

Date: June 06, 2025

Case No. 250094  
Address: 9 Wabash Ave.

### **Staff Report**

The applicant has submitted an application for Project Approval for work at 9 Wabash Ave., a Contributing structure located in the Cleveland Planning Unit in the City of Deadwood.

Applicant: Rich Letourneau  
Owner: LETOURNEAU, RICHARD SELLER, MONICA L  
Constructed: 1897-1898

### **CRITERIA FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A PROJECT APPROVAL**

The Historic Preservation Commission shall use the following criteria in granting or denying the Project Approval:

#### **General Factors:**

##### **1. Historic significance of the resource:**

This building is a contributing resource in the Deadwood National Historic Landmark District. It is significant for its historic association with the founding and initial period of growth of the town of Deadwood. Spurred by the tremendous mining boom of 1876, Deadwood grew quickly and became the first major urban center of western South Dakota. Deadwood's economic prominence during the late 1800s and early 1900s was reflected by the construction of a number of large residences such as this one. These houses displayed a variety of architectural styles: Queen Anne, Second Empire, Colonial, and even Gothic variants are found locally. Together, these houses are among the strongest reminders of Deadwood's nineteenth-century boom.

##### **2. Architectural design of the resource and proposed alterations:**

The applicant is requesting permission to replace the front and back doors. The applicant is also wanting to replace the concrete pad on the back side of the house with wood or concrete again and construct a walkway from the back door to the driveway, that is wheelchair accessible.

**Attachments: Yes**

**Plans: No**

**Photos: Yes**

**Staff Opinion:** Based on the photos submitted with the application, it appears the front door is metal and the back door is wood and could be an original door. According to the survey the original doors were paneled wood, 1/3 light. Staff is recommending replacement of the doors, but would prefer wood over metal and keep the design similar to the original door. The proposed work and changes do not encroach upon, damage, or destroy a historic resource or have an adverse effect on the character of the building or the historic character of the State and National Register Historic Districts or the Deadwood National Historic Landmark District.



**Motions available for commission action:**

**A: If you, as a commissioner, have determined the Project DOES NOT Encroach Upon, Damage or Destroy a historic property then:**

Based upon all the evidence presented, I find that this project **DOES NOT** encroach upon damage, or destroy any historic property included in the national register of historic places or the state register of historic places and therefore move to grant a project approval.

**If you, as a commissioner, have determined the Project will Encroach Upon, Damage or Destroy a historic property then:**

**B: First Motion:**

Based upon all the evidence presented, I move to make a finding that this project **DOES** encroach upon, damage, or destroy any historic property included in the national register of historic places or the state register of historic places. [If this, move on to 2nd Motion and choose an option.]

**C: Second Motion:**

Option 1: Based upon the guidance in the U.S. Department of the Interior standards for historic preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation projects adopted by rules promulgated pursuant to SDCL 1-19A & 1-19B, et seq, I find that the project is **NOT ADVERSE** to Deadwood and move to **APPROVE** the project as presented.

OR

Option 2: Based upon the guidance in the U.S. Department of the Interior standards for historic preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation projects adopted by rules promulgated pursuant to SDCL 1-19A & 1-19B, et seq, I find that the project is **ADVERSE** to Deadwood and move to **DENY** the project as presented.

OR

Option 3: Based upon the guidance in the U.S. Department of the Interior standards for historic preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation projects adopted by rules promulgated pursuant to SDCL 1-19A & 1-19B, *et seq*, I find that the project is **ADVERSE** to Deadwood, but the applicant has explored **ALL REASONABLE AND PRUDENT ALTERNATIVES**, and so I move to **APPROVE** the project as presented.