



# CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS PLACARD

for Raleigh Historic Resources

**Project Description:**

Remove fence; install 42" wood picket fence

728 W Hargett St

Address

Historic District

Joel Lane House

Historic Property

COA-0078-2023

Certificate Number

6/16/2023

Date of Issue

12/16/2023

Expiration Date

*This card must be kept posted in a location within public view until all phases of the described project are complete. The work must conform with the code of the City of Raleigh and laws of the state of North Carolina. When your project is complete, you are required to ask for a final zoning inspection in a historic district area. Telephone the RHDC office at 832-7238 and commission staff will coordinate the inspection with the inspections Department. If you do not call for this final inspection, your Certificate of Appropriateness is null and void.*

Signature, \_\_\_\_\_

*Erin Morton*

Raleigh Historic Development Commission

*Pending the resolution of appeals, commencement of work is at your own risk.*



Type or print the following:			
Applicant name: Brett Sturm			
Mailing address: 3213 Mid Pines Road			
City: Raleigh	State: NC		Zip code: 27606
Date: July 14, 2023		Daytime phone #: 919-814-6589	
Email address: brett.sturm@ncdcr.gov			
Applicant signature: <i>Brett Sturm</i>			
Minor work (staff review) – one copy Major work (COA committee review) – ten copies Additions > 25% of building sq. footage New buildings Demolition of building or structure All other Post approval re-review of conditions of approval		<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Office Use Only</div> Transaction #: _____ File #: <u>COA-0078-2023</u> Fee: _____ Amount paid: _____ Received date: _____ Received by: _____ _____	
Property street address: 726-728 W Hargett Street			
Historic district:			
Historic property/Landmark name (if applicable): Joel Lane House (Wakefield)			
Owner name: National Society of the Colonial Dames of America (c/o Joel Lane Museum House)			
Owner mailing address: 728 W Hargett Street, Raleigh, NC 27603			

<b>For applications that require review by the COA Committee (major work), provide addressed and stamped envelopes for owners for all properties with 100 feet on all sides of the property, as well as the property owner.</b>	
Property Owner Name & Address	Property Owner Name & Address



I understand that all major work applications that require review by the Raleigh Historic Development Commission's COA Committee must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the date of the application deadline; otherwise, consideration will be delayed until the following committee meeting. An incomplete application will not be accepted.

Will you be applying for rehabilitation tax credits for this project? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>	Office Use Only Type of work: <u>35</u>
Did you consult with staff prior to filing the application? Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>	

Design Guidelines: please cite the applicable sections of the design guidelines ( <a href="http://www.rhdc.org">www.rhdc.org</a> ).		
Section/Page	Topic	Brief description of work (attach additional sheets as needed).
1.4/24-5	Fences and Walls	Replacement in-kind of deteriorated wood perimeter fence. (See attachments)

Minor Work Approval (office use only)	
Upon being signed and dated below by the Planning Director or designee, this application becomes the Minor Work Certificate of Appropriateness. It is valid until <u>12/16/2023</u> .	
Please post the enclosed placard form of the certificate as indicated at the bottom of the card. Issuance of a Minor Work Certificate shall not relieve the applicant, contractor, tenant, or property owner from obtaining any other permit required by City Code or any law. Minor Works are subject to an appeals period of 30 days from the date of approval.	
Signature (City of Raleigh) <u>Evin North</u>	Date <u>06/16/2023</u>

June 14, 2023

Tania Tully, Collette Kinane, Erin Morton et al  
Raleigh Historic Development Commission  
One Exchange Plaza, Suite 300  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear Tania, Collette, and Erin:

In my capacity as “Buildings Chair” of the Board of Directors at the Joel Lane Museum House (JLMH), I kindly submit this introductory letter and written project description to accompany the application seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for “Minor Works” at the locally landmarked site on the corner of Hargett and St. Mary’s Streets.

The project is focused entirely on the replacement of the wooden exterior perimeter fence, which is original, in fact, to the Bicentennial-Era campaign to relocate, restore, and establish as a museum the ca. 1769 Joel Lane House and two, historically unrelated 19<sup>th</sup>-century auxiliary buildings—what we know as the “Kitchen” and the “Visitors Center,” or “VC.”

