IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF JAMES WEIMER, ET UX FOR ZONING VARIANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE BEACHWOOD ROAD, 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

* ON REMAND * FROM THE * CIRCUIT COURT FOR

Civil Action No. 92-CV-10821/38/132

BALTIMORE COUNTY

(RONDALYN RAKOWSKI -PLAINTIFF) ZONING CASE NO. 92-187-A

AMENDED ORDER PURSUANT TO ORDER OF THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

* * * * * * * * * * * *

This matter comes before the Board on remand by Order of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County dated September 28, 1994 with direction that the Petition for Variance be denied, pursuant to Order by the Court of Special Appeals dated May 24, 1994.

IT IS THEREFORE this ________, 1994, by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

ORDERED that the Petition for Variance in Zoning Case No. 92-187-A be and is hereby DENIED.

> COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 **400 WASHINGTON AVENUE** TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

October 13, 1994

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 400 Towson, MD 21204

> RE: Case No. 92-187-A Circuit Court Civil Action No. 92-CV-10821 /38 /132 James W. Weimer, et ux

Dear Mr. Gisriel:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Amended Order issued this date by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County upon remand from the Circuit Court.

Very truly yours,

Charlette & Karletype for Kathleen C. Weidenhammer Administrative Assistant

cc: Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski Mr. & Mrs. James W. Weimer Honorable Thomas J. Bollinger Copy /Circuit Ct File 92-CV-10821 People's Counsel for Baltimore County Pat Keller Lawrence E. Schmidt W. Carl Richards, Jr. /ZADM Docket Clerk /ZADM Arnold Jablon, Director /ZADM

Printed with Soybean Ink

- 3 testimony and exhibits are sufficient to indicate to the Board that Sections 307.1, 307.2 and 500.14 of the BCZR have been

In accordance with Section 500.14 of the BCZR, the Director of the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management ("DEPRM") has submitted recommendations which describe what steps the Petitioner must take to insure that the relief requested complies with the following Chesapeake Bay Critical Area requirements to:

complied with.

 Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that results from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have run off from surrounding lands:

Conserve fish, wildlife, and plant habitat; and 3) Be consistent with established land use policies for development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area which accommodate growth and also address the facts that, even if pollution is controlled, the number, movement, and

activities of persons in that area can

create adverse environmental impacts.

These recommendations shall be attached hereto and become a permanent part of the decision rendered in this appeal. There is no evidence in the record that the relief requested would adversely affect the health, safety and/or general welfare of the public provided there is compliance with requirements of DEPRM as more fully described in the aforesaid attachment.

After reviewing all the testimony, exhibits and argument, the Board is of the opinion that the relief requested in the Petition submitted in compliance with the plat submitted should be granted and will issue an order granting the request.

The circuit court affirmed the Board's decision and stated:

This Court has reviewed the transcript of record as well as memorandum filed by Appellant and Appellees, and considered

92-187-A James W. Weimer, et ux SA REVERSED; REMANDED back to CT for REMAND to the BOA with direction that the Petition for Variance be DENIED. 5/24/91 (Bishop, Fischer, Getty)

UNREPORTED

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS OF MARYLAND

September Term, 1993

No. 1543

RONDALYN RAKOWSKI

JAMES W. WEIMER, et al.

Bishop, Fischer, Getty, James S. (Ret'd. Specially Assigned)

Per Curiam

JJ.

Filed: May 24, 1994

#92CV10821

5 th 11

93-CV-10521

Appellant, Rondalyn Rakowski ("Rakowski"), filed a complaint with the Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management alleging that appellee, James W. Weimer ("Weimer"), was constructing an accessory building in violation of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("BCZR"). Weimer filed a petition for a variance, which the Deputy Zoning Commissioner ("Commissioner") granted. Rakowski filed an appeal to the County Board of Appeals ("the Board"), which affirmed the Commissioner's decision to grant Weimer's request for a variance. Rakowski then filed an appeal to the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, which also affirmed the Commissioner's decision. Finally, Rakowski filed a timely notice of appeal to this Court.

Issues

Rakowski raises four issues, which we rephrase as follows:

I. Does the BCZR permit a variance for an accessory building in a front yard?

II. Did the Board of Appeals make adequate

findings of fact to support its decision?

III. Did Weimer meet his burden of proof to justify the Commissioner's decision to grant the variance?

IV. Does the variance violate the minimum set-back requirement for an accessory building?

Facts

In September 1991, Weimer removed an old screen house located in his front yard and began constructing a new screen house on the same site. The screen house site is classified as a Limited Development Area on Back River, located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. Weimer did not obtain a permit from the County to

arguments presented at a hearing. As trier of fact, it is the Board's responsibility to weigh all the evidence presented to it and rule accordingly. This Court's responsibility is to ensure that the Board's decision is supported by competent, material and substantial evidence. It is this Court's finding that the Board addressed the issues presented and that there was substantial evidence to support the Board's decision.

Discussion

I. Standard of Review

In United Steelworkers Local 2610 v. Bethlehem Steel Corp., 298 Md. 665, 679 (1984), the Court of Appeals stated:

> Judicial review of administrative action differs from the appellate review of a trial court judgment. In the latter context the appellate court will search the record for evidence to support the judgment and will sustain the judgment for a reason plainly appearing on the record whether or not the reason was expressly relied upon by the trial court. However, in judicial review of agency action the court may not uphold the agency order unless it is sustainable on the agency's findings and for the reasons stated by the

When the record fails to disclose findings of fact by the agency, the Court ordinarily remands the case for appropriate findings of fact. See Ocean Hideaway Condominium Ass'n v. Boardwalk Plaza Venture, 68 Md. App. 650, 656-57 (1986).

> "Expert discretion is the lifeblood of the administrative process, but 'unless we make the requirements of administrative action strict and demanding, expertise, the strength of modern government can become a monster which rules with no practical limits on discretion.'"

Burlington Truck Lines, Inc. v. United States, 371 U.S. 156, 167 (1962) (citation omitted).

We agree with Rakowski that the circuit court erred when it

affirmed the Board's decision to grant the variance because the Board failed to make appropriate findings of fact. Rakowski rightly asserts that the circuit court failed to address whether the Board had the authority, under \$\$ 307.1 and 307.2, to grant Weimer's request for a variance, whether the variance violated the minimum set-back requirements set forth in § 400.1, and whether the Board made sufficient findings of fact. Furthermore, the circuit court applied the wrong standard of review when it affirmed the Board's decision. The circuit court stated that the Board's decision was "supported by competent, material and substantial evidence" and that "there was substantial evidence to support the Board's decision." A reviswing court, however, may only affirm the decision of an administrative agency based upon the agency's findings of fact. In the case sub judice, the Board failed to make sufficient findings of fact upon which the circuit court could have upheld the agency's decision.

II. Does the BCSR Permit a Variance for the Screen House?

Both the Board and the circuit court relied on §§ 307.1, 307.2, and 500.14 of the BCZR to reach their conclusions that the Commissioner had the authority to grant Weimer's request for a variance. Section 307 of the BCZR provides in pertinent part:

307.1--The zoning commissioner of Baltimore County and the County Board of Appeals, upon appeal, shall have and they are hereby given the power to grant variances from height and area regulations, from off-street parking regulations and from sign regulations, only in cases where special circumstances or conditions exist

raze the old structure or construct a new screen house. After receiving a stop-work order from the County, Weimer applied for a variance to permit construction of the new screen house.

The Commissioner determined that the replacement of the screen house, originally built in 1972 prior to the effective date of the applicable zoning regulations, was "merely a continuation of the original pavilion which existed on the property for nearly twenty years without prior complaint." The Commissioner also determined that "the relief requested sufficiently complies with the requirements of Sections 307.1, 307.2, and 500.14 of the BCZR." The Commissioner based his determination, in part, upon the findings of the Director of the Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management ("Director"):

<u>Finding:</u> The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program does not allow the placement of new structures within the shoreline buffer; however, as stated above, the program does allow the continuation but not necessarily the expansion of existing permitted uses. If evidence can be presented that verifies the size and location of a previously permitted structure, then it will be allowed to be rebuilt. * * *

<u>Finding:</u> This property appears to be within the 25% impervious surface limit. This submitted site plan does not include dimensions of the existing house; however, a site visit by this Department estimated the dimensions and found them to be within this

On appeal, the "findings" of the Board were as follows:

The testimony and exhibits indicate that the screen house is merely a continuation of the site being used for a screen house which has existed on the property for at least 20 years without complaint. In addition, said

. .

- 2 -

that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request and where strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. . . . They shall have no power to grant any other variances. . . .

- 6 -

- 307.2--In addition to the authority and limitations set forth in Section 307.1 above, within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, the zoning commissioner, or upon appeal, the Board of Appeals of of [sic] Baltimore County, shall have the power to authorize the expansion of those uses in existence at the time of the effective date of this subsection: any order granting a variance pursuant to this subsection shall contain findings of fact which shall include the following: . . .
 - 1. That special conditions or circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure within the critical area of the county; . . .
 - 2. That strict compliance with the critical area regulations would result in practical difficulty, unreasonable hardship or severe economic hardship; . . .
 - 3. That strict compliance with the critical area regulations will deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in similar areas within the critical area of the county; . . .
 - 4. That the granting of a variance will not confer upon an applicant any special privilege that would be denied by the critical area regulations to other lands or structures within the critical area of the county; . . .
 - 5. That the variance request is not based upon conditions or circumstances which are the result

of actions by the applicant, nor does the request arise from any condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or nonconforming, on any neighboring property; . . .

- 7 -

6. That the granting of a variance will be in harmony with the general spirit and intent of the critical area regulations of the county; and

7. That the variance conforms to the requirements as stated in Section 500.14, B.C.Z.R. . . .

We agree with Rakowski that § 307.1 does not apply to Weimer's request for a variance. Section 307.1 permits the Commissioner and the Board to grant variances "from height and area regulations, from off-street parking regulations, and from sign regulations." Clearly, a variance for the construction of an accessory building does not qualify as a variance from height and area regulations under § 307.1; however, the BCZR does permit the Commissioner and the Board to authorize the expansion of nonconforming uses in existence at the time of the effective date of § 307.2, which was 1988. The original screen house was constructed in 1972, and therefore, was in existence at the time of the effective date of § 307.2. The original screen house, however, was constructed in violation of \$ 400.1 of the BCZR, and therefore was not a use sanctioned by law. The BCZR defines nonconforming use as "a legal use that does not conform to a use regulation for the zone in which it is located or to a special regulation applicable to such a use." BCZR § 101 (1987). Section 307.2 does not permit the expansion of illegal uses.

III. & IV. Weimer's Burden of Proof and the Minimum Set-Back

- 11 -

The BCZR does empower the Board, under Article V, § 2-85.1 "to make a change as to the district, division or zone within which a particular piece of property is classified (zoning reclassification) as herein provided." Before the Board may reclassify property or grant a use variance pursuant to 2-85.1, however, the Board must find that substantial change in the character of the neighborhood has occurred or that the last classification of the property was established in error. See also

The Board determined that the construction of the new screen house was merely a continuation of the original screen house that had been in existence since 1972. The Board based its determination on the Director's statement, made pursuant to § 500.14 of the BCZR, that the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program allows the continuation, but not necessarily the expansion of existing permitted uses. The Board, however, failed to recognize the mandatory language in § 400.1 of the BCZR. Pursuant to § 400.1, accessory buildings may only be located in the rear yard and "in no case shall they be located less than 2 1/2 feet from any side or rear lot lines, except that two private garages may be built with a common party wall straddling a side interior property line if all other requirements are met." Significantly, the zoning regulations governing accessory buildings are located in

- 8 -

Certain uses, whether permitted as of right or by special exception, have singular, individual characteristics which make it necessary, in the public interest, to specify regulations in greater detail than would be feasible in the individual use regulations for each or any of the zones or districts. This article, therefore, provides such regulations.

Article 4 of the BCZR, the purpose of which is as follows:

Clearly, the County saw fit to distinguish certain regulations from the general height and area regulations set forth in Article 3. The testimony before the Board indicated that Weimer built the original screen house in his front yard, 2.16 feet from Rakowski's side property line, in 1972, and that he wanted to reconstruct the new screen house on the same site. Section 400.1, effective 1963, mandates that in no case shall an accessory building be located

less than two and a half feet from a side lot line. Although the BCZR, under compelling circumstances, might permit a variance for an accessory building, under no circumstances does § 400.1 of the BCZR permit a variance for the construction of Weimer's screen house 2.16 feet from Rakowski's side property line.

- 9 -

The Board explicitly found that the reason for granting the petition was that the screen house had existed "for at least 20 years without complaint." This really has no bearing on the issues involved in this case unless the Board was implicitly finding that this was a nonconforming use. This it cannot be. A nonconforming use is one that is legal prior to the time new zoning regulations become effective, and therefore remains exempt from the new regulations. Had Weimer constructed his screen house in 1955, prior to the institution of the BCZR, then Weimer's screen house would constitute a nonconforming use; however, Weimer built his screen house in 1972, several years after the enactment of § 400.1, which requires that accessory buildings be constructed in rear yards with minimum set-back requirements of two and one half feet. Therefore, Weimer's screen house was never sanctioned by law and does not constitute a nonconforming use which the Board can expand pursuant to § 307.2.

III. Did the Board Make Sufficient Findings of Fact?

Even assuming, arguendo, that the construction of the new screen house constituted a permissive expansion of an existing use, the Board was required, pursuant to § 307.2 of the BCZR, to set forth findings of fact addressing the seven requirements listed

the Board granting Weimer a variance for the construction of his screen house.

- 13 -

CASE REMANDED TO THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR REMAND TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WITH DIRECTION THAT THE PETITION FOR THE VARIANCE BE DENIED. APPELLEE TO PAY THE

Requirements

Although we would ordinarily remand a case when an agency makes "no findings of fact worthy of the name," we shall reverse the decision of the circuit court because the record demonstrates that the screen house was not a use for which a variance was permitted. Turner v. Hammond, 270 Md. 41, 57 (1973); see also Ocean Hideaway, 68 Md. App. at 664-65 (holding that where the undisputed evidence shows that the proposed building would violate a mandatory requirement of the zoning code, the Court may reverse the decision of the Board, rather than remand the case for appropriate findings). As we have already discussed, the testimony demonstrates that the screen house, when originally built in 1972, did not meet the minimum, mandatory set-back requirement of two and one half feet from Rakowski's side property line. The reconstruction of a screen house on that same site would amount to a continuation of a use that is in violation of a mandatory zoning requirement.

- 12 -

BCZR, Rules of Practice and Procedure of County Board of Appeals, Rule 9 (Appendix G, 1987).

In Anderson, 22 Md. App. at 38-39, this Court characterized a use variance as "customarily concerned with 'hardship' cases, where the land cannot yield a reasonable return if used in accordance with the use restrictions of the ordinance and a variance must be permitted to avoid confiscatory operation of the ordinance, . . ." Weimer does not demonstrate that, without a variance from § 400.1, he would suffer a hardship or would be unable to use his property as a residence. Furthermore, the existence of the screen house on the front yard of Weimer's property is the result of Weimer's own doing. A hardship that is self-created cannot be the basis for granting a variance. See Wilson v. Mayor of the Town of Elkton, 35 Md. App. 417, 427-28 (1977) ("'the hardship, arising as a result of the act of the owner or his predecessor will be regarded as having been self-created, barring relief.'"). Because the Commissioner and the Board granted a variance that they were not permitted, under the BCZR, to grant, and because Weimer has not sustained his burden of proving that he is entitled to a variance from use regulation § 400.1 of the BCZR, we reverse the opinion and order of

therein. The Board made no such findings. A reviewing court may not uphold an agency's decision if the record does not disclose the findings of fact used by the agency to reach its conclusion. When an agency fails to supply factua! findings to support its decision, the decision may be deemed arbitrary. See Mortimer v. Howard Research, 83 Md. App. 432, 441 (1990). The Board's decision, in the case sub judice, lacked the specific factual findings necessary for a reviewing court to determine the basis of the agency's action. The Board summarized:

- 10 -

The testimony and exhibits indicate that the screen house is merely a continuation of the site being used for a screen house which has existed on the property for at least 20 years without complaint. In addition, said testimony and exhibits are sufficient to indicate to the Board that Sections 307.1, 307.2 and 500.14 of the BCZR have been complied with.

In Anderson v. Board of Appeals, 22 Md. App. 28, 36-37 n. 5 (1974),

we recognized that, "[d]espite repeated admonitions by the Court of

Appeals that the findings of administration boards are not to be

limited to conclusions couched in the terms of the ordinance itself but rather are to include specific findings of facts that support their conclusions," administrative agencies frequently set forth their conclusions in boilerplate fashion, without supplying any specific findings of fact. In this case, we agree with Rakowski that the Board, which based its decision to grant the variance on §§ 307.1, 307.2, and 550.14, has not even set forth its conclusions

using a boilerplate form of § 307.2.

PRODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A. ATTOENEYS AT LAW 901 DULANEY VALLEY BOAD 10000 LETTLE PATURENT BARKWAY SUITE 400 Louis Jay Ulman SUETE 1090 David N. Pessin COLUMBIA, MAENTAND 2104 TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 Gerald M. Katz (410) 740-2000 (410) 938-8800 Michael P. Donnel Thomas J. Gisriel (301) 596-1717 D.C. Disease (410) 938-8806 Facalmile (410) 740-2005 Pacelmile Joseph P. Kempler (410) 823-6017 Facaimile Kevin F. Bress Of Course Allen D. Greif Mary Elizabeth Zorzi Alan M. Poreman Susan B. Hughes **Devid Borinsky** William M. Gatesman Patricia M. Artimovich February 24, 1994 Clerk of the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland Courts of Appeal Building Rowe Boulevard and Taylor Avenue Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Re: Rakowski v. Weimer, et al. September Term, 1993 No. 1543 Dear Mr. Clerk: Enclosed you will find a Notice of Change of Address for filing in the above-referenced case. Very truly yours, Horns Gisriel Thomas J TJG/ral Enclosure cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer Michael B. Sauer, Esquire

Docahase nated 2/28/94

10480 LITTLE PATURENT PAREWAY

SUTTE 1050

COLUMBIA, MARYLAND 21044

(410) 740-2000

(301) 596-1717 D.C. Direct

(410) 740-2005 Facsimile

Allen D. Greif

Alan M. Foreman

David Borinsky

Kevin F. Bress, P.A.

