

October 15, 2020

Stan Roberts 925 Lake Street South #201 Kirkland, Washington 98033

Re: Comments on recent mailer to Cannon Beach residents

Dear Stan,

Interesting to hear about the letter to residents. With regards to the comment of this project impacting Haystack Rock. It would join the 27 existing beachfront houses equidistant from Haystack Rock to your lot and the other 25 additional houses west of Hemlock in the same range. See attached graphic.

As far as the Historic Preservation argument. The Oswald West Cabin is individually listed on the National Historic Registry and not part of an historic district. In addition, Cannon Beach never adopted historic preservation standards that would require historic landmark review. This is why this issue is not part of the Cannon Beach review process.

Putting that aside and looking at what this review would look like if historic review was required. Historic building listings focus on the period of historic significance, which in this case includes the original construction in 1913 and the Bouvy Improvements period from 1936-1939. This period includes West giving the Nenana lot to his job foreman and a house being built on that lot. West was also involved in creating the platting of lots and it must be assumed that he anticipated that other houses would be built nearby. Given this, the fact that a house would be built isn't against historic precedence.

The question then shifts to whether the house is in keeping with the Oswald West Cabin. The West Cabin is in a Craftsman style, which is fairly typical of many historic (and more recent) Cannon Beach homes. This Craftsman style is the inspiration for your house. It is modest in scale in keeping with many of the smaller beachfront houses nearby. The Oswald West Cabin is built with wood logs which make it stand out. Similar to many other beachfront homes, your house has cedar shingles, which ties into the typical beachfront houses which act as background. All of which is to say, it would meet historic review standards if they existed in Cannon Beach.

Sincerely,

Jay Raskin, AIA

cc: File





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