

Commission of Architectural Review Guidelines for Administrative Approval of Fiber Cement Siding

Introduction: Fiber cement siding is a siding option that has limited application for use on historic properties in City Old and Historic Districts. Under certain circumstances it can be an appropriate substitute siding material on secondary elevations. The purpose of this document is to define which of those elements can be approved by staff without approval of a certificate of appropriateness by the Commission of Architectural Review.

A. Items delegated for staff review

The Fiber Cement Siding guidelines below, through adoption by the Commission, shall constitute items delegated by the Commission of Architectural Review for administrative review to Commission staff in accordance with Sec. 30-930.6(h) of the Code of the City of Richmond. Unless the Commission Secretary deems it desirable, for particular reasons, to present the items listed below to the Commission for review, Commission staff may approve them administratively. All such approvals shall be reported monthly to the Commission in accordance with Sec. 30-930.6(h). These guidelines shall serve as a supplement to and be deemed consistent with the *Old and Historic District Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*. Administrative approvals may be granted for Fiber Cement Siding as follows:

1. Fiber Cement Siding

The replacement of wood siding with fiber cement siding may be approved administratively if the following criteria are met:

- Smooth, unbeaded fiber cement siding is installed on the secondary elevations only. Textured siding should not be used, including faux wood grain finishes.
- Secondary elevations have limited visibility from the public right-of-way.
- A sufficient amount of existing wood siding is salvaged and installed with the historic reveals on the façade, or wood siding is replaced in-kind on the front façade.
- Reveals of the new siding match the historic reveals.
- The siding is painted a color or colors found on the Commission's paint palette.

Examples that comply with these criteria are shown below:



C. Adoption and Effect

These administrative approval guidelines were adopted by the Commission of Architectural Review on **February 28, 2017**. The adoption and implementation of these guidelines shall be consistent with Sec. 30-930.6(h) of the Code of the City of Richmond. These guidelines are deemed to be consistent with and a supplement to the *Old and Historic District Handbook and Design Review Guidelines*. These guidelines shall be in full effect and force until amended or rescinded by the Commission.