



**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission  
Sunnyside in Sevier Park  
3000 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**  
**321 50<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**January 21, 2015**

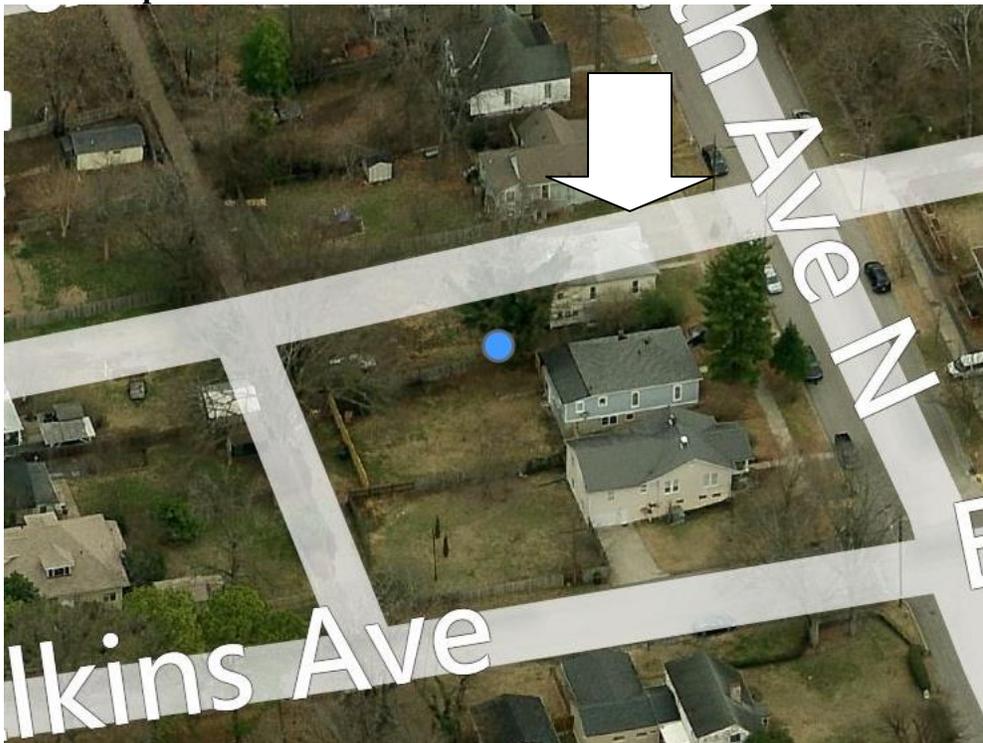
**Application:** New construction-addition and detached accessory dwelling unit  
**District:** Park & Elkins Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay  
**Council District:** 24  
**Map and Parcel Number:** 091150F90000CO  
**Applicant:** Mark Lynn, designer  
**Project Lead:** Robin Zeigler, robin.zeigler@nashville.gov

<p><b>Description of Project:</b> The applicant proposes to add on to the historic home and construct a two-story detached accessory dwelling unit in the rear yard.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Staff recommends approval with the conditions that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant submit a completed and filed restrictive covenant prior to issuance of the permit; and,</li> <li>• Staff approves all materials.</li> </ul> <p>With these conditions the projects meets the requirements of the design guidelines and the ordinance for additions and detached accessory dwelling units. Approval does not constitute approval of the use of any of the buildings.</p>	<p><b>Attachments</b> <b>A:</b> Photographs <b>B:</b> DADU worksheet <b>C:</b> Site Plan <b>D:</b> Elevations</p>
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**Vicinity Map:**



**Aerial Map:**



## **Applicable Design Guidelines:**

### **II.B. NEW CONSTRUCTION AND ADDITIONS**

#### **a. Height**

The height of the foundation wall, porch roof(s), and main roof(s) of a new building shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with those of surrounding historic buildings.

#### **b. Scale**

The size of a new building and its mass in relation to open spaces shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings.

Most historic residential buildings have front porches. *To keep the scale appropriate for the neighborhood, porches should be a minimum of 6' deep in most cases*

Foundation lines should be visually distinct from the predominant exterior wall material. Examples are a change in material, coursing or color.

