

(Place file in "No Appeal File" under Zoning Ord. }

October 4, 1960

24-26 and 28-30 Ashmont St.

proposed St. off Ashmont St (Assrs. 12516 and 126K4, also 12519 and 126K5)

Portland Auto Tops (Mr. Kaplan), having moved into the building at 18 Ashmont St. got the right to use these two groups of lots for parking cars in connection with their business; then, because there was a need to provide parking for others in the neighborhood, began to rent out spaces—unaware that all of the lots are in an RS Residence Zone.

A complaint brought the matter to a head, and letters were sent to all concurred notifying of the viciation and calling for the use to be discontinued. Mr. Kaplan phoned today and was told that the Board of Appeals had no powers to grant an appeal should one be filed. The same information was given in the letters to the two owners.

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Those two groups of two lots each represent unusual situations. The lots on the proposed Street (formerly owned by Deering Heirs or Edward D. Noyes, now by Joseph and Anna Hamilton) were formerly cleared of violation by way of storage of dilapidated cars and trucks by owners of garage on Forest Ave. after long negotiations.

The two lots on Ashmont St. were also in violation prior to 1957 by way of storage of much heavy and broken down equipment. The lots, then and now, were and are owned by Mrs. Wilms W. Shortz of Crawfordsville, Ind. whose attornay is Fred C. Scribner, Jr. Violations by way of parking again came up prior to the present Zoning Ord. (apparently without knowledge of or profit by the owner) These involved parking on the Ashmont St. sidewalk which still continues.

Finally Mrs. Shortz filed an appeal seeking the right to use the lots for parking. In 1956 the Appeal Board granted the appeal conditionally at the behest of the neighborhood, requiring certain fencing, bumpers, surfacing etc. These improvements were never made, so the certificate of occupancy, required before the lots could be lawfuly used for parking, could not be issued.

A significant feature of the appeal was the attitude of the neighborhood in that they did not oppose the appeal, realized the need of use of the land, but wanted protection from the abuses, recommending conditions which were largely stipulated by the Board.

wmcd

PH

I could not find this "No Appeal" File, and have and idea AJB or Mc. Dickson has it. Pls. nut this original in an envelope and send up, to Mr. Dickson, and keep the file copy till the file turns up.

wmcd 10/4/60

60 - 11/2/£0 43

Splt. 60/76 - Proposed Street off Aubernt St. (Assessoral Lot Nos 125-1-9 & 125-1-9) Splt. 60/77 - 25-32 Astront Street

Kovandor 14, 1960

or to: Corporation Council or to: Joseph C. & Anna G. Frailton &7 Hillis Strock or to: Fred C. Southmer Jr.

ee to: Fred C. Sombour Jr., 165 Congress Street

Mr. Lowis Bornstoin, Tress. Auto Sales & Finance Go. 51# Forcet Avanue ce to: Mr. Irvin M. Kaplan, Free. & Trose. Portland Auto Tops 18 Ashmost Street

Bear My. Bemetoine

An inspector from this department reports that your scapely is the center of the triarty or ears used and unlicensed possenger care and tracks which are presently stored on the vacant late at the location insteaded above. All of the last involved in this use are located in 10-5 Residence Seno where such an open land use of predices in not allowable ender Section 6-A of the Sening Ordinance. While an offestreet parting lot is also not allowable in this armo, the precent use of the property does not even qualify as a parking lot since Section 14-2-3 of the Ordinance provides that off-street passing shall not include loading, seles, dead storage, repair, or envicing of any kind, except when customerily incidental or accessory to a confusing principal building or use when located in an 1-2, 1-20, 1-3 and 1-5b Industrial Sens.

tender these directences it is necessary that you proceed without delay to correct this violation of the Loning Ordinance by removed of these vehicles from the premises to a location where, if within City limits, their storage will be allocable under the Ordinance. We shall expect to hear from you on or before November 21, 1960 as to your plans in this regard and as to how soon it can be accomplished.

Very truly yours,

2.33/32

Albert J. Sears Inspector of Buildings Appends the power to suthorize off-street parking lots for passenger cars only, where business and industrial zones are i-mediately adjacent to residential zones, under provisions for paving, fencing, servening by shrubbery, etc. recumended by the Plan-ning Beard and the Public Works Department. If such an amendment should be recommended by the Planning Board in its presently proposed form and adopted by the City Secundily it would then be possible to get to the Board of Appeals in the case of Mrs. Shortz's property. However, the type of parking which is at present being conducted on this property would not be covered by the proposed amendment and could not be authorized by the Appeal Board.

If an arendment which would when action by the Board of Arpeals is not adopted, the only way in which an off-street parking lot can be harfully established at this location is by a change of some of the area involved to one in which such a use would be permissible. To get such proceedings started it would be necessary for the camers of all of the land involved to patition the Flanning Board for a change of some. If you wish to twit until the outcome of action on the proposed amendment before filing a patition for a change of some, I will keep you informed as to what is done about the negativents.

As regards the present use of the property, it is important that the situation be cleared up as seen as ; essible since it is not conceivable that any encodemnt to the Sening Ordinance will give the Appeal Board the power to authorize the storage of used motor vehicles in a read-catal zone. I have established that the Auto Sales and Finance Company of 518 Forest Avenue operated by Leads Bernstein is responsible for the storage or the premises at present and we writing that company as to sible for the storage or the premises at present and we writing that company as to the violation of the loging Ordinance and ordering its correction. This action will not of course, relieve the owner of the property of her responsibility as regards the Zoning violation. I do not believe that you would consider the existing conditions desirable were you to see them and therefore would appreciate any action which you can take toward their alleviation.

Very truly yours,

AJS/JE

Albert J. Scarr Inspector of Buildings Cpit. 60/77 - 22-32 Ashmorat Strost

November 14, 1960

ce to: Krs. Wilms W. Shorts
A.F.D. #3
Oramfordsville, Ind.
ce to: Corporation Counsel
ce to: William Dickson, Planning Director

Tred C. Sorionor Jr., Esq. 465 Congress Street

Street, also owned by Mrs. Shortz.

