

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
April 26, 2016 Meeting**

6. **CAR No. 16-047** (J. Paley)

**2319 M Street
Union Hill Old and Historic District**

Project Description:

**Paint previously painted masonry
foundation a light blue grey color.**

Staff Contact:

M. Pitts

The applicant requests approval to paint the previously painted brick foundation and piers of a home in the Union Hill Old and Historic District a light blue grey color. This application is the result of enforcement activity. On July 22, 2014, the Commission approved with conditions an application for the rehabilitation of this home and the construction of a rear addition. The applicant was approved to repaint the foundation as needed the white color it was previously painted. The piers and foundation were instead painted the light blue grey to match the approved trim color.

Staff recommends denial of the project. The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* note that for painting previously painted masonry, colors of natural brick are strongly encouraged and are preferred over less appropriate colors including blue (pg. 59, Historic Masonry #3). As the blue grey color is not a color of natural brick, staff cannot recommend approval of this color. Staff recommends the applicant paint the masonry a natural brick color as recommended by the *Guidelines*.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is not 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.