STAFF REPORT  
JUNE 7, 2023 HRC MEETING

Case #: COA2023-052  
Staff: Michelle M. McCullough  
Applicant: Ariana Hood

LOCATION

District: Old Salem Historic District #13  
Streets: 601 South Church Street  
Buildings: Main Hall  
Status: Contributing  
Local Historic Landmark#: N/A

REQUEST(S)

- Installation of ADA ramp, landing, and railing

APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF DESIGN REVIEW STANDARDS

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

STAFF FINDINGS

Commission staff finds that the application is not incongruous with the character of the District because:

1) The proposed project introduces a new self-supported ADA ramp with landing and railing that leads from the adjacent sidewalk on Church Street to the side, north entrance of the building. The ramp will be 5’ wide by 16’ in length and the landing will be roughly 8’ wide by 8’ in length. The ramp and landing will be made from concrete and the top and sides will be faced with brick. The brick will match the existing brick in design, style, dimension, detail, hardness, texture, pattern, material, and color as closely as possible. The ramp meets accessibility building code in such a way that the site and its character-defining features and the structure’s character-defining elevation, features, and finishes are preserved. The design of the new landing and ramp are compatible with the scale, materials, details, and finish of the structure and existing rear porch. The ramp and landing are located in the least obtrusive location and do not detract from the historic character of the District. The proposed ramp and landing are self-supporting and are reversible and do not compromise the original design of the entrance or porch. (Masonry, District Standard 6 and Safety, Accessibility and Code Requirements, District Standards 1-4, and 6)

2) The proposed project will install metal railing along the new ramp and landing as required by current accessibility code, compliant with ANSI A117.1. The new railing will be made of metal and in a simple design. The design of the new railing will be compatible in pattern, spacing, configuration, dimension, scale, materials, and color with the character of the structure and District. (Railings, District Standard 4 and Safety, Accessibility and Code Requirements, District Standards 1 and 6)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Based on the preceding findings, staff recommends that the Commission approve COA2023-052 at Main Hall, 601 South Church Street (PIN: 6835-32-8748.00), located in 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 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.