

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
CITY OF ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA
October 4, 2021
FINAL REVIEW**

Property Location: 820 W Liberty St.

Agenda Item: 2.c.

Case: HDC-2021-00020

Meeting Date: October 4, 2021

Property Owner/Applicant: Adriano & Angela Almonte

Building description, period, style defining features:

This 3-story brick row home ca 1887 is a Second Empire house. The mansard roof has asphalt shingles with a double dormer, projecting eaves and Italianate brackets. The windows have 1/1 sashes with Eastlake lintels. The main entry is a single glazed door with a transom. There are 2 basement window grilles visible. There is a grocer's alley leading to the backyard.



Proposed alterations: *Violation Correction*

1. Replace inappropriate replacement front entry door with an appropriate front entry door

Evaluation of Proposed Project:

The proposed door replacement will have a positive impact on the historic building. The new door matches the door that was intact before the violation occurred. This door was wood with two lower panels and a large upper panel of glazing. The proposed new door matches this door in its materials, construction, and appearance. The proposed door is appropriate. No information for proposed hardware was submitted.

Historic District Impact:

The proposed replacement will have a positive impact on the surrounding historic district. The new door matches the previous two-panel and single-light wood door that existed at the building. The new door will replace the inappropriate current door that negatively impacts the appearance of the block, and the new door will contribute to the historic character of the district.

HARB Discussion

HARB Chair DH discussed with the owner AA present for the applicant the condition of the existing door frame and the owner confirmed that the frame will be removed, and the opening restored to its original dimension and appearance and the threshold will also be replaced. AA asked what type of material would be appropriate for the threshold. DH responded the material would have historically been bronze or wood. KP asked for more specifics on the hardware, the HARB consultant to provide suggestions for hardware manufacturers. HARB member PJ asked if the mail slot would be returned, AA responded affirmatively and that it would be made secure.

Recommendation(s):

The door replacement is recommended for approval. It is recommended to clarify if the original wood frame was retained and can be repaired and reused, or if a new wood frame will be installed as well. Period-appropriate hardware is recommended. Paint colors are not regulated by HARB; it is suggested that the door paint color match the existing grocer's alley door and window color.

Action

Motion to accept the application with the recommendation to use historically appropriate hardware and the stipulation that the old door and pre-hung frame be removed entirely, the jambs be restored, and the threshold replaced with an historically appropriate material either wood or bronze was made by HARB Chair Dave Huber, motion was seconded by HARB member Glenn Lichtenwalner. Motion carried with unanimous support.