# 2387 2397 THOMAS W. OFFUTT, ET AL IN THE CIRCUIT COURT MAP #4-B BUARD OF ZONING APPEALS JAMES G. SAFFELL VIRGINIA J. SAFF JAMES G. SAFFELL and IN LAW 110 BOARD OF TOUTHO ADDRAGE . . . .

. . . .

There are two appeals in the above-entitled matter from a decision of the Beard of Zoning Appeals, reclassifying, upon the applications of James G. Saffell and Virginia J. Saffell, his wife, the owners, two tracts of land located on the west side of Reisterstown Road at Painter's Mill Road in the village of Owings Mills, Maryland, from "A" Residential to "F" Light Industrial, subject however to a setback along the Reisterstown Road of 250 feet. An appeal was taken by the protestants from the action of the Board of Zoning Appeals reclassifying the property. There was an appeal by the applicants from the increase in the estback from 150 feet to 250 feet by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Court first will consider the appeal of the protestants from the decision of the Board reclassifying the property in question.

The general principles governing the Court in Zening cases have been sat forth in a number of recent opinions. The Court has kept them in mind in arriving at its conclusions.

In Kracke vs Weinberg, 79 Atl. 2nd 387 the Jourt said:

\*In the Horbest Eigenhaut rewnianl case, we also discussed the presumption of reasonableness attached to a norting ordinance, and we said that while that shall also spayly to resenting, it did not not seen that the state of th

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court houses, libraries and even churches both as to architecture and landscaping. There is a marked contrast between the Cabennac gloom that emphrouse many industrial

areas, such as forces look, and the cheerful communities where light industry is located. Good taste cannot be enforced from above even if it is possessed in a high degree by the official arbitars. The charm of a city or countryside is, in the final analysis, an expression of the feeling for beauty of the people thesselves. The general lavel of culture ests the community or national patterns. Depressing ross of identical dwellings are perhaps less desirable from a community standpoint than a well-designed factory.

Although billhourds and other unsightly structures are still tolerated, there has been a marked improvement in public tasts in recent years. Throughout the country today one sees many immediate fastories of architectural merit set among specious landscaped grounds with lawn, shrubbery and trees and hands we residences mearby.

We have me right to anticipate that in the present instance there will be a to a ormer architectural and economic era. It is not unreasonable to believe comparise will make every effort, as they have indicated, to construct buildings of attractive design with will be assets rather than liabilities to the come unity. Self interest would dictate such action. There should be meither dirt, noise nor odors essenting from either of the contemplated industries.

The railroad at this location is not a thing of beauty and by skillful arrangement of buildings and landscaping the present unsightly appearance of the railroad tracks and of the mole neighborhood could be such improved.

The natural trend of light industry today is to seek asylum in country communities and small towns and villages where local labor can be hired and adequate upace acquired with some security against enemy attack. I desirable industry has a stabilising influence upon a comparty and frequently sparce the workers long and exhausting hours in committing. It is true that many of the employmen of both companies in this case de not live in this reighterhood but experience in Baltingra County has shown that eventually many of the workers in the local plants establish homes recessably near their work and new help is recruited from loc. I residente.

the objections of the schools of the community to the satablichment of industry and the itreats of parents to studyness their children from educational institutions if industries should be established on the land in question owen to the Quest to be without

In the case of Wakefield we Eraft 96 Atl. 2nd 27, Judge Hanmond, speaking fo the Court, approved the language in the Eruske case and helds

undinates, as exercise of police news, as you as present and news of its winding, the statistical it who is recently, most steading it who be recently, most store affirmatively methods recently exercises, discriminately or likely and clearly that it is stylicary, supplicious, discriminately or likely and the present of the present of the contribution of present forces. This is no because it is presumed that the original scale was well planned, and designed to be permanently it must appear, thereof that the testing and designed to be permanently it must appear, thereof that the testing and as a statistic in the original scale that the statistic of the permanently of the statistic of the permanently of the statistic of the sanching realth, and it is not the present the sanching realth in all colors and the present the sanching realth in all colors and the present the sanching realth in all colors and the present the sanching realth in all colors and the present the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real that it is a sanching real to the sanching real t

