

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOSEPH A. CURTATONE MAYOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

ALTERATION TO A HISTORIC PROPERTY STAFF REPORT

Site: 33 Monmouth Street c. 1850 Chestnut Court Houses

Case: HPC 2014.020 Single Building Local Historic District

Applicant Name: Bob O'Sullivan

Applicant Address: 7 Mystic Street, Arlington, MA

Date of Application: April 17, 2014

Legal Notice: Alter roofing material on rear ells

Staff Recommendation: Certificate of Non-Applicability

Date of Public Hearing: May 20, 2014

The Ordinance states that 'In passing upon matters before it the Commission shall consider, among other things,

the historic and architectural value and significance of the site, building or structure, the general design, arrangement, texture, material and color of the features involved, and the relation of such features to similar features of buildings and structures in the surrounding area.' It also states that when an alteration 'does not involve any exterior architectural feature, or involves an exterior architectural feature which is not then subject to review by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section six, the Commission shall cause a certificate of non-applicability to be issued to the applicant.'

Items not specifically excluded in Section 6 of the Historic District Ordinance, need to be determined by the Commission



to be outside the Commission's purview if they do not fall under the definition of an exterior architectural feature as defined in Section 2.f. which states, "Exterior architectural feature means such portion of the exterior of a building or structure as open to view from a public street, public way, public park or public body of water...,"

• What is the visibility of the proposal?

The house is located on the corner of Harvard and Monmouth Streets. Harvard Street slopes steeply down from Summer Street and the house is raised up above Monmouth Street. The ells which are

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lower than the main body of the house can be seen from Harvard Street, however, despite the slope of the street, the roof is not visible due to the height of the ells.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission issue 30 Day Street a Certificate of Non-Applicability under sections 6.a and 6.d.2 for the replacement of the bathroom windows because they do not meet the definition of exterior architectural feature as defined in Section 2.f of the Historic District Ordinance.



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