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Vincent House: Letter from Baker to C. Stuart Avery, August 31, 1978

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August 31, 1978

Mr. C. Stuart Avery

Martha's Vineyard Historical Preservation Society, Inc.

Edgartown, Mass. 02539

Dear Stuart:

Having met with you on Tuesday, I have given much thought to the correct order on the next phase --- The Exterior! To complete each step properly and to be able to work with Warren, on this part, from a distance, I am listing the steps in order of performance so that the work will run smoothly and economically:

I. A correct fashioning of the bead for the corner, rack and eave board is essential. Inclosed is a drawing.

A. This bead should be reproduced on a sample piece first, to be approved by me. (Warren will need a molding plane to make the correct curve.)

B. If Warren is ready to start shingling the back wall before the bead for the corner board is approved, he can nail a temporary corner board to bring his shingles to and commence the shingling job.

C. This same bead will also be on the rack board. The rack board should be in place before the roof is shingled as the edge shingles are nailed to it.

II

II. If necessary I can come to the Vineyard next week, ^{Sept}~~August~~ 14, to approve the above but it would be more practical to wait until

the following week --- Thursday, Sept 14 at which time the following work could be completed;

- A. Sample bead ready for approval.
- B. Exterior wall of kitchen - re-shingled.
- C. The two new window frames which Warren made need to be planned and sanded to eliminate table-saw markings and rip-saw marks.
- D. Complete the painting in the cellar.
- E. Flooring removed from Mackenty's - stored in cellar.
- F. Lighting installed in cellar.
- G. Packaged hearths covered with plastic.
- H. Find weathered wood (2nd hand wood) for re-use in making, eaves rack and corner boards.
- I. Remove asphalt paper from roof hatch, for a determination of condition and authenticity.
- J. Shore-up, very carefully, the interior walls of A., B., and C. rooms with plywood to completely eliminate any damage to the clay and plaster when exterior siding is removed.
- k.K. Remove old shingles on this gable end so it can be viewed photographed and measured by me on the next visit.

III. Thursday, Sept. 14 consultation:

- A. Inspect bead, correct if necessary.
- B. Inspect and photograph gable end wall. as per II. - K.
- C. Decide on structural repairs for gable end. II. - K
- E. Determine condition and re-use of roof hatch.
- G. Approve next section of shingling for gable end. II. - K.
- H. Investigate and discuss installation of front door.

Note: No further window frames should be made until the next visit. I want to look further at the changes which might be caused on the inside by the installation of "new-old" window frames and if it would ~~Bâtinto~~ fit into the concept of the interior plans.

Paul mentioned that you are considering applying for National Register acceptance. This would be great as there are so many plusses that go along. As you know, I had them look at the Vincent house last summer --- before it was moved --- because it is not their usual policy to include a house that has been moved. I wanted them to see that you were doing everything correctly --- the archaeology in partical which is a must on their list. All the forms required have been filled out and are in their files. They did not vote on this because at that time it was felt that the whole area of Edgartown was to become an "historic district" which would have naturally included the Vincent house, instead of nominating it seperately.

I have considerable correspondence with them, about the house, and would be glad to forward same to Harriet.

The cellar looks so beautiful! See you on the 14th unless I hear otherwise.

Sincerely,

Anne W. Baker