

**HPC Review**  
for 410 Brown Street

HPC2015-09-15-01

An application for a building permit dated August 17 was submitted by Marissa Bingham, SolarCity Corporation, on behalf of homeowner Jeffrey McCrehan for his residence at 410 Brown Street. The application was reviewed at the next regular meeting of the HPC on Tuesday, September 15. Neither the homeowner nor a representative was present for the review.

**General Description:** The proposed project consists of the installation of a rooftop solar power system.

**Adequacy of the Documents Submitted:** The documents submitted were sufficient for the HPC’s review of the project. They included a copy of the permit application, vicinity map, detailed drawings prepared by the contractor, Solar City, various engineering analyses and a certification letter. A birds-eye overview and a cross-section drawing of the proposed installation were included in the materials submitted.

**General Scope of Project:** A 4.68 kW photovoltaic array (18 panels) is proposed to be mounted on the rear roof of the house, which faces Railroad Street.

**Visibility from public ways:** The solar power system will be somewhat visible from Railroad Street and partially/minimally visible from Ridge Road.

**Contributing Structure:** The residence, identified as ca. 1913 in the Town’s list of Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources, is a contributing resource.

**Nearby Contributing structures:** Contributing resources in closest proximity to the proposed installation are 414, 409, 405 and 401 Brown Street, as well as 3 and 102 Ridge Road.

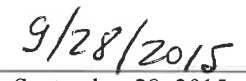
**Compatibility with the historic district and/or existing structure:** HPC appreciates that the profile of the proposed installation is both low and parallel to the roof.

The included specifications describe the trademarked *SleetMount* system as allowing for a lower profile installation and the elimination of visible rail ends and mounting clamps.

The proposed installation is compatible with the historic district.

**HPC Recommendations:** None.

  
Emilia A. Styles  
for the Historic Preservation Commission

  
Date: September 28, 2015

- cc: HPC Binder Planning Commission Members
- HPC members Mayor Joli McCathran
- Web site, Bill Saar Town Clerk, Kathy Lehman

Please note that the Historic Preservation Commission acts only in an advisory capacity to both applicants and the Planning Commission. The reviews undertaken are designed to assist homeowners in their projects, to provide input to deliberations of the Planning Commission and, more generally, to contribute to historic preservation in Washington Grove.

Further information regarding the scope, powers, duties, and structure of the Historic Preservation Commission may be found in Article XV of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Washington Grove. Section 5 (a) of Article XV describes the powers and duties of the Historic Preservation Commission in the building permit process. This section reads as follows:

The Commission shall review all applications for building permits filed with the Town Planning Commission which would involve any change to a structure or site visible from any public way for historical accuracy, integrity, or compatibility with the neighborhood and improvements therein. The Commission may recommend to an applicant alternative historical designs, materials and sources for the same which may be more historically compatible. The Commission shall forward its recommendations regarding the same, if any, in an advisory capacity, to the Planning Commission for consideration by the Planning Commission within thirty (30) days from the Commission’s receipt of the application from the Planning Commission.