

Docket Item # 2 & 3
BAR CASE # 2012-0032 &
2012-0052

BAR Meeting
March 21, 2012

ISSUE: Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and Addition

APPLICANT: Mark and Kelley Robertson by Patrick Camus

LOCATION: 616 South Fairfax Street

ZONE: RM / Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the application for a Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and a Certificate of Appropriateness for an addition as submitted.

****EXPIRATION OF APPROVALS NOTE:** In accordance with Sections 10-106(B) and 10-206(B) of the Zoning Ordinance, any official Board of Architectural Review approval will expire 12 months from the date of issuance if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period.

****BUILDING PERMIT NOTE:** Most projects approved by the Board of Architectural Review require the issuance of one or more construction permits by Building and Fire Code Administration (including signs). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Room 4200, City Hall, 703-838-4360 for further information.



CASE BAR2012-00032



I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Permit to Demolish to demolish/encapsulate a portion of the first floor of the rear (east) elevation to construct a new screened porch addition. The total area requested for encapsulation is approximately 218 square feet and includes a set of French doors and a fixed multi-light window. The proposed screened porch addition will measure approximately 17 feet by 14 feet 8 inches. The addition will have a pyramidal standing seam metal roof. The addition will have insect screen panels and painted Azek trim.

The proposed addition will be minimally visible from the public right-of-way.

II. HISTORY:

The townhouse at 616 South Fairfax Street is a two-story brick townhouse constructed in **1957**, according to City real estate records.

Staff could locate no previous BAR approvals for this property.

III. ANALYSIS:

In considering a Permit to Demolish, the Board must consider the following criteria set forth in the Zoning Ordinance, §10-105(B):

- (1) Is the building or structure of such architectural or historical interest that its moving, removing, capsulating or razing would be to the detriment of the public interest?
- (2) Is the building or structure of such interest that it could be made into a historic house?
- (3) Is the building or structure of such old and unusual or uncommon design, texture and material that it could not be reproduced or be reproduced only with great difficulty?
- (4) Would retention of the building or structure help preserve the memorial character of the George Washington Memorial Parkway?
- (5) Would retention of the building or structure help preserve and protect an historic place or area of historic interest in the city?
- (6) Would retention of the building or structure 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?

In the opinion of Staff, none of the criteria for demolition and encapsulation are met and the Permit to Demolish should be granted. Staff notes that the project proposal is only to encapsulate, not to demolish, and that a significant portion of the rear elevation will remain intact. Staff finds the proposed area of encapsulation to be minimal in scope, easily reversible in the future, and comparable to what the Board typically approves for rear additions.

Staff finds the simple Neo-Classical design of the porch addition to be appropriately scaled and detailed, noting that it will complement and enhance this mid-twentieth-century Colonial Revival townhouse. The use of a high-quality, paintable, millable and solid-through-the-core synthetic material, such as Azek, is appropriate for new construction. In addition, although Staff may not consider landscaping when determining whether a proposed addition will be visible, and thus require BAR review, this rear porch will be very minimally visible from a public way in the dead

of winter and will likely not be visible at all during most of the year when leaves are on the surrounding trees.

Staff recommends approval of the application for a Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and Certificate of Appropriateness for a rear screened porch addition as submitted.

STAFF:

Catherine Miliaras, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning & Zoning
Al Cox, FAIA, Historic Preservation Manager, Planning & Zoning

IV. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Administration

- F-1 The review by Code Administration is a preliminary review only. Once the applicant has filed for a building permit, code requirements will be based upon the building permit plans. If there are any questions, the applicant may contact Ken Granata, Acting Plan Review Supervisor at ken.granata@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4193.
- F-2 Sheet A-3 detail 2 - Dimensions from the cornice molding to the property lines should be indicated on the plans prior to submission for a building permit. Work is not to extend beyond the property line.
- C-1 A building and possibly trade permits are required for this project. Five sets of *construction documents* that fully detail the construction as well as layout and schematics of additional electrical installations that may occur shall accompany the permit application(s)
- C-2 New construction must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-3 Any proposed future alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-4 Before a building permit can be issued on any proposed future alterations, a certification is required from the owner or owner's agent that the building has been inspected by a licensed asbestos inspector for the presence of asbestos.
- C-5 A Certificate of Occupancy shall be obtained prior to any occupancy of the building or portion thereof in accordance with USBC 116 and 113.8.
- C-6 Stairs must comply with the Virginia Residential Code Section R311.7. A maximum riser height of 8-1/4 inches and minimum depth tread of 9 inches. Handrails shall be installed on at least one side for a continuous run of treads or flight with four or more risers. Handrail height shall be a minimum of 34 inches and a maximum of 38 inches from the sloped plane of the adjoining tread noses.

