



580 High Street
Dedham, MA 02026
T 781.329.4145
F 781.329.4038
bcausa.com

February 11, 2008

To Whom It May Concern::

I am writing this letter to comment on the work done by Liszt Historical Restoration at the Starr-Axinn Center at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont in 2006-2007. BCA prepared the drawings and specifications for the restoration of the exterior masonry at the Starr-Axinn Center and monitored Liszt's work during construction.

The work done by Liszt Restoration was of consistently high quality throughout the project. Several of the greater challenges of the project included cleaning a white marble building with various types and degrees of soiling, repointing very narrow mortar joints with a unique raised bead profile; and restoring a damaged marble wall that had been coated by cement and mastic rundown from an addition removed during this project. In all of these areas, as well as in matching replacement stone, dutchmen repairs, and disassembly and rebuilding areas of masonry, Liszt Restoration did exemplary work. The difficult narrow joints were cut carefully, and the various white mortars used in previous pointing campaigns on the building were matched perfectly. Liszt devised a custom, pointing tool to replicate not only the size and shape of the original, beaded joint profile, but the surface texture, which was very important to the appearance of the joint. The damaged wall, which the project team had thought might not be salvageable, was cleaned by hand with water and plastic scrapers. Liszt patched broken stones and faux-grained the surface of the repairs so that they were indistinguishable from the surrounding marble, and installed dutchmen where larger repairs were needed. The result is a wall that shows no sign of the terrible condition it was once in.

In addition to being excellent technicians, the Liszt company brought exemplary problem solving skills, creativity, and a strong commitment to professionalism to the project. They consistently suggested efficient ways of dealing with unforeseen conditions, and showed their commitment to doing an outstanding job with their attention to both detail and schedule. Liszt was able to work effectively with the General Contractor, and to understand exactly what the Architect and BCA were looking for and how to achieve it. This ability to get things done to the highest standards was most important for this project, as the travel distance made it impossible for BCA to be on site every week to check samples or monitor the work.

BCA greatly enjoyed working with Liszt Historical Restoration on this project, and we are very appreciative to them for a job well done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica M. Zullinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Building Conservation Associates, Inc.
Jessica M. Zullinger, Senior Project Manager