

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JULY 22, 2013
APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
C14H-1986-0008
Scarbrough Building, 522 Congress Avenue

PROPOSAL

Construct a new gateway trellis at the Sixth Street entrance to the building; highlight metal window panels with gold.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The applicant proposes the construction of a metal gateway trellis at the Sixth Street entrance, with a design reflecting the muntin and mullion lines of the entrance's glass panel. The trellis will not be connected to the building. The applicant further proposes to highlight the metal window panels with gold paint.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The Commission's Standards for Review of applications for Certificates of Appropriateness include:

- Do not destroy the distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment. Avoid the removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features.
- Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties are appropriate when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historic, architectural, or cultural material and such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.
- Construct new additions or alterations to structures in such a manner that if such addition or alteration were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure will be unimpaired.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Do not obscure the architectural details of the glass panel behind the proposed trellis. At a second meeting, the Committee recommended against construction of the trellis, but recommended approval of the proposed gold highlighting of the metal window panels on the ground floor.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff cannot recommend approval of the trellis, although staff recognizes the applicant's need to identify the office building entrance. The Sixth Street entrance to the building exemplifies the Art Deco style of this building, and while the proposed trellis complements the architectural features of the existing entrance, it also obscures them. Staff recommends approval of the gold highlighting for the window panels on the ground floor.