

**SUBMISSIONS TO THE
PLANNING BOARD**

**WILD ACRES
5400 Grosvenor Lane**

MCP-Chairman

From: David Marshack [david@marshack.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 10:15 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
0539
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

David Marshack
10540 Farnham Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Janna Marks [janna@bikethesites.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 9:51 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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MAY 20 2008

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

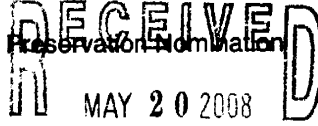
The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Janna Marks, a neighbor
5807 Lone Oak Dr.
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Cave, Carol [CCave@cpsc.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 9:40 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination



Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretakers cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Carol Cave
5715 Lone Oak Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

*****!!! Unless otherwise stated, any views or opinions expressed in this e-mail (and any attachments) are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Copies of product recall and product safety information can be sent to you automatically via Internet e-mail, as they are released by CPSC. To subscribe or unsubscribe to this service go to the following web page: <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx> *****!!!

MCP-Chairman

From: Richard Chipkin [rickchip53@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 9:30 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Expires: Friday, May 15, 2009 12:00 AM

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL CAPITAL
PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

As a resident in the Wildwood neighborhood, I am writing to express my support for the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the other original structures on the property and the environmental setting surrounding the mansion.

The Wild Acres property is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is important that this resource is recognized as such. Trying to separate which parts of the entire property should be preserved and which doesn't make sense; we should preserve it all. For that reason I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Chipkin
5816 Cheshire Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Jelliotti@cs.com
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 3:36 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: support for preservation Grosvenor/Wild Acres

April 19, 2008

To: Mr. Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am expressing my support for the listing of the Grosvenor Estate, Wild Acres, on the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation, including the mansion and its buildings as well as the setting for the buildings so the ambiance may be preserved along with the physical entities. I was surprised to learn that the property was not already listed, since it is so historical and so well-preserved.

These things need to be saved for future generations. In my nearly forty years of living in Montgomery County I have been watching it develop with interest, and feel that the pace has accelerated more recently until we are rushing headlong into the future at breakneck speed. That makes it more important than ever that we take time to consider and preserve our more stately and gracious past. It's the only thing that will give us perspective on our present actions, and we are in desperate need of perspective.

Preserving the mansion and buildings in their environmental setting would give us all breathing space and some moments of respite from our fast-driven lives. Do please vote in favor of the listing in its entirety.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Irene Elliott
10014 Fleming Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Dabney Hibbert [dabgen@erols.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 4:48 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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MAY 20 2008

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

We are writing to express our support for the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. We hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include not only the mansion but also the other original structures on the property as well as the environmental setting surrounding the mansion. An article in the newspaper a few years ago, which presented the amazing history of the property, fascinated our family and made us treasure it even more than we had previously.

The Wild Acres property is an important part of the history of Bethesda and it is most important that this resource is recognized as such. For that reason I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Dabney and Gene Burleson

MCP-Chairman

From: Bryan [bambryan@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 5:06 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

To: Montgomery County Planning Board

From: Ann and Brian Bryan
6024 Rossmore Drive
Bethesda, MD 20184

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

I am writing to express my support for the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include not only the mansion but the other original structures on the property and the environmental setting surrounding the mansion.

The Wild Acres property is an amazing part of the history of Bethesda and the Nation's Capital. The Grosvenor family history should be preserved. It is important that this resource is recognized as such. For that reason I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Ann and Brian Bryan
XXXXX

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MCP-Chairman

From: A POLANGIN [akpolan@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 5:12 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Nomination

9800 Broad Street
9806 Broad Street
Bethesda, MD 20814

May 18, 2008

Royce Hanson,
Chairman
Planning Board
Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission
8787 Georgia Avenue,
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson

We are writing this letter in support of the designation of the Wild Acres Grosvenor Estate to be historic. We have lived in this neighborhood for a combination of 77 years and have been very aware that this property with its wonderful historic heritage is located on Grosvenor Lane, less than one mile from our homes. The Wild Acres Grosvenor estate is extremely unusual in its size, with wonderful old trees, and the mansion and outbuildings. An interesting thing about the mansion is that to see the front of it, you have to go behind it. It is a classic example of architecture from the 1920's. There is nothing like it at all in this part of the county. We understand that the mansion is the same as when it was built, just like the architect's plan, and that is quite unusual as well.

Another notable thing about this property is the fame of Gilbert Grosvenor who founded *The National Geographic* and who was married to the daughter of Alexander Graham Bell. As a five year old in 1947, Joan learned that Bell invented the telephone.

This property, including the outbuildings is really a historical gem in Bethesda. Some of the criteria for historic preservation that this property represents are as follows:

"It has character, interest and value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the county, state, or nation" for representing the country estates that once lined Rockville Pike in the early 20th century.

