cement reveal panels and vertical aluminum screening, while in Concept Two the gable ends will be covered with fiber cement reveal panels and diamond metal wall shingles. Concept Three features one continuous roof, with fiber cement board and batten and diamond metal wall shingles on the gable ends.

Staff's Findings

Staff is generally supportive of the applicants' proposal. As noted, staff recommended the proposed building location, finding it appropriate, given the site constraints and consistent setback. Of particular note regarding setbacks, the *Vision* states "[t]he perception and historic character within the Clarksburg Historic District is that the houses are set close to the road with regular intervals between them. This characteristic is one of the most important elements that unifies the streetscape."

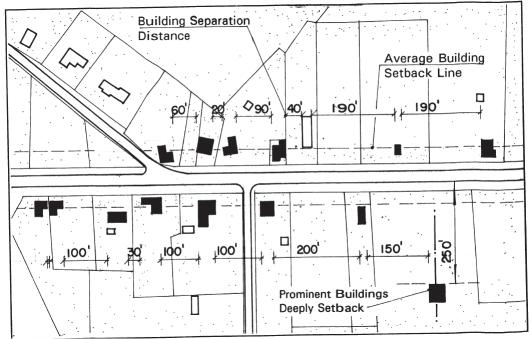


Fig. 3: Pattern of building setbacks and building spacing from the Vision.

Staff also supports the approach of taking visual cues from historic rural and agricultural outbuildings, while incorporating modern features. This approach is consistent with *Standard* #3. Staff notes that, according to the *Vision*, 73% of the historic buildings within the historic district have gable roof forms, demonstrating the general compatibility of the proposed roof forms.

The proposed new building will be one-story, while the *Vision* notes that the historic houses within the historic district all range from two- to two-and-one-half stories. Although the proposed new construction will be clearly visible when viewing the historic house from the primary public right-of-way of Frederick Road (MD 355), its relatively limited scale and massing will reduce its potential to overwhelm or compete with the historic house. Future plan submissions that include detailed renderings from all perspectives will aid this analysis.

Regarding the three submitted concepts, staff finds that Concept Two is the most successful. As noted above, the two non-continuous roof forms that frame the historic house when viewed directly from the front create a less disruptive view of the historic house, allowing its entire roof form and massing to be discerned against the skyline. Staff finds that traditional horizontal siding or board and batten is a more compatible treatment for the gable ends. However, given the building's orientation, these materials will

Staff notes that, in 2018, the HPC reviewed a proposal for the construction of a filling station, carwash, and 3,741 sf convenience store at the rear of 23200 Stringtown Road, a Contributing Resource known as the Day House. This property is directly across from Hammer Hill (on the east side of Frederick Road (MD 355) at the southern end of the Clarksburg Historic District, where Frederick Road (MD 355) intersects with Stringtown Road), and that proposal shared some similarities with the current project. Specifically, both were commercial projects with similar intensities of use, and the principal building was to be setback close to the street. Both proposed buildings also have a modern design, while taking visual cues from historic buildings. Although the 23200 Stringtown Road project never received a formal HAWP (the applicant abandoned the project), staff and the HPC were generally supportive of the proposal, finding it to be appropriate and compatible infill construction outside the historic core at the southern entrance of the historic district.¹

¹ Link to September 5, 2018 preliminary consultation staff report for 23200 Stringtown Road: <u>https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/II.B-23200-Stringtown-Road-Clarksburg.pdf</u> Link to September 5, 2018 preliminary consultation audio/video transcript for 23200 Stringtown Road: <u>http://mncppc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=0828a68e-b78f-11e8-a2a6-0050569183fa</u> Link to October 24, 2018 preliminary consultation staff report for 23200 Stringtown Road: <u>https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/II.C-23200-Stringtown-Rd.-Clarksburg.pdf</u> Link to October 24, 2018 preliminary consultation audio/video transcript for 23200 Stringtown Road: <u>https://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/II.C-23200-Stringtown-Rd.-Clarksburg.pdf</u> Link to October 24, 2018 preliminary consultation audio/video transcript for 23200 Stringtown Road: <u>http://mncppc.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=ec4eae7f-d92e-11e8-9302-0050569183fa</u>



Fig. 4: 23200 Stringtown Road project site plan (top) and proposed street elevation (bottom).

