



April 17th, 2024

**Historic Preservation Commission**  
City Clerk's Office  
841 N. Broadway, Room B-1  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: Project Name: The Rave Exterior Doors  
2401 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233  
Quorum Architect's Project Number: 22019.00

### **Description of Project:**

#### History & Architecture:

The Rave building (historically named The Eagles Club) is a monumental 4-story Mediterranean and Spanish Revival style building designed by local architect Russell Barr Williamson in 1924. The building sits at the southwest corner of 24<sup>th</sup> street and Wisconsin Avenue occupying nearly a quarter block. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989 for its' architectural significance as being considered one of the most unique buildings in Milwaukee.

The north façade displays many Mediterranean features such as twisted columns, decorative stone friezes, and an open arcade at the top with tiled roofing and pierced balustrades. The numerous decorative features create a stark contrast against the plain cut stone façade. The central entryway is framed by 2 large decorative urns and a central projecting pavilion. Just above there are 3 arched windows with ornamental stone that rise 2 for stories. The continuous frieze above decorates the cornice of the building depicting eagles and winged human-like figures.

The east façade has many decorative features that carry over from the north façade. Stone friezes with eagles sit atop banks of windows that are grouped in pairs and separated by pilaster-like vertical members. Various windows along this façade are blocked in.

The west façade is mainly utilitarian with buff colored brick in a common bond with 6 course headers. There is very little ornamentation and various bricked in windows. The existing loading dock runs along the length of the west façade down to Michigan Street.



### Proposed Scope:

We are proposing to replace 3 sets of exterior double doors at the North façade of the Rave Building. The existing doors are constructed of steel and are decorated with 3 large floral medallion ornaments on each door panel. The existing doors are in need of replacement not only to improve functionality, efficiency and security, but also to address the deterioration and degradation of the steel door panels. The attached photos show some of the deterioration, however they have been painted numerous times and do not fully show the amount of rust and deterioration that has occurred over time.

The owner is working with Inspired Artisans, a local artist studio who specializes in the design creation and restoration of custom artwork. The intent is to replicate the existing doors by fabricating new steel doors. The new doors will have styles and rails that match the existing dimensions. The inset decorative floral metal panels will be removed and salvaged. The salvaged panel will be inset into the door panels and captured by new molding that will frame the salvaged metal panel. The molding will have a similar profile to the existing. The existing hinges will be replaced by new ball bearing hinges with similar finials to the existing. The exterior push plates will be salvaged, cleaned, and reinstalled. New emergency egress hardware will be installed at the interior of the doors.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elaina Harding". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elaina Harding  
Architectural Designer  
**Quorum Architects, Inc.**

Attached:

- Existing photos and door replacement





**NORTH ELEVATION**



**EXISTING EXTERIOR DOOR**

## The Rave Exterior Door Replacement

2401 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Existing Exterior Door Photos





**NORTH ELEVATION**

**EXTERIOR DOORS  
TO BE REPLACED**



**EXISTING EXTERIOR DOOR**

## The Rave Exterior Door Replacement

2401 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Existing Exterior Door Photos





## The Rave Exterior Door Replacement

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Existing Exterior Door Photos





EXISTING FLORAL MEDALLION TO BE REMOVED, SALVAGED AND INSTALL INTO THE NEW PROPOSED DOOR

# The Rave Exterior Door Replacement

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