

BAR Case # _____

ADDRESS OF PROJECT: _____

TAX MAP AND PARCEL: _____ ZONING: _____

Lot 5, Sec. 2 Colonial Properties

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: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Authorized Agent *(if applicable)*: Attorney Architect _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Legal Property Owner:

Name: _____

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).*

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.

Additions & New Construction: *Drawings must be to scale and should not exceed 11" x 17" unless approved by staff. All plans must be folded and collated into 12 complete 8 1/2" x 11" sets. Additional copies may be requested by staff for large-scale development projects or projects fronting Washington Street. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- N/A
- Scaled survey plat showing dimensions of lot and location of existing building and other structures on the lot, location of proposed structure or addition, dimensions of existing structure(s), proposed addition or new construction, and all exterior, ground and roof mounted equipment.
 - FAR & Open Space calculation form.
 - Clear and labeled photographs of the site, surrounding properties and existing structures, if applicable.
 - Existing elevations must be scaled and include dimensions.
 - Proposed elevations must be scaled and include dimensions. Include the relationship to adjacent structures in plan and elevations.
 - Materials and colors to be used must be specified and delineated on the drawings. Actual samples may be provided or required.
 - Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
 - For development site plan projects, a model showing mass relationships to adjacent properties and structures.

Signs & Awnings: *One sign per building under one square foot does not require BAR approval unless illuminated. All other signs including window signs require BAR approval. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- N/A
- Linear feet of building: Front: _____ Secondary front (if corner lot): _____.
 - Square feet of existing signs to remain: _____.
 - Photograph of building showing existing conditions.
 - Dimensioned drawings of proposed sign identifying materials, color, lettering style and text.
 - Location of sign (show exact location on building including the height above sidewalk).
 - Means of attachment (drawing or manufacturer's cut sheet of bracket if applicable).
 - Description of lighting (if applicable). Include manufacturer's cut sheet for any new lighting fixtures and information detailing how it will be attached to the building's facade.

Alterations: *Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- N/A
- Clear and labeled photographs of the site, especially the area being impacted by the alterations, all sides of the building and any pertinent details.
 - Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
 - Drawings accurately representing the changes to the proposed structure, including materials and overall dimensions. Drawings must be to scale.
 - An official survey plat showing the proposed locations of HVAC units, fences, and sheds.
 - Historic elevations or photographs should accompany any request to return a structure to an earlier appearance.

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: Alex R. Kelly III

Date: 08/03/2012

909 South Saint Asaph Street
Lot 5, Sec 2, Colonial Properties
Re: WO 1084 dated July 3, 2012

August 3, 2012

We moved into our home, 909 South Saint Asaph Street, at the time of purchase, in the spring of 1991. At that time, a privacy screen (similar in size to the screen presently in place) stood atop the brick wall at the back of our property at the alley. This screen consisted of four studs vertically mounted to the outside (alley-side) of the wall. These studs supported horizontal 2"-by-4" pieces of wood that ran the entire length of the wall section, and upon those planks grew an opaque overgrowth of vines and ivy. We purchased our home from V. Floyd Williams, then the attorney for the city of Alexandria. We find it hard to believe that Mr. Williams, given his position on the city staff, would erect a structure in violation of city code.

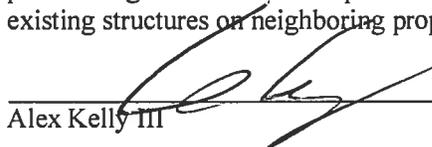
Also at that time and for an undetermined time prior, the privacy screen at 913 South Saint Asaph Street (two doors south of us) was in place in its present configuration (4' tall above the fence). [See Photos 1 and 6.] In October 1991, the house next to us (911 South Saint Asaph Street) was sold by the estate of the previous owner and new neighbors moved in and replaced a virtually identical screen to ours, also already in place when they purchased the property, atop their wall. That pre-existing 4' structure too was in place for an indeterminate amount of time. [See Photos 2, 3, and 4.]

Approximately fourteen months ago, we enlisted our neighbors' (911) contractor to replace our screen while he was replacing theirs and logically to connect them through the common area of the shared courtyard between our properties in order to create a more aesthetically pleasing continuity between the houses. We also saw to it that the concrete wall facing the alley was resurfaced in order to make it more aesthetically pleasing. [See Photo 5.]

In the approval of construction of an addition to 911 dated May 6, 2009, (BAR Case # 2009-0054) the Board noted as a suggestion that there be a revision to the proposed construction "to include wood materials or brick and multi-paned windows to better reflect [the] style of the existing residence and surrounding homes." Why were the Bearings condominiums, from which we are trying to screen our property, not held to this standard and not cited? As can be seen from the included photos [see Photos 7, 8, and 9], the windows, protruding air conditioning units, exterior wiring, piping, exposed utilities, and general appearance bear no relation whatsoever to the "style of surrounding homes." No effort was made at the time of remodeling the Bearings to conform to any kind of appropriate aesthetic vis à vis the viewscape from our back yard. A blinding bright wall fixture was even added to the rear entrance of the building that shines directly and disturbingly into our home. Finally, as can be seen in Photo 10, the replacement screening is the only means available to provide ourselves with some measure of privacy, an ability to enjoy our porch and yard, and to mitigate the glaring light coming from the Bearings at night.

Also in that approval of construction was mention of the after-the-fact approval given in 1997 to a 6' x 24' fence running east-west adjacent to the property line with us (BAR Case # 97-0164). At the time of that approval, no mention was made of the screening already in place along the back wall of the property.

On the basis of the foregoing, we ask that a waiver be granted because the present structure is in no way detrimental to the viewscape of the apartment buildings and does not exceed the height of the structure pre-existing at the time of our purchase of the property, and likewise conforms to the even longer-pre-existing structures on neighboring properties.


Alex Kelly III


Brooke English

Photo 1 (from the BAR application approval in Case No. 2009-0054 for demolition/encapsulation at 911 South Saint Asaph Street dated May 6, 2009)

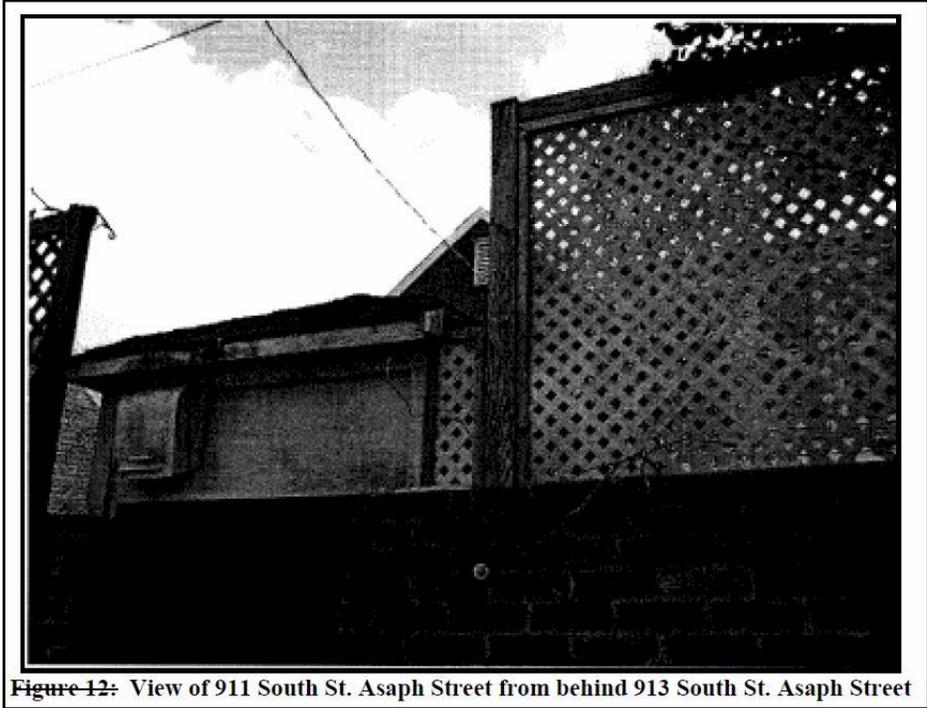


Figure 12: View of 911 South St. Asaph Street from behind 913 South St. Asaph Street

Photo 2 (Ibid.)

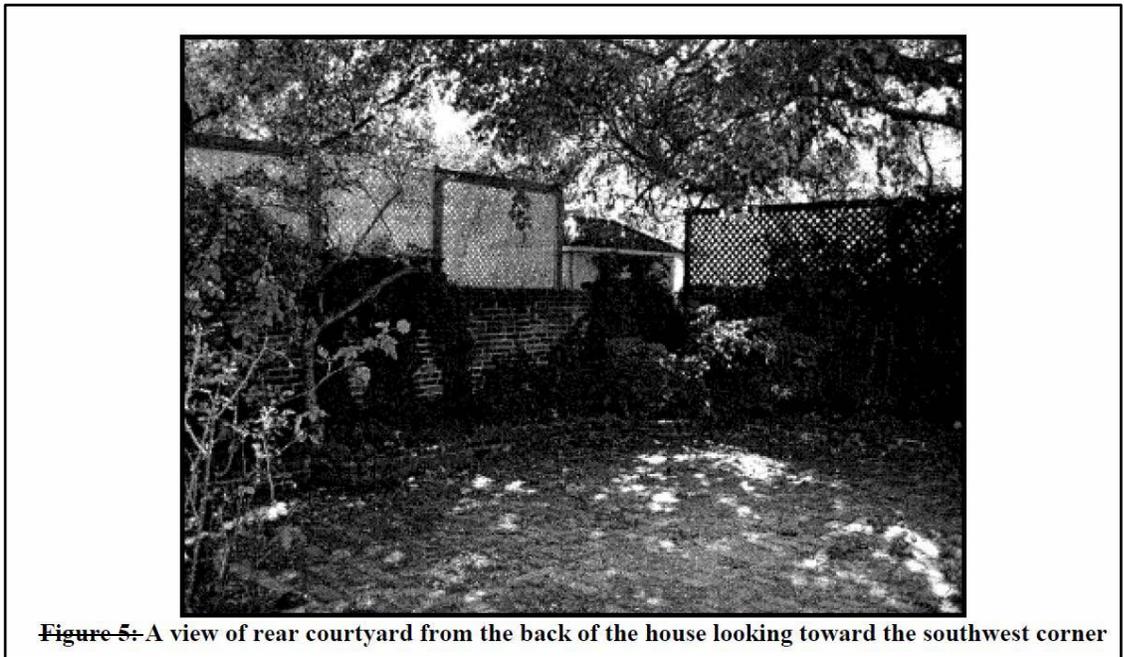


Figure 5: A view of rear courtyard from the back of the house looking toward the southwest corner

Photo 3 (Ibid.)



Figure 11: View from the property line shared by 911 and 913 South St. Asaph Street

Photo 4 (Ibid.)



Figure 10: View from directly behind 911 South St. Asaph Street

Photo 5 (back of property at 909 South Saint Asaph Street showing resurfaced wall and screening)



Photo 6 (showing previously existing (pre-1991) screening at 913 South Saint Asaph Street on right, and replacement screening at 911 South Saint Asaph Street on left)



Photo 7 (showing rear entrance to the Bearings condominiums, spotlight above door, non-conforming windows, overhanging air conditioning units, unsightly exposed electrical conduits and wiring)



Photo 8 (showing non-conforming windows, unsightly electrical conduits, uncovered air conditioning unit, unscreened utilities)



Photo 9 (showing trash pick-up in the alley and how unsheltered and exposed our viewscape is without screening)



Photo 10 (showing view of Bearings from our home, measurements of wall and screening, and the need for screening for privacy and enjoyment of our home and yard)



