

212 Desha Road
Ashland Park Historic District

RJ Yozwiak

Scope of Work

Install fence and gate

Additional Background

In September of 2019, staff issued a COA to install a fence and gate at the rear edge of the property. The work was never carried out. As this new property owner remodeled the house, he determined that an existing side entrance was going to be used as a main door which meant he wanted to relocate the vehicular fence and gate towards the street to enclose the side door within the fenced area.

Background

The owner contacted staff to renew is permit for a fence and gate.

At this time, the applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of the following work:

1. Construct a wood privacy fence and vehicular gate across the driveway and along the north side of the property line.

The plan calls for the fence to be along the north property line beginning at the garage and coming towards the street on the other side of driveway, then the gate turns towards the applicant's house and terminates at the house. The proposal calls for the fence/gate to locate near paired window of the neighboring windows.

Then fence and will be a 4" wood fence. The fence will be located between the two properties and be not quite half way. This plan is different than the original proposal because the gate has shifted towards the street between two properties.

Guidelines

III. GUIDELINES FOR SITE AND SETTING

In addition to buildings, elements of the surrounding site and setting contribute to the character of historic properties. These elements include both natural and manmade features such as trees, fields, gardens, fences, driveways, retaining walls and boundary definers. Historic site elements help to define a property's historic character and appearance. Historic site and setting features should be preserved and maintained.

Guidelines cont'd

1. FENCES

DESIGN PRINCIPLE: Fences were typically constructed of wood, cast or wrought iron, brick, stone or woven wire. Lexington has a number of historic metal fences. Historic fences should be preserved and maintained. The construction of new fences based upon historic designs and materials is also appropriate. Cast iron or woven wire is preferable for 19th and early 20th century buildings. Wood fences are also allowed; however, it is important to keep the fence as transparent as possible so as not to obscure the view of the historic building.

Fences:

- (III.1.) C. of wood boards for privacy should be located in rear yards and generally be no taller than six feet (most pre-fabricated wood fence sections are 8' wide by 6' high).
- D. Privacy fences of this height should be at least half-way back from the front of the building to the back walls on the side of the house. Privacy fences of flat boards in a single row are more historically correct than shadowbox (alternating boards) designs but both designs are acceptable. Fences with flat tops, "dog ear" or Gothic (pointed tops) designs are all acceptable. "Stockade" designs are discouraged.

6. LANDSCAPE, LAND FEATURES, LAND FORMATIONS, VIEWSHEDS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

DESIGN PRINCIPLE: Landscape, land features, land formations, view sheds and archaeology define many site elements in historic areas throughout Fayette County. These elements include resources above and below the ground surface. As a result, landscape and land features are more difficult to define than built features and elements. Landscape and land features can be either man-made or natural. These features include, but are not limited to: trees and shrubs, decorative gardens, utilitarian (functional) gardens, fields, documented historic topography, archaeological and cultural resources and other land features and land formations.

Landscape, Land Features, Land Formations, Viewsheds and Archaeology:

- A. that are significant should be preserved and maintained.
- B. that are altered or introduced should be compatible to the site and with surrounding properties.
- C. should not be visually dominant, intrusive or suggest a false sense of history.
- D. of open space should only be developed in scale and character with the neighborhood or designated historic landmark.
- E. of vistas and approaches should be preserved and maintained.

Guidelines cont'd

Findings

The proposal to construct a 4' gate and fence to enclose the rear yard is within the Guidelines. The location also meets the LFUCG Design Guidelines III.1.C and D respectively state, "Fences of wood boards for privacy should be located in rear yards and generally be no taller than six feet" and "Privacy fences of this height should be at least half-way back from the front of the building to the back walls on the side of the house". The fence 4' height, as proposed, does not obscure or become visually dominate to either this structure or the neighbor's structure.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. Once reviewed by other LFUCG Divisions, resubmit any changes to staff or Board for review and approval prior to issuance of COA.
2. If any changes are made that alter the information submitted, resubmit the changes to staff for review and approval prior to the start of the work.

Deadline for Board Action

December 26, 2020