

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF PLANNING, HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650
Washington, D.C. 20024

H.P.A. No. 14-566

In the Matter of:

1901 4th Street, NW
Square 3089, Lot 0050

DECISION AND ORDER

Jeff Ahn applied for permit to construct a roof deck on the top of a house, which is a contributing building to the LeDroit Park Historic District. The Historic Preservation Office ("HPO") recommended against granting the permit because the deck was visible from the public way and inconsistent with the character of the historic district, where permits for decks on the top roofs of houses have been consistently recommended for denial. The Historic Preservation Review Board ("HPRB") unanimously denied the permit. Mr. Ahn pursued the matter to the Mayor's Agent, and a hearing was held on February 27, 2015. Although he presented photographs of buildings in the vicinity with roof decks, the photos did not establish that the HPRB had ever granted a permit for a deck on the uppermost roof of a house in the LeDroit Park Historic District. Brendan Meyer testified on behalf of the HPO, explaining the reasoning behind its recommendation. Two neighbors testified that the roof deck was not consistent with the character of the historic district. The Mayor's Agents defers to expert judgments by the HPRB about compatibility. Mr. Ahn did not establish any legal or factual errors that would justify the Mayor's Agent in reaching a decision different from that of the HPRB and HPO. Accordingly, the permit is **DENIED.**

Date: March 2, 2015

Confirmed: March 3, 2015



J. Peter Byrne
Mayor's Agent Hearing Officer



Eric D. Shaw
Director, D.C. Office of Planning

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Decision and Order was served this 3rd day of March 2015 via email or first-class mail to the following:

Jeff Ahn
1901 4th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
and
8118 Bluebonnet Drive
Lorton, Virginia 22079-5628

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B
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Timothy J. Dennee
Certifying Officer