Staff seeks the Commission's concurrence regarding the following:

- 1. The appropriateness of the proposed building location, given the site constraints and existing setbacks within the historic district and on Stringtown Road.
- 2. Guidance regarding the preferred Concept (One, Two, or Three) and materials/finishes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the applicants make any revisions based upon the HPC's comments and return for a second preliminary consultation concurrent with the next phase of preliminary and/or site plan review.

	For Staff only: HAWP#
APPLICA	DATE ACCIONED
HISTORIC AREA HISTORIC PRESERVA 301.563	WORK PERMIT
APPLICANT:	
Name: JAISAI Properties	_{E-mail:} pbolarum@gmail.com
Address: 4007 Broadstone Street	_{E-mail:} pbolarum@gmail.com _{city:} <u>Frederick</u> _{zip:} 21704
Daytime Phone: 240-423-3615	Tax Account No.: 02-00021673
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):	
Name: Ben Dorsey/SKA Studio	E-mail: bdorsey@skastudio.com
Address: 47 Randall Street Suite 2	_{city:} <u>Annapolis</u> _{zip:} 21401
Daytime Phone: 443-569-6203	Contractor Registration No.:
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of H	Historic Property 13-10-11
Is the Property Located within an Historic District	<pre>Yes/District Name_ClarksburgNo/Individual Site Name</pre>
Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Envir map of the easement, and documentation from t	ronmental Easement on the Property? If YES, include a he Easement Holder supporting this application.
Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner App (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If Y supplemental information.	rovals / Reviews Required as part of this Application? 'ES, include information on these reviews as
Building Number: 23310 Street:	Frederick Road
	t Cross Street: Stringtown Road
Lot: Block: Subdivi	ision: Parcel:
TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist for proposed work are submitted with this a be accepted for review. Check all that apply:	
New Construction Deck/Porch	
Addition V Fence	Tree removal/planting
✓ Demolition ✓ Hardscape/ ✓ Grading/Excavation Roof	
	Other:
	the foregoing application, that the application is correct by with plans reviewed and approved by all necessary
	his to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.



Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures, landscape features, or other significant features of the property:

The project site spans two lots, one protected by the East Environmental Overlay Zone, and the other the site of Hammer Hill, a contributing resource of the Clarksburg Historic District. Hammer Hill stands prominently on a knoll facing Frederick Road where the existing drive leads up to the historic building. While built as a private residence, it currently serves as a medical office. Just beyond the existing parking lot, stands a small outbuilding clad in red siding. The site has large areas of open space, but there are some mature trees scattered around the existing buildings. Hammer Hill is significant to the Clarksburg Historic District because it departs from the earlier vernacular traditions of the town, leading to the belief that it was professionally designed. Its prominence on the site, particular in its relationship to Frederick Road is important in retaining the historic character of the site and of the district.

Description of Work Proposed: Please give an overview of the work to be undertaken:

Applicant is requesting preliminary consultation in the design development for a new daycare/preschool center to be located to the rear of Hammer Hill, a contributing element to the Clarksburg Historic District. The daycare/preschool center will be oriented towards Stringtown Road in a nonhistorical area. No work is proposed to the Hammer Hill House and within the primary viewshed from the historic house to the historic district. Contemporary design is proposed for the daycare/preschool center that will be compatible in scale, proportion and materials with the main house and with the architectural character of the historic district. Factors considered in the development of the proposed design scenarios submitted for discussion include the character defining features of the historic site, HPC design guidelines, and the standardized architectural program developed by Primrose School.

The work proposed for the site includes all steps necessary to construct a new daycare/preschool center with adequate parking accessible from the existing Hammer Hill driveway, pedestrian access from Stringtown Rd., and a secure playground. The proposed plan will require the demolition of an existing outbuilding and the removal of several trees. Minimal grading of the site will occur for the new pedestrian ramp from

Stringtown Road, parking areas and pedestrian circulation, storm-water management, the building footprint and adjacent playground area.

