

# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM  
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200  
202-504-2195 FAX

## MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

16 September 1999

**AM** 10:00 CONVENE, 441 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

### I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes:

15 July 1999

B. Dates of next meetings:

21 October 1999

18 November 1999

C. Proposed year 2000 meeting schedules for the Old Georgetown Board and the Commission.

D. Announcement of Notice of Public Meeting on September 29, 1999 for the Joint Task Force on Memorials' proposal for new memorial location policies.

E. Status Report: Taft Bridge Lions.

F. Frederick E. Hart, 1943-1999. CFA member 1985-1989.

### II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service

1. CFA 16/SEP/99-1, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial. U.S. Reservation 58, Massachusetts Avenue and 21st Street fronting the Embassy of India. Inscriptions, site design and base: revisions. Design Development. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-2.)



## II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 16 September 1999

### B. National Red Cross

CFA 16/SEP/99-2, American Red Cross Building. 2025 E Street, NW. Addition of new building. Final. (Previous: CFA 20/MAR/97-3 for design development and 15 October 1998 for Administrative discussion of proposed MOA.)

### C. Department of the Army

CFA 16/SEP/99-3, Fort McNair. New landscaping and perimeter security additions for the P Street, SW, entrance. Design.

### D. Federal Communications Commission

CFA 16/SEP/99-4, Federal Communications Commission, Portals II Building, 445 12th Street, SW. Roof-top multiple antennae installation. Design. POSTPONED

### E. General Services Administration

1. CFA 16/SEP/99-5, Federal Aviation Administration Building (FOB 10A). Independence Avenue and 7th Street, SW. Perimeter security alterations. Revised Concept. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-9).
2. CFA 16/SEP/99-6, Old Executive Office Building (OEOB). Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street, NW. Roof-top antenna. Design.
3. CFA 16/SEP/99-7, Health and Human Services Building. 200 Independence Avenue, SW. Cellular telecommunications antennae. Design.
4. CFA 16/SEP/99-8, Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Theodore Roosevelt Building. 1900 E Street, NW. Perimeter security alterations. Design.
5. CFA 16/SEP/99-9, Ariel Rios Building. 12th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Bird netting for Benjamin Franklin Circle facade and arcade. Design.



II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 16 September 1999

6. CFA 16/SEP/99-10, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Federal Triangle. Signs. Final. (Previous: CFA 18/FEB/99-5).
  7. CFA 16/SEP/99-11, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Federal Triangle. Perimeter security alterations. Design.
- F. District of Columbia Department of Public Works/D.C. Downtown Business Incentive District
- CFA 16/SEP/99-12, Downtown “wayfinding” sign program. Design development. Design Development. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-6 .)
- G. District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department
- CFA 16/SEP/99-13, Entrance alterations to Police Department Building at the Municipal Center, 300 Indiana Avenue, NW. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/1999-7 [SL 99-96].)
- H. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
1. Old Georgetown Act
    - a. O.G. 99-162, 3333 M Street, NW. East Banc, Inc. New commercial building. Concept design. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/1999)
    - b. Appendix I.
  2. Shipstead-Luce Act
    - a. SL 99-112, 2600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. New apartment building. Concept design.
    - b. SL 99-114, 1957 E Street, NW. George Washington University. New mixed-use building. Concept design. (Previous: SL 93-70.)
    - c. Appendix II.



### OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-146 HPA. 99-288	1630-1632 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Jai Kim - agent Cynthia P. Reed Ltd.	Alterations to storefronts and rear, and sign - revised design - conceptual

**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for alterations to storefronts of three adjoining structures (which have been sub-divided into one lot) as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 27 August 1999, red-lined to indicate deletion of pyramidal roof and railing on bay, and retention of existing sill and panels for shopwindows. File new submission of working drawings, including proposed alterations to rear, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready. File separate permit application for sign for review by the Commission when ready.

O.G. 99-154 HPA. 99-296	3251 Prospect Street, NW Prospect Place Neyla - The Mediterranean Grill	Alterations to outdoor café - revised design - conceptual
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**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for alterations and gate for outdoor café as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 2 September 1999, provided the sign band over gate is removed. File new submission of working drawings for review by the Commission when ready. File separate permit application for sign for review by the Commission when ready.

O.G. 99-179 HPA. 99-386	1219 29th Street, NW Richard and Shannon Fairbanks Residence	One story rear addition and new window openings - conceptual
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**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for one-story rear addition and for new window openings on side wall as proposed in supplemental drawings received and dated September 1999. File new submission of working drawings with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.





<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-195 HPA. 99-427	3263 O Street, NW Pauline Brocon Residence	New front steps and alterations - permit

**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations for entrance, and new front steps, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 16 September 1999 which indicate taller proportions for entry door.

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O.G. 99-196 HPA. 99-429	1311 29th Street, NW Javed and Enjum Hamid Residence	Addition of 2nd story greenhouse - conceptual
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**ACTION:** Returned without Action. Supplemental drawings received and dated 25 August 1999 indicate that proposed work is not visible from public space. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

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O.G. 99-198 HPA. 99-454	1819 35th Street, NW D.C. Public Schools Hardy Middle School	Athletic complex - permit
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**ACTION:** See attached letter to Mr. Terry Hernson, of the DC Public Schools, dated 4 August 1999.

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O.G. 99-199 HPA. 99-455	3025 Dumbarton Street, NW Samson and Hoachlander Residence	Alterations to rear two story porch - conceptual
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**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for proposed alterations, including enclosure of rear porch at first level, reconstruction of second level of rear porch, alterations to windows in areaway, and skylights on rear of turret, PROVIDED as much of existing rear wall as possible is retained. File new submission of working drawings, including details, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.



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4 August 1999

Dear Mr. Hernson:

The Commission received your submission for the alterations to the Hardy Middle School at 1819 35th Street, NW, in Georgetown. There is no objection to the issuance of permit for the alterations to the north parking lot for the introduction of athletic facilities, including a track around a soccer field, and basketball court, and for the new volleyball court in the rear courtyard of the school building. The proposed landscaping works well to screen the vinyl coated chain-link fence. These changes are an improvement over the existing conditions and will both benefit the students as well as enhance the character of the school complex.

The Commission will be pleased to review any proposals to improve the security fencing around the school complex in the future. As a reminder, any alterations to the buildings in the DC Public Schools system, from major construction and renovation projects, to replacement windows and signs, require the Commission's review. As such, we are happy to work with you as these projects are developed. As always, the staff is available to assist you.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton  
Secretary

Mr. Terry Hernson  
Chief of Project Management  
DC Public Schools  
Government of the District of Columbia  
1709 3rd Street, NE,  
Washington DC 20002



<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-200 HPA. 99-456	1409 31st Street, NW Mr. and Mrs. David Bruce Residence	Alterations - permit

**ACTION:** Returned without Action. Proposed work is not visible from public space. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

O.G. 99-201 HPA. 99-460	1261 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Doc Optics Corp See Optical	Sign - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed sign reading "SEE". Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 99-173).

O.G. 99-202 HPA. 99-461	3065 M Street, N.W. Sephora Americas Sephora	Sign and wall plaques - revised design - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed sign reading "Sephora" and for new wall plaques on either side of the entrance door. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 99-88).

O.G. 99-203 HPA. 99-463	3300 M Street, NW East Banc, Inc. Bee Market	Signs and awnings - conceptual
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**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for proposed awnings and signs reading "Bee Market" PROVIDED sign on southernmost grouping of awnings on 33rd Street is deleted. Bee sculpture was deleted from this submission. File new submission of working drawings with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.



<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-206 HPA. 99-466	3077 M Street, NW Smith & Hawken	Awnings, signs and metal arch - permit

**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed metal arch with lettering reading "Smith & Hawken". No objection to issuance of permit for either a sign scheme including the previously approved wall sign and awnings over the windows with no lettering on their valances, or a sign scheme including two awnings over windows with lettering reading "Smith & Hawken" on valances and the removal of wall sign.

