



The City of Seattle

Pioneer Square Preservation Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649

Street Address: 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor

PSB234/26

Staff Report

Board meeting Sept 2, 2026

Board Members Please Note: The citations from the District Ordinance, Rules for the Pioneer Square Preservation District, and Secretary of the Interior's Standards listed below are for your consideration in addition to any other citations you find relevant in considering each application.

090226.31 Seattle Hardware Building
83 S King Street
Applicant: Julie Glenn

Proposed: Alterations to convert a window to a door on the 8th floor to allow access to an existing roof top deck

Staff report: The rooftop garden is on an addition to the Seattle Hardware annex building. The hyphen addition connects the historic Seattle Hardware building to the new construction at 505 1st Ave. The buildings are under the same ownership.

It is preferred that when a new door is needed that it be added to a secondary side and that an existing opening such as a window be converted to the door to keep the rhythm of the penetration pattern. It is usually that the window is extended down from the sill. In this case because of the existing roof the adjusted opening is proposed extending up. The width of the opening is unchanged. The Board may also consider that the alteration is proposed for the 8th floor. While it may be visible from some locations the location as demonstrated is not visible from street level in the application's existing photos and the Board could consider that limited visibility as it considers the overall impact to the building as well as that there are other windows that remain.

The ARC reviewed the project on Aug 26 and requested an image of what the doorway would look like when installed and representation of the materials. This has been provided.

Draft Motion: I move to recommend granting a Certificate of Approval for - Alterations to convert a window to a door on the 8th floor to allow access to an existing roof top deck

All per the applicant's submittal.

The Board directs staff to prepare a written recommendation of approval based on considering the application submittal and Board discussion at the Sept 2, 2026 public meeting and forward this written recommendation to the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

Code Citations:

Seattle Municipal Code

23.66.030 Certificates of Approval required

Certificate of approval required. No person shall alter, demolish, construct, reconstruct, restore, remodel, make any visible change to the exterior appearance of any structure, or to the public rights-of-way or other public spaces in a special review district, and no one shall remove or substantially alter any existing sign or erect or place any new sign or change the principal use of any building, or any portion of a building, structure or lot in a special review district, and no permit for such activity shall be issued unless a certificate of approval has been issued by the Department of Neighborhoods Director.

Pioneer Square Preservation District Rules

III. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR REHABILITATION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

In addition to the Pioneer Square Preservation District Ordinance and Rules, The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation with Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, and the complete series of Historic Buildings Preservation Briefs developed by the National Park Service shall serve as guidelines for proposed exterior alterations and treatments, rehabilitation projects, and new construction. (7/99)

Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. (7/99) In considering rehabilitation projects, what is critical is the stabilization of significant historical detailing, respect for the original architectural style, and compatibility of scale and materials.

Secretary of Interior 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.

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

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

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

Issued: August 26 2026

Genna Nashem

Pioneer Square Preservation Board Coordinator