



Herrero Contractors, Inc.

December 4, 2003

To whom it may concern:

As we near completion on construction of the \$14 million, Phase I Garage of the St. Mary's Catholic Center project, we are happy to provide a recommendation for David Finn, Architect, who acted as the Owner's Construction Manager. The St. Mary's Catholic Center is a large, mixed use facility being constructed in phases including a garage, the St. Mary's Chinese School, and the International Hotel Senior Housing Tower. Thanks in part to the strong owner's management by Mr. Finn, the project has stayed on budget and schedule. Mr. Finn has demonstrated his professionalism and thorough understanding of the process of construction, the interrelationship between work trades, and the forces it takes to successfully manage and build a large, complex construction project.

The successful performance of the work hinged on many decisions critical to maintaining project goals while mitigating risks presented by the project's technical challenges. Some of the potential risks included the removal of several thousand yards of contaminated soil, extensive underpinning of old, unreinforced masonry buildings, and tiebacks installed around old brick sewers and major utility lines. Additionally, ongoing site dewatering has lowered the groundwater table 50 feet below street level. Mr. Finn worked well with my field project managers, superintendent, and project engineers to identify and mitigate issues bearing on the critical path of the construction schedule. He has given timely direction and support while representing the interests of the owner by providing a fair perspective on issues that impacted budget and schedule changes.

For these reasons, I do not hesitate to recommend David Finn to any Owner, but especially those faced with financial and complex technical challenges on their projects.

Sincerely,
Herrero Contractors, Inc.

Rick Herrero
President
RH/df