The Count vill not substitute the judgment for that of the legislative body it the yet with cashed an Entry Schatchia. That we have defined the country of t

I have read the voluminous testimony in this case and have viewed the property al times. I have studied the opinions of the then Zoning Commissioner, Mr. Muller and of the Board of Zoning Appeals and the carefully prepared memoranda . :- ttted by

The Court is of the opinion that there is substantial and ample evidence to support the finding of the Board of Zoning Appeals and the action of the Board is not illegal, arbitrary or discriminatory. The Board had ample grounds for considering that the public good not only of the community but of the county called for the reclassifi-

A mistake apparently was made at the time of the original moming of this area and the property in question should have been moned as light industrial rather than sidential. The original error is being corrected.

dation. Goucher College, one of the outstanding institutions of higher learning for women in the United States, is located near two manufacturing plants, one of them quite

It is contended that a serious traffic condition will be created on the Beisters

Road. This is not borne out by the testimony. As has been pointed out, the other

The Court has made inquiry and has ascertained that the change of setback from

For the reasons assigned the action of the Board in both appeals will be affirmed

John S. Contrum, Judge

main highways from Aultimore City are even more heavily travelled than Reisterstown Road

and the additional traffic resulting from the establishment of the two plants should

150 feet to 150 feet was not a typographical error as suggested. The condition seems

large. No one has suggested that the health, safety or norals of the young ladies in c

attend this institution have been adversely affected. Public schools are liberise

located near light industrial plants

prove no real hunden

November h. 1051

a reasonable and proper one.

It is easy to understand and sympathize with the feeling of those who have extensive properties in this general section. It is hard for those who prefer the seclusion of large country places to have their rural retreats inveded and be forced to yield to the steady pressure of both population and industry.

there are a number of large estates in this general community. There are also cial enterprises, industrial establishments, small dwellings and the Western Maryland Railroad, Automobiles and buser have superseded steam in this locality for travel but the railroad, of course, hauls freight with the usual account

It is impossible, of course, for any individual or group of individuals clearly to foresee and plan with absolute definiteness years ahead in a rapidly growing commumity such as Baltimore County. Comeral conditions also change from day to day.

Planners are not endowed with greater prescience than many practical business men and make their mistakes also. The planning in many fields by "master planners" of which we have heard so much in recent years has its limitations. Even the heat of the planuers see but through a glass darkly

Apparently, there are many differences of opinion as to how communities should be laid out and divided into residential, commercial and industrial areas. New developments such as the automobile and the aeroplane and how the atom bomb alter the entire scheme of living and working. All designs for the future necessarily are tentative and most be modified as conditions change.

The Reisterstown Hoad, like all the highways leading out of Baltimore, with the exception of Charles Street, is a hodgepodge of residential, commercial and light industrial. It cannot be affected too adversely by the establishment of new enterprises such as the ones involved in this armeal.

The Court must endeaver to view moning matters in the light of present and needs as the Zoning Board undertakes to do. The rules laid down by the Court of Appeals are intended to aid soming authorities and courts to arrive at conclusions that are both practical and legal.

As pointed out in the opinion of the Zoming Commissioner there is a need for the dispersal of industry in the county. This need has recently been emphasized. The advisability of dispersal from a defense standpoint is a matter of which the Court can and should take judicial notice. The Geroter May Company plays a small but important part in the military plan. The concentration of industry in large industrial areas

countly constitutes a national hazard. I shall not go beyond the record in arriving at a decision but the article on the dispersal or industry in the New York Times of Sunday, October 25, an Associated Press dispatch, is timely. I shall quote from it briefly:

There indestrialists who have scaffed at Covernment plans to build new plants outside potential target cities for atomic banks are beginning to accept the Office of Dafesse Reblitza-tion view that when it comes to building new fatheries it is good

uncement oured a lot of scoffers, an official asserted hight after the Soviet Francer spoke, the official added, anxious hunipage was dalmed the additionating assure with calls. About a year ago, so had to persuade them, the continued, they come around to us.

