### ANN ARBOR HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

# **Staff Report**

**ADDRESS:** 320 S. Seventh Street, Application Number HDC16-078

**DISTRICT:** Old West Side Historic District

**REPORT DATE:** May 25, 2016

**REPORT PREPARED BY:** Jill Thacher, Historic Preservation Coordinator

**REVIEW COMMITTEE DATE:** Monday, June 6, 2015

OWNER APPLICANT

Name: Sean Hoskins Superior Glass Block
Address: 320 S. Seventh 8140 Ronda Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48103 Canton, MI 48187
Phone: (510)910-1764 (734) 354-9272

**BACKGROUND:** This 2 1/2 story gable fronter features a lovely open front porch with round columns, decorative shakes in the front gable, original board trim, and double-hung windows. The house was built in 1920 for Herman Greve, a bookkeeper at Crescent Company, and Greves occupied the house until at least 1940.

**LOCATION:** The site is located on the west side of South Seventh Street between Murray Court and W. Liberty.

**APPLICATION:** The applicant seeks HDC approval to install a basement egress window and well in place of an existing basement window, on the center of the rear wing.

### **APPLICABLE REGULATIONS:**

# From the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation:

- (2) The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
- (9) New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
- (10) New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

From the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (other SOI Guidelines may also apply):

## **Windows**

<u>Recommended:</u> Designing and installing additional windows on rear or other non-character-defining elevations if required by the new use. New window openings may also be cut into exposed party walls. Such design should be compatible with the overall design of the building, but not duplicate the fenestration pattern and detailing of a character-defining elevation.

<u>Not Recommended:</u> Introducing a new design that is incompatible with the historic character of the building.

# **District or Neighborhood Setting**

<u>Not Recommended</u>: Introducing new construction into historic districts that is visually incompatible or that destroys historic relationships within the setting.

# From the City of Ann Arbor Design Guidelines:

### Windows

<u>Not Appropriate</u>: Changing the number, location, and size or glazing pattern of windows by cutting new openings, blocking-in, or installing replacement sash which does not fit the historic opening.

### STAFF FINDINGS:

- 1. The basement egress window would be on the west (rear) elevation and replace an existing basement window with a shallow well. It would lead from a new basement bedroom. The house's foundation is concrete with a smooth parge coat. The egress window is 32" x 57" and the well is 18 gauge steel with a faux stone finish, four molded steps, and a hinged lexan cover. It projects out approximately 45" from the face of the window and is 62" deep. The 10.5 square feet of egress exceeds the minimum of 5.7 square feet for basement rooms. Staff will evaluate the size of the window when on site at the Review Committee visit.
- 2. The proposed location is not visible from the public right of way and probably the ideal location on this particular house. The parge coated foundation will be easily patched after the window is installed.
- 3. Staff believes the proposed window and well are an appropriate design and in the best place on the house, and that the application meets the Standards and Guidelines used by the Historic District Commission.

**POSSIBLE MOTIONS:** (Note that the motion is only a suggestion. The Review Committee, consisting of staff and at least two Commissioners, will meet with the applicant on site and then make a recommendation at the meeting.)

I move that the Commission issue a certificate of appropriateness for the application at 320 S. Seventh Street, a contributing property in the Old West Side Historic District, to add a basement egress window on the west elevation, as proposed. The work is compatible in exterior design, arrangement, texture, material and relationship to the rest of the building and the surrounding area and meets the *Ann Arbor Historic District Design* 

Guidelines, especially those for windows, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, in particular standards 2, 9 and 10 and the guidelines for windows.

### **MOTION WORKSHEET:**

I move that the Commission issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work at <u>320 S. Seventh Street</u> in the <u>Old West Side</u> Historic District

\_\_\_\_\_ Provided the following condition(S) is (ARE) met: 1) STATE CONDITION(s)

The work is generally compatible with the size, scale, massing, and materials and meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, standard(S) number(S) (circle all that apply): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

ATTACHMENTS: survey sheet, application, drawings.

320 S. Seventh (2008 survey photo)



Rear of 320 S Seventh (courtesy Redfin.com)



