

ISSUE: Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations

APPLICANT: Andrew Haas

LOCATION: Parker-Gray District
402 North Fayette Street

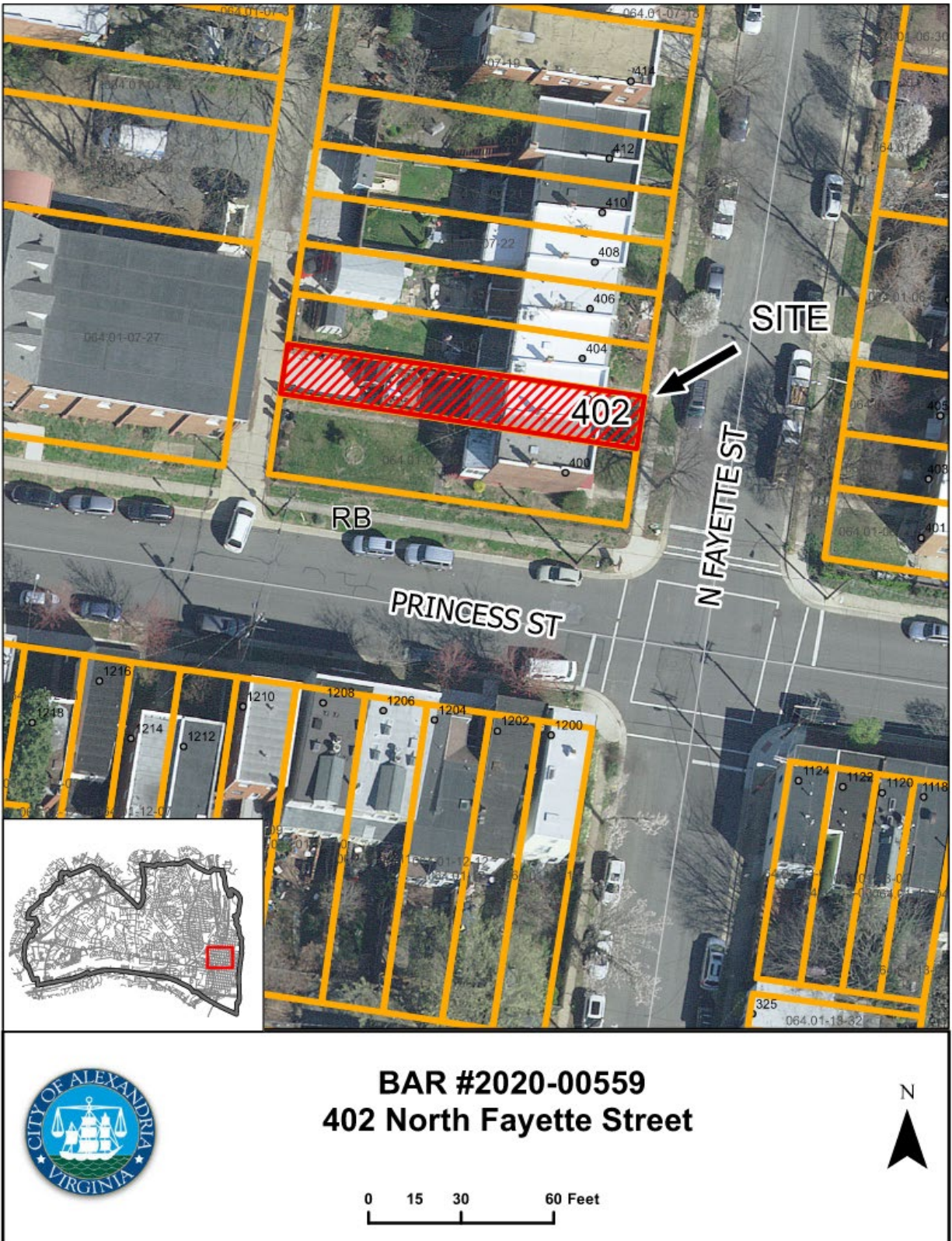
ZONE: RB/Residential Townhouse Zone

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends denial of the request to paint the unpainted masonry and approval of the fence/railing and the canopy, with the condition that the applicant work with staff on the final design details of the canopy.

