5. COA-076916-2020

PUBLIC HEARING DATE

August 25, 2020

PROPERTY ADDRESS

2306 West Grace Street

Commission of Architectural Review

STAFF REPORT



DISTRICT APPLICANT STAFF CONTACT

West Grace Street T. & P. George Carey L. Jones

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Paint exterior of a previously unpainted masonry building.

PROJECT DETAILS

- The owners request permission to paint a previously unpainted masonry ca. 1910 Colonial Revival dwelling.
- The owners purchased the property in late July 2020. On July 23, 2020 the owners contacted staff and informed them that they were in the process of painting the exterior of the house when a neighbor alerted them that they were in a City and Old Historic District.
- As the façade was already primed, staff recommended painting the exterior to match the historic colors of the house, including a red brick color for the body and a neutral color for the stone lintels.
- The applicant requests permission to paint the body a light tan, Downing Sand (SW 2822), the lintels Downing Stone (SW 2821), the trim Classic Light Buff (SW 0050), and the porch ceiling Copen Blue (SW 0068).



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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

PARTIAL APPROVAL

PREVIOUS REVIEWS

The Commission has not previously reviewed this application.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Denial of the Downing Sand (SW 2822) paint color for the body
- The applicant choose a dark red color that matches the historic brick
- Any remaining unpainted masonry remain unpainted

STAFF ANALYSIS

Paint, Historic Masonry, pg. 63 1) Do not paint historic brick or stone masonry that has not previously been painted. Painting previously unpainted masonry is historically inaccurate and is not The applicant did not obtain permission from staff prior to starting the exterior painting. Staff finds that painting previously unpainted masonry is not in keeping with the Guidelines.

permitted. Property owners who wish to remove paint from masonry should work with a qualified contractor knowledgeable in the use of non-abrasive cleaners.	Staff has discussed the option of removing the primer with the property owners and they have indicated that they would like to seek permission to the paint the masonry instead of removing the primer.
3) Colors associated with the colors of natural brick are strongly encouraged and are preferable to less appropriate colors (white, green, blue, etc.).	Staff has suggested to the property owners that to be in keeping with the Guidelines, a dark red to match to the original brick color be used on the body of the façade. The property owners have requested permission to paint the previously unpainted masonry a light tan color, Downing Sand (SW 2822).
Body Color – Brick, reds, browns, yellow- clay, previously painted brick only. Match original color when possible.	Staff finds that the Downing Sand color is not in keeping with paint palette guidelines, which call for matching the original color when possible. Staff recommends denial of the Downing Sand (SW 2822) paint color for the body. Staff notes that the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' Classic Commonwealth Style Guide lists red bricks and white trim as a defining characteristic of the Colonial Revival style in Virginia and recommends the applicant use a red color that matches the historic masonry and is in keeping with the traditional colors for a Colonial Revival residence.
Lintels - Natural stone or brick colors. Match original stone lintel color.	The applicant proposes to paint the lintels Downing Stone (SW 2821). Staff finds that this is in keeping with the paint palette and recommends approval.
Green, White, Yellow.	The applicant proposes to paint the trim Classic Light Buff (SW 0050). Staff finds that this is in keeping with the paint palette and recommends approval.
Blues	The applicant proposes to paint the porch ceiling Copen Blue (SW 0068). Staff finds that this is in keeping with the paint palette and recommends approval.
	remove paint from masonry should work with a qualified contractor knowledgeable in the use of non-abrasive cleaners. 3) Colors associated with the colors of natural brick are strongly encouraged and are preferable to less appropriate colors (white, green, blue, etc.). Body Color – Brick, reds, browns, yellow-clay, previously painted brick only. Match original color when possible. Lintels - Natural stone or brick colors. Match original stone lintel color. Green, White, Yellow.

It is the assessment of staff that, with the conditions above, the application is consistent with the Standards for Rehabilitation and New Construction outlined in Section 30-930.7 (b) and (c) 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.

FIGURES



Figure 1. Primed façade of 2306 West Grace Street.



Figure 3. Color swatches on the façade.



Figure 2. Primed façade of 2306 West Grace Street.