"Is identified with a person... who influenced society" for being the home of Gilbert Grosvenor, Editor of the National Geographic Magazine and President of the National Geographic Society.

"It exemplifies the cultural, economic, social, and political heritage of the county and communities" by representing the "town and country" atmosphere of the Bethesda-Potomac region in the early 20th century.

"It is the distinctive characteristic of a type" by representing the Tudor Revival style mansion house and coordinating garage, as well as the rustic Craftsman style of the caretaker's cottage.

"It represents the work of a master" by being a fine example of the work of Arthur Heaton, an accomplished local architect who was prolific in the early 20th century. Heaton designed all three of the resources in this nomination.

"It possesses high artistic value" for the estate that includes the natural setting, caretaker's cottage and sweeping vistas to the north and south.

We believe that the entire property should be part of the environmental setting, as it is needed to preserve the context of the buildings. We certainly hope that this can occur.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Joan Hurley
jhurley42@hotmail.com
Arlene K. Polangin
akpolan@verizon.net

MCP-Chairman

From: Ernst Schwintzer [schwintzer@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 5:16 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: historic designation for Wild Acres

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board

Dear Mr. Hanson:

I was pleased to learn the Wild Acres at 5440 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814 received a unanimous recommendation by the Montgomery County Historic Commission for designation on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. In my opinion, this is an action which was long overdue.

My interest in Wild Acres goes back to the 1980s when I lived for a number of years across from this property on Fleming Avenue. Since then I have been back to visit the area a number of times and have always used these opportunities to catch up on the latest news about the estate.

While I resided on Fleming Avenue, as a professional historian, I greatly appreciated having the former country estate of Gilbert H. Grosvenor across the street from my house. At the time the SAF had already converted the mansion into its headquarters building. Although I regretted the interior renovations to the mansion, I was pleased that the SAF maintained not only the building's original exterior, but also maintained the carriage house and the groundkeeper's cottage. Equally important, in my opinion, they kept the extensive grounds around these buildings, thereby retaining the environment and ambience of the original estate. At the time I was fearful that this property would one day be sold to someone who would destroy this historical gem that somehow had managed to survive the relentless growth of the suburbs with its accompanying rise in property values that made the continued preservation of this unique historical estate increasingly economically difficult from a strictly commercial point of view.

Based on my own observations of the property, I would strongly urge that not only the mansion be preserved, but that the carriage house, caretaker's cottage, and the grounds around the buildings, including the lawns and woods, be preserved to retain the ambience of a country mansion and that all these should be added to the Plan for Historical Preservation. Unlike urban buildings, the Grosvenor mansion is a prime example of an early twentieth century country estate. The carriage house and landscape around these buildings were part of a unified whole which would be threatened if only the mansion is placed on the register for historic places. Hence not only the mansion but the carriage house and caretaker's cottage as well need to be preserved if we wish to retain the estate's evocation of the country mansion era of the 1920s. Just as Mt. Vernon would be much poorer as reminder of our historical heritage if only George Washington's mansion but none of the outbuildings had been preserved, Wild Acres will be a poor reminder of the estate of Gilbert H. Grosvenor if only the mansion is preserved and the environment within which it is located is allowed to be destroyed.

Montgomery County still has the ability to preserve Wild Acres, a truly important historical site, for future generations. I sincerely hope that the Montgomery County Planning Board and County Council will approve placing the mansion, carriage house, groundskeeper's cottage, and the estate's grounds on the register for historic preservation.

Ernst Schwintzer
424 W 23rd Ave
Eugene OR 97405
schwintzer@gmail.com

MCP-Chairman

From: Louise Lawrence-Israels [leli18@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 5:50 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

19 May, 2008

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am writing to express my support for the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the other original structures on the property and the environmental setting surrounding the mansion.

The Wild Acres property is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is important that this resource is recognized as such. For that reason I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Louise Lawrence-Israels
President Grosvenor Square Home Owners Association

MCP-Chairman

From: Charles P. Schaeffer [chatsworth42@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 6:28 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: WILD ACRES HISTORIC PRESERVATION NOMINATION

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MAY 20 2008

Royce Hanson
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Ave.
Silver Spring, Md. 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson: Please add my vote of support to the nomination of the Wild Acres property as an historic site by the Historic Preservation Commission. I attended the original hearing and was much impressed by the the persuasive arguments favoring the nomination, particularly the appeal to save the three historic buildings on the former Grosvenor estate.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles Schaeffer
6036 Chatsworth Lane
Bethesda, Md. 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Karen Regan [ksregan1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 6:48 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman

Montgomery County Planning Board

8787 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20910

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am writing in support of the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and will vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of the country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a treasure in our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Karen S. Regan

5815 Lone Oak Dr

Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: ron2bell [ron2bell@erols.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 7:15 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

May 19, 2008

Mr. Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

We support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. We hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. We ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Ann & Ron Bethke, II

MCP-Chairman

From: Zohreh Tatari [ztatari@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 7:28 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I would like to express my support for the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. This is the only unprotected historical place remaining in Bethesda that is surrounded by a majestic forest and a myriad of wild life. Our duty as citizens is to protect and transfer this heritage to future generations. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and the entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

Sincerely,

Zohreh Tatari

MCP-Chairman

From: Laurie Friedman [laurie@impact-resources.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 7:44 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Preservation Nomination

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Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Laurie Friedman,
5910 Lone Oak Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

laurie@impact-resources.com
learn more at: www.meridianshealth.com

MCP-Chairman

From: JFeld10261@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 7:39 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Grosvenor Estate Wild Acres

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Royce Hanson
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the nomination of Wild Acres on Grosvenor Lane for historic preservation. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to preserve the mansion, carriage house, caretaker's cottage and grounds.

The site has character and represents an early 20th Century property. The existing structures show the style of the times. It is an example of a noted architect. Mr. Grosvenor influenced our society. The Wild Acres property is an important part of the history of Bethesda. As a youth, I attended Grosvenor Elementary School and moved back to the community to purchase my home run by the Grosvenor Homeowners Association.

Kindly support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Jack Feldman
10312 Thornbush Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814

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(<http://food.aol.com/dinner-tonight?NCID=aolfod00030000000001>)

MCP-Chairman

From: Cathy [cathyw63@starpower.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 7:50 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

We have lived in this neighborhood for 45 plus years! We have seen many changes.

We support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Catherine White
Robert White
Gladys White

MCP-Chairman

From: Henry - IR Tech [henry@ir-tech.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 8:12 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination for many reasons. I believe this property has a unique and valuable heritage and is a wonderful component of our local neighborhood. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. It would be such a tragedy to see the property broken up and disassembled. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Henry Friedman, PMP
Chief Operating Officer

IR TECHNOLOGIES

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(240) 793-4477 (mobile)
(240) 465-0089 (fax)
www.ir-tech.com

MCP-Chairman

From: Linda Parker [linda20814@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 8:32 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson:

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination and I ask you to support it, also. I think you should support the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is a part of the history of Bethesda. It is a good example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, the property would no longer be as valuable without both the buildings and grounds. It is extremely important for our neighborhood and Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Linda Parker
5806 Jarvis Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: raehle1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 8:42 PM
To: MCP-Chairman

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Rose Aehle
5717 Greenlawn Drive
Bethesda, Md 20814

Plan your next roadtrip with MapQuest.com: America's #1 Mapping Site.

MCP-Chairman

From: Brian Chidichimo [BrianChido@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 5:50 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Grosvenor Mansion

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
0551
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

This is a jewel to our neighborhood. This home of the famous National Geographic editor can be a very nice park and tourist destination.

There is no guarantee that the Nations Academy would preserve this structure without protection.

Sincerely,

Brian Chidichimo
9910 Edward Ave
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-564-4024

MCP-Chairman

From: Catherine Gewertz [catherine.gewertz@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2008 11:16 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres preservation

Royce Hanson, Chairman

Montgomery County Planning Board

8787 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I would like to urge you and your colleagues to support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. This property is a tremendous asset not only to my neighborhood, but, I believe, to all of Montgomery County and the Washington, D.C., area.

I was relieved to learn that the Historic Preservation Commission voted to recommend that the mansion and other buildings on the site receive the protective designation, and that the lovely grounds are preserved as well. It would be a pity and deep loss to have the mansion protected, only to see the other buildings replaced with large, new structures, and the leafy grounds cleared for buildings or brand new saplings or manicured lawns. The charm and value of the property lie in PRESERVING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY, not only the mansion.

As urban sprawl gobbles up more and more of our area, it is even more important to preserve the land and buildings in their current state. They offer a glimpse of our history, and protect a fast-disappearing graciousness in design and landscaping. It is a pleasure simply to walk or drive past it as it is now. Keeping them as they are will also help us manage growth and traffic on that parcel.

Please contribute to the quality of life in our neighborhood and our county by helping to place this property on the historic register.

Sincerely,

Catherine Gewertz

Wildwood Manor resident

MCP-Chairman

From: mary maher [mmaher72@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2008 6:08 AM
To: MCP-Chairman

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

Mary Maher
5823 Greenlawn Drive
Bethesda, Md. 20814

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Mary Maher

MCP-Chairman

From: Tammy Dekel [tamard@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 8:38 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Support for Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

My husband and I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. We urge you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Tammy Dekel
5710 Kingswood Rd
Bethesda, MD 20814
Tel: (301) 897-8451

MCP-Chairman

From: E Freer [efreer99@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 6:11 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am writing to show my support of the historic preservation nomination of the rare gem that we have hidden among our neighborhood, Wild Acres (Grosvenor estate). The Wild Acres property is central to the character of our neighborhood and its historic roots. Even many of the names of the streets and areas of our community are named after Grosvenor since he was an important part of the history of this area.