John H. Haas

Appellant No. 1543 September Term, 1993 JAMES W. WEIMER, et ux. Appellees NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS Please note counsel for Appellant's new address: Thomas J. Gisriel HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A. 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 400 Towson, Maryland 21204 Counsel's telephone and fax numbers remain the game. Thomas J. Gisriel HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A. 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 400 Towson, Maryland 21204 (410) 938-8800 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 34TH day of Felmun 1994, a copy of the foregoing Notice of Change of Address was mailed, postage prepaid, to: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222; Michael B. Sauer, Esquire, c/o County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21/204 {tjg.gen\lotz.nac}

POMDALYM RAKOWSKI (now known as Rondalyn Lots)

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS OF MARYLAND

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE OUNTY CIVIL CATEGORY APPEAL **ATTORNEYS** IN THE MATTER OF THE Thomas J. Gisriel APPLICATION OF JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX FOR A VARIANCE 22 W. Allegheny Ave, Ste 400 ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE 21204 938-8800 901 DULINEY VALLEY RP NORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD. 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE suite 400 OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT Box 97 DES Mailed 10/11/97 ----Dlu: Mailed 60 1.34; #92-187-A COSTS Nov. 20, 1992 Rondalyn Rakowski's Order for Appearl for the Order of the Baltimore County Board of Appeals, fd. 2) Nov. 23, 1992 Certificate of Notice, fd. True Copy Test (3) Dec. 1, 1992 Appellant's Petition for Appeal, fd. ps (4) Dec. 17, 1992 Transcript of Record, fd. ps (5) Dec. 31, 1992 Notice of Filing of Record, fd. Copy sent. (kv)(6)Feb. 1.1993 - Appellant's memorandum, Fd. April 14,1993 Hon. Thomas J. Bollinger. Hearing had testimony taken. Court's written opinion to be filed. \$Q. PH(7) Aug 12,1993 Opinion and Order of Court Affirming the grant by the County Board of Appeals, fd. (TJB) mr (8) SEpt. 3, 1993 Pltff's Order entering an appeal to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, fd. (Docket 6, Folio 198) ps (9) October 6, 1993 Order of Court from the Court of Special Appeals that the above captioned appeal proceed without a Prehearing Conference, fd. (Hon. Paul E. Alpert) DECEMBER 3, 1993- ORIGINAL RECORD AND PROCEEDINGS SENT TO THE COURT OF

To be filled th by Clerk, Persons to MA. Bulb S-205 COURT OF SPECIAL APPEAR Court of Special Appeals d. Was post-judgment ion under Md. Rule 2-532, 2-534 or 2-534 filed? If so, filed No and date of disposition the free most be excepted OF MARYLAND and and to Chat. Count of 8. Date appeal noted: September 3, 1993 Special Appends, Courts of Appeal BMg., Asseptib., MD 21461 CIVIL APPEAL PREHEARING INFORMATION REPORT 9. Issues proposed to be raised on appeal. As to each issue, state whether and how the issue was raised in and decided by the trial court, whether you anticipate a defense of non-preservation, waiver, or harmless error, and how you propose to respond to any such In the Matter of James W. Weimer, et ux. for a Variance on 1. The Board of Appeals lacks the power to grant the requested variance. 1. Title of case: Property located on the north side of Beachwood Road, 1400' This issue was raised in the Board of Appeals orally, and in the Petition, west of the centerline of Lynhurst Road (4116 Beachwood Road) the Memorandum and argument before the Circuit Court, but was not addressed 15th Election District, 7th Councilmanic District Which party is Appellant in Court of Special Appeals: by either the Board of Appeals or the Circuit Court. 2. The Board of Appeals failed to specify the reasons for its decision and failed to make the statutorily required findings of fact. This issue was Rondalyn Rakowski 2. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of counsel: raised in the Petition, the Memorandum and argument before the Circuit Court, but was not addressed by that Court. For Appellant: Thomas J. Gisriel, Hodes, Ulman, Pessin & Katz, P.A., 3. The variance granted is illegal because it violates the minimum set-back 22 W. Allegheny Avenue, Suite 400, Towson, MD 21204 for an accessory structure from the side lot line. This argument was raised (410) 938-8800 in the Petition, the Memorandum and argument before the Circuit Court, but was not addressed by that Court. For Appellee: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer (pro se) 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, MD 21222 County Board of Appeals for Balto. Co 3. Trial court: iChacukkkx/ArghenakxGourk April affirmed by Circuit Court for Balto. Settlement discussions: a. Was settlement discussed before trial or hearing which resulted in judgment? Describe briefly. a. Docket No: Bd. of Appeals 92-187-A c. Trial Judge: Cir. Ct. Cir. Ct. 38/132/92CV10821 Thomas J. Bollinger b. xxxx/Non-Jury/Waktonk humoung b. Has settlement been discussed since judgment? Describe briefly. 4. Type of case (e.g., automobile negligence, worker's compensation, breach of contract, domestic, employment dispute, product liability, property dispute, tax, UCC, zoning, etc.) c. Do you believe that a Prehearing Conference would be helpful? Why? Administrative appeal - property use dispute 5. State the approximate amount in controversy, or if other than money damages, the type of relief sought from the trial court. 11. If this appeal proceeds, given the number of pleadings and exhibits and the length of trial, do you anticipate that the record extract will exceed 100 pages in length? If so, Reverse granting of variance permitting construction of a screenhouse state why the procedure authorized in Md. rule 8-501(1) - Deferred Record Extract - should not be used. a. Duration of trial: 1/2 day (Board of Appeals) 1/2 Hour (Circuit court) b. Number of exhibits in evidence: 13 (Board of Appeals 0 (Circuit Court) A prehenring conference is designed to encourage the parties to reach a voluntary settlement before incurring the expense of securing a transcript and preparing Judgment a. Date of judgment being appealed: (if date is other than that shown on docket, and printing briefs, or, if that is not possible, to limit the issues and to consider the option of an expedited appeal pursuant to Md. Rule 8-207. Flease set forth succinctly any additional information and attach any documents or relevant pleadings which will assist the Court and the parties in reaching an please explain.) agreement to accomplish these unds. Information concerning settlement negotiations will be kept strictly confidential. August 11, 1993 I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing statement was mailed to: Mr. and Mrs. b. Describe judgment and give a brief description of the trial court's disposition being appealed. (Attach a copy of any written opinion of the trial court.) James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222; Michael B Sauer, Esquire, c/o County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old The Circuit Court, deferring to presumption of validity but failing to Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204; and County Board address legal issues presented to it, affirmed the Board of Appeals of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Ayenue, Towso Maryland 21204. c. - Did judgment finally dispose of all claims by and against all parties? If not, Mesonne please explain why judgment is appealable. (See Md. Rule 2-602; Courts Art., 55 12-301, 12-303.) Signed Thomas/J. Gisriel

> TO BE SIGNED BY THE ATTORNEY WHO IS HANDLING THE APPEAL OR BY THE APPELLANT PERSONALLY IF NOT REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY.

*cam (10) Dec 9, 1993 Correspondance, fd.

df (11: June 28, 1994 - Original Papers & Mandate from the Court of Special Appeals Received & fc

May 24, 1994: Per Curiam filed. Judgment reversed; case remanded to the

the Petition for the variance be denied. Appellee to pay the costs.

PH(12) Oct 6,1994 Order of Court Denying the Petition for variance and Remanding case to the

Circuit Court for remand to the Board of Zoning Appeals with direction that

92CV10821 38/132

June 23, 1994 - Mandate Issued.

Baltimoe County Board of Appeals, etc, fd. (TJB)

DISPOSITION OF APPEAL IN COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS:

CASE NO.

IN THE MATTER OF

JAMES WEIMER, ET UX FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

IN THE

ON BEACHWOOD ROAD, ETC.

CASE NO. 92 CV 10821 * * * * * * *

ORDER

In accordance with the unreported, per curiam Opinion and Order of the Court of Special Appeals, it is this Zell day of September, 1994, by the Circuit Court for Baltimore County,

ORDERED that this case be remanded to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals with direction that the Petition for the

True Copy Test

Copies sent to:

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire 22 W. Allegheny Ave., #400 Towson, MD 21204

Michael B. Sauer, Esquire Baltimore County Board of Appeals (Case No. 92-187-A) Room 49, Old Courthouse Towson, MD 21204

> OCT 06 1994 FIL.

Car -

33 SEP 20 PM 2:11 COUNTY POACH A PEALL

HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

22 W. ALLEGHENY AVENUE

SUTTE 400

TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

(410) 938-8800

(410) 938-8806 Facsimile

(410) 823-6017 Facsimile

September 13, 1993

Re: In the Matter of the Application of James W. Weimer, et

of Beachwood Road, 1400' West of the Centerline of Lynhurst Road (4116 Beachwood Road) 15th Election

Enclosed please find Civil Appeal Prehearing Information

Very truly yours,

Thomas/J. Gisriel

Curry 1

District, 7th Councilmanic District

Report for filing in the above-captioned case.

ux for a Variance on Property located on the North Side

Michael C. Hodes

Louis Jay Ulman

David N. Pessin

Gerald M. Katz

Thomas J. Gisriel

Joseph P. Kempler

David W. Bodley

Susan B. Hughes

William M. Gatesman

HAND DELIVERED

Dear Mr. Clerk:

TJG/ral

Enclosure

Clerk of the Court of

Annapolis, MD 21401

Courts of Appeal Building

Special Appeals of Maryland

Rowe Boulevard & Taylor Avenue

cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer

Michael B. Sauer, Esquire

County Board of Appeals

Mary Elizabeth Zorzi

Michael P. Donnelly

SPECIAL APPEALS OF MARYLAND BY CERTIFIED MAIL.

Case 92CV

92-A-A - James W. Weimer, et ux CCt CMANDED case to C.B.of A. w/ direction to DENY variance. (Hon. Thomas J. Bollinger)

IN THE IN THE MATTER OF JAMES WEIMER, ET UX CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY CASE NO. 92 CV 10821 ON BEACHWOOD ROAD, ETC. * * * * * *

ORDER

In accordance with the unreported, per curiam Opinion and Order of the Court of Special Appeals, it is this Atl day of September, 1994, by the Circuit Court for Baltimore County,

ORDERED that this case be remanded to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals with direction that the Petition for the variance be DENIED.

THOMAS J. BOLLINGER, JUDGE

Copies sent to:

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire 22 W. Allegheny Ave., #400 Towson, MD 21204 Michael B. Sauer, Esquire Baltimore County Board of Appeals (Case No. 92-187-A) Room 49, Old Courthouse Towson, MD 21204

IN THE MATTER OF THE IN THE APPLICATION OF JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX FOR A VARIANCE CIRCUIT COURT ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD, FOR 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BALTIMORE COUNTY BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT Case No. 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 38/132/92CV10821

NOTICE OF APPEAL

* * * * * * * * * * * *

Rondalyn Rakowski, Appellant, hereby notices an appeal from the final judgment entered in this action on August $(\widehat{11}, 1993)$.

flores , Thomas J./Gisriel

HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A. 22 West Allegheny Avenue Suite 400 Towson, Maryland 21204 (410) 938-8800

Attorneys for Appellant, Rondalyn Rakowski

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 300 day of Soplember, 1993, a copy of the foregoing Notice of Appeal was mailed, postage prepaid, to: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222; Michael B. Sauer, Esquire, c/o County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204; and County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204.

Gisriel

{tjg.gen\rakowski.noa}

Hodes, Ulman, Pessin & Katz, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW 22 W. ALLEGHENY AVENUE SUITE 400 TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 938-8800 (410) 938-8806 Facsimile (410) 823-6017 Facsimile

(410) 740-2005 Facatedle ____ Of Counsel Allen D. Greif Alan M. Foreman David Borinsky Kevin F. Bress, P.A. John H. Haas

10480 LETTLE PATURENT PARKWAY

SUTTE 1050

COLUMBIA, MARYLAND 21044

(410) 740-2000

(301) 596-1717 D.C. Direct

September 3, 1993

Clerk of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County County Courts Building 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, MD 21204

> Re: In the Matter of the Application of James W. Weimer, et ux. for a Variance on Property Case No. 38/132/92CV10821

Dear Madam Clerk:

Enclosures

Michael C. Hodes

David N. Pessin

Gerald M. Katz

Michael P. Donnelly

Joseph P. Kempler

Mary Elizabeth Zorzi

David W. Bodley

Susan B. Hughes

William M. Gatesman

Thomas J. Gisriel

Enclosed please find Notice of Appeal for filing in the abovecaptioned case. Also enclosed is our firm's check in the amount of \$60.00 to cover the filing fee.

> Very truly yours, 1 Euron Thomas /J/. Gisriel

cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer Michael B. Sauer, Esquire

County Board of Appeals

83 SEP -7 AH 11: 07

CONNIA BOYES (E YAR EURS) BECEIVED

COUNTY SOLVE

93 DEC -6 AM 11: 44 RONDALYN RAKOWSKI IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

VS

* FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY * CIVIL * DOCKET 38 PAGE 132

JAMES W. WEIMER ET UX * CASE NO. 92 CV 10821

I N D E X

Certificate Of Notice..... 3 and 4 Notice Of Change Of Address Of Thomas J. Gisriel... 12 and 13 Proceedings Before The Zoning Commissioner And The Board Of Appeals Of Baltimore County...... 14 thru 16 Notice Of Filing Of Record And Appellants' Transcript For Hearing Before The County Board Of Correspondence And Notice Of AppealTo The Court Of Clerk's Correspondence And Correspondence........ 41 thru 43 Order From The Court Of Special Appeals To Proceed Without A Prehearing Conference...... 44

EXHIBITS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE_COUNTY CIVIL CATEGORY APPEAL **ATTORNEYS** IN THE MATTER OF THE Thomas J. Gisriel APPLICATION OF JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX FOR A VARIANCE 22 W. Allegheny Ave, Ste 400 ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE 21204 938-8800 NORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD, 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT Britishin Harriston 0/4: Maried 00/343 COSTS 1) Nov. 20, 1992 Rondalyn Rakowski's Order for Appearl for the Order of the Baltimore County Board of Appeals, fd. 2) Nov. 23, 1992 Certificate of Notice, fd. (3) Dec. 1, 1992 Appellant's Petition for Appeal, fd. ! Œ . . . ps (4) Pec. 17, 1992 Transcript of Record, fd. : :: ps (5) Dec. 31, 1992 Notice of Filing of Record, fd. Copy sent. (kv)(6)Feb. 1,1993 - Appellant's memorandum, Fd. April 14,1993 Hon. Thomas J. Bollinger. Hearing had testimony taken. Court's 9210821 written opinion to be filed. CV OLK 50.00 PH(7) Aug 12,1993 Opinion and Order of Court Affirming the grant by the ENCHECK TL SO.00 - #52363 CGO1 RO1 T1510 County Board of Appeals, fd. (TJB) 09/03/ *mr (8) SEpt. 3, 1993 Pltff's Order entering an appeal to the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, fd. (Docket 6, Folio 198) *ps (9) October 6, 1993 Order of Court from the Court of Special Appeals

that the above captioned appeal proceed without a Prehearing Conference,

Case 92CV

fd. (Hon. Paul E. Alpert)

8/11/93 -CB ffirmed by Circuit Court. (Judge Thomas J. Bollinger) Case No. 92-187-A

IN THE MATTER OF IN THE JAMES WEIMER, ET UX CIRCUIT COURT FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY ON BEACHWOOD ROAD, ETC. CASE NO. 92 CV 10821

OPINION AND ORDER

* * * * * * *

This matter comes before this Court on Appellant's appeal from a decision rendered by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County granting Appellee's requested variance. In reviewing the decision of an administrative agency, this Court is governed by the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government \$\$10-201 et seq. \$10-215(g) sets forth the grounds by which a reviewing court may remand, affirm, reverse or modify an agency decision.

A reviewing court may modify or reverse a decision "if any substantial right of the petitioner may have been prejudiced because a finding, conclusion, or decision of the agency: ...(iv) is affected by any other error of law; (v) is unsupported by competent, material, and substantial evidence in light of the entire record as submitted; or (vi) is arbitrary or capricious. \$10-215(g)(3)(iv-vi).

A reviewing court may, and should, examine facts found by the agency. If evidence is found to support the fact in the record, this Court has no power to substitute its assessment for

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the agency's. Commissioner, Baltimore City Police Dep't v. Cason, 34 Md. App. 487, cert. denied, 280 Md. 728 (1977). A reviewing court may, and should, examine the conclusions the agency reached to determine whether reasoning minds could reasonably reach the agency conclusion from the facts in the record. It is the agency's province to resolve conflicting evidence, even as to drawing inferences in light of inconsistency. Bullock v. Pelham Wood Apts., 283 Md. 505

The reviewing court must afford the presumption of validity to the agency's decision. Id. Only if the court should find that substantial rights of a petitioner for review have been prejudiced by one or more of the causes specified then it is the function of the court to reverse or modify the order. Bernstein v. Real Estate Comm'n, 221 Md. 221 (1959), appeal <u>dismissed</u>, 363 U.S. 419 (1960).

This Court has reviewed the transcript of record as well as memorandum filed by Appellant and Appellees, and considered arguments presented at a hearing. As trier of fact, it is the Board's responsibility to weigh all the evidence presented to it and rule accordingly. This Court's responsibility is to ensure that the Board's decision is supported by competent, material and substantial evidence. It is this Court's finding that the Board addressed the issues presented and that there was substantial evidence to support the Board's decision.

Accordingly, it is this // day of August, 1993, by the Circuit Court for Baltimore County,

ORDERED that the grant by the County Board of Appeals for Baltimore County of a variance to Appellees is hereby AFFIRMED.

THOMAS J. BOLLINGER, JUDGE

Copies sent to:

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, MD 21222

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire 22 W. Allegheny Ave., #400 Towson, MD 21204

County Board of Appeals for Baltimore County (Case No. 92-187-A)

A property survey introduced into evidence also indicated that the dimensions of the new screenhouse are 16' plus X 12'. (Protestant's Exhibit No. 3).

In its Opinion, the Baltimore County Board of Appeals made no findings of fact regarding the size of the two screenhouses.

