

**COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
STAFF REPORT
September 23, 2014 Meeting**

6. **CAR No. 14-097** (J. King & B. Isenberg) **2018 W. Grace Street
West Grace Street Old & Historic District**

Project Description: **Demolish rear cinder block wall
and install wooden fence and gate**

Staff Contact: **W. Palmquist**

The applicant requests approval to demolish a cinder block wall with lattice above at the rear of this property located in the West Grace Street Old & Historic District. The applicant proposes replacing the existing wall with a 6' high privacy fence with straight palings and a simple wooden gate.

Staff recommends approval of the project. The *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines* notes that concrete block walls are not appropriate in any City Old and Historic District (pg. 68, #6). Staff supports the removal of the non-historic block wall and lattice fence. The proposed privacy fence and gate are much more in keeping with the guidelines for rear yard fences and walls.

It is the assessment of staff that the application is consistent with the Standards for Site Improvements outlined in Section 114-930.7(e) 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.