The Wild Acres property, including the mansion, carriage house, caretaker's cottage and especially the sweeping environmental setting, meet the criteria for designating a property on the master plan for historic designation.

In addition to being tied to Elsie May Bell and Gilbert Grosvenor, the site possesses high artistic value since the estate includes natural setting, caretaker's cottage and sweeping vistas to the north and south. In addition, it truly represents the cultural, economic, social and political heritage of the county and community since it clearly represents the "town and country" atmosphere of the Bethesda-Potomac region in the early 20th century.

I have visited many of the historic properties in Montgomery County and was surprised when I found out that Wild Acres was not designated historic like the other sites in the area. Please vote to support the nomination of this entire site to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and the entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation. Please allow our future generations to learn more about the history of our area through this unique site and buildings.

Without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Robert Elliott Freer III
5705 Lone Oak Dr.
301-257-0054

MCP-Chairman

From: Susan Lewis-Somers [slewis@wcl.american.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 6:09 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Cc: Herb Somers
Subject: Wild Acres Nomination for amendment to Master Plan for Historic Preservation

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

Dear Mr. Hanson and colleagues:

We write to urge the Planning Board to approve the draft amendment to designate Wild Acres, located at 5440 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814, to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
PARKS AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Wild Acres, the historic estate of Gilbert H. Grosvenor, the Editor of the National Geographic Magazine and President of the National Geographic Society for much of the 20th Century, is terribly significant to our neighborhood. It is our neighborhood's historic and cultural centerpiece.

Wild Acres represents the magnificent historic beginnings of our neighborhood, whose main thoroughfare carries the Grosvenor name. It represents a time in the earlier years of the 20th Century when Gilbert Grosvenor was a cultural and social giant, nationally and within Montgomery County. Many significant political, artistic and cultural figures of the day attended gatherings at Wild Acres, which now serves as a memorial to these events and represents our county's heritage.

In addition, Wild Acres is a significant historic landmark to all residents in our neighborhood. It is the single piece of neighborhood history that remains from our beginnings in the early 20th Century. Neighbors can often be seen walking the beautiful grounds of Wild Acres, with its magnificent architecture and its wooded views, north and south. A person standing near the house can imagine what a peaceful retreat it must have been for the Grosvenor family.

We hope the Planning Board will agree with us that Wild Acres meets the criteria for designation to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Thank you for your consideration.

Susan Lewis-Somers and Herb Somers
10106 Fleming Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Debbie Freer [debbie.freer@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 5:53 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I strongly support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I attended the meeting at the Planning Board on April 23rd with many other members of my community and was so pleased to see that the Historic Preservation Commission all agreed that this nomination has both historical and architectural significance. The site is so unique since its buildings and the surrounding grounds, as a whole, convey the original use of the property as a country estate in early 20th century.

This site is so breathtaking. I encourage you, if you have not already, to drive in and take a walk around the property. I bring all of my out of town friends and relatives to the site to see it. They all are fascinated to learn that it was owned by Gilbert Grosvenor and Alexander Graham Bell's daughter. They all comment on the environmental setting including the woods, massive specimen trees and sweeping vistas. In addition, everyone always comments on the tudor style mansion and how unique it is to see a carriage house from that time period in such great condition. I hope the site with the carriage house, mansion, caretaker's cottage and the entire enviromental setting will still be in tact for when I have children so I can have them experience a true country estate from that time period that once appeared along Rockville Pike.

I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and the entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda.. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Thank you very much.

With Appreciation,
Debbie Schneider Freer
Bethesda Resident
debbie.freer@yahoo.com

MCP-Chairman

From: Cathleen Piemme [cathel2000@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 5:41 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Cathleen Piemme
5806 Lone Oak Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Ann McMullin [AnnMcMullin@UHMS.ORG]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 5:14 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination. I have spent many happy hours exploring the grounds with my children and now, my dog. It is a lovely place to walk and the historic nature of the mansion—the former home of the National Geographic's Gilbert Grosvenor, whose wife, Elsie was the daughter of Alexander Graham Bell. The Montgomery County Historical Society has some photos of events and parties where many famous people were in attendance. Please support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Ann McMullin
5807 Greenlawn Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

May 19, 2008

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Ave
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

My husband and I have lived at 10209 Dickens Ave, just off Grosvenor Lane, for 24 years. The Wild Acres property is an important part of our neighborhood. I urge you to agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion and the other original structures and the environmental area surrounding the mansion and support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination.

Sincerely,

Susan L Hurd

Susan L. Hurd, 10209 Dickens Ave, Bethesda, MD
20814

**Elliott M. Seiden
5507 Thornbush Court
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 581-0068**

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

There is pending before the Planning Board a nomination to confer Historic Preservation status on the wonderful Grosvenor Mansion and related grounds (the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination). Please accept this letter as a strong indication of support for grant of this nomination.