The evidence regarding the distance of the screenhouse from the property line dividing the Weimer and Rakowski properties is also disputed. Ms. Rakowski has testified that the distance from the property line to the screenhouse is 2 feet and 1/16 of an inch. (T. 25). The property survey indicates that the distance from the property line to the screenhouse is 2.16 feet. (Protestant's Exhibit No. 3). Mr. Hribar has testified that the distance from the property line to the screenhouse is 24 inches. (T. 45). The Board of Appeals made reference to Ms. Rakowski's testimony at page 2 of its Opinion, but made no findings of fact on this issue. All testimony indicated that the screenhouse is less than two and one-half feet from the property line. The Board made no reference to the fact that Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations permits an accessory structure to be no closer than two and one-half feet from the side lot line.

The Weimers' screenhouse is the only screenhouse in the neighborhood between the various houses and the water. (T. 10-11). There are no comparable structures to this screenhouse in the neighborhood facing the water. (T. 14). The testimony indicated that the lack of a screenhouse on the various other properties in the neighborhood did not cause any practical difficulty for those

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF JAMES W.
WEIMER. BT UX FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE MORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD, 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYMHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD)
15TH ELECTION DISTRICT
7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

* IN THE

* CIRCUIT COURT

* FOR

* BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No.

APPELLANT'S MEMORANDUM

Rondalyn Rakowski, Appellant, respectfully submits this Memorandum pursuant to Rule B12 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

I. Statement of the Case

This case is an appeal from the October 21, 1992 decision of the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County to grant the request of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer for a variance from Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to permit a screenhouse as an accessory structure to be located in the front yard of their property located at 4116 Beachwood Road. The Appellant is Rondalyn Rakowski who resides at 4118 Beachwood Road, an adjoining property.

Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations states in pertinent part:

Accessory buildings in residential zones, other than farm buildings (Section 404) shall be located only in the rear yard and shall occupy not more than forty percent (40%) thereof ... In no case shall it be located less than two and one-half feet from any side or rear lot lines, except that two private garages may be built on a common party wall straddling the side interior property line if all other requirements are met.

persons in using their property and that the neighbors suffered no unreasonable hardship from the lack of a screenhouse. (T. 29-30).

III. Argument

A. The Board Of Appeals Lacks The Power To Grant The Requested Variance

In Section 307.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, the Baltimore County Council granted the Zoning Commissioner and the County Board of Appeals power to grant certain variances. That Section gives the Board of Appeals and the Zoning Commissioner the power to grant variances to height, area, off-street parking, or sign regulations. That provision, however, also limits the authority of the Zoning Commissioner and the Board of Appeals to grant variances. Section 307.1 specifically states: "They shall have no power to grant any other variances."

The Regulation from which the variance is granted in this matter is Section 400.1, Accessory Buildings in Residence Zones. The County Council has codified this provision within Article 4 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations entitled "Special Regulations."

The County Council has specifically designated certain regulations as height and area regulations. (See, for example, Article 3, Section 1A01.3, and Section 1B01.2). The Regulation at issue in this case, Section 400.1, is not designated as a height and area regulation by the Baltimore County Council, and is not

It is undisputed that the screenhouse in this case is located in the front yard of 4116 Beachwood Road, and therefore, is an accessory structure which is not permitted by Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations. The Weimers sought a variance to permit them to have the screenhouse on their property, despite the provisions of Section 400.1.

Section 307.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations states, in part:

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County and the County Board of Appeals, upon appeal, shall have and they are hereby given the power to grant variances from height and area regulations, from off-street parking regulations, and from sign regulations, only in cases where special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request and where strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship ... Furthermore, any such variance shall be granted only if in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of said height, area, off-street parking, or sign regulations, and only in such manner as to grant relief without injury to public health, safety, and general welfare. They shall have no power to grant any other variances....Any order of the Zoning Commissioner or the County Board of Appeals granting a variance shall contain a finding of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for making such variance.

On December 3, 1991, the Deputy Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County granted the Weimers' request for a zoning variance. Ms. Rakowski appealed that decision to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals, which in an opinion dated October 21, 1992, affirmed the grant of the variance.

II. Statement of Facts

In September, 1991, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer employed their nephew, Greg Hribar, to take down an old screenhouse located in their front yard and construct a new one. (Transcript, hereafter "T." 12). The Weimers did not obtain any permit from the County to take down the old screenhouse or build the new screenhouse. (T. 10). In approximately October, 1991, the Weimers received a stop-work order on the screenhouse. (T. 13). Thereafter, they applied for the variance to permit them to complete construction of the screenhouse.

The original screenhouse was built in 1972. (T. 12). There is some confusion regarding the size of the original screenhouse. Mr. Hribar has testified that the original screenhouse was 7' X 14'. (T. 18). Mr. Weimer has testified that the old screenhouse was 12' X 14'. (T. 9).

There is also a dispute regarding the size of the new screenhouse and whether it is larger than the old screenhouse. Mr. Hribar has testified that the new screenhouse is 14' X 12'. (T. 43). Nonetheless, he has testified that it is the same size as the old screenhouse which he testified was 7' X 14'. (T. 18). Mr. Weimer testified that the new screenhouse is the same size as the old screenhouse. (T. 13). Ms. Rakowski has testified that the new screenhouse is larger than the old screenhouse, and that the dimensions of the new screenhouse are 16' plus X 12'. (T. 24-25).

In this case, the Board of Appeals has clearly exceeded the authority granted it by the Baltimore County Council. Accordingly, the Board of Appeals' grant of a variance in this case is not in

accordance with law and must be reversed.

B. The Board Of Appeals Failed To Specify The Reasons For Its Decision And Failed To Make The Findings Of Fact That Are Required

The Board of Appeals based their grant of the variance in this case of two provisions, Section 307.1 and Section 307.2. Both of these provisions and Article 25A, Section 5(U) of the Maryland Code require the Board to make specific findings of fact to support the granting of a variance, and to state the reasons for its decision.

Article 25A, Section 5(U) of the Maryland Code states that:
"... upon any decision by the County Board of Appeals, it shall
file an opinion which shall include a statement of facts found and
the grounds for its decision."

In its Opinion in this matter, the Board of Appeals failed to make the required findings of fact and failed to state the reasons for its decision. The Board merely concluded:

The testimony and the exhibits indicate that the screenhouse is merely a continuation of the site being used for a screenhouse which has existed on the property for at least twenty years without a complaint. In addition, said testimony and exhibits are sufficient to indicate to the Board that Sections 307.1, 307.2, and 500.14 of the B.C.Z.R. have been complied with.

(Opinion at p. 2).

comparable to the regulations it has so designated. Section 400.1. is also not analogous in terms and effect to height and area regulations.

The County Council has designated an entire section, Section 409, for off-street parking. Obviously, the Regulation at issue in this case has nothing to do with off-street parking.

The County Council has also designated an entire section, Section 413, to deal with signs. Again, the Regulation involved in this case has nothing whatsoever to do with signs.

The Board of Appeals has not been given the authority to grant the variance requested in this case. The County Council has specifically stated that the Board shall not have the authority to grant variances other than those listed in the Regulations. Therefore, the Board's grant of the variance in this case must be reversed. This issue was argued to the County Board of Appeals (T. 4-5, 46-47). The Board of Appeals, however, chose to ignore this issue and failed to address it in its opinion.

Pursuant to Article 25A, Section 5(U), this Court has the power to reverse a decision of the Board of Appeals if the Board's decision "is not in accordance with law." Where, as is the case here, the question presented to the Circuit Court is a question of law, the Court's review is expansive and this Court may substitute its judgment for that of the administrative agency. Harford County v. McDonough, 74 Md. App. 119 (1988); Gray v. Anne Arundel County, 73 Md. App. 301, 309 (1987).

This conclusion is simply inadequate. The required findings for Sections 307.1 and 307.2 will be discussed separately below.

1. Section 307.1

Section 307.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulation requires that "any order of the Zoning Commissioner or the County Board of Appeals granting a variance shall contain a finding of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for making such variance." Section 307.1 requires the Board of Appeals to make findings of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for its decision with regard to specific issues, which will be discussed in sub-headings below.

a. The special circumstances or conditions which purportedly exist or are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request

The Board made no finding that there were any special circumstances or conditions with regard to the property involved in this request to justify the grant of a variance. The only finding of fact which could conceivably fit within this requirement is the fact that the screenhouse had existed since 1972. This, however, cannot be the basis for the granting the variance because it was created by the Weimers. Where the circumstance upon which an applicant for a variance relies to show hardship has been caused or created by the property owner or his predecessor in title, the

hardship is self-created and will not be the basis for granting a variance. Wilson v. Mayor and Commissioners of Town of Elkton, 35 Md. App. 417 (1977).

b. The practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship that would result from strict compliance with the zoning regulation

To prove practical difficulty in order to obtain a variance, a party must meet the following criteria:

1. Whether the strict compliance with the requirement would unreasonably prevent the use of the property for a permitted purpose or render conformance unnecessarily burdensome.

2. Whether the grant would do substantial injustice to the applicant, as well as other property owners in the district, or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief.

3. Whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

Anderson v. Board of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28 (1974).

The Board of Appeals plainly made no findings of fact nor stated any reasons for its decision on these issues. Indeed, there is not sufficient evidence in the record to enable the Board to find in favor of the Weimers on these issues.

Every other property owner in the area complies with the requirement that there be no accessory structures such as a screenhouse in their front yard. All of these other property owners are able to use their property. Lack of a screenhouse would

clearly not unreasonably prevent the Weimers from using their property for a permitted purpose. For the same reason, it would not create a substantial injustice for the Weimers to comply with the provision. Finally, it certainly is not in the spirit of an ordinance which prevents the placement of accessory structures in front yards to allow such an accessory structures in the Weimers' front yard.

In order to prove undue hardship, an applicant must meet the following three criteria:

1. The applicant must be unable to secure a reasonable return or make any reasonable use of his property.

2. The difficulties or hardships must be peculiar to the subject property in contrast with other properties in the zoning district.

The hardship must not be the result of the applicant's own actions.

Anderson v. Board of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake, supra.

Again, the Board of Appeals has simply failed to make any findings of fact or statements of reasons for its decisions on these issues. Also, the record would not support any such findings in favor of the Weimers.

The Weimers could use their property as a residence without the screenhouse, just as all their other neighbors do. Similarly, there are no hardships the Weimers would suffer which are peculiar to their property if they, like their neighbors, were unable to erect the screenhouse between their residence and the water. To

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the degree the Weimers suffer any hardship at all, it is because of their own actions in constructing the screenhouse without first obtaining permits.

c. How the variance is granted in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the regulation for which the variance is granted

The Board of Appeals made no findings of fact on this issue, and failed to state a reason why it thought granting the variance was in harmony with the Regulation. Obviously, the granting of permission to erect an accessory structure such as a screenhouse in the Weimers' front yard is not in harmony with the spirit or intent of the Regulation which prohibits the erection of accessory structures in front yards.

2. Section 307.2

The Board of Appeals also claims to have relied on Section 307.2 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations in granting the Weimers a variance. Section 307.2 authorizes the Board to grant certain variances in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas contained within Baltimore County. This Section also requires that any order granting the variance pursuant to its authority shall contain findings of fact which shall include the following:

1. That special conditions or circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure within the Critical Area of the County;

7.7

2. That strict compliance with the Critical Area regulations would result in practical difficulty, unreasonable hardship, or severe economic hardship;

3. That strict compliance with the Critical Area regulations will deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in similar areas within the Critical Area of the County;

4. That the granting of a variance will not confer upon an applicant any special privilege that would be denied by the Critical Area regulations to other lands or structures within the Critical Area of the County;

5. That the variance request is not based upon conditions or circumstances which are the result of actions by the applicant, nor does the request arise from any condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or non-conforming, on any neighboring property;

6. That the granting of a variance will be in harmony with the general spirit and intent of the Critical Area regulations of the County; and

7. That the variance conforms to the requirements as stated in Section 500.14 B.C.Z.R.

Again, no such findings have been made by the Board of Appeals in its Opinion. Moreover, the record in this matter would not support the findings necessary to grant a variance under Section 307.2. The findings required under Section 307.2 are quite similar to the findings required for Section 307.1. As they have been discussed previously in this Memorandum, they will not be repeated here.

In the judicial review of an administrative action, a court may uphold an agency order only if it is sustained by the agency's

Administration v. Mohler, 318 Md. 219, 231 (1990); Baltimore Heritage v. City of Baltimore, 316 Md. 109, 113 (1989). The reviewing court may not uphold an agency's decision if a record of the facts on which the agency acted or statement of reasons for its action is lacking. Board of County Commissioners for Prince George's County v. Ziegler, 244 Md. 224, 229 (1966); Mortimer v. Howard Research, 83 Md. App. 432 (1990).

Without a reasoned analysis, a reviewing court cannot determine the basis of an agency's action. In such an instance, the case should be remanded for the purpose of having the deficiencies supplied. Board of County Commissioners for Prince George's County v. Ziegler, supra, 244 Md. App. 229; Mortimer v. Howard Research, supra.

For the reasons set forth above, the Baltimore County Board of Appeals lacks the authority to grant the variance requested in this matter, and therefore, this case should simply be reversed.

Moreover, even if the Board has the authority to grant the requested variance, there was no competent and material evidence in the record to support the grant of the variance. Therefore, the grant of the variance should be reversed. If this Court should decide, however, that the Board of Appeals does have authority to grant the variance requested, and chooses not to review the record searching for evidence to support the Board's decision, this Court should remand this matter to the County Board of Appeals for the findings of fact and statements of reasons for the granting of the

variance which are required by Article 25A, Section 5(U) of the Maryland Code, and Sections 307.1 and 307.2 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations.

C. The Variance Granted Violates The Minimum Set-Back For An Accessory Structure From The Side Lot Line

Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations states in part that: "In no case shall they [accessory buildings] be located less than two and one-half feet from any side or rear lot lines...."

In its Opinion, the Board noted that Ms. Rakowski had testified that the screenhouse in this matter was 2 feet and 1/16 inch from her property line. The only other evidence in the record regarding this issue is the testimony of Greg Hribar that the screenhouse is 24 inches from the property line (T. 45), and that the screenhouse is 2.16 feet from the property line (Protestant's Exhibit No. 3).

Again, the Board of Appeals made absolutely no findings of fact on this issue. There is a complete absence of any evidence in the record which would support a finding that the screenhouse is at least two and one-half feet from the property line as is required by Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations.

In light of the fact that the variance as granted violates the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations by allowing an accessory structure closer than 2 and 1/2 feet from the property line, that decision is contrary to law and should be reversed.

IV. Conclusion

matter is virtually a textbook case of what an administrative agency should not do. It has purported to grant a zoning variance which it lacks the authority to grant under Section 307.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations. The variance it has granted permits an accessory structure too close to the side lot line in violation of Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations. Moreover, the Board of Appeals failed to make the findings of fact and statements of their reasons as required by Section 307.1 and Section 307.2 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations and Article 25A, Section 5(U) of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Finally, the Board's decision is unsupported by competent, material and substantial evidence.

Accordingly, Appellant Rondalyn Rakowski requests that this court reverse the October 21, 1992 Opinion and Order of the Baltimore County Board of Appeals in this matter, or, in the alternative, to remand this matter to the Baltimore County Board of Appeals for appropriate findings of facts and statements of reasons for its conclusion.

HODES, WIMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A.
22 West Allegheny Avenue
Suite 400
Towson, Maryland 21204
(410) 938-8800
Attorneys for Appellant,
Rondalyn Rakowski

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 15 day of Felouser 1993, a copy of the foregoing Appellant's Memorandum was mailed, postage prepaid, to: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222; Michael B. Sauer, Esquire, c/o County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204, and County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204.

Michael C. Hodes Louis Jay Ulman David N. Pessin Gerald M. Katz Marvin N. Berlin Richard B. Schreibstein Robert N. Kilberg David Borinsky

Joseph P. Kempler Mary Elizabeth Zorzi

David W. Bodley Susan B. Hughes

Jill B. Reamer

22 W. ALLEGHENY AVENUE SUITE 400 TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 938-8800 (410) 938-8806 Facsimile (410) 823-6017 Facaimile

10480 LITTLE PATURENT PARKWAY SUITE 1050 COLUMBIA, MARYLAND 21044 (410) 740-2000 (301) 596-1717 D.C. Direct (410) 740-2005 Pacsimile Of Counsel Allen D. Greif Alan M. Foreman

IN THE MATTER OF THE

APPLICATION OF JAMES W.

OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116

15TH ELECTION DISTRICT

7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

BEACHWOOD ROAD)

WEIMER. ET UX FOR A VARIANCE

NORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD.

* * * * * * *

AVENUE, SUITE 400, TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204.

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

counsel for appellant RONDALYN RAKOWSKI has changed. Mr. Gisriel's

new address is HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A., 22 WEST ALLEGHENY

Please take notice that the address of Thomas J. Gisriel,

Suite 400

14:11:11 B- MALES

(410) 938-8800

1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE

ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE

IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT

BALTIMORE COUNTY

Hodes, Ulman, Pessin & Katz, P.A.

Attorney for Rondalyn Rakowski

22 West Allegheny Avenue

Towson, Maryland 21204

Case No. 38/132/92CV10821

* * * * * *

February 1, 1993

HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

HAND DELIVERED

Ms. Suzanne Mensh, Clerk Circuit Court for Baltimore County County Courts Building 401 Bosley Avenue Towson, MD 21204

> Re: In the Matter of The Application of James W. Weimer, Et Ux. for a Variance on Property Located on the North Side of Beachwood Road, 1400' West of the Centerline of Lynchwood Road (4116 Beachwood Road) 15th Election District, 7th Councilmanic District Case No. 38/132/92CV10821

Dear Ms. Mensh:

TJG/ral

Enclosed please find an original and one copy of Appellant's Memorandum for filing in the above-captioned case.

Please date and time stamp the copy and return it to our messenger.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Very truly yours, Thomas Gisriel

cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer Michael B. Sauer, Esquire

County Board of Appeals

16

* IN THE * CIRCUIT COURT BALTIMORE COUNTY

THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) * Doc. No. 38 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT * Folio No. <u>132</u>

RONDALYN RAKOWSKI, PLAINTIFF * File No. <u>92-CV-10821</u> ZONING CASE NO. 92-187-A * * * * * * * * *

BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY TO THE HONORABLE, THE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

And now come Judson H. Lipowitz, Harry E. Buchheister, Jr., and John G. Disney, constituting the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County, and in answer to the Order for Appeal directed against them in this case, herewith return the record of proceedings had in the above-entitled matter, consisting of the following certified copies or original papers on file in the Office of the Zoning Commissioner and the Board of Appeals of Baltimore County:

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE ZONING COMMISSIONER AND THE

No. 92-187-A

IN THE MATTER OF THE

JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX
FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY

LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE

BEACHWOOD ROAD, 1400' WEST OF

THE APPLICATION OF

Petition for Variance filed by Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer to permit an accessory structure in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard.

