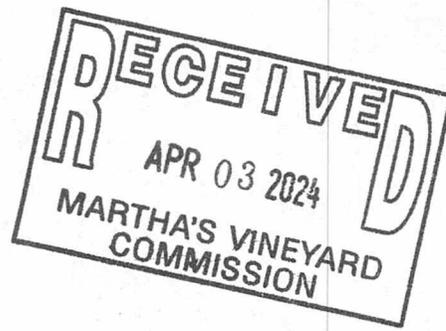


Martha's Vineyard Commission
April 3, 2024
Re: DRI 694, Caleb Prouty House Removal



Dear Commissioners,

Attached please see three additional photos showing the Caleb Prouty House. One was taken from the Mansion House cupola. The others were taken in the interior of the Mansion House and show a historic view of Vineyard Haven. I believe the fifth house to the south (right) of Union Street must be the Caleb Prouty House. Our hotels and restaurants put historic photos and views of our towns on their walls to create atmosphere. Why not preserve and feature one of the significant historic structures that conveys atmosphere and history outdoors within our shared view shed?

It is intolerable that Ahold-S&S should be allowed to continue with their policy of targeted neglect and degradation of this house and property to create facts on the ground and the fait-accompli of a derelict structure destined for teardown. It is my view that the Town of Tisbury should inform Ahold-S&S that the Caleb Prouty House is not going anywhere, and if they continue to neglect it the Town will take steps to preserve it via eminent domain. It would be far better to remind Ahold-S&S that they purchased a historic building; now would be a good time to partner with the Town of Tisbury to do something creative and truly public-spirited with it.

The house and location would be a perfect site for a vestpocket park. Furthermore, a small park on this particular sloping terrain would be a perfect location for a demonstration rain garden, to show the public and property owners a direction for thinking about measures they can take on their own properties (as advised by our Dutch consultants) to slow down the flow of rainwater into Water Street and Five Corners.

The Rutgers University Water Resources Program explains: "Rain gardens are specifically designed to manage stormwater runoff, mainly from rooftops, but also from driveways, lawns, roads, and parking lots. Rain gardens look like regular perennial gardens, but they are much more. During a storm, a rain garden fills with water, and the water slowly filters into the ground rather than running into storm sewers. Compared to a patch of lawn, a rain garden allows about 30% more water to soak into the ground [and to be taken up by well-chosen plantings]. Therefore, by capturing stormwater, rain gardens help to reduce nonpoint source pollution (i.e., road sediment/salt, fertilizers, pesticides, bacteria from pet waste, eroded soil, grass clippings, litter, etc.) and help to protect local waterways. Rain gardens also add beauty to neighborhoods and provide wildlife habitat" (http://water.rutgers.edu/Rain_Gardens/RGWebsite/raingardens.html).

Ahold-S&S can choose to be part of the solution to the future of the Five Corners neighborhood.

Yours truly,
Katherine Scott
29 Main Street
Vineyard Haven



Yours truly,
Katherine Scott
29 Main Street
Vineyard Haven

From: Katherine Scott kscott@meganet.net 
Subject: April 3. DRI 694, Caleb Prouty House, one more
Date: April 3, 2024 at 10:50 AM
To: Saltzberg@mvcommission.org

KS

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Rick Saltzberg,

Please see the attached comment and photos (my last, I promise---on this subject).

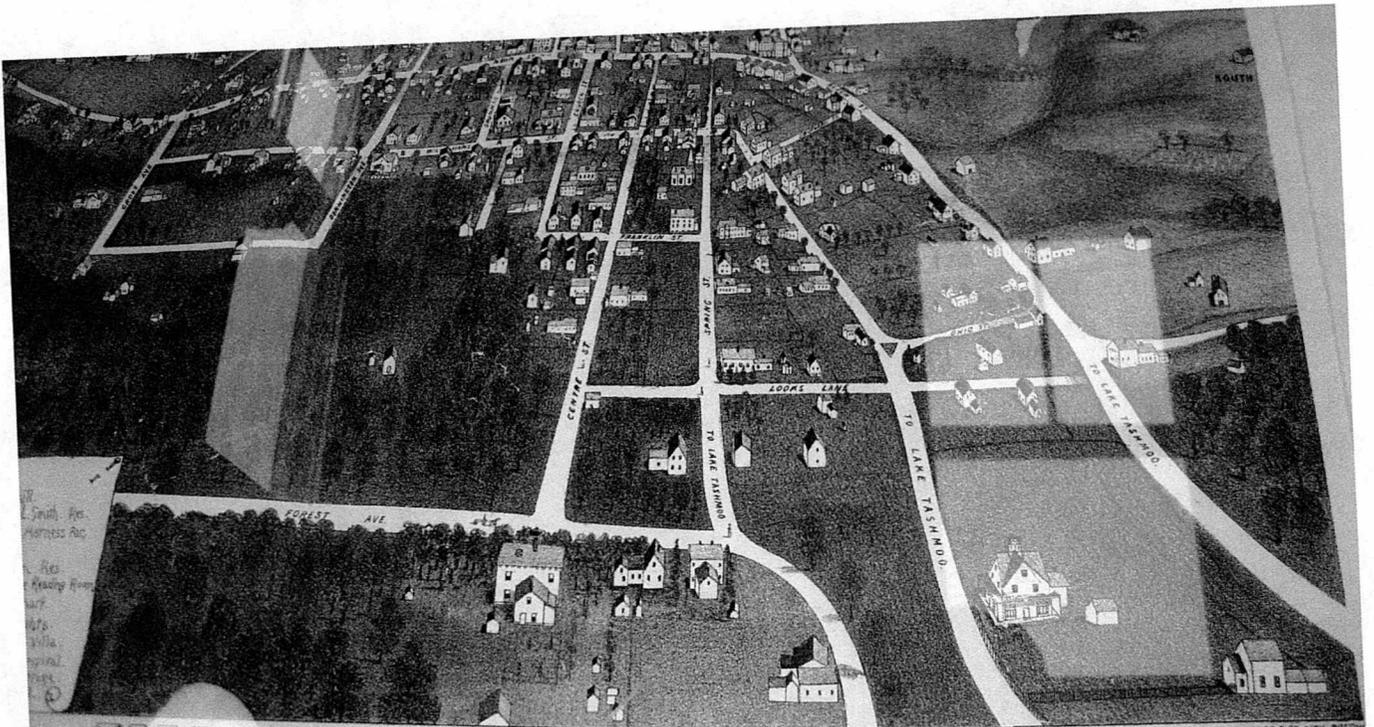
Thanks.

Regards,



Katherine Scott KS to MVC
Caleb...03.doc





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