

From: [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)
To: [Garrick Landsberg](#); [James L. Hamilton](#); [Jessica McCall](#); [Alease Johnson](#); [Dennis Miriani](#); [Richard Hosey](#); [Johnson, Katie](#); [Tiffany Franklin](#); [Pamela Parrish](#); [Taylor Leonard](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] 2221 Wabash - OPPOSED
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2020 1:20:00 PM

From: Giles Simmer [mailto:gilessimmer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 11:58 AM
To: Historic District Commission (Staff) <hdc@detroitmi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2221 Wabash - OPPOSED

Dear Historic District Commission,

My name is Giles Simmer and I have lived at 1812 Church Street in Corktown since May 2009. I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal that has been presented to the HDC to demolish the existing structure at 2221 Wabash.

I have served on the board of the Corktown Historical Society for a number of years and this is the first time that we have heard of anything regarding rehabilitation or demolition of this structure.

As I'm sure you all are aware, Corktown currently faces numerous challenges in preserving our historic buildings as we are a "hot spot" for development. The demolition of a historic structure would only provide further proof to developers that it's "okay" to demolish these structures for something "better and new." Additionally, to tear down an existing historic structure places our local and national historic designation at greater risk of being revoked.

Upon a very brief search, I found that this property was purchased almost two years ago and it seems that no additional work was done to seal up or stabilize the property upon purchase. This shows that the current property owner, who is listed as a developer in California, has little to no respect for the historic designation of the neighborhood and the level of work and personal commitment it takes to preserve these structures.

I urge the HDC to reject this request for demolition of a 120+ year old structure in the Corktown Historic District.

Sincerely,

Giles Simmer
Owner, 1812 Church Street

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