GENERAL NOTES TO THE APPLICANT

1. **ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS AND PERMITS TO DEMOLISH:** Applicants must obtain a copy of the Certificate of Appropriateness or Permit to Demolish PRIOR to applying for a building permit. Contact BAR Staff, Room 2100, City Hall, 703-746-3833, or preservation@alexandriava.gov for further information.
2. **APPEAL OF DECISION:** In accordance with the Zoning Ordinance, if the Board of Architectural Review denies or approves an application in whole or in part, the applicant or opponent may appeal the Board's decision to City Council on or before 14 days after the decision of the Board.
3. **COMPLIANCE WITH BAR POLICIES:** All materials must comply with the BAR's adopted policies unless otherwise specifically approved.
4. **BUILDING PERMITS:** Most projects approved by the Board of Architectural Review require the issuance of one or more construction permits by Department of Code Administration (including signs). The applicant is responsible for obtaining all necessary construction permits after receiving Board of Architectural Review approval. Contact Code Administration, Room 4200, City Hall, 703-746-4200 for further information.
5. **EXPIRATION OF APPROVALS NOTE:** In accordance with Sections 10-106(B) and 10-206(B) of the Zoning Ordinance, any official Board of Architectural Review approval will expire 12 months from the date of issuance if the work is not commenced and diligently and substantially pursued by the end of that 12-month period.
6. **HISTORIC PROPERTY TAX CREDITS:** Applicants performing extensive, certified rehabilitations of historic properties may separately be eligible for state and/or federal tax credits. Consult with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) prior to initiating any work to determine whether the proposed project may qualify for such credits.



I. APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL

The applicant is requesting approval of a new fence and railing, a door canopy, and the painting of unpainted masonry at 402 N. Fayette Street.

The new simple metal fence and stoop railing will be constructed of a black metal and will match the fence/railing installed at 408 N. Fayette Street (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Proposed fence/railing type

The proposed awning will be a simple projection measuring 4'11" wide and 3'1" deep with a clear canopy material and metal bracing. The applicant has included a specification for a canopy from Home Depot but has also indicated that the awning at 408 N. Henry Street a block to the east would be an acceptable design, if within budget.

Finally, the applicant proposes to paint the brick portions of the building a light grey color similar to the house at 418 N. Fayette Street.

II. HISTORY

The house at 402 North Fayette Street is an interior unit in a row of seven brick-faced, cinder-block rowhouses with minimal decoration constructed between **1931 and 1941**, according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Based on the date of construction, this rowhouse is considered a “Later Residential Building” in the *Parker-Gray Residential Reference Guide (RRG)*.

Previous BAR approvals

Following the approval of the RRG, the property owner was able to install a shed in the rear yard without BAR or BAR staff approval per the updated Parker-Gray regulations.

III. ANALYSIS

Staff has no objection to the metal fence or railing, as this is consistent with the RRG and could have been approved administratively by staff. While staff has no objection to the canopy, which will provide a degree of protection from the weather, the proportions of the proposed canopy may not be well suited for this mid-20th century masonry townhouse. Staff prefers a design closer to the awning at 408 N. Henry Street (figure 2) and recommends that the Board approve an awning, with the final details to be worked out with BAR staff.



Figure 2: Subtle modern canopy at 408 N. Henry Street

The BAR has always been very concerned about the painting of previously unpainted masonry and the zoning ordinance specifically prohibits this without BAR approval. Section 10-209(B)(4) of the zoning ordinance states: “The painting of a masonry building which was unpainted prior to

such painting shall be considered to be the removal of an exterior feature having historic and/or architectural significance requiring a certificate of appropriateness.” The *Design Guidelines* further state that “painting a previously unpainted masonry surface, no matter what color, requires review and approval of a certificate of appropriateness by the Boards. Additionally, the Boards strongly discourage the painting of a previously unpainted masonry surface.”

While the RRG provides significant leniency with respect to the types of alterations that may be done to Later buildings or on side or rear elevations in the Parker-Gray District, it is explicit that the painting of unpainted masonry must be reviewed by the BAR at a public hearing for both Early and Later buildings and all elevations. This is in part because painting unpainted masonry, typically red brick in Alexandria, significantly alters the character and material of a building. During the 1930s and 1940s there was a building boom in Alexandria which for residential buildings was often a row of red brick townhouses. These townhouses were typically designed to be read as a single architectural expression with only minimal differentiation between the townhouses themselves.

Historically, most property owners avoided painting brick because painting it was expensive and the use of brick was a clear sign that the building was higher quality and built of a more expensive material than frame construction with wood siding. In the Parker-Gray District most, if not all of the painted brick buildings, likely date from the time before the district was created in 1984.

