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Government Of The District Of Columbia
Board Of Zoning Adjustment
Jerrily R. Kress, FAIA

**RE.: MY OPPOSITION TO APPLICATION NUMBER 16737**
**(APPLICATION OF JOHN AND LAURA CHADWICK)**

Thank you for your notification to which I am obliged to respond in writing since I am presently stationed abroad.

My neighbours in Georgetown at 1406 30th Street, N.W. have applied for a permit to add a fourth floor to the 3 story brick townhouse. As the owner of 1404 30th Street, N.W, I am firmly opposed to this application for the following reasons:

1404 and 1406 30th St. are two semi-attached homes that together form a single brick townhouse. They are like Siamese twins, identical butterfly versions, designed by Russell Eldridge, a famous Georgetown architect and built in 1954. (copy of photo attached). The architectural concept is based on complete structural symmetry which constitutes the particular identity of this dwelling. Throughout the years various owners have made major interior changes, yet all of them diligently respected the exterior character which therefore still reflects the original design. In fact, one of the previous owners of 1406 30th St. has already changed the attic into a functional 4th floor without touching the exterior, making the pending application difficult to understand (a 5th floor in reality?)

As you can clearly see from the photo, any floor addition would grossly alter and disfigure the original structure, completely unbalancing it from an esthetic and

BZA
Case No. 16737
Exhibit No. 23
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16737
EXHIBIT NO.23

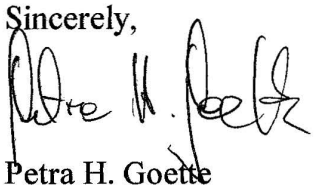
architectural point of view. In fact, it would entirely alter the character of this small Georgtown block.

I purchased my home in 1985 (and plan to retire there) because it was an **original and unaltered** traditional Russell Eldridge Georgetown brick home, which in itself is not only esthetically pleasing to me personally, but also clearly represents added value to my property. Thus any exterior changes would definitely lower the value of my part of the house since it certainly could not be called "original" any longer. Besides the fact that from a zoning and tax point of view it would be difficult to differentiate between both "Siamese twins" and I am bound to be financially penalized.

My main opposition, however, remains the structural change of a traditional Georgetown residence. While minimally increasing the living space for the owners of 1406 30th St., an additional floor would do little to enhance this traditional Georgetown block except to create some bizarre architectural assymmetry to this unique building in the center of the block of 30th St. between O and P St.

For many people like me the strict zoning laws in Georgetown are a primary motive to live there, because contrary to newer neighbourhoods tradional architecture is respected. It seems obvious to me that when purchasing a semi-attached home one automatically acknowledges the limited options to dramatically modify the structure of the building compared to the purchase of a free standing house. As an ardent Georgetown lover I feel obliged to defend the originality of this traditional buiding and to preserve this part of the Georgetown neighbourhood.

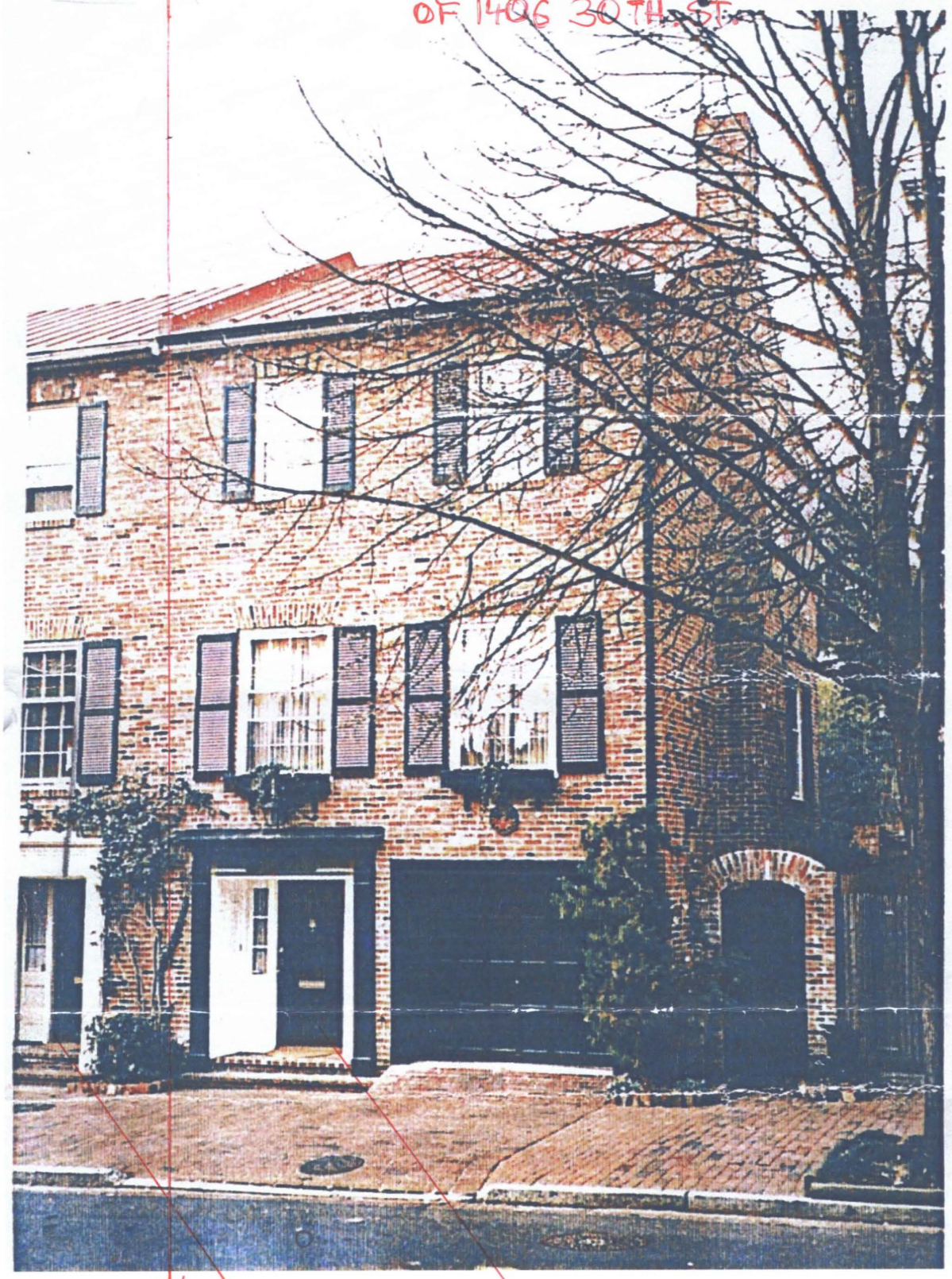
Sincerely,



Petra H. Goette

ORIGINAL
RUSSELL ELDRIDGE
BUILDING
BUILT IN 1954

BOTH BRICK HOUSES ARE SEMI-ATTACHED AT THIS POINT
1404 30TH ST. (not shown completely)
IS AN IDENTICAL BUTTERFLY VERSION
OF 1406 30TH ST.



ENTRANCE TO
1404 30TH ST.

ENTRANCE TO
1406 30TH ST.