

# G. P. SCHAFFER ARCHITECT

— ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN —

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**TO:** Town of Concord – Concord Historical Commission  
141 Keyes Road  
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**FROM:** Christopher Whelan  
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**PROJECT:** No. 2006

**RE:** Concord Historical Commission: Historical Significance Assessment

G. P. Schafer Architect (GPSA) was approached in early 2020 to restore and enlarge the partially demolished home at 900 Tanglewood Drive. For GPSA, “Tanglewood House” has always been a project with two goals; the first, being a most practical one, focusing on the creation of a gracious and functional home for our clients which would adapt to the needs of their growing family; and the second goal being to restore and recreate as faithfully as possible the massing, character, and details of the original turn-of-the-century house. Indeed, Tanglewood is “an excellent example of a three-story Federal Revival House,” and is something GPSA wanted to preserve from the very outset of our involvement in the project.

At GPSA we have a profound respect and love of old homes and are comfortable working with conditions as challenging as those we find at Tanglewood. We collaborate with many artisans and craftspeople to create bespoke homes with historic authenticity that will continue to endure. As highlighted in GPSA exhibits A, B, and C, you will find that GPSA is more than qualified to work in the context of a historic reproduction having executed complete home reproductions many times in our twenty-year history.

There are many features of Tanglewood House that we are planning to either refurbish or remake in-kind. A selection of key features are noted and described below. Please also refer to GPSA exhibit D where we have provided a drawing of each proposed elevation next to the current building conditions. From this, we hope you will see how carefully we have worked to maintain, restore, and to recreate many of the features of the original house which are still preserved to this day albeit in a deteriorated condition.

- **Building Massing & Layout:**

We have matched exactly the massing, roof shape, size, siting, and height of the original 1899 house while adding secondary and sympathetic additions to the North, West, and East. All of the new additions were added in such a way as to not overpower or detract from the original and existing core of the house – both in scale and in architectural detailing. Also, GPSA has maintained the exact disposition and size of several original rooms including the first floor living room, stair hall, powder room, and dining room. These rooms are of considerable note as they are determinant of the layout of the windows and fenestration on the North, West, and South facades. The layout of these windows is a unique and recognizable feature of the original house.

- **Solid Wood Quoining, Cornice, Running Trim, Modillion Brackets, and Window Trim:**

We have salvaged and will continue to salvage the best sections of this existing material and will infill with new, custom handmade solid wood profiles as required on the reconstructed façade. The house will be clad in new solid wood clapboards. At GPSA, we take special pride in our replication of historic molding profiles having worked with many significant period and revival homes of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

- **The South Entry Porch:**

We will plan to restore the idea of the original building's *porte cochere* with a new open columned entry porch with appropriate Federal Revival detailing, columns, and balustrades.

- **Third Floor Palladian Window:**

We will plan to salvage and replace this window and surround with new custom mahogany insulated window units and new custom, handmade solid wood trim, brackets, etc. to match the original window design exactly.

- **The North Entry:**

We are planning to create a new surround for the North facing first floor entry door in a manner authentic to other Federal Revival homes of the period and in keeping with the scale of the existing and original entry. We are maintaining the original character and composition of this North façade with a single window centered above a porticoed entry door with smaller flanking windows to either side.

- **Chimneys & Masonry:**

Like the original house, all chimneys will be made of brick and the foundation walls will be clad in regionally appropriate solid fieldstone veneer.

Respectfully submitted,

G. P. SCHAFFER ARCHITECT, DPC



Christopher Whelan  
Project Manager