- C-7 The height of the screened in porch above grade is not shown. If > 30" above finished grade porches must have guardrails on open sides. Guardrails and intermediate rails must comply with USBC.
- C-8 Roof drainage systems must be installed so as neither to impact upon, nor cause erosion/damage to adjacent property.
- C-9 Roof drainage must not run toward adjacent property. If the footprint area of the addition: (1) exceeds the footprint area of the existing structure, or (2) the roof drainage of the existing structure is hard piped, or (3) the roof drainage from the addition will cause erosion or damage to an adjacent property, then run-off water must be hard piped (schedule 40 PVC pipe; ≥ 3 " in diameter) to the storm, sewer, inlet box, building sub drain, street flume or curb.
- C-10 Permission from adjacent property owners is required if access to the adjacent properties is required to complete the proposed construction. Otherwise, a plan shall be submitted to demonstrate the construction techniques utilized to keep construction solely on the referenced property.

Transportation & Environmental Services

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. The building permit plans shall comply with requirements of City Code Section 5-6-224 regarding the location of downspouts, foundation drains and sump pumps. Refer to Memorandum to Industry dated June 18, 2004. [Memorandum is available online at the City web site under Transportation\Engineering and Design\Memos to Industry.]. (T&ES)
- R2. Applicant shall be responsible for repairs to the adjacent city right-of-way if damaged during construction activity. (T&ES)
- R3. All improvements to the city right-of-way such as curbing, sidewalk, driveway aprons, etc. must be city standard design. (T&ES)
- R4. No permanent structure may be constructed over any existing private and/or public utility easements. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify any and all existing easements on the plan. (T&ES)
- R5. The building permit must be approved and issued prior to the issuance of any permit for demolition. (T&ES)

FINDINGS

- F1. After review of the information provided, an approved grading plan is not required at this time. Please note that if any changes are made to the plan it is suggested that T&ES be included in the review. (T&ES)

CITY CODE REQUIREMENTS

- C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99). (T&ES)
- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line. (T&ES)
- C-3 Roof, surface and sub-surface drains be connected to the public storm sewer system, if available, by continuous underground pipe. Where storm sewer is not available applicant must provide a design to mitigate impact of stormwater drainage onto adjacent properties and to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. (Sec.5-6-224) (T&ES)
- C-4 All secondary utilities serving this site shall be placed underground. (Sec. 5-3-3) (T&ES)
- C-5 Any work within the right-of-way requires a separate permit from T&ES. (Sec. 5-2) (T&ES)

V. IMAGES



Figure 1. Front (west) elevation.



Figure 2. View looking northeast, showing front and side elevations and approximate area of visibility.

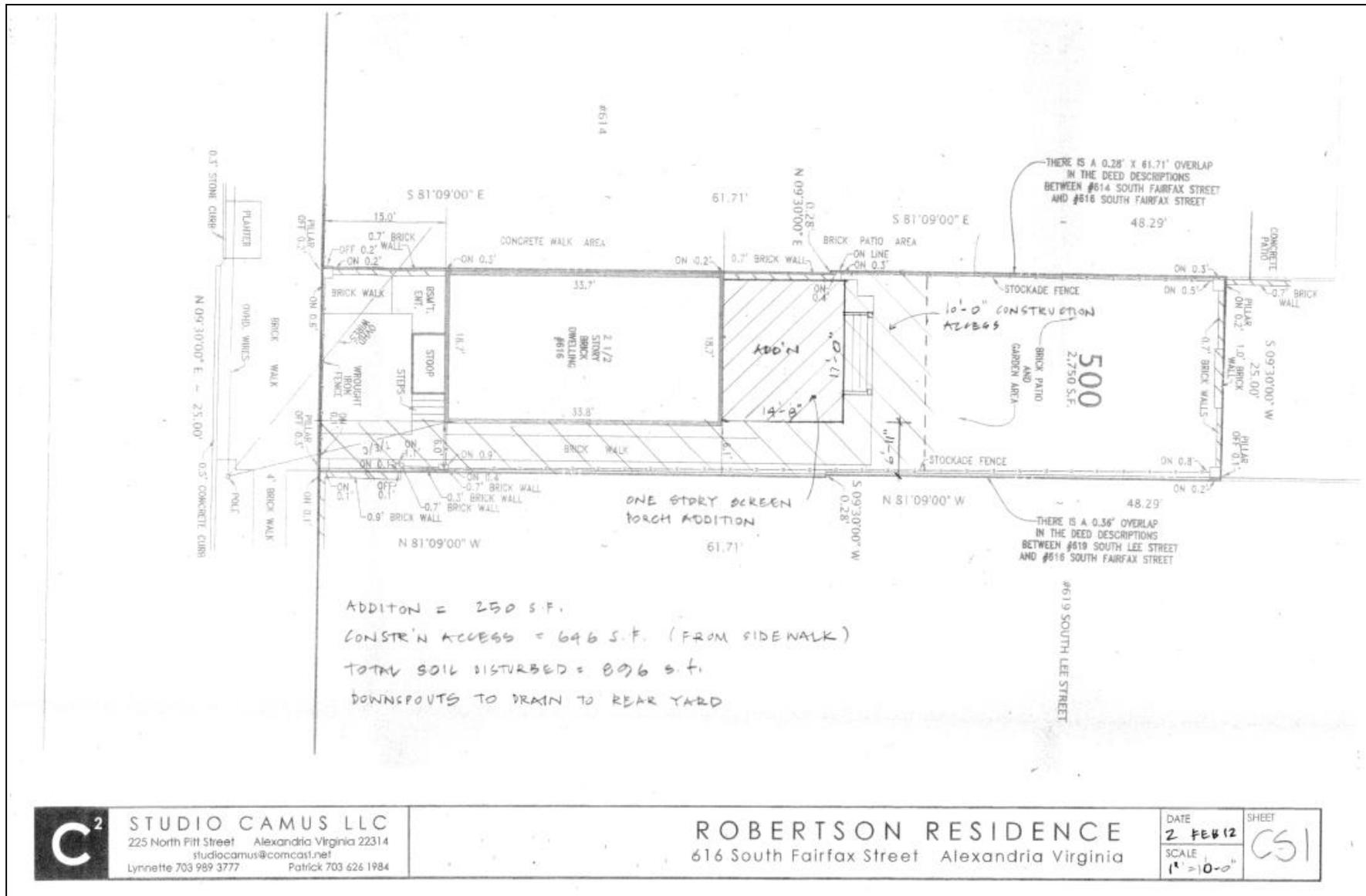


Figure 3. Site plan showing proposed addition location.

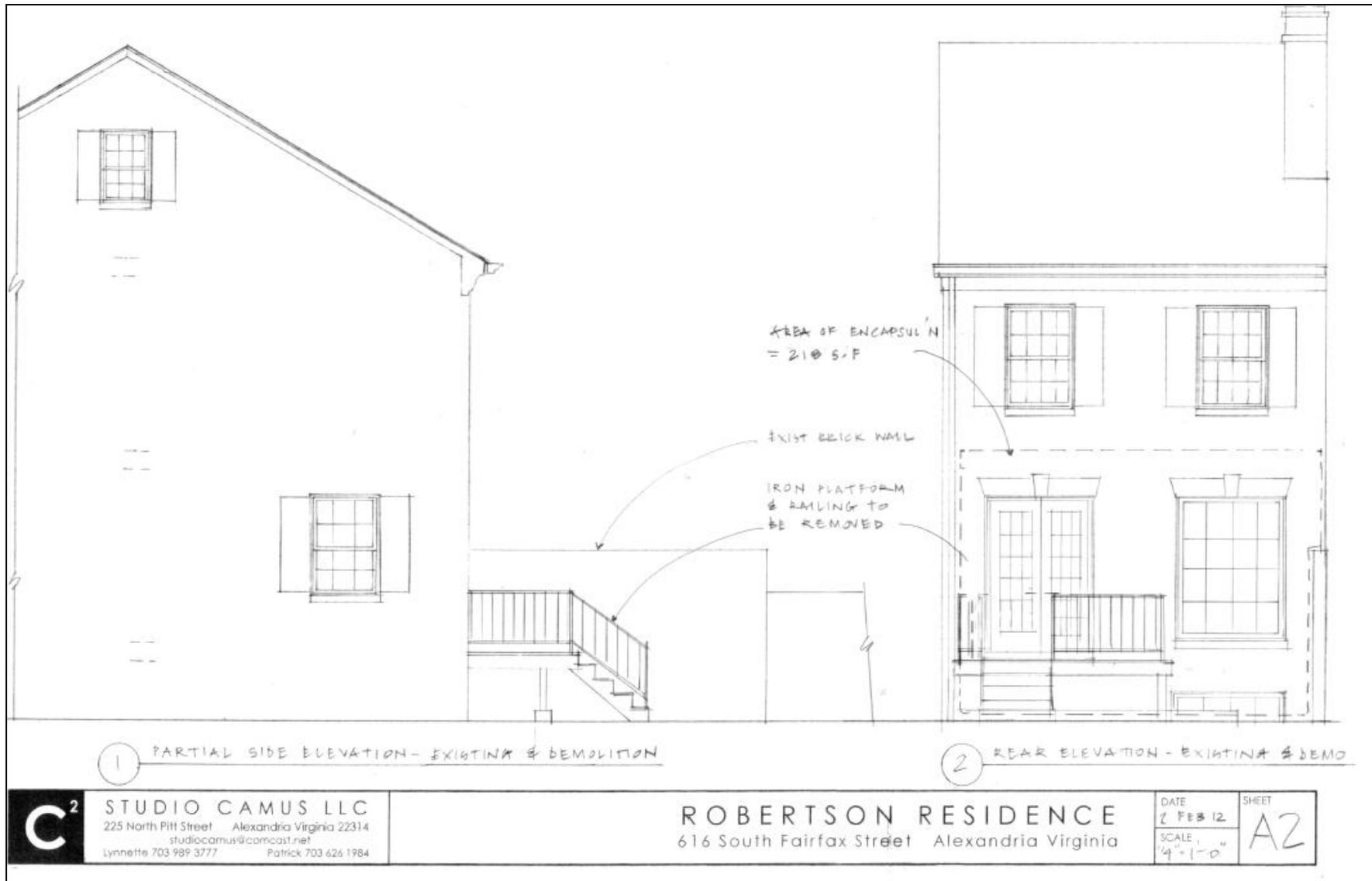


Figure 4. Area proposed for demolition/encapsulation.



Figure 5. Proposed screened porch.

BAR File Copy
Amended 9/2/12

BAR Case # 2012-0032

ADDRESS OF PROJECT: 616 S FAIRFAX ST BAR 2012-0052

TAX MAP AND PARCEL: 81-01 02 11 ZONING: RM

APPLICATION FOR: (Please check all that apply)

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

PERMIT TO MOVE, REMOVE, ENCAPSULATE OR DEMOLISH
(Required if more than 25 square feet of a structure is to be demolished/impacted)

WAIVER OF VISION CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT and/or YARD REQUIREMENTS IN A VISION CLEARANCE AREA (Section 7-802, Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)

WAIVER OF ROOFTOP HVAC SCREENING REQUIREMENT
(Section 6-403(B)(3), Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)

Applicant: Property Owner Business (Please provide business name & contact person)

Name: MARK & KELLEY ROBERTSON

Address: 616 SOUTH FAIRFAX ST

City: ALEXANDRIA State: VA Zip: 22314

Phone: 202 49976595 E-mail: mrobertson@robertsanderson.com

Authorized Agent (if applicable): Attorney Architect Designer

Name: PATRICK CAMUS

Phone: 703 626 1984

E-mail: studiocamus@comcast.net

Legal Property Owner:

Name: SAME

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone: E-mail:

- Yes No Is there an historic preservation easement on this property?
- Yes No If yes, has the easement holder agreed to the proposed alterations?
- Yes No Is there a homeowner's association for this property?
- Yes No If yes, has the homeowner's association approved the proposed alterations?

If you answered yes to any of the above, please attach a copy of the letter approving the project.



