

09. Exterior Color

In exploring possible exterior color combinations for this project, we came upon a house in Emporia, Kansas, and known as the Cross House. It dates from 1890 and shares many of the same architectural elements found at 118 Main Avenue, including a wraparound porch, a tower, a pedimented entry with bas relief, a large frieze element, and columns atop plinths.

During their restoration project, the owners of the Cross House found, and color-matched original paint hues found on the property. We spoke with the owners, and they generously shared these color formulas with us.

The cladding color is Sherwin-Williams “Artifact” (SW-6138). This is a brownish tone that is a near match to Benjamin Moore “Livingston Gold” (BM-16). While Livingston Gold is not on the pre-approved color list, the color was previously deemed historically appropriate and was approved by the Commission for use at the neighboring house, 112 Main Avenue, in 2017.

The trim color found at the Cross House is a custom shade of olive green. While the pre-approved color list has several green hues, none of them are olive in color. The proposed green, dubbed “Irish Sod” by the owners of the Cross House, is a browned-out hue we feel is in keeping with the existing list of pre-approved colors. We ask the Commission to consider approving it for use as trim color for this project.

The window color proposed for 118 Main Avenue is black. This is the same color window used at the Cross House. The included photographs of that property show what the overall effect we are proposing to create at 118 Main Avenue.

To aid the Commission in their consideration, we have included an illustration of all the pre-approved green hues, with this new color (“Irish Sod”) inserted between the existing pre-approved shades. We believe this illustration demonstrates the proposed color fits nicely within the existing pre-approved hues while offering a shade not otherwise available on the pre-approved list.

Note: Because “Irish Sod” does not match any pre-mixed colors from neither Sherwin-Williams nor Benjamin Moore, we are not asking the Commission to add it to the pre-approved color list, but rather, to approve its use on this project. (We know of no way to conveniently specify the color to other homeowners without providing the full Sherwin-Williams color formula).

Following the color comparison charts, we have included photographs of the Cross House as an illustration of what we propose. We have also included a “colorized” mockup of the north façade for your review.



Left: Proposed Cladding Color, Sherwin-Williams “Artifact” (SW-6138)

Right: The nearly identical color, Benjamin Moore “Livingston Gold” (BM-16), approved for 112 Main Avenue in 2017.



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| Benjamin Moore Sherwood Green HC-118 | Benjamin Moore Georgian Green HC-115 | Benjamin Moore Providence Olive HC-98 | Sherwin Williams Colonial Revival Green Stone SW 2826 | Sherwin Williams Sheraton Sage SW 0014 | | Benjamin Moore Great Barrington Green HC-122 | Benjamin Moore Avon Green HC-126 |
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| Sherwin Williams Rookwood Blue Green SW 2811 | Sherwin Williams Teal Stencil SW 0018 | Sherwin Williams Sage Green Light SW 2851 | Sherwin Williams Rookwood Dark Green SW 2816 | Benjamin Moore Yorketowne Green HC-133 | Benjamin Moore Lafayette Green HC-135 | Sherwin Williams Roycroft Bronze Green SW 2846 | Sherwin Williams Roycroft Bottle Green SW 2847 |

Above are the 15 green hues on the pre-approved list of Historic Colors. The proposed trim color (so-called, “Irish Sod” green) is denoted by an arrow. The proposed hue augments the existing pre-approved colors by offering a true olive hue while keeping with the grayed- or browned-down characteristic of colors found on houses in the Historic District.

We propose to paint the cladding with the brown color and all trim the green color in keeping with the historic tradition of painting all trim (including window crowns, rails, and balusters, columns, etc.) a single shade. We would like to reserve the right to return to HPC after the house is painted if it is determined a third, accent color, would further enhance the architectural elements, specifically at the porch and frieze. Below, as an example, are photographs of the Cross House in Emporia, Kansas, which is painted in this same palette.



The Proposed Palette, “Artifact” and “Irish Sod”.



The Cross House in Emporia, KS. Photographs courtesy of Ross McTaggart, owner.

118 Main Avenue — “Bellflower”
HPC Application, April 2025



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