

City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

memo

DATE: January 13, 2026
TO: Historic Districts Review Board
VIA: Heather Lamboy, Planning & Land Use Department Director *HL*
Maggie Moore, Assistant Land Use Director *MM*
Gary Moquino, Historic Preservation Division Manager GM
FROM: Paul A. Duran, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation Division

2025-011538-HDRB, 800 Gildersleeve St., Don Gaspar Area Historic District, Contributing, Shane Woods and Gabe Rippel, owners, request approval for a 120 sq. ft. detached free-standing pergola to a height of 7'-8", where the maximum allowable is 15'-1".

REFERENCE ATTACHMENTS (Sequentially):

CITY SUBMITTALS

- District Standards & yard wall & fence standards.
 Historic Inventory Form
 Zoning Review Sheet
 Other: Previous Case Documents

APPLICANT SUBMITTALS

- Proposal Letter
 Site Plan/Floor Plan
 Elevations
 Photographs
 Other:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed project (with no roof structure) and finds that the application complies with Section 14-5.2(D) General Design Standards for all Historic Districts, and 14-5.2(H) Don Gaspar Area Design Standards.

Sample motions:

- a. Approve or deny Case #2025-011538 to allow these alterations to 800 Gildersleeve Street.

- b. Approve or deny Case #2025-011538 to allow these alterations to 800 Gildersleeve Street, subject to conditions.

Should the Board deny the application request, the applicant shall return with an alternative proposal for review and approval before proceeding to a building permit.

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY:

The single-family residence and detached garage at 800 Gildersleeve are listed as contributing to the Don Gaspar Area Historic District. The primary facades designated on the main structure are the east and south facades and the garage's east façade. The main structure and garage were constructed sometime before 1928 in the Spanish Pueblo Revival design style as seen by the battered walls, stepped parapets, recessed openings, projecting viga tails, historic wood windows, and sculpted chimney (Rasch 2015:1).

The subject property is located at the southwest corner of the Gildersleeve Street and Berger Street intersection. The proposed pergola will be located in front of the house on the northeastern portion of the site. It will be constructed of stained cedar wood with a metal trellis. Although the applicant's letter states that it may optionally include a roof, the drawings illustrate no roof. If the applicant chooses to add a roof to the pergola structure, the project will need to be reviewed and approved by the HDRB as part of a separate case in the future.

Previous cases for 800 Gildersleeve include:

On August 26, 2025, in Case No. 2025-010948-HDRB, the Historic Districts Review Board (Board) approved the exception requests to 14-5.2(D)(1)(a) removal of historic material and 14-5.2(D)(5)(a)(i) replacement of historic windows, an HVAC system, stucco, infilling a door on the west of the garage, and replacing the vehicle door of the garage. This approval was the result of an issued notice of violation.

On May 24, 2016, in Case No. H-15-073C, the Board approved the installation of foam insulation on the main structure and garage, and the repair of the chimney on the main structure.

On October 13, 2015, in Case No. H-15-073B, the Board approved the addition on the south primary façade, an addition less than ten feet set back from the east primary façade, create an opening on the south primary façade, increase the maximum allowable height, increase the 50 percent historic footprint standard, with conditions to the existing stairs on the south elevation and entry portal be extended in width to match the same opening as the doors leading into the portal.

On August 25, 2015, in Case No. H-15-073A, the Board designated contributing status for the main residential structure and detached garage and designated the east and south façades as primary on the main structure and the east façade on the garage.

On October 24, 2004, in Case No. H-04-154, the Board approved the replacement of non-historic windows in an enclosed porch on a contributing structure using windows that the applicant now owns.

APPLICANT'S REQUEST:

The applicant proposes the following exterior alterations:

- 1) Construct a 120 sq. ft. detached free-standing pergola to a height of 7'-8", where the maximum allowable is 15'-1".

