Docket Item #2 BAR CASE # 2011-0035

BAR Meeting March 2, 2011

ISSUE:	Alterations - Storm Door
APPLICANT:	Alex Falcon
LOCATION:	1300C Duke Street
ZONE:	OC / Office Commercial

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness 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 final approval if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period.

**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 (including siding or roofing over 100 square feet, windows and signs). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Room 4200, City Hall, 703-746-4200 for further information.



I. <u>ISSUE</u>:

The applicant is requesting approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a full, fixed-light, aluminum storm door over the existing front entry door of the townhouse located at 1300C Duke Street, which is part of a newly constructed development, "The Duke."

The door color will be painted to match the existing entry door's sage green color. The exterior "lever-style" handles will have a nickel finish to match the locksets on the entry door.

II. <u>HISTORY</u>:

The development completed construction in 2010 and consists of 58 condominium units within four multi-family buildings. The units are two and three bedrooms, and range in size from 1,200 sq. ft to 1,900 sq. ft. All of the buildings are oriented to face the adjoining public streets and are interspersed with open space in the form of external yards and open space areas and internal courtyards. The taller 50 ft. tall building consists of 40 condominium units on the southern portion of the site. Three "townhouse-style" condominium buildings, wrap the northern portion of the site along Duke, West, and, Payne Streets. These 3-story structures appear as townhouses, though technically they are "townhouse- style" condominiums. These "townhouses" are the only structures within the historic district. See district boundaries below:



III. ANALYSIS:

The proposed door installation complies with the zoning ordinance.

The *Design Guidelines* notate that "...storm doors constitute prominent visual details of the main façade of the building" and "should be very simple and open. Extraneous and distracting detailing decoration such as cast aluminum or plastic foliation on storm door is strongly discouraged." The *Guidelines* also specify that if metal storms are to be utilized that the "frames of the doors should be anodized to match the trim color of the building. Unpainted aluminum doors are not appropriate and should be avoided." Staff finds that aluminum storm doors are a reversible, non-obtrusive product, similar to aluminum storm windows and supports their installation. Storm doors aid in the preservation of historic fabric and increase the energy efficiency of buildings in the district.

Although the Board has reviewed and supported Staff's recommendations for administrative approval of aluminum storm doors that comply with the *Design Guidelines* in the Modern Materials Policy, this Policy requires a text amendment from City Council prior to implementation. Until the text amendment is passed, aluminum storm doors are not acceptable for staff level administrative approval. However, the storm door being installed on this modern early 21^{st} century building, as proposed meets the criteria outlined in this draft policy. The proposed aluminum storm door is a high quality, full-view door with minimal rails and stiles; will be painted to match the existing main door and the lockset will be "lever-style" in a nickel finish.

Based on the Board's current practice with regard to aluminum storm doors, their policy on utilizing high-quality modern materials on contemporary structures and the modest design and easy reversibility of a full view, single-light, aluminum storm door, as proposed by this applicant, Staff recommends approval.

STAFF:

Michele Oaks, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning & Zoning Al Cox, FAIA, Historic Preservation Manager, Planning & Zoning

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

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

Zoning:

C-1 Proposed storm door complies with zoning.

Code Administration:

C-1 A building permit is required to be issued prior to the installation of the new storm door. Door shall be the same as approved by Preservation Review Committee.

V. <u>IMAGES</u>



Figure 1. Photo of Existing Front Door



Figure 2. Photo of Proposed Storm Door