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# APPLICATION FOR APPEAL

RECEIVED  
APR 18 2011  
CITY CLERK

Saint Paul City Clerk  
310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
Telephone: (651) 266-8560

**The City Clerk needs the following to process your appeal:**

- \$25 filing fee payable to the City of Saint Paul (if cash: receipt number \_\_\_\_\_)
- Copy of the City-issued orders or letter which are being appealed
- Attachments you may wish to include
- This appeal form completed

**YOUR HEARING Date and Time:**

Tuesday, 5-3-11

Time 1:30

**Location of Hearing:**  
Room 330 City Hall/Courthouse

mailed 4-20-11

## Address Being Appealed:

Number & Street: 680 No. Swelling Av City: St. Paul State: MN Zip: 55104

Appellant/Applicant: GreatFans Email: Sales@greatfans.com

Phone Numbers: Business 651-644-1203 Residence 651-493-5722 Cell 651-247-3915

Signature: Donald A. Curtis Date: 4-15-11

Name of Owner (if other than Appellant): Donald A. Curtis

Address (if not Appellant's): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Business \_\_\_\_\_ Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

## What Is Being appealed and why? *Attachments Are Acceptable*

- Vacate Order/Condemnation/Revocation of Fire C of O
- Summary/Vehicle Abatement
- Fire C of O Deficiency List
- Fire C of O: Only Egress Windows
- Code Enforcement Correction Notice
- Vacant Building Registration
- Other
- Other
- Other

See Attachments:  
 Looking for answers to "why"  
 this space is so dangerous to  
 the public - need to remedy  
 the concerns - but we feel we  
 are jumping threw hoops which  
 get us nowhere

## GreatFans and Blinds

As of 4-10-11, GreatFans has been in contact with Mr. Ryan Rehn who has provided a list of issues that needed to be addressed. At present we are addressing four issues of the nine he pointed out. Five issues have been dealt with as of 4-01-11. We are asking for an appeal because we are still in need of explanations for the change which is asked of us. We do not own the building and have a very, very hard time keeping the doors open. We will *not* be able to make expensive changes to the building and from past experience the owners in New York City will not do much with the 80+ year old building. This building is old, no insulation, high taxes, lousy parking, busy street and light rail headaches. So can not justify a large expense with this building.



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

375 Jackson Street, Suite 220  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-1806

Telephone: 651-266-8989  
Facsimile: 651-266-8951  
Web: [www.stpaul.gov/dsi](http://www.stpaul.gov/dsi)

April 6, 2011

Great Fans and Blinds  
678 SNELLING AVE. N  
ST PAUL MN 55104

## LAST EXTENSION

RE: RE-INSPECTION FIRE CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY WITH DEFICIENCIES  
680 SNELLING AVE N  
Ref. # 13296

Dear Property Representative:

Your building was re-inspected for the Fire Certificate of Occupancy on March 31, 2011. Approval for occupancy will be granted upon compliance with the following deficiency list. The items on the list must be corrected immediately. **A reinspection will be made on or after April 25, 2011.**

**Failure to comply will result in a criminal citation or the revocation of the Fire Certificate of Occupancy.** The Saint Paul Legislative Code requires that no building be occupied without a Fire Certificate of Occupancy. The code also provides for the assessment of additional reinspection fees.

### DEFICIENCY LIST

1. Showfloor addition - SPLC 40- Uncertified portions of the building must not be occupied until inspected and approved by this office. -Area was approved as storage only. **On March 31st inspection Showfloor addition/Bargain room was reopened to the public. A sign outside of the property was posted indicating unapproved space was open. Photos were taken. Walls installed without required permits must be fully removed and area restored to the original/previously approved condition by no later than April 25, 2011.**

For an explanation or information on some of the violations contained in this report, please visit our web page at: <http://www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/index.aspx?NID=211>

You have the right to appeal these orders to the Legislative Hearing Officer. Applications for appeals may be obtained at the Office of the City Clerk, 310 City Hall, City/County Courthouse, 15 W Kellogg Blvd, Saint Paul MN 55102 Phone: (651-266-8688) and must be filed within 10 days of the date of the original orders.

If you have any questions, email me at [adrian.neis@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:adrian.neis@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or call me at 651-266-8992 between 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Please help to make Saint Paul a safer place in which to live and work.

Sincerely,

A.J. Neis  
Fire Inspector  
Ref. # 13296

## GreatFans and Blinds

### A Brief History of 680 Snelling Ave N – St Paul, MN 55104

- Built as a car dealership in 1928/29
- Operated as such until the late 1940's
- Became a warehouse/office for a chemical supply company. (Late 40's-Late 50's)
- For a very short time after it was a machine shop for a motor cycle builder
- Early 1960's – American Auto Trim car upholstery company moved in and operated until 2003. During this time, Dan's Fan City leased some unused space from the American Auto Trim company from 1988 until the present
- 2003 – CD Partners leased the building from the owners in New York City. CD Partners subleased the space to an auto upholstery shop and GreatFans
- 2008 – Auto Trim business closed / moved and GreatFans was the only lessee in the building. The basement storage was continuously being compromised by water , space was provided on the main level where the Auto Trim business moved out of.
- 2009 – CP Partners installed walls to accommodate the needed space for warehouse use
- 2010 April – CD Partners surrendered the lease back to the New York trust and GreatFans worked out a lease agreement to stay in the building.