#### **c. Setback and Rhythm of Spacing**

The setback from front and side yard property lines established by adjacent historic buildings should be maintained. Generally, a dominant rhythm along a street is established by uniform lot and building width. Infill buildings should maintain that rhythm.

#### **d. Materials, Texture, Details, and Material Color**

The materials, texture, details, and material color of a new building's public facades shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings. Vinyl and aluminum siding are not appropriate. MHZC does not review the painting of structures.

*T-1-11- type building panels, "permastone", E.F.I.S. and other artificial siding materials are generally not appropriate. However, pre-cast stone and cement fiberboard siding are approvable cladding materials for new construction; but pre-cast stone should be of a compatible color and texture to existing historic stone clad structures in the district; and cement fiberboard siding, when used for lapped siding, should be smooth and not stamped or embossed and have a maximum of a 5" reveal.*

*Shingle siding should exhibit a straight-line course pattern and exhibit a maximum exposure of seven inches (7").*

*Four inch (4") nominal corner boards are required at the face of each exposed corner.*

*Stud wall lumber and embossed wood grain are prohibited.*

*Belt courses or a change in materials from one story to another are often encouraged for large two-story buildings to break up the massing.*

*When different materials are used, it is most appropriate to have the change happen at floor lines.*

*Clapboard sided chimneys are generally not appropriate. Masonry or stucco is appropriate.*

*Texture and tooling of mortar on new construction should be similar to historic examples.*

*Asphalt shingle is an appropriate roof material for most buildings. Generally, roofing should not have strong simulated shadows in the granule colors which results in a rough, pitted appearance; faux shadow lines; strongly variegated colors; colors that are too light (e.g.: tan, white, light green); wavy or deep color/texture used to simulate split shake shingles or slate; excessive flared form in the shingle tabs; uneven or sculpted bottom edges that emphasize tab width or edges, unless matching the original roof.*

*Generally front doors should be 1/2 to full-light. Faux leaded glass is inappropriate.*

#### **e. Roofs**

The roof(s) of a new building shall be visually compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with the roof shape, orientation, and pitch of surrounding historic buildings. With the exception of chimneys, roof-top

equipment and roof penetrations shall be located so as to minimize their visibility from the street.

Roof pitches should be similar to the pitches found in the district. Historic roofs are generally between 6/12 and 12/12.

*Roof pitches for porch roofs are typically less steep, approximately in the 3-4/12 range.*

*Generally, two-story residential buildings have hipped roofs.*

*Generally, dormers should be located on the roof. Wall dormers are not typical in the historic context and accentuate height so they should be used minimally and generally only on secondary facades. When they are appropriate they should be no wider than the typical window openings and should not project beyond the main wall.*

#### **f. Orientation**

The orientation of a new building's front facade shall be visually consistent with surrounding historic buildings.

New buildings should incorporate at least one front street-related porch that is accessible from the front street.

Side porches or porte cocheres may also be appropriate as a secondary entrance, but the primary entrance should address the front.

*Front porches generally should be a minimum of 6' deep, have porch racks that are 1'-3' tall and have posts that include bases and capitals.*

*Parking areas and Driveways*

*Generally, curb cuts should not be added.*

*Where a new driveway is appropriate it should be two concrete strips with a central grassy median.*

*Shared driveways should be a single lane, not just two driveways next to each other. Sometimes this may be accomplished with a single lane curb cut that widens to a double lane deeper into the lot.*

#### **g. Proportion and Rhythm of Openings**

The relationship of width to height of windows and doors, and the rhythm of solids (walls) to voids (door and window openings) in a new building shall be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic buildings.

Window openings on the primary street-related or front façade of new construction should be representative of the window patterns of similarly massed historic structures within the district.

*In most cases, every 8-13 horizontal feet of flat wall surface should have an opening (window or door) of at least 4 square feet. More leniencies can be given to minimally visible side or rear walls.*

*Double-hung windows should exhibit a height to width ratio of at least 2:1.*

*Windows on upper floors should not be taller than windows on the main floor since historically first floors have higher ceilings than upper floors and so windows were typically taller on the first floor.*

*Single-light sashes are appropriate for new construction. If using multi-light sashes, muntins should be fully simulated and bonded to the glass, and exhibit an interior bar, exterior bar, as well as a spacer between glass panes.*

*Four inch (nominal) casings are required around doors, windows and vents on non-masonry buildings.*

*Trim should be thick enough to extend beyond the clapboard. Double or triple windows should have a 4" to 6" mullion in between.*

*Brick molding is required around doors, windows and vents within masonry walls but is not appropriate on non-masonry buildings.*

#### **h. Utilities**

Utility connections such as gas meters, electric meters, phone, cable, and HVAC condenser units should be located so as to minimize their visibility from the street.

Generally, utility connections should be placed no closer to the street than the mid point of the structure.

Power lines should be placed underground if they are carried from the street and not from the rear or an alley.

#### **i. Outbuildings**

*(Although the MHZC does not review use itself there are additional ordinance requirements for buildings that are or have a Detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (DADU) required by ordinance 17.16.030 that are reviewed by the MHZC. This information is provided for informational purposes only and does not replace ordinance 17.16.030.)*

- 1) A new garage or storage building should reflect the character of the period of the house to which the outbuilding will be related. The outbuilding should be compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with surrounding historic outbuildings in terms of height, scale, roof shape, materials, texture, and details.

#### *Outbuildings: Height & Scale*

- *On lots less than 10,000 square feet, the footprint of a DADU or outbuilding shall not exceed seven hundred fifty square feet or fifty percent of the first floor area of the principal structure, whichever is less.*
- *On lots 10,000 square feet or greater, the footprint of a DADU or outbuilding shall not exceed one thousand square feet.*
- *The DADU or outbuilding shall maintain a proportional mass, size, and height to ensure it is not taller or wider than the principal structure on the lot. The DADU or outbuilding height shall not exceed the height of the principal structure as measured from the finished floor to the eave, with a maximum eave height of 10' from finished grade for single-story and 17' from finished grade for two-story DADUs or outbuildings. The roof ridge height of the DADU or outbuilding must be less than the principal building, as measured from the finished floors to the ridges and shall not exceed 25' feet from finished grade in height.*

Historically, outbuildings were either very utilitarian in character, or (particularly with more extravagant houses) they repeated the roof forms and architectural details of the houses to which they related.

Generally, either approach is appropriate for new outbuildings.

Brick, weatherboard, and board - and -batten are typical siding materials. Outbuildings with weatherboard siding typically have wide cornerboards and window and door casings (trim). Decorative raised panels on publicly visible garage doors are generally not appropriate. Publicly visible pedestrian doors must either be appropriate for the style of house to which the outbuilding relates or be flat with no panels. Publicly visible windows should be appropriate to the style of the house.

#### **Roof**

Generally, the eaves and roof ridge of any new accessory structure should not be higher than those of the existing house.

Roof slopes on simple, utilitarian buildings do not have to match the roof slopes of the main structure, but must maintain at least a 4/12 pitch.

The front face of any street-facing dormer should sit back at least 2' from the wall of the floor below.

#### **Windows and Doors**

Publicly visible windows should be appropriate to the style of the house.

Double-hung windows are generally twice as tall as they are wide and of the single-light sash variety.

Publicly visible pedestrian doors must either be appropriate for the style of house to which the outbuilding relates or be flat with no panels.

Metal overhead doors are acceptable on garages when they are simple and devoid of overly decorative elements typical on high-style wooden doors.

For street-facing facades, garages with more than one-bay should have multiple single doors rather than one large door to accommodate more than one bay.

Decorative raised panels on publicly visible garage doors are generally not appropriate.

#### Siding and Trim

Brick, weatherboard, and board-and-batten are typical siding materials. Outbuildings with weatherboard siding typically have wide cornerboards and window and door casings (trim).

Exterior siding may match the existing contributing building's original siding; otherwise, siding should be wood or smooth cement-fiberboard lap siding with a maximum exposure of five inches (5"), wood or smooth cement-fiberboard board-and-batten or masonry.

