

**Certificate of Review
for 201 Washington Grove Lane**

Application for Building Permit. HPC2002-092801
September 28, 2002

The application is for the construction of covered stairwell to a basement that is largely below ground. In reviewing applications, the HPC examines a series of issues.

1. Adequacy of documents submitted. The documents are adequate for review although no information is provided regarding the compatibility of the siding and roofing shingles with the siding and shingles used on the house.
2. Whether the house is a historic structure. Because this house was built after 1937, it is not classified as a historic structure and therefore preservation standards applied to proposed modifications are relaxed.
3. Whether the adjacent houses are historic. Were they contributing, a relevant question would concern the compatibility of the proposed change with these adjacent historical structures. However, the structures immediately adjacent on Washington Grove Lane are not historic ones.
4. Visibility from public ways. The proposed changes to the back of the house will be quite visible from Hickory Road and very visible from Oak Street. The visibility of the proposed changes adds importance to the last issue, #5.
5. Compatibility with the current structure. The proposed construction is relatively minor and thus compatible in scale with the house. Given the lack of information referred to earlier, it is unclear whether the siding and roofing shingles to be used will be compatible with those used elsewhere on the house. The HPC urges the owner to work toward compatibility in this regard.

Please note that the Historic Preservation Commission acts only in an advisory capacity to both applicants and the Planning Commission. The reviews undertaken are designed to assist homeowners in their projects, to provide input to deliberations of the Planning Commission and, more generally, to contribute to historic preservation in Washington Grove.

Further information regarding the scope, powers, duties, and structure of the Historic Preservation Commission may be found in Article 25 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Washington Grove. Section 5 (a) of Article 25 describes the powers and duties of the Historic Preservation Commission in the building permit process. This section reads as follows:

The Commission shall review all applications for building permits filed with the Town Planning Commission which would involve any change to a structure or site visible from any public way for historical accuracy, integrity, or compatibility with the neighborhood and improvements therein. The Commission may recommend to an applicant alternative historical designs, materials and sources for the same which may be more historically compatible. The Commission shall forward its recommendations regarding the same, if any, in an advisory capacity, to the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission within thirty (30) days from the Commission's receipt of the application from the Planning Commission.

Larry French, HPC

9/28/2002
Date

cc: Mr. Douglas Segovia de Paz, 201 Washington Grove Ln, Washington Grove, MD 20880