Brookline Preservation Commission
Local Historic District Report

Local Historic District: Cottage Farm

Applicant: David E. Simon

Address: 45 Powell Street

Statement of Significance: This Colonial Revival Style house was somewhat grander in proportions than the typical house in this immediate neighborhood. The third story even included a ballroom. It was built by Samuel N. Mayo in 1905, who evidently was a retired merchant. He died here, age 77, in 1917. The next owners were George and Mary Tupper. Mr. Tupper worked as the immigrant secretary for the Brookline YMCA. The house is the only known design in Brookline by Charles Dunham. A house in Medford and several churches in the Boston suburbs have been identified has his work. Paul Hunt, who built the now demolished early auto garage, was active as a developer-builder on Powell Street.

Proposed Alterations: Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install up to twenty (20) solar panels on rear south and southeast sections of the roof facing Amory Street; new panels to be black and on asphalt roof.

Applicable Guidelines: Applicable Guidelines: The Commission will follow the same design review process for renewable energy systems as it does for other work within the Local Historic Districts. All proposals for the installation of renewable energy systems within Local Historic Districts will be reviewed by the Commission on a case-by-case basis, recognizing that the best options will depend on the characteristics of each property under consideration. The Commission will follow the principles of minimum intervention and reversibility when reviewing any exterior changes to a structure visible from public views.

Preliminary Findings: The house underwent major renovations in 1999, including removing the aluminum siding, new window, replacement of stairway window and demolition of rear garage.

The proposed panels are on the rear asphalt roofs and minimally visible from Amory Street.

views from Amory Street