Historic Preservation Committee of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society 229 8th Street, SE HPA 24-327

Testimony July 25, 2024

Good morning. This is Beth Purcell from the Capitol Hill Restoration Society's Historic Preservation Committee. This house was built in 1874 or earlier. It is a contributing building. We reviewed the plans for this project dated June 21, 2024.

This detached two-story frame house is visible from several angles on 8th Street, SE., a key factor in this case. The applicant proposes a three-story rear addition. The existing side elevations are visible from 8th Street, SE. The plans and the flag test viewed by the staff indicate that the addition will be visible from 8th Street. and the addition will not be subordinate to the historic house. To address these problems, we suggested in our comments that the third story addition be pulled back or reduced in height.

The applicant's current plans specify wood double-hung windows (an improvement over the previously proposed vinyl casement windows). The design and finishes for the addition appear to be appropriate.

We agree with the staff report and believe that this project is not compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District and support the staff's recommendation that the project be revised to a nonvisible or two-story addition.

Thank you for considering our comments.