The design scenarios for the one-story, 13,500 sf, daycare/preschool center have been developed to reference, but not duplicate, the designs of secondary, functional support buildings typical of the period of significance of the Clarksburg Historic District. Design strategies incorporated into the scenarios include low scale, staggered massing, integration of mechanicals within the building envelope, use of screen walls, and use of materials.

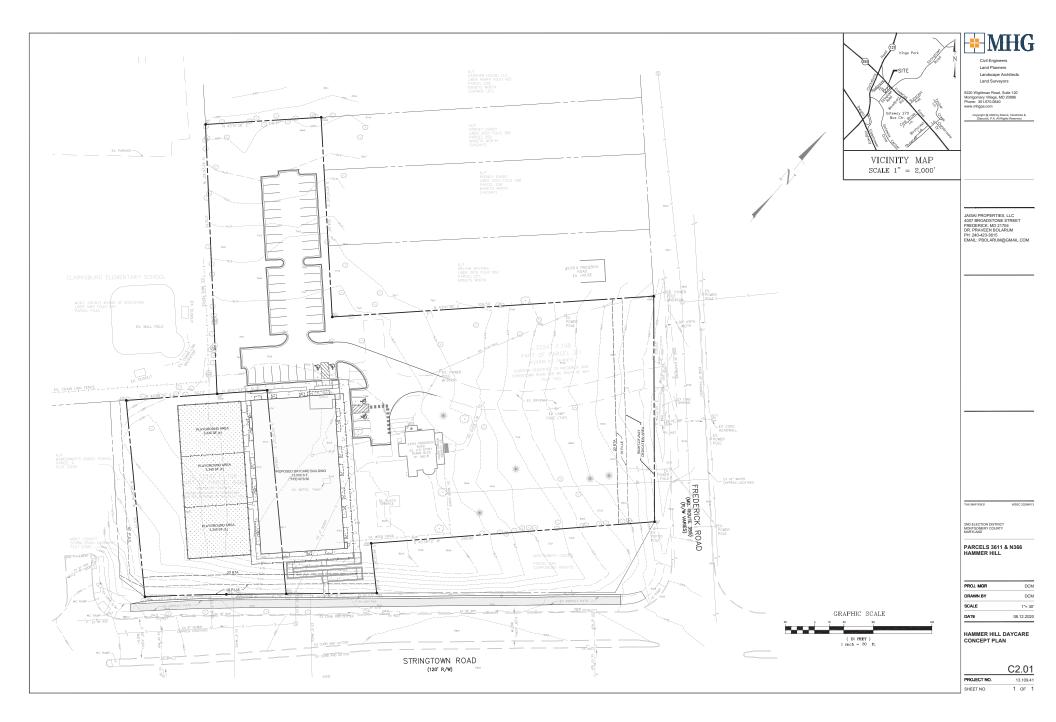
The site constraints limit the location of the daycare/preschool building to the west of the historic house. As such, the daycare/preschool building becomes a back drop to the Hammer Hill house when viewed from Frederick Rd. The proposed scenarios for the daycare/preschool building design are intended to: 1. visually limit overall scale and massing; 2. not introduce roof forms and architectural elements that will visually compete with the architectural elements of the historic building; 3) be of an informal architecture that will read as secondary to the architecture of the historic building.

