Case #: COA2022-086
Staff: Michelle M. McCullough
Applicant: Ben Masterson, Old Salem Museums & Gardens

LOCATION
District: Old Salem Historic District Lot #62
Street: 225 West Street, Winston-Salem
Building: Restroom
Status: Contributing
Local Historic Landmark#: n/a

REQUEST(S)
• Installation of fencing and gates

APPLICABLE DESIGN REVIEW STANDARDS


STAFF COMMENTS

Lot 62 is part of the original Single Brothers’ House and Workshop gardens. In 1964 a Visitor’s Center was built on the site and in 2004 the Visitor’s Center was demolished. All that remains on the site is a modern restroom facility. The Single Brothers’ Workshop is from 1771 and the Single Brothers’ House is from 1769 and 1786.

STAFF FINDINGS

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

1) The applicant proposes to remove the post and rail fence that is currently along the west side of the lot and replace it with the same vertical board fence as the Single Brothers’ Garden. The new fence will be constructed of pine boards 82.5” tall, with 6”x6”x6” oak posts at 8’ intervals and horizontal 2”x4” pine/oak rails at 14”, 42”, and 70” from the ground. The vertical pine boards will be a random width no less than 6” and have a saw tooth decoration cut into the top. The fence will continue around the corner along the south edge of the lot, along West Street, on the inside of the existing sidewalk. The fence line on the east side of the restroom building will be extended to the fence line that runs perpendicular to the garden fence, which will complete the visual screen around the horticulture work yard. The existing fencing in this area currently has vertical boards that are squared at the top and the new fencing will match this fencing in style and size. A wood gate will be installed along the curb to the southwest of the restroom building. The gate will be a double 9’ wooden gate built in mortise and tenon framed construction as the gates built for the Boys School. However, the tops will be flat, not arched. They will be the same height as the adjacent fence. A gate will be installed between the work yard and the Single Brothers’ House garden where there previously existed a gate. This gate will be simple board and joined frame construction built to the same height as the fence, with an opening of 5’. Fences and gates in this area are appropriate since it was originally part of the garden area for the Single Brothers’ House. Historically in Salem, agricultural areas were fenced. The fences proposed will either match the existing fencing or be constructed in a material, style, and manner that are appropriate for a garden area as seen in paintings of the area from the period of significance. (Fences, Old Salem Standard 4, 5, 6, 7, and 10
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding finding, staff recommends that the Commission approve COA2022-086 located at 225 West Street (PIN 6835-22-6894), within the Old Salem Historic District, with the following conditions:

1) The applicant shall receive, prior to commencement of the work, all other required permits or permissions from governmental agencies;

2) Commission staff shall review and approve any revisions or deviations to any portion of the as-submitted work, that qualifies as a minor work, prior to commencement of that portion of the project; and

3) The applicant shall submit the Certificate of Appropriateness Request for Certification of Completed Work form and photo documentation of the completed project to HRC staff within ten (10) days of its completion.