

AGENDA # 6

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION

PRESENTED: 5/9/22

TITLE: Buildings Proposed for Demolition - 2022

REFERRED:

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Heather Bailey, Preservation Planner

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: 5/13/22

ID NUMBER: 68860

Members present were: Richard Arnesen, Katie Kaliszewski, David McLean, and Maurice Taylor. Excused were: Anna Andrzejewski and Ald. Arvina Martin.

SUMMARY:

Marc Schellpfeffer, registering in support and available to answer questions

Paul Cuta, registering in support and available to answer questions

Fred Jaeger, registering in support and available to answer questions

Ekberg provided information on the building at 3401 E Washington Avenue and its associations with the Gardner Baking Company, founded in 1926. The Gardner Baking Co. moved to this location in 1952 when they outgrew their original location at 849 E Washington Avenue.

Ekberg said that staff recommends a finding of no known historic value for the building at 917 Deming Way, as there is no preservation file or Wisconsin Historical Society site file for the property.

Ekberg said that the building at 4414 Regent Street is a contributing structure in the University Hill Farms National Register Historic District and was designed by architects Graven, Kenney, and Iverson.

Kaliszewski said that 4414 Regent Street was a cute building. McLean agreed and said that it was striking in its simplicity. He said that the cantilever out front is fun, and it is definitely contributing to the National Register historic district. He said it would be a shame to remove it. Bailey added that one of the initial commercial tenants in the building was the architectural firm who designed it. Kaliszewski said that the decorative paneling on the sides is striking when you drive by the building. Arnesen said that it would fit demolition criterion c, and McLean agreed. Kaliszewski said that it is a striking example of a small Contemporary office building. Arnesen pointed out that they are being torn down quickly in this area. Kaliszewski agreed that it is a quickly disappearing property type, and it would be a shame to lose it.

Fred Jaeger, property owner, said that the building was named after its builder, Grayson. They said the historic value was limited, they had a problem with renting space in the building, and it was financially unviable when the taxes keep going up.

ACTION:

A motion was made by Arnesen, seconded by McLean, to recommend to the Plan Commission that the building at 3401 E Washington Avenue has no known historic value. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

A motion was made by McLean, seconded by Arnesen, to recommend to the Plan Commission that the building at 917 Deming Way has no known historic value. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

A motion was made by Arnesen, seconded by McLean, to recommend to the Plan Commission that the building at 4414 Regent Street has historic value based on its status as a contributing structure in the University Hill Farms National Register historic district. The district is significant for its grouping of MidCentury commercial and residential architecture, and this structure contributes to the overall character of the district. The building is a striking example of a Contemporary office building, which is a property type that is quickly disappearing. The motion passed by voice vote/other.