



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

AGENDA for the public meeting of PREFERABLY PRESERVED STRUCTURES

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission will hold a public meeting on **Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.** in City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. Please note that the start times listed below are estimates only and cases may be moved up or pushed back at the discretion of Staff.

The purpose of the meeting is to seek alternatives to demolition for structures determined by the Historic Preservation Commission to be Preferably Preserved and to make recommendations to the Historic Preservation Commission at a future Commission meeting on the following Preferably Preserved structure(s):

6:30 PM to 7:00 PM

14 Kent Court HPC 2015.004
Delay Period Ends: 9/17/2015
Building Description: c. 1874 dwelling

Significance: The building is "Significant" & "Preferably Preserved." The subject building is found importantly associated with the broad architectural, cultural, economic and social history of the City due to the c.1874 construction date which illustrates continued working class development of the area; simple form and massing including the rear ell; and retaining the side fenestration pattern that illustrates one bay. This building is a mid-nineteenth century example of working class housing and is part of a collection of housing associated with the early development and industry of Somerville. The subject dwelling is found historically and architecturally significant as a representative of mid-19th century working class housing stock due to the remaining integrity of the structure with regard to original form, massing, and visible side fenestration patterns. In addition, due to the location of the structure within a small collection of buildings that represent the same cultural context, this dwelling is significant within the context of the group of buildings which, together, represent the early development and industry of Somerville. The Commission found demolition detrimental, due to the side-gable orientation, size, early date of construction, and context of associated structures which raises this building to a higher level of significance and due to the level of integrity, its association as an intact example of working class housing, and as part of a mid-nineteenth century collection of buildings. and therefore, it is in the best interest of the public to preserve or rehabilitate 14 Kent Court.

7:00 PM to 7:30 PM

12 Warwick Street HPC 2015.022
Delay Period Ends: 4/21/2016
Building Description: c. 1877 workers cottage

Significance: The building is "Significant" & "Preferably Preserved." The subject building is found importantly associated with the broad architectural, cultural, economic and social history of the City due to the association of the property with workers and the Boston Brick Company, whose location and employment opportunity prompted the development of this small neighborhood of working class housing.



The Commission also found the subject building historically and architecturally significant to the ability of the subject parcel to convey significance regarding location and design both individually and within a group of buildings in terms of scale, height, form and massing. This building retains a number of qualities that continue to convey both historic and architectural significance, such as the location of the structure on the lot and the spatial relationships between the subject dwelling and other dwellings along Warwick Street. Other qualities that convey significance include the original form and massing, fenestration pattern for various façades, and the side-hall interior plan, which is understood from the exterior.

The period of significance for 12 Warwick Street begins at the time of construction, c. 1876, and extends into the twentieth century as this dwelling continues to house the working class, and more particularly, laborers of the working class such as the first owner, Andrew Maloney, gardener and family, residents from 1876 to 1924, and later Nazzareno Tarabelli, carpenter and cabinetmaker, and family, residents from 1929 thru the 2012.

7:30 PM to 8:00 PM

13 Warwick Street HPC 2015.023
Delay Period Ends: 4/21/2016
Building Description: c. 192 industrial building

Significance: The building is “Significant” & “Preferably Preserved.” The subject building is found importantly associated with the broad architectural, cultural, economic and social history of the City due to its association with the Royal White Laundry and its part in the history of immigrant families and their culture in the City therefore, it is in the best interest of the public to preserve or rehabilitate 13 Warwick Street.

The structure was determined ‘Significant’ due to an association of the property with the broad architectural, cultural, economic and social history of the City due to its with immigration and an important catalyst for the acclimatization and incorporation of unskilled workers into the community, spurring the development of workers housing and other businesses.

The Commission also found the subject building historically and architecturally significant due to the continuity of an important local business under the aegis of a single family. The original building is clearly typical of modest industrial architecture of the 1920s.

The period of significance for 13 Warwick begins with its construction circa 1924 and continues through to the closure of the business at that site. Royal White Laundry is a business established by immigrants that has provided a livelihood for generations of unskilled laborers and continued to do so until its closure last year.