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O.G. 99-207 HPA. 99-467	3059 M Street, NW The Levy Group Residential/commercial	Rear alterations, deck and fence - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to rear, including deck, stair and fences, and for continuation of open walkway, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 31 August 1999. Recommend rear yards be landscaped. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 99-23).

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O.G. 99-208 HPA. 99-468	3061 M Street, NW The Levy Group Residential/commercial	Rear alterations, deck and fence - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to rear, including deck, stair and fences, and for continuation of open walkway, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 31 August 1999. Recommend rear yards be landscaped. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 99-22).

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-209 HPA. 99-470	3347-49 M Street, NW Basil Mossaidis Philadelphia Cheesesteak Factory	Alterations to storefronts and signs - conceptual

ACTION: Returned without Action. Case superseded by case O.G. 99-222.

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O.G. 99-211 HPA. 99-472	2735 Olive Street, NW Phillips Row Ltd Part. Phillips School	Alterations for condominiums - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to Phillips School for 14 condominiums as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated September 1999, which indicate retention of historic windows and use of interior storm windows. No objection to issuance of permit for alterations related to landscape plan as proposed.

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O.G. 99-212 HPA. 99-473	1233 28th Street, NW Phillips Row Ltd Part. Phillips Row	Alterations to rear - revised design - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for revisions of rear addition to approved design for new townhouse as part of Phillips Row development.

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O.G. 99-213 HPA. 99-474	3251 Prospect Street, NW Franco Nuschese Georgetown Court Café Milano	Alterations, addition, signs and awnings - conceptual
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ACTION: No objection to concept design for alterations, additions, awnings and signs. File new submission of working drawings with permit application for review by the Commission when ready. File separate permit applications for signs for Café Milano and Georgetown Court for review by the Commission when ready. Request owner of complex file permit applications for signs and banners installed without permit review.

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-214 HPA. 99-475	2929 N Street, NW N Street Trust "Edes Home" Residence	Alterations to window openings - conceptual

**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for proposed alterations and new window openings, except for the alterations to the basement windows which would require window wells in the front of the house which would not be appropriate. Recommend retention of existing historic windows and the use of interior storm windows. File new submission of working drawings with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

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O.G. 99-215 HPA. 99-476	3600 M Street, NW Douglas Development Corp Georgetown University McDonough School of Business "The Car Barn"	Signs - permit
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**ACTION:** Recommend AGAINST issuance of permit for proposed signs reading "McDonough School of Business" and "Georgetown University" on the entablature of the historic Car Barn. Proposed signs are inappropriate since the building houses other uses, and the proposed dimension and location of signs are not historically accurate.

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O.G. 99-216 HPA. 99-477	3282 M Street, NW Germar Properties San Marzano Restaurant	Alterations to storefront and rear, wall sign and projecting sign - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for Phase I and Phase II of proposed alterations to storefront and rear, including new windows, revised lighting scheme, one 1'-6" x 13'-0" wall sign on transom over entrance and one projecting sign reading "San Marzano Pizza Vine e Birra" on front, and for railings, future handicapped access ramp, landscaping and alterations in rear. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Action (O.G. 99-184). The Commission recommends waiver of the 25 square feet limit for signs for this permit application as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 10 September 1999.



<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-217 HPA. 99-469	3100 P Street, NW Cyndy Riley Residence	Rear additions - revised design - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed rear additions and alterations as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 8 September 1999. Third floor deck and railing, and new window opening on side wall have been deleted from permit application.

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O.G. 99-218 HPA. 99-481	3050 N Street, NW William Kaye Residence	Replacement windows and roof condensers - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed roof condensers ONLY. Recommend **AGAINST** replacement windows. Original historic windows should be repaired and restored. Recommend interior storm windows be used.

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O.G. 99-219 HPA. 99-482	1264 Wisconsin Avenue, NW William Martin Martin's Tavern	Two-story rear addition - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed two-story rear addition as shown in supplemental drawing received and dated 7 September 1999.

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O.G. 99-220 HPA. 99-484	3011 M Street, NW Frank Derosé Twist	Sign and awning - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed awning over entrance door with lettering on the valance reading "TWIST" as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 27 August 1999. Submit alternatives for light fixtures.

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<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-222 HPA. 99-505	3347-49 M Street, NW Basil Mossaidis Philadelphia Cheesesteak Factory	Alterations to storefronts and signs - permit

**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefronts and signs reading "Philadelphia Cheesesteak Factory" with no exposed neon as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated September 1999.

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O.G. 99-223 HPA. 99-508	1064-66 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Back Bay Restaurants Papa Razzi Vigilante Firehouse	Extension of flue and alterations to A/C units - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed relocation of mechanical equipment on roof and to proposed extension of oven flue in locations that will reduce visibility of equipment and flue from public space. Working drawings conform to recommendations given during concept review. See previous Action (O.G. 98-221). Present submission is a re-submission of approved permit application. See previous Action (O.G. 99-109).

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**ADDENDUM**

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-206 HPA. 99-466	3077 M Street, NW Smith & Hawken	Awnings, signs and metal arch - permit

**ACTION:** Case placed on HOLD to give applicant opportunity to present proposal for projecting sign instead of wall or awning signs. No objection to issuance of permit for proposed metal arch with lettering reading "Smith & Hawken".

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O.G. 99-218 HPA. 99-481	3050 N Street, NW William Kaye Residence	Replacement windows and roof condensers - permit
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**ACTION:** Window replacement placed on HOLD until opportunity to review mock-up installation of sample windows. No objection to issuance of permit for proposed roof condensers ONLY.

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O.G. 99-222 HPA. 99-505	3347-49 M Street, NW Basil Mossaidis Philadelphia Cheesesteak Factory	Alterations to storefronts and signs - permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefronts and signs reading "Philadelphia Cheesesteak Factory" in 12 inch high individually-pin-mounted letters with no exposed neon as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 14 October 1999.

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## SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 99-105 HPA.99-443	2475 Kalorama Road, NW M. Rankin Residence	Modifications to fence - Permit
ACTION: Out-of-Jurisdiction. (Returned to Permit Processing Division, 10 Sept. 1999).		
S.L. 99-106 HPA. 99-444	3240 19th Street, NW Holleran Residence	Porch repair and window Replacement - Permit
ACTION: Out-of-Jurisdiction. (Returned to Permit Processing Division, 10 Sept. 1999)		
S.L. 99-107	2801 Chesterfield Place, NW Halle-Lamm Residence	One-story addition and alterations - Permit.
ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for one-story addition to front of house, as shown in drawings received and dated 9 August 1999. See previously approved Action (S.L. 99- 33)		
S.L. 99-108	4403 Greenwich Parkway, NW Lucan Residence	Side steps - Permit
ACTION: Out-of-Jurisdiction. (Returned to Permit Processing Division, 10 Sept. 1999)		
S.L. 99-109	311 H Street, NW Welch Family LP	Sign - Permit
ACTION: Out-of-Jurisdiction. (Returned to Permit Processing Division, 10 Sept. 1999)		



<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 99-110	1616 Portal Drive, NW S. Anderson Residence	Rear one-story addition - Permit

**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for one-story addition to rear of house, as shown in drawings received and dated 3 September 1999.

