

HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

November 16, 2016

Agenda Item No: 18

HDRC CASE NO: 2016-447
ADDRESS: 501 N ALAMO ST
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NCB 437 BLK 11 LOT 13
ZONING: FBZ T4-2 HS
CITY COUNCIL DIST.: 1
LANDMARK: Church of Christian Scientists
APPLICANT: Elden Stalnaker
OWNER: First Church of Christ, Scientist
TYPE OF WORK: Installation of wrought iron gates at primary entrance
REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install three 8' tall front entry gates in each of the three existing door bays.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

Historic Design Guidelines, Chapter 2, Exterior Maintenance and Alterations

7. Architectural Features: Porches, Balconies, and Porte-Cocheres

B. ALTERATIONS (REHABILITATION, RESTORATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION)

i. *Front porches*—Refrain from enclosing front porches. Approved screen panels should be simple in design as to not change the character of the structure or the historic fabric.

FINDINGS:

- a. The main structure at 501 N Alamo is a three story church building built circa 1915, made of stucco. The property is an individual landmark and was designated in 1988.
- b. There are three arched openings on the front facade with one stairway leading up to the doors. The proposed wrought iron gates fit in each of the three arched openings. According to the Guidelines for Exterior Maintenance and Alteration 7.B.i., front entrances and porches should not be enclosed. Staff made a site visit on November 9, 2016, and found that the proposed gates would be installed consistent with the right side entrances previously modified. Also, staff finds the proposed gates are removable in the future. Staff finds the proposed modification appropriate.
- c. The applicant has noted a concern for safety and security. Staff finds the removable gates an appropriate solution for the security concern.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval as submitted based on finding a through c.

CASE MANAGER:

Lauren Sage



Flex Viewer

Powered by ArcGIS Server

Printed: Nov 08, 2016

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FRONT

2011/07/21 09:56



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1901 S. Alamo

San Antonio, Texas 78204

Ladies and gentlemen,

The members of FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, 501 North Alamo, San Antonio, Texas, wish to thank you kindly for seeing the need to do what we have come before you to submit in keeping our down town church edifice in line with our most beautiful city.

Our church edifice was constructed in 1916 and the membership has taken pleasure for keeping it orderly and presentable at all times, but are continually having many problems with street people doing destructive things to our edifice and grounds again.

Several years ago, an architect belonging to our membership, went to the city with these same problems occurring then on the parking lot side of our church where drunken homeless people were camping out nightly and doing much damage to our side entries.

Our female clerks and church workers could not enter on some mornings for fear of these people and we kept calling the San Antonio Police Department for help, since they asked us not to confront the men who were drunk on beer, wines, etc and were accosting our people and joggers running by on North Alamo. The police officers told us that the other churches in our area had already constructed wrought iron fencing and gates to control the same thing. Your wonderful work, taking care of our beautiful down town, saw this problem could be solved by installing the iron gating in the three open areas on our North side. And the problem was solved on that side.

We did not finish constructing the three open areas on our front porch entry way at 501 North Alamo because the city was in the process of building the Haven for Hope facility and we felt that maybe that would stop the vagrancy on our front step area. But the problem has just gotten worse since those street people using our front step section for a camping ground nightly will not go to The Haven For Hope since they are not allowed to drink their alcoholic drinks all night at that facility. So, we are constantly having to re-surface our front area at costs of thousands of dollars, have the San Antonio Police Department coming to officially remove the people who are ruining our front entry and demoralizing our street where joggers, from the beautiful new apartment complexes just North of us, jog each morning with these people yelling at them and they are reporting to us, along with our neighbors, that these people are

having sexual intercourse right in front of our doors. Our great neighbor, ACCUARATE PRINTING, across the street from us, will tell you the same thing, since they have to call the police several times a week when they arrive for work and see what is going on in front of our church edifice.

Our street area is used by almost all of the down town walks that go by on Sunday mornings, and the police have to clear our front steps before these walks can go by with all age people, even young children. This is so embarrassing to our membership and we have unanimously voted to go ahead and do the iron gating across the three front spaces.

No church walls, doors, or windows are being changed, just putting in the same gating that exists on the North side which has worked beautifully. The gates will have the same locks as existing on the North side, and were approved by the Fire Department when other work was done. J. Ross Boles will re-key these to our master lock system as they did on the North side.

We have had a contractor, Mr. Juan Guzman, who has done work for our board chair, Judge Alfonso Alonso, and yours truly, to bid on this work along with two other contractors given us by Better Business Bureau, and have accepted Mr. Guzman's bid to do this work which he can get to immediately, with your approval.

All the same specifications given to the three bidders are included with this document and we are anxious to get on to this work before the cooler weather which seems to be our worst time in down town San Antonio.