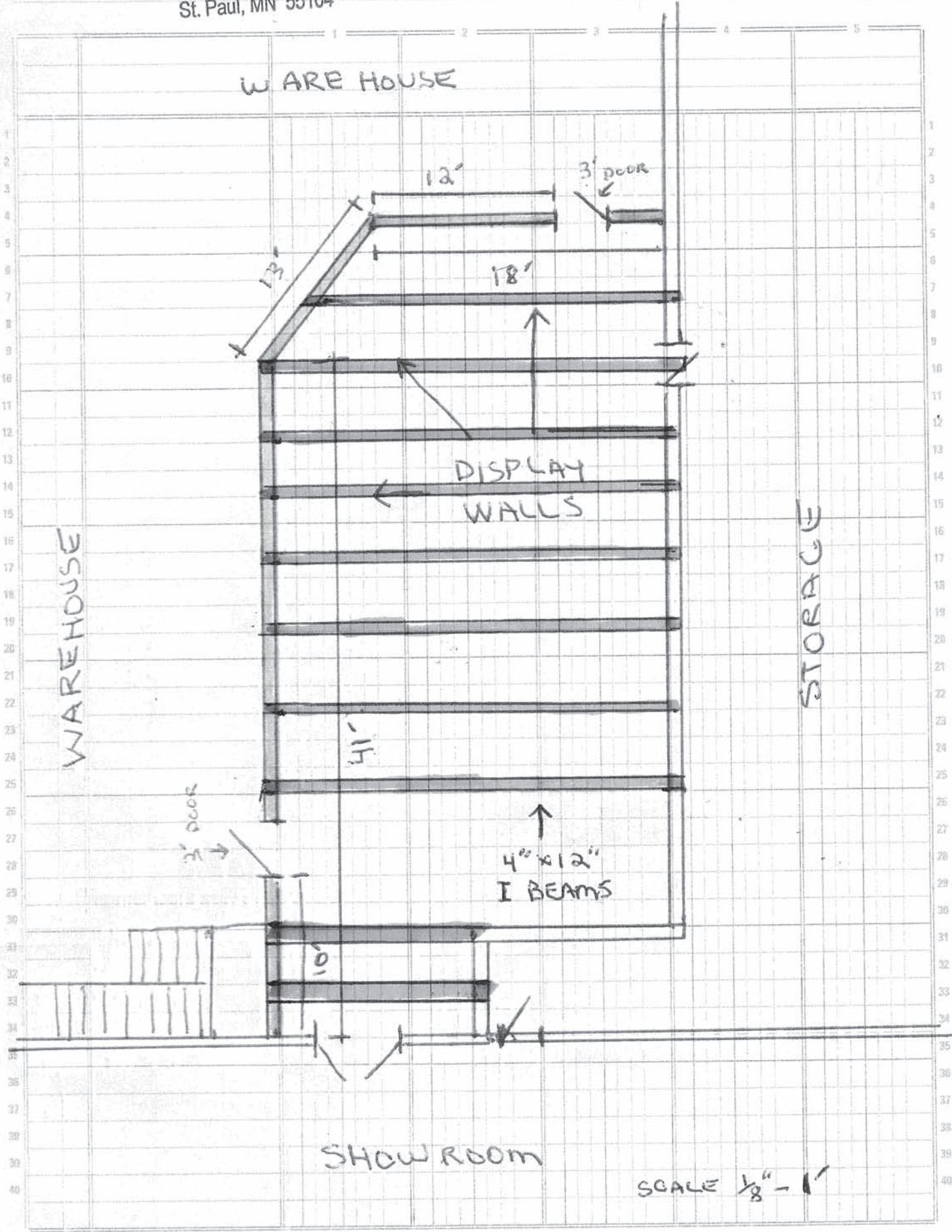
## GreatFans and Blinds

- In the past 20 years since we have been located in this building, we have absorbed more space from the leaseholders. The original leased space from 1988 was the immediate store front located on the attached Snelling Ave drawing. Over the years, we found the basement storage continually getting more prone to water exposure and eventually it became unusable for storage, so the leaseholder – AAT Inc at the time – gave us the back area so everything was on one level and dry.
- Since there were no occupants in the back area for the last three years, the leaseholder – CD Partners – agreed to lease us more space. To secure the area, CD Partners hired a contractor to construct the walls.
- There are no exit passageways – exit/ entry is from the main showroom.
- We are using the area for our storage warehouse, receiving and return, and assembly – we put closeout stock in this space.
- No heating or plumbing was added . Electrical was added and the permit was pulled by Keller Electric. A separate electrical panel was installed.

