

BST-2022-00024**Address: 1550-52 W. Chew Street****District: West Park Historic District****Applicant: Tim F. Driscoll, Owner****Proposal: Legalize turret roof replacement (Violation Correction)****Building Description:**

This 3-story brick house, c. 1927 is Queen Anne in style. The gambrel roof has a double dormer with 6/1 sash windows, two dormers with hipped roofs and 8 pane windows, projecting cornice, single chimney, asphalt shingles and a corner turret with a dome roof. The 2nd floor turret has 9/1 sash windows with wood panels above them and on either side. The 1st floor has a picture window with stained glass transom and 1/1 sash windows on either side of the walk around porch. The main entry is a single $\frac{3}{4}$ glazed door with brick lintel on door and windows. The brick porch has square brick pillars, classic wood columns and ornate wooden railing. There is a steel fire escape on the N 16th Street side.

Project Description:

On July 1, 2022, a Stop Work Order was issued by a building inspector from Building Standards and Safety at the request of the Staff for the removal of the historic red slate and decorative copper ridge caps at the turret roof. The work was undertaken without a COA or building permit. This application proposes to legalize the installation of Tamko Heritage Series asphalt shingles at the turret roof.



1550-52 W. Chew Street turret roof in 2019.
(Google StreetView)



1550-52 W. Chew Street turret roof after work was
completed. (Staff)

Applicable Guidelines:**Chapter 3.1 – Roofs**

3.1.3 Repair and restore original and historic roofing materials whenever possible. Evaluate the condition and cost of repair of original materials before removing and replacing them. Targeted areas of repair or localized in-kind replacement may be the most effective and low-cost solution.

3.1.5 Preserve architectural features that give the roof its unique and building-specific character—such as dormers, turrets, chimneys, cornices, rolled ridge flashing, cresting, and finials. Repair and restore features; replace in-kind only when necessary.

3.1.6 Replace historic roofing materials in-kind whenever possible if severe deterioration makes a full replacement necessary. Replacement material should match the original in material, dimension, shape, profile, color, pattern, exposure, and overall appearance.

3.1.7 If in-kind replacement is not feasible, replace historic roofing materials with alternate materials that resemble the original as closely as possible. Roof replacement should be sensitive to the original appearance. Replacement materials should match roof slopes or shape.

Observations & Comments:

While the historic roofing material was in disrepair with displaced and missing shingles and missing sections of the decorative ridge caps, the roof should have been surveyed by a professional for the potential to repair rather than replace the entire turret roof. If complete replacement was truly necessary, the design guidelines stipulate that appropriate materials be used. In this case, a slate alternative such as a synthetic slate or an architectural shingle that replicates the dimensions, shape, profile, color, and exposure would have been more appropriate. The decorative ridge caps were a character-defining feature of the roof and should have been salvaged and reinstalled where possible, with missing sections replicated. The replacement roofing does not replicate the original roofing in material, dimension, shape, profile, color, exposure, or overall appearance. The work does not comply with the design guidelines and should not be legalized.

Staff Recommendation:

Denial, pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 3.1 Roofs. The staff recommends that a more appropriate roofing material be installed to replicate the historic roof in its dimension, shape, profile, color, exposure, and overall appearance and that the decorative ridge caps be replicated as closely as possible in material, dimension, shape, and profile.

Draft Motions:

I move to [approve, approve w/conditions, or deny] the application presented on 08/1/2022 for the legalization of the turret roof replacement at 1550-52 W. Chew Street [as submitted or with the following conditions agreed to by the applicant]:

I find [compliance or noncompliance] with the following sections of the Guidelines for Historic Districts: Chapter 3, Section 3.1 Roofs and find that there [are or are not] circumstances unique to the property: [unique features allowing decision].



Bureau of Building Standards and Safety
Inspections Division

Permit No.



Date:

6/30/22

CITY OF ALLENTOWN

Stop Work Order

This work is being prosecuted contrary
to the provisions of the basic code.

All work shall be immediately stopped.