With loving respect for our great city,

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elden D. Stalnaker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

Elden D. Stalnaker, C.S. , project manager, Christian Science chaplain for the Bexar County jail, and Christian Science minister at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

501 North Alamo

San Antonio, Texas 78215

Contact: Elden Stalnaker 210-733-8696, Russell Beanland: 210-489-0864

New wrought iron with lockable gates in three front sections of church edifice. All in semi-gloss rust proof paint, in regular black

LEFT: Approx. 72 inches wide by 96 inches tall with 36 inch wide gate in center.

Lock assembly like existing gate by Reading Room on North side.

Gate to hinge and swing out to the left. The height of the gates can be less than the 96 inches high iron works. This would allow for the tops of the openings to have a more sound, secure top part in each opening. Contractor to advise best on this.

CENTER: Approx 96 inches wide by 96 inches tall with double gate in center opening out from center. Each gate 30 inches wide, with same lock and key assembly. The center will need to have a pin going into the step to secure the gate A new hand-rail on each of the two pillars covering the 2 steps at the bottom. Remove the two existing handrails out on each end of the opening.

RIGHT: Approx. 72 inches wide by 96 inches high. Same as Left above with same size gate , only opening out to the right.

Photos and draft sketches show what the finished openings should look like. There should be approximately 18 inch wide stationary spaces on each side of the gate in each opening making it all uniform. We will have J. Ross Boles Key Co. re-key each lock to our master locks existing on the church edifice at present.

Elden Stalnaker: mrelden@stic.net, cell:210-275-6453

FRONT DOORS

FIRST

2010/07/16 19:43

First Church of Christ, Scientist
501 N. Alamo
San Antonio, Texas 78215

FRONT DOORS WITH GATES/FENCE

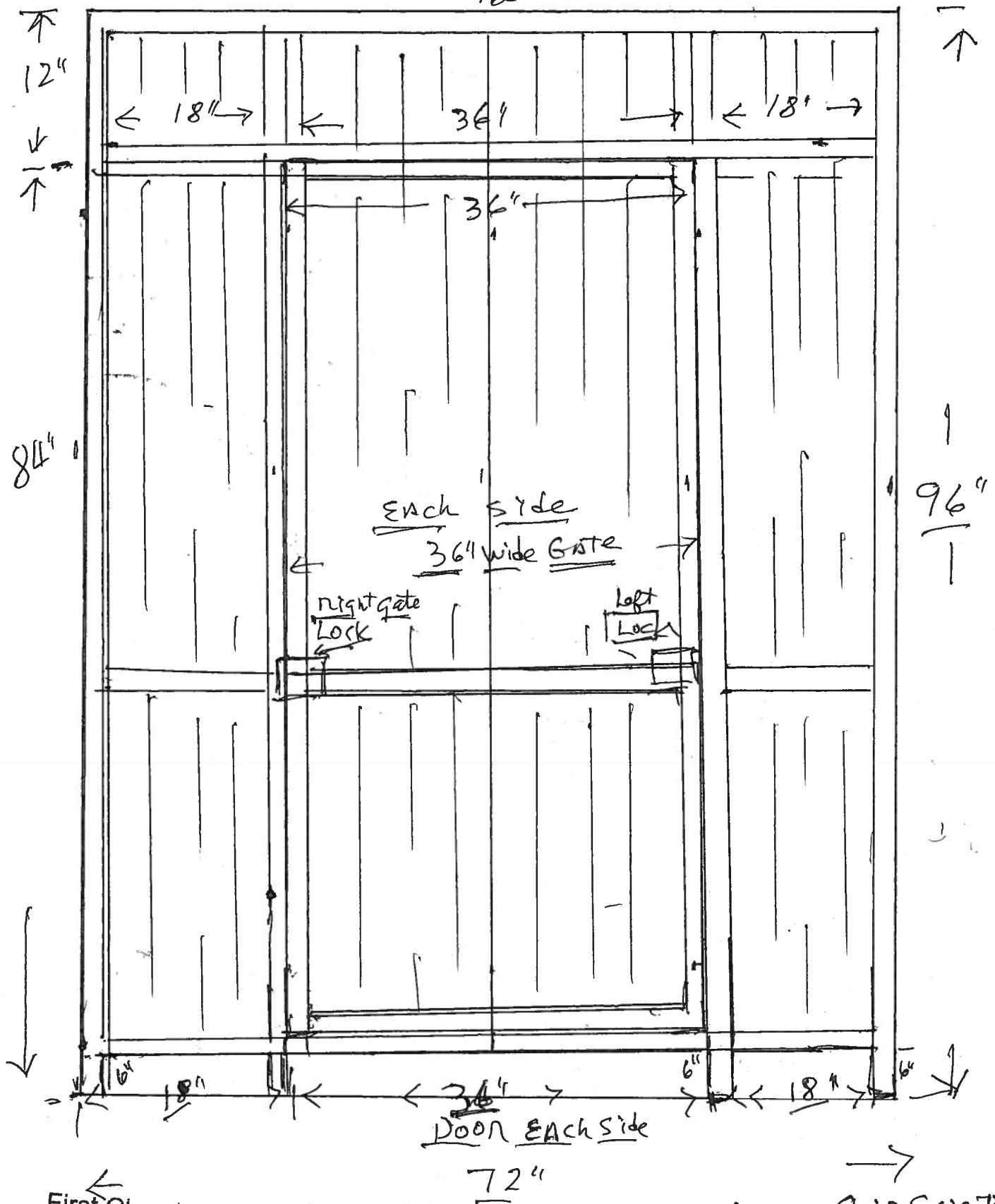
EE

FIRST

2010/07/16 19:43

First Church of Christ, Scientist
501 N. Alamo
San Antonio, Texas 78215

one LEFT + one Right
72"

