

EXHIBIT NO. 1

17

Docket Item #
BAR CASE #2000-0081

11-17-01

City Council
November 17, 2001

ISSUE: Appeal of a decision of the Board of Architectural Review, Old and Historic Alexandria District, denying driveway gates

APPLICANT AND

APPELLANT: Linda White

LOCATION: 619 South St. Asaph Street

ZONE: RM/Residential

Board of Architectural Action and Appeal:

At the public hearing of March 21, 2001, the Old and Historic Alexandria District Board of Architectural Review considered BAR Case #2000-0081, for the approval of metal vehicular gates at the front of the driveway for the residence at 619 South St. Asaph Street. The Board action was to deny the installation of the gates.

The Board denied the application for the metal vehicular gates by a vote of 4-1 largely because they concluded that the gates were inappropriate in the historic district because they would create a gated house that was designed to keep the public out. They Board also noted the considerable opposition of the immediate neighbors.

Building Description

The design of this new house was approved by the Board in 1999 (BAR Case #99-0181, 1/20/99). On August 10, 1999, a building permit (BLD99-01615) was issued to construct the single-family detached dwelling with a rear open porch and attached one car garage. The as built house created a series of zoning issues, most of which have been resolved. Two issues remain: three HVAC compressor units and a shed have been installed on the north side of the building in required open space and yard areas. Staff has cited the owner for the violations, including as recently as this month, and will require resolution. The zoning violations, however, are related to the house construction and not to the issue of the gates at the front of the driveway.

B.A.R. Staff Position Before the Board:

B.A.R. Staff had no objection to the installation of the metal gates because there are metal gates found in the historic district in very similar circumstances. For example, metal gates in front of driveways for houses which are somewhat removed from the street can be found at 322 South St. Asaph, 214 ½ North Fairfax Street as well as at 213 Cameron Street.

In addition, there are numerous examples of double leaved vehicular gates in front of driveways adjacent to houses throughout the Old & Historic Alexandria District which include metal picket gates as well as both solid and picket wood gates. Examples include:

Metal vehicular gates:

- 213 Cameron Street
- 401 Duke Street
- 224, 318 & 715 ½ South Lee Street
- 609 Oronoco Street
- 328 & 334 North Pitt Street
- 719 Prince Street
- 301, 312, 526 & 601 Queen Street
- 409 South Union Street

Wood vehicular gates:

- 500 & 702 South Fairfax Street
- 100 & 221 Gibbon Street
- 100 & 101 Pommander Walk
- 711 Prince Street
- 600 Princess Street
- 301 South St. Asaph Street

While Staff understands the neighbors preference for the open feeling of an ungated driveway area, Staff finds that the proposed gates to be well within the design vocabulary of the historic district.

City Council Action Alternatives:

Council may uphold or overturn the decision of the B.A.R., using the criteria in §10-105(A)(2) of the Zoning Ordinance (Attachment 3). City Council may also remand the project to the Board with instructions to consider alternatives.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Minutes of B.A.R. Meeting, March 21, 2001

Attachment 2: B.A.R. Staff Report, March 21, 2001

Attachment 3 Sec. 10-105(A)(2): Criteria to be considered for a Certificate of Appropriateness

Attachment 4: Photographs of 619 South St. Asaph Street

Attachment 5: Drawings of the proposed metal gates

Attachment 6: Letters from neighbors

STAFF: Eileen Fogarty, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning; Peter H. Smith, Principal Staff, Boards of Architectural Review.

REPORT ATTACHMENTS

MINUTES OF B.A.R. PUBLIC HEARING, March 21, 2001

CASE BAR2000-0081

Request for approval of driveway gates at **619 South Saint Asaph Street**, zoned RM Residential.

APPLICANT: Linda White

BOARD ACTION: **Denied portion, deferred portion for restudy, 4-1.**

MOTION: To deny the gates and defer the gas lights for restudy.

MAKER: Ms. Neihardt

SECOND: Mr. Keleher

SPEAKERS: Linda White, applicant
Warren Almquist, architect
Harold Folak, 617 South St. Asaph Street
Robert Wiles, neighbor, 608 South St. Asaph Street

NOTES: Ms. White described the proposal and said that she was open to different designs for the gates. She said that the revised proposal for the gas lights would include three along the rear fence, three on the fence to the south and two in the front, one on either side of the gates. She said that one of the principal reasons for the piers and gates was to address safety issues.

Mr. Almquist said he supported the application and said that the gates were tastefully done and that the application made sense.

Mr. Folak said he was Ms. White's neighbor and that he had no objection to the gates and supported the application. He said that the length of the driveway made it appear to be a public thoroughfare. He also noted safety issues with persons wandering up the driveway and said that there was a lack of privacy along the driveway. He noted that the gates proposed are similar to others along the blockface.

Mr. Wiles noted that the Board members had a number of letters in opposition to the proposed gates from concerned neighbors. He said that the proposed gates were 18' in width and would be electronically controlled vehicular gates. He said that this would make the house look like a gated compound that would be more appropriate in Chevy Chase or Potomac. Further, he said that the design was ugly and that car gates in Old Town were inappropriate. He said that there are other alternatives that could be used to address the safety concerns raised and that these need to be explored.

Mr. Keleher said that there were ten letters in opposition to the gates from nearby neighbors and only one letter in support. He also said that gates are largely unheard of in Old Town. He said it was

obvious that the neighbors felt very strongly about the gates and noted that he had concerns about the gas lights. He concluded that he was troubled by the application.

