

Docket Item #6  
BAR CASE #2003-0315

BAR Meeting  
January 21, 2004

**ISSUE:** Sign

**APPLICANT:** W. Abbruzzetti

**LOCATION:** 303 Cameron Street

**ZONE:** CD/Commercial

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

DISCUSSION:

Applicant's Description of the Undertaking:

"Same sign. Name change."

Issue:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a double faced projecting sign to hang from the existing black metal scroll bracket at the west end of the building between the first and second floors. The sign board for the former business at 303 Cameron Street, Mary McLaughlin Ltd., will be reused. The board is wood and measures 42" tall by 24" wide. It will be repainted with gold lettering on a black background and will read, "TrasteVere Antiques & Collectibles." Below this text will be a "T" in stylized font surrounded by a border. A small brass plaque, approximately 1 square foot, for another business in the building is mounted on the wall at ground level. The building frontage is approximately 20' in width.

History and Analysis:

According to Ethelyn Cox in Historic Alexandria Virginia Street by Street, Isaac George purchased the house at 303 Cameron Street and lot at 301 Cameron Street in 1829 (Page 4). The three-and-one-half story, gable roofed brick building has been used for commercial purposes for the last several decades. In 1964, the Board approved alterations to the front and the installation of a bay window (12/9/1964). The records indicate that over the next fifteen years the Board approved a succession of signs for this address (1/8/1969, 9/15/1971, 8/15/1973, and 2/22/1977). However, Staff could not locate records for the approval of the sign for Mary McLaughlin Ltd., the business preceding Traste Vere Antiques and Collectibles. The Board recently approved several signs for nearby properties: Stevens Reed Curcio & Company at 305 Cameron Street (BAR Case #2001-0070, 4/18/ 2001); Flower Basket at 311 Cameron Street (BAR Case #2002-0231, 9/18/2002); Stevens Reed Curcio & Potholm at 305 Cameron Street (BAR Case #2003-0223, 10/1/2003).

The proposed projecting sign complies with the zoning ordinance requirements.

Staff believes the proposed sign complies with the *Design Guidelines* for signs and is compatible with 303 Cameron Street and its neighbors. Therefore, Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

C-1 A construction permit is required for the proposed project.

Office of Historic Alexandria:

“No comment.”