

**CITY OF ALLENTOWN
HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
FINAL REVIEW SHEET
AUGUST 28, 2017**

Case #HDC-2017-00011 - Proposal to replace the deteriorated slate roof

Property located at: 134 N 11th Street
Historic District: Old Allentown
Case #HDC-2017-00011
Meeting date: August 28, 2017

Property Owner: Kurt J. & Karen J. Wetherhold
Address: 134 N 11th St, Allentown, PA 18101
Applicant: same
Applicant's Address: same

Building description, period, style, defining features: This 2½-story brick row house, ca 1890, is Federal style. The roof is gable with slate shingles, snow catchers, and a single dormer with 1/1 sash window. The 1st and 2nd floor have 1/1 windows without shutters, but the original shutter brackets are visible and there are flat lintels. There is a basement window grille and a shared grocer's alley door. The main entry is a single glazed door with a brick stoop with wrought iron railing. The house had been bricktoted and all the details have been covered with aluminum. The rear of the house appears to not be visible from any public right-of-way.



Proposed alterations: It is proposed to replace the deteriorated slate roof with Heritage Premium laminated asphalt shingles in Virginia Slate color.

Staff Approvals: n/a

Background: HARB case #80-37 -- approved - June 9, 1980; City Council approved – June 18, 1980. Applicant proposes to place: paneled wooden shutters on the first floor window, a canvas awning over the front entry, and a small light fixture in the transom area.

Violations: n/a

Guideline Citation: SIS 9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment. **Allentown Guidelines for Historic Districts: 5.** Guidelines for Existing Buildings and Structures, 1. Repairs, Replacement and Alternate Materials; 3. Roofing **Evaluation, effect on historic district, recommendations:** The proposed shingles are “architectural” shingles and have a wood shingle appearance rather than a slate-like

appearance. They do not meet the recommendations of our design guidelines. It is recommended to use GAF Slateline shingles in the Antique Slate color. If the cost is too high a different shingle in similar color could be used on the rear roof since it is not visible from a public right-of-way. The other option is to use a 3-Tab flat shingle. Tamko (said manufacturer as the proposed "Heritage" shingle) has a 3-Tab shingle line called Elite Glass-Seal. The Antique Slate color in this shingle would be historically appropriate if Slateline too expensive.

Discussion: The applicant explained that she had a price to install GAF Slateline shingles. The price was significantly more than the architectural shingle that she wanted to use. There was a discussion about the reason the architectural shingle was not historically appropriate. The applicant also said she had a price to install 3-tab shingles and it was also more than the architectural shingle. This was a surprise to the Historic Consultant and Mr. Huber since 3-tab shingles were traditionally cheaper. It was suggested that the owner check this again with the roofer.

It was agreed that the existing slate roof was in very poor condition. The applicant said the back slope of the roof wasn't as bad as the front. Ms. Olson suggested just replacing the deteriorated shingles on the front roof. Mr. Kimmerly also pointed out that he could staff approve a shingle for the rear slope since it was not visible from the public right-of-way.

It was suggested that the applicant investigate a façade grant for the removal of the brickote from the front of the house. The work eligible for a façade grant was reviewed with the applicant.

The discussion concluded with a recommendation from Mr. Kimmerly to strongly recommend the installation of snow catchers since the existing historic roof has them.

Motion: The HARB upon motion by Mr. Huber and seconded by Ms. Roberts adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed work described herein:

1. The proposal to replace the deteriorated slate roof at 134 N 11th Street was presented by Karen Wetherhold.
2. The deteriorated slate roof on the front will be replaced with GAF Slateline shingles in the Antique Slate color (or equivalent) or Tamko Elite Glass-Seal 3-tab shingle in Antique Slate color (or equivalent).
3. The rear slope of the roof will either remain slate or be replaced with an asphalt shingle. Because the rear of the building is not visible from the public right-of-way the choice of shingle can be approved by staff.
4. It is also strongly recommended to install snow catchers similar to the existing historic ones or to reinstall the existing on the new roof.

The proposal to recommend a COA was unanimously approved. (4-0; motion carried; Berner, Huber, Olson, Roberts)