MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
STAFF REPORT  

Address: 9 Chevy Chase Circle, Chevy Chase  
Resource: Master Plan Site #35/13-001A  
Newlands-Corby Mansion  
Applicant: Adrienne Arsht  
(Jim Ochs, Agent)  
Review: HAWP  
Case Number: 944949 & 946151  
Meeting Date: 4/14/2021  
Report Date: 4/7/2021  
Public Notice: 3/31/2021  
Tax Credit: N/A  
Staff: Michael Kyne  

PROPOSAL: New accessory structure and garage alterations  

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:  
Staff recommends that the HPC approve the HAWP application.  

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:  
SIGNIFICANCE: Master Plan Site #35/13-001A, Newlands-Corby Mansion  
STYLE: Tudor Revival  
DATE: c. 1893, w/ c. 1909-1914 renovations  

Fig. 1: Subject property.  
The Newlands-Corby Mansion is one of the first houses built by the Chevy Chase Land Company. The house was designed by architect Leon E. Dessez (best known for designing the Naval Observatory) for Francis G. Newlands, congressman and senator from Nevada, organizer and first president of the Chevy Chase Club, and one of the Chevy Chase Land Company’s developers. The original house is thought to
have been a collaboration by nationally-renowned Philadelphia architect, Lindley Johnson, and the noted Washington architect, Leon Dessez, who also designed the Vice President’s mansion in Washington. Newlands lived in the house from 1893 to 1898.

In 1909, the house was sold to William S. Corby, who was one of the heirs to the Corby "Mother's Bread" fortune. Corby renamed the house Ishipiming, which is a Chippewa word meaning high ground. Corby hired Arthur Heaton, the first supervising architect of Washington National Cathedral, to renovate the house. The renovations, which occurred between 1911 and 1914, included gutting the center of the house to create a 30’ high hall with an Aeolian Duo-Art Organ. Heaton’s plans for the house are now housed at the Library of Congress. In 1915, Corby purchased an adjacent lot, expanding the property to nearly two acres.

This property was designated as an Individual Master Plan site separate from the Chevy Chase Historic District in 1989 in recognition of its extraordinary architectural and historical significance. The Corby Mansion is historically significant as one of the first houses built in Chevy Chase and because of its association with Senator Francis B. Newlands and William Corby. It also derives architectural importance from its classic Tudor Revival styling and its prominence as a focal point of entry into the County from Washington, DC at Chevy Chase Circle. The relationship of the architecture and landscape design of the house and the Chevy Chase Circle is particularly significant and views to the property are an important character defining aspect of this historic site.

BACKGROUND:

The applicants previously submitted an application for a preliminary consultation, which was reviewed by the Commission at the March 25, 2020 HPC meeting. The preliminary consultation application was for alterations to the historic house and garage and construction of new fencing. The Commission fully supported the proposed alterations to the historic house, which were subsequently approved via a HAWP at the April 22, 2020 HPC meeting. The applicants subsequently appeared before the Commission for a second preliminary consultation regarding fencing and garage alterations at the June 29, 2020 HPC meeting (continued from the June 24, 2020 HPC meeting).

PROPOSAL:

The applicants propose gazebo construction and garage alterations at the subject property.

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 for Rehabilitation ("Standards"), and pertinent guidance in applicable master plans. The pertinent information in these documents, incorporated in their entirety by reference herein, is outline below.

1 Link to the March 25, 2020 HPC meeting audio/video transcript:
2 Link to the June 29, 2020 HPC meeting audio/video transcript:
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 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.

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.” Because the property is a Master Plan Site, the Commission’s focus in reviewing the proposal should be the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation. The applicable 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.

5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.
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:**

In the June 29, 2020 preliminary consultation staff report, staff expressed support for the following proposed garage alterations, which were consistent with the Commission’s recommendations at the March 25, 2020 HPC meeting:

- Removal of the existing louver shutters and restoration of the existing wood windows in the south elevation dormers.
- Removal of the non-original vinyl infill windows on the south elevation and extension of the openings, allowing for the installation of wood carriage style-doors with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.
- Replacement of the existing non-original aluminum garage doors with wood carriage-style doors with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.
- Replacement of the existing non-original aluminum doors on the east and west elevations with wood doors with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.
- Replacement of the existing non-original vinyl window in the gable dormer on the north elevation with a wood casement window with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

However, staff expressed concerns regarding the proposal to remove the original windows in the gable on the east elevation and install egress windows in their place. Staff and the Commission initially expressed concerns with this proposal at the March 25, 2020 preliminary consultation, finding that it would remove character-defining features. Nonetheless, the applicants continued to propose this alteration at the June 29, 2020 preliminary consultation. Alternatively, they proposed the construction of a second gable dormer with egress on the north elevation, matching the existing dormer and providing the necessary egress. This alternative was generally consistent with the HPC’s guidance at the March 25, 2020 preliminary consultation, so staff supported it.

