

PORTLAND MAINE

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Jeff Levine, AICP, Director Marge Schmuckal, Zoning Administrator

February 20, 2013

Warren Currier & Buchanan 7 Exchange Street Portland, ME 04101-5020 Attn: Attorney Brenda M. Buchanan

RE: 87-K-2, 87-K-8, & 87-K-29 Island Avenue & Pleasant Avenue, Peaks Island -

IR-2 Zone

Dear Attorney Buchanan,

I am in receipt of your request for a determination letter concerning the lots owned by Jean K, Gulliver on Peaks Island represented by Assessor's numbers 87-K-2, 87-K-8, & 87-K-29. The entire property is located in the Island Residence Two (IR-2) Zone. My determination is based upon a signed stamped survey dated November 27, 2012 by Eugene Schleh, a professional land surveyor,

I have been given two reduced copies of the survey each suggesting a different division of land into two parcels. Based upon the IR-2 zoning requirements, option "A" would not meet the underlying zone requirements requiring 70 foot of street frontage [section 14-145.11(b)]. Please note that section 14-422 does not permit the division of land if any lot shall be so reduced that yards, lot width, *lot frontage*, lot area, area per dwelling unit, and space for off-street parking and/or off-street loading shall be less than the minimum required under the Land Use Zoning Ordinance. Currently the one lot is meeting the minimum street frontage requirements using both Pleasant Avenue and Island Avenue as combined street frontage. It is agreed that either division of land options will not affect the current legal nonconformity of the existing single family dwelling for the northern side setback, for the minimum lot width, or for the minimum front setback.

Therefore, at this time before a formal division of land is completed with a survey, the concept of option "B" appears to better meet the Land Use Zoning Ordinance and based upon the information given in your letter, would meet the requirements of the IR-2 zone.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, please do not hesitate to contact me at 874-8695.

Very truly yours,

Marge Schmucka

Zoning Administrator



Limited Liability Company, P.A.

Carol Godfrey Warren David E. Currier Brenda M. Buchanan

January 30, 2012

Marge Schmuckal Zoning Administrator City of Portland 389 Congress Street Portland, Maine 04101

RECEIVED

JAN 3 0 2013

RE: Request for Zoning Determination

Dept. of Building Inspections City of Portland Maine

Dear Marge:

I am writing to request a zoning determination letter in regard to a plan by my clients John and Jean Gulliver to divide a large parcel they own on Peaks Island into two lots. The property in question is comprised of three tax parcels in the IR-2 zone that city records say total 41,788 square feet in area:

A. 87-K-2, which the tax map says is a 5,000 sf parcel, fronts on Pleasant Avenue. It is the location of a single-family home built in 1880. (Street address, 48 Pleasant Avenue);

is the location of a single-family home built in 1880. (Street address, 48 Pleasant Avenue);

B. 87-K-8, which the tax map says is a 5,738-sf parcel, undeveloped, with no road frontage, and

29 474.8 FES 2012 Sourcey

C. 87-K-29, which the tax map says is a 31,050 sf parcel, undeveloped, with frontage on Island Avenue.

The Gullivers recently had this land surveyed by Northeastern Land Surveying. A full-size copy of that plan is enclosed. Unsurprisingly, the surveyor came up with different area for each parcel (he shows Parcel A as 4,151 sf; Parcel B as 6,667.7 sf and Parcel C as 29,474.8 sf, for a total of 40,293.50 sf.)

As I understand the lot merger rules, these three parcels have merged into one, as they have been in common ownership since 1977 when Gloria Nilsen conveyed Parcel C to John P. and Bertha C. Gulliver, who already owned Parcels A and B.

My clients wish to divide this parcel into two lots, both of which will meet the IR-2 Zone minimum lot size of 20,000 sf. I have attached two marked up reduced-size copies of the survey (sorry it is a bit blurry) showing different alternatives of how this could be done. The location and angle of the dividing line shown on the markups are for illustrative purposes only (they were done by me). My purpose in showing you two options is to confirm that both are viable from a zoning perspective. If so, my clients will confer with their architect to determine which offers a better building envelope, and the surveyor will calculate a precise division line before deeds are exchanged that will result in each lot being at least 20,000 sf in size.

Under both options, the existing house on the Pleasant Avenue side will be part of Lot #1, which is the shaded area on my markups. It is grandfathered as to frontage (though at 68.93 feet, it is only 1.7 feet short of the requirement set forth in Section 14-145.11 of the Zoning Code) and also is grandfathered as to setbacks.

The parcel labeled Lot #2 will have at least 70 feet of road frontage in both configurations. It is understood any new home built on Lot #2 will have to meet all relevant setback and lot coverage requirements.

I believe this is a straightforward situation. It is not a subdivision, because it is only two lots. Both will meet minimum lot size. One is grandfathered as to dimensional requirements, the other will meet all of those requirements.

My clients intend to deed one lot into one of their names individually to accomplish the division, but prefer to have a written determination from you prior to taking that step.

I have enclosed the \$150.00 determination fee.

