



November 12th, 2020

Corktown Historical Society's response: HDC 11/12/2020 Agenda \*2221 Wabash Demolition

The Corktown Historical Society was informed of the intent to demolish a historic structure within the Corktown Historic District boundaries. This project was not brought to the attention of the Corktown Historical Society by the site owners/developers. All the information/plans on this project was learned from the HDC info available online. Based on the proposal of the intended project it's the consensus of the Corktown Historical Society that this project should be **rejected**.

The proposed project:

- Demolish existing Structure complete; including foundations
- New Construction of Single Family residence

The Corktown Historical Society is extremely concerned of the precedent this demolition would have in a historic district. Corktown's workers cottages are an important historic element of Detroit's early worker's history. The demolition of a Corktown cottage and replacing with a modern structure will erode what's remaining of the historic district. The concerns about the building's structural concerns have been used many times to push illegitimate demolitions through the legal processes. We've seen many restoration projects within the Corktown Historic District occur without demolition. We wish the developers had taken the time to research and reach out to the Historical Society to properly educate and inform the community.

We invite the project leaders to speak to the historic Society to learn more of their intent and to ensure they understand the rules and values of a historic neighborhood.

To ensure our message is made clear, it's the consensus of the Corktown Historical Society that this project should be **rejected**. We cannot continue to lose our finite Detroit architectural history.

Thank you,

Blake Almstead  
President  
Corktown Historical Society