# STAFF REPORT <br> CONCERNING APPLICATION FOR A <br> CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS 

Date: 13 June 2018

Application Number: 2018-0613<br>Property Location: 504 East LaSalle Avenue<br>Architectural Style/Date/Architect or Builder: Italianate/Neoclassical/1900/1924/J.C. Lauber Company Property Owner: Greater Lowell Holdings, LLC<br>Landmark or District Designation: Local Landmark, Ordinance \#7591-1986; National Register East Bank Multiple Property Listing<br>Rating: Contributing

DESCRIPTION OF STRUCTURE/SITE: The J.C. Lauber Company building is described in the National Register listing as a unique example of the Commercial-Functional style of architecture that combines utility with ornament. The structure is comprised of several additions with the primary LaSalle Street facing constructed as a one-story, rectangular-plan, commercial building with a foundation of concrete and rubble, walls are brick and block. A metal cornice stretches seventy feet across the façade. Roof is flat. LaSalle Street façade features modillions on ends of dentilled cornice with scroll end brackets. The front elevation has a strong horizontal emphasis. Windows are divided into nine bays and are wood framed, fixed plate glass with solid transoms above. Front entrance is a wood double door with glass. The 1924 addition, directly behind the 1900 building, is a onestory, rectangular-plan, constructed of concrete block, with a flat roof. Windows are metal with multi-panels. The rear of the building is organized by multiple additions and incorporate various garage doors. Signage exists on all sides, both attached to and painted directly on the structure, reflecting different eras of the former J.C. Lauber business.

ALTERATIONS: COA 2005-1031 approved demolition of portion of building constructed in 1882 at northwest corner of LaSalle and Niles. COA 2006-0413 approved reinstallation of J.C. Lauber Sheet Metal sign, formerly on west side of 1882 portion of building. COA 2016-1128 to demolish $5,000 \mathrm{sq}$. ft. building was not executed. Retroactive approval of 180 l.f. of commercial grade ornamental aluminum fence enclosing northwest corner.

APPLICATION ITEMS: See attached plans by John Werntz dated June 6, 2018. An application was made and conditionally approved at the April $16^{\text {th }}$ meeting of the HPC. The only exterior changes made since that date are the West elevation whereby the plans now call for the installation of overhead doors in lieu of a double glass door and Three (3) windows as previously submitted.

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT:

## 1. West (Nile) façade

Install new openings on west wall. One single door full glass panel aluminum with bronze finish was previously approved. Install three new overhead doors with full glass panel aluminum with bronze finish to match all others. This was originally an interior wall. The Structural Engineer recommends installing openings in between interior structural columns to maintain the integrity of the elevation to protect the wall from "twisting under the weight".

## SITE VISIT REPORT: n/a

## STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES, GROUP B:

A. Maintenance

The maintenance of any historical structure or site shall in no way involve any direct physical change except for the general cleaning and upkeep of the landmark. The Commission shall encourage the proper maintenance of all structure or sites.
B. Treatment

Treatment shall be defined as any change of surface materials that will not alter the style or original form. Such improvements include re-roofing, glazing, or landscaping lawns and may involve a change that can potentially enhance or detract from the character of the landmark. A treatment change of any surface whether on the landmark
or in its environment may require a Certificate of Appropriateness if it significantly alters the appearance of the landmark. Although these kinds of changes may not require a Building Permit, a Certificate of Appropriateness may be necessary. The commission should review the proposed treatment for character and style consistency with the original surfaces.

## C. Renovation and Additions

Renovation is the modification of a structure, which does not alter the general massing while an addition, is a change in mass. A modification, which involves the removal of a part of the landmark, should be considered under demolition (see demolition). Additions to landmarks should not detract from the original form and unity of the landmark and should not cover singular examples of architectural detail. Additions to landmarks should be added in a manner that does not disrupt the visible unity of overall appearance of the site. The proportions, materials and ratios of the existing structures should be carried through in the additions. Care should be taken not to change or alter the following:

1. Structure-Necessary structural improvements, where safety demands should be accomplished in such a way as to cause minimal visual change to the original style and construction.
2. Material-Additions and improvements involving any new material in the landmark should be of the same material as the original. It should be the same size and texture. An alternative material may be allowed if it duplicates the original.
a. wood-all wood trim should conform with existing trim in shape and size.
b. siding materials-the Commission discourages the covering or alteration of original materials with additional siding. Structures already sided with incompatible materials should be returned to a siding similar to the original when renovation is considered.
D. Demolition

Historic landmarks shall not be demolished. When a landmark poses a threat to the public safety, and demolition is the only alternative, documentation by way of photographs, measured drawings, or other descriptive methods should be made of both the exterior and interior of the landmark. The person or agency responsible for demolition of the landmark shall be responsible for this documentation.
E. Moving

