



Old King's Highway Regional Historic District Commission  
P.O. Box 279, Hyannis Mass. 02601

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THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST  
BREWSTER/ORLEANS

v.

Decision #87-37

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

On Monday, November 23, 1987 the Commission held a hearing on Appeal #87-37 filed by The First Church of Christ Scientist, Brewster/Orleans seeking review of a decision by the Brewster Historic District Committee which had denied a Certificate of Appropriateness for a church steeple at the corner of Main Street and Foster Road, Brewster, Massachusetts.

Present were Barbara Hart, Dennis; Michael Shay, Brewster; John Blaisdell, Sandwich; Peter Freeman, Barnstable; Robert G. Brown, Commission Counsel; Keith C. Long, Esquire, Attorney for The First Church of Christ Scientist, Brewster/Orleans; and Hugh H. Andrews, Co-Chairman of the Building Committee for the Applicant.

The Committee's decision had been filed with the Town Clerk on November 3, 1987, and the appeal entered with the Commission on November 9, 1987, within the ten day appeal period.

Attorney Keith C. Long addressed the Commission and explained that the Appeal concerned the desire by the Church for a new church steeple. He explained that the proposed fiberglass will look the same as wood and will last much longer. He stated that wood is very expensive and has very high maintenance costs. He displayed a sample of the proposed material to be used, offered to answer any questions the Commission may have, and requested that the Committee's decision be reversed.

Hugh Andrews, Co-Chairman of the Church's Building Committee addressed the Commission and stated that he had been in contact with the Committee Chairman and from his discussions with him felt he had been led to believe that the application would not be an act of futility.

Michael Shay, representing the Brewster Committee, addressed the Commission to explain the Brewster Committee's reasons for denial. He stated that there were no issues regarding shape or scale. He did say that the Applicants had been in contact with him regarding the application but that he did not feel that he had misled them regarding the application.

He stated that the Committee felt that the use of fiberglass in this instance was inappropriate and not consistent with other Committee decisions.

After lengthy discussion the Commission made the following determination.

1. That the Brewster Historic District Committee did not act in an arbitrary, capricious and erroneous manner in denying the Applicant's Certificate of Appropriateness and that the Appellant's Appeal be denied. 2-1-1

Any person aggrieved by this decision has a right to appeal to the District Court Department, Orleans Division, within 20 days of the filing of this decision with the Brewster Town Clerk.



Peter L. Freeman  
Chairman