

From: [Brian Amaral](#)
To: [Lucy Morrison](#)
Subject: 43 look Street Demolition | Mtg 81978189167
Date: Tuesday, September 06, 2022 7:33:09 PM

Hi Lucy,

I'm Brian Amaral, owner of 22 Look Street. I would like to pass along a short testimony of comments for the proposed demolition and proposed building at 43 Look Street, Vineyard Haven. I would appreciate that these comments be passed along to members of the committee + public at the September 8th hearing.

I along with my brothers are 3rd generation owners of 22 Look Street, the 1st generation being our paternal grandparents dating back to the 1930s. As a family we have never objected to an owner/neighbor having the power to renovate or reconfigure the land that belongs to them. In principle, we have no objections with the new owner's right to do as they see fit to their property so long as it conforms to town bylaws and the contextual and design history of the neighborhood.

As I look at the reasons listed for the demo I say 'yeah, I've seen damage and rot like that in the 1880s labor-of-love that we have at 22 Look Street'. But I understand that sometimes the extent of work can overwhelm the practicality of repair. As a trained architect I certainly get that. What we have serious questions on are the proposed plans of the new building. More specifically, the exterior elevations and rendering. I see that they're 'representative' of what may be built but the reality is that they are what we have to look at. What I see in the rendering is a house that has the architectural language more appropriate to the shore of the Carolinas than Martha's Vineyard; 2-story front porch, elevated off of the grade, minimalistic windows to either side. I don't think that a second story porch is appropriate and would be imposing on the neighbors. The second floor sconces have the potential of being glary. The side elevation windows are a bit haphazard in their placement and the lack of trim and shingles/clapboards leave too much to the imagination.

We don't object to the general size or placement of the proposed building. We are requesting that additional information and revisions to the proposed plans that reflect more closely to final plans be submitted or qualified as terms to move forward.

I may be reached at 781.704.7454 if needed.

Thank You,
Brian Amaral