

Docket Item #15  
BAR CASE #2005-0129

BAR Meeting  
July 6, 2005

**ISSUE:** Alterations to previously approved plans

**APPLICANT:** Lawrence Singer

**LOCATION:** 809 Cameron Street

**ZONE:** CD/Commercial

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the application with the condition that the new rear door be a wood four panel door to match the other existing rear door.

**I. ISSUE:**

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations to previously approved plans for the building at 809 Cameron Street. The alterations on the rear elevation include eliminating the transom from the door and replacing a window on the eastern corner with a new full light glass door. No information has been provided on the material of the door frame.

**II. HISTORY:**

809 Cameron Street was built as two separate but attached houses (809 & 807 Cameron Street) between 1877 and 1885. Between 1896 and 1902, a third floor addition was added to the westernmost building (809 Cameron Street).

The Board has recently approved a number of alterations to the property. Beginning in 2003, the Board approved a third story addition to the front eastern portion of the building and alterations to the front, rear and sides of the building (BAR Case #2003-0234/235, 12/3/03). In 2004, the Board approved the reconstruction of the rear wall (BAR Case #2004-0007/8, 2/4/04). Earlier this year, the Board approved new window openings and skylights (BAR Case #2004-0256/257, 1/5/05).

**III. ANALYSIS:**

The proposed alterations comply with zoning ordinance requirements.

Staff has no objections to the elimination of the transom above the rear door. Staff believes that the removal of the transom creates a simpler appearance, appropriate for the rear facade of the building.

Staff also supports the addition of a new door opening on the eastern half of the rear elevation. As mentioned above, the building was originally constructed as two separate dwellings and the new door will create a more symmetrical appearance. Staff does however have concerns with the use of a full light glass door. Staff believes that a four panel wood door to match the western door would be more appropriate.

**V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the application with the condition that the new rear door be a wood four panel door to match the other existing rear door.

## **CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS**

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

### **Code Enforcement:**

- C-1 A soils report must be submitted with the building permit application.
- C-2 New construction must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-3 Alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).
- C-4 Construction permits are required for this project. Plans shall accompany the permit application that fully detail the construction.

### **Historic Alexandria:**

“No comment.”