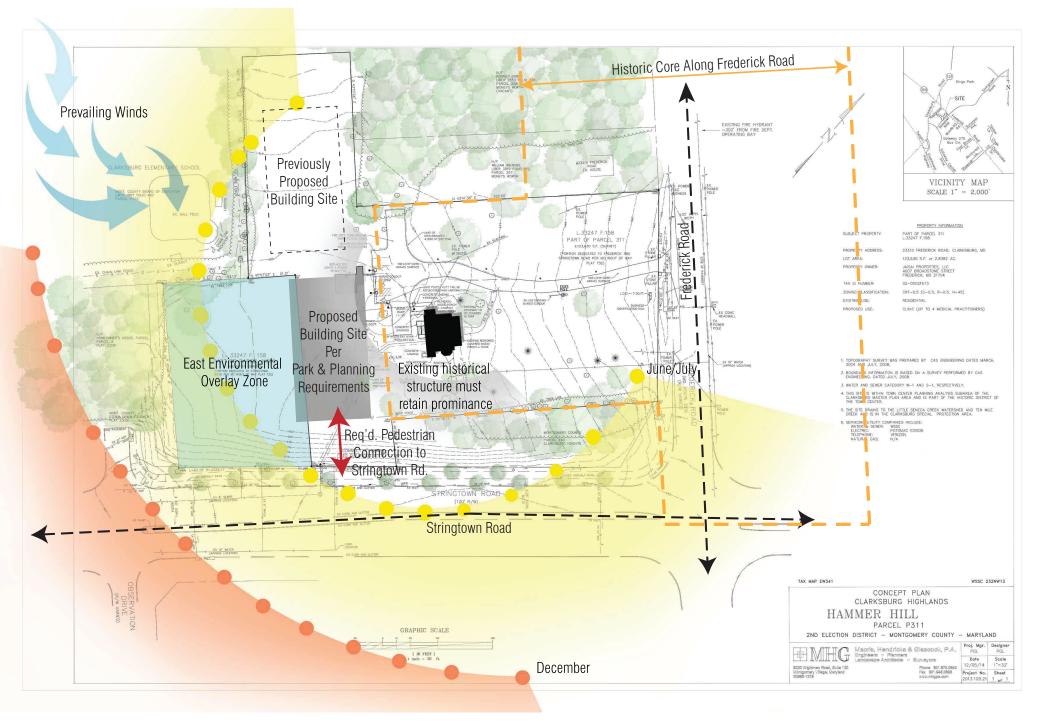
Work Item 1: Demolition			
Description of Current Condition: Small outbuilding clad in red siding, white trim, and a standing seam metal roof. Mature growth deciduous trees around the existing parking lot.	Proposed Work: Demolish the existing outbuilding to provide space for the new daycare center. Remove two (2) trees from the proposed parking footprint.		
Work Item 2: Grading and Sitework	<u></u>		
Description of Current Condition: The affected area of the site has a steep grade coming up from Stringtown Road that then flattens to a level, mildly sloping open space, where the parking and daycare center will be constructed.	Proposed Work: Grading of the topography to create a new pedestrian ramp from Stringtown Road, adequate parking, and storm-water management systems. Also, grading for the building slab and playground equipment area.		

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escription of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:
Hammer Hill stands on a knoll facing northeast, with prominent views from Frederick Road, where the existing drive leads up to the Queen Anne Style building, a six (6) space parking area and outbuilding beyond. The site has large areas of open space, with a number of mature trees scattered around the existing buildings.	Construction of the new daycare facility, playground area with perimeter fencing, parking, and pedestrian ramp and pathways: Refer to Description of Work Proposed above for additional information.

HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

	Required Attachments						
Proposed Work	I. Written Description	2. Site Plan	3. Plans/ Elevations	4. Material Specifications	5. Photographs	6. Tree Survey	7. Property Owner Addresses
New Construction	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Additions/ Alterations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Demolition	*	*	*		*		*
Deck/Porch	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fence/Wall	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Driveway/ Parking Area	*	*		*	*	*	*
Grading/Exc avation/Land scaing	*	*		*	*	*	*
Tree Removal	*	*		*	*	*	*
Siding/ Roof Changes	*	*	*	*	*		*
Window/ Door Changes	*	*	*	*	*		*
Masonry Repair/ Repoint	*	*	*	*	*		*
Signs	*	*	*	*	*		*















Proposed Site looking to Stringtown Rd.

Clarksburg Daycare Center 23100 Stringtown Road Clarksburg, MD PROJECT # 10272



Proposed Site from Stringtown Rd.



Proposed Site from Stringtown Rd.



Proposed Site from Stringtown Rd.





