

Docket Item # 5
BAR CASE # 2007-0203

BAR Meeting
October 17, 2007

ISSUE: Alterations
APPLICANT: Robert Kaufman
LOCATION: 900 Prince Street
ZONE: CL/Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the proposed transom and deferral for restudy of the proposed light fixtures.

(Insert sketch here)

I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations at 900 Prince Street. The alterations include:

Light Fixtures:

Light fixtures are proposed to be installed at the secondary entrances to the building along Prince and South Columbus Streets. The proposed light fixtures are carriage style and are 17 ½” in height and 8” in width with a brass finish.

Transom:

A clear glass transom is proposed to be installed above the center corner entry in place of the existing panels.

II. HISTORY:

900 Prince Street is a two story, flat roofed commercial building that was originally constructed in 1915 as the Mt. Vernon Dairy and was subsequently modified on a number of occasions and by 1958 was an automobile sales and service building. In the period 1975-1980 the Board approved a number of alterations to the building including additions.

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed alterations comply with the Zoning Ordinance requirements.

Staff has no objection to the installation of light fixtures; however, in the opinion of staff the proposed light fixtures are too “Colonial” in appearance and are not appropriate to early 20th century architecture nor the industrial idiom of the building. Staff recommends light fixtures that are more appropriate to the historic period of the building.

Staff also has no objection to the new transom. It is compatible with the building.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed transom and deferral for restudy of the proposed light fixtures.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

C-1 Alterations to the existing structure must comply with the current edition of the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC).

C-2 Alterations to the existing structure and/or installation and/or altering of equipment therein requires a building permit. Five sets of plans, bearing the signature and seal of a design professional registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia, must accompany the written application. The plans must include all dimensions, construction alterations details, kitchen equipment, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical layouts and schematics.

Historic Alexandria:

R-1 Approve.

S-1 Consider black finish rather than polished brass for light fixtures.