Constructed in September 1977 by the Carolina Builders Corporation for a contract price of \$4,053.40, the fence is finally—as the attached existing conditions photographs will show—deteriorated beyond repair. During our most recent attempts at repair—the reconstruction of a failed eight-foot section along the property’s Hargett Street frontage in 2021—we found it challenging to re-secure rails to posts, with deterioration advanced enough in the posts to stymie most conventional wood fasteners. Hence, our organization began to budget and plan for a full-scale replacement effort in 2023, and it is on the cusp of that effort that I write you now.

The “Type A/B” design of the existing fence—noticeable just east of the Kitchen, as the fence transitions from a classic picket design (Type A) to a rugged sawtooth plank (Type B)—was intentional. Williamsburg-based landscape architect Donald H. Parker, designer of the grounds and garden for the restored JLMH campus, provided a variety of possible fence and picket designs, wrote specifications for construction, and saw to the fabrication of period-correct, wrought iron hardware by blacksmiths at Colonial Williamsburg. He even followed up, in late 1977, to assess drying cracks that developed in the wooden gate posts after installation—an apparent cause of concern among JLMH Board Members at the time.

Indeed, the two-part design was selected—against the wishes of Mr. Parker, as recorded in correspondence from the time—to establish a hierarchy of status, or prominence, as one moved from the formal “front of grounds”—that is, the Hargett Street-facing elevation of the Joel Lane House—northward along St. Mary’s Street to an informal “backyard” area, where the VC currently resides. Back then the VC was a caretaker’s house not accessible to visitors, whereas



today it is a central part of the JLMH visitor experience. For this reason—and for the sake of simplicity and “aesthetic unity,” if you will—we are proposing to dispense with the two-part design, replacing the existing fence with a single design modeled, in-kind, after Mr. Parker’s “Type A,” traditional picket fence. We feel this will realize the original design intent for the grounds and will not adversely affect the historic character of this important Raleigh landmark.

The gate locations, dimensions, and restoration-period hardware will remain unchanged in the new installation. The exact path the replacement fence takes is likely to deviate slightly from existing—please see the attached, annotated survey—as we navigate underground obstacles and respect property lines, but RHDC can expect the new route to be very similar to current conditions. To get an idea of the design we are proposing, look no further than the pointy pickets along the Hargett Street frontage. The new fence will consist of cedar pickets, cut on-site to match existing profile and height, and installed on pressure-treated pine rails and posts. We plan to leave the fence unfinished (i.e., no paint, no stain) in its first year, and will consider in 2024 following up with an oil-based stain, to be determined, maintained on 5- to 6-year intervals. I will reengage the RHDC at that time to ensure all documentation requirements for such an effort are met before any additional work is undertaken.

We plan to complete this project with George Sejbal and his small company US Fence. A native of the Czech Republic, George has been responsive, professional, and knowledgeable in his communications thus far. He comes highly recommended from references, and we believe his detail-oriented approach to his craft will lead us to a successful outcome in terms of both fence aesthetics and functionality.

Thank you for your consideration of this important improvement at the JLMH. If your review of the application should require any additional information—photographic or otherwise—please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

*Brett Sturm*

Brett C. Sturm, Restoration Specialist  
State Historic Preservation Office

cc: Lanie Hubbard, Director, Joel Lane Museum House  
Christina Hutchinson, Board President, Joel Lane Museum House



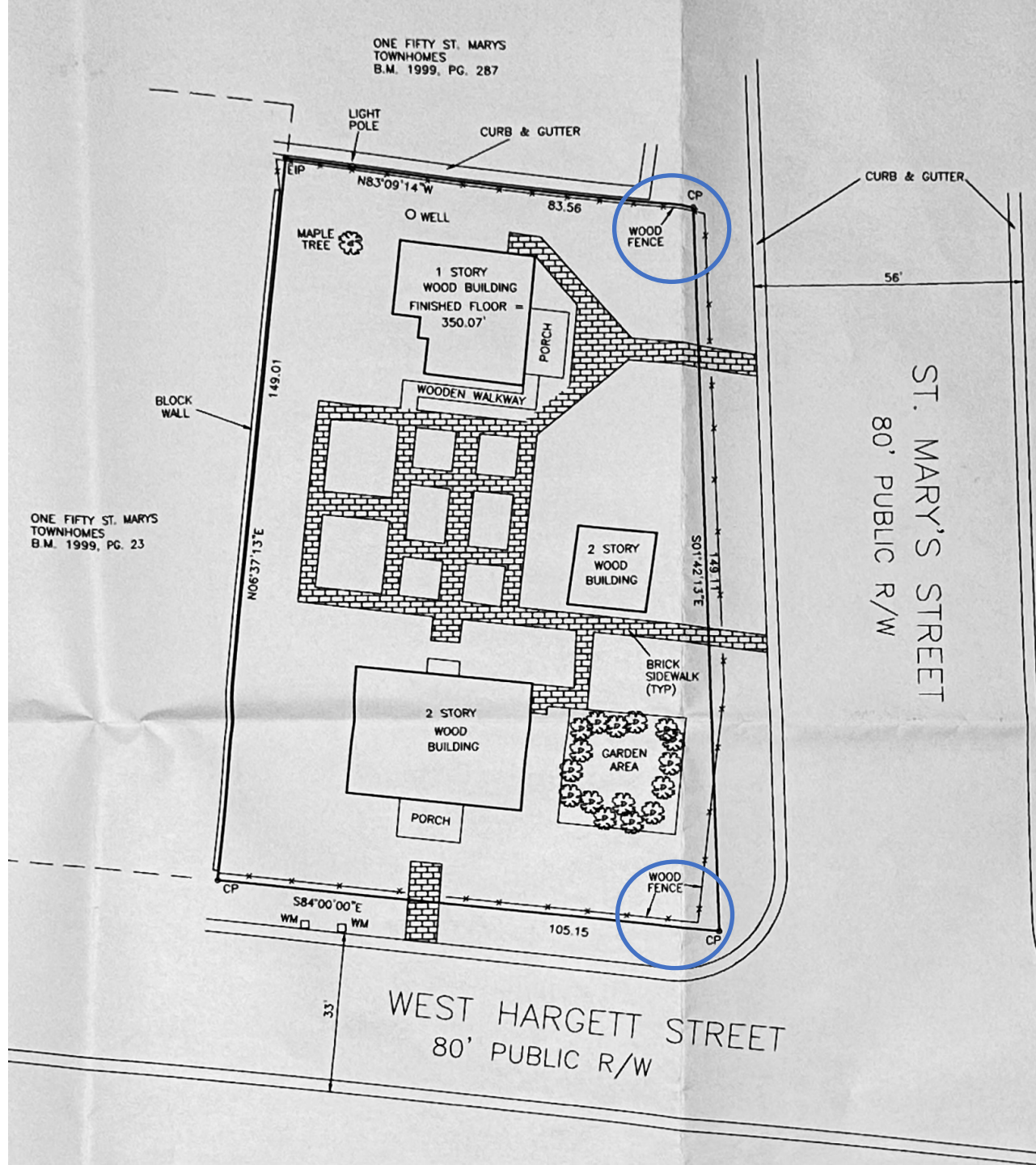
# Joel Lane Museum House Fence Replacement Project