The Historic Preservation Commission has recommended Historic Preservation status for Wild Acres and having lived in the neighborhood for some nine years, I can personally attest to the architectural uniqueness and integrity of the property. Sadly, given the break neck speed at which lower Montgomery County has been developed, there are precious few historic structures that remain. This is one of the finest and surely deserves historic preservation status.

The Wild Acres property is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is important that this resource is recognized as such. For that reason I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely, -



Elliott M. Seiden

MCP-Chairman

RECEIVED
MAY 13 2008

From: Howie [brown-davis3@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2008 12:11 PM
To: MCP-Chairman

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Chairman:

I am a resident living near the Wild Acres and am writing in support of its designation for historic preservation. The entire Grosvenor estate complex is one of the few remaining examples of that exemplify the architecture of the late 19th and early 20th century estates that were common in this area. The names of Grosvenor and Bell, his wife, are an important legacy in this area with few new inhabitants realizing the historic prominence of the name Grosvenor, especially relative the founding of the "National Geographic Magazine and the contribution that Magazine has made. The Grosvenor complex should be retained intact as an important historic illustration.

Howard Davis
5819 Greenlawn Drive, Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Elke Jordan [elke.jordan@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2008 5:44 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: hearing on Wild Acres nomination for Historic Preservation

RECEIVED
0503
MAY 12 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Chairman,

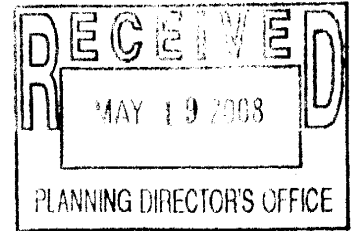
I live on Fleming Avenue in North Bethesda Grove, right next to Wild Acres, which is also known as the Grosvenor Mansion. I write in support of the nomination of Wild Acres for Historic Preservation. In addition to its significant, intrinsic, historic and cultural merits, which are well described in the official nomination, Wild Acres is a central focus of our community. Several features of our neighborhood are named after the Grosvenors, including the main street running through it, Grosvenor Lane, the Grosvenor Park apartments and condominiums, and the Grosvenor Metro station. Several areas of our neighborhood are named after the Grosvenors or Wild Acres: Wildwood Manor, Grosvenor Woods, Wildwood Shopping Center. The former Grosvenor property defines our little enclave, which is surrounded on three sides by I 495 and I 270. The Grosvenor mansion is our link to the past, it represents the historic roots from which this community grew, it gives the neighborhood its character. Designating the mansion and its related buildings for historic preservation will assure that this last remaining vestige of our past is preserved. I hope you will decide that in the increasing pressure to develop every last bit of land, we should not lose all remnants of our rich history.

Sincerely,

Elke Jordan
10114 Fleming Avenue
Bethesda, Mad 20814

NATIONS
ACADEMY

May 15, 2008



Dear Friend and Neighbor:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the community surrounding 5400 Grosvenor Lane for their input into Nations Academy's special exception application. Many of you have met with us or attended one of our three public information sessions to review our plans and let us know your comments and concerns. As you have seen by the evolution of the design, we are listening to and acting on your recommendations.

As you may know, on May 1 the Historic Preservation Commission of Montgomery County recommended the designation of a portion of the property for inclusion on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. As the contract purchaser, Nations Academy supports the historic designation of the former Grosvenor house. In fact, our design has always included, and been highly respectful of, the role of the house as a focal point of the campus.

Likewise, we have always incorporated preservation of the vast majority of the forest along the southern edge of the property into our plans, and offered to create a permanent forest conservation easement that would have effectively achieved the same result as the Legacy Open Space designation.

We continue to move full speed ahead on our project schedule. Yet because of the timing of certain public agency reviews of our submission, as well as the historic designation process, we have postponed the public hearing dates previously scheduled for June 20 and 23, 2008. We will let you know when we set a new hearing date. In the meantime, we would like to maintain our dialogue with you and continue to solicit your input on the project. If you have any questions for us, please feel free to send an email to info@nationsacademy.com.

We love the Grosvenor Lane property for so many obvious reasons. We know our design will honor both the environment and historical significance of the property. We maintain our conviction that a school campus is the best use of the property's special character. And we plan to be good neighbors to you over the long term.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benno".

Benno Schmidt
President, Nations Academy

May 16, 2008

Royce Hanson
Chairman, Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am writing to voice my enthusiastic support to place Wild Acres (the Grosvenor estate) on the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Specifically, I believe that the mansion and its carriage house, the caretaker's cottage, and the entire environmental setting outlined in the recommendation of the Montgomery County Historic Commission (HPC)—with its driveway, lawns, and vistas of woods—should be designated. All of these elements together reflect how the Grosvenors used their estate and are necessary to preserve the historic character of Wild Acres.

