

STAFF REPORT
for
May 5, 2021 HRC MEETING

Case #: COA2021-029
Staff: Michelle M. McCullough

Applicant: James and Judy Lester

LOCATION

District: Old Salem Historic District
Streets: 823 South Church Street
Buildings: Anna Johanna Vogler House, OS#95
Status: Contributing
Local Historic
Landmark#: 35

REQUEST(S)

- After-the-fact installation of chimney screens

APPLICABLE DESIGN REVIEW GUIDELINES AND/OR STANDARDS

Old Salem Historic District Guide to the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Process and Design Review Guidelines

STAFF COMMENTS

The project installs two copper screens over two chimney openings in a portion of the house that is not included in the Local Historic Landmark designation of the property. Therefore, only the *Old Salem Historic District Guide to the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Process and Design Review Guidelines* will be used to review this project.

STAFF FINDINGS

Commission staff finds that the work is not incongruous with the character of the Old Salem Historic District because:

- 1) The project installs two copper screens over two chimney openings. The screens were applied to the exterior of the brick chimneys to prevent animals, birds, and debris from entering the chimney and becoming a fire hazard. The screen could not be insert inside the chimney because it would allow for buildup of hazardous residue from burning in the chimney if active. The screens are copper and are compatible with the original roof's material and style. Copper is used for flashings and gutters. The screens were attached to the chimney through the mortar joints, an appropriate method of installation. (*Roofs, Old Salem Guideline #5*)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding findings, staff recommends that the Commission approve COA2021-029 at the Anna Johanna Vogler House, located at 823 South Church Street, Local Historic Landmark #35 in the Old Salem Historic District (PIN#6835-32-4072.00).