



TOWN OF ACTON  
DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

Review Memorandum: Asa Parlin House Addition - 17 Woodbury Lane  
February 29, 2024

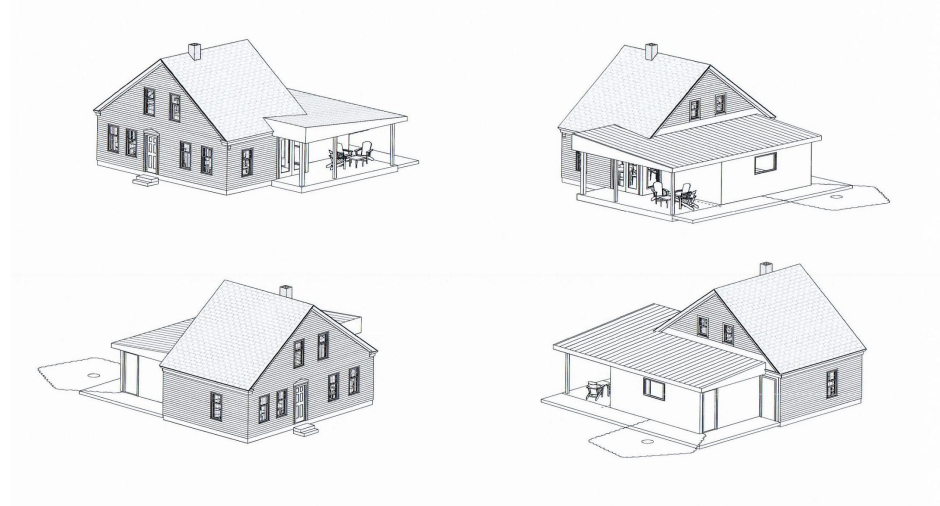
DRB Members in attendance: Peter Darlow (Chair), David Honn, Richard Keleher, Holly Ben-Joseph, Thomas Doolittle, and Jon Capetta – Planning Board liaison.

Public in attendance: Fran Arsenault

Document Reviewed: A concept drawing entitled Asa Parlin House Rehabilitation, dated 2/13/2024, prepared by Bergman Hendrie + Archetype, architect for the project.

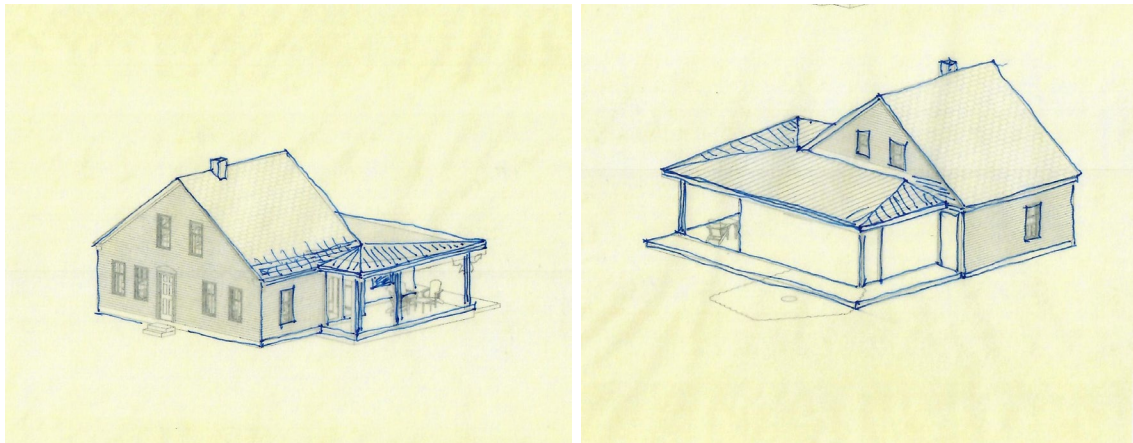
A revised and somewhat scaled back proposal to repurpose the residential home located at 17 Woodbury Lane as a publicly accessible meeting and event space is evolving. The intent is to remove the various additions to the original 1860s 500SF home and to construct a small 300SF addition on its East side inclusive of a wrap around porch. The original house will become a multipurpose space supported with two toilet rooms and a small kitchen located within the addition. The covered porch is oriented towards the green space to the south facing towards town hall.

The three dimensional concept for the proposed addition, inclusive of the wrap around porch, is a relatively simple one story shed roofed structure that will be partially visible from Woodbury Lane.



Following are comments/recommendations made by the DRB:

- DRB members are comfortable with the updated programming decisions made and with the general design direction of the addition.
- The low slung shed roof structure as proposed is an appropriate choice for the overall massing of the addition as it is deferential to the existing house. DRB members are in agreement with the intent for the addition to be clearly differentiated from the original house architecture. However, DRB members are not comfortable with the awkward relationship that develops as the shed roof intersects with the the original house and its gable roof. The DRB propose that the shed roof be reshaped to a modified hip that will align the addition's roof edge with the existing gable roof as shown in the following sketch images.



- The suggestion of a standing seam metal roofing system is a good choice. It is recommended that a waterproof membrane be installed below the metal roof. DRB members prefer that the addition exterior materials be distinct from the existing house finishes.
- The DRB recommends that the choice for exterior siding of the addition be smooth vertical tongue and groove boards to distinctly contrast with the traditional horizontal siding of the house.
- The DRB would prefer the window from the kitchen space be shifted to the south facing side of the porch, where it will be less of an obvious visual, yet offer an opportunity for serving of ice cream and other treats during events that likely will be take advantage of the available green space.
- The suggestion of simple 4x4 posts to support the roof at the porch appears appropriate.
- The DRB requests the project proposal return for a further review by the board after the addition is more fully developed and with the landscape concept for the adjacent southern green area

Design Review Board members are otherwise comfortable with the design concept presented.

Respectfully submitted, The DRB