MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 2 East Melrose Street, Chevy Chase Meeting Date: 5/4/2022

Resource: Contributing Resource **Report Date:** 4/27/2022

(Chevy Chase Village Historic District)

Public Notice: 4/20/2022

Applicant: James and Emily Petrila **Tax Credit:** N/A

(Patricia Mendoza, Agent)

Review: HAWP Staff: Michael Kyne

Permit Number: 989960

PROPOSAL: Fenestration alterations

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the HPC **approve** the HAWP application.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing Resource within the Chevy Chase Village Historic District

STYLE: Colonial Revival/Foursquare

DATE: c. 1916-27



Fig. 1: Subject property.

PROPOSAL:

The applicants propose fenestration alterations at the subject property.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES:

When reviewing alterations and new construction within the Chevy Chase Village 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 historic preservation review guidelines in the approved and adopted amendment for the *Chevy Chase Village Historic District (Guidelines)*, 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

- (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.
- (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.)

Chevy Chase Village Historic District Guidelines

The *Guidelines* state that the following five basic policies should be adhered to:

- 1. Preserving the integrity of the proposed Chevy Chase Village Historic District. Any alterations should, at a minimum, perpetuate the ability to perceive the sense of time and place portrayed by the district.
- 2. Preserving the integrity of the contributing structures in the district. Alterations to contributing structures should be designed in such a way that the altered structure still contributes to the district.
- 3. Maintaining the variety of architectural styles and the tradition of architectural excellence.
- 4. Design review emphasis should be restricted to changes that will be visible from the front or side public right-of-way, or that would be visible in the absence of vegetation or landscaping.
- 5. Alterations to the portion of a property that are not visible from the public right-of-way should be subject to very lenient review. Most changes to rear of the properties should be approved as a matter of course.

The Guidelines break down specific projects into three levels of review – Lenient, Moderate and Strict Scrutiny.

"Lenient Scrutiny" means that the emphasis of the review should be on issues of general massing and scale, and compatibility with the surrounding streetscape, and should allow for a very liberal interpretation of preservation rules. Most changes should be permitted unless there are major problems with massing, scale and compatibility.

"Moderate Scrutiny" involves a higher standard of review than "lenient scrutiny." Besides issues of massing, scale and compatibility, preserving the integrity of the resource is taken into account. Alterations should be designed so that the altered structure still contributes to the district. Use of compatible new materials, rather than the original building materials, should be permitted. Planned changes should be compatible with the structure's existing design, but should not be required to replicate its architectural style.

"Strict Scrutiny" means that the planned changes should be reviewed to ensure that the integrity of the significant exterior architectural or landscaping features and details is not compromised. However, strict scrutiny should not be "strict in theory but fatal in fact" i.e. it does not mean that there can be no changes but simply that the proposed changes should be reviewed with extra care.

The *Guidelines* that pertain to this project are as follows:

<u>Doors</u> should be subject to moderate scrutiny if they are visible from the public right-of-way, lenient scrutiny if they are not. For outstanding resources, they should be subject to strict scrutiny if they are visible from the public right-of-way. Addition of compatible storm doors should be encouraged.

<u>Windows</u> (including window replacement) should be subject to moderate scrutiny if they are visible from the public right-of-way, lenient scrutiny if they are not. For outstanding resources, they should be subject to strict scrutiny. Addition of compatible exterior storm windows should be encouraged, whether visible from the public right-of-way or not. Vinyl and aluminum windows (other than storm windows) should be discouraged. Addition of security bars should be subject to lenient scrutiny, whether visible from the

public right-of-way or not.

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 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.
- 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 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 c. 1916-27 Colonial Revival/Foursquare-style Contributing Resource within the Chevy Chase Village Historic District. The property is located at the southeast intersection of East Melrose Street and Connecticut Avenue. As depicted in the 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (*Fig.* 2), there is an original two-story porch at the south (rear) side of the historic house. The porch was originally open, but it has since been enclosed. There is also a non-original one-story bump out at the southwest (rear/right, as viewed from the public right-of-way of East Melrose Street) side of the house, adjacent to the two-story porch.

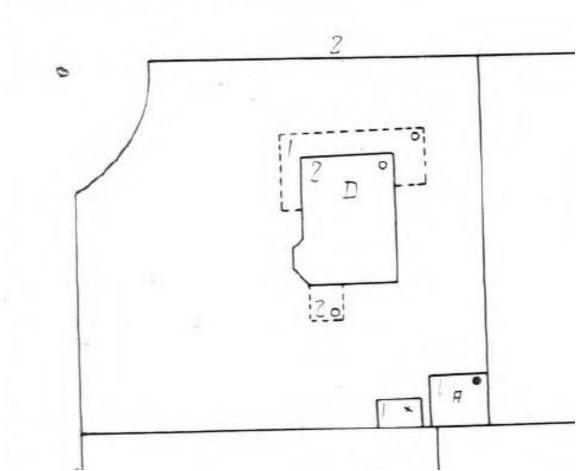


Fig. 2: 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

The applicants propose the following work items at the subject property:

- Conversion of the existing double door at the west (right) side of the existing, non-original bump
 out at the southwest (rear/right) side of the house to a window. The proposed new window will be
 a fixed single-lite aluminum-clad wood window. The window will be installed within the existing
 opening and framing, but the opening will be infilled at the bottom to accommodate the
 conversion.
- Widening the existing basement-level door at the east (left) side of the historic house, going from 32" to 36" wide. The existing basement door will also be replaced to accommodate the widened opening. The proposed new door will be a four-lite, two-panel wood door.
- Installation of one new basement-level window on the east (left) side of the historic house. The proposed new window will be a 48" wide by 36" high fixed single-lite aluminum-clad wood window.

