

Hello, I am very much interested in seeing that there is finally going to be hope for a very much deserving landmark. I did not realize the Cheney Building was in Phase 1 of the redevelopment. I am hoping this very imposing building will be considered for saving and restoration, as it is very well built with steel framing, and brick construction. Although it has suffered much damage-most of it on the inside, the rest of the building appears still sturdy. Its size would make it ideal for upscale apartments, condos, conference center, hotel rooms, shopping arcades, medical museum. It is a very attractive building and could be put to better use than to just destroy it. The expense of demolition, hazardous material removal, removal of all the wasted building material, could be used better to rebuild the interior and use this building for another 50 or 75 years, before upgrades may be needed. Well, I hope you will give this your consideration, as this building is deserving of a second chance, and would be a great asset to the entire development. The original Kirkbride building is a one of a kind landmark and its restoration and rebuilding would also be a gold mine and a great asset to the state. I understand the administration building is already being considered for saving and restoration. The two wings, which are a part of the original structure should also be saved, although there is fire damage in the south wing. The remaining walls could be backed up with steel beams, the rest of the damaged area removed, then new construction could be installed, while retaining the original outer walls. This type of architecture just does not exist much any longer, and this structure is certainly worthy of consideration and saving, as much of it as possible. They have done this same type of work in Washington, D.C. where several old buildings have had their rotted and damaged interiors completely removed. The outer walls, which were the only part of the building left standing, were re-enforced with steel beams, while a completely new interior was constructed. The result was a beautiful historic building with a new lease on life and a well appreciated asset to Washington. They are doing something similar to this with the old St Elizabeth's Hospital campus. There are some buildings there with extensive damage, and they are going to use this same technique to restore the original Kirkbride for use by one of the government agencies. You should consider saving as much of the wings as possible, because of the historical status, and it would add so much to the overall redevelopment of the property and a great asset for future generations. The Hudson River buildings are one of a kind, and the architecture is very impressive. Nothing they build these days could even begin to come close to what is here. Although the place is run down, damaged, partially destroyed, there is so much here if you could just look on the other side-beyond all that has happened to this once beautiful place in our history. I hope you will give all of this your best consideration. Thank you for your time, and will be hoping for great results in the end. Sincerely, Gerry Deavers.