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S.L. 99-111 HPA. 99-488	2007 Belmont Road, NW J. Freeman Residence	Replacement windows at rear and new front basement entry - Concept
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**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for a new basement entryway at the street under existing terrace (includes a new stair, door and window), and no objection to replacement windows at rear and side of house as proposed in drawings received and dated 3 September 1999. File new submission of working drawings with details of windows and door with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

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S.L. 99-113 HPA.99-499	601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Penn Plaza Associates Maloney & Porcelli Restaurant	Signs, awnings and sidewalk café - Permit
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**ACTION:** Recommend **AGAINST** issuance of permit for proposed unmatched multi-colored stripped awnings, stripped canopy extending from north entrance, and exterior café in south arcade blocking a public walkway. Recommend relocating the north entrance one bay to the east so as to utilize the building's existing entrance canopy, and blue and green stripped awnings only. No objection to sidewalk café, with umbrellas, on private property at the northwest corner of the building. File new submission of an alternative design with relocated entrance and blue and green stripped awnings only with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

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S.L. 99-115	2135 Yorktown Road, NW J. Rutherford Residence	Two-story rear deck - Permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for two-story deck to rear of house, as shown in drawings received and dated 3 September 1999.



<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 99-116	1250 Maryland Avenue, SW The Portals II Building Bell Atlantic Mobile	Cellular telecommunications antennae - Concept

**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for proposed installation of cellular communications antennae in three roof-top locations as illustrated in materials received and dated 3 September 1999. File new submission of working drawings and equipment details with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

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S.L. 99-117	723 5th Street, NW Archdiocese of Washington St. Mary's Catholic Church	Replacement storm windows, new security grilles, and exterior restoration - Permit
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**ACTION:** No objection to issuance of permit for replacement storm windows, new security grilles and repair of exterior features as shown in drawings received and dated 10 September 1999.

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## MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

16 September 1999

The meeting was convened at 10:15 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices in the National Building Museum, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

Members present:     Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman  
                          Hon. Harry G. Robinson III, Vice-Chairman  
                          Hon. Ann Todd Free  
                          Hon. Emily Malino  
                          Hon. Eden Rafshoon

Staff present:         Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary  
                          Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson, Assistant Secretary  
                          Ms. Sue Kohler  
                          Mr. Frederick J. Lindstrom  
                          Mr. José Martínez-Canino

National Capital  
Planning Commission

staff present:         Mr. Tony Simon

### I.       ADMINISTRATION

Before the administrative items were discussed, the Chairman raised the question of absent members participating in the meeting and voting via telephone conferencing. He said Dr. Diamonstein had inquired about this. It was noted that it had not been successful when it was tried once before, principally because the Commission's deliberations involved visual materials—models, drawings, etc.—and it was not possible to gain a full understanding of a project without seeing them, and therefore it risked being unfair to the applicants. He added that there would be no objection to a member sending in opinions on agenda items, based on materials sent in advance. He asked if there was a consensus, and there was unanimous agreement that there be established as a policy of the Commission that voting be confined to those present.



A. Approval of the minutes of the 15 July meeting. The minutes were approved without objection.

B. Dates of next meetings, approved as:

21 October 1999

18 November 1999

C. Proposed year 2000 meeting schedules for the Old Georgetown Board and the Commission. The schedules were approved as proposed.

D. Announcement of Notice of Public Meeting on 29 September 1999 for the Joint Task Force on Memorials' proposal for new memorial location policies. The Secretary noted that the task force had been meeting for about eighteen months and had drawn up a plan that provided for a reserve area on the Mall in which no future memorials could be erected, and encouraged the establishment of memorials in parts of the city outside the monumental core. He said the Vice-Chairman would attend the first of the public meetings set up to invite comments on the plan, and he encouraged other members to attend also.

E. Status report: Taft Bridge lions. Staff member Sue Kohler said she and Mr. Atherton had twice inspected quarter-scale maquettes for the new Taft Bridge lion sculptures and thought good progress had been made. However, both the sculptor and his assistant expressed concern that the Historic Preservation Review Board had determined that the sculptures should be made of concrete, the material used originally (1908), even though time had proven that it was not a satisfactory material for sculpture; they thought the lions should be cast in bronze and believed that it would not cost any more than the concrete because of the difficulty of the concrete molding process. Mr. Atherton said he fully agreed and observed that the sculptor, Ronald Hinton Perry, had preferred bronze for the lions; at that time, however, the bronze was too expensive and the concrete was preferred by many because it extolled the virtues of that material, which was also used for the bridge.

Ms. Kohler showed photographs of the maquettes and the badly-deteriorated original sculptures. The Chairman was concerned that the modeling of the maquettes lacked crispness, and he thought it would be a mistake to base the new work on the worn contours of the old pieces. Ms. Kohler commented that the sculptor had been studying another work by the original artist—the bronze Neptune Fountain at the Library of Congress—to get a better feeling for his style.

There was a consensus that the Commission would want to review the sculptures and that approval could be withheld until the members were convinced that every effort was being made to cast sculptures in metal. The Secretary thought a letter to the District government was in order, and the Commission agreed. Exhibit A



### III. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

#### A.. National Park Service

1. CFA 16/SEP/99-1, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial. U.S. Reservation 58, Massachusetts Avenue and 21<sup>st</sup> Street fronting the Embassy of India. Inscriptions, site design and base: revisions. Design development. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-2.) Staff member Frederick Lindstrom introduced Ambassador Naresh Chandra to discuss the revisions that had been made to the memorial. The ambassador discussed changes to the inscriptions first, saying that the names of living persons who influenced Gandhi or were influenced by him had been removed, following the suggestions by both this Commission and the National Park Service. He said inscriptions would be placed on three sides of the granite statue base: On the front face would be Gandhi's name, birth and death dates, and the quotation, "My life is my message"; on the side facing Massachusetts Avenue would be inscribed "A gift from the people of India and of Indian origin"; and facing the Embassy and Q Street a bronze plaque with biographical information would be set into the stone. Behind the statue, at the far edge of the circular paved plaza, there would be three grey granite pedestals surmounted by polished red granite slabs; the outer ones would be inscribed with quotations from Gandhi while the middle one would have an interpretive inscription. The architect, Anil Bhatia, showed a sample of the red granite to be used for the sculpture base and the slabs for the quotations. He said the long side of the base would be 7 feet 6 inches, and it would be 3 feet 4 inches high.

The Vice-Chairman asked to what degree the statue would be turned from the Massachusetts Avenue axis; he said it had to be enough to make it count. The Chairman agreed, saying that it should be pointing right at the arch of the Society of the Cincinnati headquarters building. In the ensuing discussion of the base and the degree of smoothness and polish needed for the areas devoted to the inscriptions, it was realized that in no case was a bronze plaque really needed; all the inscriptions on the base could be incised in the stone. However, a bronze plaque was considered appropriate for the rather long interpretive inscription to be placed on the middle pedestal behind the statue, between the pedestals with the quotations, which would still be inscribed in polished red granite. The texture and degree of polish for the stone of the base generated more discussion, with the Chairman saying that using a shiny finish anywhere on the base would compete with the sculpture and with Gandhi's character; a honed or similar finish for the inscription areas would be preferable and would dull the red color, and a rougher finish should be used elsewhere, becoming smoother as it approached the ground—without the plinth that had been shown in one sketch. There was no further discussion, and the design was approved, subject to further review of the base. Exhibit B



B. National Red Cross

CFA 16/SEP/99-2, American Red Cross Building, 2025 E Street, N.W. Addition of new building. Final. (Previous: CFA 20/MAR/97-3 for design development and 15 October 1998 for Administrative discussion of proposed MOA.) Mr. Lindstrom introduced architect Shalom Baranes to review the project and discuss any changes that had been made since the last review. Mr. Baranes said the dismantling of the old building had begun, and it would be reassembled closer to the street, with a new, larger building behind. He said the only changes made involved some of the entrances, and these had resulted in minor alterations to the landscaping. He noted on a site plan and a model that the east entrance had been deleted, as had the walk leading to it, and there was a new entrance to the cafeteria, which had been relocated to the ground floor. He showed samples of the Indiana limestone selected for the new building and said that only the alley facade would be done in precast. He showed a sample of a raked finish limestone that would be used in certain areas on the upper portion of the new building, and he noted that there would be a low granite water table. The Chairman asked if the clients were still planning to landscape the park across the street, and Mr. Baranes said they were; he said he would come back with the plans.

