

and not historically or architecturally significant. The south elevation of the proposed building would be visible to Jones, but not visible from any public way and therefore is not a matter of concern under the Regional Historic District Act. As an apparent concession to Mr. and Mrs. Jones the Committee imposed as a requirement in its certificate that Hosford shield the south wall with evergreen plantings of ivy, cedars etc. by spring 1979.

At the outset of the hearing the Commission members, parties and counsel visited the site and the Jones property and travelled the part of Commerce Road from which the Hosford site is visible. From Commerce Road the Hosford dwelling presents an architecturally attractive aspect. The proposed building, close to the dwelling, would be compatible with it in scale, color and general construction, in height the same as the wings of the dwelling. The window treatment of the north wall would be in harmony with the window treatment of the north wall of the dwelling.

Considering the remoteness of the proposed building from any existing buildings, except the Hosford dwelling, it could not have any adverse visual impact upon its surroundings or other buildings. Given the Hosford dwelling and site and the surrounding area, the proposed building, in its simplicity, is, in the opinion of the Commission, appropriate. Any attempt to make it more "colonial" would be aesthetically wrong.

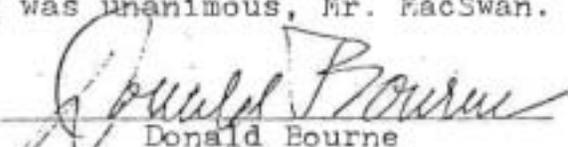
Appellants appeared concerned by the fact that the dwelling is to contain solar panels, though these would not be visible from a public way. As noted above, the dwelling was approved by the Committee some time ago and is not properly an issue. At the hearing Mr. Hosford affirmed, and the plans show, that no solar equipment will appear on the exterior of the new building.

The Regional Act was intended to protect the region's architectural and historical assets visible from public ways from unsympathetic alteration and from the adverse visual effect of incompatible structures in the immediate surroundings. It was not intended to inhibit or mandate the design of a building which does not, as the proposed building does not, effect either of those results.

The Commission found that the proposed building would be appropriate to its site and surrounding area, that the Barnstable Committee acted properly and did not exceed its authority in issuing the certificate in question and affirmed the decision here on appeal.

The determination of the Commission was unanimous, Mr. MacSwan, of Barnstable, abstaining.

December 8, 1978


Donald Bourne
Commission Chairman