

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS

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CT OF COLUMBIA

January 21, 1988

Mr. Lindsley Williams, Chairman
District of Columbia Zoning Commission
District Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

RE: Case 86-26, Cleveland Park Downzoning

Dear Mr. Williams:

The purpose of this letter is to support the petition for rezoning in the Cleveland Park Historic District submitted by the Cleveland Park Historical Society.

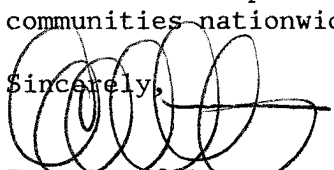
The National Conference of SHPOs represents State Historic Preservation Officers in the 57 States, territories and the District of Columbia. SHPOs are responsible for entering properties on the National Register of Historic Places, and for developing and implementing means to protect these irreplaceable resources.

The District of Columbia has an uncommonly rich heritage of historic sites and districts, and an extremely strong historic district zoning ordinance. However, the District and most urban areas in this country have in common development pressures which work in reverse upon those resources which the community has found to be historically significant.

As you know, historic designation, far from being an "end product," is only one step toward long term preservation. As long as the overall zoning conflicts with the underlying historic district, the community risks sending mixed signals and providing incentives for the loss of the very resources it is also trying to preserve.

It is for this reason that the proposed downzoning is needed for the long term preservation of the historic district. Such an action would strengthen the District's preservation programs, and set an excellent example for communities nationwide.

Sincerely,


Eric Hertfelder
Executive Director

ZONING COMMISSION
CASE No. 86-26
EXHIBIT No. 349
cc: Hon. Carol Thompson

ADMINISTRATORS OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT IN THE FIFTY STATES,
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THE COMMONWEALTHS OF PUERTO RICO AND THE NORTHERN
MARIANAS ISLANDS, THE TERRITORIES OF AMERICAN SAMOA, GUAM AND THE VIRGIN
ISLANDS, AND THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.86-26
EXHIBIT NO.349