NATURE OF PROPOSED WORK: *Please check all that apply*

- NEW CONSTRUCTION
- EXTERIOR ALTERATION: *Please check all that apply.*
 - awning
 - fence, gate or garden wall
 - HVAC equipment
 - shutters
 - doors
 - windows
 - siding
 - shed
 - lighting
 - pergola/trellis
 - painting unpainted masonry
 - other _____
- ADDITION
- DEMOLITION/ENCAPSULATION
- SIGNAGE

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK: *Please describe the proposed work in detail (Additional pages may be attached).*

REQUEST APPROVAL TO ENCAPSULATE FIRST FLOOR
PORTION OF REAR ELEVATION. TO ALLOW FOR 1 STORY
SCREEN PORCH ADDITION ~~ABOUT 14'8" X 17'0"~~

Amended to include screened porch
11-2-2012

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Items listed below comprise the **minimum supporting materials** for BAR applications. Staff may request additional information during application review. Please refer to the relevant section of the *Design Guidelines* for further information on appropriate treatments.

Applicants must use the checklist below to ensure the application is complete. Include all information and material that are necessary to thoroughly describe the project. Incomplete applications will delay the docketing of the application for review. Pre-application meetings are required for all proposed additions. All applicants are encouraged to meet with staff prior to submission of a completed application.

Electronic copies of submission materials should be submitted whenever possible.

Demolition/Encapsulation : *All applicants requesting 25 square feet or more of demolition/encapsulation must complete this section. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- ^{N/A} Survey plat showing the extent of the proposed demolition/encapsulation.
- Existing elevation drawings clearly showing all elements proposed for demolition/encapsulation.
- Clear and labeled photographs of all elevations of the building if the entire structure is proposed to be demolished.
- Description of the reason for demolition/encapsulation.
- Description of the alternatives to demolition/encapsulation and why such alternatives are not considered feasible.

ALL APPLICATIONS: Please read and check that you have read and understand the following items:

- I have submitted a filing fee with this application. (Checks should be made payable to the City of Alexandria. Please contact staff for assistance in determining the appropriate fee.)
- I understand the notice requirements and will return a copy of the three respective notice forms to BAR staff at least five days prior to the hearing. If I am unsure to whom I should send notice I will contact Planning and Zoning staff for assistance in identifying adjacent parcels.
- I, the applicant, or an authorized representative will be present at the public hearing.
- I understand that any revisions to this initial application submission (including applications deferred for restudy) must be accompanied by the BAR Supplemental form and 12 sets of revised materials

The undersigned hereby attests that all of the information herein provided including the site plan, building elevations, prospective drawings of the project, and written descriptive information are true, correct and accurate. The undersigned further understands that, should such information be found incorrect, any action taken by the Board based on such information may be invalidated. The undersigned also hereby grants the City of Alexandria permission to post placard notice as required by Article XI, Division A, Section 11-301(B) of the 1992 Alexandria City Zoning Ordinance, on the property which is the subject of this application. The undersigned also hereby authorizes the City staff and members of the BAR to inspect this site as necessary in the course of research and evaluating the application. The applicant, if other than the property owner, also attests that he/she has obtained permission from the property owner to make this application.

APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: PATRICK CAMUSDate: 2 Feb 2012

OWNERSHIP AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Use additional sheets if necessary

1. Applicant. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than ten percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. Mark Robertson	616 S. Fairfax St.	N/A
2. Kelley Robertson	616 S. Fairfax St.	N/A
3.		

2. Property. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the property located at 616 S. Fairfax St. (address), unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than ten percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1. Mark Robertson	616 S. Fairfax St.	50 %
2. Kelley Robertson	616 S. Fairfax St.	50 %
3.		

3. Business or Financial Relationships. Each person or entity listed above (1 and 2), with an ownership interest in the applicant or in the subject property is required to disclose any business or financial relationship, as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance, existing at the time of this application, or within the 12-month period prior to the submission of this application with any member of the Alexandria City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals or either Boards of Architectural Review.

Name of person or entity	Relationship as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance	Member of the Approving Body (i.e. City Council, Planning Commission, etc.)
1. Mark Robertson	None	
2. Kelley Robertson		
3.		

NOTE: Business or financial relationships of the type described in Sec. 11-350 that arise after the filing of this application and before each public hearing must be disclosed prior to the public hearings.

As the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent, I hereby attest to the best of my ability that the information provided above is true and correct.

2/3/12 Mark Robertson [Signature]
 Date Printed Name Signature