Staff supports the applicants' proposal. As noted, the proposed alterations are primarily at the basement-level on a secondary elevation, where the Commission typically exercises greater leniency in their review. The bump out at the southwest (rear/right) side of the house is not original, and the proposed door-to-window conversion will not remove or alter original materials or features. Staff finds that the proposed new single-lite fixed windows are generally compatible with the existing windows of the historic house, which are one-over-one double-hung windows with no divided lites.

Because the proposed alterations will all be partially visible from the public right-of-way, staff finds that

they should be reviewed with Moderate Scrutiny. The *Guidelines* state that Moderate Scrutiny "involves a higher standard of review than "lenient scrutiny." Besides issues of massing, scale and compatibility, preserving the integrity of the resource is taken into account. Alterations should be designed so that the altered structure still contributes to the district. Use of compatible new materials, rather than the original building materials, should be permitted. Planned changes should be compatible with the structure's existing design, but should not be required to replicate its architectural style." Staff finds that the proposed alterations will preserve the integrity of the property, being compatible and allowing the historic house to continue contributing to the historic district. The proposed materials are also appropriate and compatible with the historic house and surrounding streetscape.

In accordance with *Standards* #2 and #9, the proposal will not remove or alter character-defining materials, features, or spaces of the historic house or surrounding streetscape. Additionally, per *Standard* #10, the proposed alterations could be removed in the future without impairing the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment.

After full and fair consideration of the applicant's submission staff finds the proposal, as revised, as being consistent with the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b) (1), (2), and (d), having found the proposal is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation #2, #9, and #10, and Chevy Chase Village Historic District Guidelines outlined above.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission <u>approve</u> the HAWP application under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b) (1), (2), and (d), having found that the proposal is consistent with the *Chevy Chase Village Historic District Guidelines* identified above, and therefore 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 michael.kyne@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit.



APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 301.563.3400

APPLICANT:					
Name: James Petrila &Emily Petrila	E-mail: jpetrila@gmail.com				
Name: James Petrila &Emily Petrila Address: 2 E Melrose St	City: Chevy Chase Zip: 20815				
Address:	City: Zip: Zip:				
Daytime Phone: 2025500739	Tax Account No.:				
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable):					
Name: Patricia F Mendoza	E-mail: pferrufino.m@gmail.com				
Address: 9044 Templeton dr	City: Frederick Zip: 21704				
Daytime Phone: 2405957953					
Daytime Phone: 2703377333	Contractor Registration No.:				
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of Historic	c Property				
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # of Historic list the Property Located within an Historic District?	/es/District Name_X				
'	NO/IIIdividual Site Name				
Is there an Historic Preservation/Land Trust/Environmer map of the easement, and documentation from the Ea					
Are other Planning and/or Hearing Evaminer Approvals	/Pavious Paguired as part of this Application?				
Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner Approvals ((Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) If YES, in					
supplemental information.					
Building Number: Street:					
Town/City: Nearest Cross	s Street:				
Lot: Block: Subdivision: _	Parcel:				
TYPE OF WORK PROPOSED: See the checklist on P					
for proposed work are submitted with this applica be accepted for review. Check all that apply:	ation. Incomplete Applications will not Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure				
☐ New Construction ☐ Deck/Porch	Solar				
Addition Fence	Tree removal/planting				
☐ Demolition ☐ Hardscape/Landso☐ Grading/Excavation ☐ Roof	cape Window/Door Other: Alteration				
I hereby certify that I have the authority to make the fo					
and accurate and that the construction will comply wit	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •				
agencies and hereby acknowledge and accept this to Patricia Ferrufino Mendoza	be a condition for the issuance of this permit. 4/12/22				
Signature of owner or authorized agent	Date				
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Description of Property: Please describe the building and surrounding environment. Include information on significant structures, landscape features, or other significant features of the property:

This is a Historic house Basement /1st floor /2nd floor/ Attic

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

The work to be performed is at basement of the property and it will be mainly interior

Underpinning will be performed under the certification of a structural engineer

The goal is to achieve a higher ceiling height

Currently 6'-6" the plan is to have 9' ceiling height

There will be some interior demolition including existing columns (as per structural solution) to open up the space and accommodate new layout

Enlargement of a few inches of main door into basement

At west side elevation/basement: proposed new window at new office **as per proposed new work **

At east side elevation/1st Level: The existing library door will be converted into a window

Material/Colors/Style will remain as original

BASEMENT/LINDERPINNING Work Item 1: INTERIOR LAYOU+

Description of Current Condition:

BASEMENT IS A UNFINISH SPACE.

EXISTING HEIGHT 6-6"

OPEN SPACE

Proposed Work:

· LINDBEPINNING, LINDBE THE CERTIFICATION OF STRUCTURAL

ENGENEER. tHE GOAL IS TO CREATE A NEW

HEIGHT OF 91 CLEAR FROM FLOOR to CEILING-

. SOME DEMO. INVOLUTED COWMINS.

. NEW JUTERIOR LAYOUT. NEW WIII BE

REPLACING old

Work Item 2: Peofosed 48" x 36" WINDOW / BASEMENT

Description of Current Condition:

EURIENT CONDITION IS FOUNDATION WALL AT WEST SIDE OF THE HOUSE.

Proposed Work:

OPEN to ACOMODATE NEW 48" ×36" WINDOW this WILL BE CHETIFLED BY Structural ENGENEER. it WILL BRING LIGHT to (N) OPFICE. SEE NEW LAYOUTS

11st Floor Work Item 3: DOOR AT UBRARY

Description of Current Condition:

the Basting POOR IS NOT BEIGN UTILIZED AS MUCH.

Proposed Work:

convert existing Door into A WINDOW HTILLING SACRE OPENING AND REEPING BUSTING FRAMING AS MULH AS POSIBLE. NO CHANGING COLOR. SEE ELEVATION

Work Item 4 Enlarge MAIN BOOR

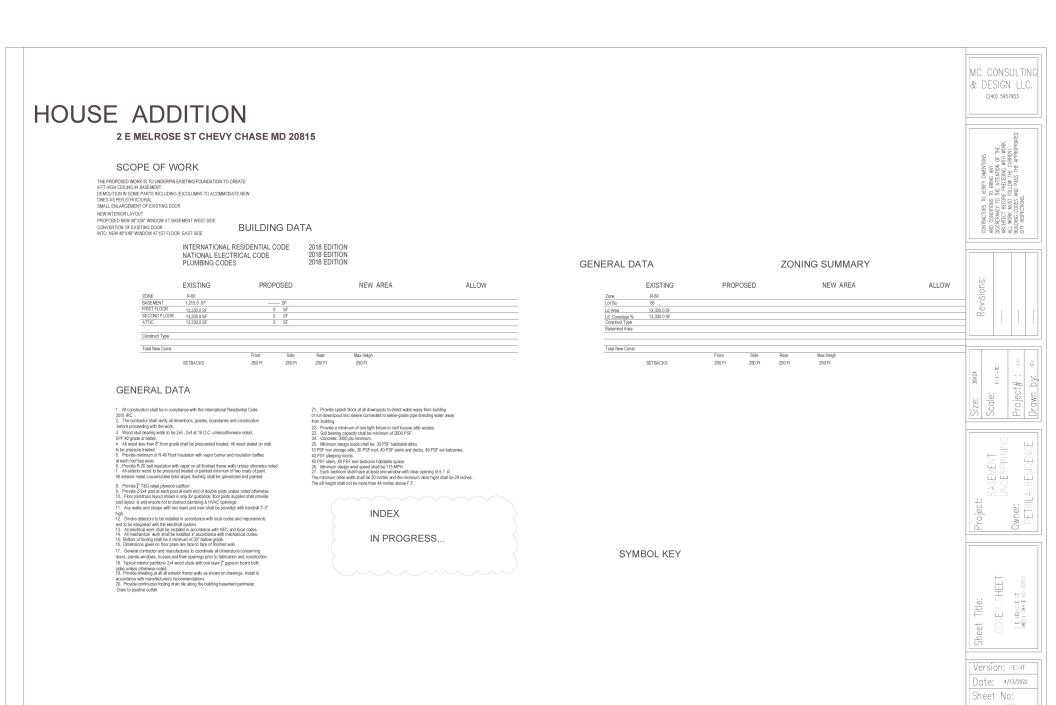
DOOR CURRENTLY 32"

