

Docket Item #5
BAR CASE #2005-0236

BAR Meeting
October 19, 2005

ISSUE: Alterations
APPLICANT: Linnea Poulsen
LOCATION: 314 North Columbus Street
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 to enclose the existing doorway on the south elevation of 314 N Columbus Street. The opening will be infilled with brick and painted to match the existing building color. The existing stoop, roof overhang and lattice screening along the side of the entrance will all be removed.

The area of proposed alteration is visible from North Columbus Street through the gap between the houses at 312 and 314 North Columbus Street.

II. HISTORY:

The brick residential building at 314 North Columbus Street was constructed between 1902 and 1907. Through 1902, the entire east half of the square bounded by Queen, North Columbus, Princess and Alfred streets was occupied by the Alexandria County Courthouse, a large freestanding structure constructed in 1839 and designed by Robert Mills. By 1907, according to the Sanborn Map published that year, the Courthouse had been demolished and eight houses, including 314 North Columbus Street, had taken its place along the blockface.

Staff was unable to locate any previous BAR approvals for this property.

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed alterations comply with zoning ordinance requirements.

Staff has no objections to the removal of the door which is minimally visible from the public right of way. The door is slightly recessed from the building face and is located at the western edge of the south elevation. Staff believes that the removal of the roof covering and lattice screening will be an improvement to the appearance of the south elevation.

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 as well as layouts and schematics of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems.

Historic Alexandria:

“No comment.”