United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

JUN 11 2001

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director, Board of Zoning Adjustment
Government of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street NW., Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Kress:

This in reference to Application Number 16715, for a property situated at 2318 Nebraska Avenue, North West, Square 1412, Lot 64, by Mr. John E. Kern, 5208 Wissioming Road, Bethesda, Maryland.

The property is situated adjacent to US. Reservation 404, Potomac Palisades Parkway. The parkland making up the Parkway is dedicated to the preservation of the gorge of the Potomac River and the conservation of the scenery, and the trees and the wildlife therein.

A field review of the proposal from both sides of the Potomac River indicates that there is a potential for the proposed building to be visible to users of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in an area that presents a significantly wooded and largely undeveloped appearance to users of the park at both the water surface of the Potomac River and from the George Washington Memorial Parkway. There is concern that this building could be developed in such a manner, either now or at a future date, that could be highly visible from various points of park land and thus possibly degrade the aforementioned natural setting of the Potomac gorge.

The park land adjacent to the subject property has a portion of road built on it by no known authority nor by any known permission granted by the National Park Service. Therefore, the National Park Service requests that this situation be noted in the record and recognize that the National Park Service, by its actions in this case, in no way relinquishes its rights to manage this portion of parkland in such a manner found necessary to preserve and perpetuate the qualities of the natural forested Potomac gorge. Such actions may range from continuing to maintain the landscape in the current manner, to full restoration of the natural forested landscape if found to be necessary to assure the natural appearance of the park

BZA
Case No. 16715
Exhibit No. 25

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16715
EXHIBIT NO.25

06/11/01 16:04 002/004

We have been assured by Mr. Kern by his letter of June 4, to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (copy enclosed) that:

1. The large maple tree situated immediately in the corner of the lot and partially on National Park Service Property and the Nebraska Avenue right of way, will be protected and maintained. We understand that Mr. Kern is committed to developing a tree protection plan for the period during the construction of the building and that he is committed to preserve and maintain this maple tree as an amenity to the neighborhood and to maintain the tree as part of the forested cover of the Potomac landscape.

2. The exterior finishes of the proposed building shall be "red brick exterior walls and a gray slate roof and copper gutters," thus presenting non-intrusive colors and hue to viewers of, and in, the Potomac gorge.

3. Access to the property will be from Nebraska Avenue and that no request shall be made to access the property from the "street which runs through Park Service property." Such access is understood to be both for permanent driveways and for all temporary construction related accesses.

Based upon these assurances, that we understand are be conditions of the BZA ruling, the National Park Service does not object to the variance from the side yard provisions as have been requested in Application Number 16715.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. I may be reached at 202-619-7405, if you have any question on the above comments or are in need of further information.

Sincerely yours,

David J. Murphy
Adjacent lands Liaison
Office of Lands Resources and Planning

cc: John E. Kern
Maxine Brown Roberts, Office of Planning

06/11/01 16:04

John E. Kern
5208 Wissioming Rd
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

June 4, 20001

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA
Director, Board of Zoning Adjustment
Government of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, NW., Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Kress:

This letter is in reference to BZA application no 16715. I received a telephone call on June 4th from Mr. David J. Murphy at the National Park Service concerning my application. Mr. Murphy stated that the Park Service was asked to submit a written response to my application. I understand from the discussion that the Park Service is not opposed to my request for an area variance but they have some concerns, which I believe I have satisfactorily resolved with Mr. Murphy, and I would like to make my response part of the record before the BZA.

Mr. Murphy raised three areas of concern: (1) Plans for the large maple tree on the Southwest corner of the lot facing Nebraska Ave. (2) Type of construction and finishes, and (3) Property access across parkland.

In response, I assured Mr. Murphy that the large maple tree is being protected and will not be removed. I will border off the maple tree from construction equipment and continue to protect the health and well being of the tree which I recently had inspected and deep fed by a tree service. In regard to construction type and finishes, the house will have all red brick exterior walls and a gray slate roof and copper gutters. Access to the property will be from Nebraska Ave. and I have no desire and will not be requesting to access the property from the street which runs through Park Service property.

Please let me know should you desire any further information.

Sincerely,

John E. Kern

Copy: Maxine Brown Roberts, Office of Planning
David J. Murphy, National Park Service

06/11/01 16:05

Office of Lands, Resources, and Planning

National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Dr. SW
Washington, DC 20242
Fax: (202) 619-7420
Phone: (202) 619-7025

FAX

Please deliver the following pages

To:

Name: BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

Phone: 727 ~~724~~ 6072

From:

Name: DAVID MURPHY

Phone: 202-619-7405

Date & Time:

Number of pages to *follow*: 3.

Message:

PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN APPLICATION NUMBER 16715

Thank you

D Murphy

06/11/01 16:04