

Note to Commission

321 S Hamilton Street – Stoner House (AIA Office):

Proposal to construct an accessible ramp on the rear side of the Designated Landmark

The Stoner House sits on a triangular shaped parcel that has frontage on S. Henry Street and S. Hamilton Street, making all sides of the building quite visible from adjacent streets and sidewalks. The proposed alteration for the addition of an accessible ramp is located at the rear of the building. New stairs will also be added (relocated) leading to the existing rear porch from the S. Henry Street frontage. The ramp begins at a point that is in alignment with the stairs, extends approximately 29-feet to a landing, and then returns approximately 12-feet to the porch, opposite the aforementioned stairs.

The landing extends approximately 5-feet beyond the west wall of the building. In working with staff, the applicant explored options for keeping the landing in line with the building wall. These options required the ramp to begin closer to the sidewalk along South Henry Street and either interfered with the pedestrian movement in that area or resulted in the terminus of the ramp penetrating the floor of the porch.

The applicants have proposed a metal-framed ramp and rail system with horizontal cables. The metal portions will be painted to match the stone of the house. Privet hedges will also be planted around the base to help conceal the ramp. Although the proposed design should be fairly transparent, it will be a clear departure from the style of the existing wooden railing system.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Cnare and Bill Fruhling
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