

Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board

Arlington County, Virginia

HALRB Case 17-07 (HP1700012)



A request by Peter Connell (on behalf of the Arlington County Board), owner of 2411 24th Street North in the Fort C.F. Smith Historic District, to make minor alterations to the tractor barn.

For DRC (*circle those present*): **Robert Dudka, Charles Craig, Andrew Wenchel, Tova Solo, Joan Lawrence, John Peck**

For Arlington County (*circle those present*): **Cynthia Liccese-Torres, Rebecca Ballo, John Liebertz**

Case # 17-07 Agenda Item # 1

Application Complete

Application Incomplete

Applicant(s): Peter Connell (Arlington County)

For Applicant(s):

(See attached application for applicant, address, name of property and property description, drawings, photographs, and proposed scope of work.)

Design Recommendations:

1. No comments.

Findings:

- Return to next DRC meeting
- Send to HALRB

If sent to HALRB, recommended action is:

- Place on consent agenda
- Place on discussion agenda:
- Recommend approval of CoA, with DRC design recommendations and/or additional information provided
 - Recommend deferral of ruling on CoA (explanation):
 - Recommend denial of CoA (explanation):
 - No recommendation.

To: HALRB
From: John Liebertz, Historic Preservation Planner
Date: April 10, 2017
Subject: 2411 24th Street North, CoA 17-02, Fort C.F. Smith Historic District

Background Information

Between 1863 and 1865, Fort C. F. Smith was a second-generation fort, built mid-war to bolster the existing defenses of the nation's capital. Most of the perimeter fits the typical Civil War fort profile of a flat central section, known as the terreplein, surrounded by a raised-earth rampart that enhanced views of the enemy. It was first called the Fort at Red House or Fort McDowell, but in June 1863, it was named to honor Major General Charles Ferguson Smith. The fort was abandoned and dismantled in the fall of 1865.

Fort C.F. Smith is the best preserved Civil War fort in Arlington. It lies within the 19-acre Fort C.F. Smith Park, along with a late-19th and early-20th century estate with embedded Civil War-era ruins. The fort was designated as a local historic district in 1987 and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000. The local historic district is comprised of numerous non-contributing resources including a 1920s cottage and a modern tractor barn built in the 1980s.

Proposal

The applicant proposes to renovate the tractor barn. Alterations include the following:

- Replacement of the modern overhead garage door to a wood sliding barn door.
- Replacement of the six-over-six, double-hung, wood windows.
- Replacement of an existing four-light paneled wood door with a new wood door of the same design and material.
- Installation of handicap accessible access door control on the bridge to the second floor entrance.

DRC Review

The DRC heard this case at its April 2017 meeting. The committee had no comments on the application and requested that this application be placed on the consent agenda for the April 19, 2017, HALRB meeting.

Discussion and Recommendation

The County Board designated Fort C.F. Smith as a local historic district to protect the historically significant earthworks. The proposal appropriately treats a non-historic resource within the local historic district. The proposed renovations would have no impact to the earthworks themselves. The sliding barn door would create a more appropriate aesthetic with respect to the surrounding landscape than the existing overhead garage door. Staff finds that the request meets standards #1 and #2 of Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation.