

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
June 26, 2018 Meeting**

2. **COA-036232-2018** (A. & D. Harris) **2010 Monument Avenue
Monument Avenue Old and Historic District**

Project Description: **Replace chain link fence with
brick and parged block wall.**

Staff Contact: **C. Jeffries**

The applicant requests approval to replace a non-historic chain link fence with a parged block and brick wall. The existing fence runs along the west side of the property, adjacent to a parking area. The height of the new wall will be 6.5", and it will be in the same location as the existing fence.

The wall will be designed to match an existing wall bordering the east side of the property. The wall will be constructed of cement blocks parged an off-white with a brick cap. The wall will run along the west side of the property and connect to the existing carriage house, creating a storage area for trash and recycling receptacles.

An opening will be created in an existing block wall on the east side of the carriage house. The block wall will be increased in height to 6.5', and altered to match the new brick wall with a brick cap and parging. An arched wooden gate will be installed in the new opening, and a matching gate will be installed in the side yard access at the front of the structure. The gates will be painted Rouge blue.

Staff recommends approval of the project with conditions. The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* notes that a new fence or wall should be constructed using materials and designs appropriate for the District" (pg. 78, #6). The new block and brick wall would relate to materials found through the district where brick is a common building material used on homes, churches, sidewalks and other walls. In addition, it is the applicant's intent to replicate the design of the existing wall that runs along the opposite side of the property. As the exterior of the proposed wall will be highly visible from the alley, staff recommends that the brick columns also be installed on the exterior, to break up the large expanse of parged block.

Staff finds that the proposed color for the new wood gates is not consistent with the Commission's paint palette (pg. 64-65). Staff recommends the gates be painted or opaquely stained a color that is consistent with the Commission's guidelines for paint. The new color should be submitted to staff for administrative review and approval.

It is the assessment of staff that the application, with the condition 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.