



Lisa Hobbs photo

The Dr Pepper sign on the side of 117 North Spring Street will be painted over and then added back to the building. Attorney Ryan J. Moore, the property owner, will be making preservation efforts to the building which include a sealant to prevent further water damage to the mortar.

Moore approved to restore building

By LISA HOBBS

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(McMinville, Tenn.)

Attorney Ryan J. Moore has purchased the building at 117 N. Spring Street, locally known for Dugan's Grocery and the Dr Pepper sign on the side of the building.

Current plans are to preserve the building and restore it to be more architectural in period, including the restoration of the sign.

Moore purchased the adjacent building at 115 N. Spring Street approximately three years ago and restored it to be used as his office. Plans are to restore 117 to match what was done to 115.

"Basically, we are removing the existing

wood storefront, which was a metal storefront architectural in period, and we are replacing the metal storefront," said Moore. "The window size will not be changed. The door opening size will not be changed. We are going to put a standing copper metal roof on it, just like the one at 115."

Notably missing from the building is one of the metal medallions along the top of the building that was placed when the structure was built. Moore says he plans on replacing it with a replica.

"Brad Bolding at Rimco is doing that," Moore said. "It's going to cost me about \$550, but Brad is going to replicate it for me."

The building is approxi-

mately 108 years old. Built in 1905, the structure is the end section of three built at the same time. The top of the building has an ornamental brick facade with recessed round metal medallions.

The three buildings were best known for Dugan's Grocery that was a mainstay of downtown for years. The original Dr Pepper sign located on the end of the building was popular and later repainted.

Moore says preservation efforts must be made to protect the building from water damage, however, the Dr Pepper sign will be repainted onto the side of the building once those measures are complete.

"The mortar in the

building is so old that it's turning to sand so we found a product that can waterproof it," he said. "Then, we will go over it with two coats of Benjamin Moore historic color latex paint. Then, Steve Davis will repaint the Dr Pepper sign. Doug Milner is paying for that. The Dr Pepper sign will be covered up, temporarily, because that whole wall needs to be waterproofed."

Moore asked fellow Historic Zoning Commission members on Monday for a certificate of appropriateness (COA) for his exterior restoration plans. The request was approved by Bobby Kirby, chairman, Ben Newman, Rachel Killebrew, and Tom Ward. Moore abstained.