At 374 Columbus Avenue the apartments have a compliance alternative for egress, where the second means of egress require a resident to go through a window and across a fire escape into the neighboring apartment. Most of the Apartment windows are at the level of the fire escape or have taller windows at meet the fire escape. At 374 D, the resident is required to crawl out the window and down to the fire escape.

The proposal is to modify the window oening to drop it down to the level of the fire-escape and put in a door.

For the following reasons we feel that this should be approved by the South End Landmarks Commission:

- 1. The change is primarily for safety and although it will improve the quality of life for the resident, it will vastly improve the means of egress.
- 2. This is the secondary elevation of the building and is not critical to the historic fabric of the architecture.
- 3. The window in question is tucked back from the street and hard to see unless you are looking for it.
- 4. The rear facade of the building has multiple window sizes and types this alteration is in character with alterations over time and does not subtantially deviate from the rhythm and character of the rest of the building.

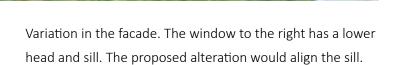


Location of window being altered





Existing fire escape would remain.



The windows below are much taller and the proposed alteration would be consitent with this height.





View showing the proposed alteration from Appleton Street

- These views show that the alteration will be hard to notice from the street
- They show the variation in the facade and variety of window sizes
- The egress balcomies all seem to be aligned at the bottom of the balcony except at this location.







Note the change of windows and size at this location. That being said the window is at the height of the balcony.





View from Appleton Street Showing windows and doors without mutins.





