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January 4, 2010

Joelle Schatz
Special Projects Coordinator
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, District of Columbia 20036

Dear Ms. Schatz:

I am writing to give my full support for Preservation Buffalo Niagara's nomination of the Statler Building to the National Trust for Historic Preservation's *11 Most Endangered Historic Places*.

The former Hotel Statler is of major historic and cultural significance to our city and the nation. It is also of tremendous architectural importance with a prominent location on Buffalo's priceless Niagara Square. The Statler was the flagship hotel of the renowned Staler hotel chain started in Buffalo by Ellsworth Milton Statler, who has been called America's greatest hotelier.

Today, the Statler is at a crossroads--deteriorating while it languishes in bankruptcy proceedings. A court selected purchaser proved unable to close on the property and the bankruptcy trustee has moved to begin a mothballing process that will leave the building unheated.

I applaud the efforts of Preservation Buffalo Niagara and many others to garner community support to save the Statler, and I am confident that the National Trust's recognition of the plight of this important landmark will generate the national attention and resources necessary that will be vital in this preservation effort.