Hammer Hill Drive



Hammer Hill with Building Site in Background



Hammer Hill with Building Site in Background



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Primrose School - Waco, TX



Primrose School - Denver, CO



Primrose School - Seattle, WA

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Primrose School - Ashburn, VA



Primrose School - Chantilly, VA



Primrose School - Gambrills, MD

09/25/20 PRECEDENTS



Historic Clarksburg School



Clarksburg Elementary School



Clarksburg Elementary School

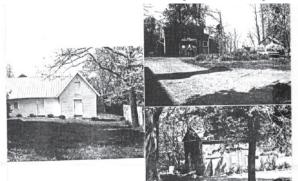


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Clarksburg Character Defining Features



Clarksburg Outbuildings











Waters Farm Gable Roof Form



Dowden's Ordinary Ghost Structure Timber Framing



Clapboard Siding



Wood Novelty Siding



Materiality & Natural Lighting

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09/25/20 PRECEDENTS



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Yountville Town Center & Library, Siegel & Strain Architects



Mt. Hood Community College - Early Childhood Center, Mahlum Architects





Environmental Nature Center Preschool, LPA Design Studio





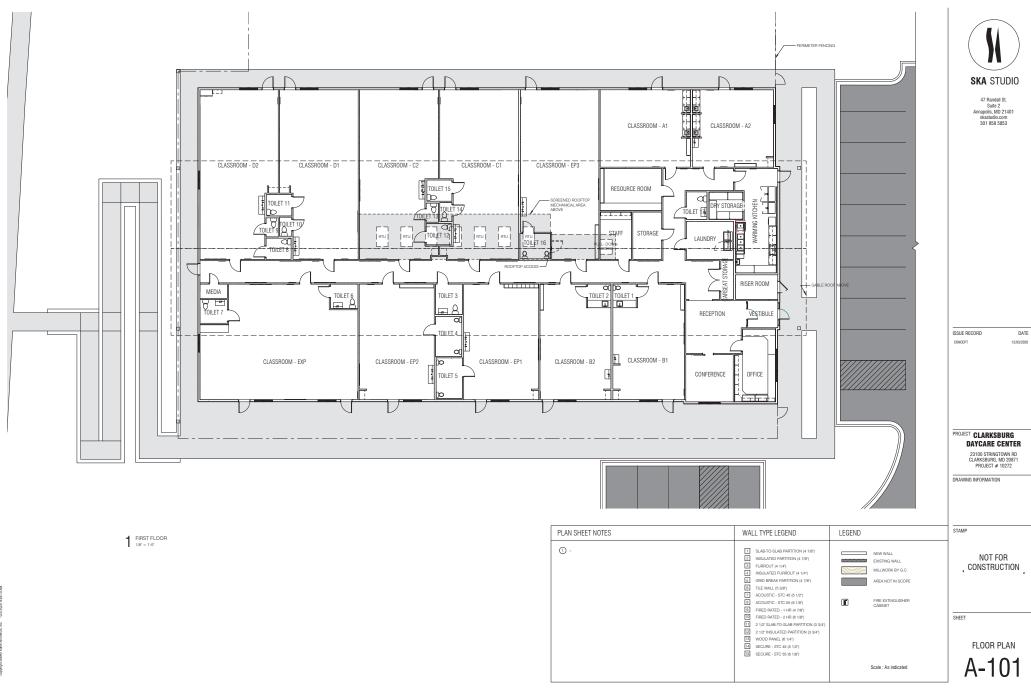
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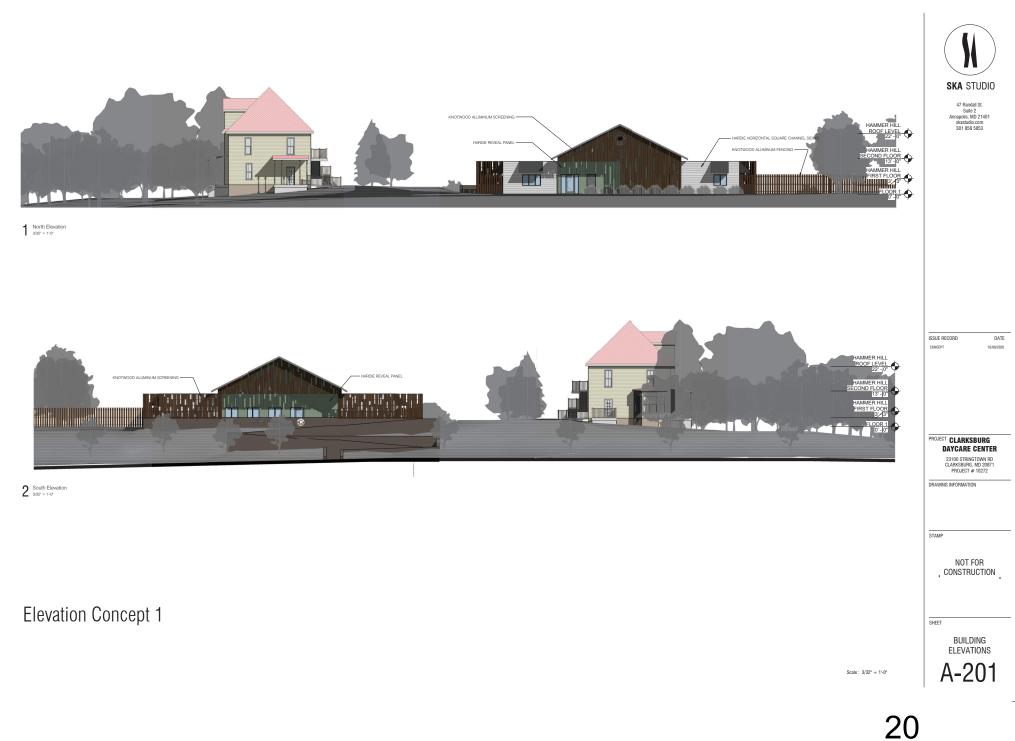




