


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	GARY W. COLE, ACTING DIRECTOR <i>GWC</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 E. FAYETTE STREET, 8 <sup>th</sup> FLOOR		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #08-0177-BALTIMORE CITY LANDMARK LIST- HARFORD COMMONS- WILLIAM FULD COMPANAY		

DATE:

**TO**

October 7, 2008

The Honorable President and  
 Members of the City Council  
 City Hall, Room 400  
 100 N. Holliday Street

At its regular meeting of September 25, 2008, the Planning Commission considered City Council Bill #08-0177, for the purpose of designating the Harford Commons (William Fuld Company), located at 1508 Harford Avenue, as a historical landmark

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached agenda, summary, and previous staff report which recommended approval of City Council Bill #08-0177 and adopted the following resolution, nine members being present (nine in favor).

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #08-0177 be passed by the City Council.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Wolde Ararsa, Acting Division Chief for Land Use and Urban Design at 410-396-4488.

GWC/ttl

cc:

- Mr. Andy Frank, Deputy Mayor
- Mr. Demuane Millard, Chief of Staff
- Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office
- The Honorable "Rikki" Spector, City Council Commission Representative
- Ms. Nikol Nabors-Jackson, DHCD
- Ms. Deepa Bhattacharyya, Law Department
- Mr. Larry Greene, Councilmanic Services
- Ms. Kathleen Kotarba, Chief, CHAP
- Mr. Tyler Gearhart, Chairman, CHAP

## PLANNING COMMISSION

### STAFF REPORT

March 6, 2008

**REQUEST:** Baltimore City Landmark Designation /Harford Commons (William Fuld Company) – 1508 Harford Road

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approval

**STAFF:** Eric Holcomb

**PETITIONER:** Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP)

**OWNER:** BHP/Harford Commons Limited Partnership.

#### **SITE/GENERAL AREA**

**Site Conditions:** Harford Commons, located at 1508 Harford Avenue, is a three story industrial building that was remodeled into apartments in the mid-1990s. The building fronts Harford Avenue across the street from a one-story CVS pharmacy. A one-story grocery store structure sits to the north, and an historic movie theater is located to its south. The zoning of this area is B-1-2 surrounded by R-8.

**General Area:** Harford Commons abut the Harford Avenue within the neighborhood of Oliver which is primarily a two-story rowhouse neighborhood.

#### **CONFORMITY TO PLANS**

The landmark designation conforms to CMP Live/Goal 2/Objective 4 *Protect and Enhance the Preservation of Baltimore's Historic Buildings and Neighborhoods.*

#### **ANALYSIS**

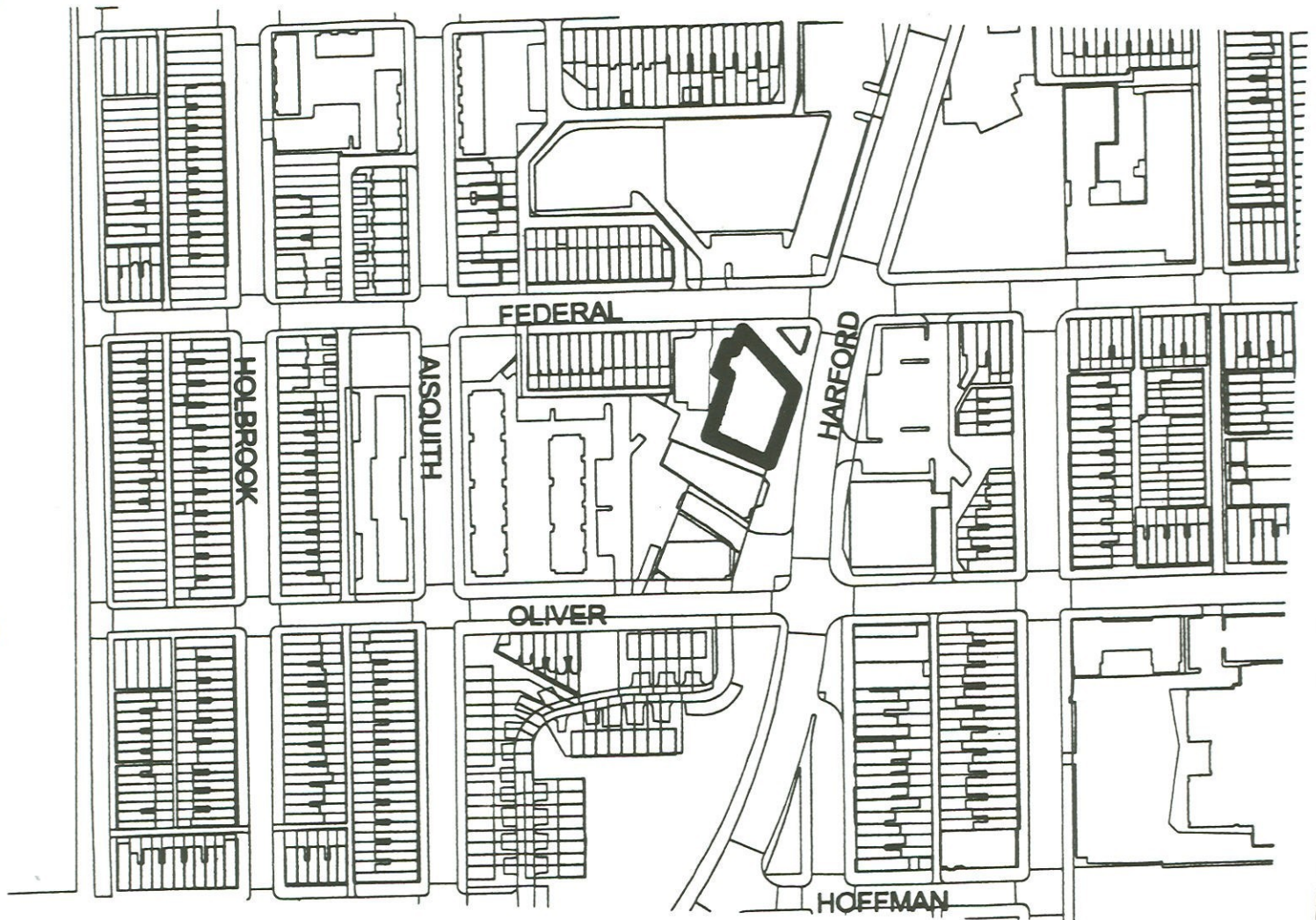
Harford Commons meets CHAP's landmark designation standards one and three: The Harford Commons located at 1508-14 Harford Avenue meets standard one and three as the William Fuld Company building was used to produce the Ouija Board from 1917 to the late 1940s. The Ouija Board was patented in 1891 and manufactured in Baltimore from 1892 to 1966 by a group of prominent Baltimoreans. The Ouija Board has entertained Americans for over a hundred years and has been an icon in Pop Culture, appearing in many movies, TV shows, and novels.

The property owner and the neighborhood association were notified of this hearing. This designation was initiated by a third party in consultation and support of the property owner. There are no letters of opposition.

*Gary W. Cole for D. McCoach III*

**Douglas B. McCoach, III**  
**Director**





**Baltimore City Landmark Designation  
Harford Commons (William Fuld Company)  
1508 Harford Road**



Planning Commission  
March 6, 2008