At the June 29, 2020 preliminary consultation, the Commission once again concurred with staff’s concerns regarding the alteration of the original windows in the gable on the east elevation; however, there was general support for swapping the east windows with the larger west windows, providing the necessary egress while retaining the original materials.

The current proposal includes the following garage alterations:

- Removal of the existing louver shutters and restoration of the existing wood windows in the south dormers.
- Removal of the non-original planters and vinyl infill windows on the south elevation and extension of the openings, allowing for the installation of wood carriage style-doors with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.
- Replacement of the existing non-original aluminum garage doors with wood carriage-style doors with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.
- Replacement of the existing non-original aluminum doors on the east and west elevations with
wood doors with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

- Replacement of the existing non-original vinyl window in the gable dormer on the north elevation with a wood casement window with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.
- Removal of the chimney from the interior of the building and addition of interior structural supports as needed to support the remaining chimney on the exterior.
- In-kind restoration of the chimney exterior.
- Swapping the east and west windows to provide the necessary egress on the east elevation.

Staff fully supports the proposed garage alterations, finding them consistent with the previous proposal and the Commission’s recommendations. The proposal to swap the east and west gable windows will retain original features and materials, while providing the necessary egress, per life safety code. This is consistent with Standard #5. The other proposed alterations generally consist of restoration work, replacing non-original materials and/or features with historically compatible materials and/or features, which is consistent with Standards #2 and #9. In accordance with Standard #10, the proposed garage alterations will 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.

The applicants also propose to construct a new wood gazebo with standing seam copper roof at the south end of the existing swimming pool at the south side (rear) of the historic house. Staff fully supports the proposed gazebo construction. The proposed gazebo is generally compatible with the historic house, and it will not remove or alter character-defining features of the subject property, in accordance with Standards #2 and #9.

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, #5, #9, and #10 outlined above.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the HAWP application under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b) 1 and 2, having found that the proposal will not substantially impact the historic resource and is consistent with the purposes of Chapter 24A;

and with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation #2, #5, #9, and #10.

and with the general condition that the applicant shall present an electronic set 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.kync@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit.
APPLICATION FOR  
HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
301.563.3400

APPLICANT:
Name: Adrienne Arsht
Address: 9 Chevy Chase Circle
Daytime Phone: ________________

E-mail: ______________________
City: Chevy Chase Zip: 20815
Tax Account No.: 00454971

AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):
Name: Jim Ochs / Phil Long
Address: 10 S Bentz Street
Daytime Phone: 301-703-2348 x 116

E-mail: jim@casengineering.com / phil@cas-dc.com
City: Fredrick Zip: 21701
Contractor Registration No.: ________________

LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP #: Historic Property ________________________________

Is the Property Located within an Historic District? _Yes/District Name ________________
_Yes/Individual Site Name ________________________

Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environmental Easement on the Property? If YES, include a map of the easement, and documentation from the Easement Holder supporting this application.

Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approvals /Reviews Required as part of this Application? (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If YES, include information on these reviews as supplemental information.

Building Number: 9 Street: Chevy Chase Circle
Town/City: Chevy Chase Nearest Cross Street: Connecticut Avenue
Lot: _________ Block: _________ Subdivision: _______ Parcel: _______

TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist on Page 4 to verify that all supporting items for proposed work are submitted with this application. Incomplete Applications will not be accepted for review. Check all that apply:

☐ New Construction ☐ Deck/Porch ☐ Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure
☐ Addition ☐ Fence ☐ Solar
☐ Demolition ☐ Hardscape/Landscape ☐ Tree removal/planting
☐ Grading/Excavation ☐ Roof ☐ Window/Door
☐ Other: Garage Alterations

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

_____________________________  ________________________________
Signature of owner or authorized agent  Date

03/10/2021
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 house is a three story Tudor Revival style house with an rough-cut ashlar stone on the first level that has been painted, and typical Tudor style timber-framed stucco exterior walls on second and third levels. The windows are double hungs and casements, made with wood frames and either wood or leaded divisions and single-paned glass. The roof is slate and formed largely by intersecting prominent gables with highly decorative wood rake boards and exposed rafter ends. There are gabled and shed dormers, as well as a porte cochere covering the entry door. The house was built for Senator Newlands by architect Leon Dessez and was one of the first houses built by the Chevy Chase Land Company. William Corby acquired the house in 1909 and renovated the house and garage extensively to its present state under the hand of architect Arthur Heaton.