Door Mr. Scribner:

In ensuer to your letter of Conster 12th, I will try to explain more fully the conditions involved in the unlawful use of the property caned by Mrs. Wilms W. Shortz at the above named location and the application of the Zoning Ordinance thereto. The land involved consists of an area about 100 feet by 100 feet on which is located a small two-car garage and borders on Astmont Street immediately tehind the two lots on which are located the house and garage at the corner of Lindan

As you are evere, this area was included in that covered by a soning appeal which was mustained conditionally in Avgust 1956. However, the lot was never surfaced with asphult penotrated gravel, was never enclosed with fonces along property faced, and bumpers at least five feet inside property and street lines were never provided, all as specified in the conditions under which the appeal was sustained. For this reason we have never been able to issue the certificate of occupancy required before use of the property for effectivest perking can be established lawfully. While it is probably true that the property has been used to save extent for parking of motor vehicles since that time, this fact in no way establishes a legal standing for such a use. Since the advent of a new tenant in the metal frame repair garage nearby, conditions have become progressively worse. At the time of a record inspection there were thirteen used passenger cars and seven trucks, all unlicensed and making in appearance, atcord in the area in question.

Under Soution 18-H of the Zoning Ordinance in effect in 1956 under which the appeal was taken, the rights granted thereby expired because the work involved in improving the lot be comply with conditions established by the Appeal Board was not completed uithin one year of the date on which the appeal was sustained. While under that former ordinance the Board of Appeals had the power to grant off-street parking let use in residential somes, under the present ordinance which was adopted on June 6, 1957, the Appeal Board is forbidden to authorise a business use such as an off-street parking lot in any residential zone except on R-6 Zone. Therefore it is impossible at this time for that body to grant an appeal for such a use at the location involved should one be filed.

The problem of off-street parking is a troublemone one, initicularly where business and industrial more abut residential artes. While the need for parking to serve business in such instances is realized, I think that you will agree that property in residential sense abutting the business use is catified to protection from lambul effects of the presently of the business use and from its entension into the residential areas. With this thought in mind the flaming Board has before it for consideration an ampulation to the Zoning Ordinance which would give the Board of

ongen Roed to M. Kopilan

PURINTONI SHOE SHOP

JUST AROUND THE CORNER FIFTEEN FOREST AVENUE

Mm Inwin & Kaplan
18 ashmont of Re: Setten from Inspecting Buildings, bellings, it

slian In in the city Ingesting Buildings it occording to the city Ingesting Buildings it is ellegal to pany cano in the grand more cano in Plane do not pank company with the law the yand in ander to company with the law

Joseph i Hamilton

FU - RMT - 10/17/60

Capit., Proposed street off Ashmont St., (Asers. Lot 125-I-6, 126-K-6, also 125-I-9 & 126-K-5). Used for puriding contrary to Zening Ordinance.

September 29, 1960

Er. & Ere. Joseph C. Hamilton 17 Hills Strost Mr. Imin R. Kaplen, Pres. & Treas. Portland Auto Tops 13 Asknot Street

cc to: Corporation Counsal

Dear Hr. & thra. Hemilton & Hr. Eaplan:

An improvor from this office finds that a part of at least one of those lobe, permaps part of both lets to being used for parking motor redictes contrary to the Zoning Ordinance as it applies to the R-3 Residence Zono where the lots are located. The lots are recorted to be used by forable C. & Anna G. Femilton, and we are assuming that Portland Auto Topo is involved in the use of the lots because there is a sign nearby notifying persons who desire parking to implies at Parking Auto Topo.

Esfore the Hamilton's acquired those lots early in 1956, it was found that parts of the lote were being used for the strange of used trucks and other actor vehicles by case other business establishments florg forest Avenue. This, too, was in violation of the Zoning Ordinance, and by experation all around the violation was corrected.

in June 7th, 1957 a new Zoning Ordinacco who adopted which placed these lots in an R-5 Husidence Zone where was for a parking lot is not only disallowed but also the Board of Appeals—is denied the right to great an appeal secking such a use in a Residential Zone.

The edelistrative occion of the Coning Ordinance makes in owner and weer liable in such a case of violation of the Ordinance. Will you be good enough to have the lose elected of all vehicles before Orther 17, 1960 and keep them so, thus to place both the lote and yourselves in compliance with the last

Very bruly yours,

ened/14

Albert J. Seare Inspector of Buildings





R5 RESIDENCE ZONE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

COMPLAINT

INSPECTION COPY

COMPLAINT NO. 60/76

Date Received Sept. 19, 1960

Proposed St. off Ashmant Street Location ASS13. Lot # (125-I-7 & 126-K-4) and Use of Euilding 125-1-9 & 126-K-5) Owner's name and address Joseph C. & Anna G. Hamilton, 47 Hillis St. Telephone Tenant's name and address Probably Portland Auto Tops 18 Columnat Compt. made to AJS in connection with cmplt.
Complainant's name and address at 24-32 Ashmont adjoining the above lots Telephone
Description: Lots being used for parking motor vehicles contrary to Zoning Ordinance.
NOTES: 9/22/60 Inspection and photos by RMT and WMcD.
929/60 - See letter and see also. Cuflet. 60/77 at 24-26+ 28-30 Calmont At
11/14/60 - See letter to News Bernstein about violation of 4/4/61 - The used card involved in letter of Nov-14
possible molation in often parts of this general

R5 RESIDENCE ZONE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

COMPLAINT

INSPECTION COPY

		60/77
COMBI MINT	NO	00/77

Date Received Sept. 19, 1960 (file in GL 24-26 Ashmont St.) Location 24-26 & 28-30 Ashmont St. Use of Building Owner's name and address Mrs. Wilma W. Shortz, R.F.D. #3

Crawfordsville, Indiana
Tenant's name and address Portland Auto Tons Town R. Kaplan Telephone_ Tenant's name and address Portland Auto Tons Then B. Wardship Press Telephone 4-9253

Max Capping Vice Press, 18 Ashmont. Tress.

