

#### **PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

#### **Town of Durham**

8 Newmarket Road Durham, NH 03824-2898 Phone (603) 868-8064 www.ci.durham.nh.us

# **CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION**

Date: 2/27/2024

# **Property information**

Property address/location: 12 Oyster River Rd, Durham, NH, 03824

Tax map #: 109 (& partially 113); lot #('s): 80; Zoning District: RA

# **Property owner**

Name (include name of individual): New Heritage Designs (Katherine Cook)

Mailing address: 12 Oyster River Rd, Durham, NH 03824

Telephone #: <u>631-871-6119</u> Email: <u>katherineleecook@gmail.com</u>

# **Engineer, Surveyor, or Other Professional**

Name (include name of individual): Rye Beach Landscaping (Ben Groves)

Mailing address: 8 Perennial Place, Exeter, NH, 03833

Telephone #: 603-964-6888 Email address: design@ryebeachlandscaping.com

# **Proposed project**

Activity within the WCOD \_\_\_\_; Activity within the SPOD \_X\_; Other proposal or activity \_\_\_\_\_

What is the proposed project? Add a 12'x12' deck off of house, install retaining wall and stone steps to mitigate runoff and erosion, install permeable patio off of driveway and at base of stone steps.

Which provision in the zoning ordinance calls for this conditional use? A-1: The construction of streets, roads, driveways, access ways (but not including any parking areas other than those serving single-family uses), bridge crossings, and utilities including pipelines, power lines, and transmission lines

Justification for granting the conditional use: The retaining wall, steps, and patio will manage runoff and the resulting erosion issues and also allow safe access to the rear of the property. The style of the masonry hardscaping will be fitting with the surroundings, and the landscaping will be comprised of native plants that will also aid with erosion control and replace invasive species like barberry, buckthorn, and bittersweet that were ground down last summer. The deck

will be tucked in a corner of the house to remain low-profile and will allow access to enjoy the rear yard from the main floor of the house.
Have you completed the conditional use checklist? <u>Yes</u>
(over)

#### Other Information

Please note the following:

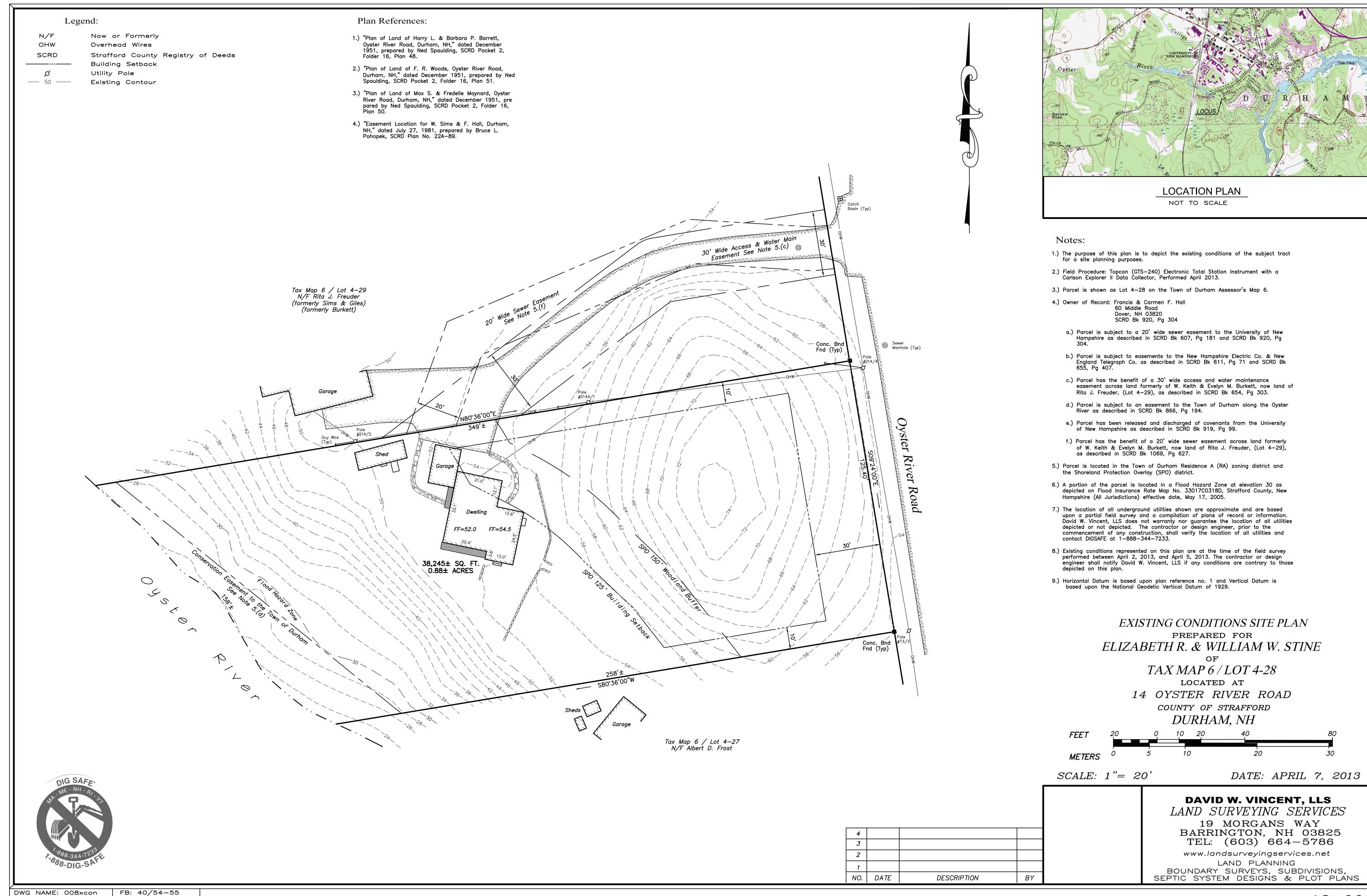
- Coordinate with Michael Behrendt, the Durham Town Planner, at 868-8064 or <u>mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us</u> about the process and other information that may be needed.
- Coordinate with Karen Edwards, Planning Department Administrative Assistant, at 868-8064 or <a href="mailto:kedwards@ci.durham.nh">kedwards@ci.durham.nh</a> about fees and preparing the abutters list. All property owners within 300 feet of the site will be notified about the application and public hearing.
- Please be sure to attend all meetings of the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission, if the latter will be making a recommendation.
- The Planning Board may schedule a site walk after the first meeting.
- A public hearing will be held on the application. A sign must be placed on the property <u>by</u>
   <u>the applicant</u> at least 10 days prior to the hearing.
- The applicant will need to address the eight general conditional use criteria. For conditional
  uses within the Wetland or Shoreland Overlay Districts four additional specific criteria must
  be addressed by the applicant.
- For conditional uses within the Wetland or Shoreland Overlay Districts, the application will be presented to the Conservation Commission for a recommendation.
- See Article VII in the Zoning Ordinance for additional information about conditional uses.
- We encourage you to check with the New Hampshire Division of Environmental Services to see if any state permits are needed prior to spending money on any Town applications.

