


FONDO DEL SOL

VISUAL ARTS CENTER

EL MUSEO LATINO/MULTICULTURAL DE WASHINGTON

AN ARTIST RUN ALTERNATIVE MUSEUM

2112 R St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
Tel. 202-483-2777



RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2002 NOV -6 PM 3 14


27 October instant

To: BZA Commissioners
re Bass Mansion Application
for Burton Markovith Gallery
Application Case # 16920

Dear Gentlemen & Mesdames:

This letter is in reference to the application for two floors of gallery use by the above named gallery for the Bass Mansion at 21st & R St.,NW.

The Utley house,now owned by the Bass Family, is a key historic building anchoring the corner of R and 21st Streets,NW.

It has a longstanding gallery tenant Robert Brown Gallery on its basement floor. This distinguished gallery is in complete conformity with the long standing tradition of doctors offices/or galleries in unobtrusive location on ground or basement floors and with separate entrances and in accordance with S/P zoning . The key point is that the building is a key residential building dominating the key corner of 21st & R St,which sets the tone for the neighborhood. Galleries under S/p have always been within street quadrants and never on corners except for basement entry use. Owners of the buildings have usually lived above their space (eg, Mateyka, Baumgartner &Alex Galleries among others, or been galleries operated by the building resident owner,:Gallery K, Gail Enns for Anton Gallery,& the Dentzler Gallery,&Brodys.

The charm unique to this neighborhood is that commercial galleries have never been obtrusive. They have fitted in in with a wonderful mix of residences,and three noted museums within two blocks of each other,viz: The Philips Collection ,founded 1921, the Fondo del Sol Visual Arts Center/Museo,founded 1973,and the Anderson House,,opened in 1937.


BZA
Case No. 16920
Exhibit No. 52


The Burton Marinkovih Gallery already has a long established gallery space on 21st street. Their request for a major corner building for 2 floors of dominant setting and venue would drastically change the nature of our current neighborhood. The undersigned, a resident of 2112 R St, and a Trustee for the museum,would suggest that they might be advised toseek 1st floor use & basement gallery space within one of the tradional gallery spots.

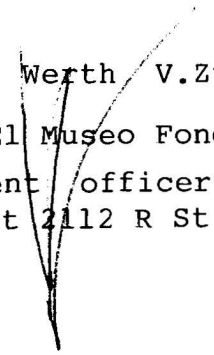

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16920
EXHIBIT NO.52


OVER

I would strongly recommend against their application in its present form,or the limit of their use of the Bass house to office and storage only on one floor (lst floor,no more).

Their application would appear to me to violate almost every precaution and zoning limitation of the past 30 years,and would not fit within the context of what has been traditional use and location .

With most sincere regard,



Werth V.Zuver

Trustee ,El Museo Fondo del Sol

and resident officer

Resident at 2112 R St, for 34 years.