



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

STAFF PRESENT
KRISTENNA P. CHASE, PRESERVATION PLANNER

MEMBERS PRESENT
JILLIAN ADAMS
ALAN BINGHAM
MARK STERNMAN

Minutes for the public meeting of PREFERABLY PRESERVED STRUCTURES

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting on **Thursday, June 4, 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

56 Line Street HPC 2014.088

Delay Period Ends: 10/20//2015

Building Description: c. 1874 dwelling

Significance: The building is "Significant" & "Preferably Preserved." 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 association with laborers and the early development of Somerville and representative of 19th century workers housing stock due to the remaining integrity of the structure with regard to original form, and massing and the early development of that section of Ward II. The Commission found demolition detrimental due to the rarity of this type of residential dwelling within the City, its association with laborers and the early development of Ward II, and its ability to convey the life of 19th century workers by the representative character of the housing stock and through the remaining integrity of the structure with regard to original form, and massing and through its location, the early development of that section of Ward II.

The Applicant had made many changes to the plans as discussed at the meetings on 5/7/2015 and 5/19/2015 as well as changes needed to meet the zoning requirements. The Commissioners present recommended the addition of another set of windows along the façade. The ground floor window next to the entry porch may be oval or the same as the other windows on the façade. Revisions were made on the wording of the MOA which would be ready for presentation and signatures to the full Commission on June 16, 2015.



7:00 PM to 7:30 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.

The applicant was not yet ready for her project to be discussed. Plans are being revised. They plan to be ready to discuss an MOA in July.