Clarksburg Daycare Center 23100 Stringtown Road Clarksburg, MD PROJECT # 10272

09/25/20 **CONCEPTS**











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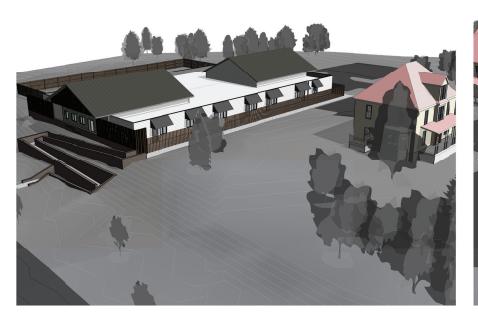
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PROJECT CLARKSBURG DAYCARE CENTER 23100 STINIGTOWN RD CLARKSBURG, MD 20871 PROJECT # 10272 DRAWING INFORMATION

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Elevation Concept 1



ISSUE RECORD

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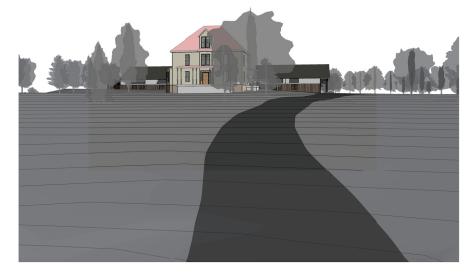
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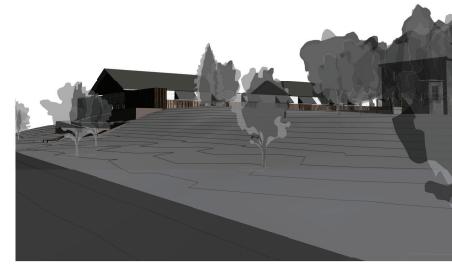
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VIEW FROM FREDERICK ENTRANCE

2 VIEW FROM STRINGTOWN ENTRANCE

Elevation Concept 1

23

Scale :









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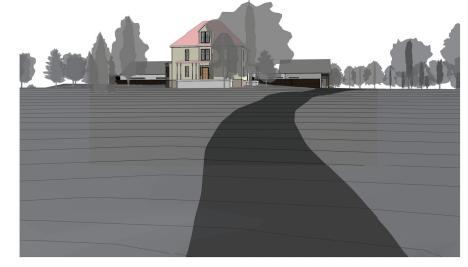
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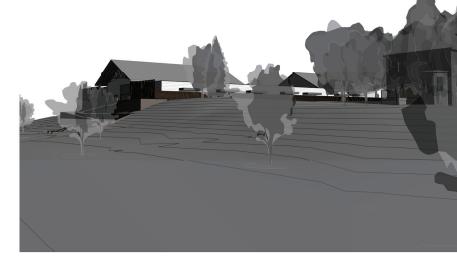
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VIEW FROM FREDERICK ENTRANCE



 $2^{\text{VIEW FROM STRINGTOWN}}$

Elevation Concept 2

Scale :

