

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-**

RE: CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS  
OF THE ACT OF PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE 1961, JUNE 13, P.  
L. 282 (53 SECTION 8004) AND BETHLEHEM ORDINANCE NO. 3952  
AS AMENDED.

The applicant/owner of the property located at 427 North New Street proposes to replace failing and inappropriate garden walls at the northeast corner of the property with brick walls and iron details that match the existing garden wall at the north and west perimeters of the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bethlehem that a Certificate of Appropriateness is hereby granted for the proposal.

Sponsored by: /s/ \_\_\_\_\_

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council

ATTEST:

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

## **HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

APPLICATION #5: The applicant/owner of the property located at 427 North New Street proposes to replace failing and inappropriate garden walls at the northeast corner of the property with brick walls and iron details that match the existing garden wall at the north and west perimeters of the property.

OWNER: Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites  
74 West Broad Street, Suite 310  
Bethlehem, PA 18018

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The Board upon motion by Connie Postupack and seconded by Michael Simonson adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of failing and inappropriate garden walls at the northeast corner of the property with brick walls and iron details that match the existing garden wall at the north and west perimeters of the property, with the following conditions:

1. The Applicant must submit for and secure a Building Permit from the City of Bethlehem.
2. The brick style shall be Franklin brick as manufactured by Watsonstown Brick and as shown in the brick sample presented at this meeting.
3. The Portland Cement based mortar style shall be C320-B as shown in the sample presented at this meeting.
4. The existing ornamental iron and gate details will be repaired as required, reinstalled, and painted black to match the existing.
5. The existing steps from North New Street will be repaired in-kind.

The vote was unanimous to approve the replacement of failing and inappropriate garden walls at the northeast corner of the property with brick walls and iron details that match the existing garden wall at the north and west perimeters of the property, as per the motion.

### **Guideline Citation:**

#### **Secretary of Interior Standards No.(s)**

#2 The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

#5 Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

#6 Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.

#9 New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated

from the old and will be compatible with historic material, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the historic property and its environment.

#10 New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Bethlehem Historic District Design Guidelines

Page 13: Site Elements, Fences, Walls, Gates:

Fences: Wood and cast or wrought iron are traditional materials for fences in the City of Bethlehem. Traditional fencing types allowed visual access to and from the historic structures located on a property from the roadway. To retain visibilities of historic properties, fences in front yards should be limited to 36” in height, and should use picket-style that is at least 50% open.

Walls: Landscape walls are typically constructed of local stone or brick. The construction of walls that visually block primary building facades from the public right of way, particularly at historically important buildings, is discouraged. It is recommended that walls in front yards be limited to 36 inches in height.

Gates: When installed with a wall, they are generally flanked by piers or gate posts that can be either wood or metal.

The HARB discourages,

Blocking views to principal elevations of historic buildings and settings with tall, solid fences; solid walls; or dense plantings and foliage.

**Evaluation, Effect on Historic District, Recommendations:** The proposed work conforms with the intent of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and the Bethlehem Historic District Design Guidelines and will have no negative impact to the historic district.



Date of Meeting: May 3, 2023

By: **H. Joseph Phillips**  
Title: **Historic Officer**