November 9 Certificate of Posting of property.

Publication in newspapers. November 7

Comments of Baltimore County Zoning Plans November 18 Advisory Committee.

Hearing held on Petition by the Deputy Zoning November 26 Commissioner.

James W. Weimer, et ux, Case No. 92-187-A File No. 92-CV-10821

Order of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner December 3, 1991 GRANTING Petition for Variance with restrictions.

December 31 Notice of Appeal received from Michael Gisriel, Esquire and Thomas Gisriel, Esquire on behalf of Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski, Protestant/Appellant.

June 11, 1992 Hearing before the Board of Appeals. October 21 Opinion and Order of the Board GRANTING requested variance.

Order for Appeal filed in the Circuit Court for November 20 Baltimore County by Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire on behalf of Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski.

November 25 Petition to accompany appeal filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County by Mr.

Certificate of Notice sent to interested

December 17 Transcript of testimony filed.

Petitioner's Exhibit No. 1-Photo of property set on bank 2-Photo of new screen house 3-Photo of " " "

4-Photo of old screen house 5-Balto. Co. Bldg. Permit B114738 1/7/92 6-Photo of rear property of Rakowski 7-Photo of side view " " "

8-Drawing of screen house dimensions

Protestant's Exhibit No. 1-Photo of removed screen house 2-Photo of electric line to screen 3-Document of property survey 1-23 4-Photo of fence next to screen house 5-Photo of " " " " " 6-Flood plain insurance map

December 17

November 23

Record of Proceedings filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County.

James W. Weimer, et ux, Case No. 92-187-A

File No. 92-CV-10821

Record of Proceedings pursuant to which said Order was entered and upon which said Board acted are hereby forwarded to the Court, together with exhibits entered into evidence before the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

LindaLee M. Kuszmaul, Legal Secretary County Board of Appeals, Room 49 Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 (301) 887-3180

cc: Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 4th day of January, 1993, a copy of the foregoing Notice of Change of Address was mailed firstclass, postage prepaid to:

> Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Michael B. Sauer, Esquire c/o County Board of Appeals Room 49 Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 County Board of Appeals Room 49

Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX FOR A VARIANCE * ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD. * 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT Case No. 38/132/92CV10821 * * * * * * * * * * * * *

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

BALTIMORE COUNTY

PETITION FOR APPEAL

Rondalyn Rakowski, appellant, pursuant to Rule B2, petitions the Court regarding the Order of the Baltimore County Board of Appeals in Case No. 92-187-A issued on October 21, 1992, and says:

1. On October 21, 1992, the Baltimore County Board of Appeals ("Board of Appeals") ordered that the Petition of James W. Weimer, et ux. for a variance for an accessory structure (screen house) in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard be granted, affirming the December 3, 1991 decision of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner.

2. In so ruling, the Board of Appeals reasoned that the "...testimony and exhibits are sufficient to indicate to the Board that Sections 307.1, 307.2 and 500.14 of the BCZR [Baltimore County Zoning Regulations] have been complied with."

3) Be consistent with established land use policies for development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area which accommodate growth and also address the facts that, even if pollution is controlled, the number, movement, and activities of persons in that area can create adverse environmental impacts.

These recommendations shall be attached hereto and become a permanent part of the decision rendered in this appeal. There is no evidence in the record that the relief requested would adversely affect the health, safety, and/or general welfare of the public provided there is compliance with the requirements of DEPRM as more fully described in the aforesaid attachment.

After reviewing all the testimony, exhibits and argument, the Board is of the opinion that the relief requested in the Petition submitted in compliance with the plat submitted should be granted and will issue an order granting the request.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE this 2 day of October, 1992 by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

ORDERED that the Petition for Variance for an existing accessory structure (screen house) in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard be and the same is hereby GRANTED.

Any appeal from this decision must be made in accordance with Rules B-1 through B-13 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

> COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Judson H. Lipowitz, Chairman Buchheister, Jr.

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

October 21, 1992

Michael Gisriel, Esquire Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Gisriel & Gisriel 210 E. Lexington Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: Case No. 92-187-A (James W. Weimer, et ux) Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a copy of the final Opinion and Order issued this date by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County in the subject matter.

Legal Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer P. David Fields Pat Keller Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. Docket Clerk - Zoning Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration

IN RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE N/S Beachwood Road, 1400' W of the c/l of Lynhurst Road

(4116 Beachwood Road) 15th Election District

* DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER * OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

7th Councilmanic District * Case No. 92-187-A

James W. Weimer, et ux Petitioners

* * * * * * * * * * *

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Petitioners herein request a variance from Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit an existing accessory structure (screen house) to be located in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

The Petitioners appeared and testified. Appearing as a Protestant in the matter was Rondalyn Rakowski, adjoining property owner.

Testimony indicated that the subject property, known as 4116 Beachwood Road, consists of 9,750 sq.ft. zoned D.R. 5.5 and is improved with a single family dwelling, garage, and screenhouse. This property is located within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas on Back River. Testimony indicated Petitioners filed the instant Petition as a result of a complaint filed with the Zoning Enforcement Division of the Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management regarding the size and location of the subject screenhouse. Mr. Weimer testified the screenhouse was built as a replacement structure for an old pavilion which was constructed in 1972 and had become an eyesore. In support of his testimony, Petitioner submitted letters from four of his neighbors, including the adjoining property owner on the opposite side, indicating the original structure existed on no objections to the new structure. Testimony indicated that Mr. Weimer

was unaware that a permit would be required for replacing the old building and that he would have left the old structure in place had he known there would be problems.

Rondalyn Rakowski appeared and testified as a Protestant in the Ms. Rakowski testified that she lives with her parents on the adjoining property known as 4118 Beachwood Road. Ms. Rakowski testified that the subject screen house is located 1.8 feet from the side property line adjoining her parents' property and that it is approximately one-third larger than the original building. Ms. Rakowski further testified that the subject screenhouse was poorly built and creates a hazardous condition too close to her property.

In light of the subject property existing within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas, Sections 307.1, 307.2 and 500.14 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) must also be examined.

The evidence presented indicates the subject screenhouse was built as a replacement structure for the original building which existed prior to the effective date of said regulations. In accordance with said regulations, the subject screenhouse is a permitted continuation of existing permitted uses provided there is no expansion or intensification of The testimony and evidence presented indicates the screenhouse is merely a continuation of the original use as a pavilion which existed on the property for nearly 20 years without prior complaint.

After due consideration of the testimony and evidence presented, in the opinion of the Zoning Commissioner, the relief requested sufficiently complies with the requirements of Sections 307.1, 307.2 and 500.14 of be granted. There is no evidence in the record that the subject variance

would adversely affect the health, safety, and/or general welfare of the public. Furthermore, strict compliance with the B.C.Z.R. would result in practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship upon the Petitioner.

IN RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE *

N/S Beachwood Road, 1400' W

7th Councilmanic District

(4116 Beachwood Road)

15th Election District

of the c/l of Lynhurst Road, *

Case No.

ORDER FOR APPEAL

Maryland 21222, orders an appeal from the December 3, 1991

order of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

in Case No. 92-187-A granting the variance sought by

petitioners Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer.

Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski, 4118 Beachwood Road, Baltimore,

GisrielV& Gisriel

(410) 539-0513

Rakowski

210 E. Lexington Street

Attorneys for Rondalyn

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

BEFORE THE

OF APPEALS

COUNTY BOARD

* OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

In accordance with Section 500.14 of the B.C.Z.R., the Director of the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management has submitted recommendations which describe what steps the Petitioner must take to insure that the relief requested complies with the following Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas requirements to:

> 1) Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that result from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have run off from surrounding lands;

2) Conserve fish, wildlife, and plant habitat; and

3) Be consistent with established land use policies for development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area which accommodate growth and also address the fact that, even if pollution is controlled, the number, movement, and activities of persons in that area can create adverse environmental impacts.

These recommendations shall be attached hereto and become a permanent part of the decision rendered in this case. There is no evidence in the record that the relief requested would adversely affect the health, safety, and/or general welfare of the public provided there is compliance with the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management as more fully described below.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing on this Petition held, and for the reasons given above, the relief requested should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3/50 day of December, 1991, a copy of the foregoing Order for Appeal was mailed first class, postage prepaid to:

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Phyllis C. Friedman, Esquire People's Counsel Room 223, Court House Towson, Md. 21204

Timothy M. Kotroco Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Balrtimore County 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

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- 2 -

tions (B.C.Z.R.) to permit an existing accessory structure (screenhouse) to be located in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restriction:

> 1) The Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the Petitioners would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Petitioner shall comply fully and completely with all requirements and recommendations of the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management, as set forth in their comments dated November 26, 1991, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

TMK:bjs

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

ORD Dete

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3. Section 307.1 of the BCZR states, in part:

The zoning commissioner of Baltimore County and the County Board of Appeals, upon appeal, shall have and they are hereby given the power to grant variances from height and area regulations, from off-street parking regulations and from sign regulations, only in cases where special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request and where strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. No increase in residential density beyond that otherwise allowable by the zoning regulations shall be permitted as a result of any such grant of a variance from height or area regulations. Furthermore, any such variance shall be granted only if in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of said height, area, offstreet parking, or sign regulations, and only in such manner as to grant relief without injury to public health, safety and general welfare. They shall have no power to grant any other variances. ... Any order of the zoning commissioner or the County Board of Appeals granting a variance shall contain a finding of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for making such variance.

- 4. The regulation from which the variance was granted, Section 400.1 Accessory Buildings in Residence Zones, is not a height, area, off-street parking, or sign regulation. The Baltimore County Council has included this regulation within those it has named "Special Regulations".
- 5. In Section 307.1 the County Council limited the authority of the Zoning Commissioner and the Board of Appeals to grant variances to height, area, off-street

- 2 -

parking, or sign regulations, and specifically stated that "They shall have no power to grant any other variances".

- 6. The Deputy Zoning Commissioner and the Board of Appeals have no power to grant a variance to a Special Regulation, such as the regulation of accessory buildings at issue in this case.
- 7. Section 307.1 requires that "Any Order of the Zoning Commissioner or the County Board of Appeals granting a variance shall contain a finding of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for making such variance."
- 8. The Orders of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner and of the Board of Appeals in this matter failed to make findings of fact setting forth and specifying the reason or reasons for its decision with regard to:
- a. the special circumstances or conditions which purportedly exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request
- b. the practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship that would result from strict compliance with the zoning regulation
- c. how the variance granted is in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the regulation for which the variance is granted.

- 3 -

Order of the Board of Appeals as a ground for its decision granting the variance, requires that any Order granting a variance under its authority shall contain findings of fact which shall include the following:

9. Section 307.2 of the BCZR, which was cited by the

- 1. That special conditions or circumstances exist that are peculiar to the land or structure within the critical area of the county;
- 2. That strict compliance with the critical area regulations would result in practical difficulty, unreasonable hardship or severe economic hardship;
- 3. That strict compliance with the critical area regulations will deprive the applicant of rights commonly enjoyed by other properties in similar areas within the critical area of the county;
- 4. That the granting of a variance will not confer upon an applicant any special privilege that would be denied by the critical area regulations to other lands or structures within the critical area of the county;
- 5. That the variance request is not based upon conditions or circumstances which are the result of actions by the applicant, nor does the request arise from any

- 4 -

condition relating to land or building use, either permitted or nonconforming, on any neighboring property;

- 6. That the granting of a variance will be in harmony with the general spirit and intent of the critical area regulations of the county; and
- 7. That the variance conforms to the requirements as stated in Section 500.14, B.C.Z.R.
- 10. The orders of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner and the Board of Appeals fail to make the findings of fact required by Section 307.2 of the BCZR.
- 11. Section 400.1 of the BCZR states in part that "in no case shall they [accessory buildings] be located less that 2 1/2 feet from any side or rear lot lines...".
- 12. The screen house for which the variance was granted in this case is less than 2 1/2 feet from the lot line of the property occupied by the appellant.
- 13. Appellant submits that the Order of the Board of Appeals is erroneous in that:
- A. The Board of Appeals has no authority pursuant to Section 307.1 BCZR to grant a variance from a special regulation such as the regulation governing accessory buildings involved in this case.

- 5 -

B. The Board of Appeals failed to make the findings of fact required by Section 307.1 BCZR when it granted the variance in this matter.

C. The Board of Appeals failed to make the findings of fact required by Section 307.2 BCZR when it granted the variance in this matter.

D. The Board of Appeals granted the variance is violation of Section 400.1, which prohibits Accessory Buildings closer than 2 1/2 feet from the lot line.

E. The decision of the Board of Appeals is unsupported by competent material and substantial evidence.

WHEREFORE, Appellant Rondalyn Rakowski petitions this Court to reverse the October 21, 1992 Order of the Baltimore County Board of Appeals.

> Gisriel & Brush, P.A. Suite 400 210 E. Lexington Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (410) 539-0513

Attorney for Rondalyn Rakowski

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 25th day of November, 1992, a copy of the foregoing Petition for Appeal was mailed first-class, postage prepaid to:

> Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Michael B. Sauer, Esquire c/o County Board of Appeals Room 49 Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

County Board of Appeals Room 49 Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

c:1513t

IN THE MATTER OF THE * IN THE THE APPLICATION OF JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE BEACHWOOD ROAD, 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) * Doc. No. 38 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT RONDALYN RAKOWSKI, PLAINTIFF

* CIRCUIT COURT BALTIMORE COUNTY

* Folio No. <u>132</u> * File No. 92-CV-10811 ZONING CASE NO. 92-187-A * * * *

CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE

Madam Clerk:

Pursuant to the provisions of Rule B-2(d) of the Maryland Rules of Procedure, Judson H. Lipowitz, Harry E. Buchheister, Jr., and John G. Disney, constituting the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County, have given notice by mail of the filing of the appeal to the representative of every party to the proceeding before it; namely, Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire, Gisriel & Brush, P.A., Suite 400, 210 E. Lexington Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, Counsel for Plaintiff; Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski, 4118 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222, Plaintiff; Mr. and Mrs. James W. 4116 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222, Defendants; and Michael B. Sauer, Esquire, c/o County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement - Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204, a copy of which Notice is attached hereto and prayed that it may be made a part hereof.

> Linda Legal Secretary County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204 (301) 887-3180

James W. Weimer, et ux, Case No. 92-187-A File No. 92-CV-10811

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the aforegoing Certificate of Notice has been mailed to Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire, Gisriel & Brush, P.A., Suite 400, 210 E. Lexington Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, Counsel for Plaintiff; Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski, 4118 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222, Plaintiff; Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21222, Defendants; and Michael B. Sauer, Esquire, c/o County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement - Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 on this 23rd day of November, 1992.

> LindaLee M. Kuszmaul, Legal Secretary County Board of Appeals, Room 49, Basement - Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue

> Towson, Maryland 21204 (301) 887-3180



County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

November 23, 1992

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Gisriel & Brush, P.A. Suite 400 210 E. Lexington Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: Case No. 92-187-A (James W. Weimer, et ux)

Dear Mr. Gisriel:

In accordance with Rule B-7(a) of the Rules of Procedure of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, the County Board of Appeals is required to submit the record of proceedings of the appeal which you have taken to the Circuit Court for Baltimore County in the above-entitled matter within thirty days.

The cost of the transcript of the record must be paid by you. In addition, all costs incurred for certified copies of other documents necessary for the completion of the record must also be at your expense.

The cost of the transcript, plus any other documents, must be paid in time to transmit the same to the Circuit Court not later than thirty days from the date of any petition you file in Court, in accordance with Rule B-7(a).

Enclosed is a copy of the Certificate of Notice which has been filed in the Circuit Court.

Very truly yours,

LindaLee M. Kuszmaul Legal Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski

the agency's. Commissioner, Baltimore City Police Dep't v. Cason, 34 Md. App. 487, cert. denied, 280 Md. 728 (1977). A reviewing court may, and should, examine the conclusions the agency reached to determine whether reasoning minds could reasonably reach the agency conclusion from the facts in the record. It is the agency's province to resolve conflicting evidence, even as to drawing inferences in light of inconsistency. Bullock v. Pelham Wood Apts., 283 Md. 505 (1978).

The reviewing court must afford the presumption of validity to the agency's decision. Id. Only if the court should find that substantial rights of a petitioner for review have been prejudiced by one or more of the causes specified then it is the function of the court to reverse or modify the order. Bernstein v. Real Estate Comm'n, 221 Md. 221 (1959), appeal dismissed, 363 U.S. 419 (1960).

This Court has reviewed the transcript of record as well as memorandum filed by Appellant and Appellees, and considered arguments presented at a hearing. As trier of fact, it is the Board's responsibility to weigh all the evidence presented to it and rule accordingly. This Court's responsibility is to ensure that the Board's decision is supported by competent, material and substantial evidence. It is this Court's finding that the Board addressed the issues presented and that there was substantial evidence to support the Board's decision.

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 **400 WASHINGTON AVENUE** TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

November 23, 1992

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Re: Case No. 92-187-A (James W. Weimer, et ux)

Dear Mr. Weimer:

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, that an appeal has been taken to the Circuit Court for Baltimore County from the decision of the County Board of Appeals rendered in the above

Enclosed is a copy of the Certificate of Notice.

Very truly yours, Legal Secretary

Enclosure

cc: P. David Fields Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. Docket Clerk -Zoning Arnold Jablon, Director of Zoning Administration

Printed on Recycled Paper

Accordingly, it is this // day of August, 1993, by the Circuit Court for Baltimore County,

ORDERED that the grant by the County Board of Appeals for Baltimore County of a variance to Appellees is hereby AFFIRMED.

Copies sent to:

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, MD 21222

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire 22 W. Allegheny Ave., #400 Towson, MD 21204

County Board of Appeals for Baltimore County (Case No. 92-187-A)

ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF BEACHWOOD ROAD, * 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE BALTIMORE COUNTY OF LYNHURST ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT Case No. * * * * * * * * ORDER FOR APPEAL

IN THE MATTER OF THE

APPLICATION OF JAMES W.

WEIMER. ET UX FOR A VARIANCE *

Rondalyn Rakowski, pursuant to Rule B2, orders an appeal of the order of the Baltimore County Board of Appeals in this matter (Case No. 92-187-A) issued on October 21, 1992.

