

Kara Wood
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Fort Pierce, FL 34950

July 30, 2015

Kori Benton
Historic Preservation Officer
City of Fort Pierce
100 North US Hwy 1
P.O. Box 1480
Fort Pierce, Florida 34954

RE: Certificate of Appropriateness Application, 716 S 10th Street

Dear Kori:

Thank you for your assistance with this application. Enclosed is supplemental information to what is included in the COA Application form itself to assist staff and the Historic Preservation Board in reviewing our proposal to demolish the existing front entry and install a full front porch on our home. Much of the background information I have included is similar to our last COA application since, in my view, we are proposing an alteration that is consistent with the Colonial style of architecture as it functions in our warmer climate as opposed to consistency with its pure form. Please let me know if any additional information is necessary as you review the application.

Regards,



Kara Wood

BACKGROUND

As indicated in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF - SL01008), this house reflects a Colonial Revival style and was constructed anywhere between 1915 and 1930, depending upon what sources are referenced. While the FMSF identifies the roof material as pressed metal and the shape of the previous shingles mimics those of metal, it was at the time of reporting in fact an asbestos-cement shingle shaped to resemble metal shingles. In 2013 the Historic Preservation Board approved the re-roofing of the home with 5 V Metal Crimp mill finish roof panel

The structure's two stories with a central dormer, symmetrical front façade and symmetrical paired double-hung sash windows on the main elevations are elements that reflect Colonial Revival architecture, but this is where the similarities end. The structure departs from this style with its lack of a long gable roof whose ridge line runs parallel to the street and lack of any elaboration around the central doorway or any pediments, fanlights or Palladian windows and sidelights. As with many structures in the Fort Pierce area that reveal parts of a definable architectural style, the details are pared down and economical. The footprint of the house is also a stylistic departure as it reflects a four-square plan unlike the more elongated plans traditionally found in a colonial home.

This home is likely one of the few examples in Fort Pierce of this style as the revival of Colonial architecture was much more popular in the northern United States. Architects in the early 20th century re-established an interest in colonial architectural heritage partly through celebration of the country's first 100 years. Highlighted by the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876, architects began to proliferate this style of renewed interest in English heritage primarily throughout the northeastern region and mid-Atlantic seaboard. And since the Colonial Revival style reflects that of colder climates of the British isle, some of the form and materials endemic to the style are fundamentally inappropriate to hot, humid climates.

We purchased this house in June, 2009 and made significant improvements to both the interior and exterior before moving in on December 24, 2010. In 2012 we were awarded two Treasure Galleon Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Residential improvements, one for Sustainable Preservation and one for Interior Rehabilitation, demonstrating our commitment to the historical integrity of the house.

At this time we are proposing to demolish the small front entry that continues to deteriorate because of the settling of the concrete, the repair of which would be quite difficult. We are proposing to replace the front entry with a full front porch more suitable to the Florida climate. Not only with this provide a grander face to the street, it will also assist with lowering the heat load on the west side of the house by shading the first floor of that elevation. Following are sample photos of Colonial style homes with a full front porch capped by a low-sloped hip roof as we are proposing.