



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
MELISSA WOODS, PLANNER

MEMBERS PRESENT
JILLIAN ADAMS
ERIC PARKES

Public Meeting for Preferably Preserved Structures
Recommendations and Minutes

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting on **Thursday, June 5, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.** in City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

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

314-316 Somerville Ave HPC 2014.009

Delay Period Ends: 2/20/2015

Building Description: c. 1890 single-story commercial structure

Significance: The structure is "Preferably Preserved" due to the level of integrity through the retention of Italianate architectural details on a small scale commercial structure; as an example of Union Square commerce in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; through an association with Patrick Rafferty, who was involved with City politics and is representative of immigrant groups who influenced the further development and expansion of Union Square; and as part of a nineteenth century collection of commercial structures associated with exponential growth at the turn of the twentieth century as well as the three-building collection of structures located on this parcel.

This was the first time for this case to come to a Public Meeting for Preferably Preserved Structures. The Architect gave a brief overview of the building design including first floor retail with a new storefront and salvaged sign band and cornice, two stories of residential (2 units), and a side gable roof. The storefront would be similar to the historic building but would not be able to be salvaged. The building would be a metal storefront system, clapboard, 5/4 trim with wide corner boards, and brick (left side).

The Commissioners agreed that the quality of the building made it not possible to salvage the storefront. However, there are brackets that can be reused and duplicated. Selective demolition will be used to identify any elements that should be incorporated into the design. The signboard, if reused, shall be clapboard with standoff letters and lights as shown. The Commissioners made other recommendations including: showing a double door entry, increase the width of the storefront mullions, and revising the window pattern on the second and third floor. The windows should read as groupings instead of a row, the groupings could be 2, 1, 2 with a taller center window. There was also discussion regarding the placement of a plaque on the subject structure or 318-322 Somerville Avenue, to articulate the historic context and association with immigrant Patrick Rafferty.



The Commissioners discussed the pitched roof. They felt that it was inappropriate and should be a flat roof with a parapet. The buildings on the site should work together and they requested the Architect show 318-322 Somerville Avenue in elevation next to 314-316 Somerville Ave.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30.

