

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
May 24, 2016 Meeting**

4. **CAR No. 16-080** (F. Cava)

**614 North 27th Street
Church Hill North Old and Historic District**

Project Description: **Remove existing vinyl siding, restore wood siding on the front façade, install HardiPlank siding, install window trim, rehabilitate the front porch, and paint elements of the structure.**

Staff Contact: **M. Pitts**

The applicant requests approval to rehabilitate the exterior of home in the Church Hill North Old and Historic District. The applicant proposes to remove all existing vinyl siding from the exterior of the home. The applicant has removed much of the vinyl from front of the home and has uncovered wood siding which is proposed to be restored. The applicant proposes to remove the vinyl from the secondary elevations and install HardiPlank siding in Boothbay Blue (similar to #31 Leisure Blue in the Commission's paint palette) to these elevations. Around the windows, the applicant proposes to install 4" wooden window trim. The applicant proposes to restore the porch by repairing or replacing in-kind the wooden decking, replacing the vinyl porch ceiling with wooden beadboard, and replacing in-kind the metal hand rail. The applicant is proposing to remove the storm door and restore the glass in transom above the front door. The proposed color scheme is as follows:

- Siding: HardiPlank will be Boothbay Blue (similar to #31 Leisure Blue in the Commission's paint palette), and the restored wood siding on the front façade will be painted a color to match the HardiPlank
- Trim, columns, porch rails, and lattice: Extra White (SW7006)
- Porch Ceiling: Tidewater (SW6477)
- Front Door: Butter Up (SW6681) which is similar to #44 Classic Yellow on the Commission's paint palette
- Porch decking and concrete stairs: Ellie Gray (SW7650) which is similar to #5 Colonial Revival Gray on the Commission's paint palette.

Staff recommends approval of the project with a condition. In general, the proposed rehabilitation meets the Commission's guidelines for rehabilitation found on page 55 of the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* as the applicant is proposing to remove the inappropriate vinyl additions to the property including the siding and porch ceiling and will repair damaged pieces and replace in-kind elements that have been damaged beyond the point of repair. The *Guidelines* note that fiber cement siding is a product with limited applications which includes being used on

secondary elevations with limited visibility from the public right of way (pg 56). Staff recommends the applicant remove the vinyl siding on the secondary elevations and if the siding cannot be salvaged, staff supports the installation of fiber cement siding with the condition that the siding be smooth and unbeaded and that the reveal match the historic reveal found on the siding on the front façade. Staff supports the proposed paint scheme as it maintains the existing color of the home.

It is the assessment of staff that the application, with the above noted condition, is consistent with the Standards for Rehabilitation 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 pages cited above, adopted by the Commission for review of Certificates of Appropriateness under the same section of the code.