

COA-026277-2017

COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW APPLICATION / CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

PROPERTY (Location of Work)								
Address 1131 & 1137 West Grace Street								
Historic District West Grace Street								
PROPOSED ACTION								
☐ Alteration (including paint colors) ☐ F	Rehabilitation Demolition							
☐ Addition ■ ↑	New Construction (Conceptual Review required)							
	☐ Conceptual Review ☐ Final Review							
OWNER	APPLICANT (if other than owner)							
Name Jeffrey W. Jacobs	Name Lory Markham							
Company Saint John's United Church of Christ	Company Markham Planning Mailing Address 2314 West Main Street							
Mailing Address 503 Stuart Circle Richmond, Virginia 23220	Richmond, Virginia 23220							
Phone (804) 355-1115	Phone 804-248-2561							
Email jwjacobs9@gmail.com	Email lory@markhamplanning.com							
Signature Jeff W. Jawh								
Date October 31, 2017	Signature Date							
Date	Date							
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBIL	ITY							
Requirements: A complete application includes a provide a complete and accurate description of eximeeting or site visit with staff may be necessary to prosignature is required. Late or incomplete applications	sting and proposed conditions. Preliminary review ocess the application. Owner contact information and							
Zoning Requirements: Prior to CAR review, it is the approval is required and application materials should								
Compliance: If granted, you agree to comply with all require staff review and may require a new application may result in project delays or legal action. The COA additional year, upon written request.	n and CAR approval. Failure to comply with the COA							
(Space below for staff use only)								
Application received:								
Date/Time 1!/5/17	Complete							
By	- 100 - 110							

Created 7/2016



CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

NEW CONSTRUCTION CHECKLIST

Well in advance of the COA application deadline contact staff to discuss your project, and if necessary, to make an appointment to meet with staff for a project consultation in the office or on site.

Complete all applicable sections and submit with the COA application form. Staff can assist you in determining what items are required for your scope of work. An incomplete application may cause delays in processing or may be deferred to the next agenda. Application materials <u>must</u> clearly represent current and proposed conditions. Refer to Standards for New Construction outlined in Section 30.930.7(c) of the City Code, as well as, the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*.

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

1131 & 1137 West Grace Street

NEW BUILDING TYPE

- single-family residence
- multi-family residence
- commercial building
- mixed use building
- institutional building
- garage
- accessory structure
- other

DRAWINGS (refer to required drawing guidelines)

- floor plans
- elevations (all sides)
- roof plan
- list of windows and doors, including size, material, design
- context drawing showing adjacent buildings
- perspective
- site plan
- legal plat of survey

WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

- describe new structure including levels, foundation, siding, windows, doors, roof and details
- state how the Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines informed the proposed work, site specific pages and sections of the Guidelines that apply
- material description; attach specification sheets if necessary

PHOTOGRAPHS place on 8 ½ x 11 page, label photos with description and location (refer to photograph guidelines)

site as seen from street, from front and corners, include neighboring properties



November 2, 2017

Ms. Marianne Pitts, Secretary
Commission of Architectural Review
Department of Planning & Development Review
900 East Broad Street, Suite 511
Richmond, VA 23219
Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com

RE: Applicant's Report for Final Certificate of Appropriateness for New Construction at 1131 & 1137
West Grace Street

Dear Ms. Pitts,

Please accept this letter as the Written Description for the application for a Final Certificate of Appropriateness for new construction of a multi-family building at 1131 & 1137 West Grace Street. We are seeking final approval of the elements of the project subject to review and as described in Section 30.930.7(c) of the City Code and the *Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*. The siting, form, height, width, proportion and massing of the project was conceptually reviewed by the Commission at their September 26, 2017 meeting. The Commission's comments at this meeting included:

- The Commission was generally supportive of scale and mass of the project, but requested that the step back for the 6th story be away from W Grace Street (5 stories on W Grace and 6 stories on the alley). The plans have been revised to incorporate this comment.
- A recommendation for a central entrance along W Grace Street. This has been accommodated by the addition of a grand stair to the terrace level in the center of the building along W Grace Street. The addition of this stair also attempts to address staff's concern that the terrace level was not accessible from the ground and not at grade level.
- A recommendation that the materials be similar to the other multifamily buildings along this block of W Grace Street, which are predominantly brick buildings. The proposal uses red brick and limestone colored brick or synthetic stone similar to the materials used on the building to the east.
- A recommendation that the massing of the building should respond to the entrance whether it
 is at the corner or the center of the building. The main entrance to the residential lobby has been
 shifted to N Lombardy and the building materials and shape accentuate this entrance as shown
 on the plans.

