HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION August 04, 2021

REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to remove the existing flashing around the perimeter of the house and install stucco skirting 1-foot below the grade to extend 16 inches above the grade.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 2, Exterior Maintenance and Alterations

8. Architectural Features: Foundations

A. MAINTENANCE (PRESERVATION)

i. *Details*—Preserve the height, proportion, exposure, form, and details of a foundation such as decorative vents, grilles, and lattice work.

ii. Ventilation-Ensure foundations are vented to control moisture underneath the dwelling, preventing deterioration.

iii. *Drainage*—Ensure downspouts are directed away and soil is sloped away from the foundation to avoid moisture collection near the foundation.

iv. *Repair*—Inspect foundations regularly for sufficient drainage and ventilation, keeping it clear of vegetation. Also inspect for deteriorated materials such as limestone and repair accordingly. Refer to maintenance and alteration of applicable materials, for additional guidelines.

B. ALTERATIONS (REHABILITATION, RESTORATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION)

i. *Replacement features*—Ensure that features such as decorative vents and grilles and lattice panels are replaced in-kind when deteriorated beyond repair. When in-kind replacement is not possible, use features matching in size, material, and design. Replacement skirting should consist of durable, proven materials, and should either match the existing siding or be applied to have minimal visual impact.

ii. Alternative materials—Cedar piers may be replaced with concrete piers if they are deteriorated beyond repair.

iii. Shoring—Provide proper support of the structure while the foundation is rebuilt or repaired.

iv. *New utilities*—Avoid placing new utility and mechanical connections through the foundation along the primary façade or where visible from the public right-of-way.

FINDINGS:

- a. The primary structure at 411 Devine is a 1-story, single-family structure constructed circa 1910. The structure features a pyramidal composition shingle roof with a front gable dormer, a full-width front porch with a flat roof and wood columns, wood cladding, two front-facing bay windows, and one-over-one wood windows. The structure is contributing to the Lavaca Historic District.
- b. SKIRTING REPLACEMENT The applicant has proposed to replace the existing metal flashing with stucco skirting 1-foot below the grade to extend 16 inches above the grade. Guideline 8.B.i for Exterior Maintenance and Alterations states that replacement skirting should consist of durable, proven materials, and should either match the existing siding or be applied to have minimal visual impact. Staff finds the proposal inconsistent with the Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff does not recommend approval of the stucco skirting installation based on findings a through b. The installation of skirting to match the existing wood siding or a cement board product that mimics the appearance of existing siding with a smooth finish is eligible for administrative approval.

City of San Antonio One Stop



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