- Existing Conditions and Proposal for New Installation –  
June 14, 2023



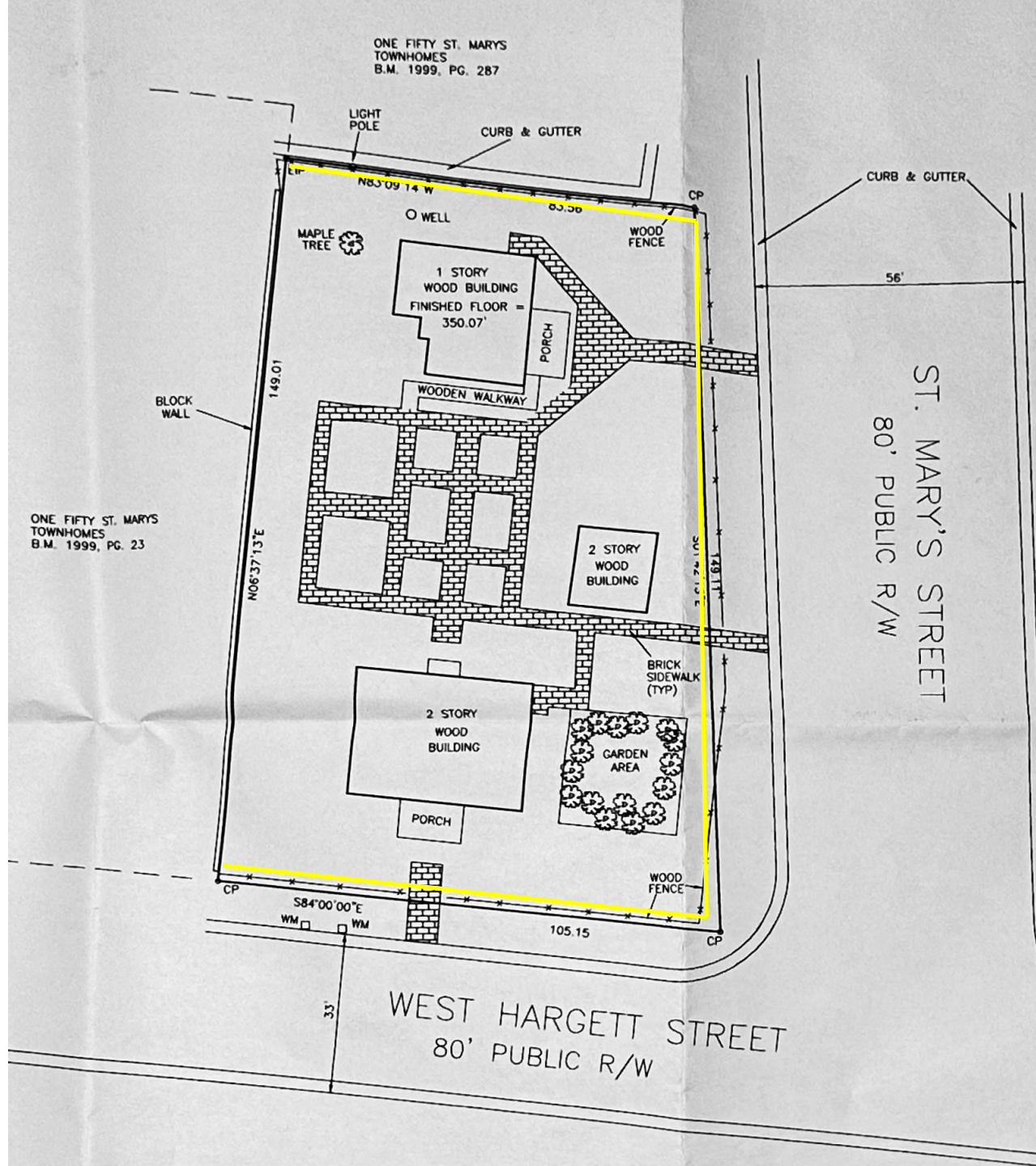






The existing “wood fence” is shown by the solid line marked with intermittent “x’s.”

