

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION REPORT
Certificate of Recommendation
Section 20-92

TO: Heritage Preservation Commission
FROM: Planning Staff
MEETING DATE: December 17, 2020

PROPOSAL: The applicant is proposing to replace the windows and restore entrances on the exterior of the building located at 410 E Veterans Drive.

PROPERTY OWNER:

City of La Crosse
Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

APPLICANT:

Marcus Zettler
Zettler Design Studio, LLC

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. The Heritage Preservation Commission’s decision is a recommendation/advisory only.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to replace the windows and restore two entryways on the former US Fish Control Lab Building, which is both locally designated and listed on the National Register.

The intent is to restore the building back to its original look as depicted in the photo to the right.

This includes:

South Facade

All five glass block windows in the upper façade will be replaced with windows similar in style to

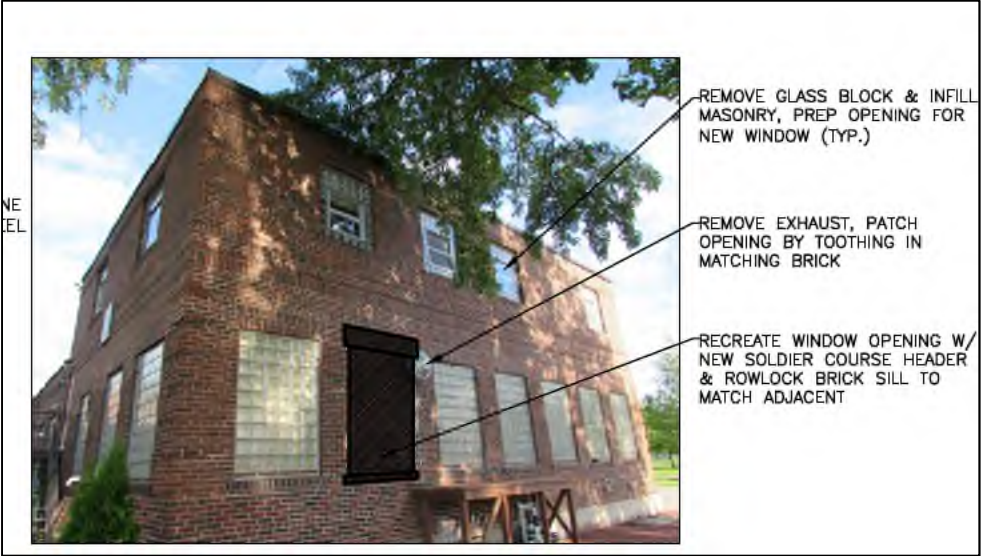


the original windows. It will also include replacing the windows in the upper façade of the two additions. Eight windows will be replaced in the lower façade. Additionally, the original entryways on the west and east wings of the south façade will be recreated. Lastly, the existing main entrance door will be removed and the main entrance will be recreated to its original look complete with double doors and the transom window.



West Façade

The existing four windows in the upper portion of the façade will be replaced. The existing six windows on the lower portion of the façade will be replaced. Additionally, a window opening will be recreated in its original location and a new window will be installed. All windows will be similar in style to the original window style.



East Façade

The three existing windows in the upper portion of the façade will be replaced. The four windows on the lower portion of the façade will also be replaced. All windows will be similar in style to the original window style. Additionally, the door will be replaced and a new concrete ramp and railings will be installed.



North Façade

The five existing windows in the upper portion of the façade will be replaced.

The two windows in the lower portion of the west wing will be replaced.

One window in the lower portion of the middle section of the building will be replaced. As pictured to the right you can see an example of the existing glass block window and the style of window that will be used in all of the window openings on the building.



As picture to the right, two of the three existing windows in the lower portion of the west wing will be replaced. The remaining window will be removed and a new door opening will be installed in its place. The existing door an metal stairway will be removed and the opening will be infilled with brick.



Minor tuckpointing will also occur where needed.

SEE ATTACHED PLANS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ANALYSIS:

There are no standards in the City's code to review projects by so staff attempts to apply best practices that should be used when restoring historic buildings, including reference to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

The applicant is proposing to replace the windows with a window style similar to its original appearance. The entryways on the west and east wings will also be recreated to match the buildings original design. The upper floor metal façade is being removed as well. While the proposed changes on the west wing of the north façade require the removal of a window for a door, and the removal of a door and infilled with brick, these alterations allow for the interior of the building to serve multiple functions and increase its viability. The proposed changes will also enhance the aesthetic of the building to compliment the adjacent International Gardens.

FINDING

The proposed changes and alterations are appropriate to the building and in maintaining and preserving its historic fabric.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY STAFF:

This Certificate of Recommendation is recommended for approval.