Mr. Smeallie asked about the gas lights.

Ms. White described their placement on the fence.

Mr. Smeallie said he agreed with Mr. Wiles that gates were not appropriate for Old Town. He said that the house looked very good from the public street and said that people walk into property all over Old Town. He said that if the gates were installed it would look like a gated house. He said he also opposed the gas lamps. He said that the design of the house was to be a background building and that the gas lamps were too high style for the design of the house. He said that there were other alternatives designs for the gas lights which should be explored.

Mr. Wheeler said that he agreed with Mr. Smeallie and that the gates did not project the appropriate image for Old Town.

Ms. Neihardt said she also agreed and then made a motion to defer the application for restudy.

Mr. Keleher seconded the motion.

Ms. White said that Mr. Wiles' house has a gated driveway and noted that there were the same size gates on other parts of the block. She said that singling her out for the gates was unfair. She said that she should be able to do what others have done on the blockface.

Mr. Smeallie then made a substitute motion to deny the application.

Vice-Chairman Fitzgerald said that he favored the gates and felt that they were very appropriate. He said that this was the same type of gate that the Board had approved for the automobile driveway for Carlyle House and that they had been installed for the same reasons noted by Ms. White. However, he said he did have a problem with the design of the gas lights.

Mr. Smeallie then withdrew his motion.

Ms. Neihardt then offered a substitute to her original motion. She moved that the gates be denied and that the gas lights be deferred for restudy for a more appropriate design.

Mr. Keleher seconded the motion.

Mr. Folak said that the Board was giving short shrift to safety and parking issues.

Vice-Chairman Fitzgerald then called the question on the motion which passed by a vote of 4-1 (Vice-Chairman Fitzgerald was opposed).

ATTACHMENT 2

B.A.R. STAFF REPORT, March 21, 2001

Docket Item #6
BAR CASE #2000-0081

BAR Meeting
March 21, 2001

ISSUE: Gates and lights
APPLICANT: Linda White
LOCATION: 619 South St Asaph Street
ZONE: RM Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends:

1. approval of the gate posts and gate; and,
2. Deferral of the gas light fixtures for restudy.

CHRONOLOGY:

September 6, 2000: Deferred at the request of the applicant until March 21, 2001

July 19, 2000: Approved as-built house; gates and lights deferred at the request of the applicant.

June 21, 2000: Deferred by Staff for improper posting.

DISCUSSION:

Applicant's Description of the Undertaking:

“Approval of entry gates to driveway to include stucco pillars with gas lights.

To add gas lights on previously approved brick pillars on fence line.”

Issue:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for new metal gates at the entrance of the driveway and new gaslights on the fence columns.

Stucco Gate Posts

Two stucco gates posts measuring approximately 1'6" in width and 4' in height are proposed to be installed near the front property line at the entrance to the driveway from South St. Asaph.

Metal Gate

A decorative metal gate is proposed to be installed between the gate posts. The gate is approximately 4' in height and will have two leaves each approximately 9' in width.

Gas Lights

Decorative gas lamps are proposed to be installed on the new gate posts as well as on the brick piers between the wood sections of fencing. The gas lamps are each 19" in height and have a Colonial Revival design vocabulary.

History and Analysis:

The design of this new house was approved by the Board in 1999 (BAR Case #99-0181, 1/20/99). On August 10, 1999, a building permit (BLD99-01615) was issued to construct the single-family detached dwelling with a rear open porch and attached one car garage.

The Board of Zoning Appeals approved a variance for the rear yard setback for the increased size of the porch on June 8, 2000 (BZA Case #2000-0016). On July 19, 2000, the Board approved the house as-built. The applicant requested approval of new stucco gate posts, a metal gate, and gas lights in the initial application, but deferred these items for consideration at a future date. The applicant is now ready to bring these items forward for consideration by the Board.

Staff has no objection to the proposed gate posts and decorative metal gates. Staff notes that there have been a number of letters from neighbors opposing these elements. However, Staff would note that there are similar metal gates in front of driveways for houses which are somewhat removed from the street. For example, similar metal gates can be found in the 300 block of South St. Asaph, the 200 block of North Fairfax Street as well as the 200 block of Cameron Street. In the opinion of Staff, no precedent would be set with the approval of the gate posts and gates which are well within the design vocabulary of the historic district.

Staff does not have the same level of support for the proposed decorative gas light fixtures. In the opinion of Staff, they are overly large and decorative for a house whose stylistic parti was based upon a carriage house. Staff recommends that the Board defer the gas lights for a smaller and simpler fixture type that reflects the stylistic basis for the house.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Legend: C - code requirement R - recommendation S - suggestion F - finding

Code Enforcement:

No comments.

Office of Historic Alexandria:

No comment.

10-105 Matters to be considered in approving certificates and permits.

