

**Testimony of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society before the DC Historic Preservation
Review Board December 15, 2016
434 3rd Street, NE HPA 16-697**

My name is Beth Purcell and I am testifying on behalf of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society's Historic Preservation Committee. The Historic Preservation Committee of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society reviewed the plans for this project received December 1, 2016. Thank you for letting us share our views on this project, new construction of a three-story two-unit brick rowhouse with basement on a shallow vacant lot. The design and materials of the front facade with a developed cornice across the entire front, a full-height square bay, references elements in the adjacent buildings. The rear and side walls will be brick. The areaway recalls Capitol Hill doglegs. The design and materials are appropriate.

However, the plans show a full flight of stairs leading to a roof hatch, suggesting plans to use the roof. It appears that there are three areas on the roof, including a deck area in the rear; no materials for the roof are specified. Specifications on any planned roof deck, including location, dimensions, materials and placement of and materials for railings are needed. If the project receives concept approval, we urge that HPRB specify a roof hatch access to the roof, and not a penthouse.

We believe that subject to the roof deck access issue, the project is compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District.

Thank you for considering our comments.