

RaphaelArchitects

PRESS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RAPHAEL ARCHITECTS HOLDS OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW BUILDING

(Doylestown, PA) On Friday, May 20, 2005, from 5-7 p.m., Raphael Architects will celebrate the opening of their new office at 169 North Main Street, with an Open House celebration for the business community and friends.



The property at North Main Street was originally built in 1802 and went through a series of owners and additions before being acquired by Raphael in January, 2005. Due to the nature of its prior additions, the building needed significant structural improvements as part of the renovation process. Footings were necessary under a brick addition and an older frame addition at the rear of the building was torn away and replaced with a new, two-story structure.

Raphael's design plans transformed the 2600 square foot building into a new 1645 square foot office space to house his expanding practice as well as a 955 square foot, one bedroom rental apartment. Once the structural underpinnings were completed, construction began almost immediately, coordinated by David Brooke Rush Builders of Hilltown.

The new office space combines the historic charm of the original building with modern architectural elements to provide a bright, open work area for Raphael and his staff. Included in the renovations were a new front porch entrance to the office, new offices for staff, a conference room and kitchen area on the ground floor, and an office for Raphael on the second floor.



Central to the design of the new space is a helix stair to the second floor office. This stair was built and shipped as one piece from its manufacturer in Vermont. Once installed in its curved stairwell, railings were added. The curved stairwell also provides an interesting architectural element to the back of the building, with new rear entrances flanking the rounded exterior wall.

The second floor apartment also was opened up to provide a large bedroom and living room with a high-end kitchen featuring cherry cabinets and Corian® counters.