GENERAL INFORMATION: The Board of Architectural Review (BAR) was established in 1931 with the creation of the first preservation ordinance in the United States. As stated in the City of Charleston Zoning Ordinance, the purpose of the Board is “the preservation and protection of the old, historic or architecturally worthy structures and quaint neighborhoods which impart a distinct aspect to the city and which serve as visible reminders of the historical and cultural heritage of the city, the state, and the nation.” The BAR reviews all exterior work visible from any public right-of-way, including new construction, alterations and renovations. Some projects are required to go before the full board, while others may be handled at staff level. Determination of the appropriate level of review will be made by Urban Design & Preservation Division staff.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SIMPLE REPAIRS, REPAINTING AND REPLACEMENTS IN-KIND:

- Completed application form and fee (per fee schedule)
- Photographs of all sides of the structure visible from the public right-of-way and close-up views of areas to be repaired.
  - Photos should be of enough clarity and detail to show rot and deterioration, if applicable.
  - For historic windows, photos should document each window being repaired or replaced (one photo showing “typical” conditions is not acceptable for replacement of multiple units).
  - Please print out and bring in photos that we can keep as documentation for our files. Google Images and older photos in our files do not always accurately represent the current conditions of the structure. Photos may be printed on copier paper, with no more than two per page.
- Cut sheets may be required in some instances (light fixtures, replacement windows and shutters, etc.)

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PAINT COLOR CHANGE:

- Completed “paint color schedule” form and fee ($30)
- Photographs (see above)
- Proposed Paint Samples (affixed to color schedule). An on-site color sample of 3’x3’ may be required at staff’s discretion.