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

see attached letter
9 Chevy Chase Circle  
Chevy Chase, MD

**PROPOSED GARAGE IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRING PERMITTING**

1. **Location**: North Façade, Existing Dormer  
   **Proposal**: Replace existing vinyl window with new painted wood casement with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

2. **Location**: North/West Façades, Existing Chimney  
   **Proposal**: Remove chimney from the interior of the building only. Add structural support as needed to support chimney on the exterior. Complete in-kind restoration of the chimney on the exterior.

3. **Location**: West Façade, Existing Door  
   **Proposal**: Replace existing non-original aluminum door with new painted wood door with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

4. **Location**: South Façade, Existing Dormers (x3)  
   **Proposal**: Remove existing louvered panels and restore existing wood casement windows.

5. **Location**: South Façade, Existing Planters (x2)  
   **Proposal**: Remove existing planters and replace non-original vinyl windows with new painted wood garage door with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

6. **Location**: South Façade, Existing Aluminum Garage Doors (x2)  
   **Proposal**: Replace existing non-original aluminum garage doors with new painted wood garage door with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

7. **Location**: East Façade (facing Brookville Road), Existing Door  
   **Proposal**: Replace existing non-original aluminum door with new painted wood door with insulated glass and simulated divided lites.

8. **Location**: East and West Façades, Existing Windows  
   **Proposal**: Swap existing windows on the east and west façades.
PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

PROPOSED NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

EXISTING EAST ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/32" = 1'-0"

EXISTING NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/32" = 1'-0"
APPLICATION FOR
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APPLICANT:
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AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):
Name: Jim Ochs / Phil Long
Address: 10 S Bentz Street
Daytime Phone: 301-703-2348 x 116
E-mail: jim@casengineering.com / phil@cas-dc.com
City: Fredrick Zip: 21701
Contractor Registration No.: ________________

LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of Historic Property

Is the Property Located within an Historic District? Yes/District Name Chevy Chase Village
No/Individual Site Name ________________

Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environmental Easement on the Property? If YES, include a map of the easement, and documentation from the Easement Holder supporting this application.

Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approvals /Reviews Required as part of this Application? (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If YES, include information on these reviews as supplemental information.

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Town/City: Chevy Chase Nearest Cross Street: Connecticut Avenue
Lot: ___________ Block: 26 Subdivision: _____ Parcel: _____

TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist on Page 4 to verify that all supporting items for proposed work are submitted with this application. Incomplete Applications will not be accepted for review. Check all that apply:

☐ New Construction ☐ Deck/Porch ☑ Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure
☐ Addition ☐ Fence ☐ Solar
☐ Demolition ☐ Hardscape/Landscape ☐ Tree removal/planting
☐ Grading/Excavation ☐ Roof ☐ Window/Door
☐ Other: Gazebo

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

Signature of owner or authorized agent
Date 03/22/2021
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 house is a three story Tudor Revival style house with an rough-cut ashlar stone on the first level that has been painted, and typical Tudor style timber-framed stucco exterior walls on second and third levels. The windows are double hungs and casements, made with wood frames and either wood or leaded divisions and single-paned glass. The roof is slate and formed largely by intersecting prominent gables with highly decorative wood rake boards and exposed rafter ends. There are gabled and shed dormers, as well as a porte cochere covering the entry door. The house was built for Senator Newlands by architect Leon Dessez and was one of the first houses built by the Chevy Chase Land Company. William Corby acquired the house in 1909 and renovated the house and garage extensively to its present state under the hand of architect Arthur Heaton.

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

New Gazebo to be located at the end of an existing pool
CHEVY CHASE GAZEBO
MARCH 16, 2021

COPPER FINIAL

COPPER CLAD STANDING SEAM ROOF

COPPER DOWNSPOUT

OPENINGS WITH WOOD SCREEN PATTERN

COPPER CLAD STANDING SEAM ROOF

WOOD CORBELS

COPPER DOWNSPOUT

WOOD PANELING

OPEN FOR ENTRY

SOLID WALL AS SOUND BARRIER

SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/8"=10'

DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE. NOT FOR PRODUCTION.
CHEVY CHASE GAZEBO
MARCH 16, 2021

FLOOR & ROOF PLAN
SCALE: 3/8"=10"

DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE. NOT FOR PRODUCTION.
DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES

HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT APPLICATION
Application Date: 3/22/2021

Application No: 946151
AP Type: HISTORIC
Customer No: 1400884

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

Primary Applicant Information
Address 9 CHEVY CHASE CIR
CHERY CHASE, MD 20815
Homeowner Adrienne Arslnt Revocable Trust (Primary)
Other Contact CAS ENGINEERING

Historic Area Work Permit Details
Work Type CONST
Scope of Work Gazebo/Accessory Structure