## LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING REPORT

November 10, 2025

Agenda Item #: 7

**Project Title:** 450 W Gilman Street - Consideration of a demolition permit to demolish a

commercial building (District 2)

Legistar File ID #: 90470

Prepared By: Meri Rose Ekberg, Community & Cultural Resources Planner

Members: Present: Richard Arnesen, Ald. John Duncan, Edna Ely-Ledesma, Molly Harris, and Katie

Kaliszewski

Excused: Jacob Morrison and Maurice Taylor

## **Summary**

Brian Munson, registering in support and available to answer questions

Kaliszewski referenced John Rolling's written public comment, which discussed the building's integrity and history as the University Hotel. Rolling thought it was a regrettable loss as a building with historic value related to the vernacular context of Madison's built environment.

Harris agreed that they should recognize the public comment in their discussion and asked if others thought it was worth documenting the building as Rolling suggested or making a finding of (b).

Kaliszewski said she could see this as a (b) finding because it is an older building that seems to have maintained its integrity, but they don't have a lot of information about the building itself.

Duncan said he agreed with staff's recommendation of (c), no known historic value.

Kaliszewski said she could see the argument that this is an important vernacular building. Arnesen said that it is an intact building from 1890, so it's hard to say that it doesn't have historic value; he was in favor of a (b) finding.

A motion was made by Duncan to recommend a finding of (c) no known historic value. The motion failed for lack of a second.

## **Action**

A motion was made by Arnesen, seconded by Harris, to recommend a finding of (b) as the building has historic value related to the vernacular context of Madison's built environment as an intact building constructed c. 1890, but the building itself is not historically, architecturally or culturally significant. The motion passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Molly Harris, Edna Ely-Ledesma, and Richard Arnesen

Noes: 1 - John Duncan

Excused: 2 - Jacob Morrison and Maurice Taylor

Non Voting: 1 - Katie Kaliszewski