



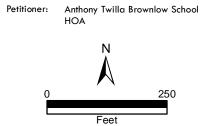
#### 7-E-22-HZ **APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS**



140 E. Glenwood Ave. 37917

Brownlow Individual H Landmark

Original Print Date: 7/6/2022 Knoxville/Knox County Planning -- Historic Zoning Commission





# **Staff Report**

### **Knoxville Historic Zoning Commission**

File Number: 7-E-22-HZ

Meeting: 7/21/2022

Applicant: Anthony Twilla Brownlow School HOA

Owner: Anthony Twilla Brownlow School HOA

### **Property Information**

Location: 140 E. Glenwood Ave. Parcel ID 81 L L 004

**District:** Brownlow Individual H Landmark

**Zoning:** RN-5 (General Residential Neighborhood)

Description: Neoclassical; c.1913 and 1926

Two-story, brick masonry school building with a flat roof and parapet walls. The building features limestone quoins, a brick water table, dentiled molding, limestone sills, and decorative keystones; along with double-hung wood windows and three exterior brick chimneys.

#### **Description of Work**

Level II Major Repair or Replacement

Partial removal of chimney stack. Due to cracks in the mortar and bricks and overall masonry deterioration, the applicant proposes partial removal of the chimney stack. Upper section of round brick chimney proposed to be removed to concrete band at upper-midpoint of chimney. Remainder of round brick chimney to be repointed and repaired.

### **Applicable Design Guidelines**

Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

Secretary of the Interiors Standards for Rehabilitation

- 2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- 3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.
- 4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
- 5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
- 6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.
- 7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

Masonry (Fourth and Gill Design Guidelines)

1. Never sandblast brick or stone surfaces using dry or wet grit or other abrasives including walnut casings,

Page 1 of 2 Planner in Charge: 7-E-22-HZ 7/6/2022 2:02:27 PM

seashells, or glass pellets. These methods of cleaning permanently destroy the surface of the material, may harm the mortar, and speed up deterioration.

- 2. Identify and preserve masonry features that define the historic character of the building, including walls, railings, columns and piers, cornices and door and window pediments.
- 3. Replace an entire masonry feature that is too deteriorated to repair. Use the remaining physical evidence to guide the new work, and match the new to old. Examples can include large sections of a wall, a cornice, a balustrade, column, or stairway.
- 5. Match new mortar with the original mortar in color, composition, profile, and depth. If necessary, analyze the original mortar to determine the proportions of lime, sand, and cement. Do not use a 'scrub' technique to repoint. Change the width or joint only if the change will return the joint to its original appearance. Do not remove sound mortar.
- 6. Never repoint with high Portland cement content unless that is the content of the original mortar.
- 7. Historic masonry should not be coated with paint, stucco, vapor permeable water-repellant coatings or other non-historic coatings.
- 9. Chimneys should not be removed or altered if they are original and should match the original design if they must be replaced or have been removed.

#### **Comments**

N/A

### **Staff Findings**

- 1. The Brownlow Elementary School is protected by an individual H landmark overlay, and also frequently assessed as an extension of the Fourth and Gill Historic District.
- 2. The chimney proposed to be reduced in height is a character-defining feature of the building, with a distinctive height, rounded design, and original materials. The chimney is prominently visible from E. Glenwood Avenue and Luttrell Street.
- 3. SOI Standards note that "distinctive features ... and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved." Also, "deteriorated historic features [should] be repaired rather than replaced," and when replacement is necessary, the "new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and where possible, materials."
- 4. The applicant has submitted photos of extensive cracking and missing mortar on the chimney; extensive repair and reconstruction of the chimney stack is appropriate within the guidelines. The reconstructed chimney should reflect the existing chimney's design (including height), detailing, and material elements; original bricks should be reused when possible and compatible new bricks and mortar should be used where repair isn't possible. All masonry repairs should be completed according to NPS Preservation Brief #2.

#### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of the proposed masonry repairs to the chimney, with the condition that the repaired/reconstructed chimney retain the original size, design, and detailing, and all masonry repairs meet the standards of NPS Preservation Brief #2.

Page 2 of 2 Planner in Charge: 7-E-22-HZ 7/6/2022 2:02:28 PM



### DESIGN REVIEW REQUEST

- ☐ DOWNTOWN DESIGN (DK)
- HISTORIC ZONING (H)

KNOXVILLE   KNOX COUNTY	INFILL HOUSING (IH)			
Brownlow School Condominiums				
Applicant				
7/1/2022	July 21, 2022 7-E-2		Z	
Date Filed	Meeting Date (if applicable) File Number		er(s)	
CORRESPONDENCE				
All correspondence related to this application	on should be directed to the approved cor	ntact listed below.		
■ Owner □ Contractor □ Engineer	☐ Architect/Landscape Architect			
Anthony Twilla	Brownlow School COA			
Name	Company			
140 E Glenwood Ave Unit 303	Knoxville	TN	37917	
Address	City	State	Zip	
865-406-9669	brownlowhoa@gmail.com			
Phone	Email			
Owner Name (if different from applicant)	Owner Address	0	Wner Phone	
140 E Glenwood Ave	081LL004			
Property Address	Parcel ID			
4th and Gill	RN5/H			
Neighborhood	Zoning			
AUTHORIZATION				
Lindsay Crockett	Lindsay Crockett		7.1.22	
Staff Signature	Please Print		Date	
1	Anthony Twilla	7	/1/2022	
Applicant Signature	Please Print		eate	

