

Brookline Preservation Commission Local Historic District Reports

Local Historic District: Pill Hill

Applicant: Deane Coady

Address: 272 Walnut Street



House Built: 1889

House Architect: Unknown

Summary Statement of Significance: This house was one of the first to be built under Brookline's building permit process. There is a notation in the record book but the permit is missing. The contractor, Alfred W. Bowers, is listed, but the architect is not. The design of the house is for a rather unusual Colonial Revival that has lost some of its original character due to the application of asbestos shingles over the clapboards. The main block of the house features a gambrel roof with one end facing the street.

Mrs. Caroline Currier, who had built the house next door at 278 Walnut Street in 1876 for her residence, erected the house at 272 Walnut Street as a rental property.

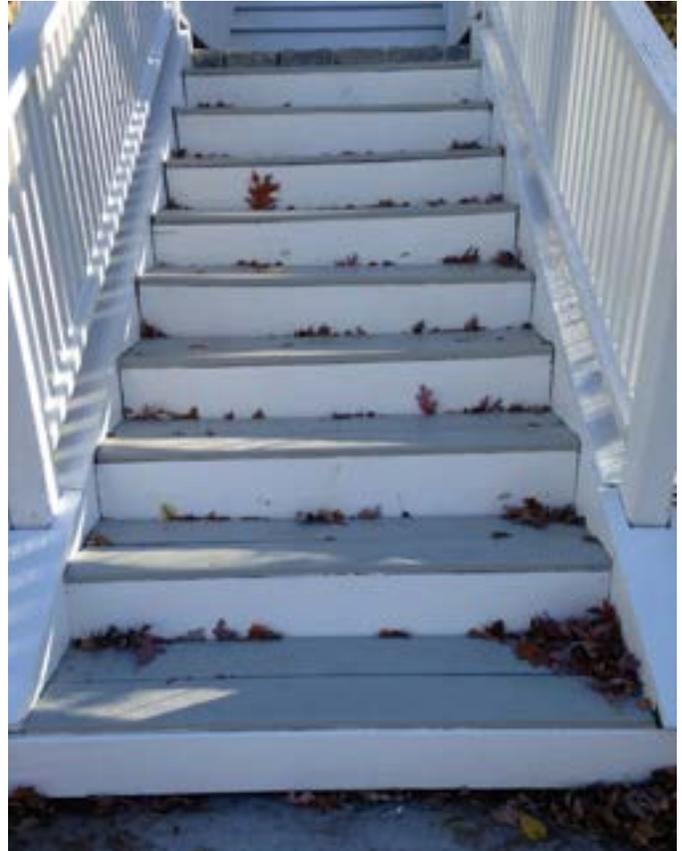
Proposed Alterations: The applicant proposes to replace the wooden steps from the landing to the sidewalk with granite steps.

Statement of Applicable Guidelines: "The historic character of a property should be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces and spatial relationships that characterize a property should be avoided."

Statement of Preliminary Findings: There are two sets of wooden stairs, one from the front porch to the landing and the other from the landing to the sidewalk. The upper stairs retain the characteristic materials of the period- wood- and would remain. The replacement of the lower set of stairs with granite is typical of this area- there are many examples with wooden steps from the house and stone or granite steps to the street.

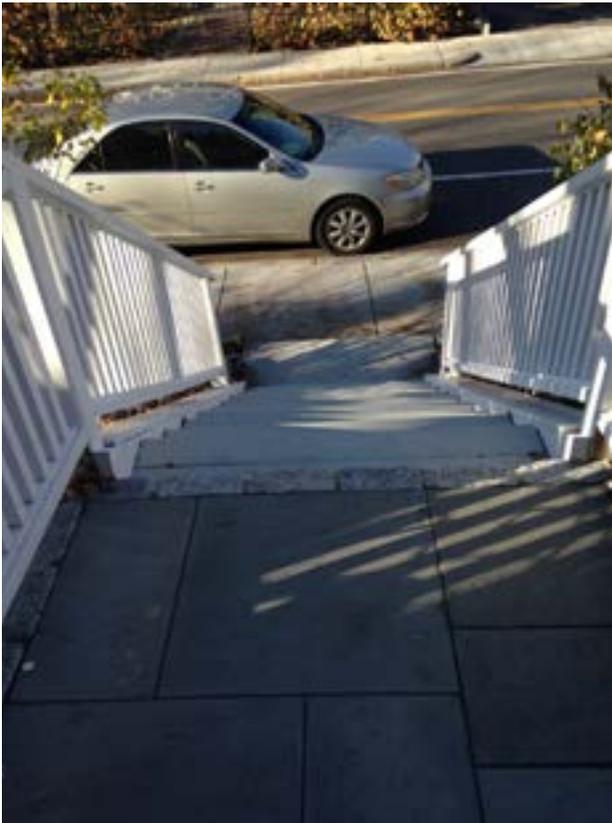


wooden steps to house to remain



wooden steps to street to be replaced





view from landing to sidewalk