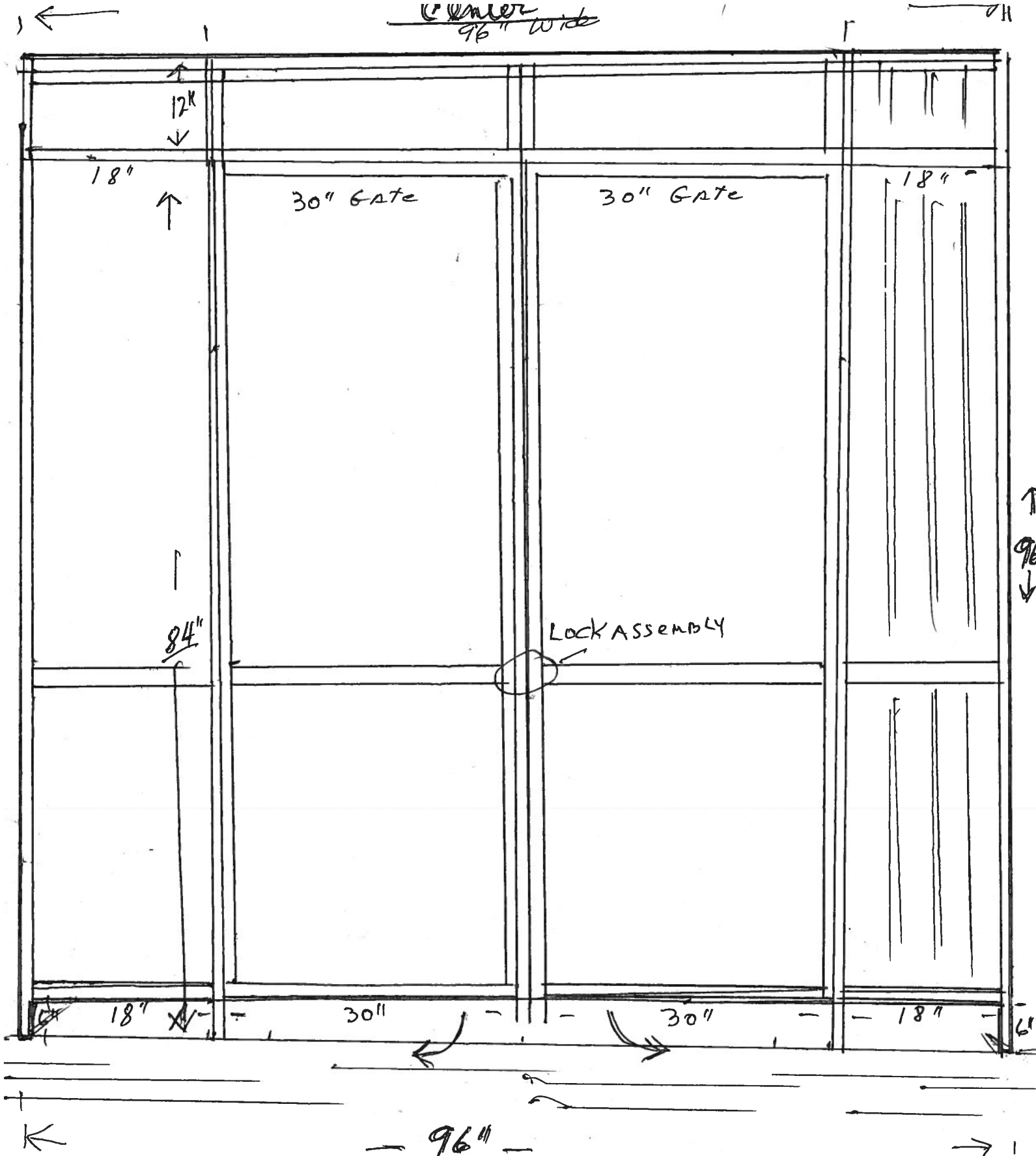


First Church of Christ, Scientist
501 N. Alamo
San Antonio, Texas 78215

First Church, Christ, Scientist
501 NO. ALAMO

210-733-8696

7-23-2016



First Church of Christ, Scientist
 501 N. Alamo
 San Antonio, Texas 78215

- NOTE:
- MEASUREMENTS are a draft.
 - MEASURE EXACTLY

First church, Christ, Scientist
 501 NO, ALAMO 78215
 210-733-8696

RIGHT FACADE



FRONT



RIGHT FACADE



May 31, 1998

53196