

Docket Item #3
BAR CASE #2003-0269

BAR Meeting
December 17, 2003

ISSUE: Alterations

APPLICANT: Charles and Kathy Allegrone

LOCATION: 309 North Alfred Street

ZONE: RB/Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

DISCUSSION:

Applicant s Description of the Undertaking:

To replace existing c. 1980s modern door and window head trim at first floor facade with Italianate style architrave to match existing trim of adjacent semi-detached rowhouse at 311 North Alfred. Constructed 1884.

Issue:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a number of alterations to the existing historic house at 309 North Alfred Street. These alterations include:

- " Replace existing door and head trim and new pilasters and dentil trimwork at the front door surround to match that on the adjacent semi-detached rowhouse at 311 North Alfred Street; and,
- " Replace existing window head trim and lintel to to match that on the adjacent semi-detached rowhouse at 311 North Alfred Street.

The existing front door, steps, handrail and windows are to remain.

History and Analysis:

The two story, wood frame, Italianate style semi-detached residence at 309 North Alfred Street is one of a pair of rowhouses together with 311 constructed ca. 1884. Staff has not located any record of previous Board action with respect to the house at 309 North Alfred Street.

The proposed alterations comply with zoning ordinance requirements.

In the opinion of Staff, the proposed alterations are appropriate. They replicate the changes to the front door surround and window head treatment previously approved by the Board for the paired rowhouse at 311 North Alfred Street (BAR Case #2001-0320, 1/16/02). Therefore, Staff recommends approval.

The applicant proposes to retain the six panel Colonial Revival style door with the new door surround. This creates a somewhat anomalous situation by mixing two quite disparate architectural styles. While not part of the current application, Staff would encourage the replacement of the existing front door with a more appropriate style Victorian front door at some point in the future.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

- C-1 New construction must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-2 Alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-3 Construction permits are required for this project.

Historic Alexandria:

No comment.