(A) Certificate of appropriateness

(2) **Standards.** Subject to the provisions of section 10-105(A)(1) above, the Old and Historic Alexandria district board of architectural review or the city council on appeal shall consider the following features and factors in passing upon the appropriateness of the proposed construction, reconstruction, alteration or restoration of buildings or structures:

(a) Overall architectural design, form, style and structure including, but not limited to, the height, mass and scale of buildings and structures;

(b) Architectural details including, but not limited to, original materials and methods of construction, the pattern, design and style of fenestration, ornamentation, lighting, signage and like decorative or functional fixtures of buildings or structures; the degree to which the distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure or site (including historic materials) are retained;

(c) Design and arrangement of buildings and structures on the site; and the impact upon the historic setting, streetscape or environs;

(d) Texture, material and color, and the extent to which any new architectural features are historically appropriate to the existing structure and adjacent existing structures;

(e) The relation of the features in sections 10-105(A)(2)(a) through (d) to similar features of the preexisting building or structure, if any, and to buildings and structures in the immediate surroundings;

(f) The extent to which the building or structure would be harmonious with or incongruous to the old and historic aspect of the George Washington Memorial Parkway;

(g) The extent to which the building or structure will preserve or protect historic places and areas of historic interest in the city;

(h) The extent to which the building or structure will preserve the memorial character of the George Washington Memorial Parkway;

(i) The extent to which the building or structure will promote the general

welfare of the city and all citizens by the preservation and protection of historic interest in the city and the memorial character of the George Washington Memorial Parkway; and

(j) The extent to which such preservation and protection will promote the general welfare by maintaining and increasing real estate values, generating business, creating new positions, attracting tourists, students, writers, historians, artists and artisans, attracting new residents, encouraging study and interest in American history, stimulating interest and study in architecture and design, educating citizens in American culture and heritage and making the city a more attractive and desirable place in which to live.

