6/20/13

To whom it may concern,

    I worked as the interior designer on a large commercial project where North & South Construction Services was the general contractor. We converted a church into corporate offices for the National Center for the Advancement of Educational Assessment. The building had parts that were originally built over one hundred years ago, and the client wished to preserve the feel of the building while bringing it into the 21$^{st}$ century.

    From the very beginning, working with Any Tobin and Bruce Allain from North & South was a pleasure. They were always respectful, and full of ideas to save money while adding value to the project. As the project progressed, communication with them was very easy, and the people we needed to speak with were readily accessible. If the client or I had a question, they were never too busy to help us with the answer. As with any project, especially one dealing with a historic property, challenges occurred and that is where North & South really shined. They were always calm and eager to figure out a solution.

    As the building started to take shape, I was very impressed with the quality of the workmanship of their employees. I was especially impressed by their finish carpenters' work on a very complicated door and window casing design that was implemented throughout the building, as well as double layered crown mouldings. There was a particular instance where the sprinkler system heads had been installed too high by the plumbing contractor and Bruce made sure that they were moved to accommodate the crown. I don't know of many project managers that would have done that without a fight, yet Bruce did it with a smile because he knew it would look so much better.

    The building turned out gorgeous, and the true test of a smooth project is whether the designer, client and contractor are friends by the end, and we are. I would jump at the opportunity to work with them again.

                   Sincerely,
                   Marcye Philbrook