The undersigned certifies that on November 20, 1992, a copy of this Order For Appeal was served on the Baltimore County Board of Appeals prior to the filing of this Order.

> Gisriel & Brush, P.A. Suite 400 210 E. Lexington Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

(410) 539-0513

IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT

ST NOV 20 AH 8: 45 COUNTY BOARD OF AFFEALS

IN THE MATTER OF THE * BEFORE THE THE APPLICATION OF * COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE BEACHWOOD ROAD, 1400' WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LYNHURST * BALTIMORE COUNTY ROAD (4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD) 15TH ELECTION DISTRICT * CASE NO. 92-187-A 7TH COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT * * * * *

<u>OPINION</u>

This dispute comes before this Board from the decision of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner dated December 3, 1991. James W. Weimer was granted his request for a variance from Section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR) to permit the existing accessory structure, a screen house, to be located in the front yard in lieu of the rear yard. Mr. Weimer requested the Petition as a result of a complaint filed with the Office of the Zoning Administration and Development Management by Rondalyn Rakowski the adjoining property owner. The adjoining property is known as 4118 Beachwood Road.

The subject property is known as 4116 Beachwood Road. The owner of the property James W. Weimer, testified that the screen house being built is replacing an older screen house on the same site. The first screen house was constructed in early 1972. While removing part of the first screen house it was found that more and more of it had to be replaced due to the poor condition of the structure. Mr. Weimer hired his nephew, Greg Hribar, to build a replacement screen house at the same location as the first screen Construction on the new screen house was started in September of 1991.

IN THE MATTER OF IN THE JAMES WEIMER, ET UX CIRCUIT COURT FOR A VARIANCE ON PROPERTY FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY ON BEACHWOOD ROAD, ETC. CASE NO. 92 CV 10821 * * * * * * *

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter comes before this Court on Appellant's appeal from a decision rendered by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County granting Appellee's requested variance. In reviewing the decision of an administrative agency, this Court is governed by the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government §\$10-201 et seg. \$10-215(g) sets forth the grounds by which a reviewing court may remand, affirm, reverse or modify an agency decision.

A reviewing court may modify or reverse a decision "if any substantial right of the petitioner may have been prejudiced because a finding, conclusion, or decision of the agency: ...(iv) is affected by any other error of law; (v) is unsupported by competent, material, and substantial evidence in light of the entire record as submitted; or (vi) is arbitrary or capricious. \$10-215(g)(3)(iv-vi).

A reviewing court may, and should, examine facts found by the agency. If evidence is found to support the fact in the record, this Court has no power to substitute its assessment for

Case No. 92-187-A James W. Weimer, et ux

Greg Hribar's testimony was the same as Mr. Weimer's except that the supports will be concreted into the ground 30", and that there will not be any permanent electrical connections.

Rita Rondalyn Rakowski, the Protestant testified as to the placement of the screen house next to her property. She stated that the screen house was 2' 1/6" from her property line.

In support of Mr. Weimer's testimony, Mr. Weimer submitted letters from four of his neighbors including his next door neighbor on the opposite side of his property from the Protestant. Their letters indicated that they had no objections to the replacement of the screen house and that a screen house had existed on this site for at least 20 years.

The testimony and exhibits indicate that the screen house is merely a continuation of the site being used for a screen house which has existed on the property for at least 20 years without a complaint. In addition, said testimony and exhibits are sufficient to indicate to the Board that Sections 307.1, 307.2 and 500.14 of the BCZR have been complied with.

In accordance with Section 500.14 of the BCZR, the Director of the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management (DEPRM) has submitted recommendations which describe what steps the Petitioner must take to insure that the relief requested complies with the following Chesapeake Bay Critical Area requirements to:

- 1) Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that result from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have run off from surrounding lands:
- 2) Conserve fish, wildlife, and plant habitat; and

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Mr. Arnold Jablon, Director

DATE: November 26, 1991

Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM: J. James Dieter

SUBJECT: Petition for Zoning Variance - Item 196 Weimer Property Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Findings

SITE LOCATION

The subject property is located at 4116 Beachwood Road. The site is within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area and is classified as a : imited Development Area (LDA).

APPLICANT'S NAME Mr. and Mrs. James Weimer

APPLICANT PROPOSAL

The applicant has requested a variance from section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to permit "an accessory structure in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard."

GOALS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA PROGRAM

In accordance with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program, all project approvals shall be based on a finding which assures that proposed projects are consistent with the following goals of the Critical Area Law:

- 1. "Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that result from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have runoff from surrounding lands;
- 2. Conserve fish, wildlife and plant habitat; and
- 3. Establish land use policies for development in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area which accommodate growth and also address the fact that even if pollution is controlled, the number, movement, and activities of persons in that area can create adverse environmental impacts" <COMAR 14.15.10.01.0>.

Mr. Arnold Jablon November 26, 1991

REGULATIONS AND FINDINGS

- 1A. Regulation: "A minimum 100 foot buffer shall be established landward from the mean high water line of tidal waters, tidal wetlands, and tributary streams" <Baltimore County Code, Sec. 22-213(a)>.
- 1B. Regulation: "Grandfathering. After program approval, local jurisdictions shall permit the continuation, but not necessarily the intensification or expansion, of any use in existence on the date of program approval, unless the use has been abandoned for more than one year or is otherwise restricted by existing local ordinances" <COMAR 14.15.02.07>.

Finding: The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program does not allow the placement of new structures within the shoreline buffer; however, as stated above, the program does allow the continuation but not necessarily the expansion of existing permitted uses. If evidence can be presented that verifies the size and location of a previously permitted structure, then it will be allowed to be

- Regulation: "No dredging, filling, or construction in any wetland shall be permitted. Any wetland must be adequately protected from contamination" <Baltimore County Code, Sec. 22-98>.
 - Finding: No tidal or non-tidal wetlands were found on this site, or in the vicinity of the site.
- Regulation: "If a parcel or lot one-half acre or less in size was in residential use or zoned for residential purposes on or before December 1, 1985, then man-made impervious surfaces associated with that use are limited to 25% of the parcel or lot" <Section 22-217(e)>.

Finding: This property appears to be within the 25% impervious surface limit. The submitted site plan does not include dimensions of the existing house; however, a site visit by this Department estimated the dimensions and found them to be within this limit.

Regulation: "If no forest is established on proposed development sites, these sites shall be planted to provide a forest or developed woodland of at least 15%" <COMAR 14.15.02.04

Mr. Arnold Jablon November 26, 1991

Tree list:

CEIVED FOR I

Finding: The following plant material shall be selected from the enclosed list and planted in addition to existing vegetation to provide a 15% forested cover.

Shrub and small tree list: 2 items - ball and burlap or 2 gallon container size

0 items - minimum 4 foot size

Trees are an important factor in improving water quality. The roots of trees greatly improve the infiltration rate of storm water and efficiently remove nitrogen from subsurface flows of groundwater. Trees also act as both a barrier and a sponge, blocking and absorbing eroding soils and the phosphorous associated with them.

- Regulation: "The stormwater management system shall be designed so that:
- (1) Development will not cause downstream property, watercourses, channels or conduits to receive stormwater runoff at a higher rate than would have resulted from a ten year frequency storm if the land had remained in its predevelopment state;
- (2) Infiltration of water is maximized throughout the site, rather than directing flow to single discharge points; and
- (3) Storm drain discharge points are decentralized to simulate the predevelopment hydrologic regime.

(4) There is sufficient storage capacity to achieve water quality goals of COMAR 14.15 and to eliminate all runoff caused by the development in excess of that which would have come from the site if it were in its predevelopment state" <Baltimore County Code, Sec. 22-217(h)>.

<u>Findings:</u> If this structure is the same size as a previously permitted structure, then no additional impervious surfaces are proposed, and no additional stormwater management facilities shall be required.

Mr. Arnold Jablon November 26, 1991

The Zoning Variance shall be conditioned so the project proposal is in compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Regulations and Findings listed above. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. David C. Flowers at 887-2904.

> Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management

JJD:NSP:til

Attachment

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland

WEIMER/WOCBCA

CRITICAL Petition for Variance

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County 92-The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a

Variance from Section 400.1 - to permit an accessory structure in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County; for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance 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.

	I/We do solemnly declare and aftem, under the penalties of perjury, that I/we are the legal owner(s) of the property which is the subject of this Pelition.			
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:	Legal Owner(s):			
(Type or Print Name)	MARECLLA J. WEIMER (Type or Print Name)			
Signature	Marcella) Wuncer Signature			
Address	Type or Print Name)			
City and State	James 3/ Heint			
Attorney for Petitioner:				
(Type or Print Name)	4116 BEACHWOCD. 120. 477-148 Address Phone Me.			
Signature	City and State			
Address	Name, address and phone number of legal owner, con- tract purchaser or representative to be contacted			
City and State	Name			
Attorney's Telephone No.:	Address Plane No.			

ORDER RECEIVED/FOR FILING

AVAILABLE FOR HEARING
MON./TUES./HED. - MEXT TWO MONTHS
OTHER REVIEWED BY: D 46

ZONING DESCRIPTION

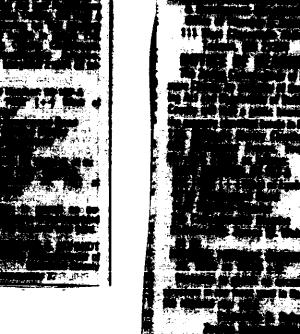
Beginning at a point on the North side of Beechwood Road, which is 50' wide at the distance of approximately 1400' west of the centerline of Lynhurst Road which is a 50' wide right-of-way, being Lot #17 in the subdivision as recorded in Baltimore County Plat Book #10, folio #123, containing 9,750 sq. ft. Also known as 4116 Beechwood Road and located in the 15th Election District.

92-187-4

CERTIFICATE OF POSTIN

District	Varianco	Date of Posting /// 8/9/
Petitioner:	James W. We	mon stud
Location of proj	NE/S Beachio	oud Rt. 1400' w/tynhust
H116 B	eachwood Kd	
Location of Sig	Facing Bouchuis	ed Regard 15' Fr. Wodway
	openty of fetetion.	f _v
Remarks:	and the	
Posted by	Mithely	Date of return: 11/15/91

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION



KIIFY, that the annexed advertisement was ERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper publisher

THE JEFFERSONIAN.

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Mr. & Mrs. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland 21222 RE: PETITION FOR ZONING VARIANCE

N/S Beachwood Road, 1400' W of the c/l of Lynhurst Road (4116 Beachwood Road) 15th Election District - 7th Councilmanic District James W. Weimer, et ux - Petitioners Case No. 92-187-A

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Weimer:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Zoning Variance has been granted in accordance with the attached Order.

Baltimore County Government

887-3353

Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning

December 3, 1991

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact Ms. Charlotte Radcliffe at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs

cc: Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski 4118 Beachwood Road, Baltimore, Md. 21222

Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas Commission Tawes State Office Building, D-4, Annapolis, Md. 21404

People's Counsel

92-187-A

- \$194 #。例**4** [7] [[] 图图[Please Make Checks Payable To: Baltimore County

Baltimore County
Zoning Commisio
County Office Building
111 West Chesapsoke Avenue
Tenson, Maryland 21204 PUBLIC HEARING FEES OF -DOPERS VARIANCE (IRL) TOTAL: \$35.00 LAST NAME OF OUNCES HE MER

BA C003:18PM10-16-91

Location of property: N/S Beachwood Rd., 1400' w/tynhorstRd.
HILL Beachwood Rd Location of Signer Location Book habo & Rd, Approx. 10' Fr. readway, an frager ty & letitioner

Baltimore County

Zoning Commissioner

County Office Building

111 West Chesspeake Avenue

Towers, Maryland 21204

receipt

M9200333

a t 2 (1291)

PUBLIC HEARING FEES PRICE

080 POSTING SIGNS / ADVERTISING 1 X LAST NAME OF OWNER: WEIMER

Maps Make Ca-0649459833818498600 County / 94 CO081424811-21-91

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

DATE: 11-15-91

James and Marcella Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland

CASE NUMBER: 92-187-A N/S 1400' (+-) West Of Lynhurst 4116 Beachwood Road 15th Election District - 7th Councilmanic Petiitoner(s): James W. Weimer, et ux HEARING: TUESDAY, MOVEMBER 26, 1991 at 10:00 a.m.

Dear Petitioner(s):

THIS FEE MUST BE PAID. ALSO, THE ZONING SIGN & POST SET(S) MUST BE RETURNED ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING OR THE ORDER SHALL NOT ISSUE. DO NOT REMOVE THE SIGN & POST SET(S) FROM THE PROPERTY UNTIL THE DAY OF THE

Please forward your check via return mail to the Zoning Office, County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Room 113, Towson, Maryland 21204. It should have your case number noted thereon and be made payable to Baltimore County, Maryland. In order to prevent delay of the issuance of proper credit and/or your Order, immediate attention to this matter is suggested.

ZONING COMMISSIONER BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TAKE FROM DAILY RECORD 5/25/94 edi

REVERSED by Court of Special Appeals 5/24/94

Remanded to Circuit Court for remand to the Board of Appeals with direction that petition for variance be denied.

Monitor for remand order from circuit court after issuance of order by Court of Special 9/27/94 - T/C to Carol Miller of CCt. She

informed me that she would give the case to the Judge (apparently the clerk overlooked this step and filed the case upon receipt of

RECEIVEN 10 63

MANDATE Court of Special Appeals

Maryland Relay Servic 1-800-735-2258

No. 1543, September Term, 1993

James W. Weimer et al.

Rondalyn Rakowski

JUDGMENT: May 24, 1994: Per Curiam filed. Judgment reversed; case remanded to the circuit court for remand to the Board of Zoning appeals with direction that the petition for the variance be denied. Appellee to pay the costs.

June 23, 1994: Mandate issued.

STATEMENT OF COSTS:

In Circuit Court: for BALTIMORE COUNTY 92CV10821

Record.... 60.00 * * Total *

In Court of Special Appeals:

Filing Record on Appeal..... Printing Brief for Appellant..... Portion of Record Extract--Appellant... 255.60
* Total.* 435.20 * Form CA4

CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY **ASSIGNMENT OFFICE**

COUNTY COURTS BUILDING 401 Bosley Avenue P.O. Box 6754 Towson, Maryland, 21285-6754

January 26, 1993

Thomas J. Gisriel, ESq.

4116 Beschwood RD. BAltimore, ND 21222

HEARING DATE:

ON THE POLLOWING:

SETTLEMENTS: If a settlement if reached prior to the hearing date, the Assignment Office must be notified intendistrily. All settlements must be put on the record if no order of satisfaction is filled prior to trial.

STATE OF MARYLAND, Sct.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is truly taken from the records and proceedings of the said Court of Special Appeals. In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand as Clerk and affixed the seal of the Court of Special Appeals, this which ty-third day of June A.D. 19 94

COSTS SHOWN ON THIS MANDATE ARE TO BE SETTLED BETWEEN COUNSEL AND NOT THROUGH THIS OFFICE

County Board of Appeals of BAltimore County Office of Law

Mr. & Mrs. James W. Wilmer (PP)

lednesday, April 14, 1993, @ 9:30 e.m.

Please see the bélow notation

UPON RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE: Counsel shall contact each other immediately to conform calendars. Claim of not receiving notice will not constitute reason for postponement.

If the above Hearing Date is not agreeable to any counsel, a request for a postponessest MUST BE MADE IN WRITING to the Assignment Office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, with a copy to all counsel involved. POSTPONEMENTS FRIOR TO 30 DAYS OF TRIAL should be directed to the attention of Irene Summers. POSTPONEMENTS WITHIN 30 DAYS OF TRIAL smalles to the attention of the Director of Counsel Assignments-Joyce Galling. 287-3497.

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

887 3353

887 3353

OCTOBER 28, 1991

(1 West Chesapeake Avenue)

lowson, MD 21204

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 118, Baltimore County Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 92-187-A M/S 1400' (+-) West Of Lynburst 4116 Beachwood Road 15th Election District - 7th Councilmanic Petiltoner(s): James W. Weimer, et ux HEARING: TUESDAY, MOVEMBER 26, 1991 at 10:00 a.m.

Variance to permit an accessory structure in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard.

Lawrence E. Schmidt Zoning Commissioner of

Baltimore County cc: James and Marcella Weimer Hearing Room -

ASSIGNED FOR:

CASTIO. 92-CV-10821

IN THE MATTER OF JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX

RECEIVED FROM THE COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS EXHIBITS, BOARD'S RECORD EXTRACT & TRANS-

· Jour Les

Clerk's Office

CRIPT FILED IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED CASE, AND ZONING COMMISSIONER'S FILE & EXHIBITS

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180 Room 48, Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue March 11, 1992

MAR 1 3 1992

NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASONS. REQUESTS FOR POSTPONEMENTS MUST BE

IN WRITING AND IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 2(b). NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SCHEDULED HEARING DATE UNLESS IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 2(c), COUNTY COUNCIL BILL NO. 59-79.

CASE NO. 92-187-A JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX N/s Beachwood Rd., 1400' W of c/l Lynhurst Rd. (4116 Beachwood Rd.)

15th Election District 7th Councilmanic District VAR-existing accessory structure

(screen house) in front yard in lieu of required rear yard. 12/3/91 - D.Z.C.'s Order GRANTING

Petition with restrictions. THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1992 AT 10:00 a.m.

cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer Petitioners Michael Gisriel, Esquire and - Counsel for Appellant

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski Appellant/Protestant

People's Counsel for Baltimore County out se Shirley Lawrence E. Schmidt His 3/11/92 Timothy M. Kotroco

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Docket Clerk - Zoning Arnold Jablon, Director of Zoning Administration

LindaLee M. Kuszmaul Legal Secretary

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

Hearing Room -(410) 887-3180 Room 48, Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue March 11, 1992

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VAR-existing accessory structure (screen house) in front yard in lieu of required rear yard.

12/3/91 - D.Z.C.'s Order GRANTING Petition with restrictions.

ASSIGNED FOR:

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1992 AT 10:00 a.m.

cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer

Petitioners

Michael Gisriel, Esquire and - Counsel for Appellant Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire

Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski

Administration

Appellant/Protestant

√People's Counsel for Baltimore County P. David Fields Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Docket Clerk - Zoning Arnold Jablon, Director of Zoning

> LindaLee M. Kuszmaul Legal Secretary

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE

TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 Hearing Room -Room 48, Old Courthouse (410) 887-3180 400 Washington Avenue March 11, 1992

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12/3/91 - D.Z.C.'s Order GRANTING Petition with restrictions.