There are currently three outstanding violations in the historic districts for the painting of unpainted masonry. While removing paint can be done via chemical process, it requires great care and expense to successfully remove paint and not damage the masonry.

For these reasons staff recommends denial of the request to paint the masonry building but approval of the other proposed alterations, with the condition recommended above related to the canopy.

STAFF

Stephanie Sample, Historic Preservation Planner, Planning & Zoning
Tony LaColla, AICP, Land Use Services Division Chief, Planning & Zoning

IV. CITY DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

Legend: C- code requirement R- recommendation S- suggestion F- finding

Zoning

C-1 The proposed alterations comply with zoning.

Code Administration

A building permit is required prior to construction.

Transportation and Environmental Services **CONDITIONS**

- R-1 The building permit must be approved and issued prior to the issuance of any permit for demolition, if a separate demolition permit is required. (T&ES)
- R-2 Applicant shall be responsible for repairs to the adjacent city right-of-way if damaged during construction activity. (T&ES)
- R-3 No permanent structure may be constructed over any existing private and/or public utility easements. It is the responsibility of the applicant to identify any and all existing easements on the plan. (T&ES)

FINDINGS:

- F-1 After review of the information provided, an approved grading plan is not required at this time. Please note that if any changes are made to the plan it is suggested that T&ES be included in the review. (T&ES)
- F-2 If the alley located at the rear of the parcel is to be used at any point of the construction process the following will be required:
For a Public Alley - The applicant shall contact T&ES, Construction Permitting & Inspections at (703) 746-4035 to discuss any permits and accommodation requirements that will be required.
For a Private Alley - The applicant must provide proof, in the form of an affidavit at a minimum, from owner of the alley granting permission of use. (T&ES)

CODE REQUIREMENTS

- C-1 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Solid Waste Control, Title 5, Chapter 1, which sets forth the requirements for the recycling of materials (Sec. 5-1-99). (T&ES)
- C-2 The applicant shall comply with the City of Alexandria's Noise Control Code, Title 11, Chapter 5, which sets the maximum permissible noise level as measured at the property line. (T&ES)
- C-3 Roof, surface and sub-surface drains be connected to the public storm sewer system, if available, by continuous underground pipe. Where storm sewer is not available applicant must provide a design to mitigate impact of stormwater drainage onto adjacent properties and to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation & Environmental Services. (Sec.5-6-224) (T&ES)
- C-4 All secondary utilities serving this site shall be placed underground. (Sec. 5-3-3) (T&ES)
- C-5 Any work within the right-of-way requires a separate permit from T&ES. (Sec. 5-2)

(T&ES)

- C-6 All improvements to the city right-of-way such as curbing, sidewalk, driveway aprons, etc. must be city standard design. (Sec. 5-2-1) (T&ES)

ALEXANDRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

No archaeological oversight required.

V. ATTACHMENTS

- 1 – Application for BAR #2020-00559: 402 N. Fayette Street*
2 – Supplemental Materials

ADDRESS OF PROJECT: _____

DISTRICT: ☐ Old & Historic Alexandria ☐ Parker – Gray ☐ 100 Year Old Building

TAX MAP AND PARCEL: _____ ZONING: _____

APPLICATION FOR: *(Please check all that apply)*

☒ CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

☐ PERMIT TO MOVE, REMOVE, ENCAPSULATE OR DEMOLISH
(Required if more than 25 square feet of a structure is to be demolished/impacted)

☐ WAIVER OF VISION CLEARANCE REQUIREMENT and/or YARD REQUIREMENTS IN A VISION
CLEARANCE AREA *(Section 7-802, Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)*

☐ WAIVER OF ROOFTOP HVAC SCREENING REQUIREMENT
(Section 6-403(B)(3), Alexandria 1992 Zoning Ordinance)

Applicant: ☐ Property Owner ☐ Business *(Please provide business name & contact person)*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail : _____

Authorized Agent *(if applicable)*: ☐ Attorney ☐ Architect ☐ _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Legal Property Owner:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

- ☐ Yes ☐ No Is there an historic preservation easement on this property?
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, has the easement holder agreed to the proposed alterations?
☐ Yes ☒ No Is there a homeowner's association for this property?
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, has the homeowner's association approved the proposed alterations?

If you answered yes to any of the above, please attach a copy of the letter approving the project.

