

Albemarle County Community Notice



Removal of Structures on Harris Property

As part of preparing for the construction of the Crozet Avenue Streetscape project and the new Downtown Crozet Library, the County will be removing several structures from the former Harris property on Crozet Avenue which the County purchased in 2006.

Five structures will be removed from the property – two houses, a shed, a chicken coop, and a garage. Prior to beginning any removal activities, the County hired a consultant to perform a historic resources assessment. While the structures were not found to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the assessment process did include comprehensive inventorying and documentation of the structures and their contents for archival purposes. The premises also were inspected by a member of the County's Historic Preservation Committee, and features/elements of the structures that were particularly significant were identified and have been removed for salvage prior to demolition. Those items, which include 4-panel interior doors and door trim and ornamental iron brackets, may be made available to interested Crozet residents at a future time once details are worked out.

The structures themselves are in a seriously deteriorated state and also contain hazardous materials including asbestos siding, asbestos-containing coating on the roof seams and glazing, and significant amounts of lead paint. These conditions make salvage of any of the structures themselves infeasible, although they have been completely inventoried and documented as mentioned earlier to maintain a complete archival record.

Removal of the structures is the first step in preparing the site for the construction of Main Street and the new Downtown Crozet Library. Project staff anticipates that the removal will begin on March 12 and should be completed within a month. During removal, all vehicles and equipment will be contained on the site with little impact expected on traffic except for occasional dump trucks entering and exiting the site.

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