The floor was then opened to comments from the community, and five people responded. The first speaker was Barbara Kahlow, representing the West End Citizens Association. She noted first that her organization had received no notice of the Commission's previous considerations of the project and so had not been able to testify. She said she would address only a limited amount of the material she had covered in previous testimony before the Planning Commission, copies of which she had submitted for the record.

Ms. Kahlow said the community remained united in its opposition to the Red Cross project because it would be built in the midst of a residential neighborhood, and because it involved the demolition of one of the few landmarked structures in Foggy Bottom. She said that structure had not been landmarked in 1988 when Congress authorized demolition and the erection of a larger building, nor had it been in July 1996, when the CFA first considered the project. After a study of notable buildings in Foggy Bottom had been made by an expert historic preservationist, the ANC submitted a landmark application in 1988, and landmark status was granted in October 1996. She noted the park-like setting for the building and the substantial setbacks from the street and surrounding structures and said the District's Historic Preservation Review Board had called it "one of the last examples of Washington's City Beautiful classicism". She said the community strongly opposed any disassembling, reconstruction, and relocation of the landmark and agreed with the HPRB that such extensive alteration would constitute demolition. She noted also the District's state historic preservation officer and the D.C. Preservation League also opposed the project.

Ms. Kahlow said the Red Cross had told the City Council that the reconstruction would cost close to \$10 million, an amount she thought should not be spent, given the unattractiveness





and inappropriateness of the project. Realizing that the Red Cross was determined to demolish the landmark, she said her group was recommending an entirely new project, moved farther toward the street, with no look-alike building, and with a smaller interior atrium.

The next speaker was Barbara Spillinger, chairman of the Foggy Bottom/West End ANC, which had approved a resolution enumerating the concerns of the community with the proposed demolition of the landmarked building and the many negative aspects of the proposed new structure. Summarizing the resolution, she said the site was incompatible with the size and height of the existing building and its proximity to six apartment buildings; the rear yard was insufficient; the loading dock with its noise was awkwardly placed; there would be too many employees with inadequate parking; and the negative impact of increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic on already overburdened streets would be overwhelming. She said she supported Barbara Kahlow's proposal to demolish the landmark building and design a new building appropriate to the site.

Next to speak was Sara Maddux, a resident of the Monroe House Condominium, directly west of the proposed building. Her comments were directed primarily to the loss of open space and the increased noise and traffic. Ms. Maddux noted that Virginia Avenue was designated as a special street on the city's comprehensive plan, and she pointed out that other buildings on the avenue had setbacks that provided trees, grass and open space, while the new project would remove these amenities from the Red Cross site. She said the proposal would amount to a "taking" of the community's rights to air and light, and to the peaceful enjoyment of their homes without the increased traffic and noise the project would bring.

Elizabeth Elliott, a resident of The York apartments, directly north of the site, was the next speaker. She said a K-Street style office building did not belong in a residential neighborhood, especially in this one, already threatened on the north by an almost unbroken line of huge office buildings built right out to the sidewalk. She said the Red Cross had become increasingly bold in its anti-preservation activities, the latest being the destruction of the landscaping, which had already caused a marked increase in the temperature inside the apartments on the south side of The York. She noted also that the impact of projects such as this one was borne by the communities in which they were built—it would be the District taxpayers who paid for the wear and tear caused by the more than 2,000 commuters, most of them not District residents, coming to the building five days a week.

Patrick Sheary was the last speaker. He proposed a new design for a building substantially decreased in height and depth which he said would no longer engulf the historic structure. Also, a public park would be created behind the building, softening its impact and allowing for sufficient light and air. He passed around copies of his design. Even better, he said, would be the construction of a new building on the Red Cross campus, where it would not affect a residential neighborhood. Turning to the historic preservation issue, he said the



current proposal was nothing more than an exercise in “pseudo-facadism”, and he quoted Ada Louise Huxtable on the prevalence of such architecture in Washington.

The Chairman asked the architect to respond to the points made. First, Mr. Baranes observed that the building was on a very special site, one with ample breathing space in front. He said some of the statements about the setbacks were not correct; the 7-foot setback mentioned was from a driveway, and the correct distance from the apartments to the north was 37, not 20 feet. He said the FAR would actually be lower than it was in the apartments, and he added that the building would not appear as large as it did on the model. He said that as a federal project it was not subject to local zoning laws, but it was under the maximum density as far as those laws were concerned. He also spoke about the re-erection of the landmark building. He said demolition had begun, and the stone was being carefully watched as it was removed. He commented also that the building would not appear as a facade project. Ms. Malino asked about the setbacks, and Mr. Baranes pointed them out on the model, noting also that the penthouse had been reduced 10 feet in height.

The Chairman said he was very sympathetic to the neighbors as citizens, but that the Commission’s responsibility was to the federal city and its appearance, and he observed that the overwhelming character of the neighborhood was one of large structures. He said the open space on the other side of E Street needed some improvement, and the Red Cross needed to take this responsibility, but he did think moving the landmark building closer to the street was a good idea, that it would then conform to other buildings on the street. He thought the project as a whole would definitely look better than a K Street office building. The Vice-Chairman said he agreed with the Chairman that moving the landmark building forward would result in a better piece of urban design.

There was no further discussion. The Vice-Chairman made a motion that the final design of the project be approved as presented; it was seconded by Mrs. Rafshoon and carried unanimously. Exhibit C

C. Department of the Army

CFA 16/SEP/99-3, Fort McNair. New landscaping and perimeter security additions for the P Street, S.W., entrance. Design. Staff member José Martínez showed photographs of the area in question, noting that the Administration Building next to the entrance actually formed part of the wall enclosing the fort. He said the request was to install concrete planters near the curb in front of the Administration Building, and to run a strip of landscaping in front of the building and in front of the wall on the other side of the entrance. Mr. Martínez then introduced landscape architect Bruce Murphy to give the members more details and answer questions. He showed drawings and said the landscaping would be consistent with that found elsewhere in the fort. The planters would be rectangular, 3 feet by 4 feet, and about 30 inches high.



There were no objections to the concept, but there was some concern about the planters; the light-colored concrete seemed out of character with the turn-of-the-century architecture of Fort McNair. The Chairman asked about using black metal bollards and chains—like those on the south side of the White House grounds. Mr. Murphy said they had investigated using bollards but had been told they would have to go down 20 feet to secure them, and this would damage tree roots in the area. Ms. Malino suggested looking at some black planters the Smithsonian had used near the Castle. Mr. Murphy was afraid the black would make the planters nearly invisible, but Ms. Malino thought the plants inside would solve that problem.

The Chairman commented that the Commission had a responsibility to try to make these security devices better looking, that it was a major issue all across the country, not just in Washington. Ms. Malino agreed, saying that the Commission's efforts did not amount to nit-picking, that they could really make a difference in the appearance of our cities. She suggested that Mr. Murphy check with the Smithsonian to see how they had solved the problem.

There was no further discussion. The landscaping was unanimously approved, and the Commission asked Mr. Murphy to investigate using the bollards again, and to check with the Smithsonian on the black planters. Exhibit D

D. Federal Communications Commission

CFA 16/SEP/99-4, Federal Communications Commission, Portals II Building, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Roof-top multiple antennae installation. Design. POSTPONED.

E. General Services Administration

1. CFA 16/SEP/99-5, Federal Aviation Administration Building, (FOB 10A, Independence Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Perimeter security alterations. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-9). Mr. Lindstrom recalled the previous month's submission and said GSA still had questions about what was approved; furthermore, NCPC had given them other suggestions as to how the north entrance should be treated. Some revisions had been made, and he introduced Phil Wagner from GSA to begin the presentation.

