From: Scala, Mary Joy

**Sent:** Thursday, October 27, 2016 2:06 PM **To:** Julia Ledger (julia@dinsmorehouse.com)

Cc: Dinsmore House Inn (info@dinsmorehouse.com)

Subject: BAR Action - 1211 W Main Street - October 18, 2016

October 27, 2016

Ryan Hubbard 1211 West Main Street Charlottesville VA, 22903

**RE: Certificate of Appropriateness Application** 

BAR 16-06-04

1211 West Main Street (Dinsmore House Inn)

Tax Parcel 100059000

1817 House LLC, Owner/Ryan Hubbard, Applicant

Final Details: Removal and Replacement of Side Porch, Streetscape and Yard Renovations

Dear Applicant,

The above referenced project was discussed before a meeting of the City of Charlottesville Board of Architectural Review (BAR) on October 18, 2016. The following action was taken:

Balut moved approval of the final details of two-story addition, landscape and site changes as submitted with the following modification:

Brick (either a treatment or new proposed brick for the façade) be submitted administratively for BAR review, and if required, an on-site sample will be installed or provided for BAR review. Mohr seconded. Motion passes 8-0.

This certificate of appropriateness shall expire in 18 months (April 18, 2018), unless within that time period you have either: been issued a building permit for construction of the improvements if one is required, or if no building permit is required, commenced the project. The expiration date may differ if the COA is associated with a valid site plan. You may request an extension of the certificate of appropriateness *before this approval expires* for one additional year for reasonable cause.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 434-970-3130 or scala@charlottesville.org.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Joy Scala, AICP Preservation and Design Planner

Mary Joy Scala, AICP

Preservation and Design Planner
City of Charlottesville
Department of Neighborhood Development Services
City Hall – 610 East Market Street
P.O. Box 911
Charlottesville, VA 22902
Ph 434.970.3130 FAX 434.970.3359
scala@charlottesville.org

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW STAFF REPORT October 18, 2016



**Certificate of Appropriateness Application** 

BAR 16-06-04
1211 West Main Street (Dinsmore House Inn)
Tax Parcel 100059000
1817 House LLC, Owner/Ryan Hubbard, Applicant
Final Details

#### **Background**

This property, currently used as the Dinsmore House Inn, is an excellent example of the Federal style popular in the early years of the  $19^{\rm th}$  century. It is very nicely detailed, and much of the original fabric remains. It is said to have been constructed of brick left over from the University. It was the home of the publisher of Charlottesville's first newspaper.

It is a handsome four bay brick structure and is an outstanding example of residences built in Charlottesville in the 1820's by James Dinsmore. A triple pile side hall plan, it retains much of its original fabric in and out. While the first floor woodwork was refreshed in the later part of the 19th century, the second floor retains two very good Federal mantels, the chair rail delicately carved with an interlocking circle motif, and raised panel doors, some with Carpenter locks. The stair case is also original and typical of those built in town before 1850. On the exterior the six-over-six light windows are detailed with a simple Jeffersonian architrave and wooden lintels with end blocks. The Federal style entrance door with its fanlight and delicate sidelights is particularly fine. The thermal window in the western garret is a handsome detail. The eastern gable treatment is unusual and a little puzzling because the typical curtain wall is placed between two (apparently) false chimneys while the western wall with the operative chimneys has a stepped gable. The entrance portico and side porch were added by the Livers family after 1913.

<u>June 21, 2016</u> – The BAR held a preliminary discussion. In general, the BAR did not want to see the existing porch removed; they suggested considering ways to accommodate the business plan at the rear, or to find a creative way to push out the porch to gain additional space, but still distinguish new work from old. They did not think the octagonal porch was compatible with a federal style building.

<u>August 16, 2016</u> - Sarafin moved and Mohr seconded a motion to approve the demolition of the side porch. The BAR requests that the applicant photograph and draw the porch before demolition, which documentation is to reside with Preservation Piedmont. Approved 7-0.

Schwarz moved and Knott seconded a motion to approve in concept, the massing and scale of the proposed new addition, and landscaping and site changes, as submitted, with further details to come back to the BAR. Approved 7-0.

