



June 6, 2024

1475 Longfellow St.,
Detroit, MI 48206

RE: 1475 Longfellow Exterior Renovations, District Historic Commission Submission

Project Narrative

1475 Longfellow is a single-family home in the Boston Edison Historic District. Located on the south side of Longfellow street, between Woodrow Wilson Street and Byron Street, it is a traditional wood framed structure with a painted stucco cladding. It is two stories, plus an attic and basement. It has a gable roof, with two symmetrical street facing dormers. The front facade also has a covered stucco-clad masonry porch, offset from the structure's center. The porch covering is a flat roof held up by 4 neoclassical columns, 2 of which are partially embedded into the main structure. The main entry door is centered on the porch, and features a sidelite on either side. Adjacent to the covered porch is a protruding box window. The second floor of the front facade features 3 sets of single-hung windows: 2 of which are 2 mullied units together, symmetrical on either side of the facade, and a centered smaller single hung window.

This project consists of repair and refurbishment of exterior building elements, window repair and replacement where required, construction of a new addition to the structure's rear, construction of a new deck at the structure's rear, and repair of a street-facing covered porch. Existing stucco will be repaired, and replaced with like materials where necessary; The east facade especially requires extensive stucco repair and replacement. Stucco will be painted in accordance with the appropriate Detroit Historic Commission Color System. Existing windows will be removed, repaired, painted, and reinstalled. Where there are missing windows, they will be replaced; All new windows are to be composite material (no new windows will be placed at the street facing facade). Existing wood elements, including soffits, trim, and roof eave fascia, will be repaired/ replaced where required and painted. Two missing porch columns will be replaced with fiberglass columns of the same style as those existing. Two existing columns have extensive damage and will be replaced with fiberglass columns of the same style as existing. The masonry porch is to be repaired, including the stucco finish. Missing shutters at the front will be replaced

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with wood shutters, painted to complement the trim. The front door and sidelites are to be replaced with those that are similar to what is shown in historic designation photos.

The rear addition will be wood framed on masonry foundation walls and clad with a fiber cement lap siding, with a shed roof finished with asphalt shingles that match the existing roof. An existing dormer will be clad with the same fiber cement lap siding, and its window replaced. A french door will be centered on the rear facade. There are to be two single-hung windows on the west side of the south (rear) facade, and one centered above the french door. To the east portion of the rear facade will be six new single-hung windows; a row of three on the first and second floors, respectively. They will be trimmed with a painted wood and separated by a vertical wood panel from the western portion of the facade. These distinct rows of 3 are similar visually to the box window on the front, and to other homes of the same style in the area. The wood trim and fiber cement siding will wrap around both sides, continuing to the extent of the addition, keeping it visually distinct from the existing stucco facades. The new rear deck and stair will be a composite material, in black. The railing will be black with square balusters and supports. All project siding, trim, sash, and shutter colors will be in accordance with the appropriate Detroit Historic Commission Color System.