

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
February 28, 2017, Meeting**

1. **CAR No. 17-018** (J. Cook-Asaro)

**816 North 23rd Street
Union Hill Old and Historic District**

Project Description:

Replace front and back door.

Staff Contact:

C. Jeffries

The applicant requests approval to replace the front and back doors of a single family residence in the Union Hill Old and Historic District with new wood doors. The applicant proposes to replace a paneled wood front door with a wood true divided lite French door with fifteen lites. The applicant also proposes to replace a paneled wood door in the rear with a half-glazed true divided lite wood door with four lites and three horizontal panels. The applicant notes that the new doors will be painted the same colors as the existing doors.

Staff recommends approval of the project with conditions. In general, the proposed work meets the Standards for Rehabilitation contained on page 57 of the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* which emphasize the retention and repair of historic materials and in-kind replacement. The applicant has stated that the existing doors were installed when the residence was extensively rehabilitated in 2007. The doors were designed for interior use and have sustained weather damage, necessitating their replacement.

Staff supports the replacement of the doors, however, staff was unable to locate an example of a French style door for a front entry on a home of a similar style. Most homes of this era often have either a paneled wood door or a half-glazed door with one or two lites. In addition, the existing color of the front door, which appears to have been painted in late 2015 or early 2016, is not found on the Commission's paint palette. Staff recommends that the front door be replaced with a half-glazed true divided lite wood door with either one or two lites over panels and be painted a color found on or similar to the Commission's paint palette. The design and color for the front door to be submitted to staff for administrative review and approval.

It is the assessment of staff that the application, with the conditions noted above, is 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.