

Docket Item #3  
BAR CASE# 2005-0204

BAR Meeting  
September 21, 2005

**ISSUE:** Signs

**APPLICANT:** Yong Il Kim

**LOCATION:** 115 South Patrick Street

**ZONE:** CD/Commercial

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

**I. ISSUE:**

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for two signs for “Riverside Cleaners” at 115 South Patrick Street. The proposed hanging sign measures 30" by 36" and includes the business name in blue and red lettering. The sign will be attached to a standard bracket above the business entrance. A wall sign measuring 2' in length by 16" in height will be located to the south of the entrance at the same level as the proposed hanging sign. The wall sign includes the same design as the hanging sign. Both signs will be constructed out of aluminum.

The business is being relocated from its current location of 632 South Fairfax Street.

**II. HISTORY:**

According to Ethelyn Cox in *Historic Alexandria Virginia, Street by Street*, the three story building at 115 South Patrick Street probably dates from a house built by James Russell around 1812. Purchased in 1825 by the Reverend William H. Wilmer, Rector of St. Paul’s Church and sold by Wilmer’s widow in August 1837. By 1850 the owner was C.C. Bradley, who probably restyled the early house (Cox, page 101).

The Board approved a wall sign for the Cleaners at their former location, 632 South Fairfax Street, last year (BAR Case #2004-0188, 9/23/04).

**III. ANALYSIS:**

According to the applicant, the subject building width facing South Patrick Street is 34 feet. Therefore, the maximum signage allowed is 34 square feet. The proposed signs comply with zoning ordinance requirements.

The *Design Guidelines* recommend generally only one sign per business is appropriate (Signs - Page 3). In this case, Staff has no objections to the use of two signs. The proposed signs are relatively small in size and will help to distinguish the building as a commercial location rather than residential.

Staff notes that the applicant has worked with Staff to reduce the size of the proposed wall sign from 6' by 2' to 2' by 16" and to change the style of lettering. Staff believes that the changes made by the applicant significantly improve the appearance of the signs and meet the recommendations of the *Design Guidelines*.

**IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

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.

C-2 Wall letters / signs must comply with USBC [H103-H111].

C-3 Projecting, hanging signs must comply with USBC [H103-H107, H112] for type of materials, maximum projection, vertical clearance below all parts of the sign, and additional loads.

### Historic Alexandria:

“No comment.”