There are many reasons why Wild Acres should be preserved. First, the estate has national significance—it was the home of Gilbert Grosvenor, the first editor of *National Geographic*, president of the National Geographic Society for 55 years, and cousin of President William Howard Taft. He loved nature and was influential in expanding our country's national park system. Grosvenor lived in the mansion with his wife Elsie Bell, the daughter of Alexander Graham Bell. The property has other historical importance as well. According to a 1991 *Bethesda Gazette* article, records of the property date back to the 1600s. The article also mentions a colonial stone boundary marker located in the woods surrounding the house.

Moreover, Wild Acres—the Grosvenor estate—is central to the character of its neighborhood and its historical roots. For example, many of the place names of the neighborhood—Grosvenor metro station, Grosvenor Lane, Grosvenor Tower condominiums, Grosvenor Mews—take their names from the estate.

The three buildings that have been nominated should be preserved. The mansion, a lovely 1920s Tudor-style building, along with its coordinating carriage house and the charming Craftsman-style caretaker's cottage were designed by a prominent Washington architect to go together. Over the years, as I have walked past the estate or taken walks there, I have always admired the buildings and the way they are situated on the grounds. Recently, after seeing the photos that accompanied the nomination of this property, I have come to appreciate their architectural details and settings even more! For example, I had always liked the proportions of the carriage house, with its row of windows and its slate hipped roof and knew that it was designed to go with the house. But the photos show how clever the architect was in aligning and coordinating the buildings to please the eye.

The environmental setting of the buildings is spectacular and should also be preserved. The long, circular drive up to the mansion, the lawns around the mansion and carriage house, and views of the woods (the Grosvenors did name their estate Wild Acres, after all!)—all of these landscape features are integral to the Grosvenors' vision for their country retreat.

The three buildings and their setting convey as a whole the original use of the property by the Grosvenors. As such, Wild Acres is a wonderful example of the country estates that once

appeared along Rockville Pike nearly a century ago. I urge the Montgomery County Planning Board to add the three buildings and the entire environmental setting noted in the HPC recommendation the county's Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

Many thanks for this opportunity to voice my support.

Sincerely,



Pat Davenport
10012 Fleming Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: buddyadams@juno.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 10:39 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: wild acres

RECEIVED
0543
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely, Jeff Adams

Wasting money? Stop, now. Click here for top online coupon websites.

<http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL2111/fc/Ioyw6iigj6A9W0yMOggDxX9iZX4Mhix3AioN0JHhwwuh6mfeA2lPrN/?count=1234567890>

MCP-Chairman

From: ams@kaleidos-design.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 11:05 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman

Montgomery County Planning Board

8787 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Angelika Meier-Schellersheim

MCP-Chairman

From: Robert Marks [RAMARKS1@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 11:23 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Bob Marks
5813 Lone Oak Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814

301-897-8153
301-897-9252 fax
703-244-1044 cell

MCP-Chairman

From: Granmobley@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 12:16 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Preservation of Wild Acres

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

5909 Ruyard Drive
Bethesda, MD 20814
May 20, 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr Hanson:

I am writing in regard to the Grosvenor property in Bethesda. The mansion, original stable and surrounding area on the Wild Acres Estate have been nominated for historic preservation with the Historic Preservation Committee.

Having lived in the Wildwood Manor subdivision for 48 years, I have come to know the importance of this original country estate. Therefore, I request that you support the nomination.

Sincerely,
Claire Mobley

Wondering what's for Dinner Tonight? [Get new twists on family favorites at AOL Food.](#)

MCP-Chairman

From: Annie Shellswick [ashellswick@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 12:37 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Annie Shellswick, LCSW-C, LLC
240-678-2722
www.annieshellswick.com

E-mail is not a secure medium of communication. I cannot guarantee privacy.

MCP-Chairman

From: Bowker, Ann (ACF) [ann.bowker@acf.hhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:00 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Montgomery County Planning Board:

I am writing to support the nomination of Wild Acres (Resource #30/15), Gilbert Grosvenor's estate on Grosvenor Lane in Bethesda, to Montgomery County's Master Plan for Historic Preservation, including:

- the mansion, the carriage house/garage, and the caretaker's/gardener's cottage, and
- the entire environmental setting shown in the April 16, 2008, Maryland – National Capital Park and Planning Commission staff memorandum recommending designation of Wild Acres on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

Wild Acres is a valuable historic, architectural, and natural resource and an important part of our county and our neighborhood. It is a significant example of the country estates built in Montgomery County in the early 20th century by wealthy Washingtonians who were publishers and editors. It was the country estate of Gilbert Grosvenor of the National Geographic Society, a significant historical figure, and it also is associated with other significant persons of his times. The three buildings and much of their former environmental setting still survive and still evoke the country mansion era of the early 20th century.