The moving of landmarks is discouraged, however, moving is preferred to demolition. When moving is necessary, the owner of the landmark must apply to the Commission for a Certificate of Appropriateness.
F. Signs

No neon or flashing signs will be permitted unless they are original to the structure. Billboards and super-graphics will also be disallowed. Only one appropriate identifying sign will be permitted per business.
G. Building Site and Landscaping

## 1. Required

Major landscaping items, trees, fencing, walkways, private yard lights, signs (house numbers) and benches which reflect the property's history and development shall be retained. Dominant land contours shall be retained. Structures such as: gazebos, patio decks, fixed barbecue pits, swimming pools, tennis courts, green houses, new walls, fountains, fixed garden furniture, trellises, and other similar structures shall be compatible to the historic character of the site and neighborhood and inconspicuous when viewed from a public way.
2. Recommended

New site work should be based upon actual knowledge of the past appearance of the property found in photographs, drawings, and newspapers. Plant materials and trees in close proximity to the building that are causing deterioration to the buildings historic fabric should be removed. However, trees and plant materials that must be removed should be immediately replaced by suitable flora. Front yard areas should not be fenced except in cases where historic documentation would indicate such fencing appropriate. Fencing should be in character with the buildings style, materials, and scale.
3. Prohibited

No changes may be made to the appearance of the site by removing major landscaping items, trees, fencing, walkways, outbuildings, and other elements before evaluating their importance to the property's history and development. Front yard areas shall not be transformed into parking lots nor paved nor blacktopped. The installation of unsightly devices such as TV reception dishes and solar collectors shall not be permitted in areas where they can be viewed from public thoroughfares.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval as the design of doors are the same as doors approved on South elevation and maintain the industrial style.

Written by
Elicia Feasel
Historic Preservation Administrator

NORTH (LASALLE) FAÇADE


WEST (NILES) FACADE - AREA OF PROPOSED WORK



SOUTH (REAR) FACADE


Timothy S. Klusczinski, President

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

OF SOUTH BEND AND ST. JOSEPH COUNTY
County-City Building, South Bend, IN 46601
http://www.southbendin.gov/government/department/community-investment
Phone: 574/235.9371 Fax: 574/235.9021
Email: hpcsbsjc@southbendin.gov
A Certified Local Government of the National Park Service Elicia Feasel, Historic Preservation Administrator

## APPLICATION FOR A - CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

OFFICE USE ONL Y>>>>>>DO NOT COMPLETE ANY ENTRIES CONTAINED IN THIS BOX<<<<<<OFFICE USE ONLY
Date Received: $\qquad$ - Application Number: $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ Past Reviews:

YES (Date of Last Review) $\qquad$ $\square$ NO

Staff Approval authorized by: $\qquad$ Title: $\qquad$
Historic Preservation Commission Review Date:
Local Landmark
$\square$ Local Historic District (Name)
National Register District (Name)
Certificate Of Appropriateness:
Approved and issued:
504 East LaSalle Avenue, South Bend, IN 46617
(Street Number-Street Name-City-Zip)

Address of Property for proposed work:
Name of Property Owner(s): Greater Lowell Holdings LLC
Address of Property Owner(s): 3617 McKiley Avenue, South Bend, IN 46615
(Street Number—Street Name—City—Zip) Phone \#: 574.532.5646

Name of Contractor(s): $\qquad$
sk
Phone \#: 574.532.1525
Contractor Company Name: Premier 1 Construction
Address of Contractor Company:
105 East jefferson Blvd, Suite 216, South bend, IN 46601
(Street Number-Street Name—City—Zip)

Current Use of Building: Vacant industrial
(Single Family-Multi-Family-Commercial-Government-Industrial_Vacant_etc.)
Type of Building Construction:
$\frac{\text { Masonry \& steel with some wood on roof and facade }}{\text { (Wood Frame-Brick-Stone-Steel-Concrete-Other) }}$
Proposed Work: (more than one $\quad \square$ Landscape $\quad \square$ New $\quad \square$ Replacement (not in-kind) $\quad \square$ Demolition
box may be checked) box may be checked)

See attached plans by John Werntz dated June 6, 2018
Description of Proposed Work:
 installation of overhead doors in lieu of a double glass door and Three (3) windows as previously submitted.
Owner e-mail: fperri@earthdesignsred.com and/or Contractor e-mail: alusk@premier1construction.com
Xand/or XSignature of Contractor




NO

$\mathrm{NO} \stackrel{1.011=.8 /: 377 \supset 5}{ }$









|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LANDSCAPE } \\ & \text { PLAN } \end{aligned}$ | PROPOSED RENOVATION OF： J．C．LAUBER BUILDING | DATE <br> 5－20－2018 | ISSUE | John W．Werntz ARCHITECT <br> 52075 Farmington Square Road Granger，Indiana 46530 johnwerntz＠comcast．net CELL（574）340－7849 |  |
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