



# THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

PROPERTY & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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Date: December 2, 2003  
To: Directors of Building Projects  
From: Les McDonald, Archdiocese of San Francisco  
Re: Letter of Recommendation

Dear colleague:

The Archdiocese of San Francisco is near completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of a very complicated building project located at Kearney and Columbus Avenues. I thought it might be an opportunity for us to endorse and recommend the work of David Finn Architects. Mr. Finn has been involved with a number of projects as the project and construction manager and as the Owner's Representative on behalf of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco. The projects have included historic buildings, churches, schools, and mixed use projects. The majority of these projects were technically challenging, phased, and in some cases had multiple Owners. In all cases, Mr. Finn provided exceptional comprehensive measures of control and guidance in managing the projects. His oversight included proactive measures to mitigate risk and forceful cost control on the projects, which has provided a high level of protection for the Archdiocese.

In several cases, the construction projects, (major renovations at St. Boniface Church and Notre Came des Victoires Church), have been executed while portions of the buildings remained in daily use, requiring phased construction and a considerable degree of discretion and patience in dealing with the building occupants. The projects also often involved pastoral and teaching staff, otherwise unfamiliar with construction. In all of these cases David Finn has worked skillfully with the individuals at the parish job sites and with our staff at the Archdiocese providing us with a firm understanding of the important issues. His work with a wide field of engineers and design consultants is equally admirable reflecting a strong technical understanding seasoned with a perspective of the whole project and the impact of individual decisions to the Owner's project goals.

The involvement of David Finn in your future projects will provide a degree of security and oversight for a project Owner. His understanding of the construction process reaches well beyond the scope of the majority of design architects in grasping the full impact of design and construction management decisions on the interests of the Owners cost, schedule, and risk. I am very pleased to endorse the firm of David Finn Architects because of these aspects of their personal service, performance, and their attention to detail.

Sincerely,

Les McDonald  
*Director of Real Estate and Construction*  
*Archdiocese Of San Francisco*