Thank you for your assistance, Marge. Please call if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Brenda M. Buchanan

Cc: John and Jean Gulliver

IR-2

City of Portland Code of Ordinances Sec. 14-145 Land Use Chapter 14 Rev.9-15-11

7. Where an existing subsurface wastewater disposal system serving an existing structure requires replacement, the replacement system shall meet the requirements of CMR 241 Section 2-E. The land area requirements in subsection f. of this section shall not apply to such a replacement system.

For purposes of this subsection, the mean high tide mark shall be considered to be the shoreline lot line.

A-145.11(b) Minimum street frontage:

Seventy (70) feet, except that a lot of record as described in section 14-433 (lots of record and accessory structure setbacks for existing buildings) and lots created after July 15, 1985, which are not part of a subdivision need not provide street frontage if access is available by means of a permanent easement or right-of-way which existed as of July 15, 1985. Such easement or right-of-way shall have a minimum width of sixteen (16) feet and a minimum travel width of eight (8) feet except that an easement or right-of-way providing access for three (3) or more lots or providing the only means of access to a parcel or parcels of three (3) acres or more, shall be a minimum thirty-two (32) feet wide and meet the construction requirements of article III of chapter 25 (street acceptances) of this Code. Such easement or right-of-way shall permit municipal service delivery.

(c) Minimum yard dimensions:

(Yard dimensions shall include setbacks of structures from property lines and setbacks of structures from one another. No structure shall occupy the minimum yard of another structure.)

- 1. Front yard: Principal or accessory structures: Twenty-five (25) feet except that a front yard need not exceed the average depth of front yards on either side of the lot.
- 2. Rear yard: Principal or accessory structures with ground coverage greater than one hundred (100) square feet: Twenty-five (25) feet.

Land Use Chapter 14 Rev.9-15-11

City of Portland Code of Ordinances Sec. 14-145

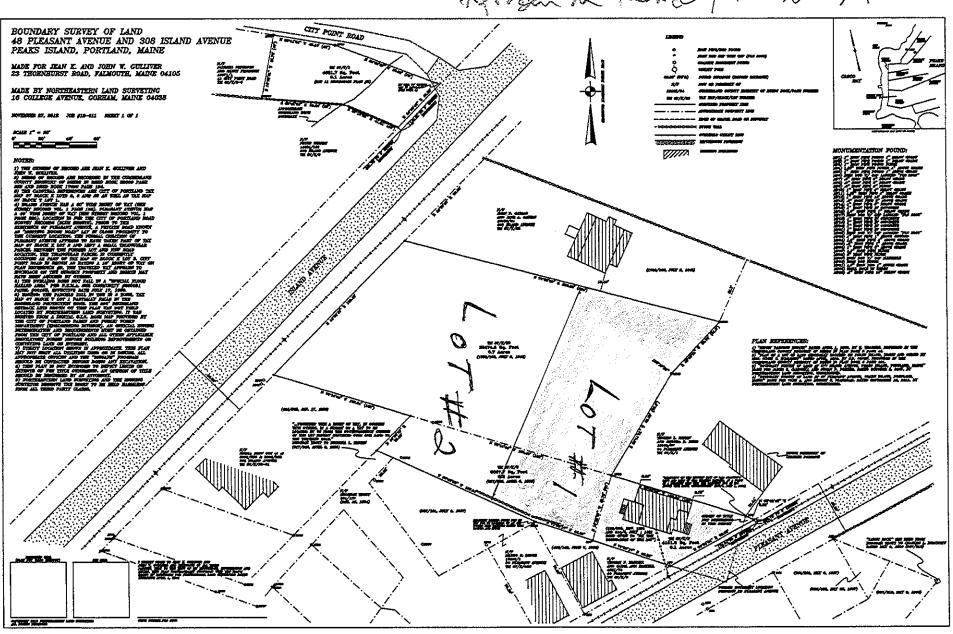
Accessory detached structures with ground coverage of one hundred and forty-four(144) square feet or less: Ten (10) feet.

3. Side yard: Principal or accessory structures with ground coverage greater than one hundred (100) square feet: Twenty (20) feet.

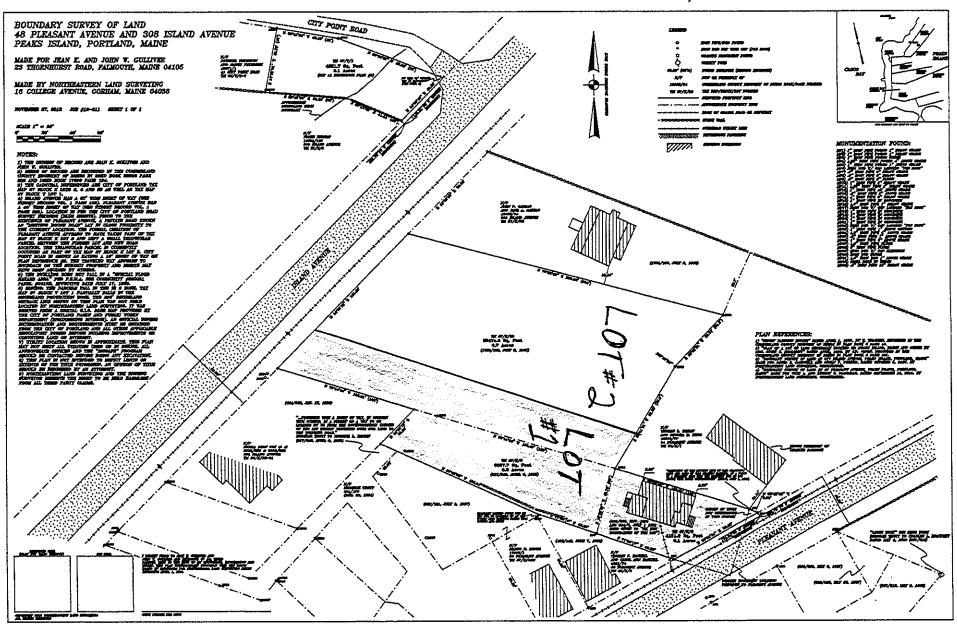
Accessory detached structures with ground coverage of one hundred and forty-four (144) square feet or less: fifteen (15) feet, except that the minimum distance from a principal structure may be five (5) feet.

- 4. Side yard on side streets: Principal or accessory structures: Twenty (20) feet.
- 5. Not withstanding the foregoing, the width of one side-yard may be reduced to not less than ten feet in the case of a lot of record, existing as of June 5, 1957, and which contained a structure in use at that time and at all times subsequent thereto as a year-round, single-family residence, and which is served by public sewer and water, at the time of any expansion permitted by this section, where the reduction is necessary either to bring the use into compliance with health and safety codes or to improve a condition which the Board of Appeals determines constitutes a health or safety problem. Any alteration or expansion authorized by this section may only be situated in the rear yard and shall not encroach into the required setback more than the existing building does prior to the construction of such alteration or expansion. such alteration or expansion will be subject to the maximum lot coverage requirements applicable to this zone; and, cumulatively, during the lifetime of the structure, may not exceed forty percent (40%) of the combined floor area of the habitable rooms existing at the time of the first expansion permitted by this section. For the purposes of this section "floor area" and "habitable room" shall have the same meaning ascribed to them in Portland Municipal Code, \$6-106, et seq., Housing Code, as it may be amended from time to time.

Gulliver Property-Peaks
Proposed Lot Split.
min street problem of Tolisand Prior A.



GULLIVER PROPERTY-PEAKS
PROPOSED LOT Split
Option B



Assessor's Office 1 369 Congress Street | Portland, Maine 04101 | Room 115 | (207) 874-8466

Departments City Council E-Services

Calendar

IR-2-

This page contains a detailed description of the Parcel ID you selected. Press the New Search button at the bottom of the screen to submit a new query.

Current Owner Information:

Services Applications

CBŁ Land Use Type Property Location Owner Information 087 K002001 48 PLEASANT AVE PI GULLIVER JEAN K 23 THORNHURST RD FALMOUTH ME 04105

Doing Business Book and Page

22806/252

Legal Description Haps

87-K-2-8-29 PLEASANT AVE 48 ISLAND AVE

PEAKS ISLAND 41788 SF Tax Relief Acres 0.9593

Tax Roll Q&A

browse city services a·z

Current Assessed Valuation:

YAX ACCT NO.

13508

OWNER OF RECORD AS OF APRIL 2012 GULLIVER JEAN K

23 THORNHURST RD FALMOUTH ME 04105

LAND VALUE \$321,300.00 BUILDING VALUE \$93,700.00

TAX AMOUNT

NET TAXABLE - REAL ESTATE \$415,000.00 \$7,810.30

browse facts and finks a•z

Any information concerning tax payments should be directed to the Treasury office at 874-8490 or e-mailed.



Best viewed at 800,600, with Internet Explorer

Building Information:

Year Built 1880 Style/Structure Type OLD STYLE # Stories 1.5 # Unite Bedrooms Full Baths **Total Rooms** NONE

Building 1

Attic Basement Square Feet

View Sketch

PIER/SLAB View Map

1075

Outbuildings/Yard Improvements:

Building 1

Year Built 1900 SHED-FRAME Structure 10X18 Size Unite C Grade Condition

Sales Information:

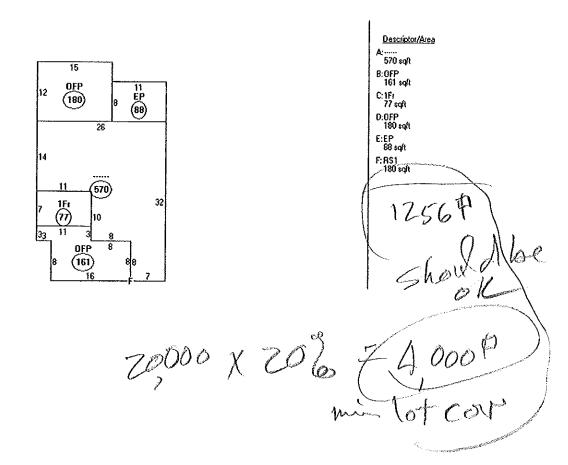
Sale Date 6/28/2005 6/28/2005

LAND + BUILDING LAND + BUILDING Price \$0.00 \$57,175.00

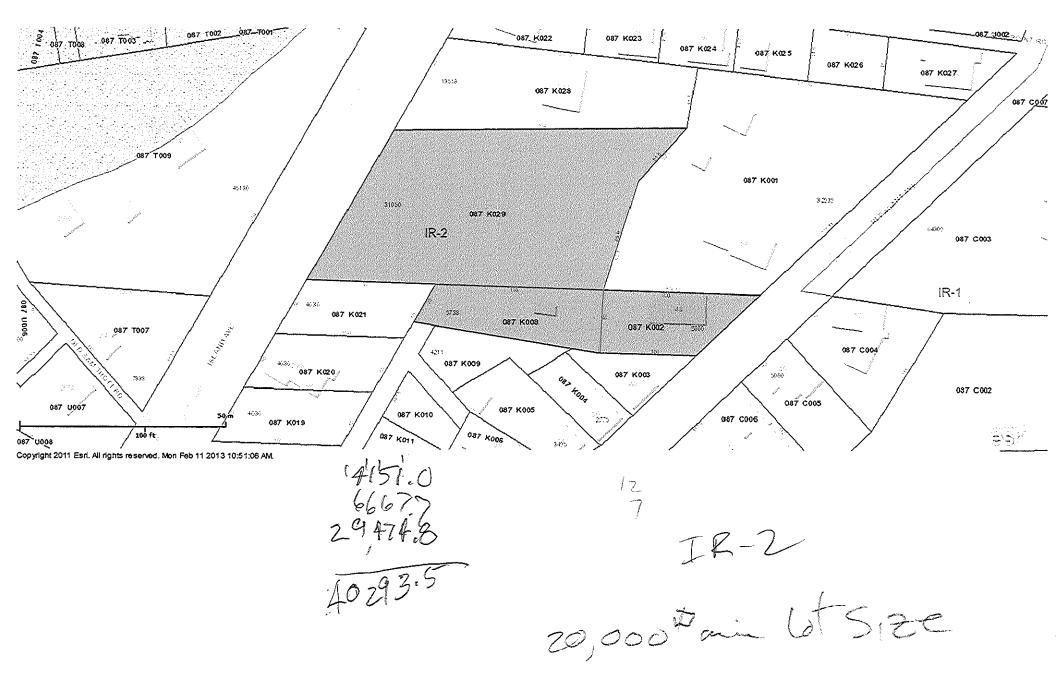
Book/Page 22806/249 22806/252

New Search!

View Picture



48 Pleasant Ave - P.I.



CITY OF PORTLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

389 Congress Street Portland, Maine 04101

RECEIPT OF FEES

Application No:

0000-1624

Applicant: GULLIVER JEAN K

Project Name:

48 PLEASANT AVE PI

+

Location: 48 PLEASANT AVE PI

CBL:

087 K002001

Application Type: Determination Letter

Invoice Date:

01/31/2013

Current **Payment** Total Due

Payment **Due Date**

Balance \$0.00

Previous

Payment Received \$0.00

Fees \$150.00

Current

\$150.00

\$0.00 On Receipt

Previous Balance

\$0.00

| Fee Description | Qty | Fee/Deposit Charge |
|-----------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Zoning Determinations | 1 | \$150.00 |
| | | \$150.00 |

Total Current Fees:

\$150.00

Total Current Payments:

\$150.00

Amount Due Now:

\$0.00

Application No: 0000-1624

Invoice Date: 01/31/2013

Invoice No: 39991

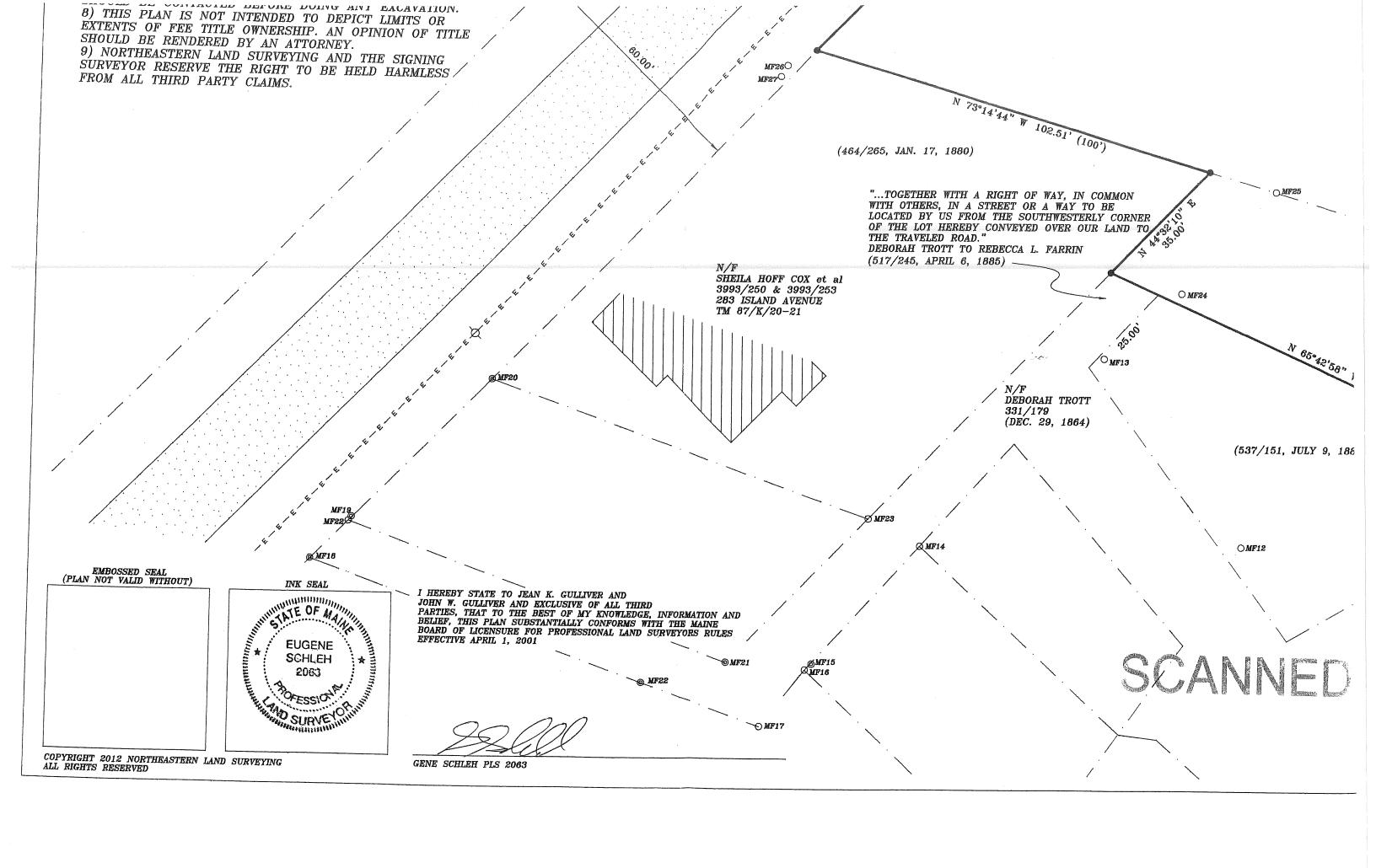
Total Amt Due: \$0.00 Payment Amount: \$150.00

