Docket Item # 4 BAR CASE #2009-0003

BAR Meeting February 4, 2009

ISSUE: Alterations

APPLICANT: Christopher H. Fox

LOCATION: 507 South Saint Asaph Street

ZONE: RM/Residential

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.



I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for both a replacement front door and replacement windows at 507 South Saint Asaph Street.

The applicant is requesting approval to replace a total of five windows; three on the front of the home facing South Saint Asaph Street and two on the rear. The existing windows are single-glazed, double-hung, six-over-six (second floor windows) and eight-over-twelve (first floor window) wood windows with exterior storms. The applicant is requesting approval of Marvin Ultimate Wood Double Hung double-glazed windows with 7/8" muntins. The proposed windows will be simulated divided light with an interior spacer and an identical light pattern to the window they are replacing.

The applicant is also requesting approval of a replacement front entry door. The existing front door is a traditional six paneled wood door which the applicant would like to replace with a Simpson, Red Oak, four paneled door with four double glazed lights across the top of the door.

II. HISTORY:

507 South St. Asaph Street is one of 25 townhouses constructed as a cluster development with an SUP approval in 1976. The Board of Architectural Review approved the new construction of the development on September 17, 1975.

In 2006, the Board approved a Permit to Demolish/Encapsulate and a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations, including a new shed dormer on the front, and the replacement of two attic-story windows on the front elevation, and the construction of a roof deck on the rear (BAR Case #2006-0176 and BAR Case #2006-0177).

III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed alterations comply with Zoning Ordinance requirements.

The *Design Guidelines* recommend that: "...replacement windows should be appropriate to the historic period of the architectural style of the building". The *Guidelines* state that single-glazed, true divided light windows with interior storm sash are the preferred replacement window type. The *Guidelines* continue by saying other acceptable window types are "double-glazed true divided light wood windows...." In this particular case, given the age of the townhouse and the fact that the existing six-over-six light pattern and muntin profile and size will be retained, Staff does not object to the installation of double-insulated windows and doors, with simulated divided lights, and interior spacer bars. These windows are comparable to the ones recently approved by the Board for replacement windows at 330 N. Royal Street.

As stated in The *Design Guidelines*, "Doors and their surrounds are as much a character defining feature of architectural styles as windows," additionally, "Exterior doors and storm doors constitute prominent visual details of the main façade of a building." Staff finds the proposed replacement door appropriate and in keeping with the historic integrity of the district.

IV. <u>STAFF RECOMMENDATION</u>: Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

V. <u>CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS</u>

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

Code Enforcement:

No comments received.

Historic Alexandria:

R-1 Approve.

VI. <u>IMAGES</u>

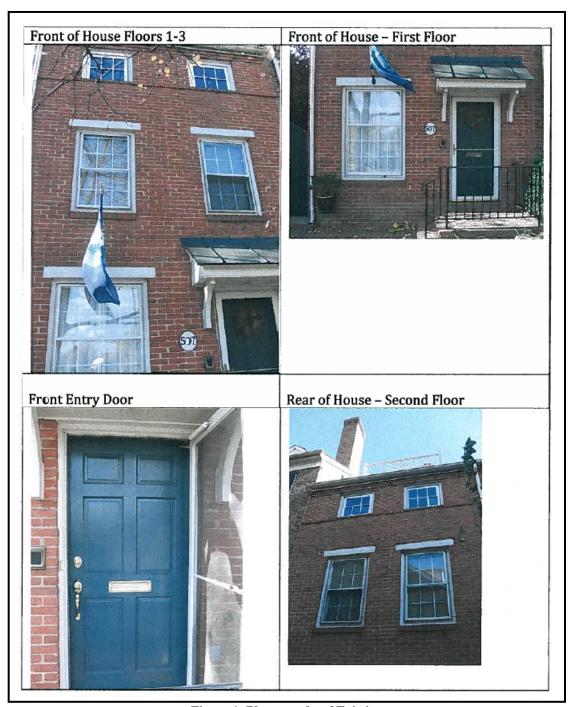


Figure 1: Photographs of Existing



Figure 2: Specifications sheet of proposed replacement door.