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**HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD  
STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

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Property Address:	<b>1204 Q Street, NW</b>	Agenda
Landmark/District:	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Street Historic District</b>	<b>X</b> Consent Calendar
		<b>X</b> Concept Review
Meeting Date:	<b>July 25, 2019</b>	<b>X</b> Alteration
H.P.A. Number:	<b>19-466</b>	New Construction
		Demolition

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Architect Dean Brenneman, representing the owners, seeks conceptual design review for construction of a one-story side addition, reconstruction of an existing rooftop penthouse, and window and door replacement.

**Property History and Description**

1204 Q Street is a three-story, bay-front brick house set above a partially-exposed basement. While originally constructed as a two-story house in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, its current appearance is the result of an extensive remodeling undertaken in 1939. The project included adding the third floor, changing window openings, painting the building white, and restyling it in a Moderne/Art Deco style.

The 1939 project was undertaken by owner Dr. Thomas Williston for the building to serve as his home and medical office. Dr. Williston was a graduate of Howard University Medical School and opened his practice in 1934; he also served as a clinical instructor at Howard and on the Tuberculosis Bureau of the DC Health Department for several decades. The architect was Dr. Howard Mackey, the long-time Dean of the Howard University School of Architecture. Among Dr. Mackey's many achievements was enlarging the department from 30 to 300 students - making a marginal department within the University into one of its strongest programs - and establishing the School of Architecture as the first accredited architectural program in a predominately African American college. Mackey was active in the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and was named a Fellow of the AIA in 1962. He served on the DC Board of Examiners and Registrars of Architects and on the Joint Committee on Landmarks. In 1987, he received the Whitney Young, Jr. Award for outstanding social service to the African American community.

**Proposal**

The project calls for adding a one-story sun-room addition atop the garage. The wood-frame penthouse would be reconstructed in essentially the same footprint, slightly expanded in the rear. The multi-light windows would be replaced in-kind, with several minor changes to window locations at the rear and 13<sup>th</sup> Street elevations. The distinctive metal railings would be retained and a Moderne-styled awning would be installed over the front door. The faux-Colonial Revival door and detailing added at a later date would be removed.

**Evaluation**

The side addition is compatible in materials and design with the house, and the reconstruction of the penthouse would not increase its visibility from public street view. The other alterations retain the important character-defining features of this unusual property and are compatible in character with the building and historic district.

**Recommendation**

*The HPO recommends that the Board find the concept compatible with the character of the historic district, and to delegate final approval to HPO.*

*HPO Contact: Steve Callcott*