The three buildings and the full environmental setting are integral parts of Wild Acres and contribute to the historic character and significance of the property and to its context as an important example of early 20th century country estates in the county. These buildings and their environmental setting all qualify for designation on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. They are important to the history of Montgomery County and to the character of our neighborhood. The three structures and the natural environmental setting should be preserved to convey the previous use of the property as a country estate, to retain the character of the property. It is important to preserve the structures and an environmental setting appropriate to the previous use – not just the mansion and perhaps a little grass around it.

N-NCPPC staff (April 16, 2008) found that Wild Acres clearly meets six criteria for designation on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation and has historical significance, architectural significance, and environmental setting and landscape significance. The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission unanimously voted to recommend designation of this resource on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, on April 23. The Maryland Historical Trust and the State Highway Administration previously found that Wild Acres is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

I have lived on Grosvenor Lane for more than twenty years. I have walked by Wild Acres hundreds of times and driven by it many more times. Wild Acres' beautiful setting, historic structures, and association with the Grosvenor family are an important and cherished part of our neighborhood. Designating Wild Acres on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation will help to assure that it won't be reduced to nothing but a mansion left out of context – or to nothing but the Grosvenor name on a street, a metro station, and apartment/condominium developments.

Sincerely,

Ann Bowker

5908 Grosvenor Lane

Bethesda, Maryland 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Alec Kenessey [azzk2022@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:23 PM
To: MCP-Chairman

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Royce Hanson, Chairman

Montgomery County Planning Board

8787 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Alec Kenessey
9901 Edward Ave
Bethesda MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Jennifer Gallivan [gallivansgarage@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 9:02 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: save grovenour mansion and stop nations academy

Mr hanson.. please help keep out neighborhood safe from the nations academy development. There are only 4 streets that enter this community and having 900 plus cars added every morning and afternoon would create a safety hazard for local children going to ashburton and walter Johnson schools. Keeping the mansion a non-profit and now historic residence would send the right signal. Thanks from a voting democrat
John gallivan 9912 fleminf ave Bethesda md 20814

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0540
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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

MCP-Chairman

From: Lisa_Goenner [Lisa_Goenner@landon.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 9:39 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Please Support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am writing to voice my very strongest support of the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination and to ask for your support as well, when the matter comes before the Planning Board on May 29.

The Grosvenor Mansion--along with the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage, and their entire environmental setting--could certainly stand on its architectural merits alone and still be worthy of preservation. I confess to having a particular passion for architectural preservation, as both my father and grandfather were Washington architects who left a legacy of their own considerable talent on the local landscape. (Several of my grandfather's buildings now enjoy the protection that historic designation provides, and can therefore be appreciated for generations to come.) I hope the work of Montgomery County's Planning Board on May 29 will do as much to preserve the architectural legacy that is Wild Acres. I fervently hope that, along with those buildings, the Planning Board will see fit to preserve the setting of lawns and forest. There is a vast difference in the effect that is achieved, between preserving only a building (note the Walter Johnson house on Old Georgetown Road), and preserving a significant structure along with its supporting outbuildings and acreage (as is the case with the Farmhouse and Barn on the Landon School campus where I work). Preserving the historic buildings within their setting acknowledges the original design and purpose of the architecture and honors the true spirit and charge of historic preservation.

Of course, the building and grounds together represent just one facet of the gem that is Wild Acres.

The historical significance of the Grosvenors themselves is such that it cannot be measured in a single contribution, nor even in a single arena. Gilbert Grosvenor and his wife, Elsie, operated on a truly global scale, and were a positive force that truly shaped the social, political, scientific, artistic, and literary achievements of their day. Grosvenor's leadership of the National Geographic was more than a mere publishing success story; in his time he supported some of the most daring explorations that had yet been conceived, and truly extended the world's understanding of our planet and its peoples. Although an equal among society's most illustrious personages, Grosvenor made his greatest impact on the citizenry of the world, introducing them to each other through the extraordinary images and stories to be found on the pages of the National Geographic. Grosvenor's own significant photographic contributions represented a forward leap in photography as both an art and a news form.

Perhaps most significant, however, were Grosvenor's efforts to preserve the environment. By extolling the beauty that is to be found in nature and in man's own handiwork, he helped to create in our minds and hearts an appreciation for what is valuable to us all. Grosvenor was at the vanguard of a national effort to recognize the importance of preservation for future

generations--an effort we hope to continue on his behalf, and on behalf of the residents of this county, as we seek to protect his homestead as a historic legacy for Montgomery County.

