
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD
STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

Landmark/District: **Georgetown Historic District** (x) Consent calendar
Address: **1662 34th Street NW**

Meeting Date: **October 22, 2015**
Case Number: **15-541** (x) Addition

Staff Reviewer: **Tim Dennée** (x) Concept

The applicant, Claire L. Andreas of Robert M. Gurney FAIA, Architect, agent for property owners Jeffery and Kristin Sharp, requests the Board's review of a proposed two-story rear addition to a mid-nineteenth-century two-and-a-half-story house. There would also be considerable interior work and some rear landscaping, including a lap pool. The front is not proposed to be altered.

This case is before the Board because the addition would not be visible from a public way and is thus not within the review jurisdiction of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

The addition would have brick-veneer sides sandwiching a steel and glass rear wall. Seen from the rear, the second floor is proportionally a bit too tall, and some shortening of the addition's height would obviously be preferable, as it would then relate better to the eave height of the present house. But the addition is designed to step down as it goes forward, so as not to crash into the rear roof slope, and its height and depth are in keeping with the surrounding houses.

A basement-level rear addition would be demolished, but it is not original. The rear elevation would be demolished or rearranged, but it is already heavily altered. Much of the interior would be demolished, including the chimneys, although the portion of the chimneys above the roof would be retained above the roofline.

The drawings are not clear about what of the first- and second-floor framing might be demolished. It is there that real care should be shown in order to retain enough fabric of the original house.

Recommendation

HPO recommends that the Board approve the project in concept and delegate to staff further review, with the condition that the floor framing in the main block be retained.