<u>STAFF REPORT</u>				
Address:	6812 Westmoreland Ave., Takoma Park	Meeting Date:	5/4/2022	
Resource:	Contributing Resource Takoma Park Historic District	Report Date:	4/27/2022	
Applicant:	David Snyder	Public Notice:	4/20/2022	
Review:	HAWP	Tax Credit:	Partial	
Permit No.:	Pending	Staff:	Dan Bruechert	
Proposal:	Fenestration alterations, chimney removal, and tr	ee removals		

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the HPC **approve** the HAWP application:

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE:	Contributing Resource to the Takoma Park Historic District
STYLE:	Craftsman
DATE:	1923



Figure 1: 6812 Westmoreland Ave.

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to remove the existing chimney, change the fenestration at the rear, and remove trees from the site.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

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

Takoma Park Historic District Guidelines

There are two very general, broad planning and design concepts which apply to all categories. These are:

The design review emphasis will be restricted to changes that are at all visible from the public right-of-way, irrespective of landscaping or vegetation (it is expected that the majority of new additions will be reviewed for their impact on the overall district), and,

The importance of assuring that additions and other changes to existing structures act to reinforce and continue existing streetscape, landscape, and building patterns rather than to impair the character of the district.

Contributing Resources should receive a more lenient review than those structures that have been classified as Outstanding. This design review should emphasize the importance of the resource to the overall streetscape and its compatibility with existing patterns rather than focusing on a close scrutiny of architectural detailing. In general, however, changes to Contributing Resources should respect the predominant architectural style of the resource. As stated above, the design review emphasis will be restricted to changes that are *at all visible from the public right-of-way*, irrespective of landscaping or vegetation.

Some of the factors to be considered in reviewing HAWPs on Contributing Resources include:

All exterior alterations, including those to architectural features and details, should be generally consistent with the predominant architectural style and period of the resource and should preserve the predominant architectural features of the resource; exact replication of existing details and features is, however, not required

Some non-original building materials may be acceptable on a case-by-case basis; artificial siding on areas visible to the public right-of-way is discouraged where such materials would replace or damage original building materials that are in good condition

All changes and additions should respect existing environmental settings, landscaping, and patterns of open space.

Alterations to features that are not visible at all from the public right-of-way should be allowed as a matter of course.

Montgomery County Code; Chapter 24A-8

- (a) 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
- (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 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 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.
- 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportions, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
- 10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction 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.

STAFF DISCUSSION

The subject property is a small bungalow, covered in asbestos siding, with a concrete foundation and front gable front porch. Work at the subject property falls into three categories: chimney removal, door and window replacement at the rear, and tree removal. Staff finds the proposed changes will not have a significant impact on the character of the site and surrounding district and recommends the HPC approve the HAWP.

Chimney Removal

On the rear roof slope, there is an existing chimney that is currently used to vent the gas water heater and gas furnace. The mortar in the chimney is failing and the chimney needs to be relined. As part of the house restoration, the applicant proposes to install electric heat and water, making the chimney superfluous and they seek approval to remove the chimney.

Staff generally supports retaining chimneys, even when they no longer serve their historic purpose. Chimneys are part of the original building design and provide decoration as well as function. At the subject property, the chimney is placed on the rear roof slope, so its visual impact from the public rightof-way is less than typical (see below). Because of this reduced visual impact, Staff supports removing the existing chimney and repairing the roof with shingles to match the existing roof. Staff supports removing the chimney under 24A-8(b)(2) and (d) and the *Design Guidelines*.



Figure 2: Subject property with chimney circled in yellow.

Rear Fenestration Alteration

At the rear of the house, there is a pair of French Doors that provide access to the kitchen immediately next to a full-lite door that provides access to the basement. Based on the condition of the doors and trim, this appears to be the historic configuration. The applicant proposes to remove these doors and relocate the French doors in the center of the wall with new painted concrete steps. The applicant proposes to remove a section of the asbestos siding to reveal the historic wood clapboards and repair the siding.



