



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

Historic Preservation Commission

August 23, 2012

Paul Nonni
Senior Building Inspector
Inspectional Services Division
Department of Public Works
1 Franey Road
Somerville, MA 02144

RE: HPC 12.094 – 117 Washington Street – 1792 Samuel Ireland House

Dear Paul,

Mr. Claude Augustin proposes to remove the circa 1940s wood shingles from the siding of the house and repair and replace rotted and damaged wood clapboard in-kind as needed. The shingles are not original to the building. The Commission noted at their August 16, 2011 meeting that this alteration would make a big difference to the buildings appearance and should be considered when funds were available. He has a contractor currently working on site and should not have to wait until the September 19, 2012 regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission. Staff has offered him the opportunity to do the work "at risk" prior to a public hearing. The Staff believes that the Historic Preservation Commission will grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the removal of the wood shingles and their replacement with clapboard since this work is within the Historic Preservation Guidelines, which states that alterations "should be based on physical or documentary evidence of the original or later important features."

With this in mind, and acknowledging that timing is of the essence for the Applicant's proposed alteration we have no objection to your office issuing an **"at risk" permit** to Mr. Augustin.

If you should have any questions in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,

Kristi Chase
Preservation Planner

Cc: Dick Bauer, Chairman
George Proakis, Director of Planning
Brandon Wilson, Executive Director, HPC
Claude Augustin, Owner