

47 Lowell Street – Historic Project Summary

Per the existing project plans attached, the historic residence at 47 Lowell Street in Methuen can be mainly identified as a simple 2-story structure with a single steep gable roof. Based on the original fieldstone foundation, there is an original 1-story appendage to the main structure on the northeast side. Upon site review, a 1-story addition with a basement was added to the rear of the structure, but that low sloped roof addition appears to be both poorly constructed and of not value to the original historic structure.

Our proposal to improve this historic structure is to remove the rear addition and strip the siding, roofing, and exterior finishes to the original wall and roof sheathing. Structural framing will be required to stabilize the existing structure, but the original 2-story gable roof with the 1-story addition on the northeast side of the house will be articulated on the original fieldstone foundation and a new 2-story addition will be added to the rear of the residence that will be more in keeping with the character of the historic structure. The key exterior components of the proposed project include:

- Hardie fiber cement lap siding (light grey) with 4" exposure
- Granite slab landing at front door
- Small gable roof with decorative wood brackets over front door
- Architectural dimensional roof shingles (slate grey)
- Andersen 'Woodwright' window units (white) with 2 over 2 grille patterns
- 5/4 x 4 window casing (painted white) with 5/4 x 6 corner boards (painted white)
- Painted exterior trim, rakes, and soffits with historic rake returns at gable ends



The proposed new residential duplex building to be located at the rear of the property is intended to amplify the overall look and exterior aesthetics established at the historic home at the front of the property. The duplex is organized with simple gable roofs and the sample Hardie cement lap siding facing the street. The specifications call out similar small gable roofs with wood brackets at the front doors of each duplex and the same exterior trim details at the roof, windows and corner boards. It should be noted that there is a significant grade drop from the street level to the portion of the property where the proposed duplexes are to be located and, as viewed from the public street, the garage doors and the lower level of the building will be visible due to this grade change. See attached rendering. As there is a significant distance from the public right-of-way to the proposed duplex, the duplex windows are specified as Harvey 'Classic' white windows with the same 2 over 2 grille patterns, albeit grilles between the glass. In turn, the proposed duplex calls out for vinyl lap siding at the sides and rear elevations of the same color and 4" exposure.