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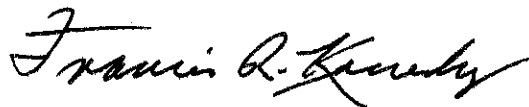
November 19, 2011

Henry McCartney
Executive Director
Preservation Buffalo Niagara
617 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14203

Dear Henry,

I am pleased to recommend for landmark status the Erie Freight House at 9 Ohio Street for local landmark designation. It is one of the few remaining vestiges of the railroad and canal era that once made the Buffalo waterfront one of the busiest in the country. The shed-like structure appears to share a similar method of construction and materials typically used for the original wooden grain elevators than once populated the Buffalo waterfront. These "ugly monsters" as Anthony Trollope called them, were often clad in metal in an effort to prevent them from catching fire from the sparks thrown out by passing locomotives. In fact, I believe that when the New York and Erie Elevator, which stood nearby, was destroyed by fire in 1867 the blaze threatened to engulf the freight house. The survival of the freight house from that incident and its defiance of the general demise of the transshipment industry in Buffalo, to say nothing of entropy, is truly remarkable. It is one of the ugly duckling treasures of our industrial heritage and fully deserves the honor and protection that landmark designation will bring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis R. Kowsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial 'F'.