NATURE OF PROPOSED WORK: *Please check all that apply*

- ☐ NEW CONSTRUCTION
☐ EXTERIOR ALTERATION: *Please check all that apply.*
 ☐ awning ☐ fence, gate or garden wall ☐ HVAC equipment ☐ shutters
 ☐ doors ☐ windows ☐ siding ☐ shed
 ☐ lighting ☐ pergola/trellis ☐ painting unpainted masonry
 ☐ other _____
☐ ADDITION
☐ DEMOLITION/ENCAPSULATION
☐ SIGNAGE

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK: *Please describe the proposed work in detail (Additional pages may be attached).*

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Items listed below comprise the **minimum supporting materials** for BAR applications. Staff may request additional information during application review. Please refer to the relevant section of the *Design Guidelines* for further information on appropriate treatments.

Applicants must use the checklist below to ensure the application is complete. Include all information and material that are necessary to thoroughly describe the project. Incomplete applications will delay the docketing of the application for review. Pre-application meetings are required for all proposed additions. All applicants are encouraged to meet with staff prior to submission of a completed application.

Demolition/Encapsulation : *All applicants requesting 25 square feet or more of demolition/encapsulation must complete this section. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- N/A
- ☐ ☐ Survey plat showing the extent of the proposed demolition/encapsulation.
☐ ☐ Existing elevation drawings clearly showing all elements proposed for demolition/encapsulation.
☐ ☐ Clear and labeled photographs of all elevations of the building if the entire structure is proposed to be demolished.
☐ ☐ Description of the reason for demolition/encapsulation.
☐ ☐ Description of the alternatives to demolition/encapsulation and why such alternatives are not considered feasible.

Additions & New Construction: *Drawings must be to scale and should not exceed 11" x 17" unless approved by staff. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- ☐ ^{N/A} ☐ Scaled survey plat showing dimensions of lot and location of existing building and other structures on the lot, location of proposed structure or addition, dimensions of existing structure(s), proposed addition or new construction, and all exterior, ground and roof mounted equipment.
- ☐ ☐ FAR & Open Space calculation form.
- ☐ ☐ Clear and labeled photographs of the site, surrounding properties and existing structures, if applicable.
- ☐ ☐ Existing elevations must be scaled and include dimensions.
- ☐ ☐ Proposed elevations must be scaled and include dimensions. Include the relationship to adjacent structures in plan and elevations.
- ☐ ☐ Materials and colors to be used must be specified and delineated on the drawings. Actual samples may be provided or required.
- ☐ ☐ Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
- ☐ ☐ For development site plan projects, a model showing mass relationships to adjacent properties and structures.

Signs & Awnings: *One sign per building under one square foot does not require BAR approval unless illuminated. All other signs including window signs require BAR approval. Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- ☐ ^{N/A} ☐ Linear feet of building: Front: _____ Secondary front (if corner lot): _____.
- ☐ ☐ Square feet of existing signs to remain: _____.
- ☐ ☐ Photograph of building showing existing conditions.
- ☐ ☐ Dimensioned drawings of proposed sign identifying materials, color, lettering style and text.
- ☐ ☐ Location of sign (show exact location on building including the height above sidewalk).
- ☐ ☐ Means of attachment (drawing or manufacturer's cut sheet of bracket if applicable).
- ☐ ☐ Description of lighting (if applicable). Include manufacturer's cut sheet for any new lighting fixtures and information detailing how it will be attached to the building's facade.

Alterations: *Check N/A if an item in this section does not apply to your project.*

- ☐ ^{N/A} ☐ Clear and labeled photographs of the site, especially the area being impacted by the alterations, all sides of the building and any pertinent details.
- ☐ ☐ Manufacturer's specifications for materials to include, but not limited to: roofing, siding, windows, doors, lighting, fencing, HVAC equipment and walls.
- ☐ ☐ Drawings accurately representing the changes to the proposed structure, including materials and overall dimensions. Drawings must be to scale.
- ☐ ☐ An official survey plat showing the proposed locations of HVAC units, fences, and sheds.
- ☐ ☐ Historic elevations or photographs should accompany any request to return a structure to an earlier appearance.

