

MINUTES
VIEUX CARRE COMMISSION
ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2008
1:30 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM
334 ROYAL STREET, 2ND FLOOR

Architectural Committee Members Present: Dodie Spencer Smith, Chairman
Tom Bissell

Architectural Committee Members Absent: Stewart Farnet
David Dillard

Vieux Carré Commission Members Present: Fred Lawson
Betty Norris

STAFF PRESENT: Lary P. Hesdorffer, Director, Hilary Somerville Irvin, Principal Architectural Historian,
Arthur Pittari, Building Inspector, Lily McNee, Preservation Assistant and Stephen
McNair, Plan Examiner.

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Vanlangendonck, Julie Little, Ricky Stephens, Charles Silbernagel, Kenneth
Ferdinand, Arthur Hebert, Harvey Burns, Michael Lawson, Frank W. Masson, Shelia
and Ronald Rivet, James Farr and Rodney Ratliff.

I. OLD BUSINESS

333 Chartres/332 Exchange Alley: Four JCM, LLC, owner; Charles Silbernagel, architect/ applicant. Modifications and a **change of use** from *vacant* to *mixed commercial* and *residential* use, including demolition of the brown-rated ca. 1920 structure at 332 Exchange and the reconstruction of the ca. 1837 3½ story arcade row building, per revised drawings received 11/07/07, 11/08/07 & 01/02/08.

The Committee took the following action:

- **Approved** the revised drawings as submitted.
- **Approved** the handrail details, as per Scheme B (sheet SK 2), with an adjustment to the attachment to the handrail so that the guardrail attaches to the railing uprights and the handrail is notched as needed for vertical support.

1120-22 Decatur/27-29 French Market Place: Eljaouhari, LLC, owner; Julie Little, architect/applicant. Architectural modifications for **change of use** from *vacant* to *restaurant*, per application received 12/04/07 & drawings received 01/03/08.

The Committee forwarded the proposed architectural modifications and **change of use** to the VCC with a recommendation for **approval**, provided that the applicant submits the requested material for the VCC hearing (hours of operation, sign proposal and occupational license application) before the meeting. In addition, the Committee suggested that the applicant further revise the details for the exhaust and supply fans so that the unnecessary horizontal run of ductwork is deleted, all with staff review and approval of details.

II. NEW BUSINESS

717 Orleans: St. Ann Lodging, owner; Rocky Stephens, applicant. Request to install a temporary balcony cover for the Mardi Gras season at room 303 (3rd floor Bourbon elevation), per application received 12/14/07.

Noting that more detailed, sufficient information is needed before a complete review can be made (such as type & kind awning materials, the method of attachment, etc.), the Committee **deferred** consideration of this item.

1101 N. Peters: City of New Orleans (French Market Corporation), owner/applicant. Proposal to install a 5' x 5' x 6' terra cotta relief sculpture at Ursulines Street entrance to Farmers Market, per application & material received 12/20/07 & 01/02/08.

The Committee **conceptually approved** the design and materials for the proposed installation, with the requirement that the relief be attached to the wall of the arched shed entrance, using galvanized metal Z clips, with staff review and approval of all final details, including the precise location of the bas-relief.

1235 N. Peters: City of New Orleans (French Market Corporation), owner/applicant. Proposal to install a 16' tall, painted steel sculpture at Flea Market entrance, per application & material received 12/20/07 & 01/02/08.

The Committee **deferred** action on this item of business so that the applicant can submit additional details, including a small-scale model of the proposed sculpture.

827 Ursulines: Linda Sampson, owner; Webb Johnson, applicant. Proposal to mount two (2) ductless, split air conditioning condensers on brackets on side wall (river side) of cottage, per application & material received 12/21/07.

This item of business was **deferred** so that the applicant could provide additional information including a site plan and the proposed location of the units, as well as specifications for the proposed HVAC units.

519 Iberville: Estate of John Santopadre, owner; Arthur Hebert, applicant. Proposal to install telephone entry system, recessed in ground floor facade wall, per application & material received 12/27/07.

The Committee **approved** the proposal as submitted.

1026 Esplanade & 1032 Esplanade: Rene Fransen (1026) & Chuck Garber (1032), owners; Frank W. Masson, architect/applicant. Proposal to install wooden paneled pedestrian gate, topped with lattice panel and “hedgehog” device between the facades of the two properties, per application & drawings received 12/31/07.

The Committee **approved** the proposal as submitted.

531 Bienville: Bienville French Quarter Properties, owner; Rodney Ratliff, architect/applicant. Proposed architectural modifications (work permitted but not executed in 2005) & a **change of use** from *vacant* to *residential* (5 condominium units), per application and drawings received 01/02/08.

Noting the discrepancy in the VCC 2004 property report for the subject property and the five (5) residential units indicated on the recently submitted drawings, Mr. Hesdorffer asked the applicant/owner to submit a copy of the earlier set of drawings, stamped VCC approved in 2005. After extended discussion, the applicant/owner **withdrew** this item of business.

513 Royal: Antoine’s Property # 2, LLC, owner; Harvey Burns (Jahncke & Burns Architects), architect/applicant. Proposal to replace window on upriver ground floor facade with a “temporary construction door & entrance”, per application & drawings received 01/02/08.

The Committee **denied** the proposal as submitted but **approved** the instillation of a plywood construction door (painted) with staff review and approval of details. The Committee noted that consideration of a **change of use** will be deferred until long-term plans are developed for VCC review.

III. APPEALS & VIOLATIONS

1030 Burgundy: Linda Kiel & Mike Lawson, owners; James Farr (Farr + Huson), architect/applicant. Proposal to renovate an existing shed/bathroom addition at the rear of the main building, work begun without a permit, per application received 11/20/07 & drawings received 12/21/07.

The Committee took the following action:

- **Approved** the wood framing and plywood sheathing as installed without a permit, as well as the replacement of all rotten wood siding on the shed to match existing.
- **Approved** installation of a hardi-plank clad (UL Assemblies) firewall for the Ursuline side of the shed addition, abutting the masonry property line along the adjoining property, with the application of dark green paint to match existing lattice work.
- **Approved** replacement of the roofing on tool shed with painted standing seam galvanized metal, with galvanized metal flashing installed at the parapet wall.
- **Approved** placement of the HVAC units in the walkway area behind the rear addition.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Security camera issue: Joshua Clark, applicant. Seeking approval from the VCC to eliminate the required application/permit process for installation of small security cameras, images being computer-linked, recorded and provided to NOPD, as per request made 12/20/07.

At the applicant’s request, this item of business was **deferred** until further notice.

APPROVED: _____
Dodie Smith, Chairman