

MATERIALS CONSERVATION COLLABORATIVE, LLC

Crane Arts Stable, 1431 Cadwallader St, Philadelphia, PA 19122 • (215) 763-8090 • fax: (215) 763-8098
www.mscollab.com

August 15, 2012

Mr. Ryan Samuel
3616 14th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011

Re: *Proposed Addition to 3616 14th Street*

Dear Mr. Samuel,

I am writing to share my opinion of your proposed addition to the 3616 14th Street building. The building is the most architecturally significant structure in the immediate vicinity. Although common, it is a nice example of an architecture for a new commercial age, specifically in the organization of the facade and the application of ornament.

The building has already been somewhat compromised over the years (original windows and doors have been replaced, etc), but the significant character defining elements of the facade remain. My concern lies in the future treatment of the facade. It is important to preserve the original clarification of this facade, in proportion, in scale, in ornament, in the rhythm of the bays and in the emphasis of vertical over the horizontal.

However, this building is certainly capable of being reused and adapting to your requirement for more space. I agree with your proposed solution of adding a floor as long as the original facade is left untouched. Any attempt to "move the cornice up" or disturb original fabric would drastically compromise the integrity. A modern addition that clearly distinguishes itself from the authentic historic building is the most desirable solution in my opinion.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss this in greater detail. Best of luck with the project.

Sincerely yours,



Leigh Seyfert
Architectural Conservator