



122 A. E. Backus Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34950

July 5, 2017

To whom it may concern,

In 1997-99 we bought the Sunrise Theatre from the original family that built and owned the building. It was a 1923 silent movie/vaudeville house and had a rich local history. It had sat dormant for many years. We received several State of Florida historic preservation grants and studied its potential for our community and decided to move forward with restoration and expansion.

Our organization is a small non-profit with very little construction or restoration background so we depended on those around us. When the job was put out for bid and during the interviews the company that showed flexibility, partnership, willingness and personality was that of Conkling and Lewis. I worked daily with their team and in the years of the project I never saw tempers flare, an attitude, or concern as to how we were going to finance the project to the end. It was a great experience working with them and they are considered part of our Main Street family. We hired them to do the work on our restoration of the historic Platts/Backus House also with another great experience in their craftsmanship. The cost of both projects was over \$14 million.

I would not hesitate to recommend Conkling and Lewis for new or historic construction projects. Words cannot express how much we appreciate the quality work they did for us and the friendship that was built. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions that I could answer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doris Tillman".

Doris Tillman, CMSM  
Manager

Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. • St. Lucie Preservation, Inc. • Main Street Focus, Inc.  
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