

MEGAN BARRY  
MAYOR



**METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY**

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission  
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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**  
**3812 Central Avenue**  
**February 17, 2016**

**Application:** New construction—Outbuilding; Setback determination  
**District:** Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay  
**Council District:** 24  
**Map and Parcel Number:** 10312027100  
**Applicant:** Anna Teeples  
**Project Lead:** Melissa Baldock, [melissa.baldock@nashville.gov](mailto:melissa.baldock@nashville.gov)

<p><b>Description of Project:</b> Application is to construct a new outbuilding with a footprint of seven hundred and twenty-five square feet (725 sq. ft.). The outbuilding requires a rear setback determination. Base zoning requires a twenty foot (20') rear setback, and the applicant is proposing a fourteen foot (14') rear setback. The outbuilding will not contain a dwelling unit.</p> <p><b>Recommendation Summary:</b> Staff recommends approval of the project with the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Staff approve the final details, dimensions and materials of windows and doors prior to purchase and installation; and,</li><li>2. Staff approve the roof color, dimensions and texture.</li></ol> <p>With these conditions, staff finds that the project meets Section II.B. of the <i>Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay: Handbook and Design Guidelines</i>.</p>	<p><b>Attachments</b> <b>A:</b> Outbuilding Worksheet. <b>B:</b> Site Plan <b>C:</b> Elevations</p>
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**Vicinity Map:**



**Aerial Map:**



## Applicable Design Guidelines:

### II.B.1 New Construction

#### h. 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, with a maximum eave height of 10' for one-story DADU's or outbuildings and 17' for two-story DADUs or outbuildings. The roof ridge height of the DADU or outbuilding must be less than the principal building and shall not exceed 25' feet in height.*

#### *Outbuildings: Character, Materials and Details*

- *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. DADUs or out buildings located on corner lots should have similar architectural characteristics, including roof form and pitch, to the existing principal structure.*
- *DADUs or outbuildings with a second story shall enclose the stairs interior to the structure and properly fire rate them per the applicable life safety standards found in the code editions adopted by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville.*

#### *Outbuildings: Roof*

- *Roof slopes on simple, utilitarian buildings do not have to match the roof slopes of the main structure, but generally should maintain at least a 4/12 pitch.*
- *The DADU or outbuilding may have dormers that relate to the style and proportion of windows on the DADU and shall be subordinate to the roof slope by covering no more than fifty percent of the roof plane and should sit back from the exterior wall by 2'.*

#### *Outbuildings: 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. Decorative raised panels on publicly visible garage doors are generally not appropriate.*
- *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.*

#### *Outbuildings: Siding and Trim*

- Brick, weatherboard, and board-and-batten are typical siding materials.
  - 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.*



**Background:** 3812 Central Avenue is a two-story, c. 1930s Dutch Colonial Revival style house with a gambrel roof (Figure 1). The house contributes to the historic character of the Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay. In January 2016, MHZC approved the construction of an addition to this house.



Figure 1. 3812 Central Avenue.

**Analysis and Findings:** Application is to construct a new outbuilding with a footprint of seven hundred and twenty-five square feet (725 sq. ft.). The outbuilding requires a rear setback determination. Base zoning requires a twenty foot (20') rear setback, and the applicant is proposing a fourteen foot (14') rear setback. The outbuilding will not contain a dwelling unit.

Outbuildings: See attached “Outbuilding Worksheet” for a full analysis of the proposed outbuilding, which will not be used as a detached accessory dwelling unit.

The proposed outbuilding will be one-and-a-half stories tall with a footprint of approximately seven hundred and twenty-five square feet (725 sq. ft.). The outbuilding’s eave and ridge heights will be lower than those of the historic house.

The materials for the outbuilding have all been approved by the Commission in the past. The primary cladding material will be cement fiberboard lap siding with a four inch (4”) reveal. Other materials include wood or cement fiberboard trim, asphalt shingles in a dark gray color, and a split face concrete block foundation. Staff asks to approve the final shingle selection and the selections for the windows and doors prior to purchase and installation.

The outbuilding's roof will be a gambrel roof with 24/12 and 5.5/12 slopes to match the roof of the historic house. The front and rear elevations include shed dormers that are setback appropriately and are appropriately scaled to the roof.

The new outbuilding does require a rear setback determination. When an outbuilding has a footprint greater than seven hundred square feet (700 sq. ft.), base zoning requires that the structure be located twenty feet (20') from the rear property line and five feet (5') from the side property lines. In this instance, the structure is located at least five feet (5') from the side property lines, but it is located fourteen feet (14') from the rear property line. Staff finds that the proposed rear setback is appropriate because a ten foot (10') setback is the standard rear setback for structures that are seven hundred square feet (700 sq. ft.) or less. Also, historically, outbuildings were located at the rear of the property, close to the rear property line. A fourteen foot (14') rear setback is more historically appropriate than a twenty foot (20') rear setback. In addition, the fourteen foot (14') rear setback allows for more space between the primary structure and the outbuilding. Staff recommends approval of the setback determination.

Staff finds that the proposed outbuilding meets section II.B.1.h of the design guidelines.

**Recommendation Summary:** Staff recommends approval of the project with the following conditions:

1. Staff approve the final details, dimensions and materials of windows and doors prior to purchase and installation; and,
2. Staff approve the roof color, dimensions and texture.

With these conditions, staff finds that the project meets Section II.B. of the *Richland-West End Neighborhood Conservation Zoning Overlay: Handbook and Design Guidelines*.