The proposal is located on two parcels totaling 0.826 acres at the corner of North Lombardy Street and West Grace Street. The property is currently improved with a paved surface parking area. The proposed development consists of new construction of a multi-family building with up to 105 dwelling units. The proposal will include approximately 130 parking spaces in two levels of parking accessed from the existing alley, one level of which will be located below grade. The level of parking located above grade will have occupied space fronting on West Grace Street and will not be visible to the pedestrian. An additional 16 surface parking spaces will be located behind the building and also accessed from the existing alley. There will be five-stories of residential units above the parking levels. Two outdoor courtyards will be located on top of the parking level with units fronting onto them. The courtyard facing West Grace Street will be accessible to the street with a grand stair.

Zoning Regulations

The property is currently located in the R-73 Multi-Family Residential Zoning District. The proposal is a by-right development and will comply with all the requirement of the R-73 district. This district allows for high density multifamily uses and limited commercial uses, including offices, hospitals and day nurseries. The R-73 district requires front, side and rear yards with a depth of 15 feet for multifamily uses. There is a 2.0 floor area ratio requirement and a 0.25 useable open space requirement that will be met. The maximum height allowed by the R-73 district is 150 feet with further restrictions based on incline planes drawn from the centerline of the adjacent streets. The proposal does not take advantage of the full height permitted by the existing zoning district.

Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines
In addition to being located in the R-73 Multi-Family Residential Zoning District, the site is also located in the West Grace Street Old & Historic District overlay. The standards for approval of the proposal under this district are outlined in Section 30.930.7(c) of the City Code and the Richmond Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design Review Guidelines. The table below outlines how the proposal complies with the applicable standards.

Category	Standard	1131 W Grace St
Section 30	.930.7(c) of the City Code	
	The commission of architectural review shall approve new construction which it deems to be compatible with the design, scale, materials, color, height, setback, and other pertinent features of the old and historic district in which it is located.	This project received conceptual review of the siting, form, height, width, proportion and massing of the proposed multi-family building at the Commission's September 26, 2017 meeting. This application has responded to the comments from the Commission at that meeting and seeks conceptual review of the details of the proposal; including the porch and porch details, windows, doors, colors and materials. These details are shown on the plans and are consistent with the West Grace Street and Monument Avenue Historic Districts.
	Old and Historic Districts Handbook and Design	Review Guidelines
Siting		
pg. 50	The context for review begins with the building and its immediate neighbors, but also expands to include the surrounding buildings on the block face and across the street (within the historic district).	The subject property is surrounded by a myriad of building forms, height and types. The proposal's form and height is consistent with the proposed building type and takes cues from the surrounding properties to the south, east and north. The subject property is located at a prominent corner in the West Grace Street Old & Historic District where the District begins to transition from larger scale multifamily and institutional type buildings to the smaller scale single and two-family houses to the west. This transition is clearly demarcated by the large stone columns just to the west of the subject property indicating that the scale and form appropriate for the site should come more from the properties to the east and south.
	New commercial infill construction should respect the prevailing front and side yard development patterns of the surrounding block. The minimum setbacks evident in most districts reinforce the traditional street wall. In cases where the adjoining buildings have different setbacks, the setback for the new building should be based on the historical pattern for the block.	The proposed front and side yard setbacks are 15 feet and are consistent with the district, the zoning requirements and the surrounding block.

