THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED . BY . CONGRESS . MAY . 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

September 11, 1985

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Approval of July 31, 1985 minutes of the Commission of Fine Arts.
- B. Dates of next meeting: October 9, 1985, Wednesday November 13, 1985, Wednesday
- C. Letter to Arlington County Board opposing sign on the Arland Tower Building.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. General Services Administration, National Capital Region

CFA 11/SEPT/85-1, State Department Building, Twenty-first Street Entrance modifications, revised designs. (Previous case: CFA 10/APR/85-1).

B. Department of State, International Center

CFA 11/SEPT/85-2, Chancery of Kuwait, 3500 International Drive, N.W., designs for a security fence and gate.

C. Department of Defense, National Defense University

CFA 11/SEPT/85-3, University Academic/Library Center, Ft. McNair, final building and landscaping designs. (Previous case: CFA 15/MAY/85-4).



D. National Park Service, National Capital Region

- 1. CFA 11/SEPT/85-4, Proposed Rulemaking, 36 CFR Part 50, National Capital Parks Regulations; Lafayette Park; Structure Prohibitions; Sign Limitations.
- 2. CFA 11/SEPT/85-5, Improvements to public reservation at Potomac Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Metro Stop, a joint submission with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.
- E. <u>District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs</u>

Old Georgetown Act

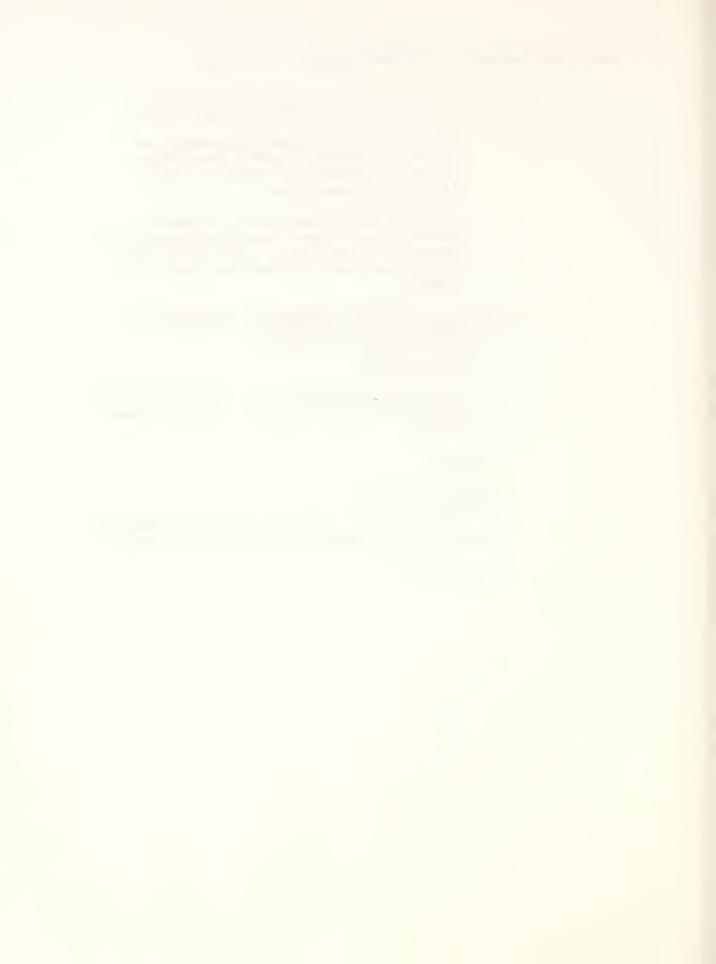
O.G. 85-251, 3360 M Street, N.W., razing associated with the Forrest-Marbury project. (Previous case: O.G. 85-95).

Appendix I.

Shipstead-Luce Act

S.L. 85-99, 515 15th Street, N.W., Hotel Washington, alterations and renovations to F Street elevation.

Appendix II.



NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER **PROJECT**

O.G. 85-188

3276 M Street, N.W.

Market House renova-

District of Columbia/Market House Co.

tion & garage

ACTION: Issue permit for proposed renovation to the historic Georgetown Market as shown on working drawings received and dated 14 June 1985 and supplemental drawings dated 26 July.

*0.G. 85-201

3015 M Street, N.W. Westend Corp.

Demolish carriage house & construct addition: Conceptual

ACTION: Old Georgetown Board's recommendation was superseded by the Commission's recommendation on 31 July 1985. See letter to Carol B. Thompson, signed and dated 9 August 1985. Return for further study.

*0.G. 85-202

1673 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Raze tool shed Aramus Corp.

ACTION: Issue permit for the proposed demolition of two outbuildings, a retaining wall, a rear one story addition and chimney, a glass-enclosed porch, and a one story street front addition at the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Reservoir Street. It has been determined, after extensive historical documentation and thorough onsite inspection conducted by professional members of this staff, that these elements do not contribute to the historic district. Further, the removal of these elements will enhance restoration of the principal buildings and conform to the approved concept for new construction on a portion of the site. This approval is given with the recommendation that the principal buildings will be restored without dismantling or removal of the exterior fabric.

*O.G. 85-203

1675 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Mr. Joseph Mobassalef

Raze part of rear addition

ACTION: Issue permit for the proposed demolition of two outbuildings, a retaining wall, a rear one story addition and chimney, a glass-enclosed porch, and a one story street front addition at the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Reservoir Street. It has been determined, after extensive historical documentation and thorough onsite inspection conducted by professional members of this staff, that these elements do not contribute to the historic district. Further, the removal of these elements will enhance restoration of the principal buildings and conform to the approved concept for new construction on a portion of the site. This approval is given with the recommendation that the principal buildings will be restored without dismantling or removal of the exterior fabric.



NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER **PROJECT** *O.G. 85-204 1677 - 1679 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Raze front addition, Aramus Corp. rear porch, back vard structure & side chimney ACTION: Issue permit for the proposed demolition of two outbuildings, a retaining wall, a rear one story addition and chimney, a glass-enclosed porch, and a one story street front addition at the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Reservoir Street. It has been determined, after extensive historical documentation and thorough onsite inspection conducted by professional members of this staff, that these elements do not contribute to the historic district. Further, the removal of these elements will enhance restoration of the principal buildings and conform to the approved concept for new construction on a portion of the site. This approval is given with the recommendation that the principal buildings will be restored without dismantling or removal of the exterior fabric. 2809 P Street, N.W. *O.G. 85-211 New residence: Con-J. Thomas Elmore ceptual ACTION: See letter to Carol B. Thompson, signed and dated 13 August 1985. Return for further study. O.G. 85-215 Renovations and rear 3001-3007 M Street, N.W.

ACTION: Issue permit for proposed renovations and rear addition.

3001 M Limited Partnership

O.G. 85-217 1224 31st Street, N.W. Projecting sign: Con-RSSN Associate Limited Partnership ceptual

addition

ACTION: No objection to the size, design or materials for this concept submission of proposed sign.

O.G. 85-220 1657 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Sign awnings Mr. James Lenskey

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Proposed bay window awnings are not compatible with the character of the building. Request removal of existing marquee installed without a permit, since it is not compatible with the character of either this structure or the historic district.



NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER **PROJECT** *0.G. 85-222 3600 M Street, N.W. Facade renovation, D.C. Realty Corporation rooftop addition & landscaping ACTION: No objection to the concepts of interior renovation and roof addition proposed for the historic Capital Traction Company Car Barn. Recommend exploration and development of pavilion design to incorporate more of the character of the existing structure as originally built. Recommend in favor of roof-top garden concept. O.G. 85-223 1402 31st Street, N.W. Replace addition & P & H Miller renovation: Conceptua1 ACTION: Application withdrawn at written request of applicant. O.G. 85-225 Renovate facade 3200 M Street, N.W. The Banana Republic ACTION: Issue permit for renovations and signs as shown on supplemental drawings received and dated 30 July 1985. Note that the applicant has agreed to simplify the sill moulding at the ground floor show windows and that the proposed second floor window awnings will not have lettering of any kind. O.G. 85-226 1201 34th Street, N.W. Sign: Conceptual Louis Heon ACTION: Superseded by O.G. 85-242. Garden wall alter-O.G. 85-227 3147 P Street, N.W. ation for new Mrs. Barbara Herzberg landscaping ACTION: Issue permit for proposed relocation of gate entrance at existing garden wall.



NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER PROJECT O.G. 85-228 3267 P Street, N.W. Swimming pool Paul Wiecks ACTION: Issue permit. O.G. 85-229 1511 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Entrance stair Homayoun Yeroushalmi removal & Kholamreza Mottakhi ACTION: Do not issue permit. Proposed changes to the facade of this historic structure would be destructive to the architectural character of the building. Second floor banner O.G. 85-230 3106 M Street, N.W. Earl Meyerson ACTION: No objection to the proposed second floor banner which is of a temporary nature. Note that the ground floor box sign for "In The Bag," also at 3106 M Street, was installed without Commission approval. O.G. 85-232 3251 Prospect Street, N.W. Sign & free-standing Robert Elliott directories ACTION: Issue permit for building sign consisting of individual pin-mounted, non-illuminated, letters only. Recommend resubmission of proposed free-standing directories incorporating a design more compatible with existing brick cylindrical bases. O.G. 85-233 Sign awning 1307 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Marvin Just

ACTION: Issue permit for awning and sign over projecting bay window only. No objection to proposed green vinyl material or valance lettering. Note change to

drawing received and dated 2 August 1985.



NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT		
O.G. 85-234	1647 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. David Dickerson	Sign replacement		
ACTION: Issue permit for replacement sign now in place.				
0.G. 85-236	3403 Dent Place, N.W. Bettina Conner	Rear porch enclosure		
ACTION: Issue permit for porch enclosure with addition of skirt board as shown on modified drawing received and dated 2 August 1985.				
O.G. 85-238	1628 29th Street, N.W. Aldus Chapin	Rear addition		
ACTION: Issue permit for proposed renovation and rear addition to existing residence as shown on drawings received and dated 9 August 1985.				
0.G. 85-239	1249 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. David Soleimanzadeh	Awning cover replace- ment		
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Proposed second and third floor awnings and signs are a detriment to the architectural character of this historic building.				
O.G. 85-240	1228 31st Street, N.W. Fleming & Meers	Projecting sign		
ACTION: Issue permit. Suggest proposed metal bracket of a more simple style.				
O.G. 85-241	1521 35th Street, N.W. Plake/Bryant Associates	Curb cut		
ACTION: Do not issue permit. The proposed curb cut would require removal of a portion of an historic fence and landscaped embankment thereby violating the setting and architectural integrity of this important residence. Should the applicant wish to pursue the matter, a design approach addressing these issues would be considered.				



NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT		
O.G. 85-242	1201 34th Street, N.W. Louis G. Heon	Signs, awnings and lighting		
ACTION: Issue permit for the signs, awnings and lighting as proposed. Note Option No. One is recommended for the awning design.				
O.G. 85-243	2807-09 M Street, N.W. Marguerite E. DiGiovanni	Existing awning approval & sign replacement		
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Request removal of awning which is incompatible with architecture and historic character of building. Sign is also in violation of D.C. Building Code regulations.				
O.G. 85-245	3653-63 Winfield Lane, N.W. Porten-Sullivan	New rowhouses		
ACTION: Issue permit for construction of new rowhouses as shown on drawings received and dated 9 August 1985. The Commission notes that proposed structures will not be visible from public space once remaining units facing Reservoir Road are built.				
O.G. 85-246	1232 31st Street, N.W. RSSN Associate Limited Partnership	Roof top mechanical equipment: Con- ceptual		
ACTION: No objection to concept of restaurant mechanical equipment with understanding that units will be concealed from public view behind existing parapets.				
O.G. 85-247	1258 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Hariri & Sons, Inc.	Sign awning		
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Lettering, symbols and/or logos outside the valance are not appropriate to awnings. No objection to awning style or existing lettering at valance. Strongly recommend coordination with other shop-keepers sharing this building to achieve appropriate uniform awning and sign design.				



NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER PROJECT

O.G. 85-249 1001 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Commercial renova-

Thrifty Rent-A-Car tion

ACTION: Issue permit.

O.G. 85-250 3350 M Street, N.W. Renovation & addi-Forrest-Marbury House tions: Conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed renovations and additions to Category One historic landmark. Recommend applicant consider carefully the proposed nature of the bridge linking the west side of the Forrest-Marbury house with the new construction. Recommend studies uniting the two structure on more than one level in a style and character sympathetic to the historic residence and its frame of reference.

O.G. 85-252 1000 29th Street, N.W. New multi-unit resi-Matthews-Walde, Inc. dential structure

ACTION: Issue permit for construction of new hotel/apartment building as shown on working drawings received and dated 21 August 1985. Recommend erection of on site material panel for CFA approval prior to construction of outer walls.

O.G. 85-253 3259 P Street, N.W. Enlarge accessory
Arno Luxila structure: Conceptual

ACTION: No objection to the concept of this proposed addition which will not be visible from public space.

O.G. 85-254 1235 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Sign

KOLB Realty, Inc.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Size and mounting of sign as proposed would be detrimental to the architectural integrity of this historic building. Recommend in this individual case an overdoor projecting sign no larger than 30 inches by 30 inches. No objection to proposed design or colors.



NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER PROJECT

O.G. 85-261 3102 N Street, N.W. Interior renovations

N Street Associates

ACTION: Returned without objection. Extensive interior renovations will have

no apparent effect on exterior of existing buildings.

0.G. 85-269 35th & T Street, N.W. Sign

D.C. Board of Education

ACTION: Issue permit.



REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER PROJECT

S.L. 85-80 4636 Broad Branch Road, N.W. Addition: Concept-Marvin & Linda Diamond ual

ACTION: No objection to concept of addition as shown on drawings received and dated 19 July 1985. Recommend restudy of proposed tower to achieve more compatible design and lower profile roof silhouette. Further recommend use of millwork rather than clapboard for piers of proposed arcade.

S.L. 85-83 1425 H Street, N.W. Renovations

SJG Properties

ACTION: Issue permit.

*S.L. 85-84 2121 Virginia Avenue, N.W. Proposed new office
Phase I Limited Partnership building

ACTION: Issue permit for proposed eight-story office structure as shown on working drawings received and dated 25 July 1985. Recommend erection of sample panel with full range of proposed materials on site for approval of the Commission of Fine Arts prior to construction of exterior walls.

S.L. 85-85 501 G Street, N.W. Renovations
Fifth & G Street Restoration
Company Limited Partnership

ACTION: Issue permit for renovations to this landmark building as shown on working drawings received and dated 9 August 1985. Note change to material for projecting bay windows as agreed to by applicant.

S.L. 85-86 401 First Street, S.E. Renovation and addi-Lance & Kate Beyer tion

ACTION: Issue permit for renovation and addition of glass block wall at rear elevation. No objection because of lack of visibility.



REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT		
S.L. 85-87	2940 Tilden Street, N.W. Embassy of Kuwait	Security wall and fence		
ACTION: Issue permit for security wall and fence as proposed. Brick of proposed wall shall match material of Embassy building.				
S.L. 85-88	1610 H Street, N.W. National Trust for Historic Preservation	Change to approved design of new "carriage house"		
ACTION: Issue permit for proposed change to addition of courtyard building now under construction. Change consists of substituting approved fixed double-hung windows for fixed casements.				
S.L. 85-89	1957 E Street, N.W. Associated General Contractors	Screening for existing parking lot		
ACTION: Issue permit for proposed planter beds and sand blasted concrete screen walls for existing parking area.				
S.L. 85-90	226 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E. James Vito Trust/American Security	Brick paving and planter		
ACTION: Issue permit for proposed brick paving and planter. Note change to submittal drawings which adds unbroken planter bed parallel to the adjacent property lines.				
S.L. 85-91	226 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E. James Vito Trust/American Security	Renovations and alterations		
ACTION: Issue per and dated 23 Augus	rmit for renovation and alterations as s st 1985.	shown on drawing received		



REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER PROJECT

S.L. 85-93

303, 305 & 307 Seventh Street, N.W. Renovations 699 Indiana Avenue Associates

ACTION: Issue permit for minor renovations and sign as proposed in drawings received and dated 3 September 1985.



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202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

11 September 1985

The meeting was convened at 10:14 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Members present:

Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman

Hon. Frederick E. Hart
Hon. Harold Burson
Hon. Alan R. Novak
Hon. Sondra G. Myers
Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Staff present:

Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary

Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary

Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson

National Capital Planning

Commission staff present:

Mr. Robert Cousins

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Minutes of the 31 July 1985 meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, approved.
 - B. Dates of next meetings, approved as: 9 October 1985, Wednesday
 13 November 1985, Wednesday
- C. The Commission of Fine Arts letter to the Arlington County Board opposing a sign on the Arland Tower Building received, it was reported, a response of agreement and cooperative action from the Board. Exhibits A, A-1

II. SUBMISSIONS

A. General Services Administration, National Capital Region



CFA 11/SEPT/85-1, State Department Building, Twenty-first Street entrance modifications, revised designs. The Assistant Secretary reviewed the history of the project for the Members and stated that the present study was submitted in response to Commission comments made during the meeting of 10 April 1985. He then introduced the project designer, Mark Butowsky, who described the changes to the original design, including elimination of the central element linking the entrance and curb canopies and limitation of materials to a red granite. He further stated that glass squares set within flat canopy roofs would replace the sloping plexiglass panels originally submitted. The Chairman asked if studies were available comparing two-tiered granite planter barriers with the three-tiered barriers as requested. Mr. Butowsky responded that study models had been made but the results had been unsatisfactory. Both the Chairman and Mr. Novak pointed out that the formidable bulk of the barriers could be softened if only two granite tiers were used and the total height and bulk reduced. It was pointed out that the height of the lower tier was required for security purposes, but it was agreed to study a two-tier scheme, perhaps with deeper planting beds to insure the same amount of planting effect as the present With the exception of this one element, the Commission approved both the overall design as well as the granite selection. Exhibit B

B. Department of State, International Center

CFA 11/SEPT/85-2, Chancery of Kuwait, 3500 International Drive, N. W., designs for a security fence and gate. The Assistant Secretary briefed the Members on the development of International Center and the adjoining Intelsat complex facing Connecticut Avenue off Tilden and VanNess Streets. From office photographs, he pointed out the four chancery buildings completed, including two, Bahrain and Israel, already provided with security fences. Note was made that the security fences were intentionally designed as individual expressions of each country's heritage, but that the State Department required set-backs of six feet from the back edge of the public sidewalk at a height no greater than six feet six inches. The Assistant Secretary also described the approved landscape master plan and the new Corten steel fence presently being installed around Intelsat and the perimeter of International Center. He then introduced the project manager for the State Department, Jim Edgins. Mr. Edgins verified that Kuwait intended using stainless steel for its security fence, a material sympathetic to the chancery building as well as to its neighbor, Intelsat. In answer to Mr. Stone's question concerning provisions for transition elements between the obviously varied chancery fences, Mr. Edgins stated that Bahrain had constructed a dressed stone wall at the property line. Responding to a general question from the Secretary, he further stated that the State Department had decided to plant all the street trees in the near future,



concluding that trees damaged during construction work on individual chancery buildings would be replaced by the general contractor responsible. Mr. Stone suggested that an area be set aside for stock-piling trees in anticipation of such need. With this understanding in mind, the Commission approved the submission. Exhibit C

