

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW  
STAFF REPORT  
August 22, 2017, Meeting**

4. **COA-021087-2017** (L. Hurte)

**110 West Leigh Street  
Jackson Ward Old and Historic District**

**Project Description:**

**Remove a chimney.**

**Staff Contact:**

**C. Jeffries**

The applicant requests approval to remove a brick chimney on a brick Italianate home in the Jackson Ward Old and Historic District. The small chimney has been detached from the roof of the structure because it was leaning and the applicant was concerned it would fall.

**Staff recommends denial of the project as proposed.** *The Richmond Old and Historic District Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* state that original chimneys should be retained as their removal could alter the character of the structure (pg. 64, #10). Though the chimney is small and near the rear of the structure, it is visible from Leigh Street and its removal alters the character of this portion of the building. As the *Guidelines* clearly state that chimneys should be retained, staff cannot support the removal of the chimney and suggests that the applicant repair it instead.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is not consistent with the Standards for Rehabilitation outlined in Section 30-930.7(b) of the City Code, as well as with the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*, specifically the page cited above, adopted by the Commission for review of Certificates of Appropriateness under the same section of the code.