

# Old King's Highway Regional Historic District Commission

P.O. Box 279, Hyannis Mass. 02601

Telephone: 617-775-1766

DOROTHY O'BRIEN

VS

DECISION - 83-7

OLD KING'S HIGHWAY REGIONAL  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
FOR THE TOWN OF SANDWICH

On November 1, 1983, the Commission held a hearing on an appeal filed by Dorothy O'Brien to a decision by the Sandwich Historic District Committee which had approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the placement of a panel window in a new house located on Shaw Street in East Sandwich, Massachusetts.

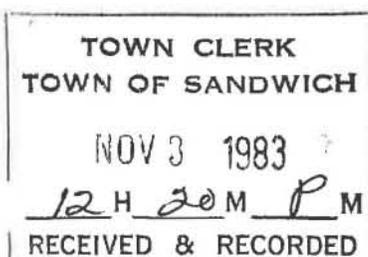
Present were, Mr. Sutton, Sandwich, Mr. MacSwan, Barnstable, Mr. Nickerson, Yarmouth, Mr. Hanger, Dennis, Ms. Duran, Brewster, James R. Wilson, Commission counsel and Mr. Ivers, Administrative Assistant, Mrs. O'Brien appellant and Mr. & Mrs. John F. Doyle, applicants.

The decision of the Sandwich Committee was filed with the Town Clerk on September 28, 1983, and the appeal entered with the Commission on October 4, 1983, within the ten day appeal period.

Mr. Sutton read the appeal petition and inquired as to how many members had viewed the site prior to the hearing. All but Ms. Duran indicated they had visited the site and were familiar with the neighborhood.

Mr. Sutton also made available to the Commission photographs that were submitted by the appellant and a copy of the plans presented by the applicant. He then asked Mrs. O'Brien to present her objection to the granting of the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Mrs. O'Brien stated that she objected to the impact of the gable windows on the traditional character of the neighborhood. She felt that the house with its contemporary design contained too much glass and that she would have objected to its solar panels had she been aware of her appeal rights. She felt that the additional glass proposed by the modification would be too much for the neighborhood.



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Mr. Doyle then addressed the Commission and stated that they had decided to modify the design during the construction process because they realized that the original window arrangement was not symmetrical and it was their feeling that the modification would add more light and ventilation to house and improve its overall appearance.

Mr. Sutton stated that his Committee felt that the additional window would make the design more symmetric and compatible with the area and he further indicated that the area was not one of critical historic significance.

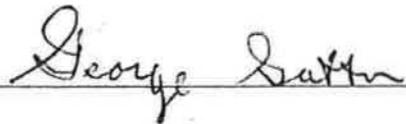
After discussion by the Commissioners, the following findings and determination were adopted:

1. That the modification will make the design more symmetrical and therefore more compatible with the neighborhood.
2. That the area does not contain substantial historical significance that would warrant disapproval of the proposed window modification.
3. That the Committee did not err in granting the Certificate of Appropriateness.

THEREFORE, the decision of the Sandwich Committee is affirmed.

The Chairman stated that any person aggrieved by the decision of the Commission has a right to enter an appeal with the Barnstable District Court within twenty (20) days of the filing of this decision with the Sandwich Town Clerk.

Respectfully submitted

  
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