



City of Somerville

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

Eric Parkes

*Chair*

Robin Kelly

*Vice-Chair*

Adam Wylie, *Alt.*

*Secretary*

Alan Bingham

Dick Bauer

Ryan Falvey

DJ Chagnon, *Alt.*

**ADDRESS:** 50 Sargent Avenue

**CASE:** HPC.ALT 2021.39

**APPLICANT:** John Murray, 50 Sargent Ave, Somerville, MA

**OWNER:** Same as applicant

**DETERMINATION:** *Conditional* **CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS (CA)**

**DECISION DATE:** July 20, 2021

This decision summarizes the findings made by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) or their designee regarding the proposal ***for replacement of wood gutters and downspouts with galvanized steel or aluminum gutters and downspouts*** as submitted for the **Local Historic District (LHD)** property at **50 Sargent Avenue**.

### SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

- The Applicant requested to replace the historic wood gutters and with steel gutters and downspouts.

### DETERMINATION

The applicable portions of the *Design Guidelines* is **B. Roofs**

The HPC voted 5-0 to approve the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement gutters. In their discussion, the HPC discussed the visual profile and cost variables of aluminum versus galvanized steel gutters and downspouts. The HPC determined that Staff will make the decision on whether to allow aluminum or steel replacement gutters based on the quote for both materials and their profiles.

The HPC then voted 5-0 to grant a **CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS (CA)**.

The following conditions apply. Failure to comply with this Certificate and the conditions added thereto may result in delays to final sign-offs, removal of incongruous/inappropriate materials or incongruously/inappropriately-designed replacement features, CO, or other changes/ delays.

93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143  
(617)-625-6600 ext.2500  
[www.somervillema.gov](http://www.somervillema.gov)  
[historic@somevrvillema.gov](mailto:historic@somevrvillema.gov)

## CONDITIONS

1. The Applicant/Owner shall file the Certificate with the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) by uploading it to the CitizenServe permitting portal with their application for zoning compliance/building permit.
2. This Certificate is valid for one year. If work has not commenced within one year of the HPC's date of determination, this Certificate shall expire, and the Applicant shall re-apply for re-issuance of this Certificate. Provided that no changes have been made to the proposal, this shall be a Staff-level re-issuance of the Certificate.
3. Any changes to this proposal made prior to the commencement of work or in-the-field changes shall be submitted to Preservation Planning for their review to determine if the changes come under the purview of the HPC. Failure to seek approval for changes may delay final signoffs/COs.
4. Gutters and downspouts shall be the same color as the portion of the house against which they rest.
5. This approval is for those gutters and downspouts not on the primary elevation
6. Replacement gutters and downspouts shall be placed in the same location as existing gutters.
7. Gutters and downspouts shall have the same dimensions as existing gutters
8. As required by the HPC, the applicant provided Preservation Planning Staff with a quote and profile for aluminum gutters and the galvanized steel gutters. Staff has determined that the difference in profiles of the steel and aluminum gutters is negligible, as such, the applicant may choose either aluminum or steel gutters.
9. The Applicant shall contact Preservation Planning at [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) a minimum of 15 business days prior to final ISD walk-through so that Preservation Planning or their designee can confirm if the project was completed according to HPC approvals.

Submitted:

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Wendy Sczechowicz  
Preservation Planner, Zoning & Preservation

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