Mr. Wagner introduced architect Rachel Chung from Suman Sorg's office to explain the changes. Ms. Chung showed a site plan to orient the members. Beginning with the rear, or south entrance, there would be a row of new bollards, lining up with the planters, leaving the pedestrian sidewalk clear. At the main entrance steps on Independence Avenue, the two planters would be reduced in size, the benches on their front face removed—they were not considered necessary as it was a vehicular entrance—and to compensate for the narrower planters, several more bollards would be added. This scheme had the advantage of preserving a longer section of the original stairs. On the sides of the building, the vehicular ramps would



have hydraulic bollards rather than plate barriers. Again, the bollards would be set back from the pedestrian sidewalk. Ms. Chung showed several bollard designs, saying that because of cost, they would like to use the simplest one, without the emblem; this was called Option 3.

There were no objections to the revised scheme or the choice of bollard design. It was noted that the front entrance scheme was considered an interim solution until there were funds to repair and redesign the terrace and better integrate the security elements. Exhibit E

2. CFA 16/SEP/99-6, Old Executive Office Building (OEOB), Pennsylvania Avenue and 17<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Roof-top antenna. Design. Mr. Lindstrom said details of this existing installation were classified, and there were no visual materials for the Commission to see. He said the staff had seen the antenna, and it would be highly visible from the Mall, but it was only a temporary installation. He said some suggestions had been made by the staffs of this Commission and the Planning Commission that he thought would be helpful regarding the paint color and reducing the number of guy wires. He introduced Larry Handeland from the Executive Office of the President who recalled that most of the antennae had been removed from the roof, but this one, unfortunately, was essential.

In that case, the members agreed there would be no opposition, and the temporary installation was unanimously approved. Exhibit F

3. CFA 16/SEP/99-7, Health and Human Services Building, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Cellular telecommunications antennae. Design. Mr. Martínez said there would be twelve panel antennae in three locations on the penthouse of the building. They would be painted a light color to match the building and would not extend above the parapet line of the penthouse. A representative from Nextel Communications showed a computer-enhanced photograph of the building with the antennae in place, and the Commission agreed that they would be nearly invisible. The installation was unanimously approved. Exhibit G

4. CFA 16/SEP/99-8, Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, N.W. Perimeter security alterations. Design. Mr. Martínez recalled a previous submission in March 1997 for security alterations for pedestrian entrances to this building; he said the current submission concerned the vehicular entrance modifications. He introduced Shaun Benson-Frazier from the product manufacturer's office, and historic preservation consultant Ed Sonnenschein from GSA, and asked Mr. Sonnenschein to begin the presentation.

Mr. Sonnenschein said there were three vehicular entrances—parking garage entrances on both 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> streets, and a loading dock entrance on 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Sonnenschein showed computer-enhanced photos of the proposals: moveable barriers, gatearms, and bollards for the garage entrances, and two moveable barriers at the loading dock entrance. Existing guard





booths would remain. There were no objections except for the visually discordant diagonal yellow stripes on the barriers, and the members thought the use of a single horizontal yellow strip at the top of the barriers would solve the problem. Mr. Sonnenschein said he thought that would be acceptable, and the proposals were then unanimously approved. The design of the bollards had already been approved during the previous submission. Exhibit H

5. CFA 16/SEP/99-9, Ariel Rios Building, 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Bird netting for Benjamin Franklin Circle facade and arcade. Design. Mr. Lindstrom said the netting would be installed on the Benjamin Franklin Circle facade and also inside the arcade, stretched horizontally at the spring line of the arches. Hirday Harnel from GSA, architect Shawn Gray from Wisnewski Blair, and John Page from Bird Master, the company that manufactured the netting, showed photographs and discussed the installation. Mr. Lindstrom commented that he had seen other installations in the Federal Triangle and the netting was nearly invisible. There were no objections, and the project was unanimously approved. Exhibit I

6. CFA 16/SEP/99-10, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Signs. Final. (Previous: CFA 18/FEB/99-5.) Mr. Martínez recalled that the Commission had reviewed the U.S. Customs Service sign previously, and had asked to see the total scheme before giving approval. He said a final design was now ready, with signs for both the Customs Service and the Agency for International Development, both to be placed at the 14<sup>th</sup> Street entrance. He asked Douglas Gallagher from GSA to make the presentation.

Mr. Gallagher said the chief concern had been with the lettering—both the size of the letters and the length of the signs. He said the decision had been made to use 7-inch bronze letters applied with an adhesive to the building fascia, with the agency's logo applied to the glass as a decal with a neutral, sandblasted look. The members were pleased with the effect, noting only that the bronze should be coated to prevent "bleeding" onto the stone. The design was unanimously approved. Exhibit J

7. CFA 16/SEP/99-11, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Federal Triangle. Perimeter security alterations. Design. POSTPONED.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:40 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

F. District of Columbia Department of Public Works/D.C. Downtown Business Incentive District

CFA 16/SEP/99-12, Downtown "wayfinding" sign program. Design development. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-6.) Mr. Lindstrom recalled the previous



submission, preceded by a site visit, and the Commission's request for modifications. He said changes had been made, and the designs were being submitted for final approval. He introduced Joe Sternlieb, deputy director of the downtown BID, to present them.

Mr. Sternlieb commented that they had been working on this program for two years and hoped to obtain final approval at this time. He recalled that the previous concerns had been the bright yellow color used for accent, particularly on the round ball finials, the lack of legibility noticeable in some of the smaller signs, and the feeling, on the part of several of the members, that the total effect was "cartoonish" and not dignified enough for the nation's capital. He showed slides of these signs, noting that the information on the reverse of the map signs had now been coordinated with historical organizations. Then he showed the revised versions. The yellow had been toned down and was now more golden, or ochre, in color than before. Different shapes for the finial had also been proposed—a star and a disc—in blue or black as well as yellow. He also showed versions with a black bar at the top and without, commenting that it was the designer's original intent that only the map and neighborhood signs would have the bar and finial.

The Vice-Chairman said he was still not happy with the design as a whole; he thought it might work in some other city but was not dignified enough for the capital. Mrs. Free agreed, saying that simply using another shade of yellow had not solved the problem—the rings on the pole were still there, the star form on the base remained—in other words, the cartoon-like character had not changed. Mr. Sternlieb said they could not afford to redesign the signs; they had run out of both money and time, and he hoped some adjustments could be made to the submitted designs that would removed the Commission's objections.

The Chairman said he had no objections to using finials on just the two types of signs—map and neighborhood—and he thought if the yellow color were entirely eliminated and the rings and finials painted black, the design would be acceptable. As to the design of the finial, he would stick to the round ball, a traditional form. He said it was the whole effect that had to be considered; the individual elements did not need any extra "pizzaz", the signs were there to convey information. He told Mr. Sternlieb that the Commission did not want to stand in the way of getting the program going in a timely fashion because it was important for the city.

There was no further discussion. The design elements were then approved as proposed, but only in blue, white, and black, with the Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Free opposed. Exhibit K

G. District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department

CFA 16/SEP/99-13, Entrance alterations to Police Department Building at the Municipal Center, 300 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/99-7 [SL 99-96].) Mr. Lindstrom introduced architect Eric Regh, from Interior Architecture, PC, to present revisions to the approved concept design for final approval.



Mr. Regh reviewed the scope of the work and showed revised designs for the light standards and the bollards, which would have a satin nickel finish. He noted also the stepping stones that had been added from the plaza to the flagpoles, for the use of the person raising and lowering the flags. The slimmer pedestals for the light standards and the design of the bollards were approved, although the Commission requested review of a full-scale mock-up of the bird sculptures intended for the tops of the pylons. It was also suggested that the flags be lighted at night, eliminating the need for raising and lowering them, and thus the need for the stepping stones.

