



Staff Report
City of Richmond, Virginia



Commission of Architectural Review

1. COA-117429-2022	Final Review	Meeting Date: 9/27/2022
Applicant/Petitioner	Joe Gross	
Project Description	Construct a concrete retaining wall in a front yard.	
Project Location		
Address: 512 W Clay Street		
Historic District: Jackson Ward		
High-Level Details: Applicant requests to build a concrete curb to border the sidewalk and property line in the front yard of a semi-attached, masonry, Italianate sing-family dwelling circa 1900. The neighboring dwelling at 514 W. Clay Street has an existing front yard concrete curb similar to the one being proposed. Examples of front yard curbs exist throughout the district.		
Staff Recommendation	Approval, with Conditions	
Staff Contact	Samantha Lewis, samantha.lewis@rva.gov , (804) 646-5207	
Previous Reviews	None.	
Conditions for Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new concrete retaining wall match the width and height of the concrete curb at 514 W. Clay Street. 	

Staff Analysis

Guideline Reference	Reference Text	Analysis
Standards for Site Improvements, p. 77, #11	<i>In instances where physical or documentary evidence does not exist, the proposed front yard landscaped area should be</i>	Staff finds that there is no historic evidence of front yard hardscaping, and applicant has agreed to build the curb to the same standards that exist on the 500

	<i>compatible in design, materials, and location, and should look to precedent on the block face or the block face opposite,</i>	block of West Clay Street. The curb will maintain transparency and connection to the sidewalk.
Standards for Site Improvement, p. 76, #7	<i>Sidewalks and curbs should be built of common building materials found throughout the District</i>	Applicant has indicated he will build his curb with the same material (concrete) found on the 500 block of West Clay Street and will match the size, shape, and color of the curbs on the block. <u>Staff recommends that the new concrete retaining wall match the width and height of the concrete curb at 514 W. Clay Street.</u>

Figures

Figure 1. Façade photo



Figure 2. 1924 - 1925 Sanborn Map