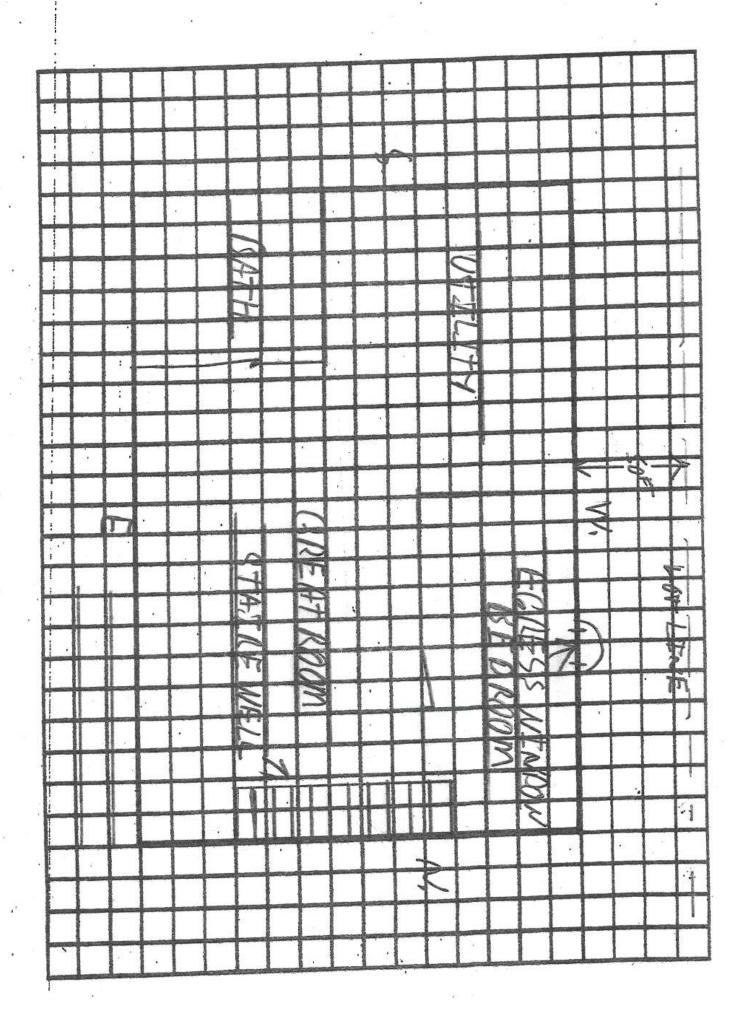
HOC16-078



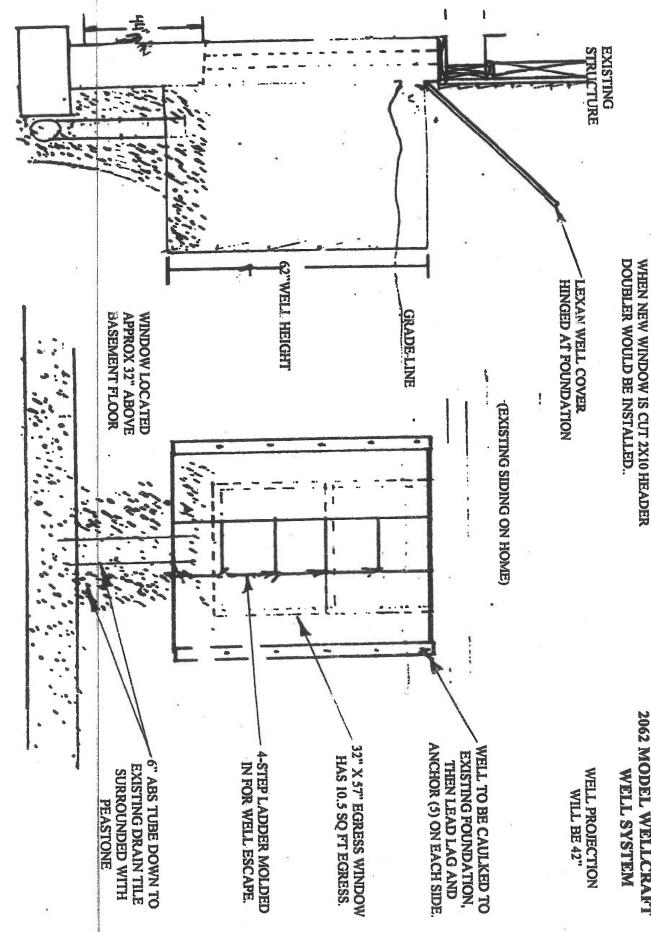
100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 794-6000, x42608 Fax: (734) 994-8312 Historic Preservation Coordinator Email: <a href="mailto:ithacher@a2gov.org">ithacher@a2gov.org</a>; <a href="mailto:www.a2gov.org">www.a2gov.org</a>

Section 1: Property Being Reviewed and Ownership I	1910) MARION	
Address of Property: 320 South 7th		
Historic District: Ann Avov		-
Name of Property Owner (If different than the applicant o	NS.	10100
Address of Property Owner: 300 South	7th Ann Amor MI	48103
Daytime Phone and E-mail of Property Owner: (51	0)9101764	
Signature of Property Owner: Attached	date: 5/3/16	
Section 2: Applicant Information		
Name of Applicant: Superior Glass	Block	
Address of Applicant; 840 Ronda	pr. Canton MI 4	8187
Daytime Phone: (734) 354-9270		
Fax: (734)354-92-72-		
E-mail: Superior glass blocke	yahoo.com	
Applicant's Relationship to Property:owner;	architect;	
Signature of applicant:		
Section 3: Building Use (check all that apply)		and the second s
X Residential Single Family	Multiple Family Rental	SCAL introduction
Commercial Institutional	13137	
Section 4: Stille-DeRossett-Hale single state construction (this item MUST BE INITIALED for y	our application to be PROCESSED)	
Public Act 169, Michigan's Local Historic Distriction include the following language: "the applicant his property where the work will be undertaken has completion date, a a fire alarm or smoke alarm of Stille-DeRossett-Hale single state construction code 125.1531."  Please initial here:	ets Act, was amended April 2004 to as certified in the application that the s, or will have before the proposed amplying with the requirements of the	

Comments:	
taff signature:	HDC NTP; Staff COA
opplication Filing Date:	Action: HDC COA; HDC Denial
re-filing Staff Reviewer & Date:	Date of Public Hearing:
roject No.: HDC	Fee Paid:
taff Use Oulv late Submitted;	Application toStaff orHDC
<ol> <li>Attach photographs of the existing property, i detailed photos of proposed work area.</li> </ol>	ncluding at least one general photo and
<ol> <li>Attach any additional information that will fur indicate these attachments here.</li> </ol>	ther explain or clarify the proposal, and
basemen	<b>t</b> :
3. What are the reasons for the proposed changes	ane from
Provide a description of existing conditions.	
Window	
	basement
installing eg	ress window



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# Has your basement changed in 50 years?

