

Eric E. Dray, JD, MA
Eric Dray Consulting
71 Prentiss Street
Cambridge, MA 02140
508.566.3797 EricEDray@gmail.com

MEMORANDUM - ADDENDUM

TO: Martha's Vineyard Commission
FROM: Eric Dray, Preservation Consultant
DATE: October 20, 2022
RE: Architectural Peer Review - DRI #736, 43 Look Street, Vineyard Haven

I have been asked to comment on the revised front elevation drawing of the proposed new house. The revisions consist of the removal of the second story deck, and the installation of a shallow-pitched roof over the first story deck.

As a reminder, this was my conclusion for the assessment of the original elevations drawings:

CONCLUSION

The siting and footprint of the proposed new house at 43 Look Street are consistent with the overall setting along the Look Street corridor. However, the new house may be contextually inappropriate in terms of scale and design (including turret, windows, doors and second story deck). Clapboard siding may be appropriate if the original cladding for 43 Look Street was clapboard, otherwise wood shingles would be more appropriate contextually.

These are my comments regarding the new front elevation:

1. The removal of the second story deck and use of a roof over the first story deck do address my concerns about the design, but only partially. The primary concern I have with the design is the Queen Anne-inspired form, with corner turret/bay. My observation from the October 4, 2022 memorandum remains – in terms of contextualism, there is no precedent for this more elaborate house style and form along the Look Street corridor.
2. The new alterations do not address my concerns about the scale. The new house would still be the largest house along the Look Street corridor in terms of overall volume by a considerable amount (see Figure 2 in October 4 Memorandum).
3. The combination of the house being the largest in overall volume, it being one of the tallest, and having a complexity of form on the front elevation, taken together mean that this house would introduce a new building typology to the Look Street corridor that may be contextually inappropriate.