The BAR further clarified that their approval was not a COA.

<u>September 20, 2016</u>-Miller moved to find the proposed new addition, landscaping, and site changes satisfy the BAR's criteria and are compatible with this property and other properties in the West Main Street ADC District and that the BAR approves the application as submitted with the following items to come back: the awning on front to extend to the edges of the recess; reconsider the panel on the front; a resolution for the ramp and required railing; look at both the materials and size of the awning along

the back (complete with a section drawing), a painted balcony on the original building on the back (instead of stained or natural), the return of the hedge in front of the addition behind the wrought iron fence; the material of the dormer window in rear; the consideration of zinc element to read as a fin wall on the West Main Street elevation, and a site visit to see the brick. Mohr seconded, and the motion passed (9-0).

#### **Application**

The applicant is requesting a certificate of appropriateness for final details of the two-story addition and the landscaping and site changes. At the September meeting, the BAR requested the following items to come back for approval:

- The awning on front to extend to the edges to the recess, The awning has been extended.
- reconsider the panel on the front, The panel has been eliminated.
- a resolution for the ramp and required railing,
   The ramp has been redesigned to eliminate a railing.
- look at the materials and size of the awning along the back (complete with a section drawing),
   The rear awning has been eliminated.
- a painted balcony on the original building on the back (instead of stained or natural),
   This needs to be noted.
- the return of the hedge in front of the addition behind the wrought iron fence,
   The hedge has not been returned; a planter is shown.
- the material of the dormer window in rear, This needs to be noted.
- the consideration of zinc element to read as a fin wall on the West Main Street elevation, and This detail needs to be explained.
- a site visit to see the brick.
   The brick sample has been made available on site.

#### Criteria, Standards, and Guidelines

#### **Review Criteria Generally**

Sec. 34-284(b) of the City Code states that,

In considering a particular application the BAR shall approve the application unless it finds:

- (1) That the proposal does not meet specific standards set forth within this division or applicable provisions of the Design Guidelines established by the board pursuant to Sec.34-288(6); and
- (2) The proposal is incompatible with the historic, cultural or architectural character of the district in which the property is located or the protected property that is the subject of the application.

#### Standards for Review of Construction and Alterations include:

- (1) Whether the material, texture, color, height, scale, mass and placement of the proposed addition, modification or construction are visually and architecturally compatible with the site and the applicable design control district;
- (2) The harmony of the proposed change in terms of overall proportion and the size and placement of entrances, windows, awnings, exterior stairs and signs;
- (3) The Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation set forth within the Code of Federal Regulations (36 C.F.R. §67.7(b)), as may be relevant;
- (4) The effect of the proposed change on the historic district neighborhood;
- (5) The impact of the proposed change on other protected features on the property, such as gardens, landscaping, fences, walls and walks;

- (6) Whether the proposed method of construction, renovation or restoration could have an adverse impact on the structure or site, or adjacent buildings or structures;
- (7) When reviewing any proposed sign as part of an application under consideration, the standards set forth within Article IX, sections 34-1020 et seq. (SIGNS) shall be applied; and

(8) Any applicable provisions of the City's Design Guidelines.

### **Pertinent Design Guidelines for New Construction and Additions:** *P. Additions*

The following factors shall be considered in determining whether or not to permit an addition to a contributing structure or protected property:

#### (1) Function and Size

- a. Attempt to accommodate needed functions within the existing structure without building an addition.
- b. Limit the size of the addition so that it does not visually overpower the existing building.

#### (2) Location

- a. Attempt to locate the addition on rear or side elevations that are not visible from the street.
- b. If additional floors are constructed on top of a building, set the addition back from the main facade so that its visual impact is minimized.
- c. If the addition is located on a primary elevation facing the street or if a rear addition faces a street, parking area, or an important pedestrian route, the façade of the addition should be treated under the new construction guidelines.