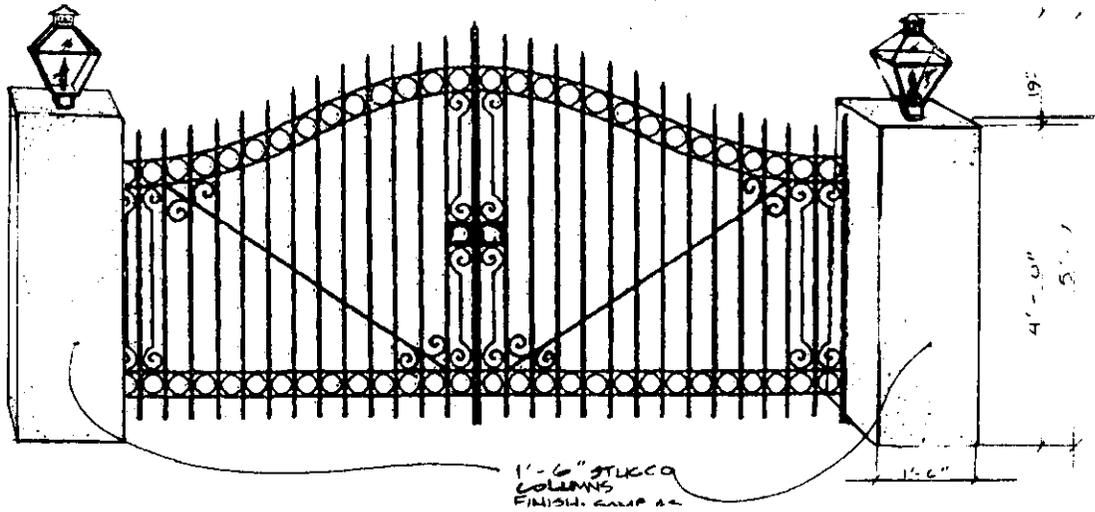
ATTACHMENT 4

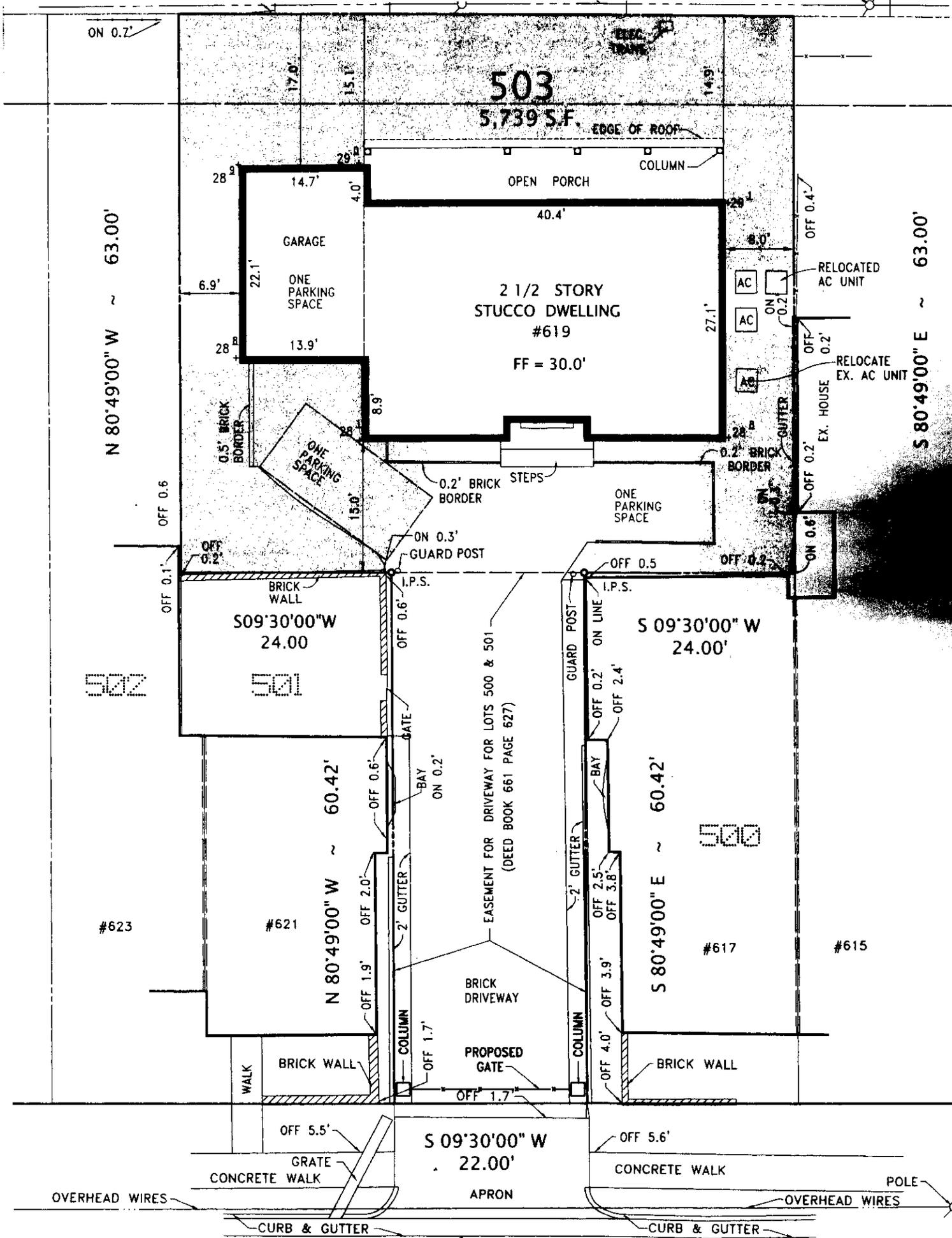




1314

PROPOSED GATED DETAIL





ON 0.2'

503
5,739 S.F.

EDGE OF ROOF

OPEN PORCH

GARAGE

ONE PARKING SPACE

2 1/2 STORY
STUCCO DWELLING
#619

FF = 30.0'

RELOCATED
AC UNIT

RELOCATE
EX. AC UNIT

N 80°49'00" W ~ 63.00'

S 80°49'00" E ~ 63.00'

509°30'00"W
24.00

S 09°30'00" W
24.00'

502

501

500

N 80°49'00" W ~ 60.42'

S 80°49'00" E ~ 60.42'

#623

#621

#617

#615

EASEMENT FOR DRIVEWAY FOR LOTS 500 & 501
(DEED BOOK 661 PAGE 627)

BRICK DRIVEWAY

PROPOSED GATE

S 09°30'00" W
22.00'

APRON

OVERHEAD WIRES

POLE
OVERHEAD WIRES

CURB & GUTTER

CURB & GUTTER

1516

Rae K. Grad
615 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-519-9392

00: 22

October 18, 2001

Peter H. Smith
Department of Planning and Zoning
City Hall
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: BAR 2000-0081 Application at 619 S. St. Asaph St. to construct Entrance Gates

Dear Mr. Smith:

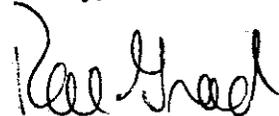
I would like to respectfully disagree with the staff recommendation to allow entrance gates to be built at the property at 619 S. St. Asaph St. I do not believe that the gates are appropriate for the tone of Old Town. I would like this letter to be included in the packet of material being forwarded to the Clerk of the City Council for the November planning meeting where this matter will be discussed.

I recently moved to this beautiful block. One of the reasons I chose this house was because of the simple, tasteful look and feel of the neighborhood. Though I respect any individual's desire for privacy, I firmly believe that the stately and lovely atmosphere of Old Town would be disturbed by these gates. They are the type of gate one would see on an estate in Westchester County, New York – not Old Town, Alexandria.

One of the responsibilities of the BAR is to maintain the appropriate and fitting architecture of the neighborhood. I feel that these gates would be out of place in Old Town.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,


Rae K. Grad

Donna J. Cramer
623 S. St. Asaph Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

March 19, 2001

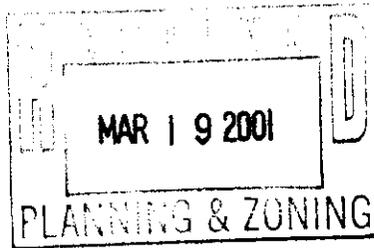
To Whom It May Concern:

I am Linda White St. Pierre's neighbor. Our yards border on our fence line at the rear, north side of my property. I want to go on record that I have no objections to her request to install coach lamps on her fence. I think they would be attractive and their illumination would not bother me. Also, I have no objections to her request for gates on her driveway. There are other homes in Old Town with gates on their driveways, some installed fairly recently. As my kitchen windows face the front of Mrs. St. Pierre's house, I have seen numerous people just walk back the drive and look around as if it were a public alley. I have a fence and gate in front of my house and no one walks through it and looks around my yard or into my house. I can understand her desire for the gate installation to protect her family's privacy, and I see no reason why her request should be denied. Prior to her building her house, the vacant lot was an eye sore with weeds, trash and vermin requiring occasional calls to the City. I paid to have the lot exterminated on two occasions because the owner would not. Mrs. St. Pierre's house has enhanced our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna J. Cramer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Donna J. Cramer



615 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

March 16, 2001

Peter H. Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Planning and Zoning
City of Alexandria
301 King Street, Room 2100
P.O. Box 178

Re: 619 South Saint Asaph Street, BAR CASE #2000-0081

Dear Mr. Smith:

I understand that, after approximately eight deferrals, the Board of Architectural Review will on March 21, 2001 consider docket item #2000-0081 regarding iron and brick front gates with gas lamps, and a number of additional gas lamps placed on brick fence posts along the perimeter of 619 South Saint Asaph Street. My wife and I own and reside at an adjacent property, 615 South Saint Asaph Street.

