

March 31, 2019
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Mayor Justin M. Wilson
Alexandria City Council
301 King Street, Room 2300
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Appeal no. 2018-0041 and 00411.”

Dear Mayor Wilson and City Council,

I am the granddaughter of Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black. I am writing today about the preservation of my grandfather's gardens on 619 South Lee Street. Those gardens are suffused with his love for his home and nature. His red roses bloomed and perfumed the summer air; his vegetables found their way to his dinner table; golden fish swam in the small, rock-surrounded pond; his grapes grew ripe and sugar-filled on his trellis; his parties spilled out onto the patio and into the gardens under paper lanterns; and many a set was played on his tennis court. I remember the gardens as a magical place to be as a child. Please do not destroy such a wonderland. New gardens seldom come close to the old established gardens in beauty and history. His spirit and continued presence live on in his beloved gardens. It would be a shame to lose all sense of him with its destruction. He, and it, cannot be replaced.

Thank you for your kind consideration,
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