

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2024 10:58 AM

Subject: [EXTERNAL]Comments on BAR Case 2024-00038 - 201. Gibbon Street

Dear Chairman Spencer and Members of the Board of Architectural Review:

I cannot be present tonight to speak, but I want to ask you to support the staff recommendation of denial of replacement of the existing two windows.

The Historic Alexandria Foundation always urges the retention of original, and of historic, fabric. Although these windows apparently are not original to the first period of this fine house, 1863-1877, they clearly are historic, added to an addition around the turn of the century. The concerns of the BAR members at the March meeting were well taken. The pictures in the staff report, and particularly, the Staff's site visit, indicate that these windows can be rehabilitated. There are qualified restoration professionals in this town who can undertake such work, matching profiles of the muntins, where wood has deteriorated. It is important to use a high quality wood that will last. Accoya is one brand. It has a sixty year warranty for exterior use. Finally, it will be important to carefully remove the cylinder glass, as Chairman Spencer urged, and to reinsert it into the rehabilitated windows.

The applicant provided some interesting research, and I hope will be cooperative in the stewardship of these historic windows.

Gail Rothrock  
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Speaking for the Historic Alexandria Foundation