	New commercial buildings should face the most prominent street bordering the site.	The proposed building predominantly fronts on West Grace with units and amenity space and the elevated courtyard. The lobby and main entrance are located on North Lombardy at the prominent corner of West Grace and Lombardy.					
	For large-scale commercial parking, parking within the building is strongly encouraged. If a building includes parking within it, vehicle entry doors should be located on non-primary elevations.	The majority of the parking to serve the building is located within a two-level parking structure accessed from the alley. There will be no parking visible from West Grace Street and the vehicle entry doors will be on the alley elevation.					
Form							
pg. 50	New commercial construction should use a building form compatible with that found elsewhere in the immediate area. Building form refers to the specific combination of massing, size, symmetry, proportions, projections and roof shapes that lend identity to a building. Building form is greatly influenced by the architectural style of a given structure.	The proposed H-shape configuration of the building creates courtyards on the north and south. These courtyards serve as open space for the residents an reduce the width of the building at the street front. This technique is typical of many historic Fan apartment buildings, fitting into the context of the area. The proposed flat roof is also typical of surrounding buildings and buildings found in the district.					
	New commercial construction should maintain the existing human scale of nearby historic commercial buildings in the district. New commercial construction should incorporate human-scale elements at the pedestrian level.	The proposal will have amenity space and apartments that front on to West Grace Street providing active uses along the sidewalk to engage the pedestrian. A stair will front West Grace Street that will allow pedestrians to access the elevated courtyard from the street. Doors, windows and entrances will face the street providing human-scale elements at the pedestrian level. All the vehicular entrances, trash and other non human-scale elements will be accessed from the alley out of sight from the pedestrians along West Grace and Lombardy.					

pg. 51		
	New commercial construction should respect the typical height of surrounding buildings, both residential and commercial.	The proposal is consistent in height with the adjacent church building and lower than the church steeple. The height steps down towards West Grace Street to provide a lower presence along the street. Additionally, this site is on a prominent corner in the West Grace Street Old & Historic District and is adjacent to the Monument Avenue Historic District. There are several examples of taller buildings on corners located in these districts, particularly on North Lombardy and in the next block on North Allen, where there are six-story buildings on both Grace and Monument. Diagonally across from this subject property is the Stuart Court Apartment building, which is eleven stories in height. At six-stories with one level of underground parking, the proposal will respect the height of these surrounding buildings and its prominent location on the corner of West Grace and North Lombardy.
	New commercial construction should respect the vertical orientation typical of commercial buildings in Richmond's historic districts. New designs that call for wide massing should look to the project's local district for precedent. When designing new commercial buildings that occupy more than one third of a block face, the design should still employ bays as an organizational device, but the new building should read as a single piece of architecture.	The proposed structure occupies less than a quarter of the block face and employs an H-shaped with two bays and a recess in the middle to organize the building and provide varying setbacks and interest to the property. Only the H-shape will be five-stories with the back portion being six-stories.
	The cornice height should be compatible with that of adjacent historic buildings.	The proposed cornice height will be compatible with the adjacent historic church to the south and significantly lower than the historic multi-family building to the west.
Material:	s & Colors	
	Materials used in new construction should be visually compatible with original materials used throughout the surrounding neighborhood.	The predominant material proposed for the building is a red tone brick with a buff synthetic stone material around the base of the building. Red brick is found throughout the West Grace Historic District and is one of the original materials used here.
	Paint colors used should be similar to the historically appropriate colors already found in the immediate neighborhood and throughout the larger district.	The exterior of the building will not be painted.

