H. & S. Pogue Service Building Historic Conservation Guidelines

310 Race Street Cincinnati, Ohio

Prepared for: City of Cincinnati Historic Conservation Office Department of City Planning and Engagement

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Historic Conservation Guidelines

General Terminology

Within the context of these historic conservation guidelines, the primary elevation of the H. & S. Poque Service Building 310 Race Street is defined as the west (Race Street). The north elevation (facing W. Ogden Place) and the south elevation (facing the surface parking lot) are secondary, while the rear east elevation (the lower six stories of the building abuts the neighboring building at 30 W. 3rd Street and the upper four stories are exposed above) is utilitarian.

Rehabilitation

Intent and General Guidelines

These guidelines are intended to ensure that rehabilitation will maintain significant features of 310 Race Street. Guidelines are intended not as hard-and-fast rules but to be used by the Historic Conservation Board as a guide to assess the compatibility and appropriateness of proposed rehabilitation work. Reviews by the board are limited to exterior changes proposed for the building. Repair of features that do not change significant features and comply with the intent of these guidelines do not require review by the board. Alterations made to the interior are not within the purview of the Historic Conservation Board and are not subject to review.

The following overarching approaches are recommended:

- 1. Repair and Maintenance: Ordinary repair and maintenance of like and kind to match the original construction, where visible and which does not change the appearance of the building, is acceptable under these guidelines. Rehabilitation may include preservation, restoration, reconstruction, or a combination of these, as appropriate and reasonable for the building.
- 2. Maintenance: Existing visible features that contribute to the overall character of the building in good condition should be maintained and where possible. preserved or conserved. Damaged visible features which can be repaired should be repaired rather than replaced whenever possible.
- 3. Replacement: Replacement of significant features badly damaged, deteriorated beyond reasonable repair, or missing should sensitively harmonize with characteristics of the original feature. Replication is appropriate but not required.

Specific Guidelines

1. Materials: The primary exterior material is a common red brick laid in a common bond. The south elevation has an exposed party where a prior building was removed. The exposed area is covered in unfinished stucco. The stucco area may be finished with a more durable and aesthetically pleasing stucco system. Materials that are badly damaged, deteriorated beyond



reasonable repair, or missing should be replaced with materials or components that closely match the style, shape, color, treatment, and texture of the element replaced. Composition, type of joint, size of units, visible measures, placement and detailing should be appropriate for the building.

- 2. Masonry Repointing: Repointing of deteriorated and/or missing mortar shall match the existing historic mortar as close as possible. Elements of the new repointing mix shall be consistent with the existing mortar in formulation, aggregate size, texture, color, and method of application. It is recommended that test patches be applied adjacent to existing mortar and allowed to dry. An assessment should be made of new repointing mix with respect to varied constituents to be matched. The sample that closely matches the original mortar should be used for the repointing. Refer to Preservation Brief for general approach to undertaking masonry repointing.
- 3. Masonry Cleaning: Sandblasting diminishes the integrity of building materials. It is not an approved cleaning method. Should cleaning of exterior materials be undertaken, no harm should result from the approach taken to do the work. In the event that cleaning of building materials is undertaken, use the gentlest method possible to accomplish good results. Scrubbing with a bristle brush and a mild non-ionic detergent is recommended. Should this method be found ineffective, the use of approved chemical cleaning application can be used only after test patches have determined the most gentle means with respect to composition of cleaning agent, method of application, and cleaning results. Refer to PB # 1 for general approach to masonry cleaning.
- 4. Water-Repellent Coatings: Use of water-repellent coatings on historic buildings is not permitted. The problem of water infiltration into a building is associated with structural or maintenance issues. Water-repellent coatings compound problems because the coating encapsulates moisture and does not allow it to evaporate naturally.
- 5. Entrances Doors and Garages: Original doors should be repaired rather than replaced where feasible and where appropriate access and security can be achieved in compliance with building codes. None of the entrance or garage doors on the primary elevation are original. The canopy above the main entrance is not original as it is clad in non-historic sheet metal. The only other door is a recessed service entrance at the rear corner with a flush metal door. If replacement of doors and the canopy at the main entrance becomes necessary, new doors and canopy should be compatible in scale, size, type, kind, style, color and finish. If the garage openings are re-established, new doors and storefronts should be compatible in scale, size, type, kind, style, color and finish. It is expected the service door on the north elevation will be replaced with a matching door.



- 6. Windows: Original window should be repaired rather than replaced where feasible. The monumental column of multi-lite metal frame windows above the main entrance and the bands of multi-lite metal frame windows with operable central hopper across the primary elevation appear to be original. The multilite metal windows on the side and rear elevation also appear to be original. All windows appear to be in poor condition due to extensive rust and corrosion. If replacement of windows is necessary due to their deteriorated condition and energy performance, new windows should be compatible in scale, configuration, style, size and color. Minor variations in replacement sash frames may be considered. Aluminum sashes are acceptable. Insulated glass of clear hue is acceptable. Rehabilitating a historic building to accommodate a new use may require increasing the number of window openings in a secondary elevation or a formerly blank wall to increase access to natural light and ventilation. Any new windows will be of a simple design to differentiate them and be distinguishable from the original, historic windows.
- 7. Ornamentation: Significant architecture ornamentation includes streamline limestone detailing that emphasizes the International style of the building. The ornamentation includes limestone water table, fluted surrounds at the main entrance, a continuous arched limestone surround on the column of windows above the main entrance door, patterned limestone surrounds and flat piers at the garage openings, bands of bullnose limestone trim framing the bands of windows on each story. All windows on the north elevation and a limited number on the south elevation have a similar bullnose limestone trim framing the bands of windows and include a fluted limestone panel between each window. These features should be preserved or conserved wherever possible. Do not make replacements or substitutions of different scale, size, design, or incompatible materials. Replace ornamentation to closely match originals in character, scale, configuration, style, size, texture, and color. Some synthetic materials, including fiberglass castings and composite materials may be acceptable at the upper floor levels.
- 8. Roofs: Parapets and other architectural features that define the roofline of the building should be preserved. The primary architectural feature at the roofline is limestone coping atop the parapet. The parapet material should be preserved or conserved wherever possible. Replace feature to closely match original in character, scale, configuration, style, size, texture, and color. On the primary elevations, vents, skylights, rooftop utilities, glass conservatories, stairs, elevator penthouses, equipment and other new roof elements should be placed such that they are generally inconspicuous from the opposite side of adjacent streets at street level. Roof decks with railings are acceptable if located to be inconspicuous from street level.



- 9. Painting: The building is not painted on the exterior. The exterior brick should not be painted. There may be an opportunity to paint the exposed stucco section with an appropriate vapor permeable masonry paint is specified.
- 10. Outside Attachments: Exterior light fixtures should be appropriate to the style of the building, or simple and contemporary. Where exterior light fixtures of a decorative nature consistent with the overall building history exist, repair, preserve, or reconstruct whenever possible and feasible to do so. Mercury vapor, high-pressure sodium, or other light sources that impart distortions of color when illuminated are not appropriate. Exterior light fixtures should be mounted or constructed so as not to cast undue glare onto neighboring buildings or damage the building on which they are mounted.
- 11. Signs: Signs should be designed for clarity, legibility, and compatibility with the building on which they are located. Signs on the property should not materially cover or obscure significant architectural features. Signs should be externally illuminated or based on historic precedent. Neon or shadow lettering internally illuminated signs are acceptable if designed and sized to be compatible with other signage in the vicinity.

Additions and Exterior Alterations

Intent and General Guidelines

- 1. Additions: Additions should follow new construction guidelines, codes, and regulations. Any addition should be compatible in character with the original building, with sensitivity to existing massing and scale, site, and appearance within the context of the original building. Additions should be sympathetic, may be complimentary, but need not be imitative in design. Additions should be designed to relate architecturally, not overwhelming the original building.
- 2. Alterations: Alterations should follow construction guidelines for alterations, codes, and regulations. Alternations should not change or alter significant architectural features on primary facades. On secondary and utilitarian elevations, alterations may be designed to minimize impact on the overall character of the building.
- 3. Appropriateness: The appropriateness of design solutions for additions and alterations should include the following:
 - a. How well the proposed design for the addition or alteration relates to the original building and neighboring buildings. How closely the proposed addition or alteration meets the general and specific intentions of these guidelines.



Demolition

Demolition may be considered if the demolition request is for an inappropriate addition or non-significant portion of the building and the demolition will not adversely affect those parts of the building which are significant as determined by the Historic Conservation Board.



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