

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

March 15, 2023

HDRC CASE NO: 2023-082
ADDRESS: 215 WICKES
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 938 BLK 1 LOT 5
ZONING: RM-4, H
CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 1
DISTRICT: King William Historic District
APPLICANT: Camila Mares
OWNER: ADELA CHAPA/CHAPA ADELA
TYPE OF WORK: Siding replacement and fenestration modifications on the rear addition
APPLICATION RECEIVED: February 21, 2023
60-DAY REVIEW: Not applicable due to City Council Emergency Orders
CASE MANAGER: Claudia Espinosa

REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to:

1. Replace the existing wood siding on the south elevation of the rear addition with Hardie siding.
2. Infill the exterior door opening to the water heater closet on the south elevation.
3. Infill the top left window opening on the south elevation of the addition.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 2, Exterior Maintenance and Alterations

1. Materials: Woodwork

A. MAINTENANCE (PRESERVATION)

- i. *Inspections*—Conduct semi-annual inspections of all exterior wood elements to verify condition and determine maintenance needs.
- ii. *Cleaning*—Clean exterior surfaces annually with mild household cleaners and water. Avoid using high pressure power washing and any abrasive cleaning or striping methods that can damage the historic wood siding and detailing.
- iii. *Paint preparation*—Remove peeling, flaking, or failing paint surfaces from historic woodwork using the gentlest means possible to protect the integrity of the historic wood surface. Acceptable methods for paint removal include scraping and sanding, thermal removal, and when necessary, mild chemical strippers. Sand blasting and water blasting should never be used to remove paint from any surface. Sand only to the next sound level of paint, not all the way to the wood, and address any moisture and deterioration issues before repainting.
- iv. *Repainting*—Paint once the surface is clean and dry using a paint type that will adhere to the surface properly. See *General Paint Type Recommendations* in Preservation Brief #10 listed under Additional Resources for more information.
- v. *Repair*—Repair deteriorated areas or refasten loose elements with an exterior wood filler, epoxy, or glue.

B. ALTERATIONS (REHABILITATION, RESTORATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION)

- i. *Façade materials*—Avoid removing materials that are in good condition or that can be repaired in place. Consider exposing original wood siding if it is currently covered with vinyl or aluminum siding, stucco, or other materials that have not achieved historic significance.
- ii. *Materials*—Use in-kind materials when possible or materials similar in size, scale, and character when exterior woodwork is beyond repair. Ensure replacement siding is installed to match the original pattern, including exposures. Do not introduce modern materials that can accelerate and hide deterioration of historic materials. Hardiboard and other cementitious materials are not recommended.
- iii. *Replacement elements*—Replace wood elements in-kind as a replacement for existing wood siding, matching in profile, dimensions, material, and finish, when beyond repair.

6. Architectural Features: Doors, Windows, and Screens

A. MAINTENANCE (PRESERVATION)

- i. *Openings*—Preserve existing window and door openings. Avoid enlarging or diminishing to fit stock sizes or air conditioning units. Avoid filling in historic door or window openings. Avoid creating new primary entrances or window openings on the primary façade or where visible from the public right-of-way.
- ii. *Doors*—Preserve historic doors including hardware, fanlights, sidelights, pilasters, and entablatures.
- iii. *Windows*—Preserve historic windows. When glass is broken, the color and clarity of replacement glass should match the original historic glass.
- iv. *Screens and shutters*—Preserve historic window screens and shutters.
- v. *Storm windows*—Install full-view storm windows on the interior of windows for improved energy efficiency. Storm window may be installed on the exterior so long as the visual impact is minimal and original architectural details are not obscured.

B. ALTERATIONS (REHABILITATION, RESTORATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION)

- i. *Doors*—Replace doors, hardware, fanlight, sidelights, pilasters, and entablatures in-kind when possible and when deteriorated beyond repair. When in-kind replacement is not feasible, ensure features match the size, material, and profile of the historic element.
- ii. *New entrances*—Ensure that new entrances, when necessary to comply with other regulations, are compatible in size, scale, shape, proportion, material, and massing with historic entrances.
- iii. *Glazed area*—Avoid installing interior floors or suspended ceilings that block the glazed area of historic windows.
- iv. *Window design*—Install new windows to match the historic or existing windows in terms of size, type, configuration, material, form, appearance, and detail when original windows are deteriorated beyond repair.
- v. *Muntins*—Use the exterior muntin pattern, profile, and size appropriate for the historic building when replacement windows are necessary. Do not use internal muntins sandwiched between layers of glass.
- vi. *Replacement glass*—Use clear glass when replacement glass is necessary. Do not use tinted glass, reflective glass, opaque glass, and other non-traditional glass types unless it was used historically. When established by the architectural style of the building, patterned, leaded, or colored glass can be used.
- vii. *Non-historic windows*—Replace non-historic incompatible windows with windows that are typical of the architectural style of the building.
- viii. *Security bars*—Install security bars only on the interior of windows and doors.
- ix. *Screens*—Utilize wood screen window frames matching in profile, size, and design of those historically found when the existing screens are deteriorated beyond repair. Ensure that the tint of replacement screens closely matches the original screens or those used historically.
- x. *Shutters*—Incorporate shutters only where they existed historically and where appropriate to the architectural style of the house. Shutters should match the height and width of the opening and be mounted to be operational or appear to be operational. Do not mount shutters directly onto any historic wall material.

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FINDINGS:

- a. The structure located at 215 Wickes is a single-family structure that features wood-lapped siding, one-over-one wood windows, and a front-facing gable and an addition that was constructed circa 1995. The structure makes its first appearance on the 1931 Sanborn Map and is a contributing structure to the King William Historic District.
- b. WOOD SIDING REPLACEMENT - The applicant is requesting to remove the existing wood siding on the rear addition and replace it with Hardi Siding. The Guideline for Exterior Maintenance and Alterations 1.B.ii. states to use in-kind materials when possible or materials similar in size, scale, and character when exterior woodwork is beyond repair, to ensure that replacement siding is installed to match the original pattern, including exposures, and to not introduce modern materials that can accelerate and hide deterioration of historic materials. Hardiboard and other cementitious materials are not recommended. Staff finds this request to be inconsistent with the Guidelines.
- c. WINDOW INFILL – The applicant is requesting to infill the window opening on the first story/second story of the south elevation of the rear addition. The Guidelines recommend that historic window openings be preserved. This window is of non-traditional size and located on the 1995 addition. Staff finds the window infill appropriate provided that appropriate materials are used.
- d. DOOR INFILL - The applicant has requested to replace the existing, wood door that leads to the water heater. Based on the Guidelines for Exterior Maintenance and Alterations 6.A.i, existing window and door openings should be preserved. The exterior door to the addition is non-original to the structure and the applicant has noted the use of an interior door to access the water heater. Staff finds this request to be consistent with the Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION:

Item 1, staff does not recommend approval of the replacement of the existing wood siding on the rear addition on the south wall with Hardie siding based on finding b. Staff recommends the applicant replace the siding with materials that match the existing siding in profile, dimensions, material, finish, and reveal.

Item 2, staff recommends approval of the infill of the exterior door to the water heater closet based on finding d.

Item 3, staff recommends approval of the infill of the window on the south elevation of the addition based on finding c.



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