

City of New Bedford

Department of Planning, Housing & Community Development

608 Pleasant St, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740 Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

STAFF REPORT

NEW BEDFORD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING June 5, 2017

Case #2017.09: CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

13-15 Hamilton Street, Unit 3

(Map: 53, Lot: 177C)

Applicant/ Hamilton Realty Trust/

Owner: Kreg Espinola

15 Hamilton Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

Applicant's studio2sustain inc. **Agent:** 412 County Street

New Bedford, MA 02740



Overview:

The property owner of 15 Hamilton Street, Unit 3, is seeking to construct a roof deck on the south section of the roof facing Hamilton Street.

Existing Conditions:

The Ivory H. Bartlett & Sons Building, constructed in 1876 as a counting house, is a two-and one -half story four-bay brick building on a granite foundation, located immediately east of, and sharing a party wall with the Double Bank Building. The hipped roof has slate covering and has several skylights on the south, east and north slopes. The building has been divided into three condominium units, with the applicant owning the upper story unit, which has no windows and only skylights for ventilation and natural light.



Proposal:

The applicant proposes the construction of a recessed roof deck on the center of the south slope of the roof where two skylights currently exist. The proposed roof opening is 9'-3 ½" wide and is recessed, without any proposed change in the roofline, therefore retaining the existing roof profile. The deck is approximately 7'-10" in depth from the interior wall opening and the edge of the deck will terminate in a knee wall with a mahogany cap trim and a 5 ½" H tubular steel rail, painted black. The perimeter of the deck will be located approximately 5'-0' from the roof edge.

The associated materials related to the deck construction consist of the following:

- A 6'-0" X 6'-8" Anderson Frenchwood double gliding door with a black fiberglass exterior and clear glass;
- Boral Board and Batten paneling on exterior walls, paint color TBD;
- Boral trim boards, painted white;
- Half round copper gutter and downspout, which drains to copper scuppers at base of knee wall into
 existing perimeter gutter.
- Mahogany decking and mahogany trim cap on knee wall;
- Pre-finished metal door leading to existing furnace room, paint color TBD.

Statement Of Applicable Guidelines:

The Bedford Landing District Design Guidelines state the following relative to this proposal:

Adding a deck to the roof of a historic building is very difficult without altering the character of the property. Decks should be located so that they are not visible from the public way, do not significantly alter the massing of the property, and do not result in the alteration or loss of significant architectural features. Roof access structures/stairs should not be visible from the public way. If a roof deck will be visible from the public way, the design of the portion of the deck visible from the street should be compatible with the proportion, scale, materials, color and other character-defining elements of the building.

Staff Recommendation:

The proposed roof deck is recessed into the existing roof slope and does not raise or alter the existing roof line. The proposed roof deck will be little more of an intrusion to the roof than the existing skylights. In addition, the proposed deck materials are compatible to the existing elements of the building.

Due to the shallow slope of the hipped roof, the roof deck opening will be minimally visible from the public way, and most aspects related to the deck, such as the door and side walls, may not be visible at all.

Please note that the board and batten wall paneling and the metal door do not have a paint color specified, and although these materials may result in not being visible, the Commission may wish to stipulate the color in the event that such is not the case.

For the reasons stated above, staff recommends the approval of the application and the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness with the conditions so noted.