C. Department of Defense, National Defense University

CFA 11/SEPT/85-3, University Academic/Library Center, Ft. McNair, final building and landscaping designs. The Assistant Secretary briefed the Members on the history of the proposed University Academic/Library Center, touching on the sequence of revisions to the site plan and building as a result of Commission recommendations beginning in February of this year. He stated that the major thrust of these recommendations concerned development of a plan sympathetic to the original 1903 McKim, Mead and White master plan and its focal point, Roosevelt Hall. He then went on to point out basic refinements to the building, including a change in materials for the portico, simplification of the main vehicular approach, and enrichment of the landscape scheme. Finally, the representative for Fort McNair, Colonel Alba, was introduced who in turn asked the project manager for Ellerbe Associates, Tom Courtney, to speak. Mr. Courtney confined his presentation to the building details, in particular the articulation and layering of the materials which he reasoned would help de-emphasize the apparent mass of the structure and complement Roosevelt Hall. Supporting Mr. Stone's request that detailed landscape plans be sent on to his office for review, the Commission approved the building design and general site plan.

Exhibit D

D. <u>National Park Service</u>, <u>National Capital Region</u>

- 1. CFA 11/SEPT/85-4, Proposed Rulemaking, 36 CFR Part 50, National Capital Parks Regulations; Lafayette Park; Structure Prohibitions; Sign Limitations. The Chairman drew the Member's attention to the revised guidelines concerning private signs and structures in Lafayette Park, as proposed in the Federal Register, copies of which were at each Member's place. He then described the circumstances and conditions within the Park that prompted the drafting of these new guidelines. Mr. Stone motioned, with the full concurrence of his fellow Commission members, that the Chairman, as a District of Columbia resident, and Mr. Novak, as having professional skill in matters of law, review the wording of this draft with the intention of offering the strongest possible support in favor of and perhaps extending beyond the strictures suggested by the National Park Service. Exhibit E
- 2. CFA 11/SEPT/85-5, Improvements to public reservation at Potomac Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Metro Stop, a joint submission with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.



The Assistant Secretary described the intent and pointed out the location of the submission, and then introduced the project manager, Jeff Knoedler. Mr. Knoedler indicated that the deteriorated condition of the small park across Potomac Avenue from the subway entrance had resulted in the proposed improvements. Responding to a question from the Chairman, he stated that a standard red brick paver would be used thoroughout the project. The submission was approved. Exhibit F

E. <u>District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer</u> and Regulatory Affairs

Old Georgetown Act

O.G. 85-251, 3360 M Street, N. W., razing associated with the Forrest-Marbury project. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs of the building proposed for demolition, pointed out its location adjacent to and west of the historic Forrest-Marbury house, and concluded with a statement describing the structure as a mid-twentieth century addition to a basement level apparently dating from the late nineteenth century. The Commission recommendation in favor of the demolition was considered consistent with the approved concept designs for a new structure on the site. It was noted, however, that this recommendation did not confirm approval of a bridge linking the upper floors of the Forrest-Marbury house to the new structure proposed to replace the building scheduled for demolition.

Appendix I, approved.

Shipstead-Luce Act

S.L. 85-99, 515 15th Street, N. W., Hotel Washington, alterations and renovations to F Street elevation. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs and drawings for the submission, established its location and then stated that the intent of the project was to reopen blocked ground floor windows overlooking F Street, matching the details at the existing openings on Fifteenth Street. The Commission gave full approval.

Appendix II, approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton Secretary



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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT A

202-566-1066

August 13, 1985

Dear Mr. Milliken:

The Commission of Fine Arts strongly urges that the Arlington County Board deny the application to erect new illuminated signs on the uppermost parts of the facades of the Arland Towers Building on Wilson Boulevard.

These signs would be highly visible from a number of important locations in the monumental areas of Washington and would detract from the views of our important national memorials.

