

**From:** [Scanlon, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Scanlon, Amy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 127 W. Gilman-demolition by neglect  
**Date:** Thursday, January 16, 2014 8:19:28 AM  
**Attachments:** [Scan\\_Doc0012.pdf](#)

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Dear Landmarks Commission members, Ald. Zeller, Ms. Scanlon, and Mr. Cover,

In 1972 the Landmarks Commission was presented with a similar situation as you are being presented with 127 West Gilman St. In fact, ours might even have seemed more dire as the building inspection report was written up by the head of the Building Inspection Department, R.W. Friess. As you can see the entire commission made plans to meet on the premises to inspect the property and we did, and the Nathaniel Dean home became our 26th. designated Madison landmark. It was rehabilitated and has been used and enjoyed by tens of thousands of Madison and Monona citizens ever since.

I will be out of the City for your next Landmarks meeting and I am very sorry to miss it. I think I can safely say that the Landmarks commissions that I served on and chaired would be very unlikely to consider favorably demolition of a contributing building in the Mansion Hill Historic District or any district. I would say that we also would not have been inclined to move a contributing building to a less desirable location, i. e., from rather quiet Gilman to noisier and higher trafficked Gorham.

I was appointed in 1970 to the first Landmarks Commission, chaired the LC during the research and the (unanimous ) designation of the Mansion Hill Historic District, and served through 1978. Many citizens have served on the LC since its founding and I think we all feel it was/is our duty and responsibility to uphold the Ordinance and promote historic preservation in Madison.

Thank you very much,

Leigh H. Mollenhoff

Please see the attachments and note the long laundry list of "hazardous conditions" of the Nathaniel Dean home prior to its rehabilitation.

LANDMARKS COMMISSION

TOUR MEETING

Monday, July 31, 1972

4:30 P.M.

Monona Golf Course Clubhouse

Followed By

Log Cabin at Yahara Hills

We will meet at the front window of the Monona Golf Course to see the Dean House. Following we will travel to Yahara Hills Golf Course. When arriving at Yahara Hills, pull up in the circle in front of the clubhouse and remain in your car as we will have to drive along a maintenance road to the log cabin. I suggest you wear knock around clothes and sturdy footwear.

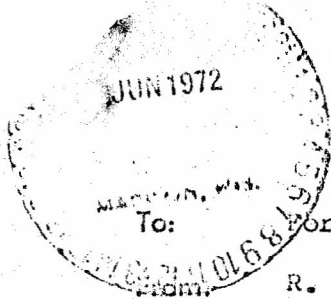
If you cannot attend please give me a call.

*James R. Sanborn*

James R. Sanborn  
Acting Secretary

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL  
CORRESPONDENCE

*PUPA*  
*7/26/72*



Date: June 23, 1972

To: Forrest Bradley, Parks Supt.  
From: R. W. Friess, Building Inspections Supt.  
Subject: Monona Golf Course Club House

An inspection was made by Paul Romano Building Inspector on June 23, 1972.

1. The foundation is beyond repair.
2. The first floor is in hazardous condition.
3. The two porches are beyond repair.
4. The ceiling in the first floor is falling down.
5. All window sills are dry rotted.
6. Stairway to second floor is not conforming to city code.
7. All rooms on second floor have the plaster broken off and is in hazardous condition.
8. Second floor toilet room is beyond repair.
9. The main roof is in hazardous condition.
10. Brick walls are buckling out.
11. Brick lintels are falling down.
12. ~~The building is sagging so that the front door will not open.~~

The building is in a hazardous condition and it shall be razed and removed from the site at the end of the golf season, which is November 1, 1972.

R. W. Friess

RWF:PJR:dd

Note: MR. GAUZEWITZ HAS A REPORT FROM A PRIVATE ENGINEERING FIRM ~~WHICH~~ WHICH HE WILL PRESENT.