HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION December 06, 2017

HDRC CASE NO:	2017-617
ADDRESS:	271 W WILDWOOD
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:	NCB 9013 BLK 7 LOT 82 83 AND 84
ZONING:	R-4
CITY COUNCIL DIST.:	1
DISTRICT:	Olmos Park Terrace Historic District
APPLICANT:	Julia Castillo
OWNER:	Julia Castillo
TYPE OF WORK:	Privacy Fence
APPLICATION RECEIVED:	November 29, 2017
60-DAY REVIEW:	

REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install a wood privacy fence aligned with the front plane of the house at 271 W Wildwood.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

B. NEW FENCES AND WALLS

i. *Design*—New fences and walls should appear similar to those used historically within the district in terms of their scale, transparency, and character. Design of fence should respond to the design and materials of the house or main structure.

ii. *Location*—Avoid installing a fence or wall in a location where one did not historically exist, particularly within the front yard. The appropriateness of a front yard fence or wall is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences or wall should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them.

iii. *Height*—Limit the height of new fences and walls within the front yard to a maximum of four feet. The appropriateness of a front yard fence is dependent on conditions within a specific historic district. New front yard fences should not be introduced within historic districts that have not historically had them. If a taller fence or wall existed historically, additional height may be considered. The height of a new retaining wall should not exceed the height of the slope it retains.

C. PRIVACY FENCES AND WALLS

i. Relationship to front facade—Set privacy fences back from the front façade of the building, rather than aligning them with the front façade of the structure to reduce their visual prominence.

FINDINGS:

- a. The structure at 271 W Wildwood is an English stone cottage constructed circa 1930 and is a contributing structure to the Olmos Park Terrace Historic District. The structure is a single-story single-family home featuring a stone façade with front steps and a side columned porch. The porch is later addition to the original structure according to a 1933 Sanborn Map.
- b. FENCE The applicant is requesting to install a wood privacy fence with gated entry covering the side porch and connecting to the existing backyard fence. According to the Guidelines, new privacy fences should be set back from the front façade of the building, rather than aligning them with the front façade

of the structure, in order to reduce their visual prominence. Staff finds the proposed fence is not consistent with the Guidelines in terms of location.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff does not recommend the installation of a privacy fence aligned with the front plane of the house. Staff recommends returning the fence line to its original configuration, set behind the side porch.

CASE COMMENT:

A Notice of Investigation was posted on the property on November 20, 2017 after staff confirmed that a fence had been installed prior to receiving a Certificate of Appropriateness. The applicant and homeowner explained that the contractor erroneously claimed that the fence was included in the backyard modifications, previously approved on August 24, 2017. The applicant and homeowner has been cooperating with staff to come into compliance.

CASE MANAGER:

Huy Pham





271 W Wildwood

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271 W. WILDWOOD

GATE/FENCE ADDITION