Complainant's name and address Verbally to AIS

Telephone Description: The land is being used as a parking lot contrary to the Zoning Ordinance in the R-5 Zone. (The owner had an appeal for a parking lot granted conditionally on 8/17/56. The conditions were never complied with and no certificate of occupancy issued so rights of the appeal have lapsed NOTES: 9/22/60 Inspection and photos by RMT & WMcD. A considerable number of cars were being parked on these lots (also on lots in the rear cymed by Joseph & Anna G. Hamilton, see cmplt. on proposed street off Ashmont Street). They was a sign on the minor garage on land Auto Tops at 18 Ashmont the lot telling people desiring parking to inquire Street. A phone call war. : .o reach either of answered said that they were leasing these lots from Mrs. Shortz. - WMcD. Y) emater in anea next to Linder 60 Dused cars in

An - 17/5/20 vie

Calt. 60/76 - Proposed Street off Ashmost St. (Assessment Let Not 125-1-9 % 125-2-9)
dplt. 60/77 - 25-32 Ashmost Street

Ecvecher 14, 1960

ce to: Composation Counsel on to: Joseph C. & Ama G. Hamilton AT Hillin Street First C. Borlinar . T. to to: 100 Congress Street co to: 100 Congress Street Co to: 100 Congress R. Naplan, Pres. & Trous.
Portland Auto Topo

10 tohumt Street

Mr., Londo Bernaboin, Trans. nuls Sales & Fluttice Co. 518 Porest Average

Door Br. Bernstein:

An inspecter from this department reports that your company is the onner of the total or one and and unlinered passenger care and trucks which are presently second on the velocit late at the leastless trucks which are presently second on the velocit total one are immised to the leastless total area are immised to trucks which are presently stored on the vaporit lote at the leastice indicated above. All of the lote involved in this use are located in an 6-5 Leoisence fore where which an open function of previous is not allocable water section the of the locate action. This emostication attack particle lot is also not allocable in this sine, the present use attack property does not even graffly an a particle location of the property does not even graffly an a particle location shall not likely of the Ominance provides that off-stream previous of my kind, include loading, cales, dead storage, repair, or newlong of my kind, include loading, cales, dead storage, repair, or newlong of my kind, include loading or new ways blooted in on I-1, i-2b, i-3 and i-15 principal haliding or new ways blooted in on I-1, i-2b, i-3 and i-15 leadertrial scare.

Under these directive ten it is necessary that you proceed without delay to acreet this violution of the Louing Ordinance by recoval of these vehicles from the premises to a location where, if within Gity these vehicles from the premises to a location where, if within Gity limits, their storage will be allocable under the Ordinance. He shall limits, their storage will be allocable under M. 1560 as to your support to hear from your or before howevery M. 1560 as to your plane in this regard and as to how soon it can be accomplished.

fory traly yours,

AJD/JE

Albort J. Sours Inspector of Buildings

Cmplt. 60/77 - 24-26 & 28-32 Ashmont St., Parking contrary to Zoning Ordinance.

October 20, 1960

AJS:

Referring to Mr. Scribner's letter of October 12 on the above subject, the unhappy situation of the city is again quite evident largely because there is no recourse to appeal. Thus the only relief available is to seek a change in zon.

This situation is more extreme than three other locations with which the Planning Staff is now wrestling--19-21 Lincoln Street where the Residential Zone abutks a Business Zone and a change is sought to a B-2 Zone to allow parking; a lot between Elmwood and Waverly Streets having frontage on Forest Avenue and Elmwood Street where Mr. Paul Merrill has been divide a change of zone to allow parking in connection with his business across Forest Avenue; the lot of Mrs. Hendrickson at the corner of Belmont and Forest Avenue and the lot in the rear fronting on Belmont Street (parking desired on the latter lot) where a zone change is desired or some arrangement so a business building may be erected on a corner lot and the rear lot in the Residential Zone be used for parking.

It is recommended that Mr. Dickson be consulted to see if he could include the Ashmont Street problem in this study without a petition from Mr. Scribner. If he feels that he can include the Ashmont Street situation without a formal petition from the two owners involved, a letter to Mr. Scribner, as Mrs. Shortz attorney, is recommended with another to Mr. Pamilton, the other owner, indicating that no further proceedings will be taken by this department pending a study of the situation, at the same time explaining that the situation is a very difficult one which the planning Board is now seeking to rolve in a number of other locations—the problem as to now land in Residential Zones adjacent to Business Zones may be lawfully allowed for much needed parking.

If Mr. Dickson feels that he needs a petition from these two owners either for change of zone or some other type of relief, it is recommended that a letter be sent to both owners explaining the situation and suggesting that they address the Planning Board for the kind of relief they desire.

I should hardly think the Legal Department needs to be consulted. If these letters seem the best way to you, I will be glad to prepare them for your signature.

WMcD.

j[†]

Fred Clark Scribner Jr.

Restland Maine
Washington, D.C.

MECEIVED

OCT 12 1964

Gart, Grand'G, Inap.

CITY OF PORTLAND

Re: Cmplt. 24-26 Ashmont St. (Assrs. Lot No. 126K3 & 23-32 Ashmont St. - Lot No. 125L7) Use for motor vehicle parking contrary to Zoning Ordinance.

Dear Mr. Sears:

I have bad forwarded to me in Washington your letter of September 29 concerning the use of vacant land at 24-26 Ashmont conditional approval of appeal given to Mrs. Shortz by the In question for parking purposes providing certain conditions were met.

While this appeal was taken in Mrs. Shortz's name and she, of course, has a legal responsibility for the lot, the appeal was in fact filed and processed by a then tenant of the property. The fact that the appeal was granted on a conditional basis may have been called to my attention, and undoubtedly was, however, that a copy of the finding must have gone to me or Mrs. Shortz.

In any event, the tenant who took the appeal action continued in possession of the property and apparently did acthing to satisfy the various conditions contained in the finding. So far these conditions and the tenant in possession of the property in 1956 continued to hold the property for many months thereafter lease.

