Jill and Jeffrey Casebolt
108 20th Avenue SW, Olympia, WA 98501
360-339-2253 (Jill) 360-688-6485 (Jeff)
jill.casebolt@gmail.com

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Dear Members of the Olympia Heritage Committee,

We are writing to you regarding the review you will be undertaking for our property at 108 20th Avenue SW in Olympia. As we learned only yesterday that our home is considered among the historically registered properties of the area, it has come as a shock that the river rock piers we have been so keen to finish are considered a violation of your standards.

When we were informed by Marygrace Goddu that our entire neighborhood was added to the register in the late 1970's we were surprised indeed! As homeowners who purchased this house in 2013, were never made aware of this fact. It is written no where in our purchasing agreement, Title and was not disclosed by the pervious owner. Had we known that our house was considered a historic home on the National Registry we would have never begun a project without first taking the appropriate steps.

The very reason we chose this home and have spent the last 7 years lovingly restoring it is because we deeply respect the Craftsman aesthetic. We fully agree with the mission of your committee.

Please understand that we spent a long time researching Craftsman river rock piers of the early 1900s and took great care to replicate the dimensions and style of the original piers. We replaced the porch railing to the exact measurements of its predecessor. We believed the river rock piers would be an improvement on the wooden piers which were rotting and had been modified with inauthentic materials over the life of our home. Again, we were not aware that we needed permission to do this. We honestly believed we were improving our property by creating stability and sustainability in line with the Craftsman bungalow aesthetics of the period. We are including three attachments for your perusal regarding our research and building process.

Throughout the last several weeks as we've have been working on this project outside, neighbors from throughout the district have complimented our work and commented positively about the new features. Many have said that the rock piers look as though they have always been a part of the house. This was our intention and the reason we took our research so seriously. Many of our neighbors are willing to write statements of support, if needed.

It would be a great hardship and waste of materials to remove the river rock piers. We understand that you may choose to amend the National Registry because of the changes we've made. We ask you to please consider that this project was done with the very best intentions and we sincerely hope to continue it to completion.

Please feel free to visit our home and view the piers from the sidewalk and our porch. You are most welcome (you may hear a dog barking). The piers and top of the railing are not complete so please excuse the obvious need for sanding, painting and finishing. Also, please feel free to contact either of us if you have additional questions about our process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jill and Jeffrey Casebolt