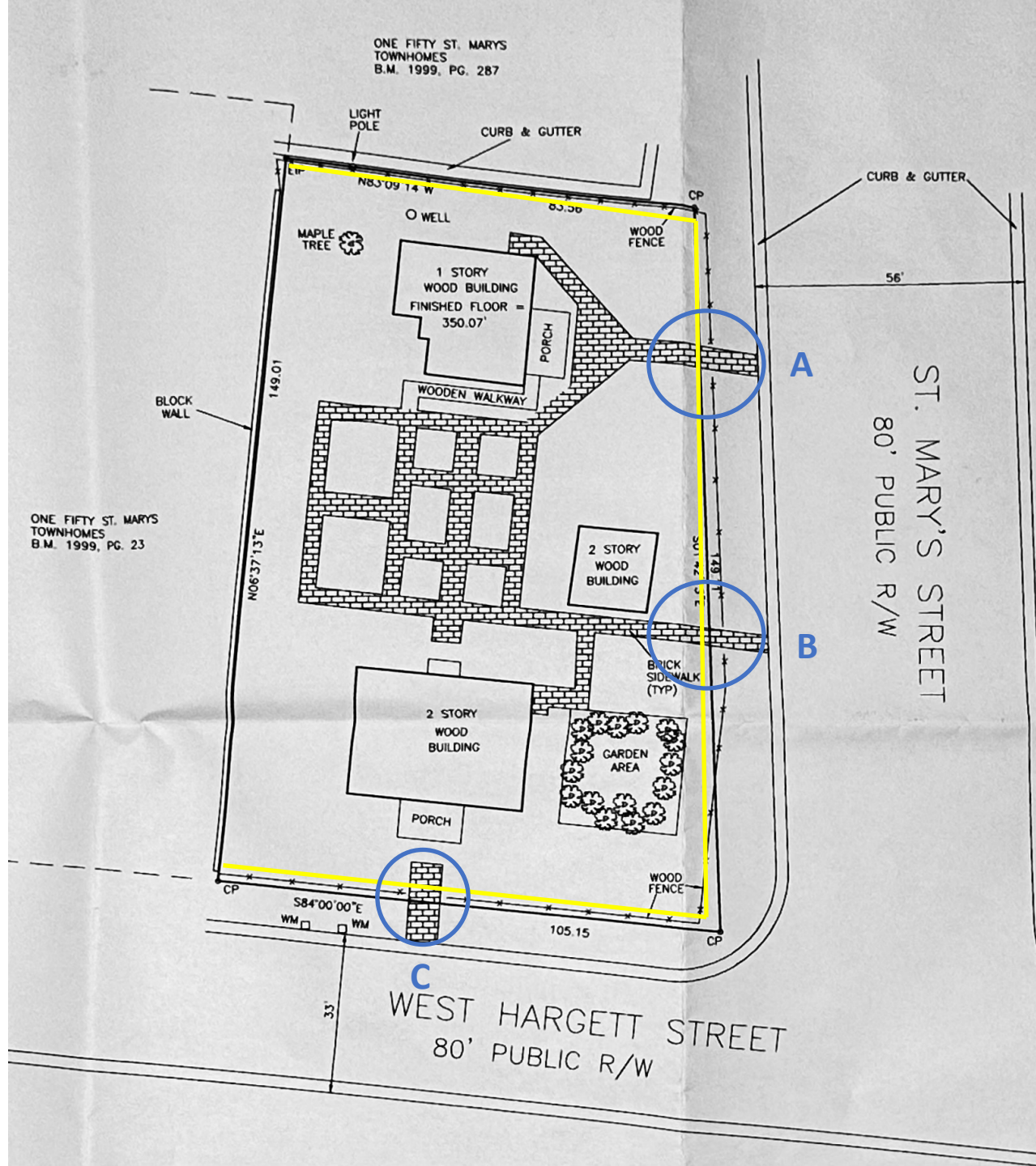




The approximate path of the new fence, shown here by the solid yellow line, will fall just inside the path of the existing fence.

The rationale for this is three-fold:

1. It will enable us to install new post footings for the gates adjacent to existing footings.
2. It will more properly conform to the property lines; and
3. It will allow us to pull the fence back from the condo development to the north, where previously cars have damaged the existing fence while parking.



Gate locations and dimensions to remain, with existing wrought-iron hardware retained and reinstalled.

Gate A – double gate approx. 8' wide

Gate B – single gate approx. 4' wide

Gate C – double gate approx. 8' wide



## Existing Conditions - Gates



Gate A



Gate B



Gate C

\*\* Gate posts to remain 6x6 but with simplified, pyramidal tops as opposed to the existing finial detail, which has weathered at an accelerated rate.







