



Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission Staff Report

Living with History

HPC meeting date: 9/9/2013
Ald. Jose Perez District: 12
Staff reviewer: Paul Jakubovich
PTS #89820

Property 1711 S. 9TH ST. Mitchell Street Historic District

Owner/Applicant ST ANTHONY'S CONGREGATION BMR Design Group
1727 S 9TH ST BCR # 1170969
MILWAUKEE WI 53204 503 W. Lincoln Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53207
Phone: (414) 384-2996

Proposal Construct an accessible addition, one story in height, on south elevation of church.

Staff comments The commission, at its May 2012 meeting, reviewed and approved a plan for a stone-clad accessible addition on the north elevation of the church facing west Mitchell Street. Those plans have since been abandoned and new plans have been submitted by a new architect for a narrow, one-story addition on the south elevation between the church and the neighboring rectory building. The proposed addition is located beneath three bays of large stained glass windows.

The addition will not be visible from the street and it preserves intact the large stained glass windows above it. The addition will be flat-roofed and made of cream brick walls. This proposal is actually preferable to the earlier one, because it preserves all the street-facing elevations of the church. The proposal meets the preservation guidelines for additions. HPC staff remains strongly committed to making historic buildings permanently accessible and this project is exemplary of merging function with preservation of the original architecture.

The church is a magnificent German Gothic revival style building constructed between 1877 and 1886 according to the designs of architect Fridolin Heer. Its soaring, central steeple is one of the hallmarks of German church design. It is one of the few very large churches in Milwaukee made of local Niagara formation limestone. The interior retains its original, richly carved wooden furnishings which are among the best of their kind remaining in the state.

Recommendation Recommend HPC Approval

Conditions

Previous HPC action Reviewed and approved an earlier proposal for an addition in May, 2012

Previous Council action