Of the four conditions set forth in the finding of the Appeal Board, it is my understanding that a portion of the lot was graded and surfaced with asphalt-penetrated gravel and that that hardtop is still on the property. It is also my understanding that parking on the lot has been for some time limited to passenger motor vehicles. In any event, this condition can

Now, as to the other two conditions. The second condition was that a chain link or other type fence be erected on property lines that abut residential property. I do not understand that the portion of the lot used for parking purposes abuts residential property. On one side the lot is bounded by commercial property

fronting on Forest Avenue. In the south it is abuted by other vacant property used extensively for parking purposes, and that portion of the lot which is not used for parking purposes has bushes and trees thereon. To the west the lot abuts other property owned by Mrs. Shortz and there is a vacant lot of land owned by Mrs. Shortz between her residential property on Ashmont Street and the lot used for parking.

The fourth condition is that suitable bumpers should be erected at a distance of five feet along and from residential property lines. Here again, I do not believe there are any residential property lines which abut this property and, as you know from an inspection of the property, the entire street line is used for entering or leaving the property.

In other words, I do not believe that you are correct in your letter of the 29th when you state that the improvements required were not made. I did not understand about the necessity of a certificate of occupancy being issued prior to August 17, 1957 and believe I am correct that this is the first time the absence of this certificate has been called to the attention of anyone.

because of the very peculiar nature of this property, it would be very helpful to me if you would set out exactly where this property abuts residential property and where you believe a fence should be erected.

Turning now from the question of the former appeal of the use to be made of the property in question, obviously this property cannot be used for residential purposes. During the several months when it was not rented it was used extensively for automobile parking. This use was partly by the owners of business concerns in the area but to a much greater extent by people transacting business in the area or visiting the liquor store. At various times when I have been in Maine I have asked people to move from the property and requested the owners of businesses in the area to help keep the property free from parking. Despite all of the fforts which were brought to bear there was, I believe, as much parking on this lot before the present tenant took over as there is at the present time. If Mrs. Shortz is now not able to rent this property for parking purposes it will not, in my opinion, in any way change the use of the property. Cars will continue to be parked there and the only difference will be that Mrs. Shortz, who must pay taxes to the City of Portland, will be denied any income from the property without benefit to herself or to anyone else. I see little point in this kind of law enforcement,

It does seem to me that if you feel you are required by the law to deny Mrs. Shortz the right to lease this land for parking purposes then the City has an obligation through the Edice Department to prevent the parking on this lot by all unauthorized persons.

I, of course, have no knowledge at the present time as to what facts were taken into consideration when a determination was made that this particular property, which has been used for commercial purposes for more then ten years to my knowledge, has any value at the present time for residential purposes. I cannot understand either why it should be the purpose of the City, when a lot is available for private parking to people in that area, to force the land not to be used and therefore require greater parking of automobiles on the streets in an area which is already overcrowded and bothered with traffic problems.

Finally, I am confused by the last paragraph of your letter. You state that since this property was placed in a Residence Zone three years ago the Board of Appeals cannot now allow parking there because "the Board of Appeals shall not grant any appeal for such a use in any Residence Zone." Thereafter, you state there might be recourse to a favorable appeal.

I, of course, should like to file an appeal and will proceed to do so if the Board has authority to grant it.

In the meantime, will you also please check the property and let me know the answers to the questions set forth above? Also, I trust it will be possible for us to continue our tenant in possession until such time as we have filed an appeal, which will be done promptly, and the Board has acted thereon.

Fred C. Scribner, Jr.

Mr. Albert J. Sears
Inspector of Buildings
Department of Building Inspection
City Hall
Portland, Malne

Capit. 26-26 Ashuma St. (Assert. Let No. 1268) & 28-32 Adminet St. - No. 12517)
Use for mater whitele parking omerary to South Ordinance

Fro. Wilms F. Shorts

EFD J. Granfordsville, Indiama

Fro. Iftic A. Enplan, Free. A Treas.

Foreland Auto Tops, 15 Automat Street

Set. 29, 1960 Se to: Fred C. Serikaar Jr., Rame A65 Congress Atract Se to: Serpuntion Counsel

Total have Shorts & Hr. Kaplan:

A Field Inspector from this effice finds that the above lots, which were thosely to provide to own or central, are being word for the priving of many automobiles, contrary to the fining Trainage applying in the 4-5 Assistance form where the property to located. A sign on the trained garage on the property advises those desiring parking there to inquire at fortland auto Tops at 16 Ashmont Street. Unable to reach a raplem at the time, we were advised by someone at that company that the land to being lessed from Mrs. Storts.

If that information is correct, no doubt by a. Shorts has leaced the land wader a bisapprohension errived at because of appeal proceedings in 1956.

On August 17, 1954, the Coming Appeal Roard granted conditionally Ars. Shorts's appeal for the right to park motor vehicles on the let, including the use of the two car garage existing there; the conditions being that; (1) parking on said percel shall be limited to passauger notor vehicles only and shall not include connected vehicles. (2) a chain link, picket, or capting fonce shall be created along all property lines of said parcel which abut residential property, (3) such portion of said parcel as in used for parking parposes shall be graded and surfaced with apphalt-penetrated gravel, and (4) that saitable because shall be created and maintained at a distance of 5 feet from and clong said residential property lines and from and clong the line of ishouth that said parking shall not encreach upon said residential property or upon said habsont Street.

Escause these improvements to seet the conditions were not sade, this department has never been able to issue the partificate of occupancy, required by the Saning Ordinance before the loss could lawfully be used for parking. Under the Lookag Ordinance, then in effect, her rights under the appeal lapsed becomes the certificate of occupancy could not be issued before August 17, 1957. Therefore, the present use is unlawful.

To add to the difficulty a new ordinance became effective on June 7, 1957, which sot only placed the property in an R-5 Recidence fore where such parxies is not allowable, but also provides that the East of Appeals shall not great any appeal for each a use in Furgose, without recourse to favorable oppeal action as forwardy. Both excess ind uses have responsibility in this departure from expliance with the law. Will you, therefore, seeparate to put the property cleared of this use before Oct. 17, 1969?