In looking at the drawings, the members noted the red color used on the plaza area. Learning that it indicated the use of red brick, Mr. Regh was asked to look for a grey brick or paver instead, since the red brick connoted residential, rather than monumental civic architecture. Mr. Regh said they had hoped to use the same red granite seen elsewhere in the plaza area, but it was too expensive and they had substituted red brick. He said he would get some samples of a more neutral color paver and bring them in. With the exception of the pavers, the final design was unanimously approved. Exhibit L

#### H. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

##### 1. Old Georgetown Act

a. OG 99-162, 3333 M Street, N.W. East Banc, Inc. New commercial building. Concept design. (Previous: CFA 15/JUL/1999.) Mr. Martínez said revisions had been made to the fenestration of the M Street facade to conform to the Commission's requests at the previous meeting. He introduced architect Shalom Baranes to discuss them.

Mr. Baranes showed old and new drawings, noting the large expanses of glass in the earlier version, which the Commission had thought was too far from the historical character of Georgetown commercial buildings; he had changed the fenestration to a punched window pattern and made minor changes to the Bank Street windows to make them compatible. For the same reason, the tower fenestration had been altered, principally by removing the arched form of the second story window. There was general agreement that these changes had removed the concerns expressed previously, and the revised design was unanimously approved. Exhibit M

b. Appendix I. Mr. Martínez said there was one item on the Appendix, OG 99-218, 3050 N Street, N.W., that he would like to bring to the Commission's attention. He said it concerned replacement window sash in a residence, and he noted that the owner was present and would like to appeal the Georgetown Board's disapproval. He introduced William Kaye.



Mr. Kaye explained that he wanted to replace the existing one-over-one single pane sash with thermal pane glass of the same configuration. He said only the sash, not the frames, would be replaced, but the Georgetown Board had objected because of the change in the exterior fabric of the house. Mr. Martínez said there had been some concern expressed by the staff of the Historic Preservation Review Board, who felt the original windows should be kept if they were in good condition, and interior storm windows used for energy savings.

The Vice-Chairman thought that as long as the one-over-one configuration was kept in the same proportions and details, the replacement should be acceptable. The Assistant Secretary explained that what concerned the Board had been the mechanism for raising and lowering the window, which could be seen from the street. The architect, Michael Beidler, was then introduced, and he said that the traditional weight system could be used with the new sash, and that would eliminate the unsightliness objected to by the Board. The Chairman asked the staff to monitor this and work with the Board; Mr. Lindstrom suggested that one sash be installed for everyone to see, and if there was no significant change, Mr. Kaye could be authorized to go ahead. There was agreement among all the members that this should be the procedure. The remainder of the Appendix was then unanimously approved.

## 2. Shipstead-Luce Act

(The agenda order was changed and item H.2.b. discussed first.)

b. SL 99-114, 1957 E Street, N.W. George Washington University. New mixed-use building. Concept design. (Previous: SL 93-70.) Mr. Lindstrom said this building would be just to the east of the Red Cross building, discussed earlier in the meeting. It would be a new mixed-use building for The George Washington University. He recalled that the same firm, KCF/SHG, had submitted a design for the site in 1993, and he said the new proposal would have the same PUD limitations placed on the property in that year. He introduced David King and Tom Butcavage from KCF/SHG, who then introduced Frank Poli, director of facilities for the university. Mr. Poli said they were very excited about this project and the creation of a new south entrance to the university from Rawlins Park, and he hoped the Commission, too, would be pleased with it.

Mr. King then discussed the design. He said that like the 1993 proposal, it was comprised of three distinct elements: in this case they would include a residential portion on the west, consisting of an apartment-style dormitory; a block of undergraduate classrooms in the center topped with offices; and on the east, accommodations for the Elliott School of International Affairs. He observed that the original tripartite massing with pavilions on the ends and a gallery in between made a lot of sense for the university's program, and it had been retained in its entirety. He noted on the drawings the strongly-expressed pavilions with basically a punched window treatment and the set-back center section with its different window articulation and large amount of glass above the second story. Mr. Butcavage showed a





photo of the nearby GSA building with a similar massing and also showed the floor plans, describing the various office, classroom, and dormitory spaces. Mr. King pointed out differences between the original and the proposed buildings, noting that the setbacks at the top, the penthouses, and the overall height remained the same as approved in 1993. He said the ornamentation was a little simpler, the balconies for the original condominiums had been removed, and the corners were a little stronger, not as glassy as before. The principal entrance would be in the center section, with other entrances into the dormitory and Elliott School sections. The Chairman asked about the north facade and entrances there, and Mr. King said it was primarily a party wall condition; the building would adjoin an existing dormitory and there would be no entrance on that side. He then showed drawings of the east and west elevations, which tended to be extensions of the treatment of the south facades of the pavilions.

Turning to the materials, Mr. King said they were proposing a granite water table and a combination of different limestones for the pavilions and the recessed center section. The color would be slightly more grey in the center section and the set back top story. He said the university would like to get the Commission's permission to use precast above the base if the limestone proved to be too expensive. The Chairman said some of the new cast stone was quite beautiful and could be used as long as it was not too close to eye level. Window frames would be blond or putty color with clear glazing. Mr. King also talked about increasing the crystalline character of the bay windows and diminishing the horizontal demarcation of the floors.

The Chairman thought the central section really should be set back a little farther to get more of the sense of a U-shaped building, similar to other buildings in the neighborhood, if it didn't cut into the square footage too much. Mr. King said the masonry actually dropped back six feet, but the bay windows then came forward a couple of feet. Mr. Brown said that might be the problem; the setback was negated by the projecting bays which really did not provide that much more usable space on the interior. He thought the important thing for the streetscape was to break up the long facade and reinforce the idea of three buildings rather than one. The Vice-Chairman agreed, saying he liked the bookend effect of the pavilions holding the glass center in a U-shape. In general, the Commission was pleased with the concept design, and it was unanimously approved, with the request that Mr. King bring in another version of the north facade with a stronger sense of a center setback. Exhibit N

a. SL 99-112, 2600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. New apartment building. Concept design. Mr. Lindstrom said this would be a new apartment building on the site of a recently-demolished gas station, next to the Salvation Army building at the bridge crossing into Georgetown, bounded by 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, and L Street. He then introduced the architect, Stephen Banigan, to make the presentation.



Mr. Banigan said one of the unusual features of the site was that it was bounded by small triangular green spaces on three sides. He noted that the adjacent Salvation Army building was five stories high, and said his building would be 90 feet high, the limit for the site. There would be eight stories, seven residential with four apartments each, with retail on the ground floor. Public open space, as required by zoning, would be on the 26<sup>th</sup> Street side of the site. The building also would be set back from the Salvation Army building above the first floor, which would be used as a lobby for the apartments. One underground parking space for each residential unit would be provided, plus four to five spaces for retail use.

Mr. Banigan said the style of the building would recall apartment houses of the first two decades of the century, and could be generally classified as Beaux-Arts. The materials would probably be a tan-colored brick and precast in a limestone buff color. The north and south facades would be articulated with two bays, one in each of the apartment units. The entrance into the major part of the retail would be on the 26<sup>th</sup> Street side of the building. Mr. Banigan said the penthouse would be set back towards the center of the building and centered between the two bays. A roof terrace for use by the residents would take up the remaining space. The Chairman asked about the possibility of balconies; Mr. Banigan said they had considered using them but decided against it because of the dirt, birds, etc. and decided to make the corners of the living areas as open as possible with windows.

The Chairman said there was something about the top floor that bothered him, and the Vice-Chairman thought it might be that there was no brick there, that it was all white and needed something to hold it down. Mr. Brown agreed that was probably what it was, that the top floor seemed too much like a horizontal layer and what was really needed was more verticality.