# Submission of application

This application must be signed by the property owner(s) *and/or* the agent.

I(we) attest to the best of my(our) knowledge that all of the information on this application form and in the accompanying application materials and documentation is true and accurate. As agent, I attest that I am duly authorized to act in this capacity.

Signature of property owner:	Pathaloh	
	Date: <u>2/27/2024</u>	
Signature of agent:		· · · · · · · · ·
[form revised September 25, 2020]	Date:	



# Conditional Use Checklist <u>for WCOD and SPOD applications</u> \*To be filled out by the applicant/agent and returned with the application

Address or location of property: 12 Oyster River Rd, Durham, NH, 03824

Applicant/agent <u>Katherine Cook</u> Owner, if different from applicant:	_
Map: <u>109 (&amp; partially 113)</u> Lot: <u>80</u> Date: <u>2/27/2024</u>	
The following items must be included in a conditional use application for activity within the Wetland Conservation Overlay District ( <u>WCOD</u> ) and the Shoreland Protection Overlay Distri ( <u>SPOD</u> ). Please mark the items below and return this form to the Planning Department.	ct
General items and documentation:	
X Conditional use application	
X This conditional use checklist	
N/A A letter of intent/narrative describing the project	
X A narrative addressing the 8 general conditional use criteria	
X A narrative addressing the 4 specific criteria for activity within the WCOD and SPOD	
X An electronic/pdf version of the plan (below)	
Application and notice fees. Please coordinate with Tracey Cutler, Admin. Assistant.	
Abutters list including properties within 300 feet of the subject lot. Please coordinate with Tracey Cutler.	
N/A Letter or email from property owner authorizing agent to submit the application or represent them, if applicable	
X Photograph(s) of the site showing where the proposed activity will occur	
X Confirmation that the applicant will install a sign on the property about the public hearing once the hearing date with the Planning Board is set	
X Confirmation that the applicant has seen the documents Considerations for Potential Impacts on Wetlands and Wetland and Shoreland Resources for Applicants. No action is required in regard to these documents; rather applicants are simply encouraged to review and consider information contained in the documents.	
X Confirmation that the applicant has discussed their project with the Town Planner	
No Is a permit through the New Hampshire Division of Environmental Services required?	
No Is the site subject to review under the New Hampshire Rivers Management Program, RSA 483 or the Shoreland Protection Act, RSA 483B?	