The Defence Mobilizer, Arthur S. Flowning, caid thir each that pract feel; remained to be done toward disproving the ability of industry to continue within production in the event of stated; the continue with pure control of the country's industrial capacities and located in fifty big setterpoil in contents.

has legitimate rights to exist and develop and the workers in any are entitled to have their need for employment considered. Baltimore County looks to industry for taxes and many of our citizens are dependent upon local industry for their living. But table locations for the establishment of light industry are limited. A short time ego, a branch of one large county enterprise was catablished in Carroll County because no acceptable sits could be found in

Much of the agitation against the establishment of light industry in hallishmen County is unfounded. There is a projudice against light industry not justified by present day experience. The gloomy era of industrial slung surrounded by the shahby eries of the morker is giving may to a new and brighter day.

It is a fact of which the Court can take judicial notice that in the communities where light industries recently have been established and modern plants erected there seems to be no injury to the neighboring property or the surrounding countryside. We can point to several industries in Townen which are near high class residential areas.

Electric power has come "of age". Industrial buildings, with no unsightly stacks belching smoke and soot, can be made as attractive and clean as dwellings,

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RE: PETITION FOR RECLASSIFICATION FROM AN "A"
RESIDENCE ZONS TO AN "P" INDUSTRIAL ZONE
S. S. Fainters Mill Road, Bot. Relateratom
Road & Western Maryland Hallroad, 4th Dist.,
James O. and Vinginia J. Saffell, Petitioner

PETITION FOR REGLASSIFICATION FROM AN "A" PETITION FOR TO AN "F" LIGHT INDUSTR RESIDENCE ZONE TO AN "F" LIGHT INDUSTR ZONE - N. S. Painters Mill Road, Bet. Reisterstown Road and W. Md. Railroad terstown Mead and w. Md. mailroad -District of Baltimore County -G. and Virginia J. Saffell, Petitioners for May Corporation. Contract Furchaser

The appeal in the above entitled matters coming or for hearing before the Board of Zoning Appeals of Heltimore County on the day of . granting the reclassification from an "A" Residence Zone to an "F" Light Industrial Zone in regard to the properties described therein; and it appearing from the facts and evidence adduced at the appeal and for reasons set forth in the Opinion attached hereto that the granting of the reclassification would not be detrimental to the health, safety, and general welfare of the community; therefore.

It is this 30 th day of April, 1953, Ordered by the Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County that the property described in these proceedings be reclassified from an "A" Residence Zone to an "F" Light Industrial Zone, with exception of the property lying along the West side of the Reisterstown Road for a depth of 250 feet, which shall remain in an  $^{\rm H}A^{\rm H}$ Residence Zone.

OPINION OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS BALTIMORE COUNTY

This is an appeal by Thomas W. Offutt, Benjamin Tongue George P. B. Ward, Garrison Forest School, Inc., from the Orders of the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County dated November 26 1952, and December 11, 1952, granting the reclassification from an "A" Residence Zone to a. "F" Industrial Zone as to certain parts of the tracts of land described in the petitions of James G. Saffel and Virginia J. Saffel, pertaining to the land lying on the West side of Reisterstown Road; one parcel being North of Pointers Mill Road, and the other South of said road.

The case came on for hearing before the Board, testimony was taken for and against said petition, and counsel heard. The two cases were heard and considered as one, and this Opinion will accordingly deal with both properties.

The property which is the subject of these patitions is located on the West side of Reisterstown Road extending to the East boundary line of the Western Maryland Railroad; one piece of land being known as the Northern tract, and the other the Southern tract: the former having a frontage of 1367 feet on Reisterstown Road and 92h feet on Painters Mill Road, and the latter tract having 840 feet on Reisterstown Road by approximately 920 feet on Painters Mill Road. The total number of feet along the Western Maryland Reilroad tract being 2328 feet.