Over the years, the County has deemed it fitting to use the Grosvenor name in identifying many of our important local sites. Surely Grosvenor's home, itself, is a site that is historically noteworthy and remarkable for the many reasons I've touched on! I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation. I urge you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Goenner

MCP-Chairman

From: Judy Saks [saksfour@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 10:54 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Letter concerning Grosvenor Estate

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To: Mr. Royce Hanson
Chairman, Montgomery County Planning Board

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson:

I was pleased to learn that the Grosvenor estate was recommended by the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission for inclusion on the county's Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

I am familiar with the property, having strolled there from time to time with friends who live nearby. The property should be protected not only because of its important historical association with Gilbert Grosvenor and Alexander Graham Bell, but also because the buildings and grounds convey the atmosphere of a country retreat. In addition to the mansion, I believe that the carriage house and the caretaker's cottage should be protected, along with the lawns and wooded setting. Without these elements, the property would lose its context as the Grosvenor family's country home. More importantly, it would no longer be a splendid example of the country estates that once were found along Rockville Pike.

The Grosvenor estate is an important part of Montgomery County's historical legacy. I urge the Planning Board to protect it for future generations. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Judith Saks
5713 Mossrock Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20852
301-468-6961

MCP-Chairman

From: Lea Savoji [lsavoji@gwu.edu]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 10:57 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Lea Savoji

MCP-Chairman

From: M.S. Posniewski [posniewski6@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 11:11 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Montgomery County Planning Board,

I am writing to express my support for the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include not only the mansion but the other original structures on the property and the environmental setting surrounding the mansion.

I am especially sensitive to properties such as this. My grandmother's house was the house in Montgomery County where Josiah Henson lived (Uncle Tom's Cabin). It was very important to our family that the house be preserved and shared with the public, but at the very least preserved. The Wild Acres property is also an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is important that this resource is recognized as such and not lost forever. For that reason I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Robert and Mary Sue Posniewski
Bethesda, Maryland

MCP-Chairman

From: William Wood [wdwiii1@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 11:11 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: support for preserving grosvenor mansion

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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

Who doesn't have a "National Geographic" in the closet? The Grosvenor Mansion and grounds should be preserved as a reminder of what for many of us was our first window on the world. It reflects a quest for knowledge that is an example to us all.

Sincerely,

M. C. Mangan and W. D. Wood

William Wood

wdwiii1@earthlink.net

EarthLink Revolves Around You.

MCP-Chairman

From: Birgit An der Lan [birgit.anderlan@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 11:50 PM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I would like to express my strong support for the designation of the Wild Acres Mansion for historic preservation. The Mansion, together with the Carriage house, Caretaker Cottage and surrounding lawns and woodland, which were an integral part of the original design by the renowned architect Arthur Heaton and are part of the heritage of Montgomery County, deserve to be preserved in their entirety for future generations as a superb example of the country estates of the early part of the last century.

I have lived near the estate, which endows the North Bethesda Grove/Wildwood Manor area with its unique character, since 1984.

Your sincerely,

Birgit An der Lan

9923 Dickens Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Michael Zisk [michael_zisk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 7:22 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson,

As a resident of the neighborhood next to the Grosvenor Tract, I support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination. I hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of the types of estates that were common in our area during the last century. Without including the grounds, however, the property would not shine as an example of the many estates like it which have been lost already in our county. It is a real jewel for our neighborhood and Montgomery County. I ask you to support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Michael Zisk
5902 Kingswood Road
Bethesda, MD 20814

MCP-Chairman

From: Gaby Chidichimo [GabyZeh@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 8:53 AM
To: MCP-Chairman
Subject: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

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MAY 20 2008

Royce Hanson, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination

Dear Mr. Hanson,

We support the Wild Acres Historic Preservation Nomination and hope you will agree with the Historic Preservation Commission and vote to include the mansion, the carriage house, the caretaker's cottage and their entire environmental setting in the master plan for historic preservation.

The Wild Acres property, including the Grosvenor Mansion, is an important part of the history of Bethesda. It is a fine example of country estates built in the 1920s. However, without both the buildings and grounds, the property would no longer be as valuable. Please support the nomination.

Sincerely,

Brian and Gaby Chidichimo
9910 Edward Ave
Bethesda, MD 20814

May 17, 2008

Royce Hanson
Chairman, Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2008

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Hanson:

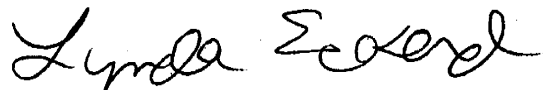
I live in Alta Vista Gardens, very near Wild Acres (the Grosvenor Estate). The reason I am writing is to ask that Wild Acres be designated in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation.

Wild Acres has been a part of our neighborhood for as long as I can remember. As a result, the Grosvenor name is seen and known throughout the area. However, it is only recently that I learned that this property has not yet been designated as an historic site.

It is essential that the buildings (mansion, carriage, and gardener's cottage) be designated now, as well as the environmental setting in which they are situated. I am sure you are aware that these buildings and surrounding area were once part of an early 20th century country estate, which was designed by a prominent local architect.

For all of these reasons, please be certain to designate this property (three buildings and environmental setting) for the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Lynda J. Eckard
5900 Jarvis Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814