

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD  
CITY OF ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA  
July 6, 2020**

**FINAL REVIEW**

**Address:** 229.5 N 11<sup>th</sup> St.

**Proposed alterations:** To seal/coat brick face and repoint bricks, install shutters, add a light fixture and relocate house numbers. 5 historically correct shutters will be installed on the 1st and 2nd floors.

<b>Property Owner:</b>	Sharon Smith	<b>Owner Address:</b>	229.5 N 11 <sup>th</sup> St, Allentown
<b>Applicant:</b>	Peter Lewnes	<b>Applicant's Address:</b>	CADCA 523-525 N 7 <sup>th</sup> St, Allentown, PA 18102
<b>Historic District:</b>	Old Allentown	<b>Case #</b>	HDC-2020-00007
<b>HARB Meeting date:</b>	July 6, 2020 (Agenda Item #2)		

**Building description, period, style defining features:** This structure is a 3 bay, 2 ½ story red brick attached row home with gable roof with single roof dormer, 2 over 2 double hung windows with Italianate eyebrow lintels, half light front door with transom and grocer alley door. The house dates from c. 1886 and is Federal style with Italianate details. The house has historic integrity.



**Staff Approvals:** N/A

**Violations:** N/A

**Background:**

**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 differentiated from the old and 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:** 5.1.11 Guidelines for Existing Buildings and Structures, 1. Repairs, Replacement and Alternative Materials, 2. Historic Masonry, 5. Windows, 12. Lighting

**Evaluation, effect on historic district, recommendations:** Although seal coating of natural brick is generally not recommended, this house is a case where it may be warranted. The existing brick was damaged when brickwork was removed. Repointing will also help with water infiltration.

Repointing should be done with soft high lime content mortar to preserve the brick. Preservation Brief #2 should be consulted for brick repair and repointing. Other work proposed is historically appropriate. Specifications for the new light fixture should be submitted and approved by staff. New location for the house numbers should be discussed; relocating to the left side of the door would be appropriate.

**Discussion:** The discussion focused on the condition of the existing brick and types of sealers. Mr. Brobst educated everyone on the need to reapply sealers in approximately 7 years. The applicant wondered if there were any longer lasting sealers available. Mr. Brobst said unfortunately not. The applicant said the address plaque could fit on the left side of the door if trimmed down slightly. The HARB agreed to give the applicant also the option to place gold leaf house numbers in the transom.

The new light fixture specification will be submitted to the City for staff approval.

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

1. The proposal to seal/coat brick face and repoint bricks, install shutters, add a light fixture, and relocate house numbers at 229.5 N 11th Street was represented by Sharon Smith.
2. The soft deteriorated red brick will be sealed with an appropriate breathable sealer.
3. Five historically correct shutters will be installed on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors. Panel shutters will be installed on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and louvered on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
4. The house numbers will be in gold leaf in the transom or on a smaller plaque on the left side of the door.
5. The new light fixture specification will be submitted to the City for staff approval.

**HARB Action:** The proposal to issue a COA was unanimously approved. (6-0; motion carried: Brobst, Fillman, Sell Huber, Olson, Roberts)