, . Very truly yours,

Albert J. Sears Instantor of Doillings

e) e) in

ARREN MCDONALD

On reply refer C-47-163-I CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE to File (18-32 Ashmont street)

Department of Building Inspection

FU

Edward T. Gignoux Assistant Corporation Counsel Warren McDonald, Insptr. of Bldgs.

October 21, 1948

Complaint as to violation of Zoning Ordinance at 18-32 Ashmont Street

First written complaint by Ann S. Wilson of 52 Ashmont Street and five others was received here October 24, 1947, complaining that Stanley & Cadigan were repairing large construction machinery and creating nuisances by extensive noise, odor, jarring of building and blocking of siddwalk area. The long delay in handling this matter has been caused by inability to find time to perform the research necessary to present the matter in suitable form to you.

A sketch, made October 20, 1948, illustrating the situation and five photographs are attached. The area cross-hatched by green lines is roughly that now occupied by Stanley & Cadigan Company by a great variety of heavy equipment, much of it motorized but some not, and miscellaneous sections and parts thereof, as will be seen from the photographs. Besides a portion of the proposed street (the street is not well marked on the ground) lots of three different ownerships are involved in this area:—Lot 126-B-18 by Harry M. Shwartz, et al; Lot 126-B-3 (all metal garage being on this lot) by James G. Stanley (acquired about 1944); and Lots 126-K-3 and 125-I-7 by Wilma W. Shortz of Thicago, Illinois, having been acquired by her about 1941.

Though not mentioned in the written complaint, the all metal garage on Lot 126-B-3 is clearly a Repair Garage for heavy construction equipment, is the real center of operations, and is the building where there is the proposal to change out the heating plant.

From the sketch you will note that a strip of land 100' deep from Forst Avenue is in a General Business Zone (marked by brown-dash line number 1); that the area between brown-dash line number 1 and number 2, (the latter being an irrogular line, partly 200' from Forest Avenue and parallel thereto and jogging around through contor line of Ashmont Street and center line of proposed street. The area on the business Zone of line 2 is all Residence D Zone.

This case is in two parts—the use of the metal—frame garage, which occupies practically all of the lot on which it is located; and the use of the open land. Whether in the Limited Business Zone or the Residence D Zone it is apparent that the storage of more than one commercial automobile and the repair of motor vehicles or dismantling of them are non-conforming uses, but only a small portion of the open land in question as to lawful use, is in the Limited Business Zone—less than half of Lot 126—B-18 owned by H. M. Shwartz, et al. The greater portion of the crem land being used by Stanley & Cadigan is in the Residence D Zone where all of the open tions are unlawful under the Zoning Ordinance, for, as the photos will show, the land is being used for storage, perhaps sale and rental and perhaps repair of heavy construction equipment including self—propelled equipment, several motor trucks and several automobiles.





Edward T. Gignoux, Assistant Corporation Counsel-2

October 21, 1948

The metal-frame garage appears to be in use for repair, re-building or dismantling of heavy construction equipment, and I should say that the present use classifies it as a Repair Garage which is not allowable in the Limited Business Zone where it is located unless first approved by the Board of Appeals after the usual appeal procedure. The building has quite a history. It was built in 1931 as a multiple car garage for storage of used cars by Cook-Ripley, Inc., which was the predecessor of Champion Motors, but only after a special permit from the City Council after the written consent to the was issued attention was called to the fact that the special permission from the City Council did not include the right to conduct a business of repairing automobiles in the building nor the right to store more than one commercial vehicle—all of this being under the Zoning Ordinance of 1926.

The City Directory of 1939 indicates the use of the building as used car department for Ripley Motors. This ic significant because the 1939 directory would have been compiled in the fall of 1938 about the time the present Zoning Ordinance was becoming affective, and establishes fairly well the non-conforming use at that time, which was allowed to continue. In 1941 Ripley & Fletcher Company, then owner of the property and having as a tenant Champion Motors, Inc., were successful in gaining the right by appeal for Champion Motors to rehabilitate motors of used automobiles in the building, after considerable opposition developed at the public hearing. The appeal was granted upon the condition however that the owners of the property and the lesses both agree in writing for themselves, their successors and assigns that no part of the building would ever be used for the repair or servicing of motor vehicles or any part of motor vehicles other than the motors of such venicles; that such motors were to be worked upon within the building and were to be always removed from and replaced in the vehicles which they served at some other location than in the building, than on the open land around the building, and then on the public street. In connection with this appeal we have a photograph of the building and quite an area of the land along Ashmont Street on the far side from Forest Avenue which shows none of the clutter that Stanley & Cadigan now have there. The written statement by the owner and lessee was never received, and it/not known whether or not the building was ever used for the purpose contemplated in the appeal. If so it was used unlawfully so and the use has long since been discontinued.

Thus it becomes evident that both the building and the open land are being used in violation of the Zoning Ordinance at the present and have been so used for about a year at least.

The directory record indicates that Stanley & Cadigan first occupied their main building at number 544 forest Avenue, corner of Ashmont Street about 1940, but did not even occupy all of that building until perhaps the latter part of 1943. It appears that Stanley & Cadigan must have expanded to occupy all of the main building in 1943, and according to the Assessors record Mr. Stanley acquired the metal-frame garage and the land on which it stands in 1944.

In the middle of 1943 a permit for work in the main building at 544 Forest Avenue was not issuable, and in connection with it I wrote to Mr. Stanley (James G.) in part

"Mr. Sears of this office.....understood you to say that no motor vehicles will be stored in the building (the building at 544 forest Avenue) or repaired there but that all work on such vehicles would be done in the metal building in the rear which you have recently purchased.....

"There is a particular question about the use of the all-metal building in the rear. There has never been the right to repair motor vehicles there, the building being located in an Apartment House Zone under the Zoning Law where such a use is not allowable. The original building was built under appeal or petition to the Eunicipal Officers for strictly a Storage Carage without any repairs. Two or three years ago the tenant of the

front building having already set up apparatus for re-conditioning motors in the allmetal building illegally, filed an appeal seeking the right to legalize that use. The appeal was sustained conditional upon the tenant and owner of the building agreeing appeal was sustained conditional upon the tenant and owner of the building agreeing to certain limitations. Both were notified of the conditions and the agreements were not forthcoming from any of them. It seems clear that no one has the right to repair motor vehicles in the al -metal building.

"Now that a new conancy is starting we must get the use and status of both buildingsthoroughly cleared us so that all will understand. There is also some question of that part of the open is a between the all-metal building and Ashmont Street as to its legal use, it too being in an Apartment House Zone.....

A note in connection with these papers, dated July 6, 1943 shows that I talked with Mr. Stanley over the telephone on that date and that he was to have prepared a plan to show all-metal building and alsoleused open land he is using and decide about appeal. Nothing further transpired. All of this seems to add up to the conclusion that Mr. Stanley knew about the Zoring Law and about its application to the use of the all-metal building and of the open land as long ago as the middle of 1943, and that it was then that he made the bigger transition and expansion which is now apread to cover three lots beside his own and a part of the proposed street.

It will be of interest to note that when my letter in 1943 was written to Mr, stanley all of the land and the metal-frame building involved in this case was in an Apartment House Zone, the boundary of that zone rurning parallel with Linden Street and 100 from it toward forest Avenue, and the area on the other side of the boundary toward Linden Street and by youd was Residence C Zone. The present Limited Business Zone and Residence D Zone wire introduced in the 1946 revision.

Inspector of Buildings

Enclosures: Sketch entitled PLAN OF ZONING CASE INVOLVING STANLEY & CADIGAN COMPANY at

Five photographs taken on October 14, 1948 by H. M. Thurlow

P. 3. We have other photographs taken in April of this year if you would like them.

October 23, 1947.

Inspector of Buildings,

City of Portland, Maine.

Dear Sir:

RECEIVED

OCT .34 1947

DEPT. OF BLD'G. INSP. CITY OF PORTLAND

We, the undersigned, wish to make a protest against the use of vacant lot #2426Ashmont Street by Stanley & Cadigan . for the repairing of large construction machinery because of the following nuisances:

> noise (going on for hours) smells

Blocking of sidewalk area jarring of buildings

Respectfully submitted,

3-3765 -- againa PBedrick 17 Lind 2-0481 ---₩--24 Linden Street 4-3514 ----

4-6408 ---



(RD) RESIDENCE ZONE - D CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

Complaint No. 47/163

COMPLAINT

INSPECTION COPY	Date Received_ October 24, 1947
Location 24-26 Ashmont Street Owner's name and address Wilma W. Shortz, 1419 E.	Tilinois
Tenant's name and address Stanley & Cadigan (James	relephone 3-4736
Complainant's name and address Ann S. Wilson, 52 As (See attached lett	shmont Street Telephone Telephone Cer for additional complainants)
Description: Repairing of large construction made the second seco	chinery objectionable to neighborhood.

Lugust 27, 1956

CO 24-32 Ashmont Sta-Use of open lot and F-car garage for parking motor vanicies and conditions relating thereto by soming hard of "peals

Krs. Mla .. horts R. f. 3. 3 Grawfordsville, Indiana Copies to Brs. Blocks Fred d. Meribner, Jr., Caq. 1' and Bixtoenth St. N.W. Magnington, D. C. Jotham D. Flerce, Zaq. 465 Congress St. Room 903 Sexuel Conner, Traffic ingineer

Dear Mrs. Shorts,

No doub, you have been notified by the Board of Apposin of favorable action with regard to your soning espeal at 24-32 Ashcont St. subject to the following conditions:

- (1) That parking on said parcel shall be limited to ; was enger sotor venicles only and small not include commercial vehicles;
- (2) That a chain link, picket, or sapling fence shall be erceted along all property lines of said fercel which abut residential property;
- (3) That such partion of said forcel as is used for parking purposes shall be graded and surfaced with as; hall-penetrated gravel; and
- (4) That suitable buspers shall be created and calintained at a distance of five feet from and along said residentainl property lines and from and slong the line of samount street, except for such portion of said street line as akell to used as a driveway so that eald parking shall not encrosed upon said residential property or upon said ashmont Ht.

in order that this department may issue the contilicate of occurancy and thus establish the right to use the lot and building accordingly, a plan should now be prepared to nowie observed especially any approaches proposed over the public Bidewalk from Ashmont St. and at the same time it would be well to show the proposed fence along two sides of the lots, the bumpers mentioned in the conditions, and the character of paving to be provided. A blueprint or carbon copy duplicate or photostat of this plan should be taken to bessel Conner, Traffic Engineer in Department of Public Works and his approval secured upon the location and width of the entrance and exit from and to Ashmont at. The approved plan should then as filed here with your original latter of application, and the work of property; the lot can then be safely commenced, when the work is completed, a notice should to given to this desartment, and, if all is found in order, the certificate of occurrency will Realizing that by this time you say be for away from the fortland area, be issued.

Mrs. Wilse n. Shorth

Argust 27, 1996

a copy of this letter is enclosed for you to deal with whoever your agent will be in carrying forward the work.

Very truly yours,

Amren McDonald Inspector of Buildings

MMCD B

City of Portland, Maine Board of Appeals _ZONING-

.... August 1, 1956 , 19

To the Board of Appeals:

, who is the owner Your appellant, Wilma W. Shortz , respectfully petitions the Board of Appeals property at 24-32 Ashmont Street of the City of Portland to permit an exception to the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance relating to this property, as provided by Section 18, Paragraph E of said Zoning Ordinance.

Certificate of occupancy intended to authorize the use of the lots at 24-32 Ashmono St. (Assessor's Lot Nox. 126-K-3 and 125-I-7) for parking motor venicles, including the use of the existing two-car garage there for parking only, is not issuable under the Zoning Ordinance because the property is in a Residence P Zone where such a use of land and buildings is not allowable unless first authorized by the Board of Appeals after the usual appeal procedure, this according to Section 9 of the Ordinance.