Address: 1550 W. Chew St

WORK MAY BE RESUMED WHEN
THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS
ARE RECTIFIED AND INSPECTED.

1. Roof Permit
2.
3.
4.

This Card Shall NOT be Removed Without Authorization of the Bureau

B-10

Inspector:

David Smith

1550

1550

Stop Work Order
This must be signed by a person authorized to sign for the property owner of the site. A copy of this order must be kept on file at the site.



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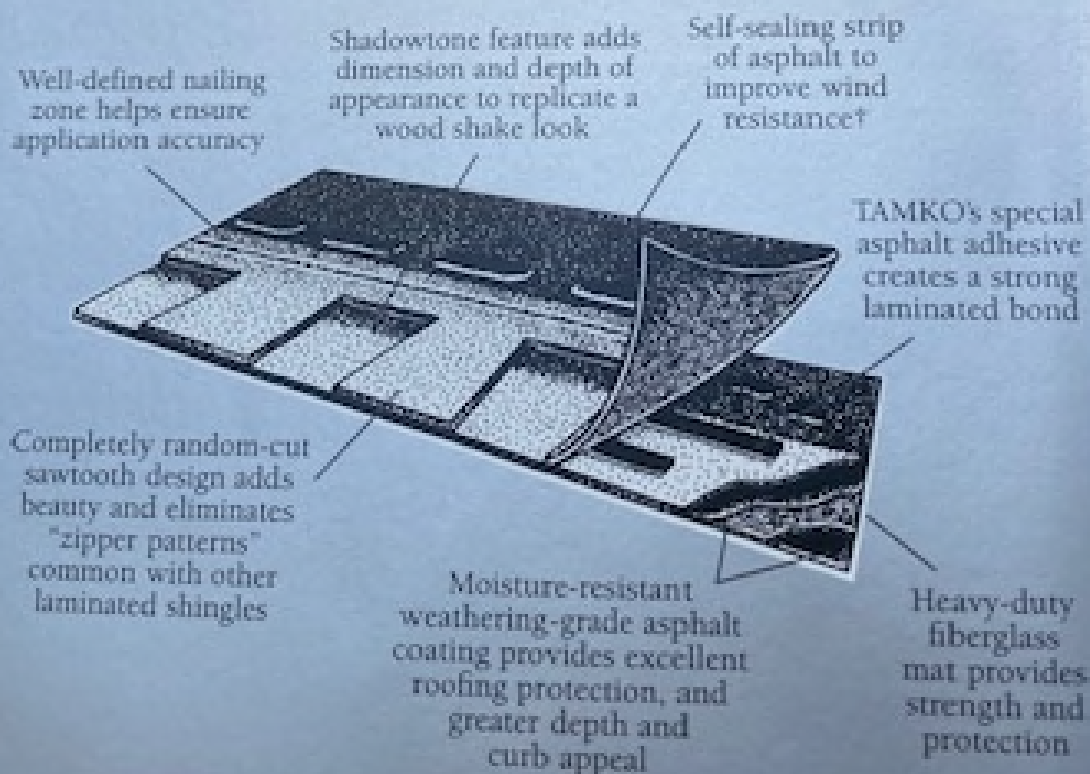
HERITAGE Premium

- 50-year Limited Warranty**
- 20-year Full Start Protection Period
- 15-year Limited Warranty against damage from winds up to 110 mph***
- Meet ASTM D 3462 at the time of manufacture and are Miami-Dade County approved



HERITAGE

- 30-year Limited Warranty**
- 15-year Full Start Protection Period
- 15-year Limited Warranty against damage from winds up to 110 mph***
- Meet ASTM D 3462 at the time of manufacture and are Miami-Dade County approved



†On Heritage shingles, some colors feature a self-sealing strip of asphalt on the bottom side.

Shingle Dimensions (Approximate)		
Heritage Premium	36" x 12"	5" Exposure
Heritage	36 3/8" x 12"	5" Exposure

These Heritage Premium and Heritage colors are produced in Frederick, MD