If such signs were allowed in Washington, the view from the Virginia shores would surely be similarly diminished. It would seem reasonable to request that the view of the memorials when looking toward Virginia be accorded equal respect.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown

Chairman

Honorable John G. Milliken Chairman Arlington County Board 1400 North Courthouse Road Arlington, VA 22314





ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA OFFICE OF THE COUNTY BOARD

ROOM 201 1400 NORTH COURT HOUSE ROAD ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201

EXHIBIT A-1



JEAN C. JULIAN CLERK TO THE COUNTY BOARD PHONE 558-2261

RECEIVED COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS MARGARET WHIPPLI

MEMBERS JOHN G MILLIKEN CHAIRMAN

ELLEN M. BOZMAN MICHAEL E. BRUNNER ALBERT C. EISENBERG

August 23, 1985

Mr. J. Carter Brown, Chairman The Commission of Fine Arts 708 Jackson Place, NW Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Brown::

Thank you for sharing with us your concerns on the Gannett Corporation's request for an identification sign on the second Arland Towers Building. As you may have already heard, the Board denied that request and also denied their request to increase the size of the "USA Today" sign. We also voted to allow the sign request for the sixth floor level.

We appreciated your sharing your concerns with us.

Sincerely,

John Y. Milliken Jed

Chairman

JGM/jp

send capy to JCB



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EXHIBIT B

202-566-1066

September 24, 1985

Dear Mr. Spillenkothen:

The Commission of Fine Arts met with Mr. Butowsky on September 11, 1985 to discuss revised plans for modifications to the 21st Street entrance of the Department of State Building. We are approving the revised canopy designs and the use of materials with one caution; which is that the granite pavers be used in a simple pattern and in appropriate scale to avoid over-monumentality. Mr. Butowsky indicated that the pavers would be about two by three feet which is a reasonable range. Our suggestion would be to avoid stripes or contrasting paving trim as well to harmonize with the somewhat austere style of this section of the building.

The planters continue to be another matter. At your request the Commission reconsidered the two tier vs. three tier question, and feel that the two tier would be best. The three tier design would be overly monumental flanking the entry, and would tend to cut off the building's facade from pedestrian view on the sidewalk or the drop-off area. If the second tier planting area can be enlarged, and the third tier omitted, you have our approval. Otherwise, we will be happy to look at other alternatives and discuss the matter further. Let us know what you decide.

Sincere

J. Carter Brown

Chairman

Mr. Roy Spillenkothen
Deputy Director
Design and Construction Division
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
Washington, D.C. 20407



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EXHIBIT C

202-566-1066

September 23, 1985

Dear Mr. Newell:

The Commission was happy to review and approved designs for a fence along International Drive in front of the Chancery of Kuwait on September 11, 1985. The simple stainless steel design is quite compatible with the building and the tradition of having fences relate to the character of the Center's individual buildings. The uniform height, setback and treespace of all installations will be key to a unified result.

We were encouraged by Mr. Edgin's report that a way had been found to start planting street trees along International Drive and the Center's periphery in the near future. That will help improve the overall environment considerably while unifying the diverse architectural expressions. Mr. Stone, our landscape architect member, suggested pooling some of the street trees somewhere on site to provide replacements in the event of damage from the construction of future buildings.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown Chairman

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Mr. Michael B. Newell Director International Center Project Department of State Room 6316 - Main State Washington, D.C. 20520

· manipa

TO CONTRACT OF STREET

ESTABLISHED . BY . CONGRESS . MAY . 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT D

202-566-1066

October 25, 1985

Dear Colonel Alba:

This confirms the Commission's approval of the final plans for the National Defense University Building at Ft. McNair. The approval comes with our appreciation for the positive response you took to meet the comments made in our preliminary reviews. At our September meeting, the Commission asked that the drawings be reviewed by our landscape architect member, who was unable to be there. We are happy to report there was no objection.

As a final step in our review, we request a sample panel of the exterior building materials be erected on the site for our inspection. When it is ready, please give our staff a call at the above phone number to arrange for an inspection.