## Narrative addressing the 4 specific criteria for activity within the WCOD and SPOD

1. There is no alternative location on the parcel that is outside of the WCOD that is reasonably practical for the proposed use;

No, The entire rear side of the house is inside the SPOD so there is no other place to put a door and deck to access the rear yard that would be outside the buffer.

2. The amount of soil disturbance will be the minimum necessary for the construction and operation of the facilities as determined by the Planning Board;

All efforts will be taken by the construction and landscaping crews to keep any necessary soil disturbances to a minimum: The small size of the deck will require only two footings be installed and a silt sock will be installed at the top of the rear yard slope for the duration of construction. The deck and hardscaping will be completed simultaneously as to reduce the amount of machinery travelling across the soil.

3. The location, design, construction, and maintenance of the facilities will minimize any detrimental impact on the adjacent shoreland and waterbody as well as downstream waterbodies, and mitigation activities will be undertaken to counterbalance any adverse impacts;

The deck is minimal in size and will not significantly obtrude into the environment. The hardscaping will resolve a current erosion issue threatening the southeast rear slope of the yard.

4. Restoration activities will leave the site, as nearly as possible, in its existing condition and grade at the time of application for the Conditional Use Permit.

Re-Grading will be required to build up the soil lost to erosion and install the retaining wall and steps. This will be done only to the extent needed to complete the designs outlined in the plan and will not significantly change the appearance of the grading in the area. The plans have been designed to maintain the existing grade as much as possible, which is why the steps are needed because of the steep slope in that area.

## Narrative addressing the 8 general conditional use criteria

- 1. Site suitability: The site is suitable for the proposed use. This includes:
  - a. Adequate vehicular and pedestrian access for the intended use.
- b. The availability of adequate public services to serve the intended use including emergency services, pedestrian facilities, schools, and other municipal services.

N/A

- c. The absence of environmental constraints (floodplain, steep slope, etc.).

  N/A- this plan addresses accessibility and runoff issues due to a steep slope
- d. The availability of appropriate utilities to serve the intended use including water, sewage disposal, stormwater disposal, electricity, and similar utilities.

N/A

2. External impacts: The external impacts of the proposed use on abutting properties and the neighborhood shall be no greater than the impacts of adjacent existing uses or other uses permitted in the zone. This shall include, but not be limited to, traffic, noise, odors, vibrations, dust, fumes, hours of operation, and exterior lighting and glare. In addition, the location, nature, design, and height of the structure and its appurtenances, its scale with reference to its surroundings, and the nature and intensity of the use, shall not have an adverse effect on the surrounding environment nor discourage the appropriate and orderly development and use of land and buildings in the neighborhood.

The deck and hardscaping will not contribute additional external impacts to abutting properties

3. Character of the site development: The proposed layout and design of the site shall not be incompatible with the established character of the neighborhood and shall mitigate any external impacts of the use on the neighborhood. This shall include, but not be limited to, the relationship of the building to the street, the amount, location, and screening of off-street parking, the treatment of yards and setbacks, the buffering of adjacent properties, and provisions for vehicular and pedestrian access to and within the site.

The deck and hardscaping will not protrude out towards the street and will not increase the traffic to the property. The deck does not encroach on any zoning setback areas.

4. Character of the buildings and structures: The design of any new buildings or structures and the modification of existing buildings or structures on the site shall not be incompatible with the established character of the neighborhood. This shall include, but not be limited to, the scale, height, and massing of the building or structure, the roof line, the architectural treatment of the front or street elevation, the location of the principal entrance, and the material and colors proposed to be used.

The hardscaping and deck design are in line with the established character of the neighborhood and surrounding environment.

5. Preservation of natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources: The proposed use of the site, including all related development activities, shall preserve identified natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources on the site and shall not degrade such identified resources on abutting properties. This shall include, but not be limited to, identified wetlands, floodplains, significant wildlife habitat, stonewalls, mature tree lines, cemeteries, graveyards, designated historic buildings or sites, scenic views, and viewsheds.

All mature trees are to remain

6. Impact on property values: The proposed use will not cause or contribute to a significant decline in property values of adjacent properties.

The proposed plans will likely increase property values by allowing the homeowner and guests to enjoy the beautiful property.

7. Availability of Public Services & Facilities: Adequate and lawful facilities or arrangements for sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, water supply, utilities, drainage, and other necessary public or private services, are approved or assured, to the end that the use will be capable of proper operation. In addition, it must be determined that these services will not cause excessive demand on municipal services, including, but not limited to, water, sewer, waste disposal, police protection, fire protection, and schools.

N/A

8. Fiscal impacts: The proposed use will not have a negative fiscal impact on the Town unless the Planning Board determines that there are other positive community impacts that off-set the negative fiscal aspects of the proposed use. The Planning Board's decision shall be based upon an analysis of the fiscal impact of the project on the town. The Planning Board may commission, at the applicant's expense, an independent analysis of the fiscal impact of the project on the town.

N/A



