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To: [Planning Board](#)
Subject: Comments on 12 Summer Street PCRC application
Date: Thursday, April 05, 2012 9:53:39 AM

Hello Planning board & staff:

This is a response to the PCRC application on file at <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-4722>

Bias alert: I'm unhappily astonished at the notion that anyone thinks it's a good idea to put big houses up against the heart of the cemetery, with no connection to other houses or businesses near by, other than a long un-sidewalked common driveway built to destroy walking trails that have been heavily used for years. Seems like a lose for the future residents, the cemetery, and the people that use the trails.

So, please understand that I'm not reviewing this application as a non-biased public servant, but instead as a citizen who cares about the character of Acton.

Here's some comments on specific items in the PCRC application.

#15 - claims there are no quarries on the site. There's an old gravel quarry in the southwest corner of the site near the unnamed(?) feeder to Heath Hen Meadow brook - a big gouge at the end of what I take to be an esker there.

#17 - claims it is not used as an open space and recreation area, but question #16 acknowledges the trail that runs through there - it is a very well-used trail.

#18 claims the site does not include scenic views, but it looks over the historic chapel & the rest of the Mt. Hope cemetery - and the houses will dramatically change the view from the cemetery.

#21 claims no hazardous waste stored on site. But the site plan claims the cemetery shed - have they verified what's stored in there?

#23 claims nothing of historical interest - but what about the GAR boundary markers claimed by the new bounds, and the remnants of headstones near the shed?

#31 claims no undeveloped land adjacent, but the land sold to the town of Acton by Sweeney adjacent to the stream is still undeveloped.

I gather Corey York has been researching the new boundary proposed in the ANR filing and re-used for the PCRC filing. I believe that this new boundary needs to be challenged aggressively - it flies in the face of more than 100 years of mapping of that site, and takes away significant land owned by the cemetery.

-Jim

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