There were no more comments, and the concept design was unanimously approved with the request that Mr. Banigan extend the brick up through the top floor bay windows to tie that floor to the rest of the building. Exhibit N

c. Appendix II. Mr. Lindstrom said there was one item on the Appendix that he would like to call the Commission's attention to, and that was S.L. 99-113, a submission for an outdoor café and for multi-colored, unmatched striped awnings and canopies at 601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. He said a representative for the client, Trish Cooper, was present to answer questions. Mr. Lindstrom noted that the location was actually at the north building on Indiana Avenue, and he showed drawings, explaining where the canopy would be and pointing out that it would extend out to the car drop-off on the street. He said the staff's opinion was that it looked very awkward there, and if they moved the entrance one bay to the east, they could take advantage of an existing canopy. Mr. Lindstrom noted that there would also be umbrellas over the tables, and they, too, would be covered in unmatched, multi-color stripe combinations; he said the staff had recommended staying with one color combination—preferably blue and green or blue and burgundy. There was a



discussion about the desirability of enlivening the street with restaurants and the accompanying awnings and umbrellas, but there was also unanimous agreement that the multiple, mismatched brightly-colored stripes were not suitable, and that the canopy over the sidewalk should not be allowed. Ms. Cooper said her client really wanted to have the umbrellas and would be willing to use any two-color stripe combination. Mr. Lindstrom said he would delay action on the project and ask the applicant for a new proposal.

The remainder of the Appendix was then unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles H. Atherton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charles" being the most prominent.

Charles H. Atherton  
Secretary



# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

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EXHIBIT A

10 November 1999

Dear Mr. Mayor:

For a number of years, the Commission of Fine Arts has been involved with the Department of Public Works on the restoration of the Taft Bridge Lions. We applaud the efforts now underway by the District Government to restore them to their rightful location within the next year, an event that many of us look forward to with great pleasure. Unfortunately, this sense of eager anticipation has been seriously blunted by the current intent to reproduce the lions again in concrete, a material that has demonstrated repeatedly its inability to withstand the adverse effects of its proximity to traffic, the rigors of widely varying freezing and thawing cycles, and the enormous internal pressure of temperature variations, not to mention the inevitable salt spray that goes hand-in-hand with winter weather.

To gauge the vulnerability of this material, it should be understood that the lions have to be assembled from a number of pieces and pinned together with steel rods that leave joints with virtually no structural continuity. These joints will inevitably open up and accelerate the destructive invasion of moisture and chemicals. Despite attempts to reseal them they will open up again in ever shortening cycles and result in the deteriorated condition suffered by the sculpture over the last few years. To go to the expense of returning these lions to the bridge with precisely the same vulnerabilities that led to their predecessor's demise makes no sense. In addition, the molded technique being used will yield a lack of crispness of detail that metal could overcome.

We understand that the position to pursue the concrete solution is favored by members of the preservation community who feel that any departure from the original material (perhaps originally chosen as a cost-saving expedient) would be inconsistent with the preservation of the sculpture's historic integrity. For someone focused solely on preservation issues, this may have some appeal, but it is unrealistic. The new ones will always be a reproduction. The repetition of a mistake is in no one's interest, and preservation into the future should be the overriding concern.

The Commission has been involved with monumental sculptures over many years, not just design and siting, but on maintenance and preservation. In the 1960s, our staff worked closely with Renato Lucchetti, a master stone-cutter working on the Washington Cathedral, when the figures were last patched together. While his good efforts lasted more than twenty-five years, he predicted quite accurately that any new concrete material would continue to fail





due to the nature of the material and the multitude of joints that would be required. Beyond that, it is our judgement that aesthetically a metal solution would be far preferable.

Why is it, then, that such a course of action is now being followed?

Our staff has been advised that there is a commitment to stay on a schedule that would replace the lions on the bridge sometime in the Spring. We have reasonable assurance from a number of sources that a decision to recast the figures in metal would not entail a delay and probably could be done in less time once given the official word to proceed. It is much easier to cast in metal and might even be done at less expense.

It is our recommendation that a combination of common sense and expert opinion prevail. We hope you agree.

With my continuing admiration and best personal regards,

*Here's hoping!* —

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

The Honorable Anthony Williams  
One Judiciary Square  
441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Suite 1100 - South  
Washington, D.C. 20001



# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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EXHIBIT B

22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Carlstrom:

The Commission was pleased to meet with Ambassador Chandra during its meeting of 16 September 1999, at which time the site plan and revised texts for the inscriptions for the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial were approved. The base for the sculpture, however, would benefit from further refinement. It was recommended that it be a solid rough-cut block of red granite without a molded plinth or podium not unlike the red granite blocks of the Roosevelt Memorial which are so striking. This would give the sculpture a base having the appearance of being part of the earth and providing a "natural" surface on which the figure, being in mid-stride, would stand. As for the inscriptions, instead of attaching bronze plaques to the base as had been previously suggested, it was felt that the text should be contained in small rectangular panels polished into the rough surface of the stone. The polished surface would provide the desired contrasting field of color and texture for the inscribed lettering.

We look forward to the review of the final design and construction documents. As always, the staff is available to assist you.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Terry Carlstrom  
Regional director, National Capital Region  
National Park Service  
1100 Ohio Drive, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20242

cc: Ambassador Naresh Chandra of India  
John Parsons, NPS  
George Toop, NCPC



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EXHIBIT C

22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Samra:

During its 16 September 1999 meeting, the Commission reviewed and approved the final plans for the American Red Cross building at 2025 E Street, as presented by the architect, Shalom Baranes. Given the concessions already made by the Red Cross, the Commission believes that the final design is not only commendable as a design, but it has made a good faith effort to address many of the concerns of the community. We realize that some private concerns cannot be satisfied in such a project, but, overall, we believe it will be a plus for the city.

The Commission looks forward to reviewing the proposed enhancements to the District owned park property across E Street that the Red Cross has agreed to "adopt."

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Tom Samra  
Vice President  
Real Estate Development and Management  
American Red Cross  
National Headquarters Building  
430 17th Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

cc: Councilwoman Charlene Drew Jarvis  
Jack Finberg, GSA  
Shalom Baranes, AIA, Shalom Baranes Associates



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22 September 1999

EXHIBIT D

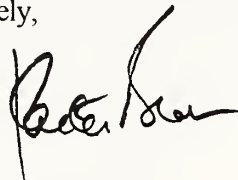
Dear Ms. Barber:

During its meeting 16 September 1999, the Commission reviewed the proposed security measures and landscaping for the main entrance to Fort McNair on P Street, SW. The proposed landscaping in front of Building 32, and repeated for symmetry along the wall on the opposite side of the entrance, was well received. However, the planters raised some concern.

The Commission strongly urges further study of the use of metal bollards and chains, similar to those used along the South perimeter of the White House. Engineering requirements for these bollards may prove less damaging to the existing tree root systems than assumed. If documentation is provided to the staff that indicates this solution is not an option, we would encourage finding a planter design more appropriate to the architectural character of Building 32. These planters should be repeated on the opposite side of the entrance, again for symmetry.

The Commission looks forward to your findings.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Ms. Edna M. Barber  
Chief, Environmental Division  
Department of the Army  
Headquarters, United States Army Garrison  
204 Lee Avenue  
Fort Myer, Virginia 22211-1199





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EXHIBIT E

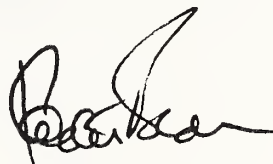
22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Finberg:

The Commission reviewed and approved the revised design for the perimeter security alterations to the Federal Aviation Administration Building (FOB 10A) at its 16 September 1999 meeting. The revised proposal, as submitted, reduces the size of the two planters at the north entrance steps, deletes the benches from their front face, and adds several more bollards. This portion of the installation should be considered an interim solution until adequate funding is available to redesign the terrace, which currently leaks, to allow for the security features to be better integrated into the architecture of the facility. The balance of the proposal will place, at the south entrance on C Street, a single row of bollards at the edge of the sidewalk, and, on 7th and 9th streets, hydraulic bollards at all six of the vehicular entrances as shown on the drawings received and dated 15 September 1999.

