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Barney S. Heath
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STAFF MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: July 15, 2021
DATE: July 6, 2021
TO: Chestnut Hill 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 Chestnut Hill Historic District Commission (Chestnut Hill 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 Chestnut Hill HDC. Additional information may be presented at the meeting that the Chestnut Hill HDC can take into consideration when discussing a Local Historic District Review application.

Dear Chestnut Hill HDC Members,

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

Applications

20 Acacia Avenue – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The circa 1923 Colonial Revival was designed by Harold R. Duffie for John F. Burns. The first occupants appear to have been Mr. and Mrs. George D’Arcy. George D’Arcy worked in humidifying and ventilating. Dr. Sydney Farber, who founded the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, is listed at that address in 1938 and 1941, and may have rented from the D’Arcys.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners want to replace the concrete front walkway with bluestone, the concrete steps at the sidewalk with new stairs with bluestone treads and Boston Blend Mosaic stone risers. The metal railing at the stairs will be replaced with a wrought iron railing. The brick stairs and landing at the front entry will remain. **The applicant was asked to verify the width of the existing concrete walkway at the meeting.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:
Assessors database map
Survey plan

MHC Form B
Existing and proposed plans
Sections
Photographs

509 Hammond Street – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The 1928 Colonial Revival house was built by Dr. and Mrs. Augustus Thorndike, designed by Bigelow and Wadsworth, and constructed by Semple and Clarke. Bigelow and Wadsworth also designed 65 Chestnut Hill Road and 32 Suffolk Road.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners want to make repairs to the house and hardscaping. The review of the repairs to the front steps, rebuilding of the rear brick piers, replacement of the metal railing with a taller code-complaint railing, and repairs to the rear patio is continued from the previous meeting. The proposed repairs to the house include: 1) repairing, re-setting existing shutters and replacing missing shutters; 2) repointing the brick exterior as required; 3) replacing the existing side stairs and entry landing in-kind and replacing the railing system with a taller code-compliant railing; 4) replace existing flashing, eaves, and gutters in-kind; and 5) repair attic vents. **The applicants were asked to present information about the existing and proposed brick pier heights at the meeting.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:
Assessors database map
Subdivision plan
Repair plan
Photos
Detail drawings
Renderings
Sections
MHC Form B

531 Hammond Street – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The 1889 Colonial Revival house was designed by William Ralph Emerson for Judge John Lowell.

APPLICATION PROCESS: This review is continued from a previous meeting. The owners want to install a cast aluminum eight-foot-tall lamp post with an attached address sign, shielded aluminum bollard pedestrian lights, and granite cobblestone apron and edging. The lamp post and bollards would have a black finish. Continuation.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:
Assessors database map
Aerial view
Photographs
Renderings
Detail drawings
Landscape plans
Product and material information
MHC Form B

12 Kingsbury Road, Carriage House – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The house was built in 1892.

APPLICATION PROCESS: This review is continued from previous meetings. The Commission approved the design concept for the carriage house at the February meeting with final approval contingent on the submission of the final construction documents for Commission review and approval. The owners have submitted the carriage house plans with the product and material information. **The applicants were asked to present wood options for the metal clad doors and windows at the meeting.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Elevations (1/8" = 1 foot)

Sections

Plans

Details

Product and material information

Plot plan

Renderings

Elevations (1/4" = 1 foot)

124 Chestnut Hill Road – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The 1923 English Revival house was designed by Frohman, Robb, and Little for author Ben Ames Williams. Williams was a well-known novelist and short story writer; much of his writing was published in the Saturday Evening Post. Several of his novels and short stories were made into films; among them Adventure's End, Leave Her to Heaven, The Strange Woman and Johnny Trouble.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The applicant is scheduled for a review of the details of the proposal to replace the existing casement windows on the sides and back of the house on Wednesday, July 7th. **This item is on the agenda in case the commission requires additional details that must be reviewed and approved by the full commission.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

Plans

Existing and proposed window sash sizes

Replacement windows construction details

Photographs

Rear elevation

Administrative Discussion

Minutes: The April and May meeting minutes are included for review.