

**Testimony of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society
before the DC Preservation Review Board on September, 2018
152 11th Street SE (HPA 18-601)**

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

The Historic Preservation Committee of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society reviewed the plans for the project dated August 8, 2018.

This three-story contributing brick rowhouse, part of "Philadelphia Row," (124-154 11th Street, SE) is believed to have been constructed in 1865 by Stephen Flanagan.¹ It's the second house from the intersection of 11th Street, SE and Independence Avenue; both are major streets. No change is planned to the front elevation, and the dogleg will be retained. A significant amount of interior demolition is planned and it would be helpful to know if there is any historic fabric in the interior.

The applicant plans to build a two-story ten-foot rear addition, clad in brick. The design and materials for the rear elevation are compatible. However, the addition will be very visible from Independence Avenue. Please see Figures 1 - 2. This rear addition raises an issue under the Board's *Additions to Historic Buildings*. In 146 13th Street, SE (HPA 15-127), a rowhouse very near this project, the Board considered a proposed third-story penthouse visible from Independence Avenue:

CAPITOL HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

146 13th Street SE, HPA 15-127, concept/rooftop addition.

The Board found the concept of the deck and railing to be compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District but found that the penthouse access structure was not compatible based on its visibility. Vote: 6-1.

We believe that this project raises important issues as to visibility for the Board to address.

We believe that this project may not be compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District, and request that the Board consider this issue.

Thank you for considering our comments

¹ Source: DC IPS database.