Four inch (4" nominal) corner-boards are required at the face of each exposed corner.

Stud wall lumber and embossed wood grain are prohibited.

Four inch (4" nominal) casings are required around doors, windows, and vents within clapboard walls.

Trim should be thick enough to extend beyond the clapboard. Double or triple windows should have a 4" to 6" mullion in between.

Brick molding is required around doors, windows, and vents within masonry walls but is not appropriate on non-masonry clad buildings.

2) Outbuildings should be situated on a lot as is historically typical for surrounding historic buildings.

Generally new garages should be placed close to the alley, at the rear of the lot, or in the original location of an historic accessory structure.

Lots without rear alleys may have garages located closer to the primary structure. The appropriate location is one that matches the neighborhood or can be documented by historic maps.

Generally, attached garages are not appropriate; however, instances where they may be are:

- Where they are a typical feature of the neighborhood; or
- When the location of the attached garage is in the general location of an historic accessory building, the new garage is located in the basement level, and the vehicular access is on the rear elevation.

#### *Setbacks & Site Requirements.*

· *To reflect the character of historic outbuildings, new outbuildings for duplexes should not exceed the requirements for outbuildings for the entire lot and should not be doubled. The most appropriate configurations would be two 1-bay buildings with or without parking pads for additional spaces or one 2-bay building.*

· *A DADU or outbuilding may only be located behind the principal structure in the established rear yard. The DADU or outbuilding is to be subordinate to the principal structure and therefore should be placed to the rear of the lot.*

· *There should be a minimum separation of 20' between the principal structure and the DADU or outbuilding.*

· *At least one side setback for a DADU or outbuilding on an interior lot, should generally be similar to the principle dwelling but no closer than 3' from each property line. The rear setback may be up to 3' from the rear property line. For corner lots, the DADU or outbuilding should match the context of homes on the street. If there is no context, the street setback should be a minimum of 10'.*

#### *Driveway Access.*

· *On lots with no alley access, the lot shall have no more than one curb-cut from any public street for driveway access to the principal structure as well as the detached accessory dwelling or outbuilding.*

· *On lots with alley access, any additional access shall be from the alley and no new curb cuts shall be provided from public streets.*

*Parking accessed from any public street shall be limited to one driveway for the lot with a maximum width of twelve feet.*

#### ***Additional Requirements for DADUs from Ordinance 17.16.030. See requirements for outbuildings for additional requirements.***

· *The lot area on which a DADU is placed shall comply with Table 17.12.020A.*

· *The DADU may not exceed the maximums outlined previously for outbuildings.*

· *No additional accessory structure shall exceed two hundred square feet when there is a*

*DADU on the lot.*

*Density.*

*· A DADU is not allowed if the maximum number of dwelling units permitted for the lot has been met.*

*Ownership.*

*· No more than one DADU shall be permitted on a single lot in conjunction with the principal structure.*

*· The DADU cannot be divided from the property ownership of the principal dwelling.*

*· The DADU shall be owned by the same person as the principal structure and one of the two dwellings shall be owner-occupied.*

*· Prior to the issuance of a permit, an instrument shall be prepared and recorded with the register's office covenanting that the DADU is being established accessory to a principal structure and may only be used under the conditions listed here.*

*Bulk and Massing.*

*· The living space of a DADU shall not exceed seven hundred square feet.*

## **j. Appurtenances**

Appurtenances related to new building, including driveways, sidewalks, lighting, fences, and walls, shall be visually compatible with the environment of the existing buildings and site to which they relate.

## **2. ADDITIONS**

- a. Generally, an addition should be situated at the rear of a building in such a way that it will not disturb either front or side facades. To distinguish between the historic structure and an addition, it is desirable to set the addition in from the building side wall or for the addition to have a different exterior cladding. Additions not normally recommended on historic structures may be appropriate for non-historic structures. Front or side alterations to non-historic structures that increase space or change exterior height should be compatible by not contrasting greatly with adjacent historic buildings.

