MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Address: 3717 Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase **Meeting Date:** 4/3/2024

Resource: Master Plan Site #35/68, Report Date: 3/27/2024

Mills House

Public Notice: 3/20/2024

Applicant: Abigail Barnes

(Chris Scango, Agent) Tax Credit: No

Review: HAWP Staff: Chris Berger

Case #: 1061611

PROPOSAL: Driveway removal.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the HPC $\underline{\mathbf{approve}}$ the HAWP application:



Figure 1: The Mills House Master Plan Historic Site is outlined in red.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

SIGNIFICANCE: Master Plan Site #35/68, Mills House

STYLE: Italian Renaissance Revival

DATE: 1914

The house is described follows in *Places From the Past*:

Architecturally, the Mills House is an outstanding example of an Italian Renaissance Revival style residence. The house features a classically framed entry door with projecting bracketed architrave flanked by 24 light casement windows surmounted by projecting arched hood molds. The house is constructed of hollow tile and clad with a stucco finish. Though the architect is unknown, the design is clearly the work of an accomplished professional, and bears similarity, for example, with Waddy Wood residential design, found in Section 2.

The house represents a period of transition in the development of Chevy Chase Land Company's Section 3. While the houses immediately east of Connecticut Avenue (3807, 3803) were built with a greater setback, in line with the 1905 Gherardi House built before Section 3 was platted, the Mills House represents the early Section 3 development. The latter complies with the minimum 30-foot setback established in Section 3 deeds and corresponding with the setback of Section 2 (Village) houses facing directly across Bradley Lane.

PROPOSAL

The applicant proposes to replace the existing asphalt driveway and curb in the rear yard and replace with grass.

APPLICABLE GUIDELINES

In accordance with Section 1.5 of the Historic Preservation Commission Rules, Guidelines, and Procedures (Regulation No. 27-97), in developing its decision when reviewing a HAWP application for an undertaking at a Master Plan site the Commission uses Chapter 24A-8 of the Montgomery County Code (*Chapter 24A-8*), 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 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 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;

Secretary of 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:

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.

STAFF DISCUSSION:

Staff supports the proposed removal of the asphalt driveway and concrete curb and recommends approval. The asphalt driveway section measures approximately 100 feet long and covers an estimated 1,100 square feet, so it will return a significant portion of the yard into green scape in the form of grass. It is unlikely the driveway was originally asphalt, and it was likely added in recent decades. The paver section of driveway that extends from the sidewalk to the rear left-side corner of the residence will remain intact.

In accordance with Chapter 24A-8(b)(1), the exterior features of the historic site will not be substantially altered, and in accordance with Chapter 24A-8(b)(2), the proposal is compatible in character and nature with the historic site. The proposal meets the *Standards* because the historic character of the property will be retained and preserved by the non-historic asphalt driveway's removal.



Figure 2: The driveway is indicated with a red arrow in these aerials from the front, left, and rear. Source: CONNECTExplorer



Figure 3: The existing driveway and curb is shown in these photos.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission <u>approve</u> the HAWP application under the Criteria for Issuance in Chapter 24A-8(b)(1) and (2), having found that the proposal, as modified by the condition, is compatible in character with the site and the purposes of Chapter 24A;

and with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation #2.

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 301-495-4571 or chris.berger@montgomeryplanning.org to schedule a follow-up site visit.





APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMIT HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

