

Bureau of Environmental Health
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Peter L. Beilenson, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer

February 29, 2012

Mr. Donald Lango
6965 Mink Hollow Road
Highland, MD 20777

RE: **Waiver Approval**
6965 Mink Hollow Road
Highland, MD 20777

Mr. Lango:

The Health Department has received your waiver request to allow the existing septic tank to be ten (10) feet from the proposed addition and waive percolation testing to establish a sewage reserve area for future repairs. The waiver has been approved on the basis that the addition does not increase wastewater generation from the home and has little impact on future sewage disposal repair area. Any deviation from the plan submitted with the waiver request will require review by this Department.

Any questions regarding this decision may be directed to the Well and Septic Program of the Howard County Health Department.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Davis, R.S.
Assistant Director
Bureau of Environmental Health

6965 Mink Hollow Road
Highland, MD 20777
February 10, 2012

Michael Davis
Assistant Director, Bureau of Environmental Health
Howard County Health Department
7178 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, MD 21046

Dear Mr. Davis:

We are planning to build an addition to our home and are writing to request a variance to the (1) Well and Septic Program required setback distances, and (2) Percolation Test Requirements.

Our plan is to "bump-out" our kitchen by 10 feet. The square footage of this addition will be about 160 square feet. Unfortunately, if we construct our addition as planned, the result will be that the septic tank in its current location will be 10 feet from the "new" foundation. Since we are planning to build a basement foundation for this addition, the proposed addition will not be in compliance with the current setback requirement (septic tank to house with a basement) of 20 feet.

In addition, we are also requesting a variance from the Percolation test requirements, if they are in fact applicable to this project. As previously noted, our addition will be about 160 square feet. As I review the guidance document that is available on your portal ("Building Permit Application Process and Requirements for Properties on Well and Septic Systems"), it seems as though there may be an exception for additions that are less than 250 square feet, however this is unclear to me.

Our house was constructed in 1973 and has about 2,500 square feet of living space. When the house was built, a 1250 gallon septic tank was installed along with a drywell, distribution box and drain field. From review of the original permit, it appears that a reserve septic area was also identified (see 2nd test hole) on the

2/20/12
M Davis
Approved

Mr. Michael Davis
February 10, 2012

Septic construction plan (see page 5). Our lot is about 2 acres and the grade generally slopes down from the back of the home to the existing drain field. We purchased the home in December of 2010 from the original owner. He was single and lived in the home by himself since it was constructed, so we don't believe that the drain field is nearing saturation. My wife and I are the only residents of the home.

I am including a copy of our plat (see page 3) which will show the existing structure and the location of the proposed addition. The proposed addition is drawn on the plat document in dashed lines and is labeled as "proposed addition". It also identifies the location of the septic tank and drywell. I have also enclosed a copy of the original septic permit and the septic construction plan (pages 4 and 5), which will show the location of the drain field and reserve drain field. To provide additional detail on the addition, I am including a rendering that was prepared by our architect (pages 6 and 7). The first page will show the floor plan and dimensions of the proposed addition, and the second page will provide the elevation view and will provide a sense of the grade.

Obviously, these two requirements would significantly add to the cost of what will already be an expensive endeavor. I am free to provide any additional information or clarification as needed.

We appreciate your consideration to our request.