#### (3) Design

- a. New additions should not destroy historic materials that characterize the property.
- b. The new work should be differentiated from the old and should be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

#### (4) Replication of Style

- a. A new addition should not be an exact copy of the design of the existing historic building. The design of new additions can be compatible with and respectful of existing buildings without being a mimicry of their original design.
- b. If the new addition appears to be part of the existing building, the integrity of the original historic design is compromised and the viewer is confused over what is historic and what is new.

#### (5) Materials and Features

a. Use materials, windows, doors, architectural detailing, roofs, and colors that are compatible with historic buildings in the district.

#### (6) Attachment to Existing Building

- a. Wherever possible, new additions or alterations to existing buildings should be done in such a manner that, if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the buildings would be unimpaired.
- b. The new design should not use the same wall plane, roof line, or cornice line of the existing structure.

#### **Pertinent Design Guidelines for Site Design**

#### **B. PLANTINGS**

Plantings are a critical part of the historic appearance of the residential sections of Charlottesville's historic districts. The character of the plantings often changes within each district's sub-areas as well as from district to district. Many properties have extensive plantings in the form of trees, foundation plantings, shrub borders, and flowerbeds. Plantings are limited in commercial areas due to minimal setbacks.

- 1) Encourage the maintenance and planting of large trees on private property along the streetfronts, which contribute to the "avenue" effect.
- Generally, use trees and plants that are compatible with the existing plantings in the neighborhood.
- 3) Use trees and plants that are indigenous to the area.
- 4) Retain existing trees and plants that help define the character of the district, especially street trees and hedges.
- 5) Replace diseased or dead plants with like or similar species if appropriate.
- 6) When constructing new buildings, identify and take care to protect significant existing trees and other plantings.
- 7) Choose ground cover plantings that are compatible with adjacent sites, existing site conditions, and the character of the building.
- 8) Select mulching and edging materials carefully and do not use plastic edgings, lava, crushed rock, unnaturally colored mulch or other historically unsuitable materials.

#### **Discussion and Recommendations**

Staff has requested from the applicant a list of all approved material, colors, and specifications (storefront windows, fire-rated windows, clear glass, railings, brick, zinc).

The proposed materials of the rooftop structure should be clarified.

The dormer material should be noted.

The paint color for the rear porch should be noted.

The hedge return needs to be shown.

The BAR should confirm whether the brick color is approved.

