



465 Prospect Street • P.O. Box 2312 • York, PA 17405 • 717-843-0320 • Fax 717-845-6050

York Historical Architectural Review Board

A meeting of the York Historical Architectural Review board was held on **Wednesday, May 21, 2008** at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers at One Marketway West, Third Floor, York, PA.

Members in Attendance:

Woody Witzak, Chair
Mark Shermeyer, Vice Chair
Gayle Mathys
Gary Geiselman
Joan Burgasser
Justine Landis
Dennis Kunkle, Alternate
John Fox, Alternate

Also in Attendance:

Barb Raid, Historic York, Inc.

There was a seven-member quorum present at the meeting. The minutes of the May 7, 2008 HARB meeting were approved without change.

The following two cases are forwarded to York City Council with the recommended action:

19-08H **252 East Princess Street** – Sherman Martin of Martin & McClean Construction presented plans to rehabilitate the facade and the Pierce Street (alley) elevations of the main house. (The board recommended approval of the rear work on 5/7/08.)

Points of Discussion:

1. Gary Geiselman met with the applicant at the site on 5/19 after the insulbrick siding had been removed. They agree that the original wood siding on the facade is in fairly good condition and is quite tight despite the lack of sheathing. It will be rather labor-intensive, but they feel the facade siding definitely can be restored.
2. The condition of the wood siding on the alley elevation is not as good, and there are many gaps as well as holes resulting from the fire. The bad areas of the siding could be patched. The patches would be somewhat visible even when painted
3. Gary felt that the cost of replacing the entire alley elevation would be too great. He proposed allowing the applicant to cover the existing wood siding with vinyl siding to match the rear. Joan Burgasser said she could not agree to vinyl as the alley elevation is very visible from Princess Street, which is one of the boundaries for the Renaissance Plan revitalization area. John Fox mentioned other types of siding such as Hardiplank. That product has been approved before but would not work in this particular case because the Hardiplank version of German drop siding has a different profile than the existing. The applicant said he actually would prefer to restore the wood siding anyway.

4. The windows on the facade can be restored. Windows including the casings in the alley elevation are in horrible condition and will have to be replaced. There was a discussion about brands and types of replacement windows.
5. The decorative trim on the facade can be restored and reinstalled, but it is in pretty bad shape on the alley elevation. The applicant does not want to replace the "frilly stuff" on the latter. He said the owner did not plan on that kind of cost for this type of project.
6. The applicant said the front door is too deteriorated to reuse as it has been kicked in too many times, but the jamb is fine. Gary suggested that he could help with that issue at a later time.
7. The slate mansard roof will be repaired in kind.
8. Joan said she probably could get front and rear light fixtures for him from the Olde Towne East neighborhood program. The fixtures would be free.
9. The owner plans to use a three- or four-color paint scheme.
10. The chimney will remain.

A motion was duly made by Gary Geiselman and seconded by Justine Landis to recommend **APPROVAL** of the application, as amended with the following stipulations: 1. On the facade, the existing wood siding, the windows including the basement and dormer windows, the trim, and the slate roof will be repaired or replaced exactly in kind. New or existing storm windows may be used. 2. The front door replacement is **tabled** and will be addressed at a later HARB meeting. 3. The brick foundation will be cleaned, spot repointed as needed, and repainted. 4. New half-round gutters and smooth round downspouts on the facade will be color coordinated with the trim. 5. Light fixtures provided by Olde Towne East will be installed on the facade and in the rear. If different fixtures are chosen, they must be approved by the HARB consultant before installation. 6. On the Pierce Street (side alley) elevation of the main house, the existing wood siding will be repaired or replaced in kind. 7. Windows in the alley elevation can be repaired in kind if more cost-effective, but they also can be entirely replaced including the jambs, headers and trim. This replacement will be allowed due to the extreme deterioration of all the existing window components. The new wooden windows must be sized to properly fit the existing openings, and the new trim and headers must match the existing in size; however, the ornamentation on the hood moldings does not have to be replaced on this elevation. 8. The location of the rear fire escape has been changed from the way it was presented at the 5/7/08 HARB meeting, and from the way it is depicted in the drawing submitted at that time. Instead the fire escape will lead off the rear of the second-story porch. This motion is in accordance with Exterior Masonry Walls, Exterior Wood Walls, Windows & Doors, Roofs, and Porches of the York Design Guidelines, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation 1, 2, 5, 6, 9 & 10.

7 yea 0 nay

Submitted: 6 photographs of the building after the insulbrick siding was removed (photos taken by Dave Redshaw)

21-08H **131 & 133 South Newberry Street** – Pam Jarrett presented plans to replace the shared wooden stoop with a new brick-faced concrete stoop.

Points of Discussion:

1. The current stoop is dilapidated.
2. The new steps will be a bit lower than the thresholds to match other stoops in the block.

3. The new brick will match the building's brick.
4. There will be no railings.

A motion was duly made by Mark Shermeyer and seconded by Joan Burgasser to recommend **APPROVAL** of the application, as amended with the following stipulation: The new brick and mortar will match the color of the existing brick and mortar in the buildings' facades. This motion is in accordance with Porches of the York Design Guidelines, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation 9 & 10.

7 yea 0 nay

Submitted: 5 photographs, one sketch, a brief written description of the work, and the contractor's written proposal (C. J. Doudrick)

The applicant for **220 South Duke Street** (16-08H) did not attend the meeting, nor did he send a representative in his place, so that case was not heard and is not forwarded to Council.

Other Business:

HARB Chair Woody Witezak again welcomed John Fox as the newest HARB member.

Barb Raid reported to the board on the following projects/issues:

50 East King Street – The Salvation Army is not planning to install a chain-link fence around the rear parking lot after all. The permit application and site plan provided by the contractor were misleading.

205A South George Street – An internally illuminated box sign was installed without a permit or HARB/Council approval. This type of sign historically has not been allowed in the HARB district. The Zoning Officer contacted the business owner, and Barb will do the same.

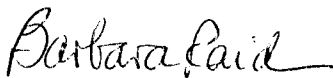
248 East King Street – Barb received a call from a concerned citizen about this address. No work is going on at the moment, but the caller seemed to feel that the new owner at 248 was unaware of the property's location in the HARB district.

50-52-54-56 South Pershing Avenue at West King Street – Interior renovation has been going on for a couple of months now, but recently Barb noticed that several window sash had been removed. She was concerned because these are late-18th- or very early 19th-century buildings (although somewhat modified), and some of the sash have very thin muntins, reflecting that early time period. She had an opportunity to chat with the contractor, who explained that he is repairing the sash in kind, not replacing them. He also will be repainting the brick walls.

Council soon will begin their summer recesses. There will be no Council meetings on June 17, July 1 or August 5.

Woody Witzak gave a brief summary of an interesting pilot program. He and Barb attended a Certified Local Government (CLG) workshop at the recent State historic preservation conference. The Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCP) gave a presentation. This nonprofit organization has been in business since 1968, offering technical assistance and funding for architectural design projects. The proposed pilot program would involve free design assistance for individual property owners in a CLG community. There is a possibility that they may be looking for participants in this region of the state in the near future. Woody mentioned this program to Council member Genevieve Ray, who was very interested in it.

HARB Chair Woody Witzak adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.



Barbara Raid, Historic York, Inc.
HARB Consultant & Recording Secretary