1 0	Vinyl, asphalt, and aluminum siding are not permitted for use in City Old and Historic Districts. Other synthetic siding materials with a smooth, untextured finish may be	No vinyl, asphalt or aluminum siding is proposed.					
1	allowed in limited cases, but approval by the Commission is always required.						
	Rooftop mechanical equipment should be located as discretely as possible to limit visibility. In addition, appropriate screening should be provided to conceal equipment from view. When rooftop railings are required for seating areas or for safe access to mechanical equipment, the railings should be as unobtrusive as possible, in order to minimize their appearance and visual impact on the surrounding district.	The rooftop mechanical equipment will not be visible from the street and there will be no visual impact on the surrounding neighborhood. There is a parapet wall proposed that will screen the equipment. No rooftop railings are proposed.					
	For larger-scale projects that involve communal garbage collection (such as dumpsters or other large collection device), these garbage receptacles should be located away from the primary elevation or elevations of the building (preferably to the rear) and screened from view	The trash and dumpsters will be enclosed and will be accessed from the alley. They will not be visible from West Grace Street or North Lombardy.					
Doors & W	'indows						
pg. 53	The size, proportion and spacing patterns of door and window openings on a new addition should follow patterns established by the original structure. Windows on most commercial properties throughout Old and Historic Districts have a vertical orientation. Wide, horizontal so-called "picture windows" on new additions are strongly discouraged.	The proposed windows are all vertical in orientation. There are no wide, picture windows proposed. The windows are primarily double-hung sash windows.					
	The size, proportion, and spacing patterns of door and window openings on free standing new construction should be compatible with patterns established within the district.	The size, proportion, and spacing pattern or the door and window openings are residential in character and are compatible with the adjacent multi-family buildings in the district.					
	With larger buildings, applicants are encouraged to develop multiple entry points (doors), in keeping with historic precedent for the building type in question. Single entry points - such as a single garage entrance accompanied by single pedestrian entrances are not in keeping with historic precedent, which demonstrates that most large buildings had multiple pedestrian entry points.	The main entrance to the building is located on North Lombardy with units and amenity space fronting on West Grace. The units fronting on West Grace will have patio areas and porches fronting on the street. There will also be a large stair/entry from West Grace up to the elevated courtyard in the center of the building. This will provide for multiple entry points to the building.					
Porches &	Porch Details						

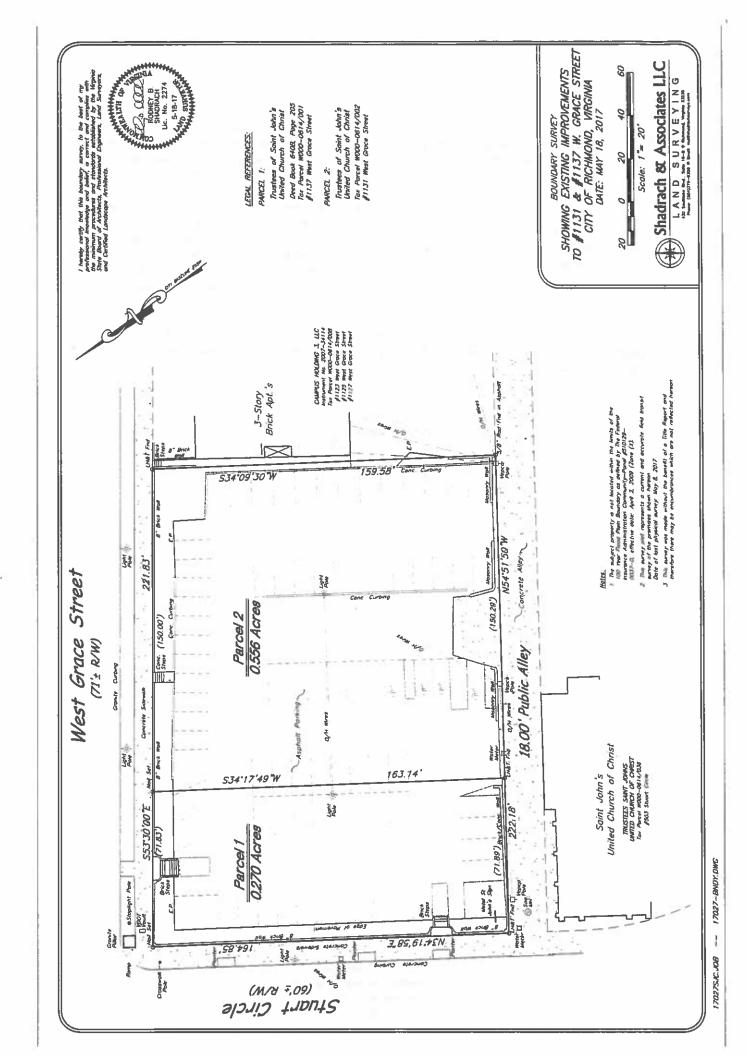
pg. 46	New porch railing designs, compatible with the overall design of the building, will also be considered.	all project from the building and have depth into the courtyards below. The porches fronting on West				
	Faux balconies (flat, applied constructs with no depth) are discouraged. Small projecting balconies are acceptable.	The proposed balconies in the center of the building all project from the building and have depth into the courtyards below. The porches fronting on West Grace will be three levels above grade and will have substantial columns similar to the porches found on other multi-family buildings in the block.				

