

J.P. FRANZEN
ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTS, P.C.

Mr. Todd Levine
The Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation
940 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT 06517-4002

February 6, 2009

Dear Todd,

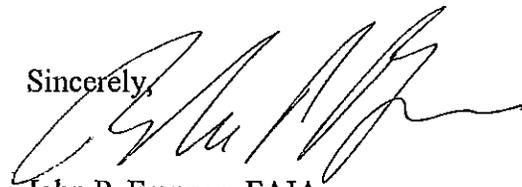
With recent talks of cuts in funding for the CT. Trust, I am writing to offer my personal view on how important this funding is to maintain. As you know, I have a medium sized Architectural practice. Currently I have 10 employees. I know there are approximately 40 other firms, some smaller, some larger specializing as I do in Historic Preservation. Typical projects in our office also employ consultants such as surveyors, engineers, historians and ultimately numerous contractors and vendors.

I do not believe most citizens realize how much impact the funding of Preservation has on our state economy. The money appropriated is tremendously leveraged. In the past 5 years we have done millions of dollars in construction work on Preservation Projects with our fees totaling in the hundreds of thousands. I can think of one project alone that cost in excess of 5 million and employed dozens for most of a year. The completed project resulted in adaptive reuse of a vacant building which now houses at least 15 permanent new jobs. For this particular project and many others we received no direct funding from the CT. Trust, yet all of these projects would have been very difficult without the support of the Trust, through assistance to Historic Districts, Preservation Awards and recognition and help in obtaining expert consultants and providing aid in documentation of projects for National Register Applications.

For the projects where we have received direct funding through the HPTAG Grant Program there would be no possibility of these going forward without the detailed, technical expertise required to shepherd them through the approval process. Without the CT. Trust HPTAG Grants, many of these projects would never get off the ground. Because of HPTAG Grant money, we and other firms have been able move important Preservation projects along and create momentum sufficient to draw the attention of private donors who are really able to leverage the money coming from the state.

Please keep me on your active list of letter-writers and supporters for this program.

Sincerely,



John P. Franzen, FAIA