

**HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION REPORT**  
Certificate of Recommendation  
Section 20-92

**TO:** Heritage Preservation Commission  
**FROM:** Planning Staff  
**MEETING DATE:** July 28, 2022

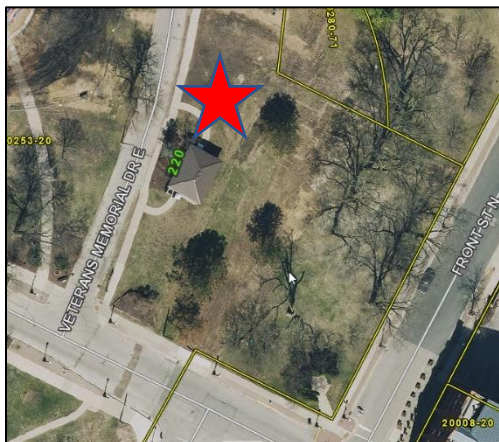
**PROPOSAL:** The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing restroom building in Riverside Park near the State St entrance and replace it with a new building.

**PROPERTY OWNER:**  
City of La Crosse  
Parks, Recreation, and Forestry  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

**APPLICANT:**  
Same as above.

**BACKGROUND:** The HPC was given responsibility to review all exterior work that requires a permit from the City on Locally Designated Landmarks per Section 20-92 of the La Crosse Municipal Code.

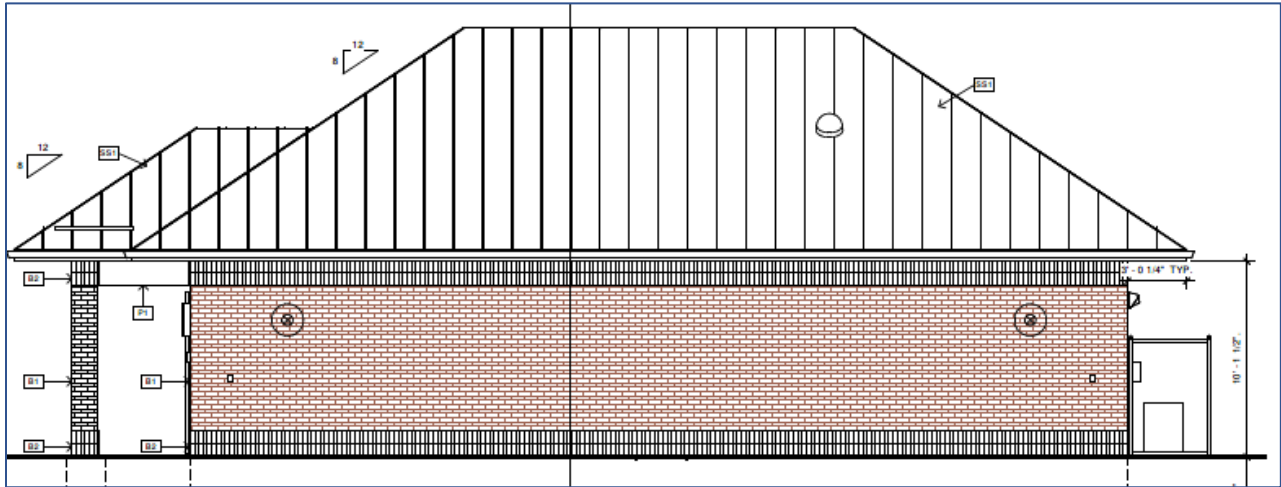
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing restroom building (picture to the right) and replace it with new building. The new building will be constructed immediately to the north and will include more restrooms, a family restroom, water fountains, and a storage area with an overhead door. The new building is the product of a partnership between the City and the Friends of Riverside Park who have been working together to improve and increase the number of restrooms in the park as well as provide a storage space for yearly events that are held there. The new building is being located immediately to the north of the current building due to floodplain issues, proximity to public utilities, and so that the existing restrooms can still be used during construction of the new building.



The building will be brick with a metal seam roof.