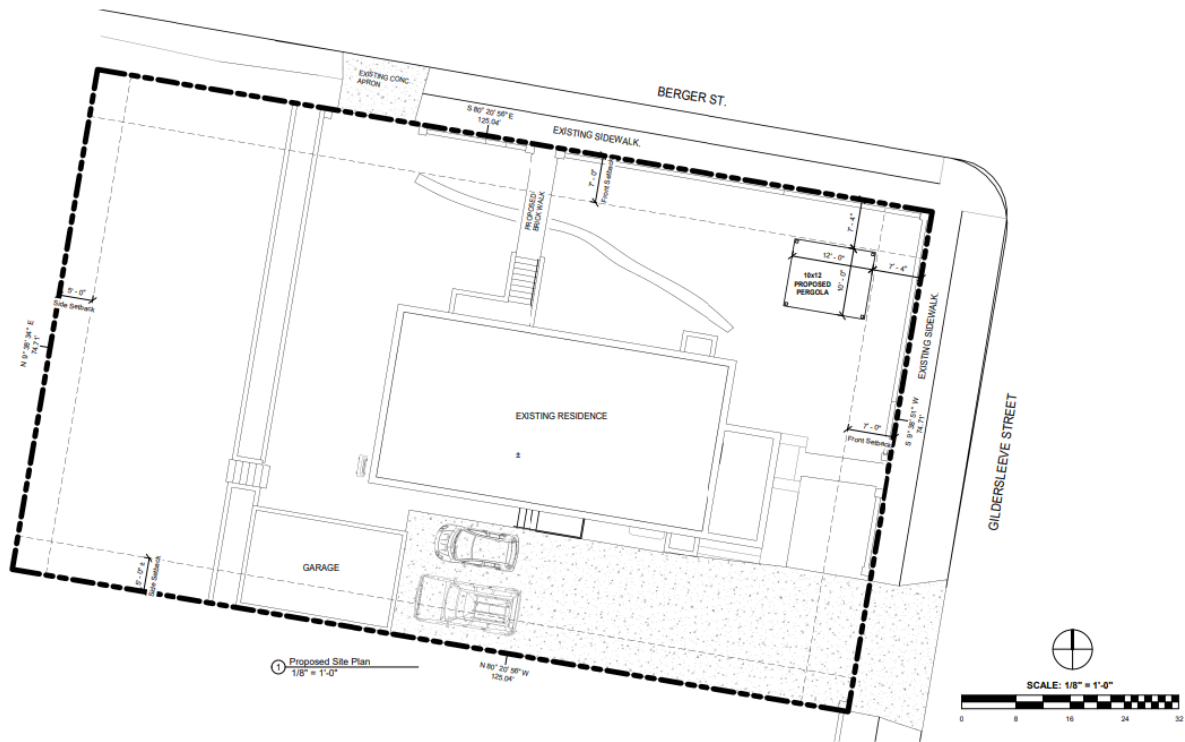


Figure 1. Proposed Site Plan.

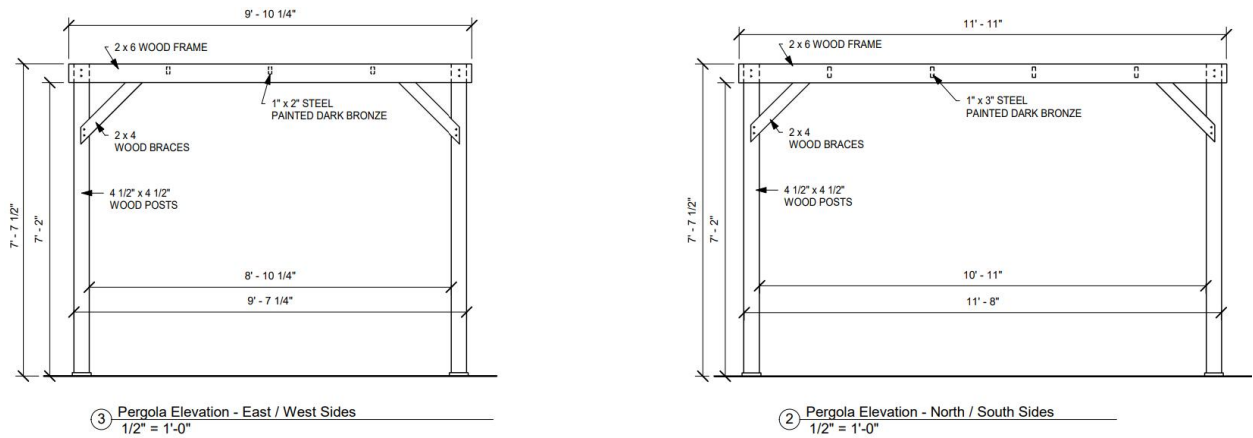


Figure 2. Proposed Elevations.



