

Docket Item #5  
BAR Case #2003-0259

BAR Meeting  
November 19, 2003

**ISSUE:** Alterations to previously approved gate

**APPLICANT:** Stephanie Dimond

**LOCATION:** 213 South Pitt Street

**ZONE:** RM/Residential

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the gate with the condition that the gate is painted or stained.

DISCUSSION:

Applicant s Description of the Undertaking:

Applicant is requesting recently approved gate in serpentine wall to be moved.

Issue:

On September 3, 2003, the Board approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for a new gate in an existing serpentine wall on the north side of the property at 213 South Pitt Street. The gate will be used for a vehicular entrance to a parking pad in the north side yard.

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations to the previously approved gate. The changes from the previously approved plans include shifting the location of the gate further west, allowing the existing pedestrian gate to remain. The alterations also include enlarging the opening of the gate by 1'.

History and Analysis:

The three story, three bay brick house at 213 Pitt Street was constructed by Josiah H. Davis between 1817 and 1823, according to Ethelyn Cox in *Historic Alexandria Virginia Street by Street* (p. 108). The north side, rear and a portion of the south side of the property are enclosed by a 4'10" high serpentine brick wall. The wall probably dates to the mid-twentieth century.

The proposed wood gates comply with zoning ordinance requirements.

In 2001, the Board approved a new vehicular gate for the residence (BAR Case #2001-0205, 9/5/01). The gate was not constructed and the approval expired. The applicant returned to the Board earlier this year for approval of a 22' wide vehicular gate in the serpentine wall (BAR Case #2003-0195, 9/3/03).

The location toward the rear of the property and the serpentine line of the wall will ensure that the new gate will be minimally visible from the public right of way. Staff believes that the alterations to the previously approved gate are appropriate.

The *Design Guidelines* recommend that gates are painted or stained. Therefore, Staff recommends approval of the application with the condition that the gate is painted or stained.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement

No comments.

Historic Alexandria

No comment.