ASSIGNED FOR: THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1992 AT 10:00 a.m. cc: Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer

Petitioners

Michael Gisriel, Esquire and - Counsel for Appellant Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire

Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski

Administration

Appellant/Protestant

People's Counsel for Baltimore County out set Shuley
P. David Fields
Lawrence E. Schmidt

Acres 3/11/92 Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. Docket Clerk - Zoning Arnold Jablon, Director of Zoning

> LindaLee M. Kuszmaul Legal Secretary

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 2120+

Printed on Recycled Paper

Your petition has been received and accepted for filing this 16th day of October, 1991.

Received By:

Petitioner: Marcella J. Weimer, et ux Petitioner's Attorney:

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Arnold Jablon, Director DATE: November 4, 1991 Zoning Administration and Development Management

Pat Keller, Deputy Director Office of Planning and Zoning

SUBJECT: Bertoldl Property, Item No. 172 Koss Property, Item No. 192 Pitts Property, Item No. 193 Weimer Propety, Item No. 196 Frey Property, Item No. 197 Goodwin Property, Item No. 198 Pettit Property, Item No. 199 McQuain Property, Item No. 200 Osment Property, Item No. 201 Shapiro Property, Item No. 203 Chaney Property, Item No. 204 Colleran Property, Item No. 207 Fisher Property, Item No. 208 Wilson Property, Item No. 211

In reference to the petitioners' request, the staff offers

If there should be any further questions or if this office can provide additional information, please contact Jeffrey Long in the Office of Planning at 887-3211.

PK/JL/rdn

ITMS172/TXTROZ

Baltimore County Government
Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management
Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

November 18, 1991

887-3353

4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, MD 21222

Mr. & Mrs. Marcella J. Weimer

RE: Item No. 196, Case No. 92-187-A Petitioner: James W. Weimer, et ux Petition for Variance

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Weimer:

The Zoning Plans Advisory Committee (ZAC) has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition. The attached comments from each reviewing agency are not intended to assure that all parties, i.e. Zoning Commissioner, attorney and/or the petitioner, are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case.

Enclosed are all comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition. If additional comments are received from other members of ZAC, I will forward them to you. Otherwise, any comment that is not informative will be placed in the hearing file. This petition was accepted for filing on the date of the enclosed filing certificate and a hearing scheduled

The following comments are related only to the filing of future zoning petitions and are aimed at expediting the petition filing process with this office.

The Director of Zoning Administration and Development Management has instituted a system whereby seasoned zoning attorneys who feel that they are capable of filing petitions that comply with all aspects of the zoning regulations and petitions filing requirements can file their petitions with this office without the necessity of a review by Zoning personnel.

Baltimore County Government

Fire Department

#4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by

this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be

corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

7. The Fire Prevention Bureau has no comments at this time.

OCTOBER 29, 1991

Zoning Plans Advisory Committe Coments Date:November 18, 1991

2) Anyone using this system should be fully aware that they are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of any such petition. All petitions filed in this manner will be reviewed and commented on by Zoning personnel prior to the hearing. In the event that the peition has not been filed correctly, there is always a possibility that another hearing will be required or the Zoning Commissioner will deny the petition due to errors or imcompleteness.

Attorneys and/or engineers who make appointments to file petitions on a regular basis and fail to keep the appointment without a 72 hour notice will be required to submit the appropriate filing fee at the time future appointments are made. Failure to keep these appointments without proper advance notice, i.e. 72 hours, will result in the loss of filing fee.

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

JED:jw

Enclosures

92-197-A NIV.3

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director DATE: October 29, 1991 Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM: Robert W. Bowling, F.E. RE: Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting

for October 29, 1991

The Developers Engineering Division has reviewed the subject zoning items and we have no comments for Items 172, 190, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200 and 202.

Developers Engineering Division

RWB:s

Zoning Agenda: OCTOBER 29, 1991

JK/KEK

700 East Joppa Road Suite 901 Towson, MD 21204-5500

Zoning Administration and Development Management

Baltimore County Office Building

RE: Property Owner: JAMES W. WEIMER

Arnold Jablon

Towson, MD 21204

Location:

Item No.:

Planning Group

Special Inspection Division

Director

Gentlemen:

Fire Prevention Bureau

(301) 887-4500

DATE: November 19, 1991

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Director Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

Rahee J. Famili

SUBJECT: Z.A.C. Comments

Z.A.C. MEETING DATE: October 29, 1991

This office has no comments for item numbers 172, 192, 194, 195, 196, 197. 198, 199, 200 and 202.

RJF/lvd

Mr. Arnold Jablon November 26, 1991

> Finding: The following plant material shall be selected from the enclosed Fist and planted in addition to existing vegetation to provide a 15% forested cover.

Shrub and small tree list: 2 items - ball and burlap or 2 gallon container size

Tree list:

0 items - minimum 4 foot size

Trees are an important factor in improving water quality. The roots of trees greatly improve the infiltration rate of storm water and efficiently remove nitrogen from subsurface flows of groundwater. Trees also act as both a barrier and a sponge, blocking and absorbing eroding soils and the phosphorous associated with them.

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Findings: If this structure is the same size as a previously permitted structure, then no additional impervious surfaces are proposed, and no additional stormwater management facilities shall be required.

BALTINORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

November 1, 1991

TO: James E. Dyer

FROM: James H. Thompson -LJW Zoning Enforcement Coordinator

Petitioner: MARCELLA & JAMES WEIMER

VIOLATION CASE # C-92-610

RE: Item No. 196

Mr. Arnold Jablon

November 26, 1991

JJD:NSP:tjl

Attachment

WEIMER/WOCBCA

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Weimer

4116 Beachwood Road

Baltimore, Maryland

David C. Flowers at 887-2904.

LOCATION OF VIOLATION 4116 BEACHWOOD ROAD

DEFENDANT

ADDRESS

Please be advised that the aforementioned petition is the subject of an active violation case. When the petition is scheduled for a public hearing, please notify the following persons:

4118 BEACHWOOD ROAD 21222

After the public hearing is held, please send a copy of the Zoning Commissioner's Order to the Zoning Enforcement Coordinator, so that the appropriate action may be taken relative to the violation case.

The Zoning Variance shall be conditioned so the project proposal is in compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Regulations and

Department of Environmental Protection

and Resource Management

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Findings listed above. If there are any questions, please contact Mr.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DATE: November 26, 1991 TO: Mr. Arnold Jablon. Director Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM: J. James Dieter

SUBJECT: Petition for Zoning Variance - Item 196 Weimer Property Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Findings

SITE LOCATION

The subject property is located at 4116 Beachwood Road. The site is within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area and is classified as a Limited Development Area (LDA).

APPLICANT'S NAME Mr. and Mrs. James Weimer

APPLICANT PROPOSAL

The applicant has requested a variance from section 400.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to permit "an accessory structure in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard."

GOALS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY CRITICAL AREA PROGRAM

In accordance with the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program, all project approvals shall be based on a finding which assures that proposed projects are consistent with the following goals of the Critical Area Law:

- 1. "Minimize adverse impacts on water quality that result from pollutants that are discharged from structures or conveyances or that have runoff from surrounding lands;
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Mr. Arnold Jablon November 26, 1991

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Finding: No tidal or non-tidal wetlands were found on this site, or in the vicinity of the site.

Regulation: "If a parcel or lot one-half acre or less in size was in residential use or zoned for residential purposes on or before December 1, 1985, then man-made impervious surfaces associated with that use are limited to 25% of the parcel or lot" <Section 22-217(e)>.

Finding: This property appears to be within the 25% impervious surface limit. The submitted site plan does not include dimensions of the existing house; however, a site visit by this Department estimated the dimensions and found them to be within this limit.

Regulation: "If no forest is established on proposed development sites, these sites shall be planted to provide a forest or developed woodland of at least 15%" <COMAR 14.15.02.04

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration & Development Management

DATE: January 12, 1995

Charlotte E. Radcliffe

County Board of Appeals

SUBJECT: Closed File: Case No. 92-187-A

JAMES W. WEIMER District 15c7

As no further appeals have been taken regarding the subject case, we are closing the file and returning same to you herewith.

Attachment

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management Office of Planning & Zoning

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

January 29, 1992

Baltimore County Board of Appeals County Office Building, Room 315 Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Petition for Zoning Variance N/S Beachwood Road, 1400' W of the c/1 of Lynhurst Road (4116 Beachwood Road) 15th Election District, 7th Councilmanic District JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX - Petitioner Case No. 92-187-A

Dear Board:

Please be advised that an appeal of the above-referenced case was filed in this office on December 31, 1991 by Thomas J. Gisriel and Michael Gisriel, Attorneys on behalf of the Protestant, Rondalyn Rakowski. All materials relative to the case are being forwarded

Please notify all parties to the case of the date and time of the appeal hearing when it has been scheduled. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Very truly yours.

Zoning Commissioner

Enclosures

cc: Mr. & Mrs. James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Balto., MD 21222 Rondalyn Rakowski, 4118 Beachwood Road, Balto., MD 21222

Michael Gisriel and Thomas J. Gisriel Gisriel & Gisriel, 210 E. Lexington Street, Balto., ND 21202

People's Counsel of Baltimore County

Rm. 304, County Office Bldg., Towson, Md. 21204

Petition for Zoning Variance N/S Beachwood Road, 1400' W of the c/1 of Lynhurst Road (4116 Beachwood Road, 1400' W of the c/1 of Lynhurst Road) 15th Election District - 7th Councilmanic District JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX - Petitioner Case No. 92-187-A

Petition(s) for Zoning Variance

Description of Property

Certificate of Posting

Certificate of Publication

Entry of Appearance of People's Counsel (None submitted)

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee Comments

Director of Planning & Zoning Comments (Included with ZAC Comments)

Petitioner(s) and Protestant(s) Sign-In Sheets

Petitioner's Exhibits: 1. Plat to accompany petition

Photographs

3A - 3D. Letters of Support

Unmarked Exhibits: Two photograph albums

Deputy Zoning Commissioner's Order dated December 3, 1991 (Granted with restrictions)

Notice of Appeal received December 31, 1991 from Michael Gisriel and Thomas J. Gisriel, Attorneys for Rondalyn Rakowski

cc: Mr. & Mrs. James W. Weimer, 4116 Beachwood Road, Balto., MD 21222

Rondalyn Rakowski, 4118 Beachwood Road, Balto., MD 21222

Michael Gisriel and Thomas J. Gisriel Gisriel & Gisriel, 210 E. Lexington Street, Balto., MD 21202

People's Counsel of Baltimore County Rm. 304, County Office Bldg., Towson, Md. 21204

Request Notification: P. David Fields, Director of Planning & Zoning Patrick Keller, Office of Planning & Zoning Lawrence E. Schmidt, Zoning Commissioner Timothy M. Kotroco, Deputy Zoning Commissioner James E. Dyer, Zoning Supervisor W. Carl Richards, Jr., Zoning Coordinator Docket Clerk

Arnold Jablon, Director of Zoning Administration and Development Management Public Services

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

September 26, 1994

15th Election District

(410) 887-3353

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Hodes, Ulman, Pessin and Katz, P.A. 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 400 Towson, Maryland 21204-2600

Re: Case No. C-95-670 Case No. 92-187A Case No. 92-CV10821 4116 Beachwood Road

Dear Mr. Gisriel:

First, my apology for not acting upon your inquiry on behalf of Ronalyn Lotz, formerly Rondalyn Rakowski in a more timely manner.

Inspector Craig McGraw has indeed verified that the subject property is in violation of the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland's decision in Rondalyn Rakowski V. James W. Weimer, et al. dated May 24, 1994.

However, the enforcement section has determined that the Circuit Court of Maryland, Baltimore County has yet to issue a Remand to the Board of Appeals with the direction that the Petition for Variance be denied.

Until this action has taken place, we cannot issue a citation imposing monetary fines of \$200 per day against the property owner.

The Board has informed me they will communicate with circuit court this week to assist us in moving forward with this case. However, you may wish to contact the Honorable Thomas J. Bollinger (887-2693) to speed

If additional questions exist, please contact me at 887-3351.

Sincerely, // , 9 Zoning Supervisor

JHT/hek

c: Charlotte E. Radcliffe Inspector Craig McGraw

3/11/92 - Following parties notified of hearing set for June 11, 1992 at 10:00 a.m.:

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer Michael Gisriel, Esquire and Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski P. David Fields Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr.

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Docket Clerk - Zoning Arnold Jablon

JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX

#92-187-A

N/s Beachwood Rd., 1400' W of c/l Lynhurst Road (4116 Beachwood

15th Election District 7th Councilmanic District

Petition for Variance filed by Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer to permit an accessory structure in the front yard in lieu of the required rear yard.

Dec. 3, 1991 Order of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner GRANTING Petition for Variance with restrictions.

> Notice of Appeal received from Michael Gisriel, Esquire and Thomas Gisriel, Esquire on behalf of Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski, Protestant/Appellant.

June 11, 1992 Hearing before the Board of Appeals.

Opinion and Order of the Board GRANTING requested variance.

November 20 Order for Appeal filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County by Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire o n November 25 behalf of Ms. Rondalyn Rakowski.

Petition to accompany appeal filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County by Mr. Gisriel.

Certificate of Notice sent to interested parties.

December 17 Transcript of testimony filed; Record of Proceedings filed in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County. August 11, 1993 Order of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County in which

C.B. of A. is AFFIRMED. (Thomas J. Bollinger, J.) Notice of Appeal filed in the Circuit Court by Thomas J. Gisriel, Esq. on behalf of Rondalyn Rakoski, Protestant/Applint. /V Gisrier, Esq. on behalf of rockers, Appealed August 11th decision of the Circuit Court to the Court of Special Appeals.

May 24, 1994 Corder of the Court of Special Appeals; judgment REVERSED; case REMANDED to the CCt for REMAND to the Board of Appeals with direction that Petition for Variance be DENIED. (Remand Order from CCt to follow)

September 28, 1994 Remand Order issued by the Circuit Court for Baltimore County with direction that Petition for Variance be DENIED. (Thomas J. Bollinger, J.)

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE

TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

(410) 887-3180

March 22, 1994

Leslie D. Gradet, Clerk Court of Special Appeals Courts of Appeal Building Annapolis, MD 21401-1699

> Re: RAKOWSKI V. WEIMER No. 1543, September Term, 1993

Dear Ms. Gradet:

The Board is in receipt of your notice dated March 18, 1994 regarding the subject case and addressed to Michael B. Sauer, Esquire, Room 49, Old Courthouse, Towson, MD 21204.

This letter is to advise you that Mr. Sauer, who is a member of the Board of Appeals, did not argue this matter at the Circuit Court level nor will he be participating in the argument scheduled in the Court of Special Appeals on May 9, 1994.

If there are any questions, please contact me at 887-3180.

Very truly yours,

Katheren & Dudinkammer Kathleen C. Weidenhammer Administrative Assistant

Printed with Sovbean link



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

October 6, 1994

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire Hodes, Ulman, Pessin and Katz, P.A. 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 400

> RE: Case Nos. C-95-670 92-187A 92-CV10821 4116 Beachwood Road 15th Election District

Dear Mr. Gisriel:

Towson, MD 21204-2600

Thank you for your most recent letter of October 3, 1994, along with the copy of Judge Bollinger's decision of September 28, 1994.

Once we receive the written decision from the Board of Appeals denying the Petition for Variance, 92-187-A, a citation will be issued.

The enforcement division understands your concern but it is essential that we withhold action pending the board's order

> ames H. Thompson Zoning Supervisor

c: Mrs. Charlotte E. Radcliffe

Inspector Craig McGraw

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

January 12, 1995

Thomas J. Gisriel, Esquire 901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 400 Towson, MD 21204

> RE: Case No. 92-187-A JAMES W. WEIMER, ET UX

Dear Mr. Gisriel:

As no further action has been taken regarding the subject matter since the October 13, 1994 Amended Order Pursuant to Order of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, we have returned the Board's copy of the subject zoning file to the office of Zoning Administration and Development Management.

Anyone interested in this case can contact the Gwen Stephens of Zoning Administration at 887-3391 upon receipt of this letter. By copy of this letter, all parties of record that may have an interest in this file have been notified.

Sincerely,

Charlotte E. Radcliffe Legal Secretary

cc: James W. Weimer Rondalyn Rakowski People's Counsel for Baltimore County



Court of Special Appeals Courts of Appeal Building Amapolis, Md. 21401-1699 (410) 974-3646

- MAPORTAN, -

No. 1543, September Term, 1993

WASHINGTON AREA (301) 261-2920

Rondalyn Rakowski

James W. Weimer et al.

the case must be titled on ail briefs Attorneys for Appellant: GISRIEL ESQUIRE, THOMAS J.

This is her

Attorneys for Appellee : WEIMER, MR AND MRS JAMES W SAUER ESQUIRE, MICHAEL B The Record in the captioned appeal was received & docketed on 12/06/93.

The brief of the APPELLANT is to be filed with the office of the Clerk on or before 1/17/94. (Rule 8-502 (a) (1)).

The brief of the APPELLEE is to be filed with the office of the Clerk on or before 30 days after filing of appellant brief (Rule 8-502(a)(2)).

This appeal has been set for argument before this Court during the week of May 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1994. IF, DUE TO A CURRENTLY SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE OR OTHER EXTRAORDINARY CAUSE, YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO APPEAR ON ONE OR MORE OF THESE DATES,

YOU MUST INFORM THE CLERK WITHIN TEN DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE. OTHERWISE, THE DATE SELECTED FOR ARGUMENT WILL NOT BE CHANGED.

Stipulations for extensions of time within which to file briefs will not be granted where the request will delay argument (Rule 8-502(b)).

Counsel is likewise notified to advise the office of the Clerk (Pursuant to Rule 8-523) of intent to submit on brief at the time of filing his brief. No submission on brief will be accepted within ten (10) days prior to the date of argument without specially obtained permission (the Court.

