

Docket Item #3
BAR CASE #2003-0298

BAR Meeting
December 17, 2003

ISSUE: Railing
APPLICANT: Dana McLeod
LOCATION: 519 North Alfred Street
ZONE: RB/Residential

****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.

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

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the application as submitted.

DISCUSSION:

Applicant s Description of Undertaking:

Railing on the front stairs install.

Issue:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a handrail on each side of the existing front steps. The handrails will be metal with a black finish. They will have simple pickets. The top rail will terminate in a lambs tongue. The applicant has provided a photograph showing railings at 424 Queen Street which the proposed railings will match.

History and Analysis:

The two story frame house with two story bay at 519 North Alfred Street is one of a row of 11 houses (509 through 529 North Alfred Street) which were constructed prior to 1902, the first year the area was included in Sanborn mapping, and may date to the last decade of the 19th century. Although one of the houses on the south end of the row (511 North Alfred Street) was no longer extant by 1907, the row represents one of the largest single developments of the Victorian period in the Parker-Gray District.

The proposed railing complies with the zoning ordinance requirements.

In the opinion of Staff, the proposed alteration is appropriate. The simple railing, though not necessarily Victorian in style, is unobtrusive and will not detract from the character of the house or its neighbors.

CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

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

Code Enforcement:

C-1 A construction permit is required for the proposed project.

Historic Alexandria:

No Comment.