



Laura M. Oliphant

sculpture / historic restoration

410-905-2718

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To whom it may concern,

On my first visit to Cambridge, I was utterly struck by the rich architectural history of this town. So much so, that my spouse and I moved here. Being a part of this community has been exciting on many levels.

For over 30 years I have worked in historic restoration and preservation in the DC - Baltimore metro area. While much of my work has been recarving and restoring the facades of buildings and monuments, it has also included restoration work on community projects and individual homes both inside and out. In all the projects, there are a myriad of challenges with the community, historic regulatory bodies, products, workflow, money, etc.

I actively work with both large and small projects. As my resume reflects, I was commissioned by the National Park Service to restore the marble stonework on the Lincoln Memorial. In addition, I have been one of the key historic restoration experts to renovate brownstone structures in the Baltimore historic district of Mount Vernon.

It has been my experience that buildings reflect the fabric of a community, its history, character and future. It is within that fabric that approach to changes must be carefully considered. I take a very practical approach to restoration. An aesthetic end to a project can be achieved, within budget, with the right product knowledge, understanding and cooperation of all parties involved. I am an excellent collaborator and communicator to make town restoration dreams reality and complete requests within tight deadlines.

It is clear Cambridge's HPC can enhance and enrich the vital growth of the historic district while enhancing its fabric and enliven its rich history. I would be honored to serve as a member of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Sincerely,

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Summary of Qualifications

- Over 35 years experience as an artist
- Sculptor for over 72 commissioned wood, bronze and stone pieces
- Experience as an instructor and onsite trainer for several historic restoration projects
- Restoration product specialist to ensure proper selection and use of materials
- Project manager and site supervisor for several historic restoration projects
- Developed and implemented a volunteer workforce model for historic restoration projects
- Presenter for AIA on restoration techniques and materials,
- Consultant for general contractors to determine methodology and cost estimation
- Demonstrated human relations, interpersonal, creative, and computer skills
- Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) Certification # 10-358006

Summary of Professional Experience

Restoration Specialist/Carver

- Restored and carved brown stone façade and edifice, **Garret Jacob Building**, Baltimore, MD
- Served as restoration specialist for site, repaired and patched to match iron stone, **Hancock Resolution**, Pasadena, MD
- Carved, molded, cast and repaired stone features of **Alban Towers**, Washington DC
- Stone and wood restoration, **George Will House**, Washington, D.C.
- Marble restoration, the **Supreme Court**, Washington, D.C.
- Trained apprentices, oversaw masonry restoration, **The National museum of Civil War Medicine**, Frederick, Md.
- Supervised various restoration projects, **Navy Yard** in Washington, D.C.
- Coordinated, trained and oversaw volunteer and student work force for the restoration of the **Josephine Butler Parks Center** with Washington Parks and People
- Restored stone of **Hudson Hall**, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
- Carved brownstone frieze, created molds and directed their use, **Hippodrome Arts Complex**, Baltimore, MD
- Restored and carved stone work, **Woodrow Wilson House**, Washington, D.C.
- Carved stone, crafted molds and casts, served as a consultant, **Johns Hopkins Hospital**, Baltimore, MD
- Restored stone, **John Paul Jones Crypt**, U.S. Navy Academy, Annapolis, MD
- Performed specialized restoration on the **Lincoln Statue**, **Lincoln Memorial**, Washington, D.C.
- Restoration and carved marble eagle, **Susquehanna Bank**, Columbia, PA
- Terracotta restoration, **Millersburg Railroad Station**, Millersburg, PA
- Marble restoration, mold crafting and reproduction of **Cordova's Three Graces**, **Maymont Park**, Richmond, VA

- Brownstone restoration, **American Brewery**, Baltimore, MD
- Principal artist, brownstone restoration, **The Ivy Hotel**, Baltimore, MD
- Multiple other business and residential projects involving stone restoration, staining, casting, carving

Instructor/Trainer

Cathedral Stone Products, Inc
Hanover, MD

- Teach stone restoration methods, write class curriculums, visit various sites throughout the country to advise and teach methods to be used.
- Develop and teach classes in mold making for architectural and historic restoration projects.
- On-site trainer and project director for **Josephine Butler Parks Center** restoration, Washington, DC

Sculptor

- Solicited and nominated for over 68 private commissions
- Carving various materials to include stone, wood, and metal
- "Living Wall Project," application and carving of Jahn material, Washington, D.C.
- Freeform carved mahogany door, **Loyola High School**, Towson, MD
- "Woman with Snake," figurative wood carving, California
- "Awakening," 7'x 4' figurative relief (SWEBO fest award winner), Baltimore, MD
- 8" bronze figure, Towson, MD
- Memorial, freeform limestone carving, 5' by 3', **Frederick**, MD
- Altar, walnut, **St. Martin's in the Field**, MD
- "Flames," 4' by 6' freeform bronze sculpture, Baltimore, MD
- Gargoyle, **Dwarven Stonecutter**, PA
- Central Cross, **College of Preachers Chapel** (National Cathedral grounds), Washington, D.C.
- Central cross, **Church Home Hospital**, MD
- Designs of freeform sculptures (for a proposed park), **Howard County Parks**, MD

Recent Awards

- The Maryland Historic Trust Preservation Project Award for the restoration of the **Garret- Jacobs Mansion**, Baltimore, MD
- The Building Congress and Exchange Craftsmanship Award for stone restoration work of the **Garret-Jacobs Mansion**, Baltimore, MD
- The Maryland Historic Trust Preservation Award for the **Hancock's Resolution**
- Artisan award, **Preservation Maryland** for **The Ivy Hotel**

Education

- Bachelor of Fine Arts, sculpture major
Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD
- Certification as Jahn Installer
Cathedral Stone Products, Inc., Hanover, MD
- Computer graphics, web design, multimedia, video, and historic restoration methods
Seminars, online coursework, and conference attendance