The Commission regrets the need for intensified and highly visible security measures for federal installations and encourages the development of designs that better incorporate such features into the architecture and landscape which they are intended to protect. We look forward to the review of the final design and construction documents. As always, the staff is available to assist you.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Jack Finberg  
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
National Capital Region  
301 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20407-0002



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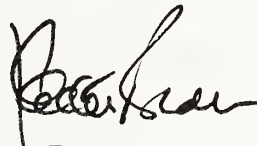
EXHIBIT F

22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Finberg:

In spite of not having been given drawings or photographs of the existing rooftop antenna on the Old Executive Office Building during its meeting of 16 September 1999, the Commission waives objection to the installation as a temporary measure with the understanding that it will be removed as soon as it becomes technologically obsolete or unnecessary. We are in agreement that the support bracket should be redesigned so as to eliminate the random array of guy wires and that the entire unit be painted to blend in with the slate roof. It is unfortunate that such visually objectionable objects cannot be located more discretely.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Jack Finberg  
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
National Capital Region  
301 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20407-0002

cc: Andrea Mones, Regional Historic Preservation Officer, GSA-NCR



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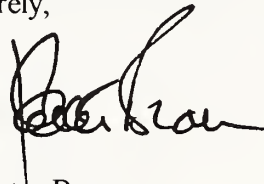
EXHIBIT G

22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Finberg:

During its meeting 16 September 1999, the Commission reviewed and approved the installation of twelve cellular communication antennas at the Health and Human Services Building at 200 Independence Avenue, SW. As indicated, these antennas will be bracket-mounted in locations that will not extend beyond the parapet line of the penthouse. In addition, they will be painted to match the color of the building material. As such, it is expected that the antennas will essentially "disappear" from view.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Jack Finberg  
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
National Capital Region  
301 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20407-0002



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EXHIBIT H

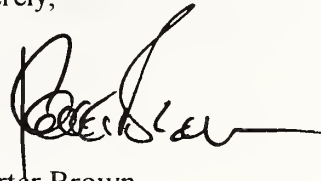
22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Finberg:

The Commission reviewed and approved the proposed security measures for the vehicular entrances to the Theodore Roosevelt Building at 1900 E Street during its meeting 16 September 1999. The proposed security measures include the installation of a moveable barrier with gatearm and five bollards at the 19th Street garage entrance, two moveable barriers at the loading dock entrance on 19th Street, and two moveable barriers with gatearms and four bollards at the 20th Street garage entrance.

The design of the bollards had been previously approved. There was no objection to the gatearms or to the metal cabinets which are to be lowered as much as possible and painted to match the color of the building. The hydraulic moveable barriers are acceptable provided a single horizontal yellow strip along the top edge of the barrier is used in place of the vertical stripes which would be visually discordant.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Jack Finberg  
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
National Capital Region  
301 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20407-0002





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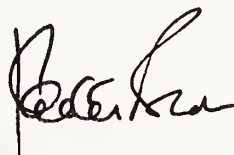
EXHIBIT I

22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Finberg:

During its meeting 16 September 1999, the Commission reviewed and approved the designs for the installation of bird netting on the Ariel Rios Building in the Federal Triangle. As presented, the installation of fine black nylon netting will cover portions of the building's Benjamin Franklin Circle facade. This netting will wrap back into the arcade as a horizontal barrier as well. It is understood that the material will match existing installations on several other buildings in the Triangle and that all mounting hardware will be stainless steel. We look forward to its installation and to a cleaner arcade.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Jack Finberg  
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
National Capital Region  
301 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20407-0002



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EXHIBIT J

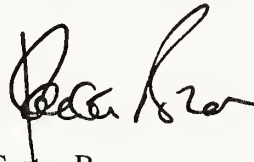
22 September 1999

Dear Mr. Finberg:

During its 16 September 1999 meeting, the Commission reviewed and approved the sign scheme for the 14th Street elevation of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. The signs provide identification for the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The cast bronze 7-inch-high letters affixed with an adhesive to the building fascia will need to be coated to prevent "bleeding". The sandblasted look of the logo applied as a film to the transom over the entrance is an appropriate addition.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Jack Finberg  
Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
National Capital Region  
301 7th Street, SW  
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EXHIBIT K

22 September 1999

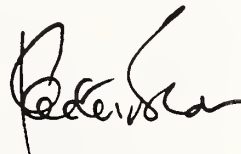
Dear Mr. Sternlieb:

The Commission was pleased to see you again during its meeting of 16 September 1999 to review the alternative designs for the finials for the "way-finding" sign system. It was felt that none of the alternative designs for the finials was appropriate and that the ball type as originally proposed for the map and destination location signs was best. It was agreed no top should be put on the majority of the signs, following the consultants' original preference. Although the members were somewhat divided in opinion on the basic design for the sign system, we all agreed that the yellow accents are too distracting, and recommend they and the round ball finials be painted black to match the rest of the pole. By eliminating the yellow, the Commission believes attention will focus on the signs, alone. With this change, the Commission approved the design of the system as presented.

Once again, the members commend the Downtown DC BID for taking the initiative on the sign program and we encourage the BID to expand the program as far as possible throughout the city.

As always, the staff is available should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Joe Sternlieb  
Deputy Director  
Downtown DC Business Improvement District  
1250 H Street, NW  
Suite 850  
Washington, D.C. 20005



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EXHIBIT L

22 September 1999

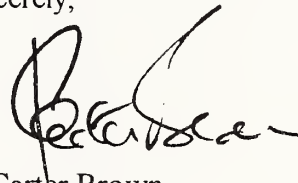
Dear Mr. Coard:

The Commission reviewed the final designs for modifications to the north entrance of the Metropolitan Police Headquarters Building at 300 Indiana Avenue during its meeting on 16 September 1999 and approved the plans as submitted with the following minor changes.

The members felt that the red paving brick selected for the plaza was too residential in character and that a darker gray brick (or paver) that complements the gray tones in the red granite of the steps should be used instead. A material sample panel on site should be installed for the approval of the Commission before a final selection of brick is made. The members also asked for a presentation of a full scale model or maquette of the bird sculptures that are to top the lighted pylons. Their slimmer pedestals, and the bollard design referential to the art-deco period of the building, were also approved. In addition, it was suggested that the three flags should be illuminated at night so that they could be flown 24 hours a day, eliminating the need for the stepping stones that otherwise would be necessary for the daily raising and lowering of the flags.

These proposed modifications to the entrance and the cleaning of the building will greatly improve the appearance of this corner of Judiciary Square, which we hope will serve as a model for neighboring agencies.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown  
Chairman

Mr. Eric W. Coard  
Senior Executive Director  
Metropolitan Police Department  
Office of Corporate Support  
300 Indiana Avenue, NW  
Suite 5080  
Washington, D.C. 20001





16 September 1999

EXHIBIT M

**OLD GEORGETOWN ACT**  
**AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT**

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 99-162 HPA. 99-322	3333 M Street, NW East Banc, Inc. Commercial/retail structure	New building - conceptual

**ACTION:** No objection to concept design for proposed new building combining the Little Tavern and the circa 1900 buildings on the 3300 block of M Street, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 13 August 1999. File new submission of concept development, including details, for review by the Commission when ready.

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**SHIPSTEAD-LUCE  
AGENDA ITEM EXHIBITS**

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 99-112	2600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Pennsylvania L.L.C.	New apartment building. - Concept

**ACTION:** No objection to the concept design for a new apartment building as proposed in drawings received and dated 3 September 1999. Recommend extending brick to top floor bay windows to better integrate that floor with the mass of the structure and to accentuate the verticality of the building. File new submission of working drawings and construction documents including details and material samples, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

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S.L. 99-114	1957 E Street, NW George Washington University	New mixed-use building. Concept.
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**ACTION:** No objection to the concept design for a new mixed use building to replace the existing structure as proposed in drawings received and dated 3 September 1999. Recommend further study of the central portion of the south facade to increase the setback of the main mass without diminishing the plasticity of the glass bays. File new submission of working drawings and construction documents including details and material samples, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready. See previous Action: (S.L. 93-70).

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