

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
OCTOBER 28, 2013
APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
C14H-1990-0006
Mount Bonnell
3800 Mount Bonnell Road

PROPOSAL

Landscape improvements.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The applicant proposes to bring the treads and risers of the existing steps to Code by raising the risers to at least 6-7" and the treads to 12"; install handrails, reduce the height of the retaining wall, add seat-walls behind the pergola, and install additional hardscape close to the monument. There are no changes proposed to the pergola or the existing monument, but there is a probable project in the future to remove the outside row of columns, cantilever the roof, and install viewing steps. The hardscape will be stone to match that existing on the park site.

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.
- Recognize all buildings, structures, and sites as products of their own time. Do not construct alterations which have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance.
- Repair, rather than replace deteriorated architectural features wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Base the repair or replacement of missing architectural features on accurate duplications of features, substantiated by historical, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures.
- 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.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee agreed to recommend the proposed improvements, and welcomed the proposal to replace the last row of pergola columns with seats. The Committee stated that removing the pergola altogether would be preferable to modifications to it so as to restore the natural look of the summit of the mountain.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the application as proposed.