Thank you for your consideration of this application. Please feel free to contact me at <a href="https://longover.ncb/long

Very Truly Yours,

Lory Markham

Enclosures





Subject property view from West Grace Street



Subject property view from North Lombardy Street



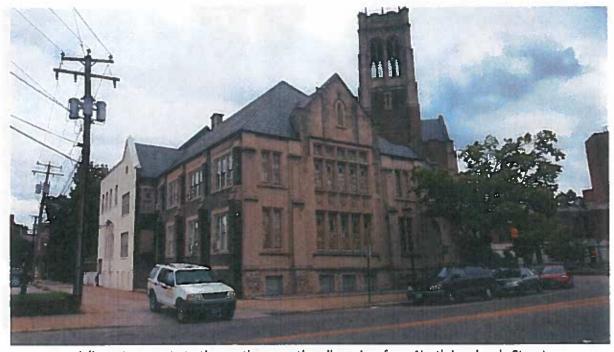
Adjacent property to the west across North Lombardy



Adjacent property to the west across North Lombardy Street



Adjacent property to the south across the alley, view from Stuart Circle



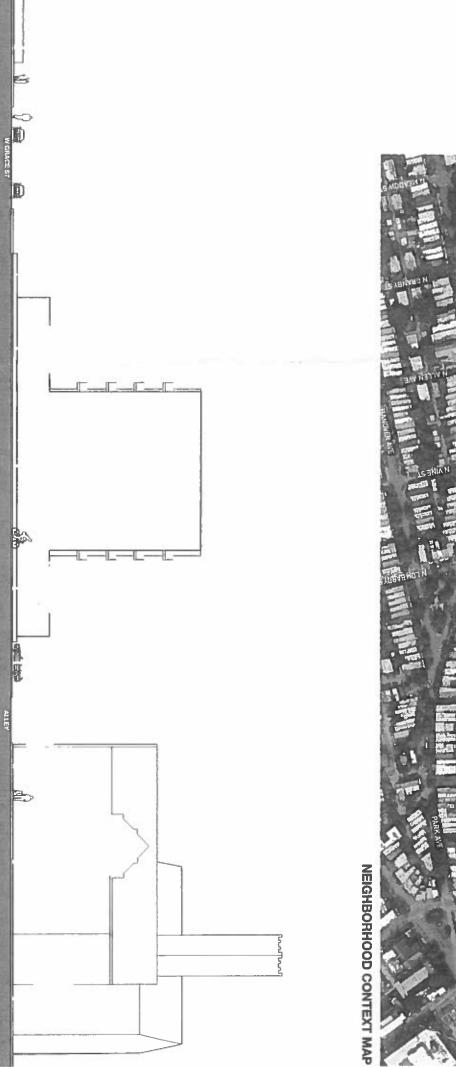
Adjacent property to the south across the alley, view from North Lombardy Street



Adjacent property to the north across West Grace Street



Adjacent property to the east







LOMBARDY ST SITE SECTION

Grace and Lombardy
1137 W Grace St Stuart Circle Richmond Va
project # 17,28
date: 11/2/17