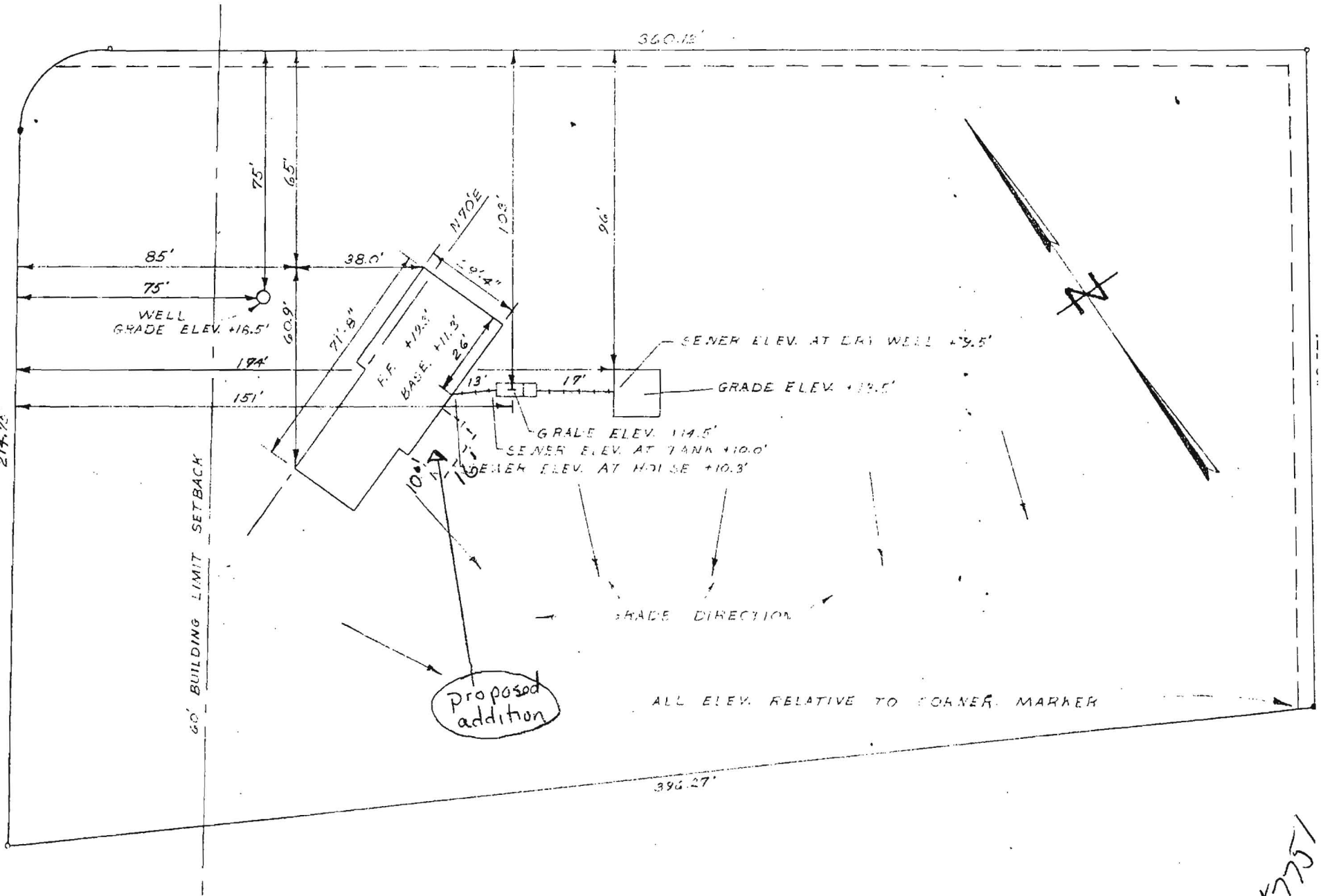
Sincerely,


Donald James Lango
W (202) 616-9215
C (301) 758-7306
donlango@yahoo.com

MINK HOLLOW ROAD

214.75'