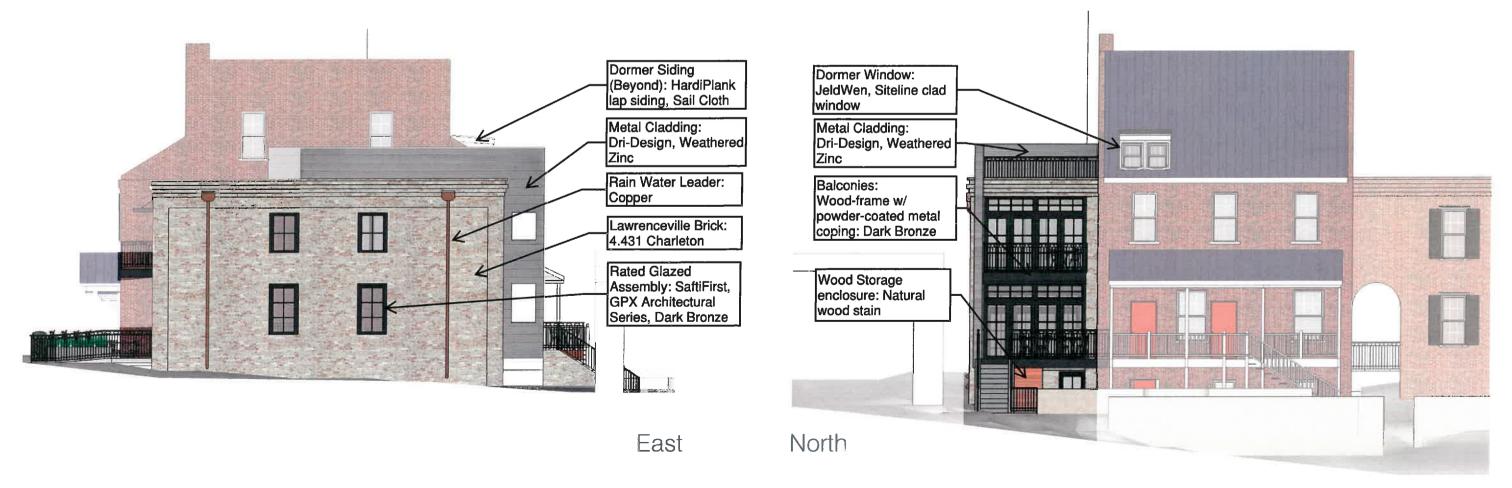
#### **Suggested Motion**

Having considered the standards set forth within the City Code, including City Design Guidelines for New Construction and Additions, and for Site Design and Elements, I move to find that the final details of the two-story addition and the landscaping and site changes satisfy the BAR's criteria and are compatible with this property and other properties in the West Main Street ADC district, and that the BAR approves the application as submitted (or with the following modifications...).





South





## Dinsmore House Inn

Cafe Addition - Requirement Fulfillment for COA

October 18, 2016

RECEIVED

OCT 0 7 2016

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

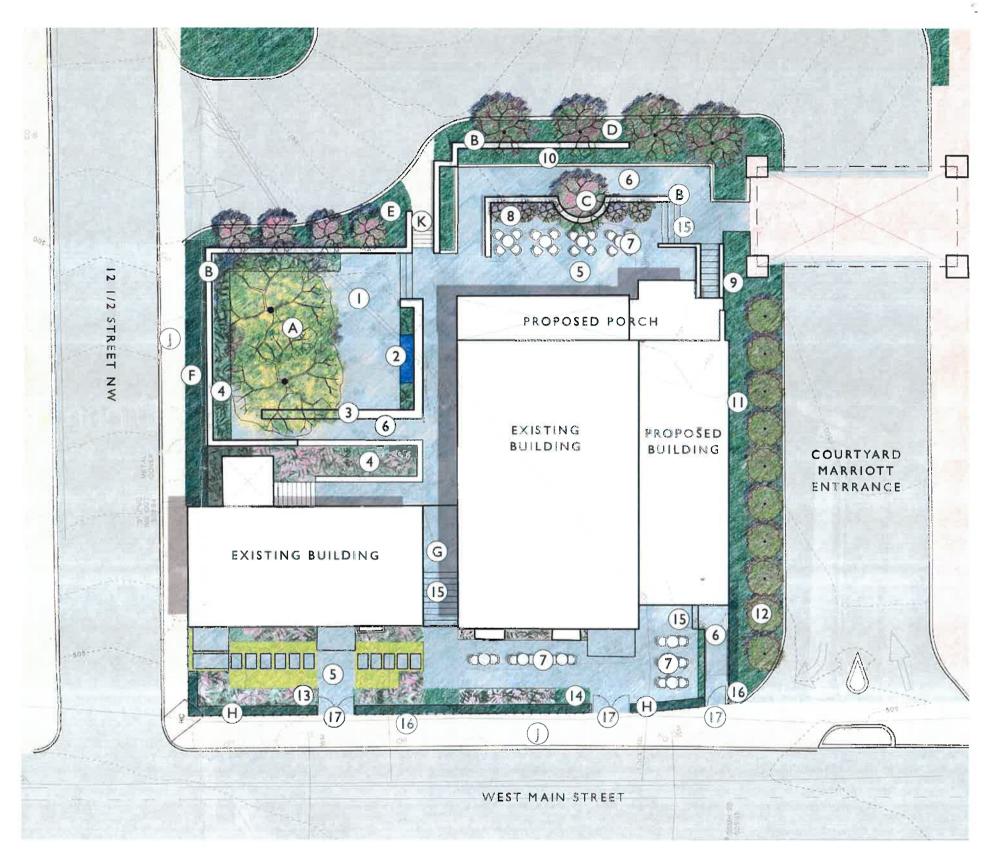
#### **LEGEND**

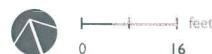
#### **EXISTING FEATURES**

- A Birch Trees
- B Brick Wall
- C Magnolia Tree
- D Planting Bed with Purple-Leaf Plum Trees and Groundcover
- E Planting Bed with Crape Myrtle Trees and Groundcover
- F- Holly Hedge
- G Arched Passageway
- H Privet Hedge Requires heavy pruning and partial or complete removal. If complete removal is required, hedge will be replaced.
- I Concrete Sidewalk
- K Concrete Walk and Stair

