

Explanation of proposed enlargement of garage at God's Pocket located at 643 Edgartown Road, West Tisbury, MA 02575 –owned by Goldie Alfasi-Siffert (and John Siffert)

To: Zoning Board of Appeals, West Tisbury

Goldie and John purchased God's Pocket in 1987. (John has been coming to the Vineyard since 1953, when his parents began renting at the Menemsha Inn and later at various residences in Chilmark.) Goldie and John have spent every summer at God's pocket for the past 34 years. About 14 years ago, to preserve the structure from falling, they lifted the house to install a foundation and basement. After two years of work –including a ground floor extension -- the house was winterized, allowing Goldie and John to stay at God's Pocket at various times during the winter. Since the advent of the pandemic, they spent 13 months on the Vineyard. The garage was initially built in 1994 to store their car during the winter. The garage is able to store their 1997 Jeep Cherokee, but it is too small for the 2020 Subaru, which is the car they would keep in the garage during inclement winters. They also would like a place to store some of their lawn furniture in the winter months. In anticipation of enlarging the garage, John has spent the last year personally planting and moving trees, hollies, rhododendrons and other evergreen & deciduous plants to shelter the neighbors from the garage and increase the privacy along the property lines. We, Goldie and I, request rear yard setback relief of 1', and a west side yard setback relief of 28'. Thank you.