

**Testimony of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society before the DC Historic Preservation
Review Board December 15, 2016
417 4th Street, SE HPA 17-076**

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.

We reviewed the plans for the project dated December 5, 2016. The project is a subordinate three-story addition and roof deck. This is a simple three-story contributing brick building constructed in 1857 or earlier. The project has several excellent features, including removing the inappropriate shutters and replacing the inappropriate door with a four-panel wood door with Greek Revival wood surround. The third story was altered at some point in the past, increasing the height and enlarging the frieze band windows. Some sources indicate that six-over-six windows were original to Greek Revival houses (1825-1860).¹ The plans call for replacing the windows with six-over-six double-hung wood windows in the existing masonry openings.

There are two options for the project. Option A has better massing and provides more privacy for neighbors. The sightline study should be clarified as to whether it measures using a six-foot height.

We believe that the project is compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District.

Thank you for considering our comments.

¹ William Morgan, *American House Styles* (New York, N.Y.: Harry N. Abrams, 2004, 92). Virginia and Lee McAllister, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York, N.Y.: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, 179, 186, 191).