



Wright Tavern Legacy Trust

2 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742

Visit www.WrightTavern.org

March 17, 2025

Concord Historic Commission
141 Keyes Road
Concord, MA 01742

Dear Commissioners:

The purpose of this letter is to summarize our proposal for the rehabilitation work we are planning to do on the Wright Tavern. This is for Phase I of our Rehabilitation Project.

There are three tasks we presented for approval by the Historic Commission at the meeting on March 13th, 2025 in this phase. They are:

1. Approval to paint designated surfaces on the first floor of the building.
2. Replacement of ceiling light fixtures in the April 19th Room (101) and Tea Room (108)
3. Removal of the walls to begin preparation of the Refreshment Center (103)

To place this proposal into a broader context, this work is focused on preparing the Wright Tavern for the major celebration of Concord250. We are expecting thousands of visitors and want the experience of the visitors to be a meaningful one. The work we're doing is consistent with the long-range plans that we have for the Wright Tavern. This is why we are referring to this work as a Phase I. There will be more opportunities for the CHC to be involved in reviewing and approving other work we are planning for the Wright Tavern consistent with the Preservation Restriction Agreement.

Task 1 – Paint Colors

The color pallet we chose for the Wright Tavern is based on research and expertise. Fortunately, we have found a few spots where the original internal paint colors were revealed. Blues, greens, reds and golden rod colors are clearly shown as once being used in the Tavern. We do

not know the original colors of the rooms. The Tavern has been owned by sixteen different individuals and has had over forty uses over its almost 300-year history. We are not seeking to recreate a single point in time, but to use a color pallet to reflect different time periods in the history of the building. The following are our criteria in selecting these colors:

- 1 The colors will be those that closely resemble what was used in homes and commercial buildings of the eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
- 2 The paint will be of high quality material with a matt finish.
- 3 The paint will provide a visual flow and consistency as one moves from room to room in a manner that reflects the purpose and time period of each room.
- 4 When multiple paints are used in a room for the walls, door and trim, the colors should be complimentary and appropriately highlight the distinct features of the room.
- 5 The paint will be applied by professional painters with a positive reputation in the Concord area.

We will be using the paints produced by Benjamin Moore and are selected from their “Historic Collection.” To complete the first task, the following are the color that will be used in each room.

Room Name	PR #	Wall Color	Trim Color	Ceiling
Wright Tavern	109	Castwell Green	Cushing Green	Flat white
Tap Room	104	Harwood Putty	No Paint, Natural Wood	Flat white
Entry Hall	107	Harwood Putty	Audubon Russet	Flat white
April 19th Room	101	Monterey White	Quincy Tan	Flat white
Provincial Congress Room	102	Landcaster Whitewash	Hamilton Blue	Flat white
Tea Room	108	Templeton Grey	No Paint, Natural Wood	Flat white
Refreshment Center	103	Monterey White	Duxbury Grey	Flat white
Bathroom 1	105	Wallpaper/Harwood Putty	Hale Navy	Flat white
Bathroom 2 (ADA featured)	106	Wallpeper/Harwood Putty	Harwood Putty	Flat white
Hallway	100	Monterey White	Providence Olive	Flat white

This paint will be applied only to those surfaces that have been painted. We will only do patching that is necessary to fill existing nail holes. Sections of walls that show original work will not be patched or filled. The only exception in the painting list above is for the paneling in the Tea Room. This needs to be painted to create the atmosphere we are seeking in that room. We did not discuss this specifically in our meeting and therefore will not paint the walls at this time. We will include this color in our discussion under Phase II. The colors are shown on the architectural drawings submitted in advance of the meeting. The only thing left out of the packet sent to the Commission was the color red shown for the entry hall trim and back of the

door in the Tap Room. This is close to the color we found in the closet in the entryway (Audubon Russet H-51). An image of the color is shown below:



Task 2 – Replace Ceiling Lights

In the Tea Room (108) and the April 19th Room (101), we want to remove the florescent light fixtures and in the exiting electrical boxes, install a wafer light fixture approximately 10” in diameter. Then, in the electrical boxes that are shown on either side of the windows at end of the Tea Room (facing Main Street and First Parish), where there are existing electrical boxes, we will install 4 sconces in the period of 1920 when the addition was built onto the Wright Tavern. Here are the light fixtures we want to install:



Ceiling fixtures



Tea Room Sconces

Task 3 – Remove Walls in Preparation of Refreshment Center

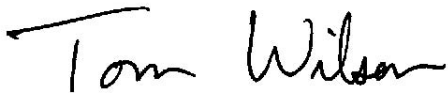
As part of the vision for the Wright Tavern as a gathering place, an appealing place for meetings, events, celebrations, reenactments, we are planning to develop an operating Refreshment Center within the building. The design of the first and basement floors is being developed by a professional kitchen designer. The design will need to pass the review of the Concord Health Department and Building Department as well as the Concord Historical Commission. Both walls have been designated as “Modern.” The first phase of this plan is to remove two walls that were installed in 1997 by Holly Cratsley. By removing these walls, we are returning the building to more of its original features. This will enable us to create an area that will serve refreshments, much like taverns of colonial America. Removing the walls will also enable us to test whether this feature is an attractive service for the Wright Tavern experience during the Concord250 celebrations. The location was described in the documents sent earlier. And, we plan on locating a counter that will (hopefully and ultimately) be the counter for the Refreshment Center and will be freestanding at this time.

Conclusion

This letter is a summary of our proposal and hopefully meets our obligation to provide the Commission with a clear and compelling overview of Phase I changes to the Wright Tavern. The modifications outlined above were approved by the Commission in the March 13th meeting pending the submission of this summary letter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me and we will address them in a timely manner. We appreciate the support and engagement of the Commission as we seek to bring the next chapter in the life of the Wright Tavern to reality.

Sincerely yours,



Tom Wilson
Chair, Wright Tavern Legacy Trust
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