GREAT FANS & BLINDS  
678 N. Snelling Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104

051-011-1203

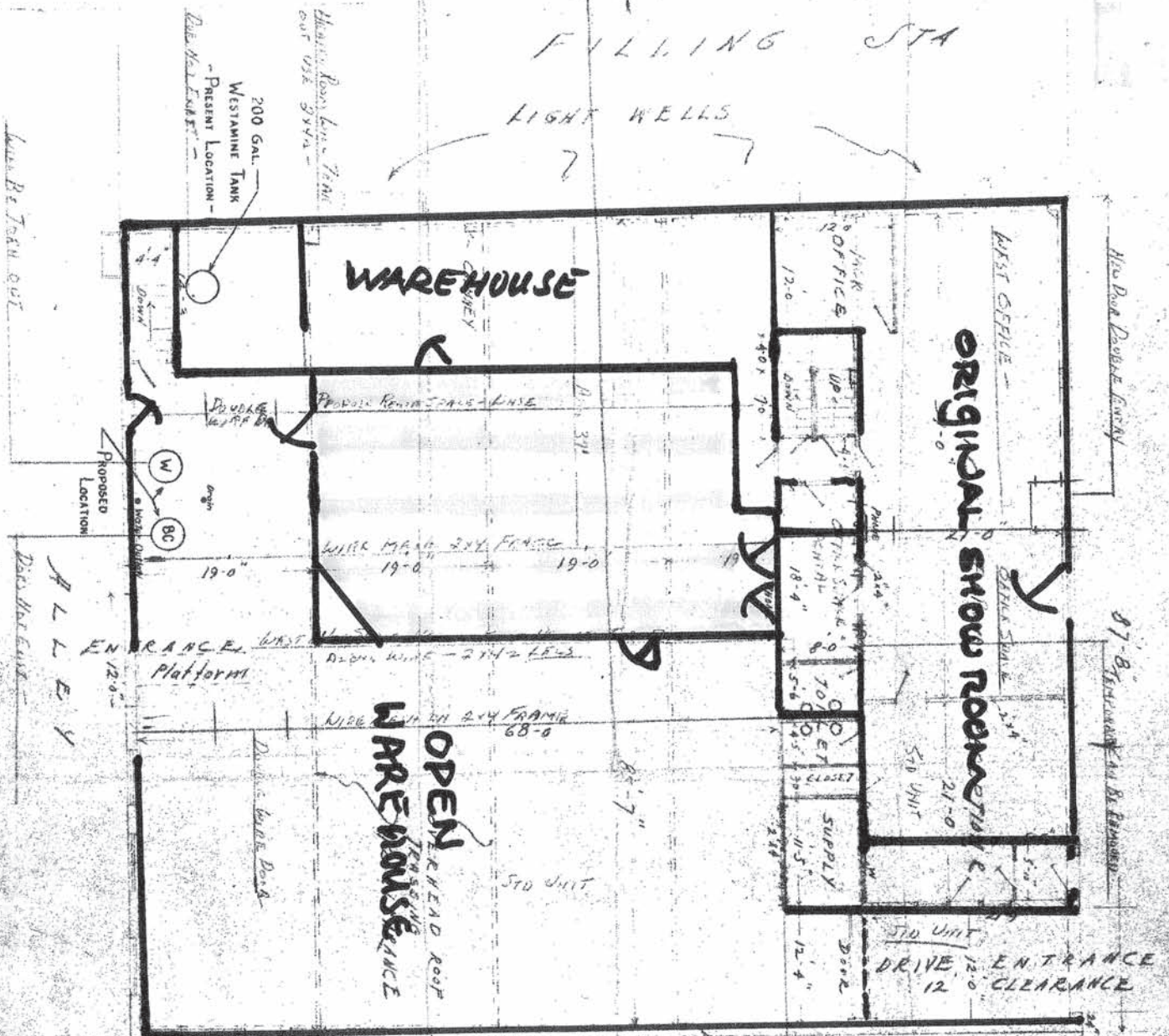
Prepared By	Initials	Date
Approved By		



AREA IN ?

SNELLING

AVE.



MAIN FLOOR  
 680 SNELLING AVE NORTH  
 ST PAUL, MINN  
 Prepared by  
 J. Paul May

1 1/2" BRICK WALL  
 ON 16 CONC. TILE WALL

1 STORY BRICK

50'-0"

50'-0"

570 UNIT

STREET LINE

FLOOR CONSISTS OF 5" CONCRETE SLAB  
 4" DECK 1" x 8"

ST PAUL, MINN  
 J. Paul May  
 Engr.