Testimony of the Historic Preservation Committee of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society before the DC Historic Preservation Review Board 1007 8th Street, SE HPA 22-548 July 28, 2022

My name is Beth Purcell and I am testifying on behalf of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society's Historic Preservation Committee. We reviewed the plans for the project dated August 1, 2021 and March 22, 2022.

The applicant proposes to add a commercial deck to the Brig Beergarden, a noncontributing building constructed in 2015 in a relatively isolated area. We believed that the project is compatible, and suggested painting the railing.

At the HPRB hearing on December 2, 2021, the Board ruled:

1007 8th Street SE, HPA 21-548, permit/construct deck structure in front of one-story commercial building. The Board found the idea of a raised deck on the property to be viable, but that it needed to be pulled back and connected to the existing building, replacing the existing shed canopy, reduced in its projection, and that the elevator and straight run stairs be better integrated into the structure. The project should return to the Board when redesigned. Vote: 5-0.

The applicant submitted revised plans reducing the footprint of the proposed deck, connecting the deck to the existing building. The applicant has not complied with all of the Board's requirements - The applicant declined to replace the existing shed canopy, citing economic hardship, an issue for the Mayor's Agent.

We agree with the staff's conclusion that the project is not compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District.

Thank you for considering our comments.