



June 7, 2018

Paul Foley
Development of Regional Impact Coordinator
Martha's Vineyard Commission
P.O. Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Dear Mr. Foley:

I am writing to summarize the changes to the landscape design of the Martha's Vineyard Museum since design approval by the Martha's Vineyard Commission in May of 2017. Most of these design modifications are intended to minimize the disturbance of cultural features located by the Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL) as part of an extensive investigation of the site. Please refer to the attached letter from Holly Herbster, a senior archaeologist at PAL, for more information on the investigation of cultural features and PAL's recommendations to minimize features disturbance (we have also included a letter from the Tribe). I've described the design changes below and have attached plan and section drawings highlighting the areas that have changed.

1. Revised grading and configuration of entry drive: The drive has been reconfigured to avoid cultural features, and the grading has been modified to a 10% maximum slope as required by the Tisbury Fire Department to comply with Massachusetts Fire Code.
2. Revised grading and configuration of parking lot: These grading changes limit the disturbance of cultural features. The revised grading required the addition of two low stacked stone retaining walls (maximum 30" tall) to negotiate changes in grade. The buffer zone between the parking lot edge and the south-western property line has increased in width and the buffer plantings have been maintained. Two parking spaces were lost as a result of these changes.
3. Removal of drainage swales: The location of cultural features did not allow for the implementation of the proposed drainage swales in the parking lot and in the front lawn; the grading work for these swales would have required the disturbance or removal features. Catch basins and drainage structures have been added to replace the swales and manage all storm water on site.
4. Reconfiguration of reinforced turf emergency vehicle access road: The revised entry drive route did not allow for the reinforced turf emergency loop road configuration approved by the Commission. An area of reinforced turf has been removed in the front lawn and some additional reinforced turf added in another area of the front lawn as an emergency vehicle turn-around.
5. Addition of 6' cedar fence along northwestern property lines: Frank Daly requested the addition of these fences along his property line. The fence will match the 6' cedar fence installed along the Clark property line in the northwest corner of the site.
6. Modification to planting location: Planting (trees and shrubs) along west edge of courtyard removed and replaced with the addition of buffer plantings along western property line.
7. Addition of reinforced turf for overflow parking: An area of reinforced turf is proposed along the reinforced turf entry drive to accommodate 10 additional overflow parking spaces.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information. I will be in attendance at the LUPC meeting on Monday, June 11th to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Chris Genter, AIA
Senior Associate