Figure 3. Overview photo of the proposed pergola.

RELEVANT CODE CITATIONS:

14-5.2 HISTORIC DISTRICTS

(A) General Provisions

(1) General Purpose

To promote the economic, cultural, and general welfare of the people of the *city* and to ensure the harmonious, orderly and efficient growth and *development* of the *city*, it is deemed essential by the *governing body* that the qualities relating to the history of Santa Fe, and a harmonious outward appearance, which preserve *property* values and attract tourists and residents alike, be preserved, some of these qualities being:

- (a) The continued existence and *preservation* of historical areas and *buildings*;
- (b) The continued construction of *buildings* in the historic styles; and
- (c) A general harmony as to style, form, color, height, proportion, texture, and material between *buildings* of historic design and those of more modern design.

(C) Regulation of Significant and Contributing Structures in the Historic Districts

(Ord. No. 2004-26)

(1) Purpose and Intent

It is intended that:

- (a) Each *structure* is to be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical *development*, such as the addition of conjectural features or architectural elements from other *buildings*, shall not be undertaken.
- (b) Changes to *structures* that have acquired historic *significance* in their own right shall be retained and preserved, recognizing that most *structures* change over time;
- (c) Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a *structure* be preserved; and
- (d) New additions and related or adjacent new construction be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the original form and integrity of the historic *property* and its environment would be unimpaired.

(D) General Design Standards for All H Districts

In any review of proposed additions or alterations to *structures* that have been declared significant or contributing in any historic district or a *landmark* in any part of the *city*, the following standards shall be met:

(1) General

- (a) The status of a significant, contributing, or *landmark structure* shall be retained and preserved. If a proposed alteration will cause a *structure* to lose its significant, contributing, or *landmark* status, the *application* shall be denied. The removal of historic materials or alteration of architectural features and spaces that embody the status shall be prohibited.
- (b) If a proposed alteration or new construction will cause an adjacent *structure* to lose its significant, contributing, or *landmark* status, the *application* may be denied.

(2) Additions

- (a) Additions shall have similar materials, architectural *treatments*, and styles, features, and details as the existing *structure*, but shall not duplicate those of the existing *structure* in a manner that will make the addition indistinguishable from the existing *structure*.
- (b) Additions to *buildings* that meet the standards of Subsection 14-5.2(E) shall continue to meet those standards outlined in Subsection 14-5.2(E) in addition to the standards outlined in this section.

- (c) Additions are not permitted to *primary façades*.
 - (d) Additions are not permitted to the side of the existing footprint unless the addition is set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from the primary facade. The addition shall not exceed fifty percent of the square footage of the existing footprint, and shall not exceed fifty percent of the existing dimension of the primary facade. To the extent architecturally practicable, new additions shall be attached to any existing noncontributing portion of *structures* instead of attaching them to the significant or contributing portion.
 - (e) The height of additions:
 - (i) For significant and *landmark structures* shall be a minimum of six (6) inches less than the parapet or equivalent roof-feature of the existing adjacent connecting facade.
 - (ii) For contributing *structures* shall be no more than one additional *story* higher than the existing *structure*. To the extent architecturally practicable, two-story additions shall be set to the rear or the side rear of the *structure*. When an additional *story* is to be placed upon an existing contributing *structure*, that footprint may be no greater than fifty percent of the footprint of the existing *structure*, subject to the provisions of Subsection A(1) above. For this paragraph, an additional *story* shall not exceed twelve (12) feet from the existing rooftop to the highest point of that *story*.
- (3) Remodeling to Increase Height; Rooftop Appurtenances
- (a) For *remodeling* of existing significant and *landmark structures*, no increase in height of the *structures* is permitted. (For standards relating to additions to existing *structures*, see paragraph (2) above.)
 - (b) For significant and *landmark structures*, *publicly visible* rooftop appurtenances, including but not limited to solar collectors, clerestories, decks, or mechanical equipment, shall not be added, nor shall the parapet be raised to conceal the *rooftop appurtenances*. For contributing *buildings*, solar collectors, clerestories, decks, or mechanical equipment if *publicly visible* shall not be added.
- (4) Porches and Portals
- Existing *porches* or *portals* shall not be enclosed.
- (5) Windows, Doors, and Other Architectural Features
- (a) For all facades of significant and *landmark structures* and for the primary facades of contributing *structures*:
 - (i) Historic windows shall be repaired or restored wherever possible. Historic windows that cannot be repaired or restored shall be duplicated in the size, style, and material of the original. Thermal double-pane glass may be used. No opening shall be widened or narrowed.
 - (ii) No new opening shall be made where one presently does not exist unless historic documentation supports its prior existence.

