

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
September 27, 2016 Meeting**

14. **CAR No. 16-140** (F. Cava)

**512 North 29th Street
Church Hill North Old and Historic District**

Project Description: **Rehabilitate the existing home to include painting the structure and installing a new front door.**

Staff Contact: **M. Pitts**

The applicant requests approval rehabilitate an altered frame vernacular Italianate dwelling in the Church Hill North Old and Historic District. The applicant is proposing to paint the structure as follows:

- Existing Vinyl Siding: Retreat SW6207 (#7 on the Commission's palette)
- Trim to include lattice and porch railing, columns, and ceiling: Extra White to match the existing color
- Porch Floor, Brick Piers, and Concrete Steps: Online Gray SW7072 (Similar to Colonial Revival Gray, #5 on the Commission's palette)

The applicant proposes to remove the existing storm door and front door and install a 9-lite, wooden, simulated divided lite, front door to be stained Walnut.

Staff recommends approval of the project with a condition. The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* state that appropriate colors for Italianate style homes include greens. For this reason, staff supports painting the siding of the structure the proposed grey-green color. Staff also recommends approval of painting the porch flooring and previously painted concrete steps gray as gray is an appropriate flooring color and the concrete would have been gray prior to being painted. The *Guidelines* note that previously painted brick should be painted a natural brick color (pg. 59, Historic Masonry #3). For this reason, staff recommends the brick piers be painted a natural brick color to be reviewed and administratively approved by staff not the proposed gray color.

The Guidelines note that storm doors shall only be installed if the design allows the original door to show through (pg. 68, #15) and that molded faux panel doors with leaded, beveled or etched glass are not appropriate for the historic district (pg. #14). For these reasons, staff supports the removal of the storm door and the existing front door as they do not meet the guidelines noted above. Staff finds the multi-lite wooden door is appropriate for the district as the material and design are consistent with the doors found in the district.

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