60' BUILDING LIMIT SETBACK



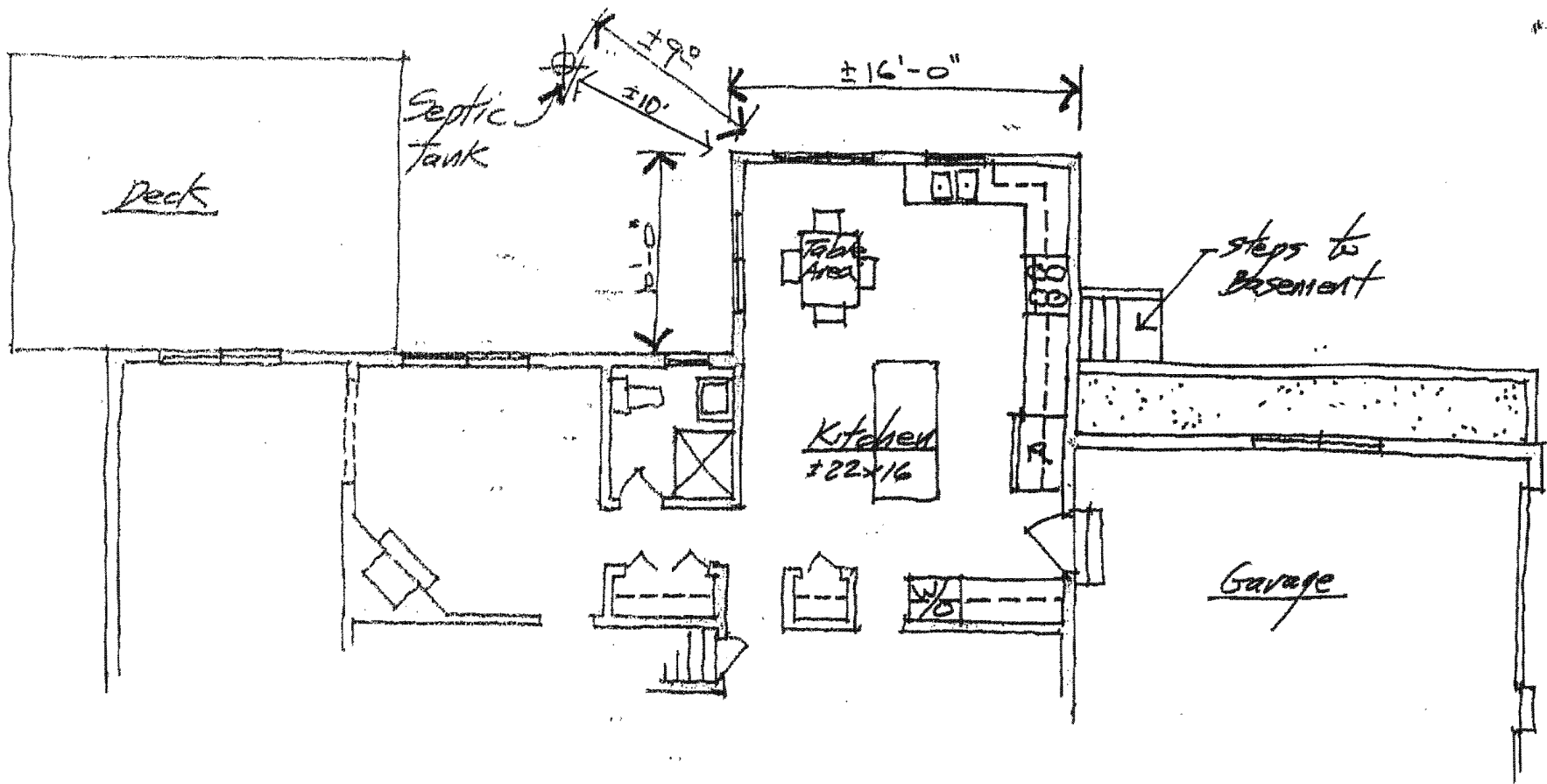
Proposed addition

ALL ELEV. RELATIVE TO CORNER MARKER

CISSEL FARM SECTION 2
LOT 13

PLOT PLAN

#7751



Schematic Plan-A
1/8"

6965 Mink Hollow Rd

Raoul Lissabet A.I.A.
Architects
19021 Sedley Terrace
Gaithersburg, MD 20879



Schematic Elevation - A
1/8"

6965 Mink Hollow Rd

Raoul Lissabet A.I.A.
Architects
19021 Sedley Terrace
Gaithersburg, MD 20879