Figure 3: Rear wall of the subject property.

As this elevation is not at all visible from the public right-of-way, the Design Guidelines state the work

should be approved as a matter of course. Staff appreciates that the applicant is re-locating the historic wood French Doors rather than replacing them with contemporary doors. If the historic wood siding has deteriorated beyond repair, the applicant is required to consult with Staff before identifying an alternative proposal and continuing work. Staff recommends the HPC approve the fenestration alteration under the requirements of the *Design Guidelines*.

Tree Removal

There are several mature trees on the site, both in front of the house and in the rear yard. The applicant proposes to remove three trees from the site. First, there is a large mulberry in the rear of the lot on the left side. The Takoma Park Arborist has identified that that tree is dead and constitutes a hazard. It should be removed immediately and no HAWP is necessary to remove that tree.

The other two trees are located behind the house on the left side. The two trees are a 22" d.b.h Loblolly Pine and a 33.7" d.b.h. Southern Red Oak. The applicant indicates the oak leans dangerously over the neighbor's house and the pine is close enough to the house that it complicates the proposed changes. The applicants have yet to determine whether they will replant or pay the fee in lieu of planting. However, Staff does not see how the site could possibly accommodate an additional 15 trees, the amount required for a replant-only mitigation.

Staff finds there are several mature trees in the front yard that have a larger impact on the character of the streetscape than the trees proposed for removal (see below). Staff recommends the HPC approve the tree removal under the *Design Guidelines*. While Staff does not recommend a condition for approval, Staff strongly encourages the applicant to replant trees on the site where reasonable.



Figure 4: Front elevation.

aSTAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission **approve** the HAWP application; under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b)(2) and (d) of the *Takoma Park Historic District Guidelines*, having found that the proposal will not substantially alter the exterior features of the historic resource 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 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 <u>contact the staff person</u> assigned to this application at 301-563-3400 or <u>dan.bruechert@montgomeryplanning.org</u> to schedule a follow-up site visit.

	PLICATION FOR AREA WORK P PRESERVATION COMMISS 301.563.3400	DATE ASSIC	ONLY:
APPLICANT:			
Name:	E-mail:		
Address:	City:		Zip:
Daytime Phone:	Tax Accou	nt No.:	
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):			
Name:	E-mail:		
Address:	City:		Zip:
Daytime Phone:	Contracto	r Registration No.:	·
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE:	MIHP # of Historic Property_		
Is the Property Located within an Hist Is there an Historic Preservation/Land map of the easement, and document Are other Planning and/or Hearing Ex (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Pla supplemental information.	No/Individu I Trust/Environmental Easen ation from the Easement Hol aminer Approvals /Reviews	al Site Name nent on the Proper der supporting thi Required as part o	rty? If YES, include a s application.
Building Number:	Street:		
Town/City:	Nearest Cross Street:		
Lot: Block:	Subdivision: Pa	rcel:	
Addition Demolition Grading/Excavation	with this application. Inco nat apply: Deck/Porch Fence Hardscape/Landscape Roof	mplete Applicati Shed/Garage Solar Tree removal Window/Door Other:	ons will not /Accessory Structure /planting
I hereby certify that I have the autho and accurate and that the constructi agencies and hereby acknowledge a	on will comply with plans rev	iewed and approv	ed by all necessary

HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]		
Owner's mailing address	Owner's Agent's mailing address	
Adjacent and confronting	g Property Owners mailing addresses	

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

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

Work Item 1:			
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:		
Work Item 2:			
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:		

Work Item 3:				
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:			

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	*	*	*	*	*		*









	- EXG CHIMNEY TO BE REMOVED	
MICHE BOOZ Project: A R C H T E C T SNYDER-ROOSE 15 High St Brookeville Maryland 20833 (301)774 6911 6812 Westmoreland Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912	Title: R21 - WEST ELEVATION	Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0" 0 5 Date: 03/16/2022 16