#### PROPOSED FEATURES

- 1 Bluestone Terrace
- 2 Fountain
- 3 Seat Wall
- 4 Planting Bed with Evergreen Ferns and Perennials
- 5 Bluestone Paving
- 6 Bluestone Ramp
- 7 Cafe Seating
- 8 Planted Containers
- 9 Retaining Wall
- 10 Shrubs
- 11 Shrubs and Groundcover
- 12 Armstrong Maple or Similar Fastigiate Tree
- 13 Planting Bed Shrubs, Groundcover and Perennials
- 14 Planting Bed Evergreen Groundcover
- 15 Stair
- 16 Metal Fence
- 17 Gate





## Perspective - Southwest



# Perspective - Southeast



## Perspective - Northeast



### Conceptual Floor Plans





- · Commercial kitchen: grill, Ref/Freezer, dishwashing, handwashing, prep tables, dumb-waiter
- Alcove for trash
- Potential renovation of GM apartment for storage/utility Conceptual Designs for Dinsmore House Inn Addition and Renovation

### **First Floor Plan**

- Cafe for <50 seats
- Cafe Bar / to-go counter
- Accessible route
- · maximize outdoor seating



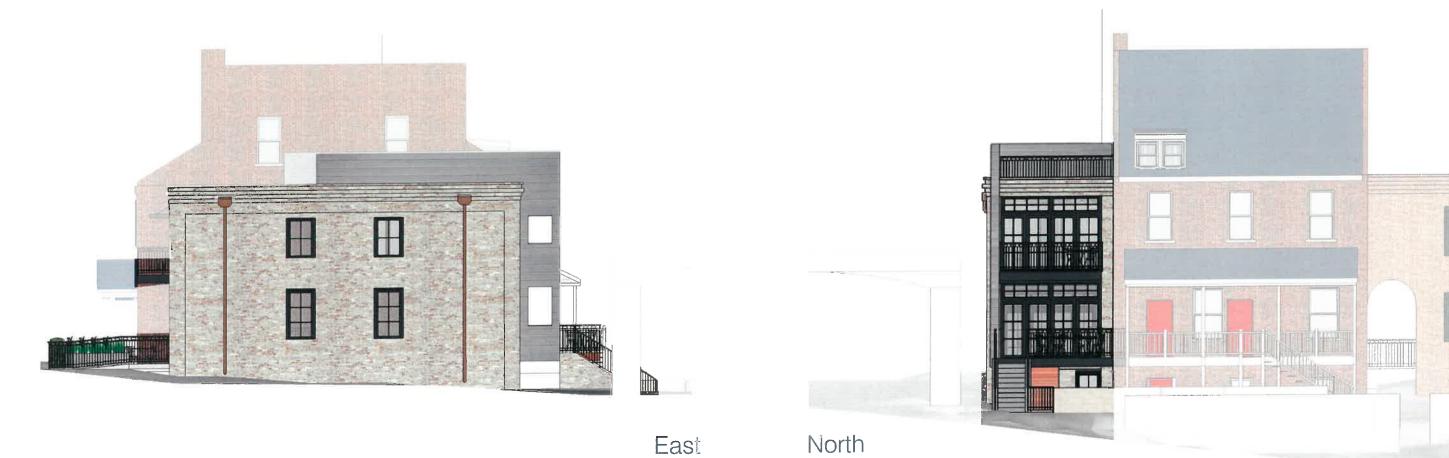
### **Second Floor Plan**

- Two new guestrooms; ~14'x14' w/5'x'7' bath and balcony.
- · Potential dormer and renovated stair to 3rd floor GM apartment

# Elevations



South



G+P