

Docket Item #26
BAR CASE #2006-0151

BAR Meeting
July 19, 2006

ISSUE: Alterations
APPLICANT: Andrea Duvall
LOCATION: 229 North Alfred Street
ZONE: RB/Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends deferral of the application.

(Insert sketch here)

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the existing failing masonite siding on the front (north) and side (west) of the two story frame dwelling at 229 North Alfred Street. The applicant proposes to use smooth hardi plank lap siding with an 8" exposure. The applicant also plans to replace the deteriorated wood shutters with new wood shutters to match. The shutters will be sized to fit the openings and will be operable.

II. HISTORY:

229 North Alfred Street is a two story frame house with a gabled main block facing Queen Street and long rear ell on Alfred Street. According to Ethelyn Cox, the house, originally known as 826 Queen Street, was built as a twin with 824 Queen Street in the mid-19th century (Historic Alexandria Virginia, Street by Street, page 147). 824 Queen Street was Victorianized in the latter part of the 19th century while 826 Queen Street retained its simple gabled form and federal appearance until 1970 when it was renovated. It appears that the door was moved to the Alfred Street elevation at this time. The plans call for wood siding. However, it appears likely that the existing masonite siding was installed instead.

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed alterations comply with the zoning ordinance requirements.

The applicant has been advised that the masonite and any other sidings beneath this must be removed in several areas to determine if any historic siding is present and that staff must be provided an opportunity to inspect. Staff usually requests sections exposed in three areas, one of front and two on the sides. The applicant is willing to do so, but has not had time to arrange this. Since sections underneath the masonite have not been removed and what's underneath inspected by staff, staff is recommending deferral pending removal of sections of the masonite.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Therefore, Staff recommends deferral of the application.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

No comments.

Historic Alexandria:

Request is appropriate but more information needed on replacement shutters and other materials.