## Existing Conditions – Picket Design



Type A



Type B

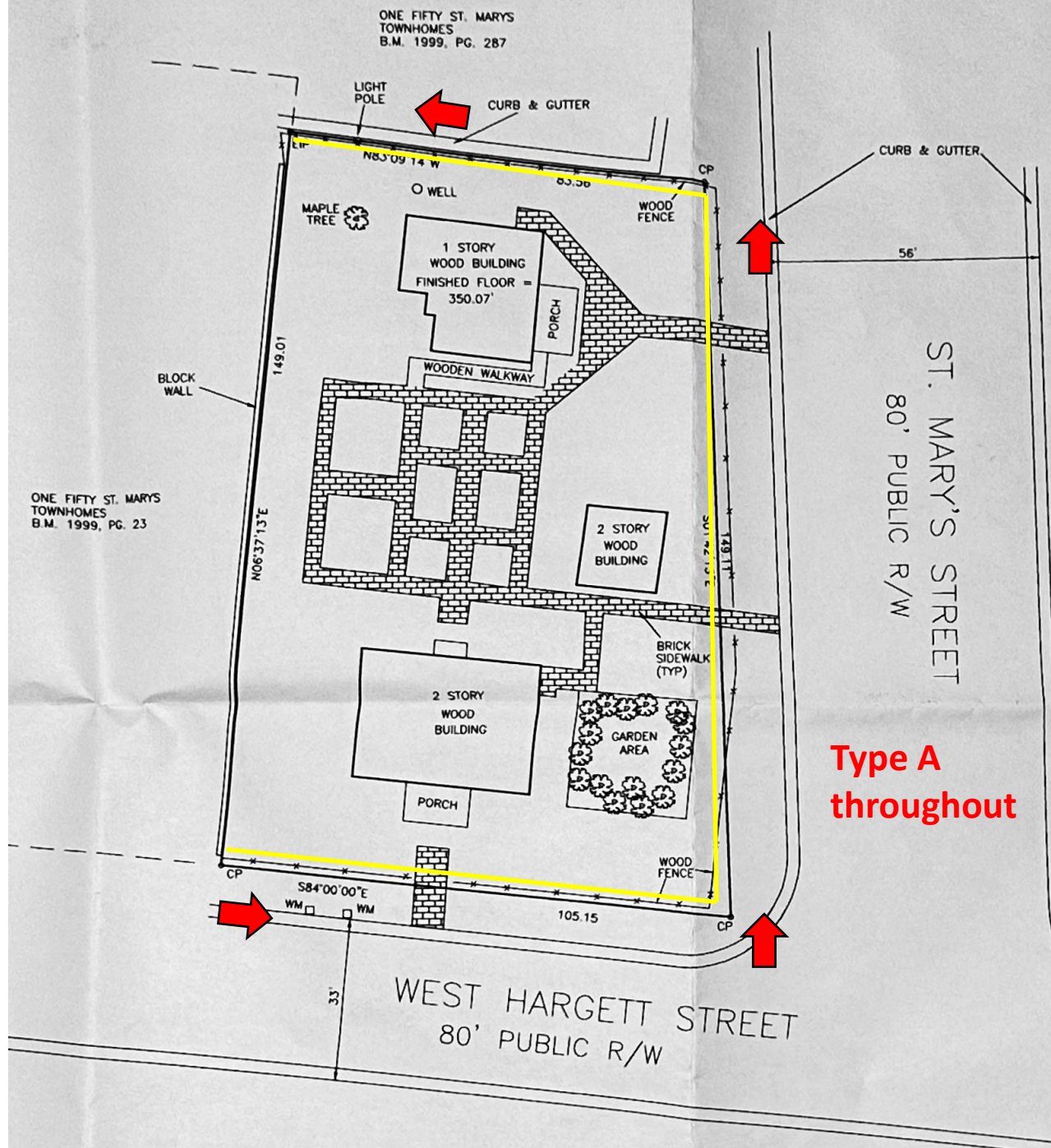


← The image at left shows the Type A design, likely a later addition, along the northern boundary of the museum grounds. This is where car damage is a frequent occurrence.



Junction, Type A and B





Our proposal is to replace the existing fence in its entirety with a design modeled after TYPE A.

We believe this will simplify and unify the visual qualities of the site, realizing the original design intent without negatively impacting historic character.

The next and final slide of this presentation shows TYPE A in detail. We will use cedar pickets, cut on-site to match the existing profile, duplicating the spacing and height of the existing installation.



## TYPE A - Detail



Existing height above grade =  
approx. 36"

Existing picket spacing =  
approx. 1-1/2"

Please contact us if questions;  
**THANK YOU!**