

APR 25 2023

Planning & Building Services

TODD R COLE 10501 Evergreen Street Mendocino, CA 95460

To: Mendocino Historic Review Board

4/17/23

RE: 44900 Ukiah Street Mendocino, CA

Dear Board members,

As a neighbor and a resident who has had plans evaluated by the Board, I understand the need for conformity to the historic nature of our village and that newly designed projects must be sympathetic to that end. In my mind conformity does not eliminate creative design.

My house is situated in such a way as to allow for my views from my windows and my garden pavilion to all varieties of water towers, sheds, residences, and fences. All of these structures were assembled over the years with little concept of setbacks and height restrictions, in a naïve and loose proliferation. This quaintness is what makes our village charming. I probably can see more water towers from my garden than anyone can from anywhere in town! They are an asset not a detriment to our village.

As a landscape architect who is involved with the construction of new homes throughout northern California, I see a lot of architectural styles in my work. I understand that shape and volume are as important as are the materials selected for construction, to honor the historical essence of any project. Clustering of assorted building is/was (historically) common for practical reasons yet helped to establish the fabric of our village and the function of our homes and outbuildings.

As a friend, I have had the opportunity of reviewing the architectural drawings which were prepared by Debra Lennox for a new house to be built at 44900 Ukiah Street in Mendocino. I think that the volumes, scale and materials are 100% consistent with my understanding of the historical guidelines and the visible character of our village. The water tower is quaint and appropriate and contributes to the unique nature of our village. The materials are consistent with adjacent buildings. In addition, the construction of this new structure on its small lot will help mask the ugliness of the garage retrofit next door. I support the project at 44900 Ukiah fully! In due time if a building is built across from my garden on the empty lot which is for sale, I will also support the design given there is as sensitively crafted as the one of which I speak.

Regards,



Todd R Cole 415-217-9502