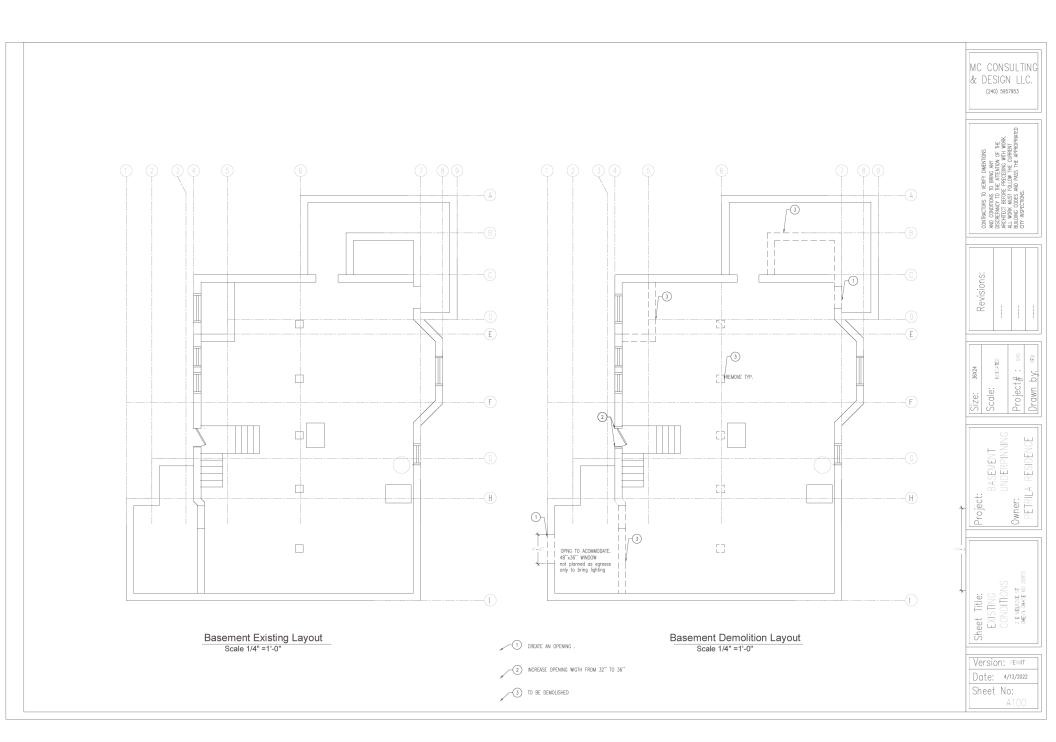
PROPOSED WORK: OPEN A LITTLE BIT to FIT 36" DOOR

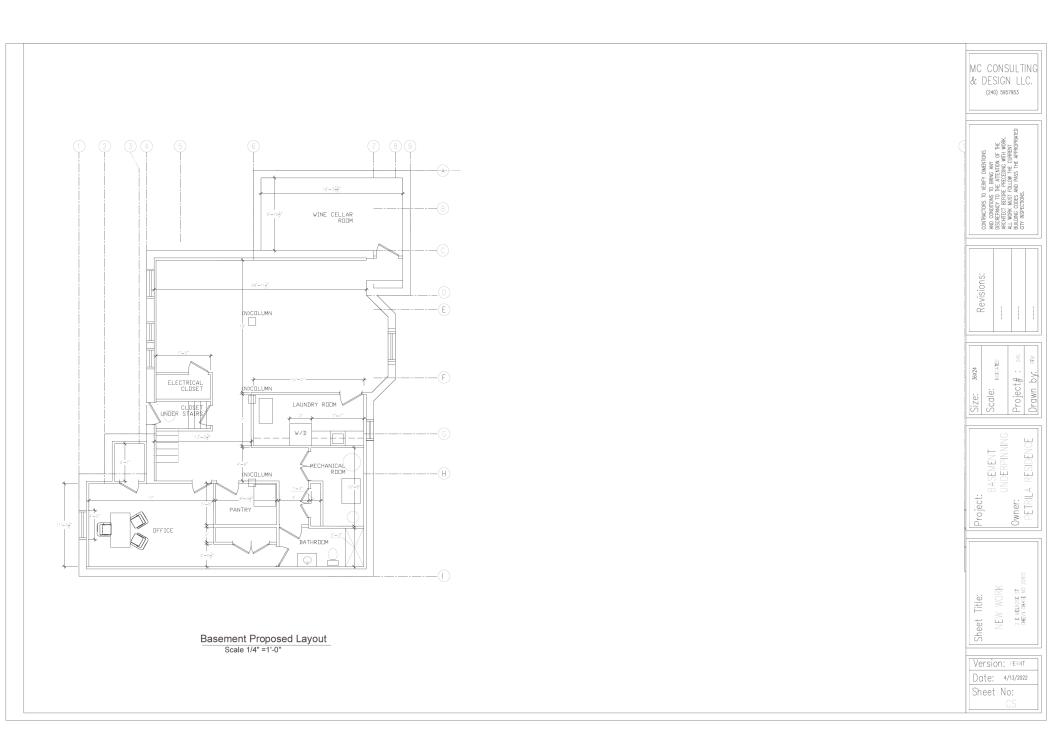
HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING [Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]						
Owner's mailing address James Petrila 2 E Melrose st Chevy Chase MD 20815	Owner's Agent's mailing address Patricia Ferrufino Mendoza 9044 Templeton dr Frederick , Md 21704					
Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses						
Norman & Jeanne Asher 1 E Melrose St Chevy Chase MD 20815	Patrick & Lindsay Conway 5 E Melrose St Chevy Chase MD 20815					
Britt & Keeley Snider 6 E Melrose St Chevy Chase MD 20815	Manuel & Jamie Bramao 1 E Lenox St Chevy Chase MD 20815					
James Spiegelman & Elizabeth Kannan 3 E Lenox St Chevy Chase MD 20815	2 West Melrose Street Chevy Chase, MD 20815					

