


FROM	NAME & TITLE	GARY W. COLE, ACTING DIRECTOR <i>G Cole</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 E. FAYETTE STREET, 8 th FLOOR		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #08-0175-BALTIMORE CITY LANDMARK LIST- MELVIN CADE ARMORY		

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 #08-0175, for the purpose of designating the Melvin Cade Armory, located at 2620 Winchester Street, 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 #08-0175 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 #08-0175 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

February 21, 2008

REQUEST: Historic Landmark Designation /Melvin H. Cade Armory - 2620
Winchester Street

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF: Eric Holcomb

PETITIONER: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP)

OWNER: Maryland National Guard

SITE/GENERAL AREA

Site Conditions: The Melvin H. Cade Armory is located in West Baltimore, adjacent to St. Peters cemetery. The site consists of the 1959 armory building with a small parking lot and landscaped yard located in the front of the building. A truck yard sits adjacent to the armory building on the western side and in the rear of the property. The total site is approximately 4.5 acres and the area is zoned R-6.

General Area: The armory is located in Winchester, primarily a residential neighborhood located in northwest Baltimore.

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

This is the second public hearing on the historic landmark designation process for this property. The first action was the CHAP designation approval, which occurred on November 13, 2007. Also, it is important to note that the Veterans of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion with support from the Maryland National Guard initiated this landmark designation. After Planning Commission approval, it will then go to the City Council for introduction by the administration.

Melvin Cade Armory meets CHAP's standards for landmark designation one and three. The Melvin Cade Armory meets standard one as the building mostly associated with the 128-year history of the African American units of the Maryland National Guard. In 1879 under the direction of Captain Thomas H. Lewis, former slaves and Union veterans among others organized themselves into the Monumental City Guard and were officially accepted as the First Separate Company, a separate Maryland National Guard regiment in 1882. In 1947, the First Separate Company became 231st Transportation Truck Battalion

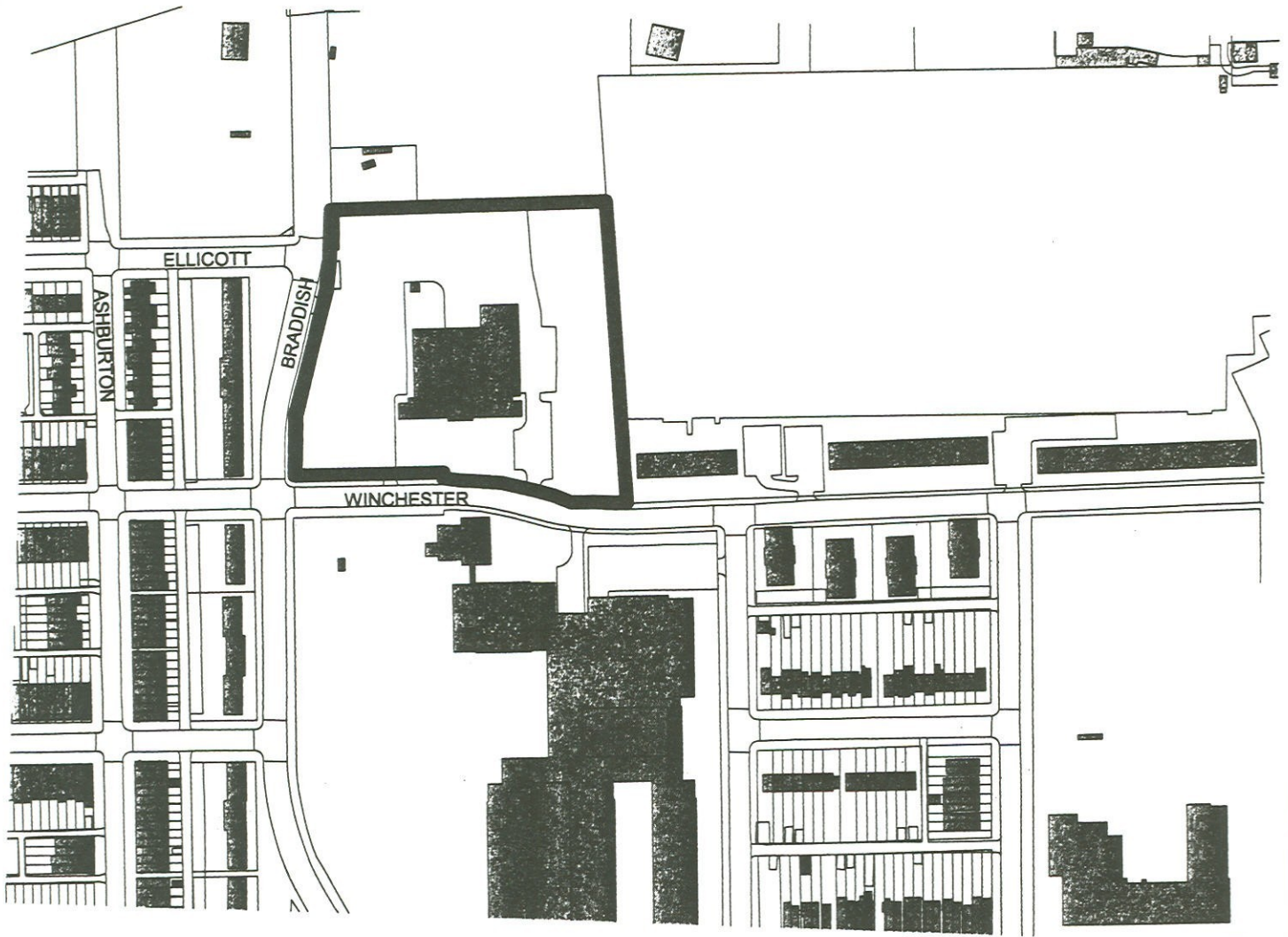
with the 147th, 165th and 726th Transportation Truck Companies. The 231st Transportation Truck Battalion became the only Maryland National Guard unit ordered to active duty to support the Korean War in 1950. As a matter of fact, the 726th Transportation Truck Company was the first United States National Guard unit to set foot in Korea in 1950.

The Melvin Cade Armory meets standard three as the building associated with the 231st Truck Battalion and their successful efforts to racially integrate the Maryland National Guard. On November 21, 1955, Major General Milton A. Reckord, the Adjutant General, issued General Order Number 49 integrating the Maryland National Guard effective December 1, 1955 only after a long, persistent campaign from the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion.

The property owner, Veterans of the 231st Transportation Truck Battalion and the Bridgeview Neighborhood Association were notified of this action.

Gary W. Cole / for D. McCoach, III

Douglas B. McCoach, III
Director



**Baltimore City Landmark Designation
Melvin Cade Armory-
620 Winchester Street**



Planning Commission
February 21, 2008