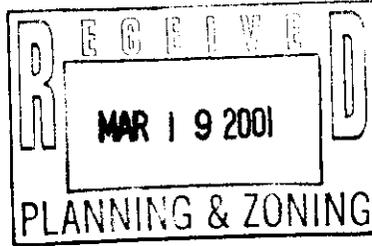
I also understand from our telephone conversation this week that the proposed designs for these two projects remain as originally submitted. While we have not taken a position against any of Ms. White's previous and substantial efforts to develop her property, we do not support these projects because we believe them to be inconsistent with the character and nature of the block. Our view of the projects remains as expressed in our letter of June 20, 2000, a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience. Finally, the documentation I reviewed at your office last year did not indicate the total number of gas lights involved in this proposal; my estimate is in the neighborhood of ten.

Please include this letter and enclosure in the docket for the aforementioned case. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Joe and Dede Stanko

1819



615 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

June 20, 2000

Peter H. Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Planning and Zoning
City of Alexandria
301 King Street, Room 2100
P.O. Box 178

Re: 619 South Saint Asaph Street, BAR CASE #2000-0081

Dear Mr. Smith:

We are owners of property located at 615 South Saint Asaph Street that is adjacent to the above-referenced property. This letter summarizes our views regarding the items docketed for hearing before the Board of Architectural Review (BAR) on June 21, 2000. We request that you place this letter in the record for the case. In the long history of this property before the BAR, we have not previously raised any issues. Rather, we have attempted to be respectful of Ms. White's efforts to construct a residence of her own design. There are, however, certain items in the pending request that visually and otherwise impact the surrounding properties and warrant some comment. Each of the three items before the BAR is discussed below.

APPROVAL OF THE HOUSE AS BUILT. According to the staff report, the as-built house varies from the design originally approved by the BAR in January 1999. The BAR-approved design contained a ten foot setback from our property line. The BAR-approved design also located the three air conditioning compressor units at the South side of the property, a great distance away from our property line. As-built, the house is set back only eight feet from our property line, and the three air conditioning compressor units are located in that side-yard, some five feet from our property line. Additionally, the applicant did not conduct the wall check survey required by Section 8-1-12 of the building code regulations, and constructed the residence in violation of a zoning setback.

These changes obviously altered the construction in a manner that is not as desirable for the use and enjoyment of our property as was the BAR-approved plan. However, in the spirit of cooperation, we are not contesting the approval of the house as built.

1920

Peter H. Smith
Page 2

METAL GATES. The applicant seeks approval of metal gates 18 feet wide, sloping from four to five feet in height, and held by a pair of columns one foot six inches square, surmounted by a pair of decorative gas lights. BAR staff has recommend deletion of the decorative gas lights, and aligning the gates with the front faces of the houses at 617 and 621 South Saint Asaph Street. We concur with the staff recommendation to realign the gates to reduce visual impact, however, we also believe that the gates should be reduced in height. Generally, even the large, historically significant homes in the two and three-hundred blocks of South Saint Asaph Street do not have any driveway gates, let alone gates five feet in height. We believe that, if driveway gates are necessary at all, they should be limited in height to three and one-half feet. Such a height would be consistent with the elevation from grade of other existing fences on the west side of the block.

GAS LIGHTS ON FENCE PILLARS. The applicant seeks approval to add decorative gas lights to the brick pillars for the fence approved in 1999. We have some concerns regarding this proposal. First, the brick pillars are located at our (and others) property lines, yet it appears that the gas lamps will illuminate an area 360 degrees wide. Thus, our property and the property of others will be illuminated by lights over which we have no control. Additionally, gas lamps typically are operated twenty-four hours per day. To our knowledge, other yards on the block are illuminated by targeted light sources, none of which typically are operated twenty-four hours per day.

Moreover, while we are aware that Old Town hosts the occasional house-mounted gas lamp, we are not aware of a private residence that is ringed by a series of gas lamps. We have some concerns that such an arrangement is more suited to a commercial enterprise. Accordingly, we respectfully oppose the proposal to add gas lights to the previously approved brick pillars.

* * *

We appreciate the difficult task faced by the BAR, that of balancing private property interests with the maintenance of the historic ambiance that makes Old Town such a special place to live. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments regarding the above-referenced matter.

Sincerely,



Joe and Dede Stanko

Mr. Peter Smith
Dept. of Planning and Zoning
301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

19 Mar 01

Mr. Smith,

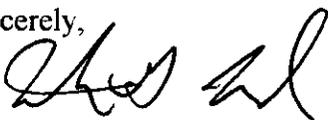
My family and I reside at 618 S. Saint Asaph Street directly across from Ms. White's proposed gate at 619 S. Saint Asaph Street. I am strongly against the construction of the gate.

First of all, living directly across the street from this structure, I would think I would receive some notification of a major change such as this one. I never received any warnings of this proposal until some of my diligent neighbors showed me the sign hidden behind a large potted plant. I think the city is sorely remiss if residents are not notified of major changes affecting their property.