Placement

*· Additions should be located at the rear of an existing structure.*

*Placement*

*Additions should be located at the rear of an existing structure.*

*Connections to additions should, as much as possible, use existing window and door openings rather than remove significant amounts of rear wall material.*

*Generally, one-story rear additions should inset one foot, for each story, from the side wall.*

*Additions should be physically distinguished from the historic building and generally fit within the shadow line of the existing building.*

*In order to assure that an addition has achieved proper scale, the addition should:*

*· No matter their use, not be larger than the existing house, not including non-historic additions, in order to achieve compatibility in scale. This will allow for the retention of small and medium size homes in the neighborhood. The diversity of housing type and size is a character defining feature of the historic districts.*

*· Additions which are essentially a house-behind-a-house with a long narrow connector are not appropriate, as the form does not exist historically. Short or minimal connections that do not require the removal of the entire back wall of a historic building are preferred.*

*· When an addition ties into an existing roof it should be a minimum of 6" off the existing ridge.*

*· Generally be shorter and thinner than the existing building. Exceptions may be made when unusual constraints make these parameters unreasonable, such as:*

*· An extreme grade change*

*· Atypical lot parcel shape or size*

*In these cases, an addition may rise above or extend wider than the existing building; however, generally the addition should not higher and extend wider.*

*When an addition needs to be wider:*

*Rear additions that are wider than an existing historic building may be appropriate when the building is narrower than 30' or shifted to one side of the lot. In these instances, a structural alcove or channel must separate the existing building from the new addition. The structural alcove should sit in a minimum of 1' and be at least twice as long as it is deep.*

*In addition, a rear addition that is wider should not wrap the rear corner.*

*Foundation*

*Foundation walls should set in from the existing foundation at the back edge of the existing structure by one foot for each story or half story. Exception: When an addition is a small one-room deep (12' deep or less) addition that spans the width of the structure, and the existing structure is masonry with the addition to be wood (or appropriate substitute siding). The change in material from masonry to wood allows for a minimum of a four inch (4") inset.*

*Foundation height should match or be lower than the existing structure.*

*Foundation lines should be visually distinct from the predominant exterior wall material. This is generally accomplished with a change in materials.*

*Roof*

*The height of the addition's roof and eaves must be less than or equal to the existing structure.*

*Visually evident roof slopes should match the roof slopes of the existing structure, and roof planes should set in accordingly for rear additions.*

- b. When a lot width exceeds 60 feet or the standard lot width on the block, it may be appropriate to add a side addition to a historic structure. The addition should set back from the face of the historic structure and should be subservient in height, width and massing to the historic structure.

*Side additions should be narrower than half of the historic building width and exhibit a height of at least 2' shorter than the historic building.*

*To deemphasize a side addition, the roofing form should generally be a hip or side-gable roof form.*

- c. The creation of an addition through enclosure of a front porch is not appropriate. The creation of an addition through the enclosure of a side porch may be appropriate if the addition is constructed in such a way that original form and openings on the porch remain visible and undisturbed.

*Side porch additions may be appropriate for corner building lots or lots more than 60' wide.*

- d. Contemporary designs for additions to existing properties are not discouraged when such additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural, or cultural material; and when such design is compatible, by not contrasting greatly, with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.

- e. A new addition should be constructed in such a manner that if the addition were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the original structure would be unimpaired.

*Connections should, as much as possible, use existing window and door openings rather than remove significant amounts of rear wall material.*

- f. Additions should follow the guidelines for new construction.

### **III.B. DEMOLITION**

1. Demolition is not appropriate
  - a. if a building, or major portion of a building, is of such architectural or historical interest and value that its removal would be detrimental to the public interest; or

- b. if a building, or major portion of a building, is of such old or unusual or uncommon design and materials that it could not be reproduced or be reproduced without great difficulty and expense.

2. Demolition is appropriate

- a. if a building, or major portion of a building, has irretrievably lost its architectural and historical integrity and significance and its removal will result in a more historically appropriate visual effect on the district;
- b. if a building, or major portion of a building, does not contribute to the historical and architectural character and significance of the district and its removal will result in a more historically appropriate visual effect on the district; or

Generally, non-historic (non-contributing) structures may be demolished for new construction that will have a more historically appropriate effect on the district.

