Testimony of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society before the DC Historic Preservation Review Board July 30, 2015

HPA 15-425 1010-1012 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE

My name is Beth Purcell and I am testifying on behalf of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society's Historic Preservation Committee. Thank you for letting us share our views on this project.

The applicant proposes several alternative alternations to the first floor exterior of 1012 Pennsylvania Avenue to restore its original appearance. Scheme 1, which restores the entrance and windows to align with 1010, is the best. Exact specifications on the door and stairs are needed.

In our earlier comments we noted that additional information is needed to evaluate this project. The applicant has provided some additional information. However, the plans omit any view of the project from across Pennsylvania Avenue. While a lumber mockup is helpful, a sight line study is also needed in order to determine visibility from public space, particularly from Pennsylvania Avenue.

The demolition plans are difficult to read, and for this reason we cannot evaluate the nature and extent of the proposed demolition. We have not seen the demolition plans that the applicant circulated at the hearing today.

Specifications are need for materials for exterior elevations, doors, and windows. Apparently hardie panels will be used for portions, perhaps all of the rear exterior. Without this information, it is difficult to assess the view of the project from 11th Street.

We believe that insufficient information has been provided to determine whether the project is compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District.

Thank you for considering our comments.