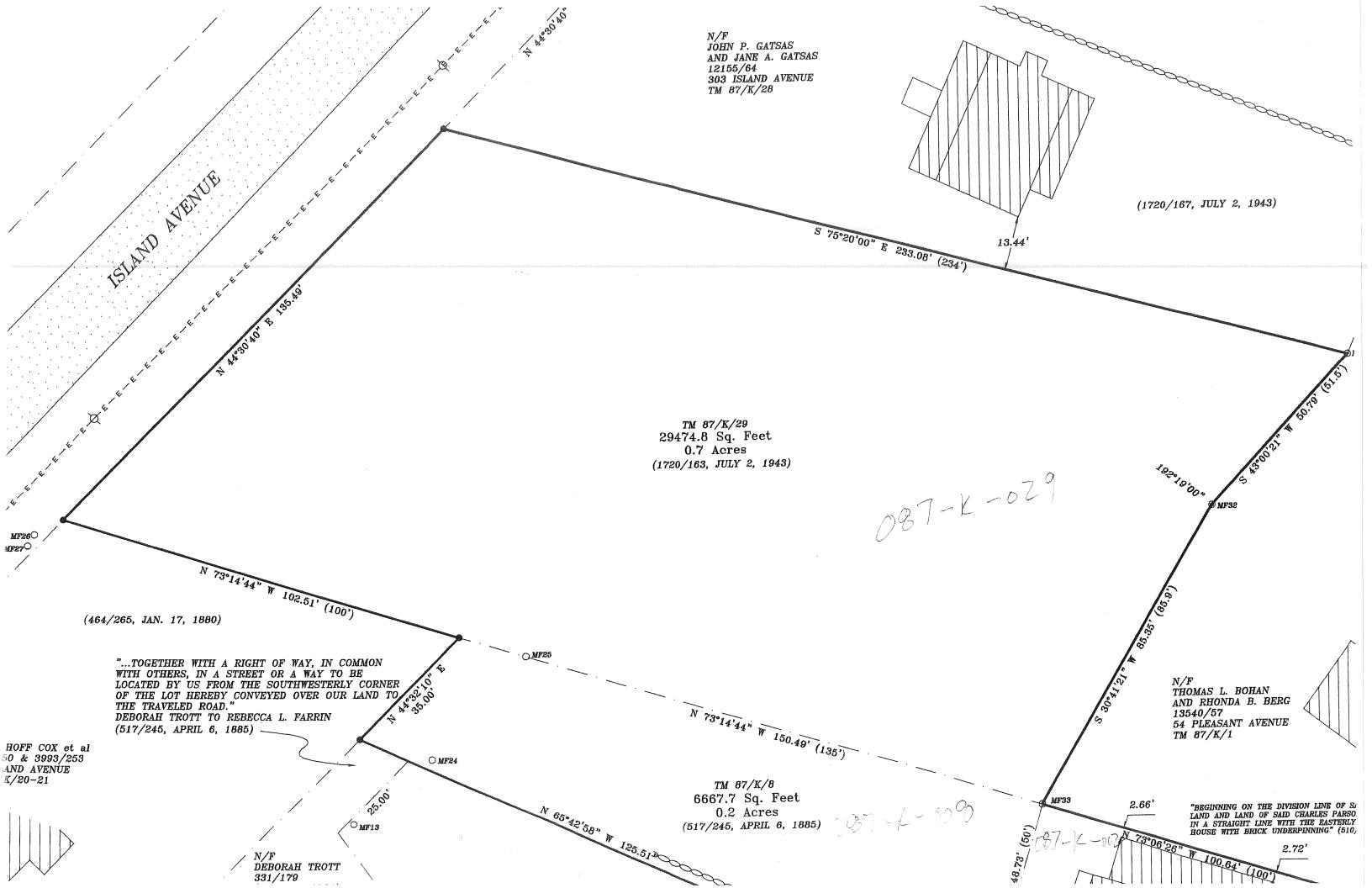
CBL 087 K002001

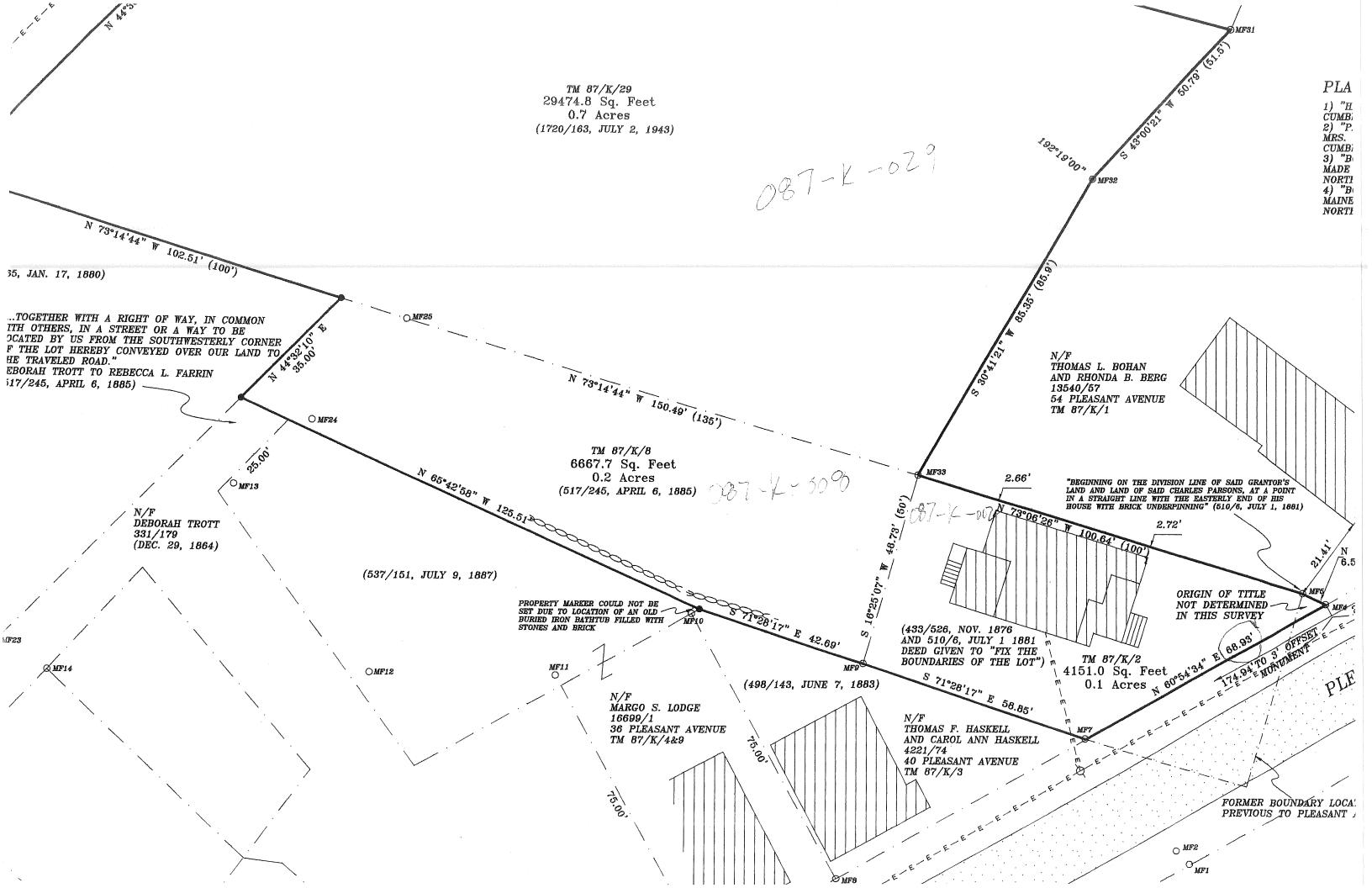
Bill to: **GULLIVER JEAN K**

FALMOUTH, ME 04105

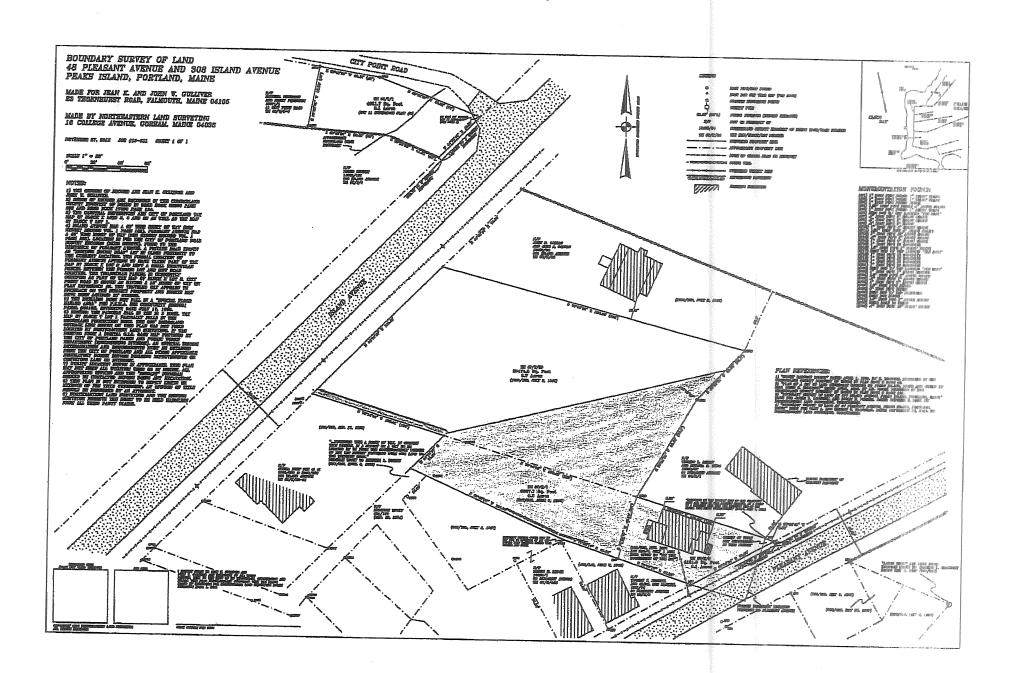
23 THORNHURST RD







Option C



Marge Schmuckal - Re: Gulliver - Peaks Island

From:

Marge Schmuckal

To:

Brenda Buchanan

Date:

3/6/2013 4:28 PM

Subject: Re: Gulliver - Peaks Island

CC:

Jean Gulliver; John Gulliver

Hi Brenda,

I am in receipt of your option "C". Sending plans in an e-mail are really impossible to for me to read. I can enlarge, but I can not read it because of graininess. However, the concept could work. Both lots need to have 70' street frontage. So I am doing a lot of assumptions.

I hope that helps you, Marge

>>> Brenda Buchanan <Brenda@wacubu.com> 3/4/2013 2:49 PM >>> Hello Marge,

I reviewed with my clients John and Jean Gulliver your letter of February 20, 2013 regarding a proposed lot division of their Pleasant and Island Avenue property with the tax map designations of 87-K-2, 87-K-8 and 87-K-29. A copy of that letter is attached for your convenience.

As I understand your letter, the only legal flaw in the configuration I labeled as Option A is that it yielded total frontage of only 68.93', when the minimum is 70.

I have attached an Option C to this email, which would add a much narrower "tail" down to Island Avenue than Option B. This cures the problem you identified in your February 20 letter, I believe. It would provide total frontage for Lot 1 of at least 70', while allowing the Gullivers to divide the parcel in the way that seems more natural given the lay of the land.