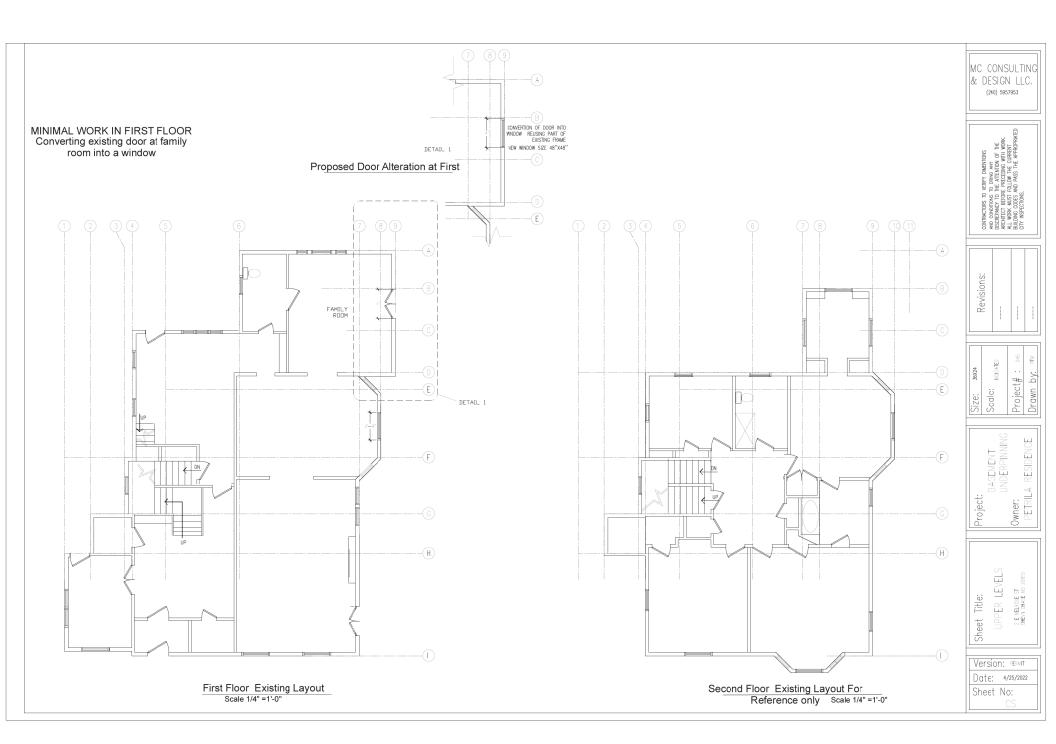
HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

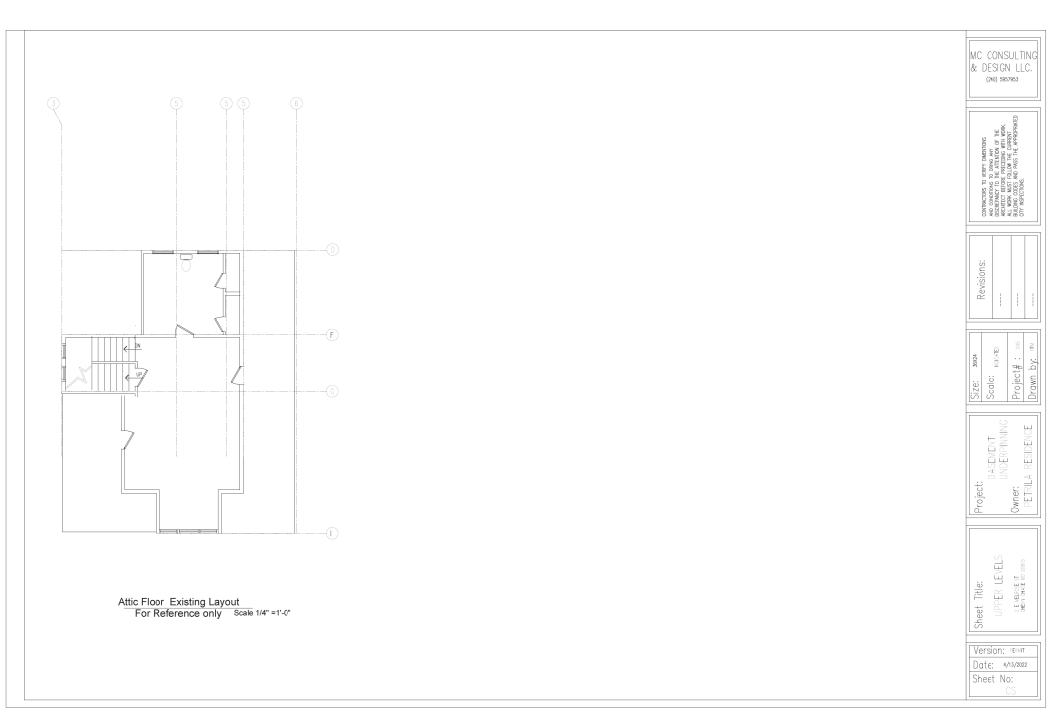
	Required Attachments						
Proposed Work	I. Written Description	2. Site Plan	3. Plans/ Elevations	4. Material Specifications	5. Photographs	6. Tree Survey	7. Property Owner Addresses
New Construction	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Additions/ Alterations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Demolition	*	*	*		*		*
Deck/Porch	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fence/Wall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