A number of persons appeared at the hearing and testified at length, setting forth their reasons why they were either in favor or opposed to the reclassification. Those who were opposed were apprehensive of possible adverse effects on their properties either from the standpoint of depreciation in values of their investments or loss of revenue, or both; from dangers of traffic hazards due to increased vehicular travel, and the conviction that there is no need for any industry in

BEFORE AUGUSTINE J. MULIER

ZONING COMMISSIONER

the area and that the property is not contiguous to an existing industrial or commercial use, and that whatever commercial and industrial enterprise now in existence in the area are there by virtue of non-conforming use or are small and insignificant in relation to the size of the tracts of land under consideration.

All those matters were of interest to the Board and were given every consideration, but it was also noted that there was considerable testimony to the contrary; and that in addition to those who testified in favor of the reclassification there was a voluminous petition bearing a large number of names of those favoring reclassification for the reasons stated therein, namely: "being familiar with this general neighborhood and believing as we do that the development of these properties by the Corporations named for light industrial purposes would be of tremendous advantage to our community, would create employment, would not adversely affect the health, safety, morals or general welfare of our community, but would tend to improve same, and believing that the proper zoning of this property would be for light industrial purposes, especially when such zoning would generally benefit our community, we earnestly request and urge the zoning authorities of Baltimore County to grant the applications for re-zoning from residential to light industrial, particularly in view of the great public need for industrial zoning in our section of the County."

There are other matters, however, which the Board has considered from the evidence in the case and from a review of the property in question and the general area thereabouts, in addition to the general opinion of the neighbors, as to the desirability or undesirability of the tracts of land in question being reclassified, namely, there are a number of properties in

this general area which are not being used for residential purposes. Some of such properties are old, well established non-conforming uses situated in such a manner and with such physical structures of a permanent nature that in all likelihood they will continue to exist for many years to come. These are scattered out along both sides of the railroad, as well as some of the properties which have been reclassified or are subject to a special permit such as the Electrical Transformer Station, the Natural Gas Line Pressure Relief Station, and the Redio Towers.

The Board is of the opinion that under the original zoning that the two tracts of land in question were erroneously alegatited on MAH Residential

in examination of the soning man of Baltimore County shows two Light Industrial tracts were set up at the time of the original zoning, and both pieces being on the same side of the railroad tracks as the property now under consideration but farther to the north on the east side of the Reisterstown Road.

Subsequent to original coming another large piece of land was reclassified on the east side of the railroad between the first mentioned Light Industrial areas. There are also commercial properties on both sides of the Reisterstown Road where it intersects the refleced which were set up under the original County zoning.

From an inspection of the property and adjoining areas it is clear that this is not a well settled and established exclusive residential or agricultural neighborhood.

There was done testimony that although Reisterstown Road is a heavily traveled highway it still could take an additional load of twice the number of vehicles without difficulty or serious danger. The number of employees that would be using

load on this highway, but it is perfectly possible and probable that the peak traffic from the plants would not necessarily coincide with the neek tweffic now present on the Reistenstown Road in the morning and evenings at Painters Mill Road. Some of this traffic would no doubt use the route from Painters Mill Road through to McDonough Road. The installation of traffic lights and the building of merging lanes would greatly facilitate the handling of this traffic.

The Board is of the opinion that the reclassification of this property will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and general welfare of the community; and it will, therefore, pass its Order granting the reclassification of the two properties from MAR Pasidence Tone to MpH Light Industrial Tone with exception of the property lying along the West side of the Reisterstown Road for a depth of 250 feet, which shall remain in an "A" Basidence Zone.

Board of Zoning Appeals of

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the Reisterstown Road would, of course, increase the traffic

Attorney for Protestants

Ro: Petition for Reclassification from an "A" retition for Reclassification from an "A" Remidence Zone to an "S" Hight Industrial Zone - N. S. Paintors Hill Read, Ret. Reinterstown Read and N. Mt. Relirond -tht District of Raltimore County -Jac. G. and Virginia J. Saffell, Pentitioners Gerotor May Corporation, Contract Purchaser

The property which is the subject of this patition is located on the north side of Funders Hill Road, between Reisterstons Road and the Western Waysland Railroad. The property fronts 1367 feet on Deliberston Roady 9th Feet on Painters Hill Road and 1300 feet on the Western Royal 9th Reistons.

It is the intention of the contract purchaser, if this reclassification is grated, is construct a one story factory building camprining 100,000 square feet. The approximate dismentions of this see to be 255 feet by 150 feet, the 150 feet tide to parallel the lattle are to be 255 feet by 150 feet, the 150 feet tide to parallel the lattle are so as to allow for the located T5 feet to 100 feet feet the Ballrack or as to allow for the Ballrack or as to allow for the Ballrack or as to allow for the same the present Ballrack and the proposed 'allding.

The contract purchasor, the Geroter Corporation, which now sports the State and State State and State Street, state it is his account of the State Sta

regimes-way rational related that they have made a survey of possible industrial locations in all medicans of the City and the County and that they found this location to the the most desirable from the standpoint of location, transportation facilities and form the standpoint of location, transportation facilities and further related as labor supply standpoint. The contract premasurable relative transportation for high voltage electricity, natural gas and public specialists of these are available at this location. There is a water supply problem existing, however, at the present time. This problem will be therefore the country of the present time. This problem will be the third according to the logaritant of public books, prior to the thorse decording to the logaritant of public books, prior to pupping facilities in Pikesville.

The petitioner stated that it is not their intention at the present time to operate the building more than one shift and that no electric lighting will be employed but that only security lights will be on at might.

Counsel for the potitionar contends that the property located as it is, adjacent to the Bailroad, to the Hactric Transformer Station and near the natural gas line Pressure Relief Station and bardwring on the heartly travelled Hestscretown Road, the Logical use of this property is for such use as in proposed by the potitions.

he residents of the area protest the re-coning of this property for industrial use giving testinancy that such use would have a depreciating affect upon the values of their residential properties. A strong of the residential properties though changes have taken place in the form of the Electric Transform Station, the Pressure Railed Station for the natural gas line and one several residential and residential that the future of the area is for residential and agricultural use.

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indicates that it is the amounced plan of the State Rasis Consistent construct the Southern Expressive beginning at Wheath American Commission to construct the Southern Expressive beginning at Wheath Avenue and Copy Ralls to Oring Mills, and partiabiling Poster Mills of the Mestadates Plan. The proposed location of the Expressive will be appreciatedly 1500 feet west of the Mestadates at Paintern Mill Boosi.

In addition to this proposed Expressway, it is expected that withinthe mear future the outful, seeps to serve the Relateration are will be constructed through this Selfctellyn special, the locations of this sewer line, in addition to the construction of the sewer line, in addition to the construction of the Repressway, will have a great afford upon the development in this serve in time of this separated increased development is in sparant several translations of the serveral translation of the servera

County. There is a great need for the dispersal of industry in the County. In addition to the desirability of dispersal from a define stamping of the county of the desirability of dispersal from a define stamping of the setting up of light industrial least of the north, northeast and northeast of the City to provide locations when the county and in the county of t

with the increase of traffic problems in the County, it does not seen practical that a person residing in the areas heretofere mentioned be required to travel to either the contheastern coutherwatern sections of the County or to Estimate City there extensive inhabitral avera have been established and ident infantral avera have been established and ident infantral avera bayes been established and ident infantral avera located.

For these reasons it would appear that the location of a destrict in clinicary on the property in question is logical and reasonable. It is the plan of the contract purchaser to carry on this industrial operations in the rear of the property along the thing the plan of the contract property along the third was not plan for the use of the last at the present these there were no plans for the use of the last at the present the computer of the contract plan for the last and the contract property of the seast disc of Aditorious food will be given proper protection to dopt of 150 feet will not send of the industrial or contract to dopt of 150 feet will not send of the industrial one will will results as "A" Bestdoor Some. For these reasons it would appear that the location of

It is the opinion of the Zening Consistence, that the reclassification of the remaining portion for Light industrial use will not be detrimental to the health, rafety and general welfare of the community and the reclassification should be had.

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of the community and the reclassification should be had.

It is that JL for themsen, 1952, CHREMD by the
Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County that the slower described
property or are should be reclassified, with the exception of the
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Beginning for the same on the north side of Painters Bills Beginning for the base from the Beginning for the distant 100 feet westerly a right angles from the Beginning of the

## Petition for Zoning Re-Classification

To The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County:---

I, or we, James O. A. Yirginia J. Saffell .. 

hereby jetition that the zoning status of the above descri Zoning Law of Baltimore County, from an A. A. Reasons for Re-Classification:	
Zoning Law of Baltimore County, from an A Plant	hed property be re-classified, pursuant to the
Reasons for Re-Classification;	S some to ant. Li. INO some.
Size and height of building: front	
Size and height of building: front	feet; heightfeet.
Property to be posted as prescribed by Zoning Regulations.	feet; sidefeet.

or we, agree to pay expenses of above re-classification, advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law-for Baltimore County.

Dugnin A Soffell

19.52, that the subject matter of this petition be advertised, as required by the "Zoning Law of Baltimore County," in a new spaper of general circulation throughout Baltimore County, that property be posted, and that the public hearing hereon be had in the office of the Zening Commissioner of Baltimore County, in the Reckord Bldg., in Towaco, Baltimore County, on the. ... 19 52, at 11:00 elock A. M.

Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

@ 11 AM

ORDER FOR APPEAL Mr. Zoning Commissioner:

Res Petition for Reclassification from an \*A\* Residence Some to an \*P\* Light Light Land Come - N. S. Painters Mill all Jone - N. S. Painters Mill all Jone - N. S. Painters Mill all Jone - N. S. James G. and Virginia - Activity. James G. and Virginia - Activity. Patitioners - Gerber May Gorp. Contract Purchaser

Please enrer an appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County from your decision in the above entitled matter granting the reclassification from an "A" Residence Zone to an "F" Light Industrial

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9ct 295

Towson, Maryland

#2387 10-15-52

Date of return: 10-15-52

Posted for Cen of Beardon't gant to Los 5 " Light Production James & & Office of Posting Done Pretitioner James & & Office of Some Pretitioner James & Selfell Location of property of the Northwest Carmer Seisterstown & Pounters Road See Plat

Location at Sign and argent M. S. Co. of Similar Milled & Bustinter Polymonth sign 409 ff, mother 50 ft My Bustinety of the state of the state of the state of the foundary of the polymonth south from the Most Market of the state of the sta

June 22, 1953

MCSIVED of Junes C. L. Anderson, Attorney for Thomas W. Offutt, et al, appellants, the sum of \$15.40 being cost of certified cost of petition and other papers filed in the anther of reclassification of property on the north and south sides of Painters Hill Road, Dr. James G. Saffell, et al, petitioners.

Zoning Openisaioner

October 23, 1952

MEGRINED of Michoel Paul Smith, Attorney for Dr. James C. Coffell, et al, patitioners, the sum of Forty (\$40.00) Dollars, being cost of petition for reclassification, advertising and posting property, northwest corner of Scisterstown and Painters Mill Roads, bth District.

Zoning Cosmissioner

Bearing : Wednesday, Oct. 29, 1952 at 11:00 a.m. basement of Reckord Building Townon, Md.

GCT 2 3 1952 OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

December 8, 1952

RECEIVED of James C. L. Anderson, Attorney for Protestants, the sum of Teenty Two (822.00)Dollars, being cost of appeal to the Board of Zoni ng Appeals from the decision of the Zoning Commissioner granting the reclassification of property, Painters Hill Road, 4th District of Baltimore County.

Zoning Consissioner



NO PLAT IN THIS FOLDER