As before, each lot would be at least 20,000 sf. The dividing line accomplishing that result will be drawn by the surveyor if this concept is approved.

I am hopeful you can give me your thoughts on Option C without necessity of another formal determination letter

Many thanks,

Brenda Brenda M. Buchanan, Esq. Warren, Currier & Buchanan LLC 57 Exchange Street Portland, Maine 04101 207-772-1262 brenda@wacubu.com www.wacubu.com

Marge Schmuckal - Gulliver - Peaks Island

From:

Brenda Buchanan <Brenda@wacubu.com>

To:

Marge Schmuckal <MES@portlandmaine.gov>

Date: Subject:

3/4/2013 2:49 PM Gulliver - Peaks Island

CC:

Jean Gulliver <jeangulliver1@gmail.com>, John Gulliver <jgulliver@Pierce...

Attachments: Option C.pdf; 2013 determination letter.pdf

Hello Marge,

I reviewed with my clients John and Jean Gulliver your letter of February 20, 2013 regarding a proposed lot division of their Pleasant and Island Avenue property with the tax map designations of 87-K-2, 87-K-8 and 87-K-29. A copy of that letter is attached for your convenience.

As I understand your letter, the only legal flaw in the configuration I labeled as Option A is that it yielded total frontage of only 68.93', when the minimum is 70.

I have attached an Option C to this email, which would add a much narrower "tail" down to Island Avenue than Option B. This cures the problem you identified in your February 20 letter, I believe. It would provide total frontage for Lot 1 of at least 70', while allowing the Gullivers to divide the parcel in the way that seems more natural given the lay of the land.