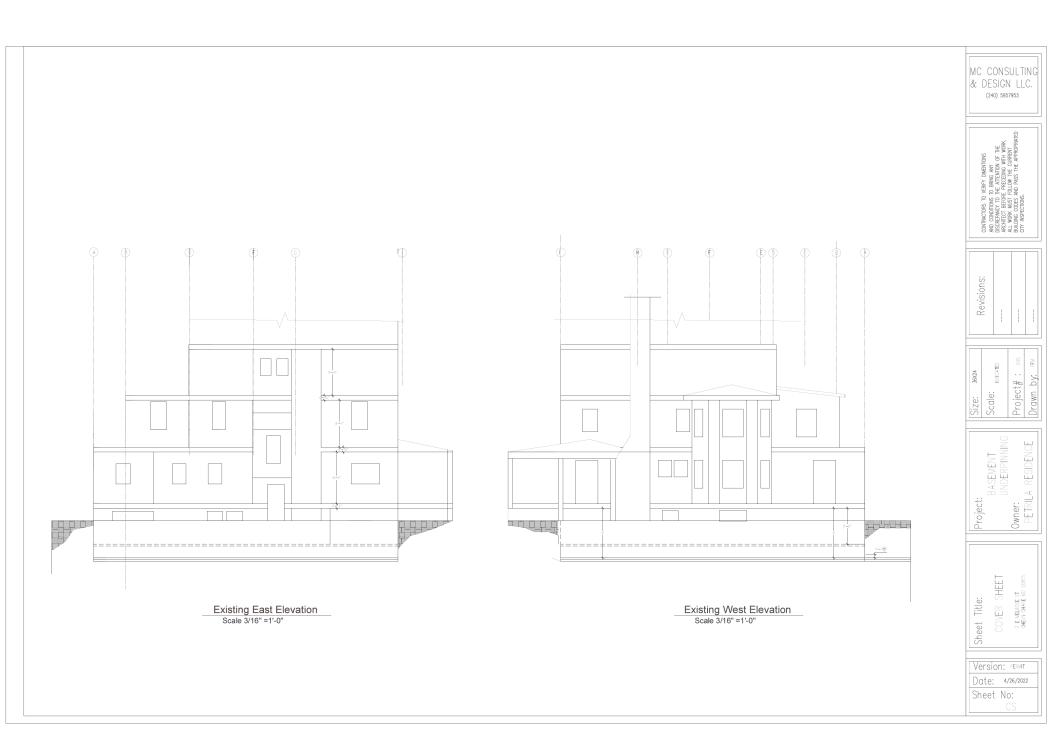




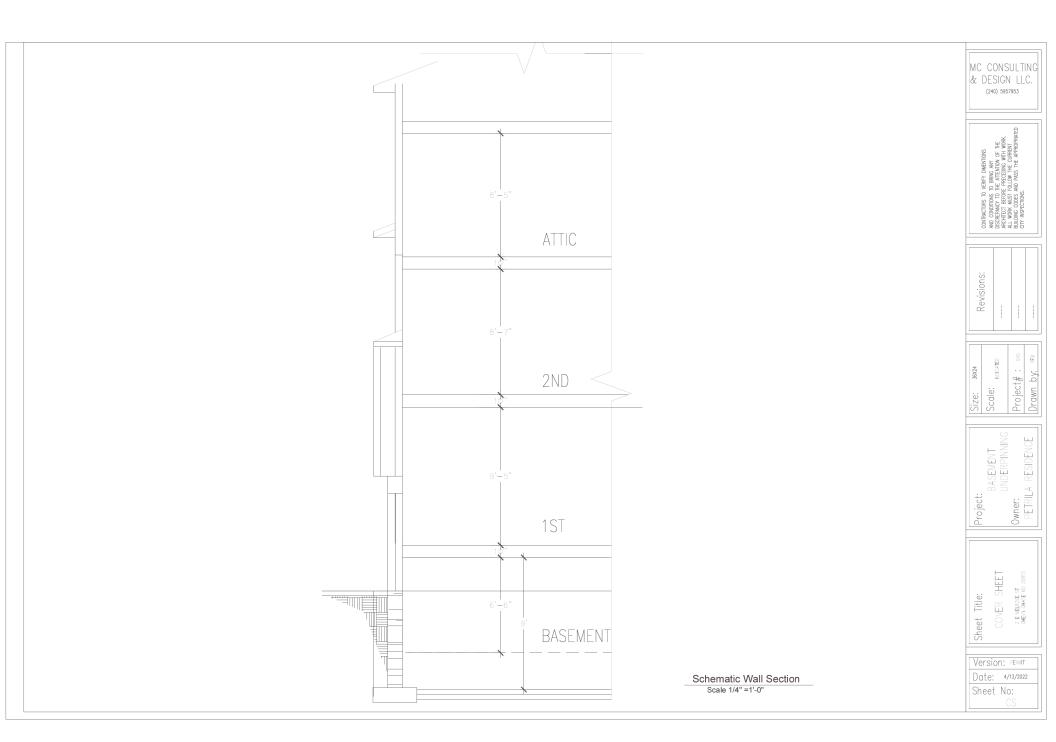


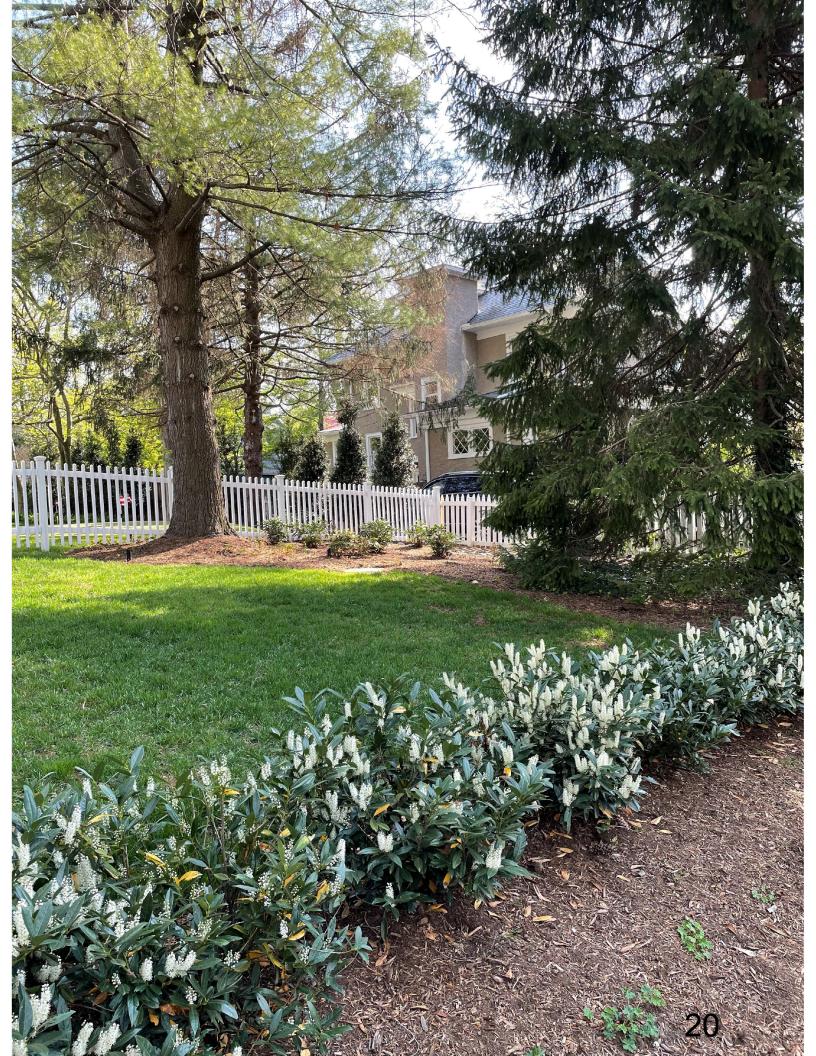




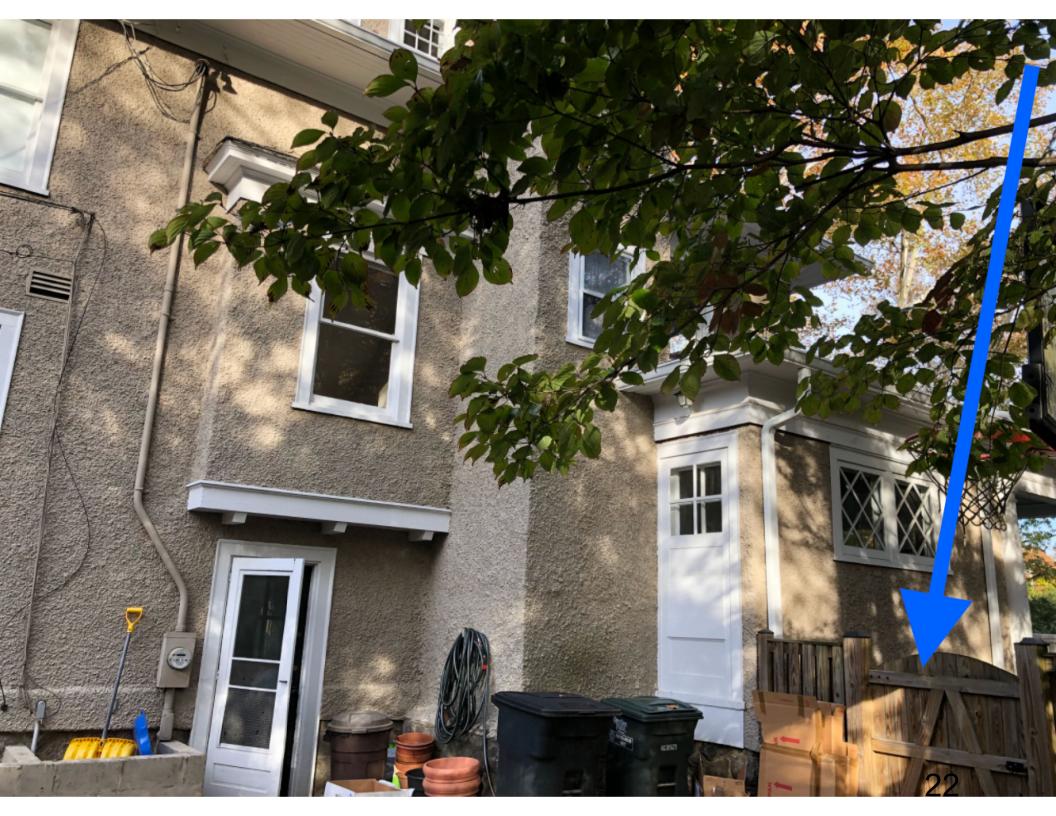




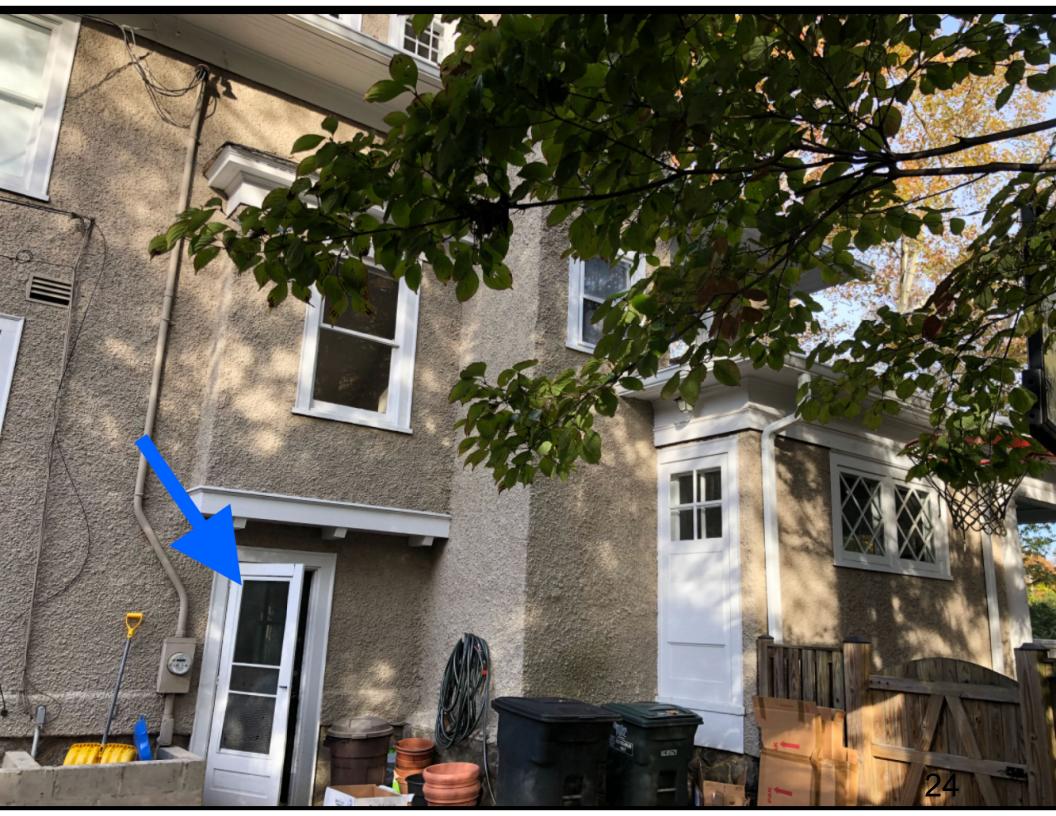












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24 of 60 Done = this top section will come Off we Will Replace with solid temper 6/483 Both sorles on the stor Door only - co+ with plywood on the outside





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- Push out casement windows
- Awning windows

- Push out awning windows
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- Double-hung insert windows
- Double-hung sash replacement kits
- · Bay and Bow windows
- · Gliding windows



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Bold name denotes finish shown.

Awning



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Polished Brass | Black
Oil Rubbed Bronze
Satin Chrome | White

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Oil Rubbed Bronze | **Bright Chrome** | Satin Chrome
Gold | Pewter | White



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*Actual wood species is either Sapele or Sipo, both non-endangered species grown in Africa, with color and characteristics similar to Central American mahoganies.

**Dark Bronze and black are also available on maple. †Anodized silver available on maple only. ††Hardware is sold separately, except standard hardware.

Oil rubbed bronze is a "living" finishes that will change with time and use.

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