

Document ID: 0.7.1359.5102

From: Burt, Geoffrey C. <geoffrey_burt@nps.gov>
on behalf of Burt, Geoffrey C. <Geoffrey_Burt@nps.gov>
<geoffrey_burt@nps.gov>
To: Andre, Sara <sara.andre@iowa.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: DCA Check In and Questions
Date: Mon Sep 14 2020 15:23:13 CDT
Attachments: image001.png
image003.jpg

Hi Sara:

Back at work today. Just checking to see what was discussed about the fencing, assuming there's been a meeting since we last communicated.

Regards,
Geoff

Geoffrey C Burt
Historic Preservation Partnerships
National Park Service

DOI Regions 3,4,5

601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1918
Currently teleworking, can be reached at: 402-212-6404

From: Burt, Geoffrey C. <Geoffrey_Burt@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 11:28 AM
To: Andre, Sara <sara.andre@iowa.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: DCA Check In and Questions

Hi Sara:

I see from Mike Plummer's message that a fence is being considered due to security concerns, which is understandable given it is the governor's residence. My typical questions would be if there is evidence that a fence was ever present during the period of significance (1866-1930), and if so what did it look like. If there is documentation for a fence historically, the Standards caution against creating a false sense of historical development, so a new fence should be designed to be similar in appearance, but not an exact copy.

If a fence never existed, then as a rehabilitation this would be considered a compatible use through an alteration and addition to the landscape. As is often the case, Standard 9 would be the most relevant here: "New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials,

features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.”

In general I think the example of the fence they've provided is a reasonable style and color in this situation. It appears to be relatively unobtrusive with a semblance of formality and dignity. I think as a new feature it would generally be compatible with and would not substantially detract from the historic character of the site. There's no question a new fence surrounding the property will introduce a feature that will visually alter the overall historic character of the site in terms of views, but it boils down to compatibility and a landscape-scale, holistic consideration.

If they had proposed a fence that was composed of solid panels where you wouldn't be able to see through it, or one with excessive massing or scale, or a chain link fence, or an inappropriate color, I probably would have pushed back. But I think if a fence has to be installed, the example they've proposed is probably a good option. If they bring up or consider others I'd be interested in seeing those as well.

Thanks for letting me know about this and having the opportunity to comment.

--Geoff

Geoffrey C Burt
Historic Preservation Partnerships
National Park Service

DOI Regions 3,4,5

601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, NE 68102
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Currently teleworking, can be reached at: 402-212-6404

From: Andre, Sara <sara.andre@iowa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 9:56 AM
To: Burt, Geoffrey C. <Geoffrey_Burt@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: DCA Check In and Questions

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Geoff-

Here are the details I was provided regarding a fence at Terrace Hill. Any thoughts you may have would be great! Thanks!

Kind regards,

Sara André
Architectural Historian
State Historic Preservation Office
sara.andre@iowa.gov | 515-242-6157 | iowaculture.gov

Be advised that the current health emergency may affect the ability of our office to respond to future correspondences within the expected timeframe. Staff are continuing to work toward meeting the statutory 30-day review and comment period where applicable and will be notifying agencies if any review is anticipated to take longer than 30 days.

Please note: Our office is currently closed to the public in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19. During this time, SHPO staff will be available most effectively through email correspondence and conference calls

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Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Plummer, Michael <michael.plummer@iowa.gov>

Date: Wed, Sep 2, 2020 at 9:41 AM

Subject: Fwd: DCA Check In and Questions

To: Sara Andre <Sara.Andre@iowa.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Wittenwyler Jim <wittenwy@dps.state.ia.us>

Date: Tue, Aug 25, 2020 at 9:44 AM

Subject: Re: DCA Check In and Questions

To: Plummer, Michael <michael.plummer@iowa.gov>

Cc: Becker, Diane <diane.becker@iowa.gov>, Lawrence Steven <lawrence@dps.state.ia.us>

Mike,

We would love to meet with you and the State Historic Preservation Office. Do you have a few dates and times that you can propose and we can look at our schedule?

I have included some of the initial thoughts regarding specifications, although nothing is set in stone at this point and welcome comments/feedback from SHPO.

***** 2,300 Linear Feet (Approximately)

***** Height: 7 Feet

***** 3" or 4" Picket Airspace

***** 3-Rail Black Ornamental Steel Fence

***** Two (2) – 12 Foot Double Gates

***** One (1) – 10 Foot Double Gate / Half Being 4 Foot Pedestrian-Wide Gate

***** One (1) – 20 Foot Double Swing Gate with Electric Actuator Arms

I have also included a picture of a possible example.

