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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

TUCKER HILL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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March 21, 1979

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WILBUR S. AM ASSOCIATES

Mr. Robert L. Hundley
Environmental Quality Engineer
Virginia Department of Highways
1221 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Hundley:

Reference to: Route 234, Manassas Bypass project no. 0234-076-107, PE101 Prince William County

This is to expand upon two points in my February 27 letter toyou and to document a meeting about those points that took place subsequent to the letter. That meeting included the Messrs. Wray and Rollings of your agency, Mr. Humeston of the FHWA, Ms. Sally Moran of Wilbur Smith and Associates, and myself. We talked about Alternative B as it would relate to the Monroe House and to the memorial stone of T. L. Dunklin, a Confederate officer.

The Monroe House has been recommended by the State Review Board of the VHLC for the National Register of Historic Places. We would nominate to the Register a tract of land surrounding the house sufficient to preserve an acceptable setting for the house. Your consultant has assured me that, if Alternative B is selected, no pavement would be closer to the Monroe House itself than 125 feet. That would allow for an acceptable setting for the house and the right-of-way line for the proposed frontage road (the closest pavement) would be the eastern boundary of the National Register tract. Such a provision would result in no effect to the National Register tract.

In regard to the Dunklin marker—I have been told that the highway alignment could be shifted slightly to the east to avoid the marker but yet to include the marker just within the right-of-way. Such a provision would be much more preferable to moving the marker and (oddly) could ensure the marker's preservation by its being in the public domain. I have been told that care would be taken during construction to protect the marker and that the land immediately around the marker would not be disturbed.

Again, we have no objection to Alternative B.

Robert E. Swisher, Environmental Officer Mr. Robert L. Hundley Page - 2 -

and a service road which would be built as part of Alternative B. That service road would be the nearest new pavement to the Monroe House.

The Dunklin marker could be affected adversely by Alternative B; though, if it is determined that it is in the path of the highway, we would ask that it and the grave it marks be moved to a cemetery in the Manassas area. Ideally, though, the marker and its grave should remain in their original location, even if that would be within the highway right-of-way. If Alternative B is chosen and if the Dunklin marker would be within its right-of-way, we would ask that a temporary barrier be built around it to protect it from machinery during construction. We have no objection to Alternative B.

Apart from the five places named above, no other place of historic or architectural interest would be affected by any alternative under consideration for the Manassas Bypass.

Yours,

Robert E. Swisher Environmental Officer

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cc: Miss Sally E. Moran