- c. if the denial of the demolition will result in an economic hardship on the applicant as determined by the MHZC in accordance with section 17.40.420 (Historic Zoning Regulations), Metropolitan Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.

**Background:** 321 50<sup>th</sup> St. is a one and one and half story bungalow constructed c. 1925. It is a contributing building to the district.



**Analysis and Findings:**

Demolition: The project includes the reconstruction of the non-historic rear addition and some alterations to windows and doors of the historic home, which constitute partial-demolition. On the left side, the basement level door and three windows will be replaced with one one-over-one double-hung window. A door on the right side, towards the rear of the building, will be removed. Staff finds this partial-demolition to be appropriate since the proposed changes are at the basement level and towards the back of the building and so will be minimally visible. Partial-demolition meets design guideline II.B.2.a.

Height & Scale: The addition will be approximately six-feet (6') lower than the existing house and extend approximately seventeen (17') more feet to the rear. It includes a two-story porch that will be minimally visible as it is towards the rear of the house and the first floor is at the basement level. The addition does not more than double the size of the original home. The project meets section II.B.1.a. and b.

Location & Removability: The addition is located towards the rear of the house and will be fully attached to a reconstructed rear addition and therefore does not affect the original portion of the house. The addition sets in from the reconstructed addition by approximately one and one-half feet (1' 6"). Two story additions typically require a two-

foot inset; however, in this case the two-levels of the addition include a basement level and therefore is not a full two-story addition from the finished floor. The addition will extend beyond the left side wall by approximately five feet (5'). Typically additions should be no wider than the existing house, however, the Commission has allowed for wider additions when the house is less than thirty-feet (30') wide and this one is twenty-eight feet (28') wide and when the house sits to one side of the lot, as this one does. The massing of the protruding portion of the addition is further minimized by the fact that it is an open porch and sits well below the existing ridge line. The project meets section II.B.2.a and e.

Design: The addition is similar in design to the historic home in terms of window design, placement of openings, and roof form. The project meets section II.B.2.a and f.

Setback: The addition meets all bulk zoning requirement. The project meets section II.B.1.c.

Materials: The applicant proposes to remove the existing vinyl siding and replace with cement-fiber siding and the asphalt shingle roofing will be replaced. Since there were no noted alterations to windows and doors, other than those discussed under partial-demolition, these changes are not partial-demolition. Staff recommends that the new siding have a reveal of no more than five-inches (5") and have a smooth finish.

No other materials were provided. With the staff's final approval of materials, the project meets section II.B.1.d

Roof form: The roof form and pitch of the addition will be similar to the existing pyramidal home. No dormers, skylights, or other rooftop additions were indicated. The project meets section II.B.1.e.

Proportion and Rhythm of Openings: A few changes to the existing openings are planned. Please see "demolition." The windows on the addition are similar in proportion to the existing windows. There are no large expanses of wall space without a window or door opening. Staff finds the project's proportion and rhythm of openings to meet Section II.B.1.g.

Appurtenances & Utilities: No changes to the site's appurtenances were indicated on the drawings. The location of the HVAC and other utilities was also not noted. Staff asks that if a new HVAC location is needed that it be located on the rear façade, or on a side façade beyond the midpoint of the house. The project meets section II.B.1. i.

#### Outbuildings:

The proposed outbuilding will include a residential use and so in addition to meeting the design guidelines for outbuildings it must also meet the standards of ordinance 17.16.030 for a detached accessory dwelling unit. The proposed meets all the standards and design guidelines. Please see attachment B for the analysis. The restrictive covenant has not

been received and Staff recommends that receipt of the document be a condition of approval. The project meets section II.B.1.h of the design guidelines and ordinance 17.16.030 for detached accessory dwelling units.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval with the conditions that:

- Applicant submit a completed and filed restrictive covenant prior to issuance of the permit; and
- Staff approves all materials.

With these conditions the projects meets the requirements of the design guidelines and the ordinance for additions and detached accessory dwelling units. Approval does not constitute approval of the use of any of the buildings.