Secondly, I think this gate is totally unnecessary and inappropriate. I don't know the reason for wanting such a structure as I never received any correspondence from Ms. White, but I cannot understand what purpose this gate would serve other than inconveniencing her immediate neighbors at 621 and 617. Security will not be enhanced and it affords no privacy that I can see. No one on this block or any nearby block has such a gate. The few gated homes in this part of Old Town have large lots and driveways. The other gates that I have seen were built of brick in keeping with the historic district, not Stucco.

I see no reason for this eyesore to be constructed and since I never received any notification of this proposal, I strongly urge the Board to reject this permit.

Sincerely,



Joseph G. Lahoud

2/22

June 15, 2000

Mr. Peter Smith
Department of Planning and Zoning
301 King Street, Room 2100
Alexandria, VA 22314

RE: Application at 619 So. St. Asaph Street to Construct Entrance Gates (BAR 2000-0081)

Dear Peter:

The purpose of this letter is to strongly urge the Board of Architectural Review to deny the above-captioned application which is scheduled for public hearing on June 21, 2000. My wife and I live at 608 So. St. Asaph Street.

We find this proposal to be incongruous with the immediate block, and indeed, with Old Town in general. We feel the architectural style is completely out of place in our neighborhood. Further, on the entire length of St. Asaph Street, North and South, one is hard pressed to find any example of an entrance gate as is proposed with this application.

The Kington house, the Abshire house and the Lafayette house, three of the most prominent houses in Old Town and certainly on St. Asaph Street, all suffer the same fate as 619 So. St. Asaph Street — motorists pull in and back out onto St. Asaph Street from their parking areas. However, none of these three home owners have filed for entrance gates as has this applicant. Old Towners have learned to live with this situation.

We view the application to be entirely inappropriate for our area; the proposed gate does not fit our streetscape and there is no precedent for this type of structure. The part of the application that relates to gas lanterns on brick posts between spans of wood fence defies anything we've seen in Old Town — certainly no where near appropriate, and would probably have a better chance of fitting in with these iron gates if the property were located in South Florida.

Should you have any questions, please call me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wiles



2123

Internet Message

DATE: October 9, 2000 04:31:06 PM
TO: Peter Smith@Alex
FROM: MIME:wphilipp@earthlink.net
SUBJECT: BAR case # 2000-0081

We understand that our neighbor, Linda White, wants to put an iron gate at the entrance of her driveway at 619 S. St. Asaph. Her house is on a flag lot behind 2 other houses. Why does she need a gate? At what point will it block her driveway? Is she trying to prevent people from turning around in her driveway? Many of the neighbors use the outer part of her driveway to turn around. It is the only turnaround on the block, and with Sutton Place and the many transient parkers on the block, we sometimes have to turn around to park on the opposite side of the street from our house. When we turn around, we don't drive up to her house, we respect her privacy, we just use the outer part of the driveway.

We have no objection to the gate, IF it is set back from the street and sidewalk, leaving enough room for neighbors to turn around.

Thank you.
Katherine and Will Philipp
610 S. St. Asaph St.
703-683-6949

2324

OCT 17 2000

Mr. Peter H. Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Planning and Zoning
310 King St. – Room 2100
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Smith:

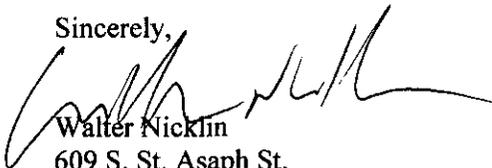
In reference to BAR Case # 2000-0081, I respectfully wish to express my opinion as a concerned property owner a few doors down from the subject property at 619 S. St. Asaph.

The applicant's request for a pillared and iron gate, complete with gas lights, strikes me as entirely inappropriate to the existing character of the 600 block of S. St. Asaph.

- It would be architecturally out of proportion.
- * Its aesthetics are jarring.
- It is historically inaccurate.
- It will detract from the unique charm and ambience of the neighborhood.
- To my knowledge, there is no similar gateway in all of Old Town.
- Rather, it is more suitable to a suburban "gated" community.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Walter Nicklin
609 S. St. Asaph St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

15 October 2000

2425

7 November, 2000

11 - 9 2000

Mr. Peter Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section - City Hall
301 King Street, Room 2100
P.O. Box 178
Alexandria, VA 22313

RE: BAR case #2000-0081

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing in regard to the above referenced application for approval to construct an entry gate with stucco pillars and gas lights to the driveway at 619 South Saint Asaph Street. My wife and I live at 631 South Saint Asaph Street, a few houses down from the subject driveway.

Please add this letter to those already received expressing concern about the incongruity of such a structure to the architectural and aesthetic quality of the immediate neighborhood. We request that the Board of Architectural Review deny this application.

Most of the houses on this block are modest well-maintained structures that are in keeping with an earlier historic period that has made this block and Old Town in general a very pleasant place to live. A few minutes spent walking past these properties are sufficient to realize that an expansive metal gate and gas lights atop stucco pillars would be quite a jolt to the senses. While such decorative features and symbols might be acceptable in newly developed communities among like-kind structures, they are definitely out of place in the 600 block of South Saint Asaph St.

We appreciate the careful consideration that will be given this matter and trust that a decision sensitive to maintaining the existing visual harmony of the street will be made.

Sincerely yours,



Kerm Henriksen

2526

October 16, 2000

Peter H. Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Planning and Zoning
City Hall
301 King Street, Room 2100
Alexandria, VA 22313

Reference: BAR Case # 2000-0081

Dear Mr. Smith:

I live at 605 S. St. Asaph Street and am writing to you in opposition to the above case concerning approval of black metal gates at the entrance of the driveway at 619 S. St. Asaph. Our street is a traditional "Old Town" street with many historic homes. I do not believe that the proposed gate will fit in with the usual white picket fences and brick walkways that are part of our community. Actually, I am quite surprised that the very modern home at 610 was originally approved since it is totally out of place with the character of our street.

Sincerely,



Lois K. Clark
605 S. St. Asaph Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

2627

Mr. Peter H. Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Planning and Zoning
City of Alexandria
City Hall
301 King Street, Room 2100
Alexandria, Va. 22313

Re: 619 South Saint Asaph Street *BAR CASE # 2000-0081*
Alexandria, Va. 22314

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing in reference to the permit application for the above reference property for the addition of gates at the street end of the driveway.

I DO NOT support this application as I believe it cannot be done in a manner that would preserve the open and interesting street scene that has developed on this historic block. I believe it would also set a bad precedent for the handful of other properties that have driveways in the historic area, few of which have sufficient space to create an interesting gate presentation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Williams
610 1/2 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, Va. 22314

(703) 549-6713

2728

**616 SOUTH ST. ASAPH STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314**

February 12, 2001

Mr. Peter Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
City Hall
301 King Street
Room 2100
P.O. Box 178
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is respectfully submitted for review concerning BAR case #2000-0081, for which the address is 619 South St. Asaph Street in Old Town.

While I am very disinclined from impeding a property owner's right to do as he/she pleases with said property, I am concerned that the erection of entry gates at the end of the driveway may detract from the block's overall attractiveness, because it seems that such an addition would be inconsistent with the "look" of the block.

While clear access to the driveway should always be available, I have never noticed that the driveway was blocked, or that strangers had inappropriately used the driveway for turning around. My wife and I, in our own modest way, have tried to do our part to engender a sense of neighborhood on the block, and fear that this may be mitigated by such an addition.

Thanks very much.

Sincerely,



617 South St. Asaph St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
April 14, 2000

Board of Architectural Review
301 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314

Dear Board Members

Twenty four years ago when I purchased my house the realtor told me that the backyard and the driveway were no problem. Big Mama lived next door and kept things quiet. Needless to say, that was far from the truth. The problems ranged from cars and taxis coming into the back yard late at night and early morning to buy their miniatures, the backyard was used as outdoor bathroom facilities and the stolen cars that were parked there for indefinite periods.

The other problem was the parking in the driveway. Beside not having the peace and quiet in the backyard I had to be a parking attendant and confront parkers who parked in the driveway blocking my entrance into my garage. Do you want to know what road rage is? Just tell a Sutton Place customer, a contractor, or a neighbor that they can't park. What turns honest people into liars – I can tell you its parking. Here are some of the excuses: I'll be here 5 minutes, I'm just delivering a package; I'm working on the house down the street and I'll be right out; and there is no other parking on the block. Then there are the real beauties who say you don't own the property – so get off my case, and if should decide to call the police don't even try to explain what an easement is to them.

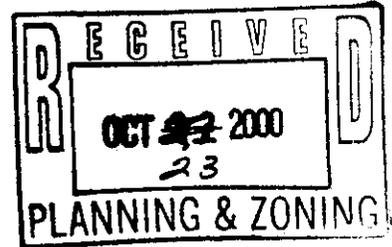
All this is now coming to an end and the reason for this letter is to say we are overjoyed at having a house in our backyard and a driveway that not only enhances the looks of Ms. Smith's house but also our own. Lastly I would like you to know that we are very much in favor of having an electronically controlled gate at the beginning of the driveway. This hopefully will discourage other drivers from using the driveway as a turnaround and will stop people from attempting to park, if only for a few minutes, in the driveway.

Sincerely,

Harold Foelak
Florence Foelak

Harold & Florence Foelak

October 19, 2000



Mr. Peter Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section -City Hall
301 King Street, Room 2100
P.O. Box 178
Alexandria, Va. 22313

RE: BAR case # 2000-0081

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing regarding the above-referenced application for approval of an entry gate to a driveway that would include stucco pillars with gas lights. The address of the project is 619 S. Saint Asaph Street. My husband and I live at 630 S. Saint Asaph Street.

The purpose of this letter is to request that this application be denied by the Board of Architectural Review. The design of the gate and the gas lights is not appropriate and in keeping with historic properties in that block of South Saint Asaph. The metal gate with gas lights would be out of place on that street and not architecturally in keeping with anything on that street or much of Old Town.

I realize that the owner would prefer that people not pull into the driveway and back out onto South Saint Asaph. While Old Town is a delightful place to live, there are inconveniences that we all tolerate. For instance, I live very close to Sutton Place Gourmet. Instead of parking in the Sutton Place garage, people constantly park in front of my home when they are shopping at Sutton. I would prefer that they didn't and use the garage, but I tolerate it. I am very happy Sutton Place Gourmet is there. Similarly, I am sure the owner feels that people should not use the driveway entrance in which to turn around but can that not be tolerated?

I again respectfully request that careful consideration be given to not allow construction of the gate and gas lights and stucco pillars.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Carr Gossman".

Susan Carr Gossman

Mr. Peter H. Smith
Principal Staff
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Planning and Zoning
City of Alexandria
City Hall
301 King Street, Room 2100
Alexandria, Va. 22313

Re: 619 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, Va.22314

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am writing in reference to the permit application for the above reference property for the addition of gates at the street end of the driveway.

I DO NOT support this application as I believe it cannot be done in a manner that would preserve the open and interesting street scene that has developed on this historic block. I believe it would also set a bad precedent for the handful of other properties that have driveways in the historic area, few of which have sufficient space to create an interesting gate presentation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gregory A. Williams
610 ½ South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, Va. 22314

(703) 549-6713

3/32



EXHIBIT NO. 2

11-17-01

RECORD OF APPEAL

Sent to CC, Cm,
Michelle, Gillen,
Peter S. P.F. 5/12/01

FROM A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Date Appeal Filed With City Clerk: 3/29/01

B.A.R. Case # 2000-81

Address of Project: 619 S. St. Asaph Street, Alex, Va 22314

Appellant is: (Check One)

B.A.R. Applicant

Other Party. State Relationship _____

Address of Appellant: 619 S. St. Asaph Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone Number: 703-836-1875 or 703-627-8081

State Basis of Appeal: We are appealing the decision of
the Board of Arch, tectural Review based on
the lack of justification for denial by the
board, failure to use historical precedent within
the Old and Historic Alexandria District, and
the lack of consideration of safety and security of
Attach additional sheets, if necessary. The residents

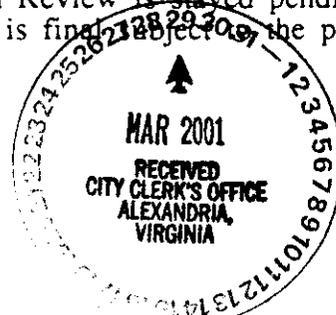
A Board of Architectural Review decision may be appealed to City Council either by the B.A.R. applicant or by 25 or more owners of real estate within the effected district who oppose the decision of the Board of Architectural Review. Sample petition on rear.

All appeals must be filed with the City Clerk on or before 14 days after the decision of the B.A.R.

All appeals require a \$50 filing fee.

If an appeal is filed, the decision of the Board of Architectural Review is stayed pending the City Council decision on the matter. The decision of City Council is final subject to the provisions of Sections 10-107, 10-207 or 10-309 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Linda O. White
Signature of the Appellant (St. Pierre)



Filed by
Linda St.
Pierre-
White
3/29/01
Lij

We, the undersigned owners of real estate within the Old and Historic Alexandria District/ Parker- Gray District [strike out as appropriate] appeal the decision of the Board of Architectural Review to the Alexandria City Council in B.A.R. Case # _____ regarding the property at _____ (street address).

	Name	Signature	Owner of Real Property At:
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____	_____
15.	_____	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____	_____
18.	_____	_____	_____
19.	_____	_____	_____
20.	_____	_____	_____
21.	_____	_____	_____
22.	_____	_____	_____
23.	_____	_____	_____
24.	_____	_____	_____
25.	_____	_____	_____

17

17-17-01

To Whom It May Concern:

21 March 2001

The purpose of this letter is to convey my support for the proposed gas lights and gate to be added to the property located on 617 South St. Asaph Street. I am a resident at 614 South St. Asaph Street, and it is my feeling these features will not only enhance the aesthetic appearance of our street, but more importantly provide an increased element of safety to the residents.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kelly S. O'Hara



Submitted By
Bob Wiles

17
11-17-01



17
11-17-01

- CITY SEAL -

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPEAL OF A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW, OLD AND HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT, DENYING A PORTION AND DEFERRING A PORTION FOR RESTUDY, A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF DRIVEWAY GATES AT 619 SOUTH SAINT ASAPH STREET, ZONED RM RESIDENTIAL. [CASE BAR-2000-0081].

A Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chamber of the City of Alexandria, on Saturday, November 17, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., or an adjournment thereof, at which time an appeal of a decision of the Board of Architectural Review, Old and Historic Alexandria District, on March 21, 2001, denying a portion and deferring a portion for restudy, of a request for approval of driveway gates at 619 South Saint Asaph Street, zoned RM Residential, will be heard. APPLICANT AND APPELLANT: Linda White.

This appeal is being heard pursuant to Section 10-107 of the Zoning Ordinance for the Old and Historic Alexandria District of the City of Alexandria.

Beverly I. Jett, CMC, City Clerk

To be published in the:

Alexandria Journal on Thursday, November 1, 2001; and
Alexandria Gazette-Packet on Thursday, November 1, 2001



17
11-17-01

City of Alexandria, Virginia
301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314



Kerry J. Donley
Mayor

William C. Cleveland
Vice Mayor

Members of Council
Claire M. Eberwein
William D. Euille
Redella S. Pepper
David G. Speck
Joyce Woodson

Beverly I. Jett, CMC
City Clerk and
Clerk of Council
beverly.jett@ci.alexandria.va.us

(703) 838-4550
Fax: (703) 838-6433

October 26, 2001

Ms. Linda White
619 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

**RE: BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW APPEAL, CASE BAR 2000-0081 – 619
SOUTH SAINT ASAPH STREET**

Dear Ms. White:

The above appeal will be scheduled for public hearing before City Council at its Public Hearing Meeting to be held on Saturday, November 17, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 2400, Council Chamber, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia.

You may call my office on Tuesday, November 13, 2001, to see where it is placed on the docket.

If you have any questions or if I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Beverly I. Jett

Beverly I. Jett, CMC
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

cc: Eileen Fogarty, Planning and Zoning Director
Peter Smith, Board of Architectural Review Staff

"Home Town of George Washington and Robert E. Lee"