

Norma Zane Chaplain

1721 Riggs Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
202-234-2880

April 30, 2005

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 210 South
Washington, DC 20001

Dear BZA:

RE: Application Number 17319

I returned from a trip to late to file my written request for party status. I shall attend, but his letter will have to be my voice. Several others had not fully understood the hearing regulations and I expect you will be receiving mail from them.

I live at 1721 Riggs Place, NW, next door to the property in this case. At the ANC 2B meeting April 13, the applicant, William McKeever sought approval for constructing a "bump out" in his courtyard to enlarge his kitchen and a third floor deck in place of the extension to the building he had applied for. Should Mr. McKeever, reverse himself again by applying for and obtaining an extension on the third floor roof, the light and air circulation at the rear of my house, and those of several others, would be seriously diminished. Light, especially, is very precious in row houses, particularly on the gloomier north side which the extension would affect. These long narrow houses have windows only in front and back and along a 50 inch wide courtyard on one side.

Our houses probably make up one of the few intact Schnieder designed rows. There has been no structural change to the exteriors since they were constructed 110 years ago--- not when they were single family homes with, probably, many children, not when some became rooming houses during World War II, not with group homes in the 60's and then not when many were converted into 2 to 4 apartments or, lately, condominiums. Recent residents and those of us who have lived here over 25 years feel protective of their beauty and historical significance. Any change in the exteriors would compromise the rhythm of the Schnieder plan.

In a letter to his neighbors, Mr. McKeever said that he wanted to expand his house to make room for his disabled sister on the second floor. Perhaps when he purchased the property last fall he thought 3600 square feet would be adequate for two people.

Sincerely,

Norma Zane Chaplain

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Hand Delivered

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DNIN-5-2-2005

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17319
EXHIBIT NO. 21

BZA

Case No. 17319

Exhibit No. 21