The facts and conditions which make this exception legally permissible are as follows:

An exception in necessary in this case to grant reasonable use of property and can be granted without substantially departing from the intent and purpose of the Zoning Ordinance.

Provided (1) That parking on said parcel shall be limited to passenger motor vehicles only and shall not include commercial vehicles;

- (2) That a chain link, picket, or sapling fence shall be erected along all property lines of said parcel which abut residential property;
- (3) That such portion of said parcel as is used for parking purposes shall be graded and surfaced with asphalt-penetrated gravel; and
- (A) That suitable bumpers shall be erected and maintained at a distance of five feet from and along said residential property lines and from and along the line of Ashmont Street, except for such portion of said street line as shall be used as a driveway so that said parking shall not emeroach upon said residential property or upon said Ashmont Street.

BOARD OF APPEALS

DATE: August 17, 1956

HERRING ON APPEAL UNDER THE Zoning Ordinance OF Wilms W. Shortz

AT 24-32 Ashmont Street

Public hearing on the above appeal was held before the Board of Appeals

BOARD OF APPEALS	<u>VO'TE</u>	
Pen B. bilson John W. Lake William H. O'Frion Summer T. Bernstein Futh D. Walch	Yes (V)- (V)- (V)	No () () () () () () ()

Record of Hearing: PETITION IN FILE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

PROVIDED (1) THAT PARKING ON SAID PARCEL SHALL BE LIMITED TO PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLES ONLY AND SHALL NOT INLCUDE COMMERCIAL VEHICLES: (2) THAT A Chair Link, Picket, OR SAPLING FENCE SHALL EL ELECTED ALONG ALL PROPERTY LINES OF SIID PAICEL WHICH ABUT. RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY: (3) THAT SUCH PORTION OF SAID PARCEL AS IS USED FOR PARAING PURPOSES SHALL BE GRADED AND SURFACED WITH ASPHALT* PENETRATED GRAVEL: AND (A) THAT SUITABLE SUMPERS SHALL BE ERECTED AND MATUTAINED AT A DISTANCE OF FIVE FEET : FROM AND ALONG SALD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY LINES AND FROM AND ALONG THE LINE OF ASHMOUT STREET, EXCEPT FOR SUCH PORTION OF SAID STREET LINE AS SHALL BE USED AS A DRIVEWAY SO THAT SAID FARKING SHALL NOT ENGROACH UPON SAID RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OR UPON SAID ASHMONT STREET.

PARKING LOT PETITION

We, the undersigned, realizing that certain hardships will be realized by the proposed parking lot on numbers 2h to 32 Ashment Street, feel that certain restrictions be placed on the use of the land and certain requirements be met it is to be used for such a purpose.

We feel the following are reasonable:

- 1. Provide fencing around proposed parking lot of sufficient height to prevent children from wandering into said lot and being injured while playing in the neighborhood.
- 2. Some type of hard topping to prevent undus dust to homes in the area from cars driving in and out of the new very dusty dirt yard.
- 3. Parking lot should be used for passenger cars only; use of the lot for commercial vehicles shall be prohibited.
- h. Due to the overflow of cars from said lot, we feel cars will be parked as they were in the past on what should have been a sidewalk; we now feel that to prevent this previous hazard of predestrians having to walk in the middle of the street, curbing and some type of walk should also be provided along numbers 24 to 32 Ashmont Street.
- 5. No entrance or exit from lot or fence provided, except on Ashmont Street through a normal width entry way.
- 6. We feel a distance of 15 feet should be left between the proposed parking lot and the rear of the lots bordering Linden Street.

These provisions being let, we feel that the parking lot patition should be approved.

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Dr. Plader M. Church, m. 45 Cours Sellow of Mr. 6 Mrs. Chandles de Barron 21 Roughellow St. Michael B. Salvette 7 Los afellow St. Repli & Emile 11 Lucia St.

Mr. Warren McDonald 1200 leth Street, N.W. In ractor of Bulldings Washington, D.C. City of Portland Portland, Maine August 6, 1956 Dear Warren: given me a copy of Shortz of Crawfordsville, Indiana has which you point out that the iots at 24-32 Ashmont Street You will recall that for many years this vacant land was used for the parking or many years this vacant is ago you issued a notice that such parking was in violat ago you issued a notice that area. Several months of the zoning ordinances and would have to be discontinued. Of the zoning ordinances and would have to be disconting or parking of vehicles has taken place. property for parking of vehicles has taken place. However, a large number of cars of all types are out supervision. Obviously, it is not authority and with practically, unless we have police enforcement there is man stationed on the land to keep cars away and, nothing which can be done about it. In view of the nature of the area, the type of land the connestion in that area. It seems to me involved, and the nature of the area, the type of land that it would be congestion in that area, it seems to me advantage of all concerned involved, and the congestion in that it would be greatly to the advantage of seems to me decides that it is not property that it is not pland. However, if the City now park there is a very real responsibility of this authority off of this property. At the present time the whole situation is quite a you will not allow the property reflection on the City. You will not allow the property reflection on the City. You will not allow the property absolutely no action to prevent unauthorized and improper (almos) Fred C. Scribuar, of. cc: Mr. Bernard Shur Fred C. Scribner, Jr.

August 14, 1956

Fred C. Scribner, Jr., Esq. 1200 16th Street, N. W. Weshington, D. C.

Dear Fred:

I have the copy of your letter of August 6 to our Inspector of Eulldings concerning the property at 24-32 Ashmont Street owned by Mrs. Wilms W. Shorts.

It is my understanding that an appeal in this case will be heard by the Board of Appeals on Friday of this week which, if granted, will permit the use of this property for the parking of motor vehicles.

However, if the appeal is not granted, I am sure you know that the responsibility for the proper use of this property rests upon the owner and not upon the City. We will, of course, make every effort to see to it that the property is used in accordance with the zoning law, but the primary responsibility is that of the owner.

If you need anybody to carry your bag from Washington to San Francisco, please let me know. With all of my eirport troubles, I could use the restful influence of a quiet convention in San Francisco.