301.563.3400

APPLICANT:	
_{Name:} Abigail Barnes	scottkabigailb@gmail.com E-mail:
Address: 3717 Bradley Lane	Chevy Chase Zip: 20815
Daytime Phone: 301-318-3599	Tax Account No.:
AGENT/CONTACT (if applicable): Chris Scango, Capitol Hardscapes	cscango@capitolhardscapes.com
Name:PO BOX 30372	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
PO BOX 30372	
Address: (240) 375 -2637	_ City: Zip:
	Contractor Designation No.
Daytime Phone:	
LOCATION OF BUILDING/PREMISE: MIHP # 0	of Historic Property IVI: 35-68
map of the easement, and documentation fron Are other Planning and/or Hearing Examiner A (Conditional Use, Variance, Record Plat, etc.?) I supplemental information.	nvironmental Easement on the Property? If YES, include a in the Easement Holder supporting this application. pprovals / Reviews Required as part of this Application? If YES, include information on these reviews as Est: Bradley Lane
Town/City: Chevy Chase Near	
Town/City: Chevy Chase Near Lot: Pt19&2C Block: 2 Subd	3 livision: Parcel:
	ist on Page 4 to verify that all supporting items application. Incomplete Applications will not
be accepted for review. Check all that apply:	Shed/Garage/Accessory Structure
New Construction Deck/Por	
Addition	Tree removal/planting
	e/Landscape Window/Door
Grading/Excavation Roof	Other:
	ke the foregoing application, that the application is correct
11	mply with plans reviewed and approved by all necessary this to be a condition for the issuance of this permit.

February 21, 2024

HAWP APPLICATION: MAILING ADDRESSES FOR NOTIFING

[Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]

[Owner, Owner's Agent, Adjacent and Confronting Property Owners]		
Owner's mailing address 3717 Bradley Lane Chevy Chase, MD 20815	Owner's Agent's mailing address Chris Scango Capitol Hardscapes PO BOX 30372 Bethesda MD 20824	
Adjacent and confronting Property Owners mailing addresses		
Richard and Christine Leggett 3719 Bradley Ln Chevy Chase, MD 20815	Brian Armstrong and Ashley Hoppin 3715 Bradley Ln Chevy Chase, MD 20815	
James and Mary Donnelly 3718 Bradley Ln Chevy Chase, MD 20815	Paul and Sharon Nichols 3720 Bradley Ln Chevy Chase, MD 20815	
•	3624 Raymond Street, Chevy Chase MD 20815 3626 Raymond Street, Chevy Chase MD 20815 3700 Raymond Street, Chevy Chase MD 20815	

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

Mills House is an Italian Renaissance Revival style residence. It was built in 1914 according to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, although the Maryland property records suggest 1896. It has a classically framed entry door with projecting bracketed architrave flanked by 24 light casement windows surmounted by projecting arched hood molds. The house is constructed of hollow tile and clad with a stucco finish.

There is a non-historic asphalt driveway in the backyard in poor condition.

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

Demolish asphalt driveway in backyard and replace with turf.

Demolish driveway Work Item 1:	
Description of Current Condition: Paver driveway in front of house meets 1100 square feet of asphalt driveway in the backyard, behind the house. Asphalt driveway is cracked due to tree roots and in poor condition.	Proposed Work: Demolish and remove asphalt and gravel subbase from site Install clean dirt backfill and stabilization matting Install sod or grass seed
Work Item 2:	
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:
Work Item 3:	
Description of Current Condition:	Proposed Work:

From: Scott Kaczmarek and Abby Barnes

To: Berger, Chris

Cc: <u>cscango@capitolhardscapes.com</u>

Subject: Re: 3717 Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase (HAWP #1061611)

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 2:53:35 PM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Hi Chris,

Great, thank you for the update! The asphalt driveway is approximately 98 feet long. It is mostly 8 feet wide but 17 feet wide by the garage.

Yes, we plan to remove the concrete curb as well.

We have no plans to install a new driveway at this time.

Thanks, Abigail

On Fri, Mar 15, 2024 at 4:45 PM Berger, Chris < Chris.Berger@montgomeryplanning.org wrote:

Good afternoon,

Your driveway removal project is scheduled for review at the April 3 Historic Preservation Commission meeting. Staff supports the project, and we anticipate it will be on the consent agenda and not require a hearing, which means that no project representative would need to attend.

Staff has the following questions:

- What is the approximate length and width of the asphalt driveway to be removed?
- Will the concrete curb along the right side of the driveway also be removed?
- Do you plan to install a new access path to the garage as part of a future HAWP application?

Chris Berger, AICP

Cultural Resources Planner III

Montgomery County Planning Department







