



CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS PLACARD

for Raleigh Historic Resources

Project Description:

Replace front walk

401 N Person St

Address

Oakwood

Historic District

Historic Property

COA-0101-2026

Certificate Number

7/20/2026

Date of Issue

7/20/2027

Expiration Date

This card must be kept posted in a location within public view until all phases of the described project are complete. The work must conform with the code of the City of Raleigh and laws of the state of North Carolina. When your project is complete, you are required to ask for a final zoning inspection in a historic district area. Telephone the RHDC office at 832-7238 and commission staff will coordinate the inspection with the inspections Department. If you do not call for this final inspection, your Certificate of Appropriateness is null and void.

Signature, _____

Collette K

Raleigh Historic Development Commission

Pending the resolution of appeals, commencement of work is at your own risk.

Type or print the following:

Applicant name: Matthew Brown

Mailing address: 401 N. Person Street

City: Raleigh

State: NC

Zip code: 27601

Date: 7/8/26

Daytime phone #: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

Applicant signature: [REDACTED]

Minor work (staff review) – one copy

Major work (COA committee review) – ten
copies

Additions > 25% of building sq. footage

New buildings

Demolition of building or structure

All other

Post approval re-review of conditions of
approval

Office Use Only

Transaction #: _____

File #: **COA-0101-2026**

Fee: _____

Amount paid: _____

Received date: _____

Received by: _____

Property street address: 401 N. Person Street

Historic district: Oakwood

Historic property/Landmark name (if applicable): Lamar-Brown-Arthur House

Owner name: Matthew Brown

Owner mailing address: 401 N. Person Street

For applications that require review by the COA Committee (major work), provide addressed and stamped envelopes for owners for all properties with 100 feet on all sides of the property, as well as the property owner.

Property Owner Name & Address

Property Owner Name & Address

I understand that all major work applications that require review by the Raleigh Historic Development Commission's COA Committee must be submitted by 4 p.m. on the date of the application deadline; otherwise, consideration will be delayed until the following committee meeting. An incomplete application will not be accepted.

Will you be applying for rehabilitation tax credits for this project? Yes No Did you consult with staff prior to filing the application? Yes No	Office Use Only Type of work: _____ _____
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Design Guidelines: please cite the applicable sections of the design guidelines (www.rhdc.org).		
Section/Page	Topic	Brief description of work (attach additional sheets as needed).
1.5	Walkways	See attached description

Minor Work Approval (office use only) Upon being signed and dated below by the Planning Director or designee, this application becomes the Minor Work Certificate of Appropriateness. It is valid until <u>07/26/2027</u>. Please post the enclosed placard form of the certificate as indicated at the bottom of the card. Issuance of a Minor Work Certificate shall not relieve the applicant, contractor, tenant, or property owner from obtaining any other permit required by City Code or any law. Minor Works are subject to an appeals period of 30 days from the date of approval. Signature (City of Raleigh) <u>Collette K</u> Date <u>07/26/2026</u>
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C.O.A. Application for front sidewalk 401 N. Person Street: description of proposal

The front sidewalk at 401 N. Person Street is badly cracked up because of the roots of a large willow oak tree. It is a trip hazard. I would like to replace the sidewalk, using embossed bricks salvaged from the public sidewalk on N. Blount Street. These bricks were made around 1900 by the R. B. Fitzgerald Brick Company, a famous black-owned company in Durham. I salvaged these when the City installed handicap ramps at Blount Street's corners.

