



Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

**City of Newton, Massachusetts**  
Department of Planning and Development  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

Telephone  
(617) 796-1120  
Telefax  
(617) 796-1142  
TDD/TTY  
(617) 796-1089  
www.newtonma.gov

Barney S. Heath  
Director

---

## STAFF MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: May 12, 2020  
DATE: May 1, 2020  
TO: Auburndale Historic District Commission  
FROM: Barbara Kurze, Senior Preservation Planner  
SUBJECT: **Additional Review Information**

---

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the members of the Auburndale Historic District Commission (Auburndale HDC) with information about the significance of the properties being reviewed and the application process, which may be useful in the review and decision-making process of the Auburndale HDC. Additional information may be presented at the meeting that the Auburndale HDC can take into consideration when discussing a Local Historic District Review application.

---

Dear Auburndale HDC Members,

The following is additional information for the Local Historic District Review applications that you should have received in your meeting packet.

### **Applications**

#### ***197 Grove Street – Certificate of Appropriateness***

**HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE:** Stair builder Henry Snow built the Italianate house circa 1870 on land that he purchased from Auburndale realtor William E. Tyler in June 1869. Snow lived in the house with his wife, children Joh, Mary and Grace, and carpenter George C. Johnson and his wife and son. In 1874, Snow and his family moved to Hancock Street and sold the property to Mercy Cobb, the wife of master mariner William B. Cobb, who may have rented the house out as it appears she was living in San Francisco with her husband.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:** The owners would like to install two raised wood garden beds along the left side property line.

**MATERIALS PROVIDED:**

Assessor's database map with sketch showing location of the raised beds

MHC Form B  
Photographs

***19 Fern Street – Certificate of Appropriateness***

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The 1920 Colonial Revival Cape house was designed by J. B. Parkhurst at 19 Congress Street in Boston and built by H. B. Brown at 87 Gordon Street in Somerville. The owner was Helen Cook. In 1923, Henry G. Haynes were listed as living in the house. He is listed in the 1930 U.S. Federal Census as an office manager for a machinery company and living in the house with his wife Hannah and son Henry G. Haynes, Jr.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners want to add on to the back of the house to double the FAR. The addition would be the same height as the existing house and would be set in on the right side and project out on the left side. Both sides of the house are very visible from Fern Street. Please note that “as of right” refers to zoning but not to the historic district.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Assessor’s database map  
MHC Form B  
Project description  
Site plan  
FAR calculations  
Plans  
Photographs  
Product and material specifications

**Administrative Discussion**

Minutes: Draft minutes for the March meeting have been included for your review.