On September 2, 2020, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission ("Commission") conducted, in the above referenced matter, a public hearing in accordance with the statutes and case law pertaining to quasi-judicial proceedings for the issuance of certificates of appropriateness. During the hearing, Heather Bratland, Historic Resources Officer, presented the staff report, findings, and recommendation. No one appeared to present testimony and evidence in support of the application. John Merschel appeared to present testimony and evidence in opposition to the application.

The Commission entered discussion as to whether there was a substantial change warranting consideration of the application. The Commission determined that there was a substantial change in the newly adopted Standards, in conjunction with the application itself, warranting further consideration of the application.

After presentation of all testimony and evidence, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission, based upon the evidence presented in the application and during the hearing, finds that the proposed project is incongruous with the character of the West End Historic Overlay District because:

1) The solid fence is not sufficiently articulated and, therefore, inappropriate given that it is in a side yard adjacent to the street. (Fences, West End Standard 5)

2) The fence design is not of an appropriate style because it is a solid fence, and its level of transparency is not sufficient. Fences, West End Standard 3)

Based on the preceding findings, the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission hereby denies COA2020-091 at the James House, located at 923 West End Boulevard, within the West End Historic Overlay District (PIN 6825-75-1244.00).

This the third day of September, 2020.

\[Signature\]

Kevin G. Owen, Chair
Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission