Docket Item # 4 BAR CASE # 2009-0168

BAR Meeting September 2, 2009

**ISSUE:** Signage

**APPLICANT:** Foundation for the Preservation of Medieval Arts & History

**LOCATION:** 213 King Street

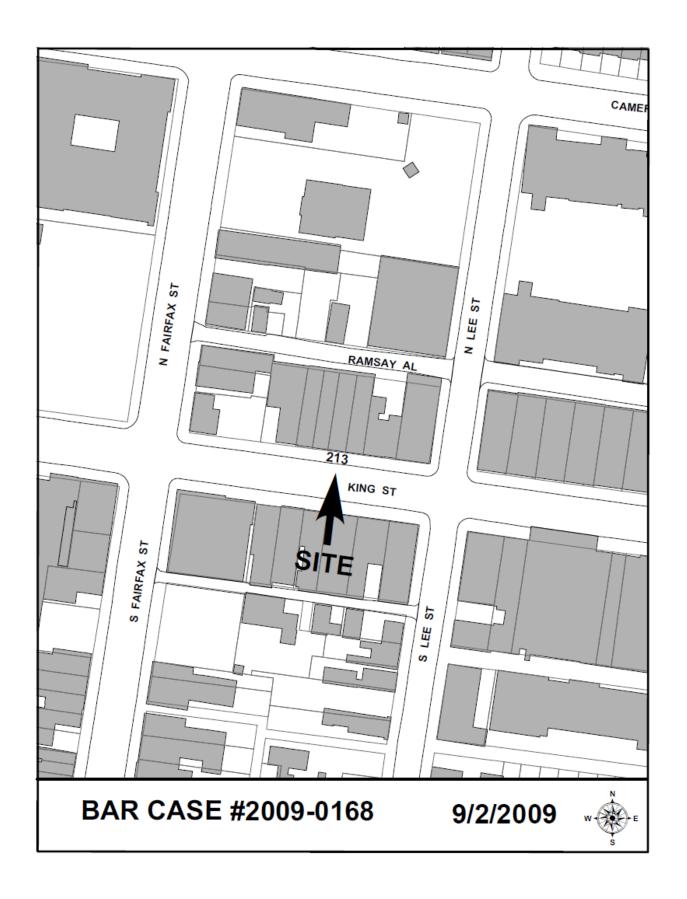
**ZONE:** KR King Street Retail

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

\*EXPIRATION OF APPROVALS NOTE: In accordance with Sections 10-106(B) and 10-206(B) of the Zoning Ordinance, any official Board of Architectural Review approval will expire 12 months from the date of issuance if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period. In the case for a certificate or permit for a project that requires a development special use permit or site plan under section 11-400 of the zoning ordinance, the period of validity shall be coincident with the validity of the development special use permit or site plan as determined pursuant to section 11-418 of the ordinance.

\*\*BUILDING PERMIT NOTE: Most projects approved by the Board of Architectural Review require the issuance of one or more construction permits by Building and Fire Code Administration (<u>including signs</u>). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Room 4200, City Hall, 703-838-4360 for further information.



### I. ISSUE:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a hanging sign, THE KINGS OWN SHOPPE, at 213 King Street.

The proposed hanging sign will be hung an existing black metal scroll bracket located on the storefront's frieze west of the shop's entrance. The double faced wood sign will measure two feet wide by three feet high and will take the shape of a shield topped by a crown. It will have a two-tone green background with gold letting and a multi-colored crown.

The sign will not be illuminated.

### II. HISTORY:

According to Ethelyn Cox in her book Historic Alexandria Virginia Street by Street, the three bay brick commercial building was purchased by Henry Baader in 1883. The G.M.Hopkins 1877 *City Atlas of Alexandria* shows a three story building of the same size at this location.

For many years the first floor of the building housed the Unique gift shop. A number of other tenants have occupied the building's upper floors. On June 16, 1999, the BAR approved a hanging sign for an upper level tenant, The Owl and the Pussycat (BAR Case #1999-0093). That business no longer exists.

A second hanging sign bracket is located to the east of the building's entrance. The property owner has indicated that a new second floor building tenant may soon be requesting approval of a hanging sign which will utilize this bracket.

### III. <u>ANALYSIS</u>:

The proposed sign complies with zoning ordinance requirements. The existing building frontage on King Street measures approximately 18 linear feet, allowing for a maximum of 18 square feet of signage area. The applicant proposes six square feet of signage.

In the opinion of Staff, the proposed hanging sign complies with the recommendations contained it the *Design Guidelines*. The design of the sign is compatible with the 19<sup>th</sup> century building and does not detract from the historic structure.

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

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

## **STAFF:**

Stephanie Sample, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning & Zoning Lee Webb, Historic Preservation Manager, Planning & Zoning

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

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

## **Code Administration:**

- F-1 The applicant shall obtain a sign permit for the proposed sign and/ or wall lettering.
- C-1 Wall letters / signs must comply with USBC [H103-H111] Please indicate the method to be used for anchoring the letters to the wall.
- C-2 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 comments received.

# VI. <u>IMAGES</u>:



Figure 1. Site photos.



Figure 2: Proposed hanging sign.