

February 15, 2010
Canada

Letter of Reference – Patrick Azzopardi and Baroque Renovations

I am pleased to provide a Letter of Reference for Patrick Azzopardi and Baroque Renovations, Valletta, Malta.

I engaged Patrick and Baroque Renovations in 2007 to undertake a complicated assignment involving a home I had purchased in Valletta, Malta. The assignment was complex for a number of reasons: firstly, it involved the significant floor and wall alterations of the existing space of a very old home; secondly, the project involved adding a two-storey addition to the pre-existing structure; thirdly, this project had to conform to the construction and design requirements as set out by the Malta Planning Authority. (Renovations are complicated at the best of times but a project in Valletta—which has been designated as a World Heritage Site—is no small task.); and finally—and possibly most importantly—was that this project was undertaken from a distance as I reside in Canada permanently and was unable to attend to the day-to-day work involved with this project. In fact, I relied on frequent contact with Patrick and put my trust in his ability to deliver on the project.

Throughout the assignment, I found Patrick and Baroque Renovations to be professional and reliable. Patrick's focus on detail is noteworthy. His attention to small things ensured success with the big things and very little got past Patrick and his crew of trades people—many of whom represent Malta's best workers and craftsman.

Patrick did an excellent job of communicating with me as the project moved along. He regularly provided me with email photos—in fact I have over 1000 pics—which offered me a visual inventory of the progress of the works completed. The photos arrived almost bi-weekly alongside regular written updates of the works completed. In addition we also spoke on the phone and through Skype calls.

I experienced no issues with regards to budget. Whenever costs needed amendment, I received ample notice and justification and I am pleased to say that the project came within the budget that Patrick had put forward and to which I agreed.

A rainy winter did impact our timelines but, by and large, Patrick was able to honor expectations around completion dates. I felt that Patrick was “on top” of the work and came to trust him on delivering the work required within the time lines established.

While Patrick did a very good job of managing the expectations as set out by the Planning Authority and the construction regulations required by the City of Valletta, his most noteworthy accomplishment may be that he also managed the delicate relationship with neighbours. This is an important issue given that this project affected a number of families. Through it all, Patrick was able to keep neighbours content and their concerns attended to.

Patrick has a personable and respectful demeanour and remained positive and excited throughout the project. I experienced nothing negative. Throughout the project, Patrick was attentive, organized, respectful and ethical. I could not have imagined all of the work required for this project. I am certain that its success is due in large part to the professionalism provided to me by Patrick Azzopardi and Baroque Renovations. I have no hesitation in recommending Patrick and I would not hesitate to consider him for any project.

Victor