DEC - 6 1993

SO : SPECIAL APPEALS

COUNTY BOARD OF LALE

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Court of Special Appeals Courts of Appeal Building Amupolis, Md. 21401-1699

.410 974-3646 WASHINGTON AREA .3011 261-2920

KATHARINE M. KNIGHT CHIEF DEPUTY

MICHAEL B SAUER ESQUIRE FOOM 49 EASEMENT CIP CCURTHOUSE 400 WASF Notice Date 3/18/94

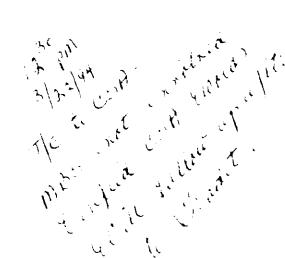
TOWSON MD 21204

Re: RAHOWSHI V. WEINER

Dear Counsel:

Argument in the above-referenced case has been set for 5/09/94, in Courtroom 2. Please report to this office no later than 9:00 a.m. on that date.

No. 1543, September Term, 1993



Very truly yours, Lides to Bridge LESLIE D. GRADET

97 MAR 21 11:56

Maryland Relay Service 1 - 800 - 735 - 2258 TT/VOICE

Michael C. Hodes Louis Jay Ulman David N. Pessin Gerald M. Katz Michael P. Donnelly Thomas J. Gisriel Joseph P. Kempler Kevin F. Bress

____ Mary Elizabeth Zorzi Susan B. Hughes William M. Gatesman Patricia M. Artimovich Brooks B. Gracie, III

22 W. ALLEGHENY AVENUE SUITE 400 TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-3953 (410) 938-8800 (410) 938-8806 Facsimile (410) 823-6017 Facsimile

10480 LITTLE PATURENT PARKWAY SUITE 1090 COLUMNIA, MARYLAND 23044 (430) 740-2000 (301) 596-1717 D.C. Diesex (419) 740-2005 Pacsimile ____

Allen D. Greif Alan M. Foreman

December 29, 1993

Mr. James W. Weimer 4116 Beachwood Road Baltimore, Maryland 21222 Michael B. Sauer, Esquire County Board of Appeals Room 49 Basement Old Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

> Re: Rakowski v. Weimer, et ux. In the Court of Special Appeals September Term 1993 Case No. 1543

Dear Mr. Weimer and Mr. Sauer:

In addition to the documents enumerated in my December 23, 1993 letter, I intend to include the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of Deputy Zoning Commissioner Timothy M. Kotroco, dated December 3, 1991 in the record extract of this case.

> Very truly yours, Monnes" Gisriel Thomas/J/.

TJG/ral cc: Ms. Rondalyn Lotz

HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A.

ATTOENEYS AT LAW

Louis Jay Ulman

David N. Pessin Gerald M. Katz

Kevin F. Bress

Michael P. Donnelly Thomas J. Gisriel Joseph P. Kempler

Mary Elizabeth Zoral

Susan B. Hughes William M. Gatesman

Patricia M. Artimovich

Brooks B. Gracie, III

Re: Rakowski v. Weimer, et ux. In the Court of Special Appeals September Term 1993 Case No. 1543

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Weimer and Mr. Sauer:

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer

Baltimore, Maryland 21222

Michael B. Sauer, Esquire

County Board of Appeals

400 Washington Avenue

Towson, Maryland 21204

4116 Beachwood Road

Room 49 Basement

Old Courthouse

Pursuant to Rule 8-501 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure, I propose to include the following in the record extract to be filed with the Court of Special Appeals:

Hodes, Ulman, Pessin & Katz, P.A.

ATTOENEYS AT LAW

10480 LITTLE PATURENT PARKWAY

SUITE 1050

COLUMBIA, MAETEAND 21044

(410) 740-2000

(301) 596-1717 D.C. Direct

(410) 740-2005 Pachimile

Of Counsel Allen D. Greif

Alan M. Foreman

David Borinsky

22 W. ALLEGHENY AVENUE

SUITE 400

TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-3953

(410) 938-8800

(410) 938-8806 Facsimile

(410) 823-6017 Facsimile

December 23, 1993

- 1. The Opinion and Order of Judge Bollinger in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County.
- 2. The October 21, 1992 Opinion of the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County.
- 3. The entire transcript, consisting of fifty-three (53) pages of the June 11, 1992 hearing before the Board of Appeals of Baltimore County.
- 4. Protestant's Exhibit No. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Weimer Michael B. Sauer, Esquire December 23, 1993

Pursuant to Rule 8-501(d)(2), you have ten (10) days to serve on me a statement of any additional parts of the record that you desire to be included in the record extract.

Very truly yours, Lower meel Thomas /J/. Gisriel

TJG/ral cc: Ms. Rondalyn Lotz

We Are Moving Our Towson Offices Effective January 10, 1994, the firm's new address will be:

> HODES, ULMAN, PESSIN & KATZ, P.A. Attorneys at Law 901 Dulaney Valley Road Suite 400 Towson, Maryland 21204

Our telepbone and fax numbers will remain the same.

THIS DEED, Made this 6th day of October, in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four, by FRED J. VAN SLYME, ATTORNEY NAMED in the Mortgage from Albert A. Letra and Lillian R. Letro, His Wife, to Bohamian Building, Loan and Savings Association "Slavie" of Baltimore City, as hereinofter set forth, party of the first part and MARCELLA J. FREDRICKS, Grantee, of the second part.

WHEREAS, at a public sale made the 31st day of August, in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four, by the said Fred J. Van Slyke in pursuance of the special power and authority vested in him as Atterney in and by a certain mortgage from Albert A. Letra and Lillian R. Letra, His Wife, to Bohemian Building, Loan and Savings Association "Slavie" of Baltimore City bearing the date September 27th, 1962, and recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County in Liber W.J.R. No. 4052, folio 402, which sale was made after default had occured under soid Mortgage, after due notice of public sale, and after approved bond had been duly filed in the Circuit Court of Baltimore County in Equity, the lot of ground heroinafter described, being the property by said mortgage conveyed, was sold unto Marcella J. Fredricks, who was then and there the highest bidder, at and for the sum of NIME THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$9,300.00) and the sale having been duly reported to and ratified by the said Court, and the purchase money poid, as is hereby acknowledged, the said Fred J. Van Slyke, Attorney as aforesaid, is in law duly authorized to execute a Deed for the property to the purchaser.

NOW THEREFORE THIS DEED WITHESSETH, That the said Frud J. Van Slyke, Attorney as aforesaid, in consideration of the promises and the sum of One Dollar, to him by the party of the second part

416 Beachwood 2/1222

ASE PRINT CLEARLY	PROTESTANT (S) S	GN-IN SHEET		
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to accompany Petition for Zoning Wariance Special Hearing ERTY ADDRESS: 4//6 Beachast RC R: Marcelia and James Wein: LOCATION INFORMATION /o×

ORIGINAL

IN THE MATTER OF

* OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

* CASE No. 92-187-A

* June 11, 1992

the Old Courthouse, Towson, Maryland 21204 at 10 o'clock a.m., June 11, 1992.

* * * * *

Reported by:

C.E. Peatt

BOARD OF APPEALS

4116 Peachwood Rd.

I have livedet this adahess 4114 Brackwood Rd. for 15 years 81-16-91 William J. Files

Mr Jams Vi Weiner

Hafrian; felicit Furth fe. 191. 34. Blad Mie acc.

PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT 3A->D

The 12' by 14' pavilion on the waterfront property at:

had no complaint with the same.

#23-91 J mike Eller do not have complaints on this screen house,
-13 yes - riadent at 4112 BESCHWOOD KD. 59/to.MD.
21222

Mr James 31 2t einer

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The 12' by 14' pavilion on the waterfront property at: 4116 Beachwood Rd.

Baltimore, Md. 21222

has been on the site since we/I moved to the community. We have had no complaint with the same.

> 4117 Brachwood Rd Mr. Robert L. Skriver

I have lived here for 10 yrs and The parullion was on that lot, There was no complaint for that one and the

new one was put in the same place

Notorian.

Selini C. Jan Shife.

Mise are.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

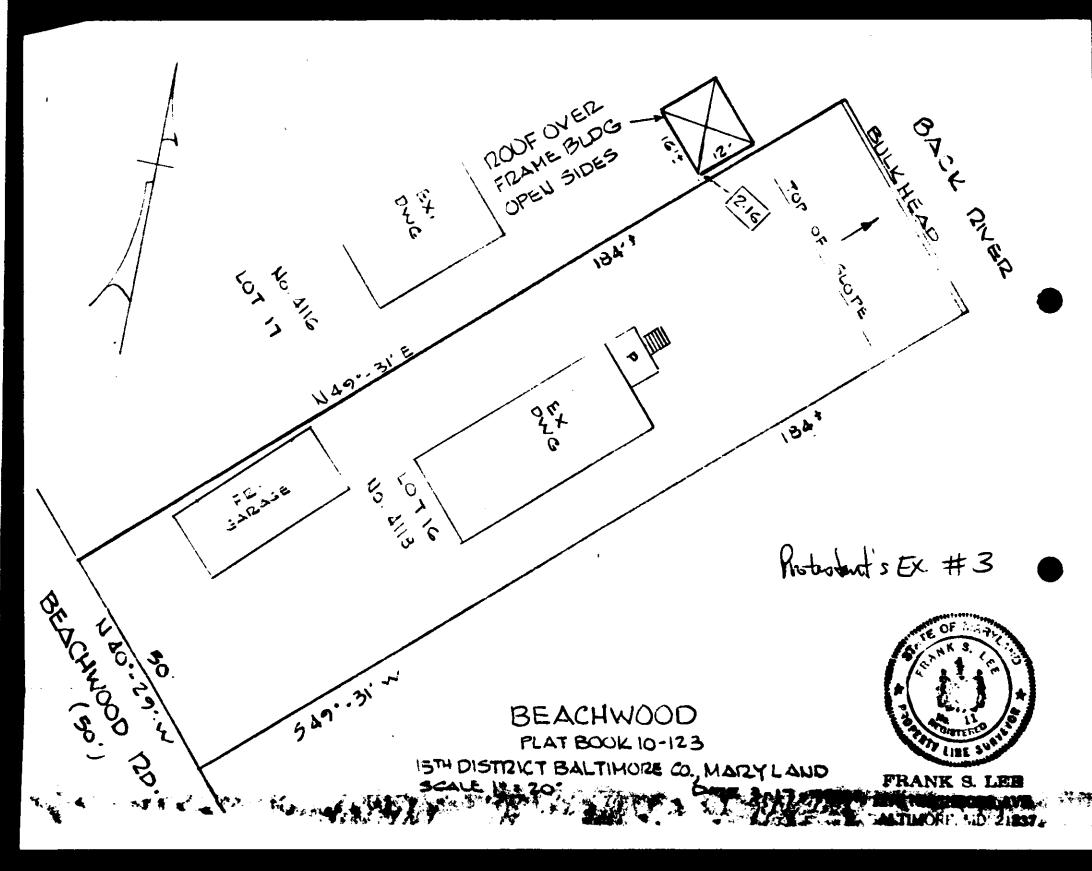
The 12' by 14' pavilion on the waterfront property at: 4116 Beachwood Rd.

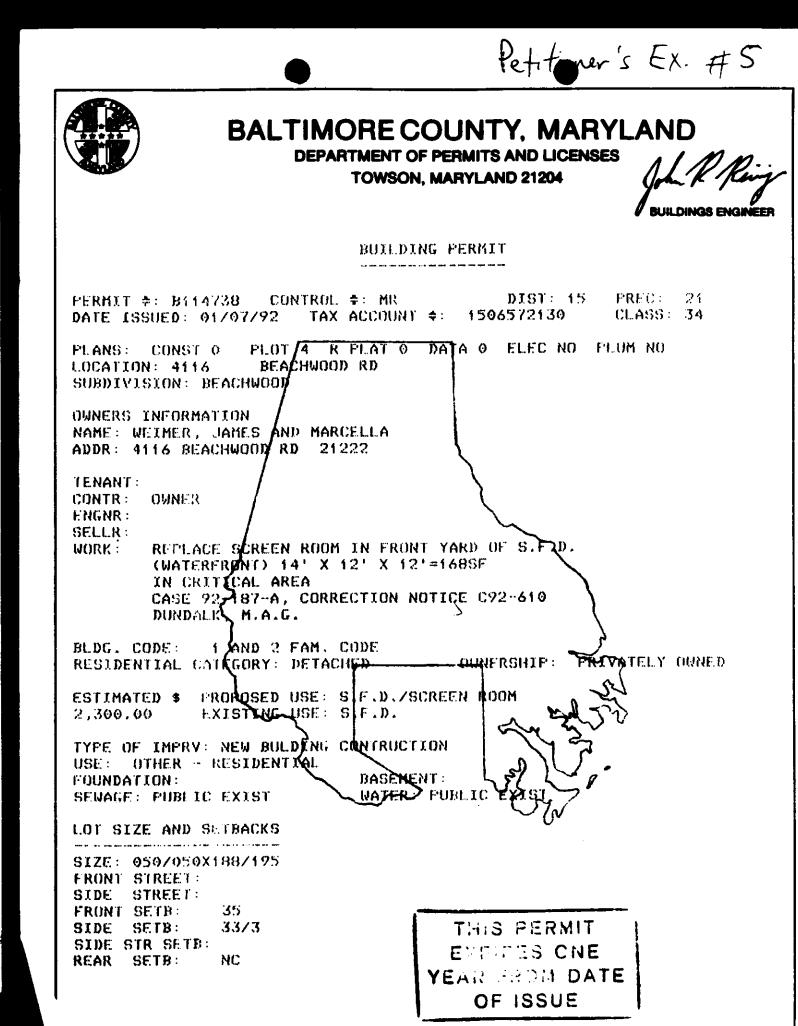
Baltimore, Md. 21222

has been on the site since we/I moved to the community. We have had no complaint with the same.

4119 Prochwood 180 2122 Mr. Richard Hand 11/23/91
Mrs Dranda Hand
Wikare been here for 20 yr and Pavilion Was on that late. and there was no Complaint.

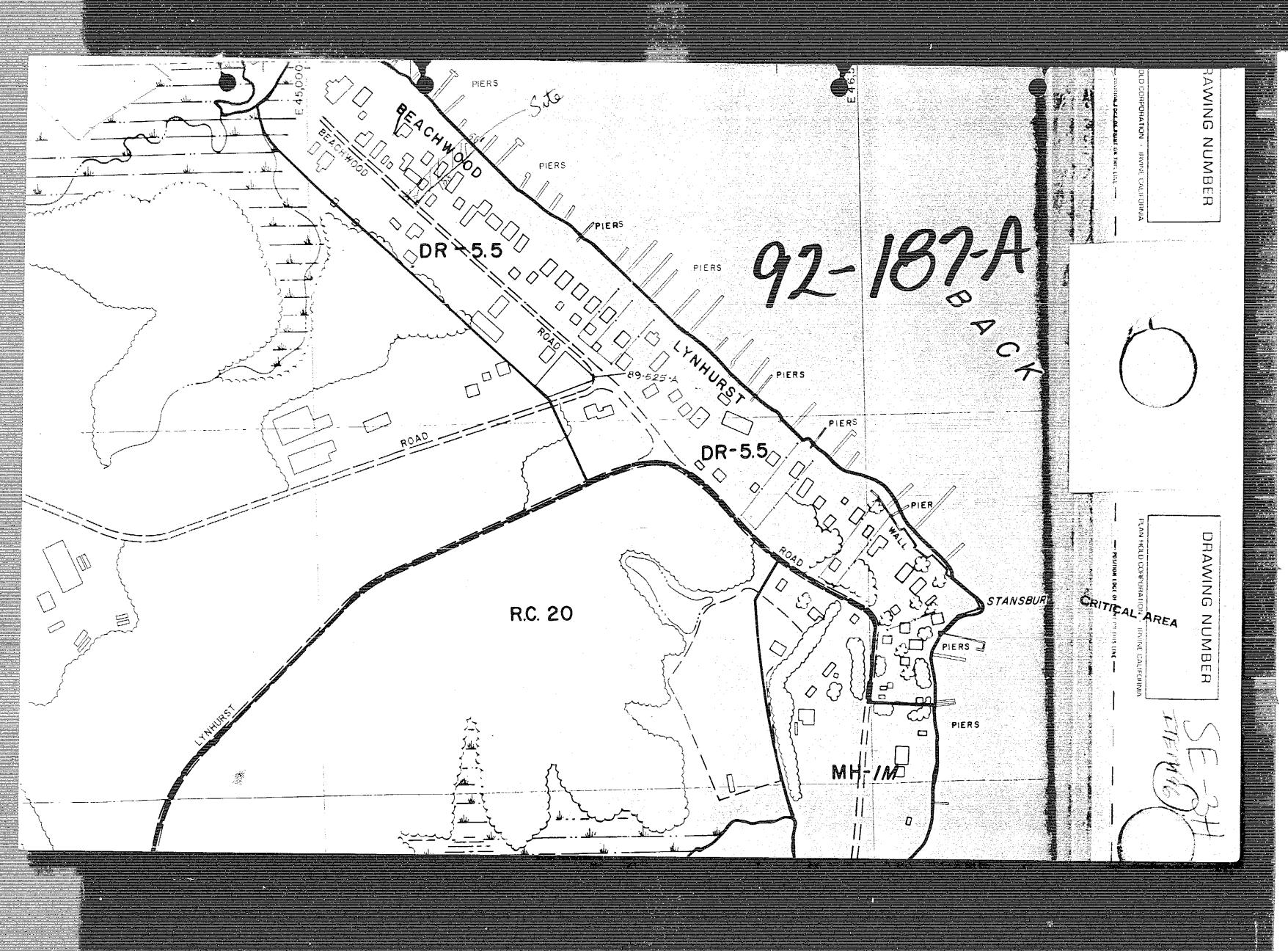
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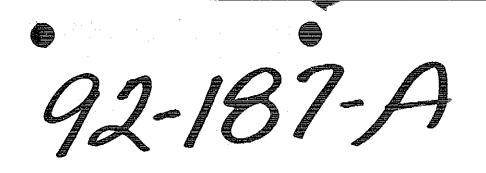




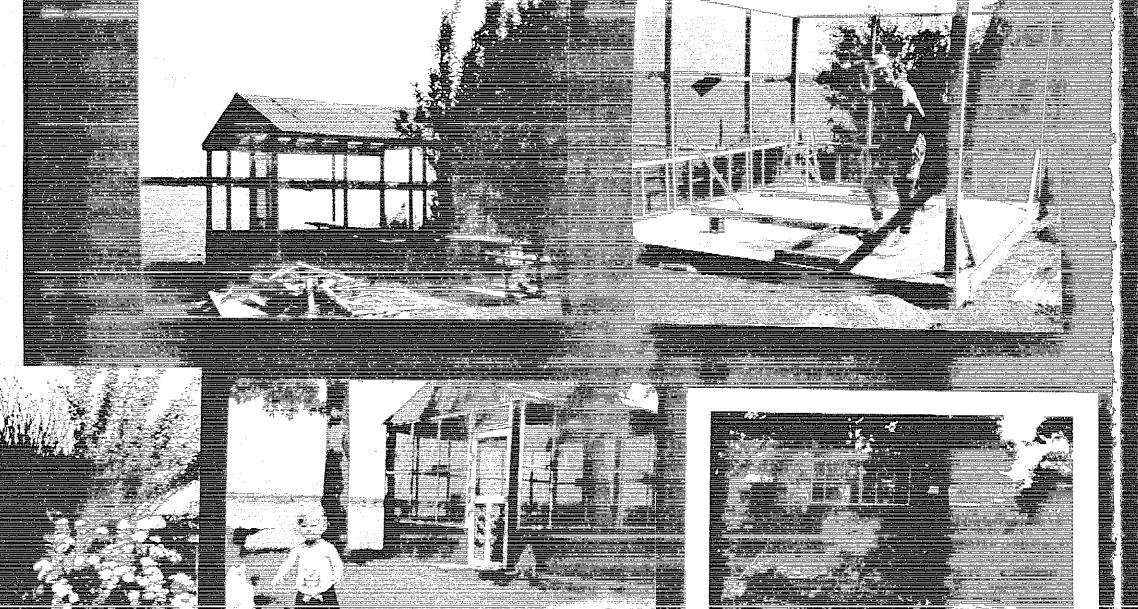
Petitioners Ex. #8 4116 Beachwood Rl. - Screen House (Pavalion) Arawa: Buy - Craig Hribar Jak. 4, 1992

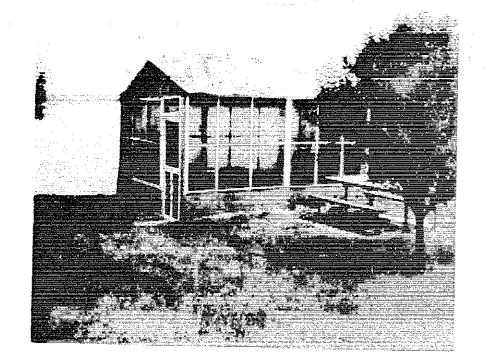
PLEASE REFER TO PERMIT NUMBER WHEN MAKING INQUIRIES.





