



Proposed changes to As-Built
Front & Right Side Elevations

Remove the 1st two clapboards & replace
With 5/4 Mudsill +/- 6 1/2"

HDC Submission

138 Gates Street 11/20/24

November 20, 2024

Dear Commission & Council Members:

We have been updated and apprised on the apparent deficiencies or derelictions on our home at 138 Gates Street, Portsmouth, NH.

We consider ourselves stewards for this home and wish to maintain it, enhance it and prepare it for future generations over decades. We sought out a highly qualified architect as well as an outstanding contractor, both specializing in renovations and modernization of historic homes. We appreciated their guidance as to the materials and construction so as to take into account the use of appropriate products and the costs, durability and authenticity.

We have received innumerable comments as to the beauty of our newly renovated home while also maintaining the historic look. We certainly trusted our contractor when changes were needed as would be expected for a house built in 1750. At no time were we ever concerned about not maintaining the historic character of over 270 years.

When it comes to the spacing of the clapboards or the presence of mud boards, please believe the architect and contractor went through

much deliberation to perfect the final appearance. And that appearance should not be mandated by previously poorly replaced and spaced clapboards or what was the previous need of mud boards.

We believe the house was completed by our architect and contractor to suit our wishes, the South End experience, and the scope of the HDC Board. We will accept your decision but please keep open minds and accept that stewardship of these historic homes is trying to do what's in the best interest of the historic district.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frederick K. Wiese & Sandra L. Smith-Wiese