



## Historic District Commission

### Staff Communication – Administrative Approval of Certificate of Appropriateness Applications

#### Summary Report

TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
Britany Waddell, Planning Director  
Anya Grahn-Federmack, Principal Planner  
Charnika Harrell, Planner II

The following Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) applications have been reviewed and approved by Planning Department staff as of November 27, 2023:

Project#/Address	Description of Work	Approval Authority (page 9-11 of the Chapel Hill Historic Districts Design Principles & Standards)	Chapel Hill Historic Districts Design Principles & Standards	Date Approved
<b>#HDC-23-31</b> <b>742 Gimghoul Road (Gimghoul Castle)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Stone bollards measuring approximately 20" square and 2' tall containing pathway lights.</li><li>Backflow preventer</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minor changes not previously approved by the Commission on site plans or minor changes to elevations not visible from the street. Any minor changes should not significantly alter the design, materials, scale, massing, or overall appearance of the site or structure as shown on the HDC-approved plans</li><li>Changes deemed by Town Staff to not be substantial in nature</li></ul>	<p>1.3.6. Site new walls and fences in configurations and locations that are compatible with the character of the building, site, and district and consistent with the location and height of other walls and fences in the district.</p> <p>1.3.7. Construct new walls using traditional materials and designs that are compatible in configuration, height, material, scale, and detail with the character of the building, site, and district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Walls in front and side yards should generally not exceed 30" and should be constructed of red brick or fieldstone.</li><li>b. Walls constructed of cut stone, bare concrete block, or with thin stone veneers applied to concrete or other structural block are not appropriate in locations visible from the street.</li></ul> <p>1.6.5. Introduce new exterior lighting fixtures with care so that the overall historic character of the building, site, and district is not compromised or diminished. Select and site new lighting fixtures so their location, orientation, height, brightness, scale, and design are compatible with the historic district and its human scale. Fixtures should emit a white or warm spectrum light; fluorescent, neon, blinking, or colored lighting is not appropriate in the historic districts.</p> <p>1.6.6. Introduce low-level lighting in residential areas as needed to ensure safety and security.</p>	11.15.2023

			<p>Minimize their impact on the overall historic character of the site by selecting discreet fixtures—such as footlights, recessed lights, directional lights, and lights on pedestrian-scaled posts—and installing them in unobtrusive locations.</p> <p>1.6.7. Introduce lighting on commercial buildings as necessary for pedestrian safety or to illuminate signage. Minimize the impact of lighting and maintain the overall historic character of the site by selecting discreet fixtures—such as recessed lights, directional lights, and lights on pedestrian-scaled posts—and installing them in unobtrusive locations.</p> <p>3.9.7. Locate new mechanical equipment, utilities, and sustainable site features—including air-conditioning and heating units, meters, exposed pipes, rain barrels or cisterns, and raised planting beds—in locations that are minimally visible from the street and do not alter or remove historic fabric from the building or do not diminish or compromise the overall character of the building, site, or district. Screen ground-level equipment from view with vegetation or fencing.</p>	
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