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I am hopeful you can give me your thoughts on Option C without necessity of another formal determination letter.

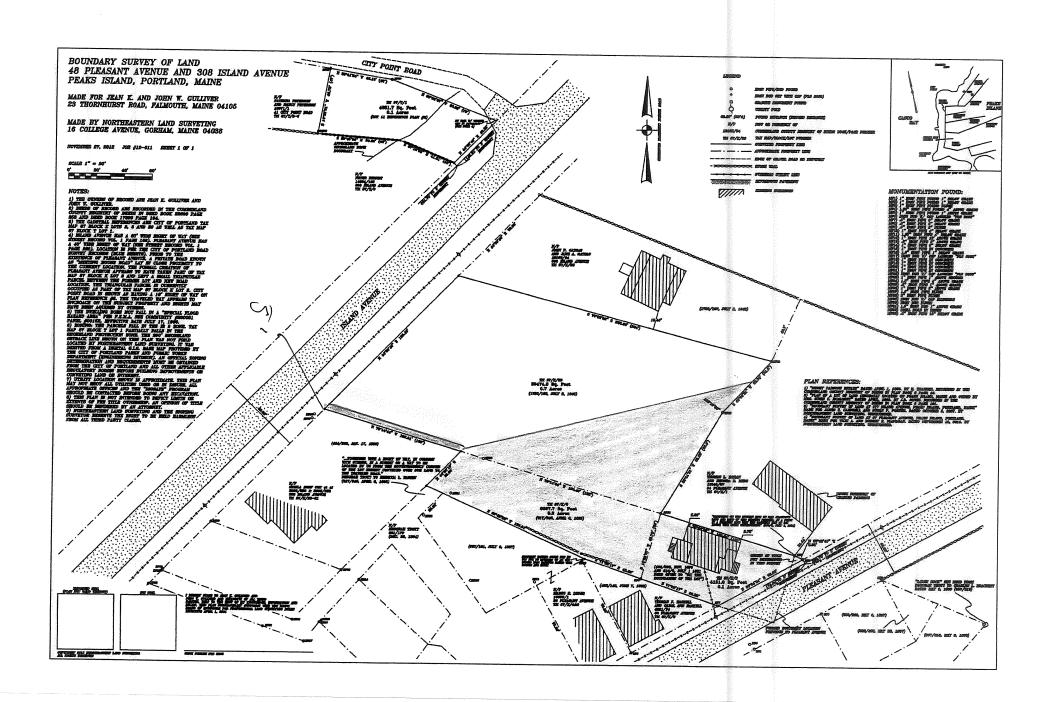
Many thanks,

Brenda Brenda M. Buchanan, Esq. Warren, Currier & Buchanan LLC 57 Exchange Street Portland, Maine 04101 207-772-1262 brenda@wacubu.com www.wacubu.com

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Option C

ShanED Lot is Lot 1



Marge Schmuckal - Re: Gulliver property, Peaks Island

From:

Marge Schmuckal

To:

Brenda Buchanan

Date:

3/7/2013 12:43 PM

Subject: Re: Gulliver property, Peaks Island

CC:

Jean Gulliver; John Gulliver

Thank you Brenda,

Your outline of our meeting and conversation is accurate. I do agree that a 5' strip of land down to Island Avenue would afford the lot with the existing single family to meet the minimum street requirement of the IR-2 Zone. therefore, the proposed division of land would be allowed as discussed. Marge Schmuckal

Zoning Administrator

>>> Brenda Buchanan <Brenda@wacubu.com> 3/7/2013 12:32 PM >>> Dear Marge,

I am writing to follow up on our meeting this morning during which we discussed what I have termed "Option C" for division of the Gulliver Property on Peaks Island (87-K-2, 87-K-8 and 87-K-29).

Using the full-size plan, it was easier to illustrate the division line my clients propose, which is an angular division of the portion of the parcel that fronts on Island Avenue, with a narrow strip of what will be Lot 1 extending down to Island Avenue to provide bring the frontage total into compliance with the zoning requirements.

As we discussed, the Pleasant Avenue frontage is 68.93 feet, and the minimum required frontage is 70 feet. While technically only 1.07 feet of frontage is required to meet the zoning requirements, you have asked that the strip of Lot 1 that will extend to Island Avenue be five (5) feet wide to make it useful (i.e., so the owners of Lot 1 would be able to walk along the edge of Lot 2 to get to Island Avenue).

My clients are comfortable with that 5-foot-wide requirement. Their surveyor, Gene Schleh of Northeastern Land Surveying, will be calculating and drawing a division line soon that will make each lot at least 20,000 sf. I will provide you with a copy of that drawing for the file, so there will be an understanding of the history of this when a building permit is sought for the new house to be built on Lot 2.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter, Marge. If you would kindly write back to confirm that my understanding of our conversation is accurate, I will get the ball rolling with the surveyor.

Best,

Brenda

Brenda M. Buchanan, Esq. Warren, Currier & Buchanan LLC 57 Exchange Street

Portland, Maine 04101 207-772-1262 brenda@wacubu.com www.wacubu.com

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