

Mr. Edward J. Hecker, Engineer of Surveys (cont'd)

period of time and have long been acquiesced in. In addition, these fractional designations have no doubt been used in describing the properties among the Land Records of Baltimore City. It would appear that, rather than "avoid confusion", the removal of these fractional designations on existing properties might create confusion.

In reference to determining and fixing the number of every new building, the question might again arise as to what designations, other than fractional, could be used where more than fifty buildings are to be constructed in a given square. In such an instance, the use of a fractional designation apparently would be the only answer, since the "decimal system" requires each square to begin with a new even hundred designation.

In conclusion, it appears that the use of a fractional number in determining, fixing or changing house numbers is not inconsistent with the directions that the "decimal system" be used, and that the Bureau of Surveys is permitted, where necessary, to assign fractional numbers when determining and fixing the number of new buildings, and, likewise, to assign fractional numbers where, "in order to correct mistakes and avoid confusion", it is necessary to change existing numbers.

Very truly yours,

/s/ THOMAS W. BIDDISON
City Solicitor

/s/ WILLIAM J. O'DONNELL
Assistant City Solicitor

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