

16 June 2006

In regards to: Properties at 18 and 11 On the Common

Dear neighbors and members of the Historic District Commission,

As to the five applications for 18 On the Common:

I reside at 14 On the Common, the property that abuts number 18, the former Charles Fischer property. I have carefully reviewed the five applications to change and/or better the existing property, and I have viewed the current owner's other existing properties. All work done previously on the owner's existing properties and work already or being done to the property in question appears to me born of a comprehensive plan, with the highest quality of workmanship, and in keeping with the historic nature and charm of the area.

1. I believe the addition of black shutters is appropriate because if approved, this would provide the uniformity of all of the homes from Mr. Kelly's down to the McClure's on that side of the street having black shutters. The fact the shutters were found on the property, tells me that shutters were a part of this home's history. I am not a fan of screws when it comes to shutters, I understand the predicament of the vinyl siding and I support this application in its entirety.

2. The application for the swing garage doors over the current overhead is an improvement to the historic and charming nature of the area. I support this application in its entirety.

3 & 4. The replacement of the older type windows on the porch will add to the historic nature of the area, it seems to me. The Greek columns being applied for look excellent on the current back porch on the property called "Rumplestan." The new design to replace the current spindles, and to provide a hip roof, will provide, it seems to me, a change that is consistent in style with some recent changes to homes in the area, and designs that have existed prior to the last few years. In sum, I do not think the porch change will make the home look out of place. I support both application 3 & 4 in its entirety.

5. I recall having seen signs on barns up in N.H. denoting the name of the owner. It is my understanding, through inquiry about this application, that the owner's daughter, Abigail, is to at times to stable a horse there. I therefore feel that the sign as shown is appropriate and will add to the rural atmosphere or the area.

As to the application for 11 On the Common:

1. I support the installation of the old, original garage doors. This will add to the historic nature of the area.

As to the painting of them green, I find it necessary to abstain as I have not investigated the issue enough, so I defer to those that have.

Thank you for entering this into the record,

Paul F. Tortorella