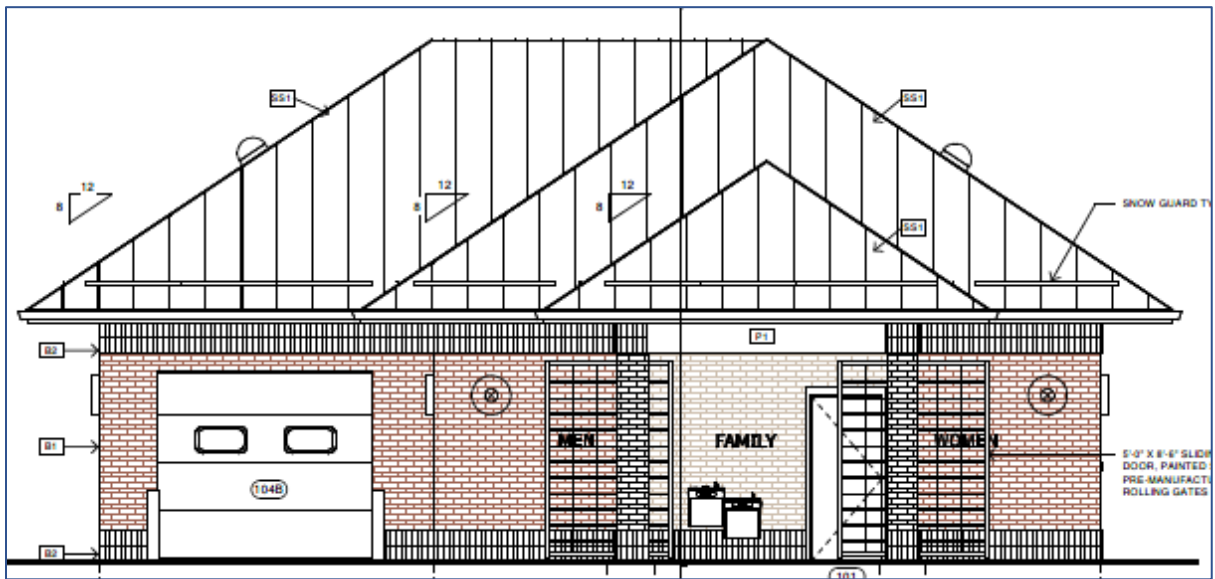
### **South Façade**

The south façade (facing toward State St) consists of a solid brick façade with two exterior lights.



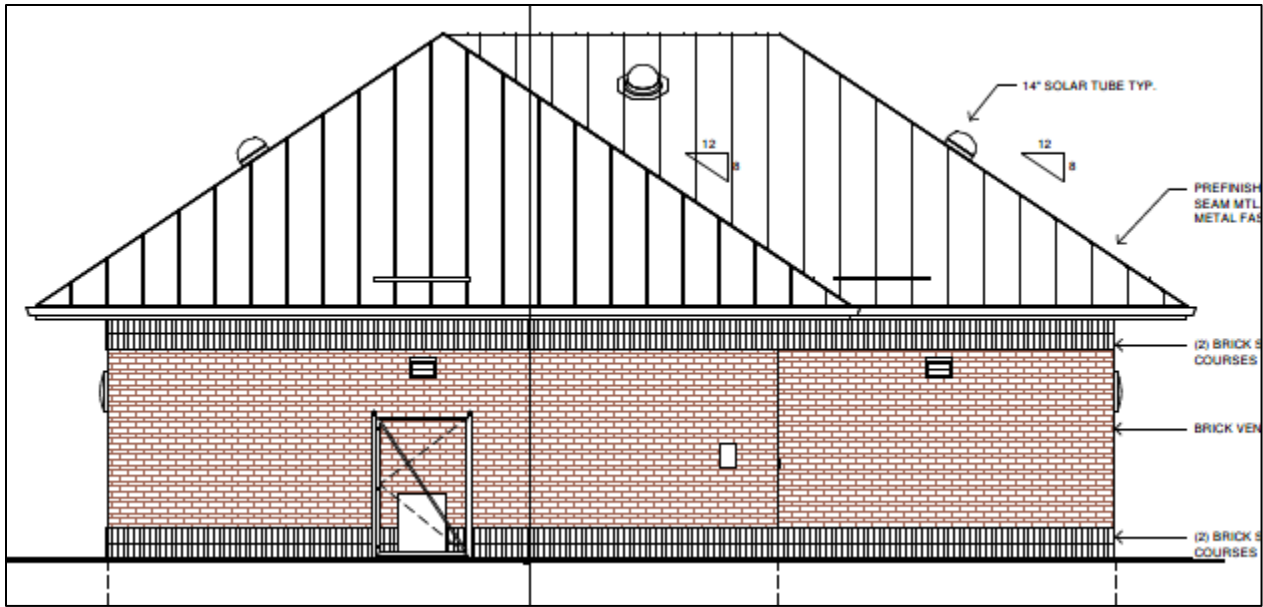
### **West Façade**

The west façade (facing Veterans Memorial Dr) includes the main entrance to the restrooms and an overhead garage door to access the storage area. The main entrance to the restrooms is covered by a brick canopy with brick columns. The overhead door includes a section with two small windows and two bollards. The storage portion of the building is recessed back from the main entrance. Two exterior lights face Veterans Memorial Drive.



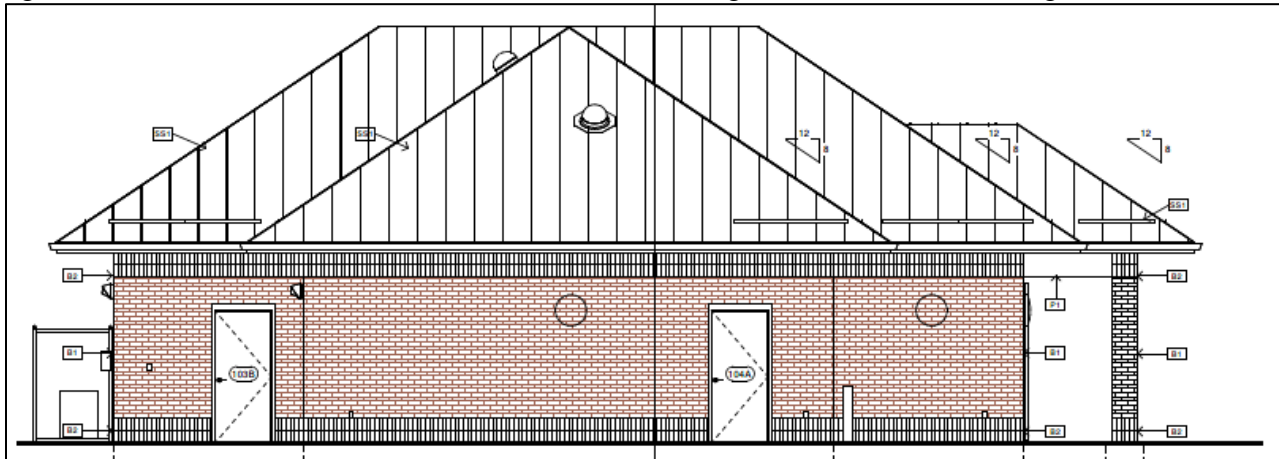
**East Façade**

The east façade (facing toward Front St) consists of a solid brick façade with two exterior lights. A chain link fence and gate surround the proposed outside air conditioning unit.



**North Façade**

The north façade consists of a solid brick wall with two exterior service doors and two exterior lights. One door is for the mechanical area of the building and one is for the storage area.



**SEE ATTACHED PLANS FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**ANALYSIS:**

The proposed new restroom building is located in an area of Riverside Park that is also recognized as Spence Park which is considered the location of where Nathan Myrick established his log cabin and trading post. The proposed new building is larger in size but is built with materials that are complimentary to the park and provides a much more visually appealing aesthetic near the park's

main entrance. The building's location is not considered by staff to negatively impact the landscape of the park.

**FINDING**

The proposed new building is appropriate for the proposed location within Riverside Park as there has been a restroom facility there for some time.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY STAFF:**

This Certificate of Appropriateness is recommended for approval.