ALL APPLICATIONS: *Please read and check that you have read and understand the following items:*

- ☐ I have submitted a filing fee with this application. (Checks should be made payable to the City of Alexandria. Please contact staff for assistance in determining the appropriate fee.)
- ☐ I understand the notice requirements and will return a copy of the three respective notice forms to BAR staff at least five days prior to the hearing. If I am unsure to whom I should send notice I will contact Planning and Zoning staff for assistance in identifying adjacent parcels.
- ☐ I, the applicant, or an authorized representative will be present at the public hearing.
- ☐ I understand that any revisions to this initial application submission (including applications deferred for restudy) must be accompanied by the BAR Supplemental form and revised materials.

The undersigned hereby attests that all of the information herein provided including the site plan, building elevations, prospective drawings of the project, and written descriptive information are true, correct and accurate. The undersigned further understands that, should such information be found incorrect, any action taken by the Board based on such information may be invalidated. The undersigned also hereby grants the City of Alexandria permission to post placard notice as required by Article XI, Division A, Section 11-301(B) of the 1992 Alexandria City Zoning Ordinance, on the property which is the subject of this application. The undersigned also hereby authorizes the City staff and members of the BAR to inspect this site as necessary in the course of research and evaluating the application. The applicant, if other than the property owner, also attests that he/she has obtained permission from the property owner to make this application.

APPLICANT OR AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Signature: Andrew Haas

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

OWNERSHIP AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Use additional sheets if necessary

1. Applicant. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the applicant, unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1.		
2.		
3.		

2. Property. State the name, address and percent of ownership of any person or entity owning an interest in the property located at _____ (address), unless the entity is a corporation or partnership, in which case identify each owner of more than three percent. The term ownership interest shall include any legal or equitable interest held at the time of the application in the real property which is the subject of the application.

Name	Address	Percent of Ownership
1.		
2.		
3.		

3. Business or Financial Relationships. Each person or entity listed above (1 and 2), with an ownership interest in the applicant or in the subject property is required to disclose **any** business or financial relationship, as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance, existing at the time of this application, or within the 12-month period prior to the submission of this application with any member of the Alexandria City Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals or either Boards of Architectural Review.

Name of person or entity	Relationship as defined by Section 11-350 of the Zoning Ordinance	Member of the Approving Body (i.e. City Council, Planning Commission, etc.)
1. n/a		
2.		
3.		

NOTE: Business or financial relationships of the type described in Sec. 11-350 that arise after the filing of this application and before each public hearing must be disclosed prior to the public hearings.

As the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent, I hereby attest to the best of my ability that the information provided above is true and correct.


_____	_____	<i>Andrew Haas</i>
Date	Printed Name	Signature



EXISTING FRONT
YARD




EXISTING BACK FENCE

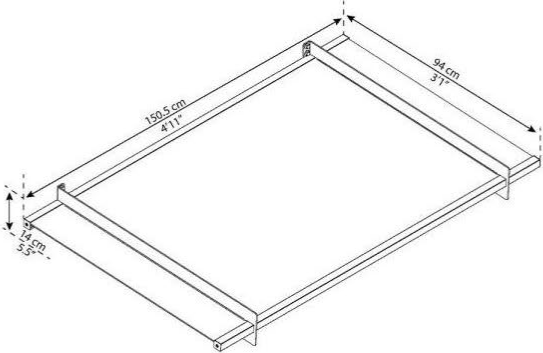


AWNING AESTHETIC

Please see attached image of the spec we are proposing as similar to what we would install. This has the overall sizes which are 5' wide x 3' depth.

Internet #307854879 Model #704743





4 ft. 11 in. Nancy 1500 Door Canopy Awning (5.5 in. H x 3 ft. 1 in. D) in Gray/Clear

by Palram (Brand Rating: 4.1/5)

★★★★☆ (5) Write a Review Questions & Answers (5)

\$381¹⁴

OR

\$64⁰⁰

per month* suggested payments with 6 months* financing on this \$381.14 purchase*

Apply for a Home Depot Consumer Card

How to Get It

Ship to Store

Pickup

Nov 16 - Nov 18

FREE

Ship to Home

Get it by

Tue, Nov 17

Standard Delivery

Scheduled Delivery

Not available for this item

We'll send up to 23 to Alexandria for free pickup

Curbside pickup available.

Change Store

- 1 +

Add to Cart

Your Fastest Checkout

The existing canopy has columns, but these are to be removed and not replaced. The new canopy is self supporting / cantilevered.

For the aluminum railing, we are proposing to match what is on the same block, same design / height / material / color as 410 N Fayette. This includes the rounded top gate.

16





PAINT COLOR AND AESTHETIC

418 N FAYETTE ST - REFERENCE IMAGE