ENLARGED SITE PLAN

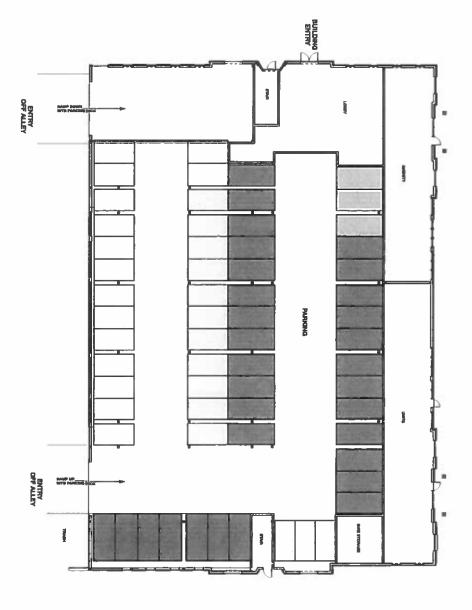


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project #: 17.28 date: 11/2/17 **Grace and Lombardy** 1137 W Grace St Stuart Circle Richmond Va

GROUND FLOOR PLAN



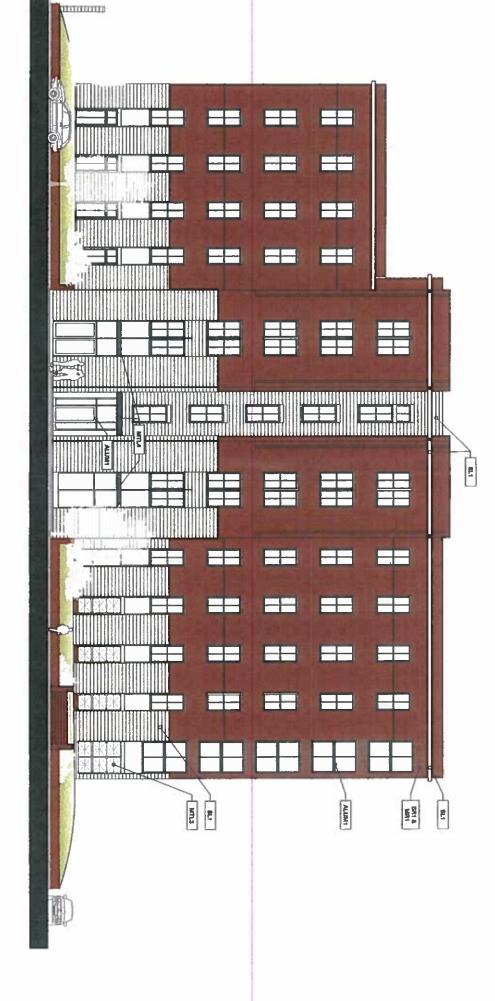
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WalterPARKS

EXTERIOR FINISHES

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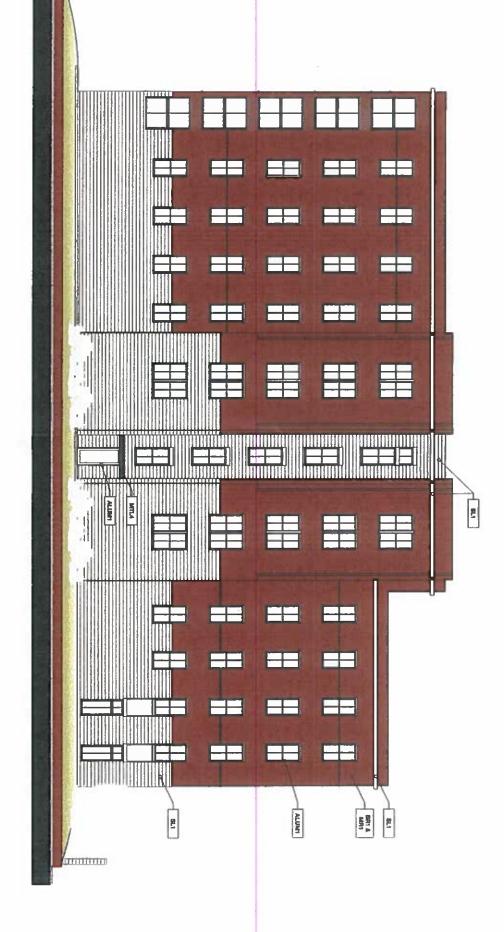












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