Sincerely.

J. Carter Brown

Chairman

Mr. Michael S. Alba
Colonel, U. S. Air Force
National Defense University
Directorate of Personnel, Administration
and Logistics
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20319-6000



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EXHIBIT D

202-566-1066

October 25, 1985

Dear Lt. Colonel Allison:

This confirms the Commission's approval of the final plans for the National Defense University Building at Ft. McNair. The approval comes with our appreciation for the positive response you took to meet the comments made in our preliminary reviews. At our September meeting, the Commission asked that the drawings be reviewed by our landscape architect member, who was unable to be there. We are happy to report there was no objection.

As a final step in our review, we request a sample panel of the exterior building materials be erected on the site for our inspection. When it is ready, please give our staff a call at the above phone number to arrange for an inspection.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown Chairman

Mr. William F. Allison, Jr. Lt. Colonel, U. S. Army Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Engineering and Housing Military District of Washington Washington, D. C. 20319-5050

ESTABLISHED . BY . CONGRESS . MAY . 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT E

202-566-1066

September 23, 1985

Dear Mr. Robbins:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on September 11, 1985 reviewed the proposed regulations that would control structures and signs that are being erected in Lafayette Square as forms of protest. As close observers from our office on Jackson Place, we can testify only too well the degree to which this most historic of Washington's parks has been increasingly spoiled over the last few years by a proliferation of signs and other structures erected in the name of some cause. It is a situation that is growing steadily worse, and there will be no end in sight unless the government is able to put into effect firm controls.

To a considerable extent, this will be achieved with the adoption of the Park Service's regulations as currently proposed. The limits on the size of signs, their height above the ground, and numbers would all help reduce the capacity for demonstrators to create the kind of mess that currently afflicts the Park. Yet the real curse of these displays, in many ways, is the permanent nature they take on through their stationary character at fixed locations. An unlimited battery of signs lining the sidewalks and pathways of the Park for an indefinite period will still constitute an eyesore even though the signs may be smaller.

Therefore we strongly recommend that a requirement be instituted that will keep the signs and demonstrators moving, as is now the case in front of the White House on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue, as specified in Section 50.19(e)(9)(Federal Register of June 17, 1983, page 28063.) It is hard to see why the sidewalk on the opposite side of Pennsylvania Avenue, which stands between a view of the White House and those using the historic park, should be treated any differently. It is not an unreasonable provision and is often a part of local ordinances across the country which govern the character of picket lines in public space. The fact that a moving rather than a fixed sign is less offensive is undeniable. The viewer simply accepts them as a statement more in the nature of the spoken word which is limited



Mr. Richard G. Robbins September 23, 1985 Page 2

in duration and does not continue ad infinitum. Once the demonstration is over, the park is returned to its role as a place of natural beauty. The permanent signs are a growing disfigurement of one of our most cherished pieces of national landscape, while the latter are with few exceptions in the best American traditions of free expression.

The Commission of Fine Arts as much as any agency of government, is committed in every sense to uphold the constitutional guarantees of our rights to free expression. The Commission believes, however, that the regulations, if amended as we recommend can put to an end what can only be viewed as a serious impairment of the rights of people to the enjoyment of this historic national site, while at the same time allowing for ample opportunity for reasonable demonstrations.

Sincerely.

J. Carter Brown

Chairman

Mr. Richard G. Robbins
Assistant Solicitor
National Capital Parks
18th & C Streets, N.W.
Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
Room 6554
Washington, D.C. 20240

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708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT F

202-566-1066

September 24, 1985

Dear Jack:

This confirms the Commission's September 11, 1985 approval of plans for improvements to the public reservation at the Potomac Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Metro stop. The Commission members felt that the proposal would be a significant improvement to the area and hope that plans continue to include Metrobus shelters without advertising on this type of highly visible public reservation.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish
Director
National Park Service
National Capital Parks
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W. - Room 336
Washington, D.C. 20242

MEETING:

9 October 1985

