

Docket Item #15
BAR CASE #2005-0093

BAR Meeting
May 18, 2005

ISSUE: After-the-fact fence

APPLICANT: James F. & Lura Lea Topping

LOCATION: 612 South Lee Street

ZONE: RM/Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application with the condition that the fence be lowered to 3'6".

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting after-the-fact approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a new 47 ½" tall black metal fence at 612 South Lee Street. The fence is separated into two sections by a walkway leading to the front door.

II. HISTORY:

The two story brick residence at 612 S Lee Street was constructed along with 614 South Lee Street around 1920.

In 1986, the Board approved a rear addition for 612 South Lee Street (BAR Case #86-201, 12/3/86). In 1988, the Board approved a 6' high stockade fence at the rear of the subject property (BAR Case #88-37, 4/6/88).

III. ANALYSIS:

Section 7-202(C) of the zoning ordinance permits the BAR to waive or modify the fence rules if they find the proposed fence will be architecturally appropriate for the district. The existing fence complies with zoning ordinance requirements.

In this case, Staff does not believe that a fence higher than 3'6" is appropriate. Staff feels that the height difference between the applicant's fence and the existing fence for the neighboring property at 614 South Lee Street presents an awkward appearance. Therefore, Staff recommends that the fence be lowered to 3'6".

Staff has no objections to the design of the fence with its simple metal pickets. The fence complies with the recommendations of the *Design Guidelines* for fences (Fences - Page 2).

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Therefore, Staff recommends approval of the application with the condition that the fence be lowered to 3'6".

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

No comments

Historic Alexandria:

“No comment”