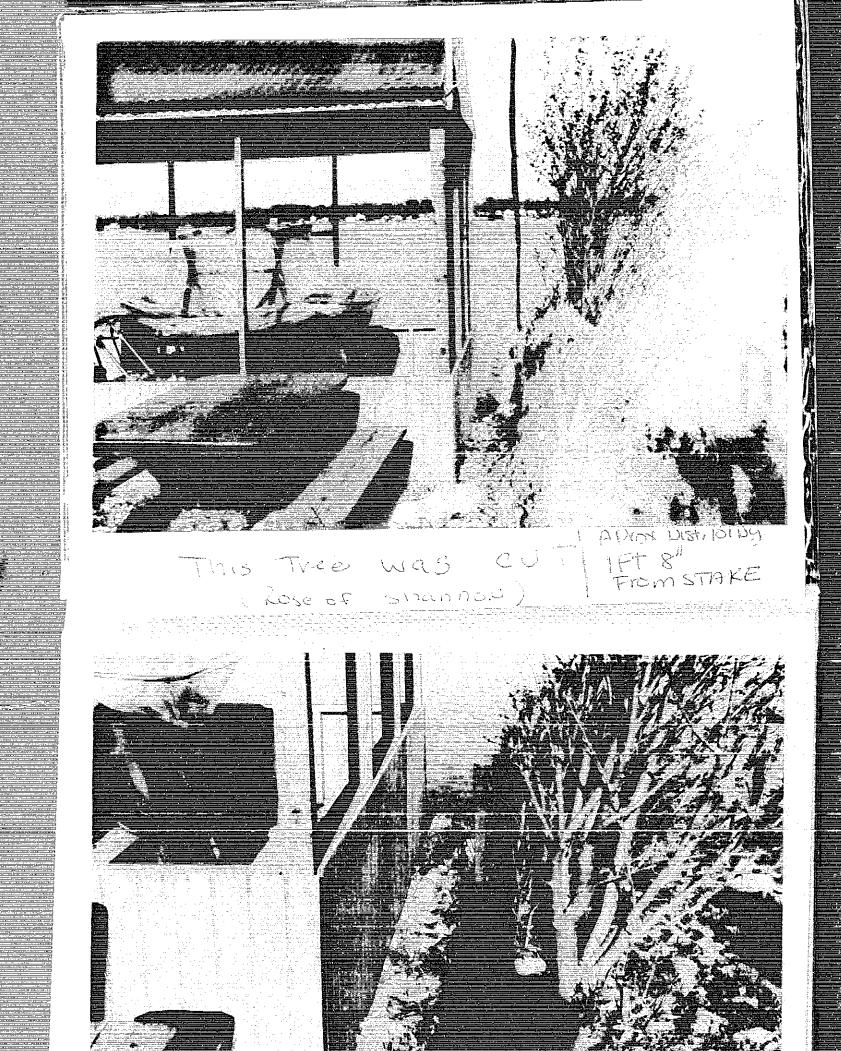


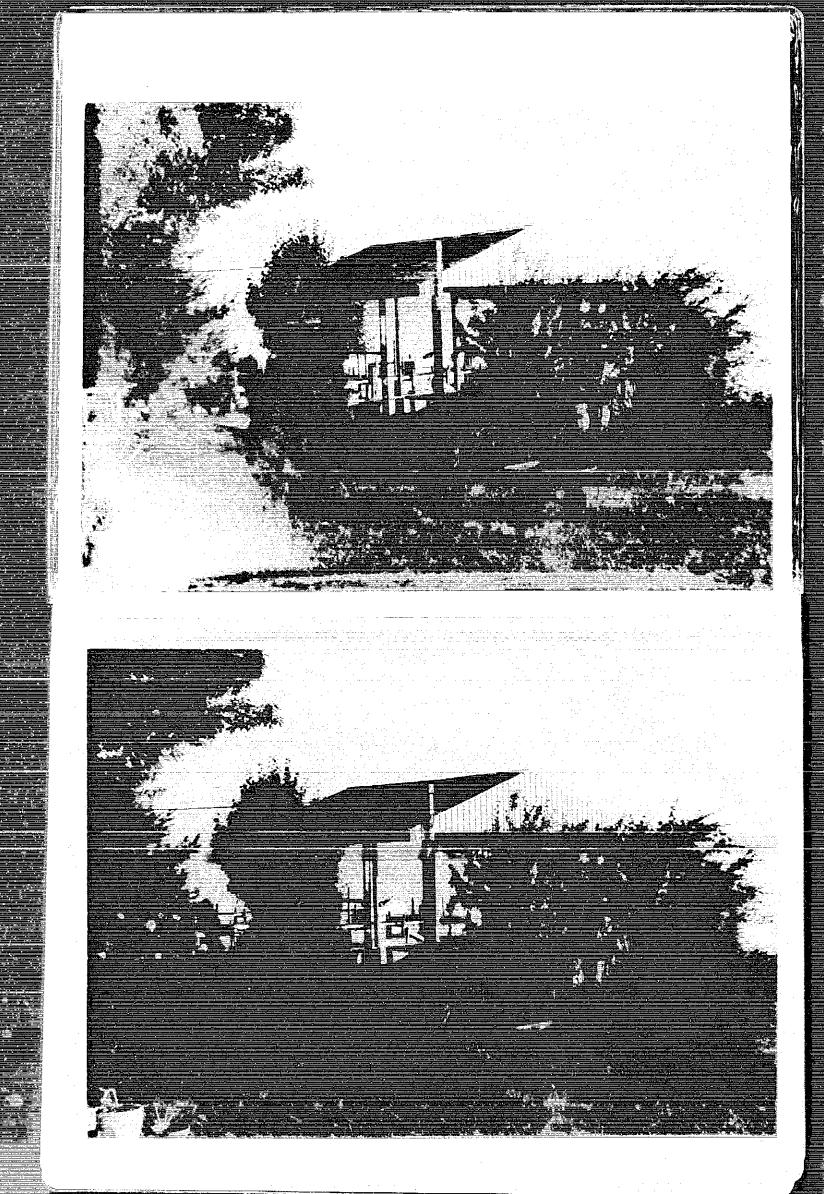




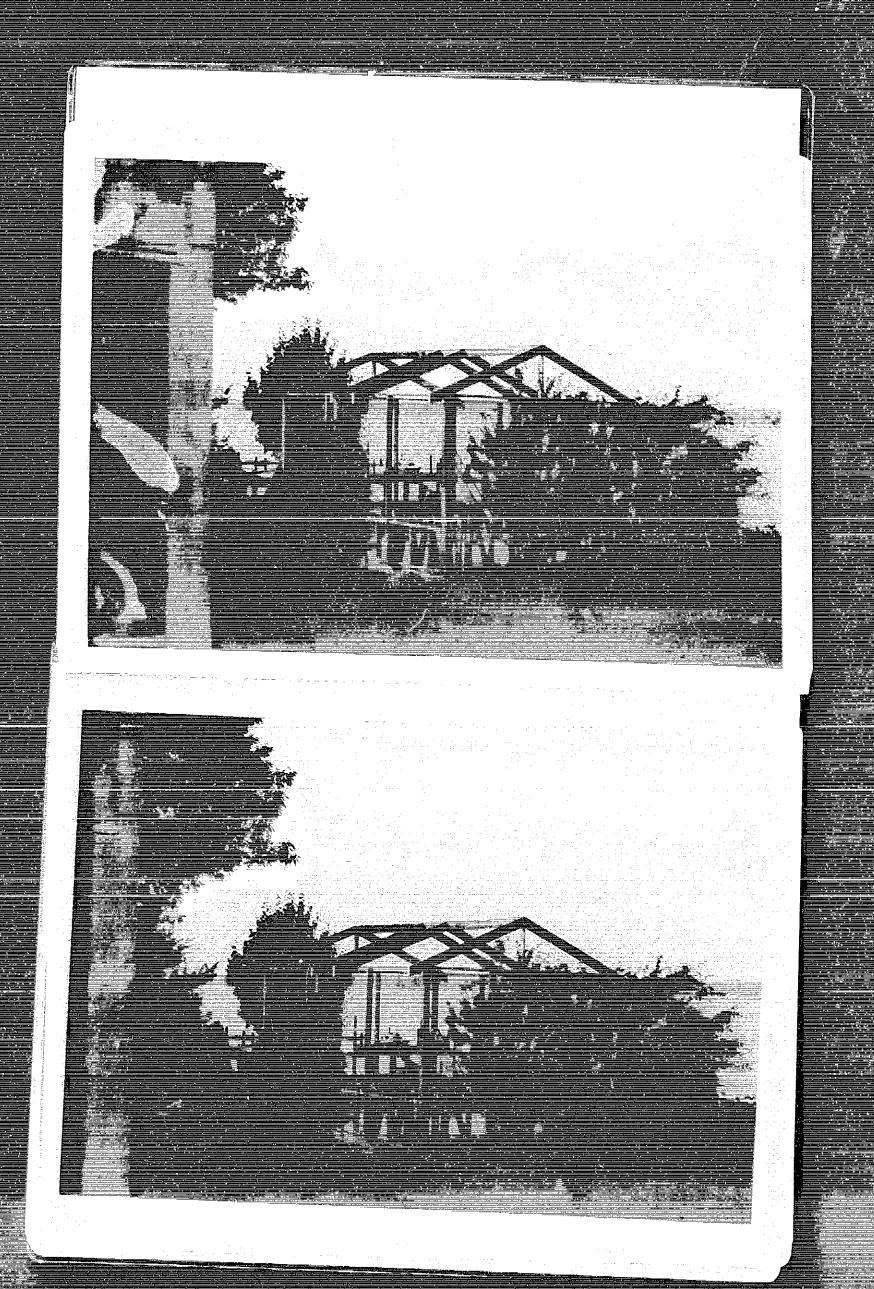


PETITIONER'S
EXHIBIT



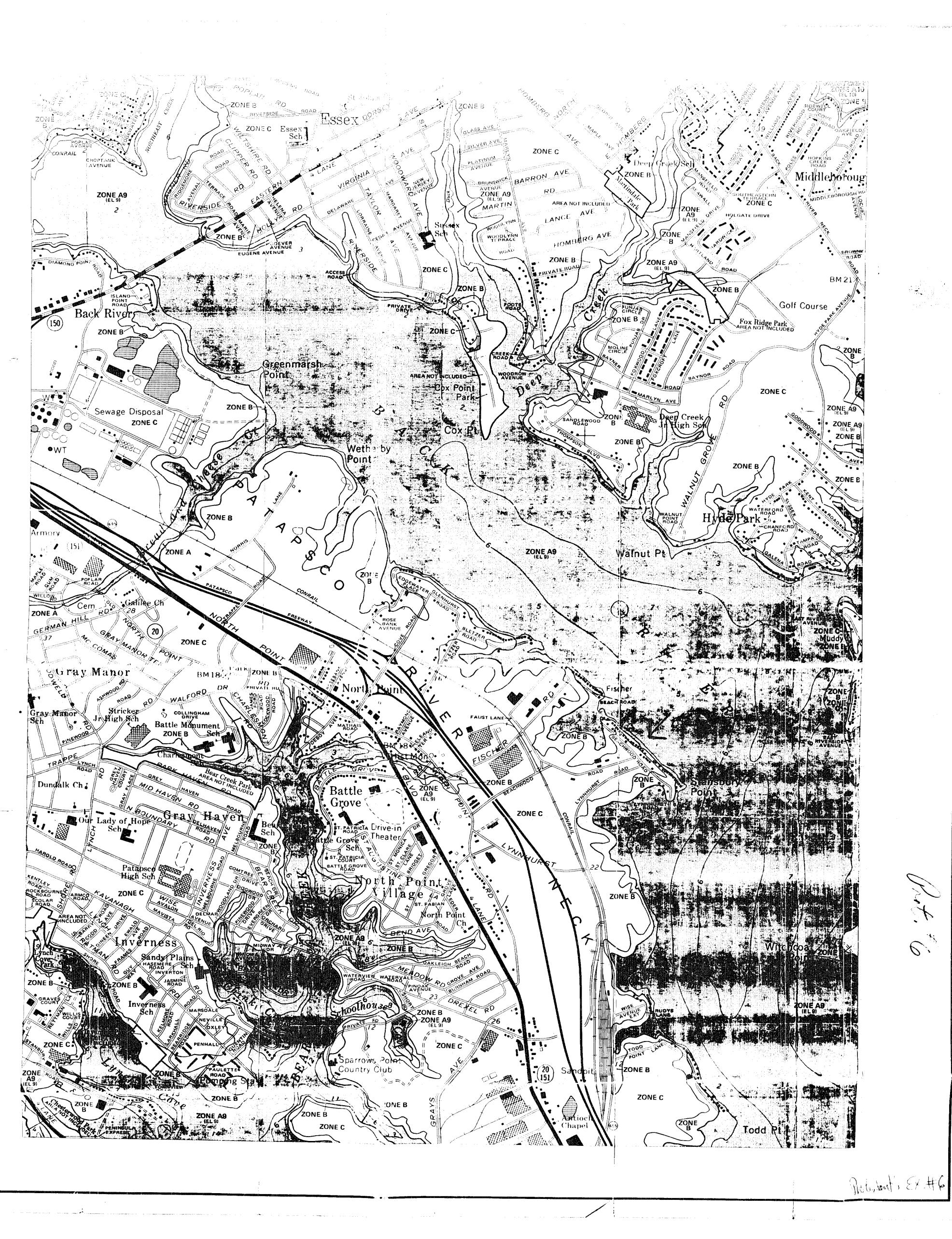












KEY TO MAP ZONE B Zone Davign stionsh With Date a Identification 2.g., 2,2,74 100-Year Flood Boundary ZONE B 500-Year Flood Boundary Base Flood Elevation Line -----513----With Elevation In Feet** Base Flood Elevation in Feet (E.L. 987) Where Uniform Within Zone** RM7× Elevation Reference Mark River Mile • M1.5 **Referenced to Baltimore County Datum *EXPLANATION OF ZONE DESIGNATIONS Areas of 100-year flood; base flood elevations and flood hazard factors not determined. Areas of 100-year shallow flooding where depths are between one (1) and three (3) feet; average depths of inundation are shown, but no flood hazard factors are determined. Areas of 100-year shallow flooding where depths are between one (1) and three (3) feet; base flood elevations are shown, but no flood hazard factors are determined. Areas of 100-year flood; base flood flood hazard factors determined. Areas of 100-year flood to be protected by flood protection system under construction; hase flood elevations and flood hazard factors not determined. Areas between limits of the 100-year flood and 500-year (cod; or certain areas subject to 100-year flooding with average depths less than one (1) foot or where the contributing drainage area is less than one square mile; or areas protected by levees from the base flood. (Medium shading) Areas of minimal flooding. (No shading) Areas of undetermined, but possible, flood hazards. Areas of 100-year coastal flood with velocity (wave action); base flood elevations and flood hazard factors not determined. Areas of 100-year coastal flood with velocity (wave action); base flood elevations and flood hazard factors determined. NOTES TO USER Certa areas not in the special flood hazard areas (zones A and V) may be protected by flood control structures. This map is for flood insurance purposes only; it does not necessarily show all areas subject to flooding in the community or all planimetric features outside special flood hazard areas. For afficining map panels, see separately printed Index To Map INITIAL IDENTIFICATION: APRIL 18, 1975 FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP REVISIONS: JUNE 4, 1976 FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP EFFECTIVE: MARCH 2, 1981 FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP REVISIONS: and the second Refer to the FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP EFFECTIVE date sown on this map to determine when actuarial rates apply to structures in the zones where elevations or depths have been To determine if flood insurance is available in this community, conta t your insurance agent, or call the National Flood Insurance Progr. m at (800) 638-6620, or (800) 424-8872. APPROXIMATE SCALE 1000 0 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND (UNINCORPORATED AREAS) PANEL 440 OF 575 COMMUNITY-PANEL NUMBER 240010 0440 B EFFECTIVE DATE: MARCH 2, 1981