Sincerely yours,

Barnett I. Shur Corporation Councel

BIS:M

CITY OF POSTLAND, MAINE BOSTO OF APPRAIS

August 14, 1956

Fred C. Seribner, Jr., Esq.

465 Congress Street
Portland, daine

Res Appeal of Vilme 1. Shorts

44-3: Ashmont Street

Dear Mr. Scribner:

The Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Council Chember at City Hall, Portland, Maine, on Friday, August 17, 1956, at 10:30 s. m. to hear the appeal of Wilms Shortz under the Zoning Ordinance.

Please be present at this hearing in support of this appeal.

BOARD OF APPLIES

Ben B. Wilson

Chairman

R
cc: M . Wilms W. Shortz
R. D. S. #3
Crswfordsville, Indiana

Mrs. Mealley: Part of this seems to be properly for the Board of Appeals.

What he says about violation of the Ord. as to parking is true, but Fred Board denies the appearad Clark Scribner Ir we will take a crack" at must know the difficulties of policing such a matter. However, if the Board denies the appeared Clark Scribner Jr. we will take a crack at someone. Wmcd 8/10/56 Portland, Maine

RECEIVED

^{HUG J} 195**6**

Corps 17 10/56

1200 16th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

August 6, 1956

Mr. Warren McDonald Inspector of Buildings Portland, Maine Dear Warren:

DELLA OL MOLLE WAS Mrs. Wilma W. Shortz of Crawfordsville, Indiana has given me a copy of your letter to her of August 1st, in may not be used for parking of motor vehicles.

You will recall that for many years this vacant land commercial garage owners in that area. Several months of the zoning ordinances and would have to be discontinued. Property for parking of vehicles has taken place. property for parking of vehicles has taken place.

However, a large number of cars of all types are parked on these lots every day without authority and withman stationed on the land to keep cars away and, nothing which can be done about it.

In view of the nature of the area, the type of land involved, and the congestion in that area, it seems to allow parking on this land. However, if the City on the Lity to allow parking on this land. However, if the City on the City to enforce its laws and to keep all cars which now park there without authority off of this property.

At the present time the whole situation is quite a to be used for parking purposes yet the City takes parking on this land.

Sincepety,

Mid Colubration

Fred C. Scribner, Jr.

Fred Clark Scribner Jr. Portland, Maine

1200 16th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

August 6, 1956

Dear Barney:

The enclosed is for your information. For a long time I have been disturbed by the City's insistence that we could not use this land for parking and the City's complete failure to prevent unauthorized parking on the property.

Sincerely

Fred C. Scribner, Jr.

Mr. Bernard Shur Corporation Counsel City Hall Portland, Maine

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE BOARD OF APPEALS

August 7, 1956

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing in the Council Chamber at City Hall, Portland, Maine, on Friday, August 17, 1956, at 10:30 a.m. to hear the appeal of Wilma W. Shortz requesting an exception to the Zoning Ordinance to authorize the use of the lots at 24-32 Ashmont Street (Assessor's Lot Nos. 126-K-3 and 125-I-7) for parking motor vehicles, including the use of the existing two-car garage there for parking only.

This permit is presently not issuable under the Zoning Ordinance because the property is in a Residence D Zone where such a use of land and buildings is not allowable unless first authorized by the Eoerd of Appeals after the usual appeal procedure, this according to Section 9 of the Ordinance.

This appeal is taken under Section 18E of the Zoning Ordinance which provides that the Board of Appeals, by unanimous vote of its members, may permit exceptions in specific cases so as to grant reasonable use of property and without substantially departing from the intent and purpose of the Zoning Ordinance, subject always to the rule that seid Board shall give due consideration to promoting public health, safety, convenience and welfare, encouraging the most appropriate use of land and conserving property values, that it shall permit no building or use injurious, noxious, offensive or detrimental to a neighborhood, and that it shall prescribe appropriate conditions and safeguards in each case.

All persons interested either for or against this appeal will be heard at the above time and place, this notice of required public hearing having been sent to the owners of property within 500 feet of the premises in question as required by law.

BOARD OF APPEALS

Ben B. Wilson

Chairman

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65 Carvel, Richard J. & Frances - 60 Myes tred Oakolale Street 124-128 dup 110-116 chip luce a Taylor 134 Cakedale Street 120-136 MacCluce a Taylor 134 Cakedale Street 123-131 City of Holwell Street 11-19 May a Colevard D. NB. 465 Copregress Street 21-21 Johnson, Carl S. 46 Jan M. 20 Street treet 1-11 Gotter Sladyo C 37 Longfellow Street 13-19 Burrell Galph O a almos Mit 17 Jenden Street 19-21 Uincent, adrias of & Bertha B. 110 Hoseford Street 23:25 days 29:29 days 21-3 anderson Philip Va Dorothy a. 45 tongfeller Street 10-14 Nichola, Cethel B. 16 Lynden Street 22.26 Jufseins Jennich 11. 24 Lender Street. 28.30 dup. Longfellow 5-1 Hayes, alhel M. - 1 Long fellow Street J. 9 Long fellow St. rear days meldred a Lillian 9-11 Siteman meldred a Lillian Och 13-17 Church, Charles S. & Howard S. Och 21.23 Barron, Claude. 32/1. Allow Ite. 25.31 Moulton, Jean S. 29 Longfellow Street 33-39 dup. 315-49 dup. 65 Barrier Alton Helin - 53 Longfellow Street 51.55 Barrier Alton Helin - 59 Longfellow Street 57-59 Dougherty Helliams J. - 59 Longfellow Street. 65 Longfellow Street. 65 Longfellow Street.

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Cottage Street 46-521 dup. 1 Christinson Becaron - 11 Cottage Street 15 Shorton, I rand Co acce 6: 15 Cottage Street 23 London Myrow + 19 Spring Street Oug 25 desport duan in De Cottage Stiget 14-18 Johnson Cnowd 18 Cottage Street 20 20 Janes Lange Cottage Street 200-30 Janes Lange Cottage Land