MICHE BOOZ Project: A R C H T E C T SNYDER-ROOSE 15 High St Brookevile Moryland 20833 (301)774 6911 6812 Westmoreland Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912	Title: A20 - PROPOSED NORTH ELEVATION	Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0" 0 5 Date: 03/16/2022 19

MICHE BOOZ Project: A R C H T E C T SNYDER-ROOSE 15 High St Brookeville Maryland 20833 (301)774 6911 6812 Westmoreland Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912	Title: A21 - PROPOSED WEST ELEVATION	Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0" 1/8" = 1'-0" 5 Date: 03/16/2022 20









MUNICIPALITY LETTER March 8, 2022

- To: David Snyder and Deborah Roose / <u>davidasnyder49@gmail.com</u> / 440-574-9501 6812 Westmoreland Ave Takoma Park, MD 20912
- To: Department of Permitting Services 255 Rockville Pike, 2nd Floor Rockville, Maryland 20850-4166 Fax 240-777-6398; 240-777-6262; 240-777-6223

From: Planning and Development Services Division

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT – For Informational Purposes Only VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF ISSUE

The property owner is responsible for obtaining all required permits from Montgomery County and the City of Takoma Park. If this property is in the **Takoma Park Historic District**, it is subject to Montgomery County Historic Preservation requirements.

Representative/email: David Snyder / <u>davidasnyder49@gmail.com</u> / 440-574-9501 **Location of Project:** 6812 Westmoreland Ave, Takoma Park, MD 20912 **Proposed Scope of Work:** remodeling of the kitchen and bathroom. The kitchen remodeling includes the re-configuration of two exterior doors in the rear of the house. This involves removing a set of french doors and an adjacent single door and replacing them with the french doors in a new opening.

The purpose of this municipality letter is to inform you that the City of Takoma Park has regulations and city permit requirements that may apply to your project. This municipality letter serves as notification that, in addition to all Montgomery County requirements, you are required to comply with all City permitting requirements, including:

- Tree Impact Assessment/Tree Protection Plan
- Stormwater management
- City Right of Way

Failure to comply with these requirements could result in the issuance of a Stop Work Order and other administrative actions within the provisions of the law. Details of Takoma Park's permit requirements are attached on page 2.

The issuance of this letter does not indicate approval of the project nor does it authorize the property owner to proceed with the project. The City retains the right to review and comment on project plans during the Montgomery County review process.

City Of Takoma Park

The City of Takoma Park permits for the following issues:

Tree Impact Assessment/Tree Protection Plan/Tree Removal Application:

Construction activities that occur within 50 feet of any urban forest tree (7 and 5/8" in trunk diameter or greater), located on the project property or on an adjacent property, may require a Tree Impact Assessment and possibly a Tree Protection Plan Permit. Make sure to submit a request for a Tree Impact Assessment and schedule a site visit with the City's Urban Forest Manager if any urban forest tree is in the vicinity of proposed construction activities. See the Tree Permits section of the City website for the specific conditions in which a Tree Impact Assessment, you may need to prepare a full Tree Protection Plan and apply for a Tree Protection Plan Permit as well. Separately, the removal of any urban forest tree will require a Tree Removal Permit application. The tree ordinance is detailed in the City Code, section 12.12. For permit information check: https://takomaparkmd.gov/services/permits/tree-permits. The City's Urban Forest Manager (a) TakomaParkMd.gov.

Stormwater Management:

If you plan to develop or redevelop property, you may be required to provide appropriate stormwater management measures to control or manage runoff, as detailed in City Code section 16.04. All commercial or institutional development in the city must apply for Stormwater Management Permit regardless of the size of the land disturbance. Additions or modifications to existing detached single-family residential properties do not require a Stormwater Management permit if the project does not disturb more than 5,000 square feet of land area. For more information: <u>https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/public-works/stormwater-management-program/</u>. The City Engineer should be contacted to determine if a City permit is required at 301-891-7620.