(iii) No existing opening shall be closed.

(b) For all façades of significant, contributing, and *landmark structures*, architectural features, finishes, and details other than doors and windows shall be repaired rather than replaced. In the event *replacement* is necessary, the use of new material may be approved. The new material shall match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. *Replacement* or duplication of missing features shall be substantiated by documentation, physical, or pictorial evidence.

(6) Roofs

The existing roof styles and materials shall be maintained or replaced in kind if necessary. The addition of dormers or other roof features should only be considered when they are an existing or historical feature of the *structure*.

(8) Archaeological Resources

Discovery of archaeological resources made during the historic districts review process shall be referred to the archaeological review committee.

(9) Height, Pitch, Scale, Massing, and Floor Stepbacks

The height, pitch, *scale*, and massing of any *structure* in a historic district, as defined in this section, shall be limited as provided for in this section, unless further restricted within this chapter.

(a) Applicability

The following sections identify specific areas and specific *projects* subject to this section. Planning and land use department staff shall determine whether or not properties are included within this section. (Ord. No. 2007-45 § 30; Ord. #2020-22, § 16)

F. When the proposed *building*, *yardwall*, or fence is located in a *streetscape* that includes no *buildings*, *yardwalls*, or fences, the height of the proposed *building* shall not exceed sixteen (16) feet. *Yardwalls* and fences in this *streetscape* shall not exceed five (5) feet in height.

(c) Height

(ii) In exercising its authority under this section, the board shall limit the height of *structures* as outlined in this section. Heights of existing *structures* shall be as set forth on the official map of *building* heights in the historic districts.

A. If a proposed *building* has a parapet, the façade shall not be in excess of two (2) feet of the average of the height of the façades in the *streetscape*.

B. If the proposed *building* has a pitched roof, the ridge height of the proposed *building* shall not be in excess of two (2) feet above the average of the ridge height of the pitched roofs in the *streetscape*.

- C. *Yardwalls* and fences shall be limited to a height that does not exceed the average of the height of other *yardwalls* and fences in the *streetscape*.
- D. Pursuant to Section 14-7.4(C), the height of any other *structure* shall be limited to the allowable *building* height within the applicable *streetscape*, as defined in this section. (Ord. No. 2002-37 § 26)
- E. The height and dimension of signage are as outlined in Section 14-8.10(H).
- F. The board may increase the allowable height for proposed *buildings* and additions located on a sloping site where the difference in the natural *grade* along the *structure's* foundation exceeds two (2) feet. In no case shall the height of a façade exceed four (4) feet above the allowable height of the applicable *streetscape* measured from natural or finished *grade*, whichever is more restrictive. This increase in height shall be constructed only in the form of *building* stepbacks from the *street*.

(d) Pitch

If the determined *streetscape* includes over fifty percent of *buildings* with pitched roofs, the proposed *building* may have a pitched roof. A pitched roof is defined as a gable, shed, or *hipped roof*. The pitch of the roof shall match the predominant pitch extant in the *streetscape*.

(e) Scale

The height of a proposed *building* or addition, its façade length, and its roof form and pitch shall appear to be in proportion to the height, façade length, and roof form and pitch of *buildings* in the applicable *streetscape*, or the *building* on which the addition is proposed.

(f) Massing and Floor Stepbacks

The Board may require that upper floor levels be stepped back, to carry out the intent of this section; provided that the board in making such determinations shall take into account whether the height of the proposed *building*, *yardwall*, fence, or proposed stepback of upper floor levels is in harmony with the massing of the applicable *streetscape* and *preservation* of the historic and characteristic visual qualities of the *streetscape*. The Board shall also require that the *publicly visible* façades of the *structure* be in conformance with Subsections 14-5.2(E) through (H), and in meeting those requirements, may require that different floor levels be stepped back.

