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

Landmark/District:	Mount Pleasant Historic District	(x) Consent
Address:	1812 Park Road NW¹	
Meeting Date:	June 30, 2022	(x) New construction
Case Number:	22-332	(x) Permit

The applicant, Sahnur Bostan, architect and agent for the property owners, Celia Choy and Matthew Christiansen, requests the Board's review of an application to construct a one-story, 22-by 25-foot garage with a roof deck including planters and a pergola.

The garage would stand where another once stood and would fill a gap in a line of garages. It is only slightly unusual in that, to serve as a safety rail around the roof deck, its wall would be extended upward into a freestanding parapet and thus be taller than nearby garages.

Although decks have typically been added to garages well after their construction, there have been enough constructed in the historic district—especially where the grade drops dramatically behind houses—that they are not incompatible in themselves and even somewhat characteristic. HPO has discouraged erecting tall privacy fences atop buildings of all types, but there is no such feature proposed here; again, the solid parapet plays the role of guard rail. An arbor or pergola is proposed, however. While these are less compatible, the Board has not taken an issue with the elements of most roof decks in Mount Pleasant, acknowledging an often-chaotic character on some alleys. There is a much larger pergola on the garage next door at 1814 Park, a garage permitted in 2009, although HPO has no record of the pergola. The parapets here will partly screen the pergola.

Recommendation

HPO recommends that the Board recommend clearance of the permit application as consistent with the purposes of the preservation law, compatible with the character of the historic district and sufficiently retentive of the fabric and character of the property.

¹ No street number had been assigned to project, but this will likely be its address based on the location of the block and the orientation of the building's main entrance.