

**Minor Work Approval and Other Requests Report  
Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission**

**October 7, 2020**

The following Minor Work applications have been reviewed and approved by Commission staff from August 13, 2020 to September 16, 2020.

1. **COA2020-095**  
**Denke House**  
**498 Salt Street, Winston-Salem**  
**Local Historic Landmark #57**  
**Old Salem Historic District**  
**Contributing**  
Request: Removal of a dead Ash tree

*Forsyth County Design Review Guidelines for Local Historic Landmarks: Guideline 6 of the Site Features and Plantings section and Old Salem Historic District Guide to the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Process and Design Review Guidelines: Guideline 4 of the Significant Landscape Features.*

Staff Comments: The applicant requests permission to remove one dead Ash tree in the rear yard. Per the Urban Forester's report, "The tree in question is located at 498 Salt Street in historic Old Salem a 29.5" dbh Ash tree (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) which the property owner felt was in need of removal. A cursory visual inspection revealed the tree is dead. It has succumbed to the activity of the Emerald Ash Borer. The D shaped exit holes from the emerging adults can be seen on the trunk in numerous places. Evidence of a secondary infestation by Ambrosia beetles can be seen on the trunk as well. The tree has become very brittle and sizable limbs are dropping, causing a hazard to anyone beneath the canopy. For this reason, I recommend this tree be given immediate priority for removal. It is possible that an understory White pine may need to be removed to facilitate removal of the dead Ash. If required, its removal should not have a significant impact on the landscape. The tree is only in moderate health with many dead limbs in the lower crown due to shading by other trees. It has a pronounced lean due to phototropism, whereby it grows more rapidly in areas where it receives more sunlight. If necessary, this tree should be approved for removal as well." Upon consideration of the proposed work, staff believes the work as proposed meets the *Guidelines* for the Landmark and District and is in keeping with the character of the District.

2. **COA2020-096**  
**R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Factory Complex 64**  
**575 E. Fourth Street, Winston-Salem**  
**Local Historic Landmark #126**  
Request: Sign installation

*Forsyth County Design Review Guidelines for Local Historic Landmarks: Guidelines 4-7 of the Signage section*

Staff Comments: The applicant requests permission to install one sign on the exterior of the warehouse building. The sign will be 42" x 44.82" and will be constructed of wood to be stained to compliment the bricks of the building with aluminum channel letters. Upon consideration of the proposed work, staff believes the work as proposed meets the *Guidelines* for the Landmark and is in keeping with the character of the Landmark.

3. **COA2020-097**  
**G.F. Hinshaw House**  
**829 West Sixth Street, Winston-Salem**  
**West End Historic Overlay District #205**  
**Contributing**  
Request: Installation of a concrete patio in the rear yard

*West End Historic Overlay District Design Review Standards: Standards 2-3 of the Decks, Terraces, and Patios section*

Staff Comments: The applicant requests permission to install a stamped concrete patio in the rear yard adjacent to the house. The patio will have a curved outer edge that will extend from 13' to 16' into the yard. It will be tinted a dark, slate gray. Upon consideration of the proposed work, staff believes the work as proposed meets the *Standards* for the District and is in keeping with the character of the District.

**4. COA2020-098**  
**Right-of-way**  
**901 West Fourth Street, Winston-Salem**  
**West End Historic Overlay District**  
**Contributing**

Request: Removal of two hazardous Armstrong maple trees

*West End Historic Overlay District Design Review Standards: Standards 2-3 of the Decks, Terraces, and Patios section*

Staff Comments: The applicant requests permission to remove two trees in the right-of-way. Staff understands that if conditions permit, Vegetation Management will replant the trees. However, underground infrastructure may make this impossible. Per the Urban Forester's report, "Both [trees] have previously suffered significant mechanical injuries resulting in large columns of decay on the trunks of both trees. This can most likely be attributed to being struck by a vehicle. The fruiting brackets of the Ganoderma decay fungus can be seen proliferating on the trunk of the Maple closest to Brookstown Avenue. This is a nasty fungus which rapidly deteriorates the condition of the wood. Sounding with a mallet on both trunks confirms that the decay is significant and pervasive within the trunk of each tree. Enough of the structural wood has been compromised to significantly impair structural support. Considering both trees reside within a City sidewalk and are close in proximity to a City street, the hazard presented to potential targets has surpassed our threshold for risk." Upon consideration of the proposed work, staff believes the work as proposed meets the *Standards* for the District and is in keeping with the character of the District.

**5. COA2020-099**  
**House**  
**1111 Brookstown Avenue, Winston-Salem**  
**West End Historic Overlay District #291**  
**Contributing**

Request: Landscape and driveway alterations

*West End Historic Overlay District Design Review Standards: Standards 3 and 6 of the Driveways and Parking Areas section and Standard 9 of the Retaining and Other Landscaping Walls section*

Staff Comments: The applicant requests permission to replace the existing gravel driveway off 4 ½ Street with an integrally-tinted concrete driveway tinted to match nearby historic concrete. The applicant proposes to pour a small concrete walkway to connect the driveway with the rear porch. The applicant will remove the railroad tie retaining wall that runs parallel to the rear property line and replace it with a wall constructed of modern concrete retaining wall blocks. This wall will be inside the fence and extend further south to Brookstown Avenue and then turn back northwest. Upon consideration of the proposed work, staff believes the work as proposed meets the *Standards* for the District and is in keeping with the character of the District.

**6. COA2020-101**  
**First Church of Christ, Scientist**  
**931 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem**  
**West End Historic Overlay District #293**  
**Contributing**

Request: Landscape improvements

*West End Historic Overlay District Design Review Standards: Standards 2 and 4 of the Fences section and Standards 2 and 3 of the Decks, Terraces, and Patios section*

Staff Comments: The applicant requests permission install a 6' high, custom, wooden trellis fence along a line extending from the left rear corner of the structure, along the driveway to the existing fence. The existing metal gate in the modern stucco wall at this location, which has been approved for removal under COA2019-069, will be incorporated into the new fence. The applicant also requests permission to remove the existing concrete patio and replace it with a flagstone patio. The flagstone will be "Mountain Mist" color and spaced 1 1/2" apart to permit moss to grow in the joints. Upon consideration of the proposed work, staff believes the work as proposed meets the *Standards* for the District and is in keeping with the character of the District.