

STAFF REPORT
for
AUGUST 4, 2021 HRC MEETING

Case #: COA2021-052
Staff: Michelle M. McCullough

Applicant: Franklin Vagnone
Old Salem Museums and Gardens

LOCATION

District: Old Salem Historic District
Street: 600 South Main Street
Building: Single Brothers' House
Status: Contributing
Local Historic
Landmark#: 46

REQUEST(S)

- **After-the-fact installation of a gate**

APPLICABLE DESIGN REVIEW STANDARDS

Old Salem Historic District: Guide to the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Process and Design Review Guidelines available at <https://www.cityofws.org/DocumentCenter/View/3451/Old-Salem-Historic-District-Design-Guidelines-PDF> and *Forsyth County Design Review Guidelines for Local Historic Landmarks* available at <https://www.cityofws.org/DocumentCenter/View/3463/06-23-2014-Local-Historic-Landmark-Design-Review-Guidelines-PDF>

STAFF COMMENTS

The project installs a gate between the Single Brothers' House and Workshop, and it faces Academy Street. Staff received a complaint and verified that a gate, including a post, was installed without a COA. The Single Brothers' House was originally constructed in 1769 and 1786, and the Single Brothers' Workshop was originally constructed in 1771. Therefore, both buildings portray 18th century features, and the fence should also, per the Guidelines. The application states that the Academy Street gate is modeled on the previously approved Tavern gate. The Tavern building adjacent to the gated area was originally constructed in 1784 and the fence and gate that are currently installed at the Tavern were approved with the issuance of COA2018-075.

STAFF FINDINGS

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

- 1) The project installs a gate that is 36" wide by 47" tall constructed with wrought iron nails and hardware, along the street, at the perimeter of the lot. Fencing and gates were depicted adjacent to the Single Brothers' House and Workshop in the 1788 Ludwig von Redeken painting entitled, *A View of Salem in North Carolina*, copy provided in the application. The fence is constructed of wood treated to have a band sawn appearance and is constructed to fit the opening between the existing wood fence and stone wall. The design, style, dimension, detail, texture, pattern, material, nail type, nail pattern and color reflect the historic pattern in the District. (*Fences*, Old Salem Guidelines 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 and *Fences and Walls*, Landmark Guidelines 6, 7, and 8)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding findings, staff recommends that the Commission approve COA2021-052 for the after-the-fact installation of a gate at the Single Brothers' House, Local Historic Landmark #46 in the Old Salem Historic District.