## **REQUEST**

DOWNTOWN DESIGN	Level 1:  Signs Alteration of an existing building/structure  Level 2: Addition to an existing building/structure  Level 3: Construction of new building/structure  Site design, parking, plazas, lands are required Downtown Design attachment for more details.  Brief description of work:				
HISTORIC ZONING	Level 1:    Signs   Routine repair of siding, windows, roof, or other features, in-kind; Installation of gutters, storm windows/doors   Level 2:   Major repair, removal, or replacement of architectural elements or materials   Additions and accessory structures   Level 3:   Construction of a new primary building   Level 4:   Relocation of a contributing structure   Demolition of a contributing structure   See required Historic Zoning attachment for more details.   Brief description of work: Partial removal of severely damaged brick chimney. Detailed description and pics				
INFILL HOUSING					
STAFF USE ONLY	ATTACHMENTS  Downtown Design Checklist  Historic Zoning Design Checklist  Infill Housing Design Checklist  ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS  Property Owners / Option Holders  Level 1: \$50 • Level 2: \$100 • Level 3: \$250 • Level 4: \$500	FEE 1: 100.00 FEE 2: FEE 3:	<b>TOTAL:</b> 100.00		

Below is a more detailed description of the repairs recommended by a structural engineer. Several pics taken by the structural engineer are also included.

**Description of work:** The building's original chimney stack has vertical cracks in several areas around its perimeter, and the area around the roofline has multiple rotted, broken, or missing bricks. To prevent further deterioration and the potential of it falling and causing significant property damage to the living spaces directly beneath it and/or injuring residents in these spaces, our structural engineer recommends full or partial removal of the stack. After further consultation with highly reputable masons, we believe we can safely and adequately resolve the issues with partial, not full, removal of the stack. The masons would remove the upper portion of the stack as indicated in the attached pic(s), and make necessary repairs to the remaining section of the stack.

Below are reasons why partial removal is preferred/recommended rather than trying to repair the entire stack.

- 1. Total repair would be substantially more expensive, and the COA currently has limited funds after completing almost \$200k of other repairs/maintenance in the last year. The increased cost of total repair would likely force us to delay having the work done despite the potential hazards of not remedying the situation as quickly as possible.
- 2. The location of the stack and nearby power lines are such that it's impossible to position the appropriately sized lift equipment for masons to efficiently perform the work. Completing repairs to save the entire stack would take substantially longer and increase risk levels for the masons and the residences below.

Kind Regards,

Anthony Twilla Brownlow School COA, President

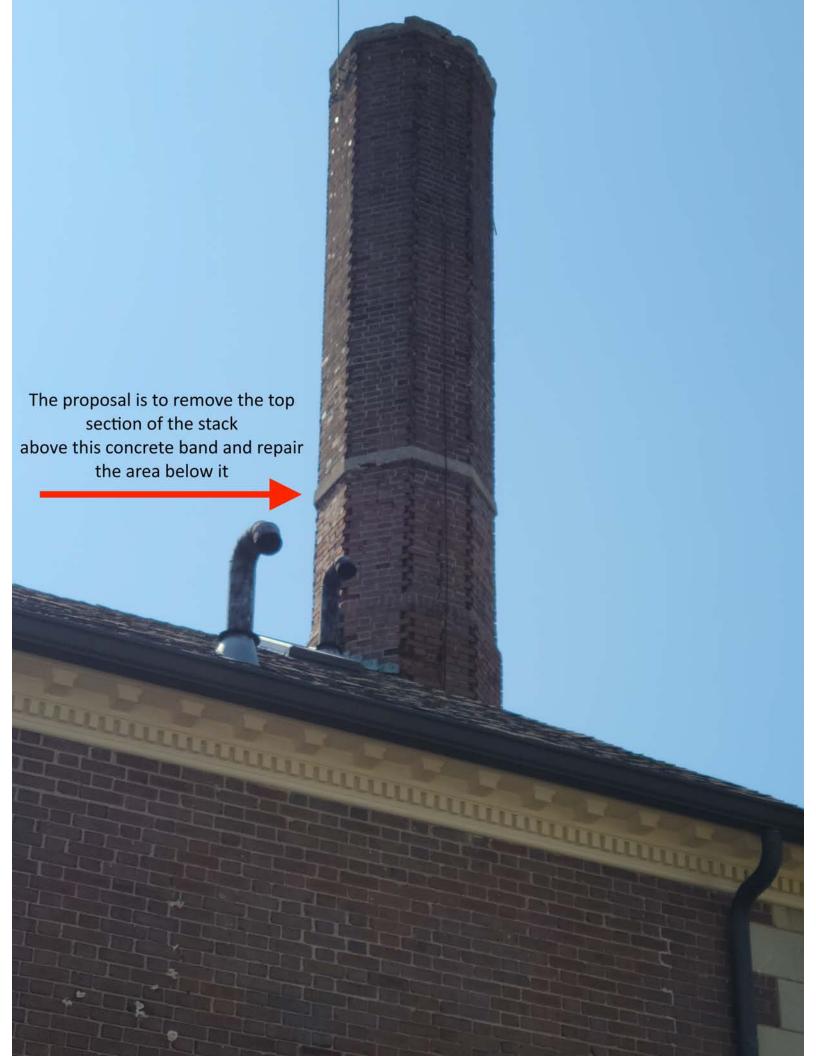










Photo # 320

Photo # 321



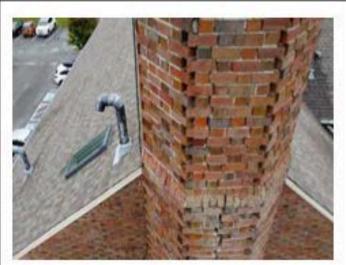




Photo # 322

Photo # 323

Photo # 324