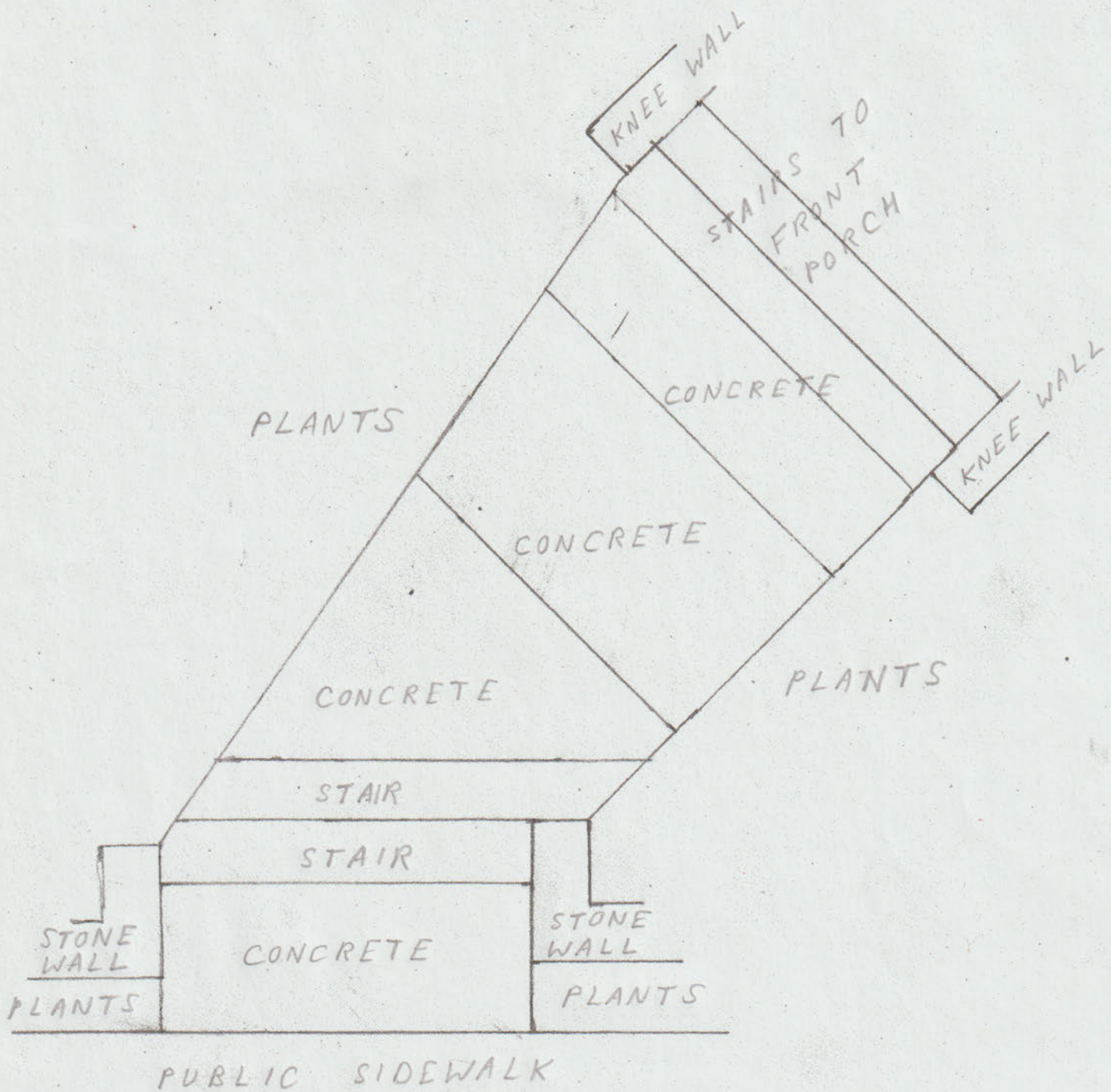
I propose to lay bricks in the same footprint as the current concrete panels. I propose to retain all the concrete stairs, including those at the porch entrance, and those closer to the public sidewalk. I have attached photos of the current condition. The edges of the sidewalk are obscured by potted plants, leaves, and plants in the yard. I have not moved them, in order to accurately show current conditions! (I like a natural yard rather than a neat one!) The attached drawing of existing conditions show the edges of the current sidewalk.

Many houses in Oakwood have brick sidewalks. I walked Oakwood Avenue, Polk Street, the 400 block of Elm Street, and N. Person Street. About half the houses on these blocks have brick sidewalks. A few are original to the houses, some were installed long ago, and some more recently. Some are of salvaged brick, some are of new brick. They are laid in a great variety of patterns. Some are mortared, some are dry-laid. Some may be mortared underneath, but without mortar showing between the brick. In these blocks, two houses have sidewalks of salvaged Fitzgerald bricks: 406 Polk Street and 526 Oakwood Avenue. I also found four houses on Blount Street with salvaged Fitzgerald bricks: 301, 407, 417, and 421. When my house was built, it was on the back part of the lot at 400 N. Blount Street, so it has an affinity to Blount Street that most Oakwood properties do not.

I would like to lay the bricks in the "running bond" pattern. This is how they are laid on the public sidewalk on Blount Street, and is how they are laid in all of the houses with salvaged Fitzgerald brick. At five of the six houses, the pattern is parallel with the front porch steps, so I would like to do the same. I would like to dry-lay them without mortar. I believe this is how the other Fitzgerald brick sidewalks are laid. This will allow water to sink into the earth, which is better for the environment. I also fear that if I mortar them, the tree roots will just crack the new sidewalk before long. I would like to leave the tree roots where they are and work around them. The sides of the sidewalk are not quite parallel, but that is not a problem because I have many partial bricks.

I considered finding a way to salvage the concrete sidewalk, which is probably original to the house, but it is too thick to alter to accommodate the tree roots. At one crack, one piece of the sidewalk is two inches higher than the adjacent piece. I have allowed liriope to grow in the crack so that people will step over it and not trip, but it is still a trip hazard. I do not want to use new concrete because I don't know anyone who can replicate the old concrete, and the new concrete looks too obviously modern in color and texture.

401 N. PERSON ST.
FRONT SIDEWALK
EXISTING CONDITIONS
SCALE 1" = 32"





401 N. PERSON ST
FRONT SIDEWALK
PROPOSED
SCALE: 1"=32"