(H) Don Gaspar Area Historic District

(1) District Standards

Compliance with the following structural standards shall occur wherever those exterior features of *buildings* and other *structures* subject to public view from any public *street*, way, or other public place are erected, altered, or demolished:

- (a) Slump block, stucco, brick, stone, or wood shall be used as exterior *wall* materials. Aluminum siding, metal panels, mirrored glass, and unstuccoed concrete block or unstuccoed concrete shall not be used as exterior *wall* materials. The painting of *buildings* with a color that causes arresting or spectacular effects, or with bold repetitive patterns, or using *buildings* as signs, is prohibited. Murals, however, are permitted and may be referred to the city arts board for an advisory recommendation.
- (b) Roof forms, including but not limited to flat, gabled, shed, and *hipped roofs*, are allowed. Folded plate or hyperbolic roofs are not allowed.
- (c) The use of solar and other energy-collecting and conserving strategies is encouraged. The use of large glazed areas on south-facing *walls* for trombe *walls* or other solar collectors, *greenhouses*, garden rooms, direct gain, or other energy-collecting purposes is allowed. When in view from any public *street*, way, or other public place, solar equipment shall be screened by the following methods:
 - (i) raising the parapet;
 - (ii) setting back from the edge of the roof;
 - (iii) framing the collector with wood;
 - (iv) in the case of pitched roofs, by integrating the collector into the pitch;
 - (v) in case of ground solar collectors, by a *wall* or vegetation;
 - (vi) in the case of *wall* collectors, by enclosing on one end or the other *walls*;
 - (vii) other means that screen the collector or integrate it into the overall *structure*.Non-glare materials shall be used in solar collectors.
- (d) Mechanical, electrical, telephone equipment, microwave satellite receiving dishes, and other obtrusive equipment shall be architecturally screened by opaque materials by raising the parapet, framing in the equipment, or other appropriate means. The equipment shall be of a low profile to minimize the *screening* problems.
- (e) *Walls* and fences shall be of brick, *adobe*, masonry, rock, wood, coyote fencing, or similar materials. Wrought iron fences and slump block *walls* are allowed. *Walls* of unstuccoed concrete, chain-link, metal wire, or similar materials are prohibited, except where the *wall* or fence is not in view from any public *street*, way, or other public place.
- (f) *Greenhouses*. Attached *greenhouses* that front on the *street* shall give the appearance of being integrated into the *structure* of the *building* or of being a substantive addition rather than having a lean-to effect. The use of corrugated fiberglass or rolled plastic for the external surface of attached or freestanding *greenhouses* that front on the *street* is prohibited. *Greenhouses* with slanting sides shall be bracketed at the ends, and the *greenhouses* made from enclosed *porches* or *portales* shall maintain the shape of the *porch* or *portal*.
- (g) For *residential* uses, paving with asphalt or parking is not allowed in the front *yard* except on the sidewalk or driveway.

- (h) For commercial uses, zoned C-1 front *yards* are required to be landscaped, and no required front *yard* shall be used for *off-street parking*.
- (i) As a condition of any rezoning, all *applicants* shall provide evidence of sufficient *off-street parking* and an intent to maintain the architectural integrity of the existing *building* or to conform to the architectural style of the district if constructing a *building* on a vacant *lot*.

(2) Walls; Fences; Solar Collectors; Administration

Applications for the erection, alteration, or destruction of *walls*, fences, and solar collectors and required submittals shall be reviewed by the planning and land use department. Approval, disapproval, or referral shall be indicated by the division on the *application* for the *building permit* and on each of the required submittals, all of which shall be signed by the division staff assigned to the review. The division shall report approvals, disapprovals, or referrals to the board at its next regular meeting as an informational item. (Ord. No. 2007-45 § 30; Ord. #2020-22, § 16)

DEFINITIONS:

14-12 Contributing Structure:

A structure, located in a historic district, approximately fifty years old or older, that helps to establish and maintain the character of that historic district. Although a contributing structure is not unique in itself, it adds to the historic associations or historic architectural design qualities that are significant for a district. The contributing structure may have had minor alterations, but its integrity remains.

14-12 Primary Façade:

One or more principal faces or elevations of a building with features that define the character of the building's architecture.