

Docket Item #4
BAR Case #2004-0220

BAR Meeting
October 20, 2004

ISSUE: Stone retaining wall
APPLICANT: Cynthia and David Skinner
LOCATION: 708 Devon Place
ZONE: RB/Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a stone retaining wall in the front of the rowhouse at 709 Devon Place. The proposed wall is approximately 27' 4" in length running northward from the face of the house to public sidewalk. The wall will be approximately 2' in height and 12" in width and will be contained within the applicant's property line.

II. HISTORY:

708 Devon Place is a two story stone and brick end unit rowhouse dating from circa 1939-1940. Devon Place and the surrounding streets in this development, called Fagelson Addition, were included within the original boundaries of the 1946 historic district in order to protect the George Washington Memorial Parkway. With the construction of the Mason Hall apartments, the 700 block of Devon Place is no longer visible from the Parkway.

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed wall complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

Staff has no objection to the installation of the proposed stone wall which is similar to a number of other stone retaining walls in the Fagelson Addition subdivision such as along the 1300 block of Michigan Avenue. The materials for the wall echo those used for the facing of the rowhouses on the blockface. Last year the Board approved the installation of a similar stone faced wall across the street at 709 Devon Place, (BAR Case #2003-0155, 7/16/03).

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

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 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. Plans shall accompany the permit application that fully detail the construction.

Historic Alexandria:

No comment.

Alexandria Archaeology:

There is low potential for this project to disturb significant archaeological resources. No archaeological action is required.