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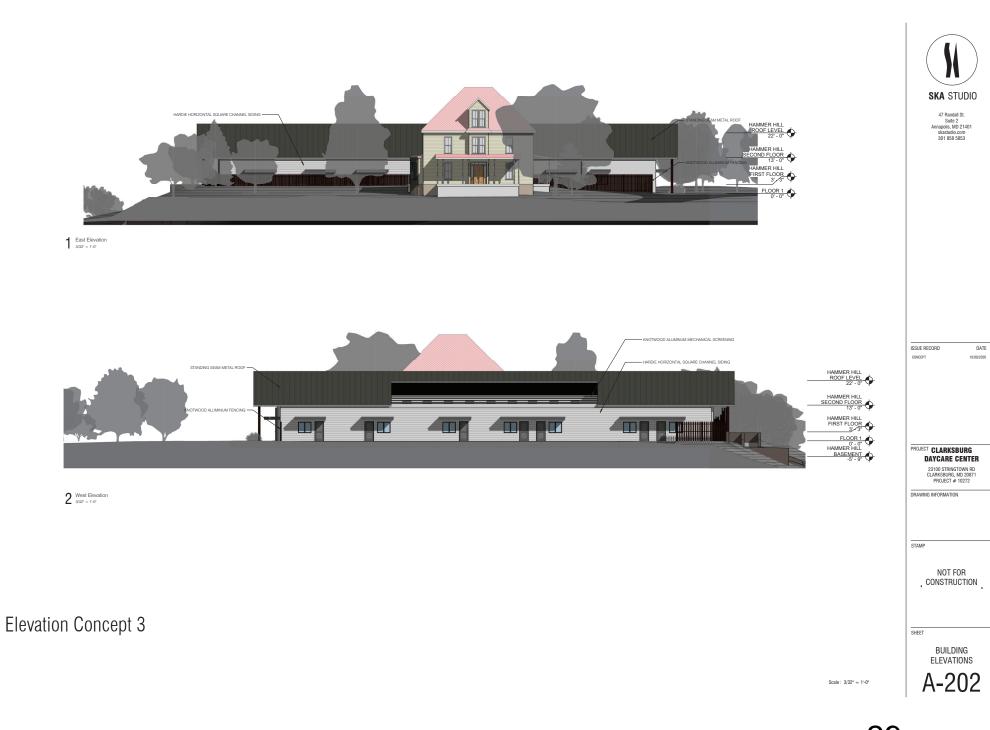
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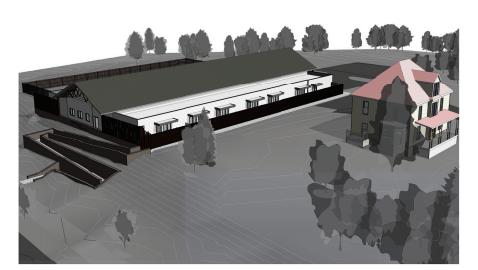




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PROJECT CLARKSBURG DAYCARE CENTER 23100 STRINGTOWN RD CLARKSBURG, MD 20871 PROJECT # 10272 DRAWING INFORMATION





Elevation Concept 3

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Scale :



ISSUE RECORD

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VIEW FROM FREDERICK ENTRANCE

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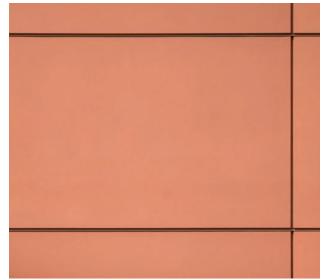
Elevation Concept 3

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Scale :



Artisan Siding Square Channel

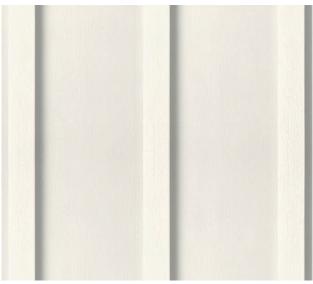




Diamond Shaped Fish-Scale Metal Wall Shingles



12/04/20 CONCEPT MATERIALS



Board and Batten Siding



Standing Seam Metal Roof

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Knotwood Aluminum Screening

Hardie Reveal Panels



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