

Brandon & Leila White
921 N Main Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792

October 10th, 2022

Dear Hendersonville Historical Preservation Commission,

We are writing this letter for your consideration and review for the possible front door installation for our home located in Hyman Heights at 921 N. Main Street. As new residents of Hendersonville, we have settled in the downtown area with appreciation for the character of these older homes. When we purchased 921 N Main, we were aware of many issues with the home and were willing to take on the challenge.

Our purpose with this home is to maintain its character, however sometimes with the age of each home this can become a challenging and an expensive task. Also unaware of certain restrictions with the historical commission, we did purchase a front door that resembles the original one. We could not find the exact door in today's market, however we asked our carpenter to reproduce the four vertical muntins to keep with the style of the original door. The price difference of a custom made front door compared to a manufactured one is close to 6 times higher, and the outcome of a custom door would still leave us with a leveling issue as it would not be framed properly based on professional advice. The new engineered door was a special order to match the same length and width of our front opening, which was in order since March 2022.

In addition to the door project, we have worked on major updates at 921 to bring it back to perfect standing conditions including a major foundation repair in the house frontage which was crumbling. With this face lift, our original front door suffered even more changes as it has been molded to the dip of the foundation issue over the years, now we are having a hard time opening and closing and have major cracks. Constant cold air keeps flowing into the house and numerous bugs crawl inside due to the large cracks. The locks also do not line up correctly due to the foundation repair, so we must bang the door shut in order to lock it properly. With children, this is a challenge and once the door stayed wide open upon departure, as we thought it had been shut.

Our last improvement still needed for the foundation entails lifting the front porch area as previous owners filled it with sand which created erosion to the front porch. We must fill it properly so it will not cave in and it will also affect again the level of the original door. Upstate Structural Repair recommends not to do this improvement until after we replace and level the front door entryway.

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In conclusion, our intention is to replace the original door with a modern build strong aluminum door that can withstand the elements, same trim or mimic the exact design trim from the original in place. Finish the foundation work for the front porch and fill in cracked gaps in the concrete, which was caused by the foundation repair completed. Add some beautiful landscaping to the front to add curb appeal. And finally be able to install a safe and secure lock that works properly, as safety is our number one priority.

We hope you take this into consideration and please feel free to call if you would like to chat. Leila 954-257-9205. We have also attached photos of this for the condition of our original door, estimates for a custom built door, email communications from different companies we have contacted for service, as well as a photo of the current purchased door to be installed.

Best,

The White Family
Leila White

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