Jim Wittenwyler

Director

Administrative Services Division

Iowa Department of Public Safety

215 East 7th Street | Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Direct: (515) 725-6048 | Cell: (515) 204-1649

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From: Lawrence Steven <lawrence@dps.state.ia.us>

Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 3:51 PM

To: Plummer, Michael <michael.plummer@iowa.gov>; Becker, Diane <diane.becker@iowa.gov>

Cc: Wittenwyler Jim <wittenwy@dps.state.ia.us>

Subject: RE: [External Email Alert]Re: DCA Check In and Questions

Good afternoon, Mike & Diane-

Diane, thank you for connecting us, as I'm certain that we'll all have a meeting (or two) in the near future regarding the fencing project. I am excited to know the project is moving forward, but uncertain of its current status. I do know that SHPO is a significant part of the process, so I will connect Director Jim Wittenwyler into the conversation as well. I believe he will be able to answer a few more questions than I can at this point.

Thank you,

Steve

Lieutenant. Steve Lawrence #289

Iowa State Patrol, District #16 Commander

Executive Protection Unit

321 E. 12th Street (Lucas Building)

Des Moines, IA 50319

Cell: 515-724-4166

From: Plummer, Michael <michael.plummer@iowa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Becker, Diane <diane.becker@iowa.gov>
Cc: Lawrence Steven <lawrence@dps.state.ia.us>
Subject: [External Email Alert]Re: DCA Check In and Questions

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Thanks, Diane. If there's any way I can be of assistance in any matter, please let me know.

Steve, hello and nice to meet you! I'm happy to facilitate a conversation on the fence project to make sure it meets ISP's and the Governor's needs while meeting existing historic preservation regulations and respecting preservation easements. If you'd like me to set up a conversation with anyone on your end and the SHPO, please let me know.

Have a great afternoon,

Mike Plummer

--

Michael J. Plummer

Historic Sites Manager

michael.plummer@iowa.gov | 515.281.4221 | iowaculture.gov

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On Mon, Aug 24, 2020 at 12:56 PM Becker, Diane <diane.becker@iowa.gov> wrote:

Hi Mike,

Luckily, Terrace Hill only had tree damage from the derecho. And we just lost branches from the trees - no trees were uprooted or snapped in half. We had a lot of broken branches though - two 40 yard dumpsters full! We lost power for a few days, but our generator worked as expected. It could have been a lot worse!

Thank you for contacting me about the proposed fence for Terrace Hill, Mike. The State Patrol is handling this project, so I have copied Lieutenant Steve Lawrence in the email. Steve should be able to supply all of the information that you need for SHPO. Or, he can direct you to the person with the information!

Steve and Mike -- If there is any way that I can help with the project, please let me know.

Thanks, Diane

Diane Becker

Administrator and Assistant to the First Gentleman

Terrace Hill, Iowa Governor's Residence & National Historic Landmark

O: 515-242-5841

C: 515-443-3385

On Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 5:01 PM Plummer, Michael <michael.plummer@iowa.gov> wrote:

Hi Diane -

We spoke a while back about the pergola project, but after the derecho Chris Kramer wanted me to reach out and check in with you.

I hope Terrace Hill made it through the storm ok. At SHSI's eight historic sites, we experienced a lot of tree damage, but mercifully none of them hit the buildings. We escaped with just some power lines down and lots of limbs to clean up. If any issues with your buildings or grounds have come up because of the storm, please don't hesitate to reach out and I'll see if I can find the right people to connect you with. In fact, that goes for non-storm related questions or issues too. If you ever need advice or to be pointed in the right direction, I'm happy to help. I may not know the answer, but can help find the person that does.

When Chris asked me to reach out to you, she mentioned a new fence that may be going up to address security concerns. If that's the case, to comply with the Save America's Treasures preservation easement the project will need to be reviewed by SHPO. Any information you can share about the project, including the scope, design, parties involved, etc., I can pass along to SHPO and get the conversation started.

Anyway, I just wanted to check in. I hope you're doing well and look forward to speaking with you soon.

Best,

Mike Plummer

--

Michael J. Plummer

Historic Sites Manager

michael.plummer@iowa.gov | 515.281.4221 | iowaculture.gov

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--

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<Geoffrey_Burt@nps.gov> <geoffrey_burt@nps.gov>

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Attachment 1 of 1



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<Geoffrey_Burt@nps.gov> <geoffrey_burt@nps.gov>

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image003.jpg for Printed Item: 9 (Attachment 2 of 2)

