

Docket Item #3
BAR CASE #2004-0171

BAR Meeting
September 1, 2004

ISSUE: Signage
APPLICANT: James Brown
LOCATION: 1 Cameron Street
ZONE: CD/Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

I. Issue:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for three signs to replace the existing wall signage at the Chart House Restaurant at 1 Cameron Street. These three signs are:

Western sign

This sign, "Chart House Restaurant" is aluminum with a gold finish with internal illumination measuring 2' 2" in height and 10' in length. It will be installed to the south of the restaurant entrance.

Northern sign

This sign, "Chart House Restaurant" is aluminum with a gold finish with internal illumination measuring 3' 5" in height and 9' in length. It will be installed on the north side of the restaurant facing Founders Park and the Potomac River.

Accessibility sign

This sign, "Chart House Restaurant" is aluminum with a gold finish and is not internally illuminated and measures 1' 6" in height and 3' in length. It will be installed on the north side of the restaurant.

II. History

The building at 1 Cameron Street is a one story frame freestanding building in a Shingle Revival style that was originally built as a restaurant as part of the revitalization of the waterfront in 1987.

The Board originally approved the signage for the Chart House restaurant in 1990 (BAR Case #90-014, 10/3/90).

III. Analysis

Proposed wall signs comply with Zoning Ordinance requirements.

The proposed signs basically merely update the logo and colors for the Chart House restaurant. They are proposed to be located in the same places as the previous signs. Based upon the Board's action with the previous signs, Staff recommends approval. Staff has no objections to two signs for this restaurant because it is a large freestanding structure and the two sides of the restaurant cannot be seen at the same time.

IV. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the new signs.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

C-1 A building permit and final inspection are required for installing the signs. Installation must be performed by a licensed contractor.

C-2 Wall letters / signs must comply with USBC [H103-H111] Please indicate the method to be used for anchoring the letters to the wall – number & size of anchors and approximate.

R-1 Complaint file CMP2003-03542 for outstanding FPP fees on 9/10/03 still appears to be open. Please confirm and resolve prior to approving permit for installing signs.

Historic Alexandria:

These signs appear larger, but it is difficult to determine if the guidelines on square footage of allowable signage is being adhered to.