

ERNEST A. BARBEAU
RADIO STATION CONSULTANT
84 FURMAN STREET
SCHENECTADY 4, NEW YORK

February 5, 1947

Dear Frank:

Arrived this morning from Boston and had ample opportunity to study carefully every possible angle of the proposed studio location we inspected the other day on the third floor of the bank building. It does not stack up well at all - from several angles.

I am convinced that unless you could prevail upon the bank people to give you an exclusive or isolated entrance to the building plus a suitable automatically operated elevator, that the space will not do for our purpose. That is one of the major drawbacks. Another serious objection is the bottle-neck layout which immediately defeats the paramount traffic requirements for efficient studio operation. Unless the bank was willing to build another section of not less than 15 feet where I indicated, it would be most cumbersome if not impossible to function with such a bottleneck. There are one or two other minor objections which I will not go into now.

I believe it will be well to abandon this site - at least temporarily pending inspection of other sites your real-estate agent has agreed to locate in other parts of the downtown area. I hope he has located a couple or more by the time I arrive Friday afternoon. I plan to be at your office shortly before noon so that we may lunch together and talk to save time - if that is agreeable with you.

I am making inquiries at General Electric for a sound and vibration testing instrument with which to conduct noise level measurements in that church building on Fifth Avenue adjacent to your headquarters - in event you are successful in obtaining permission to inspect the property. There is such an instrument at the GE General Laboratory which I believe I can borrow. Such a test will give us at least some indication of the sound isolation we would have to consider as well as ground vibrations and tremors from passing trains some 200 or more feet to the east.

I am not opposed to ground location for studios excepting in locations where street traffic is heavy and noisy. Heavy truck traffic should be avoided. Also, we must use care to see that our building is isolated from surrounding buildings containing heavy machinery.

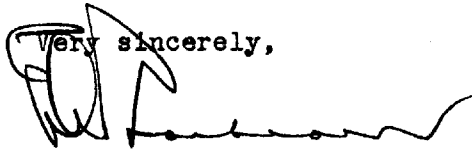
Of course, the ideal location is usually found on the top floor of office buildings, hotels or mercantile buildings which is accessible by modern elevators. The advantage of being on the uppermost floor of such buildings is obvious from standpoint of isolation both as to sound and street vibrations. Certain buildings like your local Proctor Theatre building sometime lend themselves admirably to studio usage with the proper treatment for sound isolation, but these are often difficult to locate due to their value as rentable business space.

I would like to make the suggestion in the interest of secrecy that you limit your studio space search to one real estate agent whom you can take into your confidence. The chap we talked with the other day looks like a live-wire and probably knows Troy realty situations as well as anyone. Maybe he will come up with something.

Enclosed I am returning the bank's blueprint which was charged to you. I dont believe we need it any further now. Perhaps we can find a location far more suited to our needs.

Will see you Friday. Kindest regards.

Very sincerely,



Ernest A Barbeau

Mr Frank York
General Manager
The Record Company
Troy
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