City Right of Way:

- To place a **construction dumpster or storage container** temporarily on a City right of way (usually an adjacent road), you will need to obtain a permit. A permit is not required if the dumpster is placed in a privately-owned driveway or parking lot.
- If you plan to install a new **driveway apron**, or enlarge or replace an existing driveway apron, you need a Driveway Apron Permit.
- If you plan to construct a **fence** in the City right of way, you need to request a Fence Agreement. If approved, the Agreement will be recorded in the Land Records of Montgomery County.

For more information and applications for City permits, see

<u>https://takomaparkmd.gov/services/permits/</u> or contact the Takoma Park Department of Public Works at 301-891-7633.

Failure to comply with the City's permitting requirements could result in the issuance of a Stop Work Order and other administrative actions within the provisions of the law.



David Snyder <davidasnyder49@gmail.com

Tree Removal Request :: W007798-030722

2 messages

Online Customer Service Center <TakomaParkMD@mycusthelp.com> To: "davidasnyder49@gmail.com" <davidasnyder49@gmail.com> Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 2:00 Pl

03/09/2022

PERMIT NUMBER W007798-030722

David Snyder 6812 Westmoreland Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912

Re: Tree Removal Application at: 6812 Westmoreland Ave. Takoma Park MD 20912

Dear David Snyder:

A permit has been granted to remove or alter the following tree(s) from your property. Tree Type: WHITE MULBERRY Diameter at Breast Height: 27 Tree Location Relative to House: BACK LEFT

The above tree(s) are dead or may be considered hazardous and represent a threat to the health, safety and well-being of the community. The tree(s) should therefore be removed/altered immediately. Please print and post the linked flyer with the permit number listed.

https://publicworks-takomapark.s3.amazonaws.com/public/arborist/PW-20201201-STATIC-TRA PERMIT%20NOTICE.pdf

TREE WORK DONE FOR HIRE IN THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK MUST BE CARRIED OUT BY A MARYLAND STATE LICENSED TREE EXPERT (LTE). HIRING SOMEONE WHO IS NOT LICENSED IS A VIOLATION OF CITY AND STATE LAW. MAKE SURE YOUR CONTRACTOR HAS AN LTE NUMBER BEFORE YOU HIRE THEM.

If you have any questions, please contact the Urban Forest Manager by replying to this email

David Snyder <davidasnyder49@gmail.com> To: Online Customer Service Center <TakomaParkMD@mycusthelp.com> Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 2:32

3/18



David Snyder <davidasnyder49@gmail.com

Tree Removal Request :: W007649-012822

To: "davidasnyder49@gmail.com" <davidasnyder49@gmail.com>

3 messages

Online Customer Service Center < TakomaParkMD@mycusthelp.com>

Mon, Feb 28, 2022 at 9:30 AN





David Snyder <davidasnyder49@gmail.com

Fwd: Tree Removal Request :: W007784-030222

4 messages

Mariana Becerra <mariana.becerra12@gmail.com> To: David Snyder <davidasnyder49@gmail.com> Cc: Francisco Gómez Rueda <f.gomez86@me.com> Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 2:35 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Online Customer Service Center <TakomaParkMD@mycusthelp.com> Date: March 9, 2022 at 1:54:02 PM EST To: mariana.becerra12@gmail.com Subject: Tree Removal Request :: W007784-030222

03/09/2022

APPLICATION NUMBER W007784-030222

Mariana Becerra 6810 Westmoreland Avenue 6810 Westmoreland Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912

Re: Tree Removal Application at: 6810 Westmoreland Avenue Takoma Park MD 20912

Dear Mariana Becerra:

The City of Takoma Park has granted preliminary permit approval for you to remove the 33.7" d.b.h. SOUTHERN RED OAK (10replants) from the BACK RIGHT of your property. The following are the notes from the Urban Forest Manager's evaluation of your tree:

Tree Condition Rating (1-5): Crown/Branches: 4 Root & Root Collar: 4