
13 September 2013

City of Madison Plan Commission

RE: Resolution to seat an ad hoc committee to advise on planning for the Lamp House block

Dear Plan Commissioners-

We represent a coalition of national, state, and local heritage and historic preservation organizations:

- *Madison Trust for Historic Preservation,*
- *National Trust for Historic Preservation,*
- *Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy,* and
- *Frank Lloyd Wright Wisconsin Heritage Tourism Program.*

Together, these organizations represent thousands of constituents in Wisconsin and throughout the nation.

We support Alder Zellers' resolution to seat an ad hoc committee to advise the Madison Plan Commission and Common Council on the unique considerations of the Lamp House block in her district.

We agree with the recitals in the resolution before you, and we encourage you to endorse it.

The proposed ad hoc committee is an opportunity to bring together property owners, heritage conservation groups, neighbors, and Madison residents to affirm the importance of the Lamp House to Madison's and the nation's architectural heritage. It's an opportunity to find common ground on a plan for the block that maintains the house in the public's view and consciousness.

Wright's Lamp House, though not threatened with demolition by any current proposal, risks being enshrouded by increasingly dense development. Unless a thoughtful approach to development on this block is undertaken, we risk burying the house in even greater obscurity.

We strongly encourage the City of Madison to take this opportunity to give very careful consideration to the only building in the downtown area designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and consider the powerful role that historic places play in cultivating a city's identity and sense of place.

Sincerely,



Jason Tish, Executive Director
Madison Trust for Historic Preservation



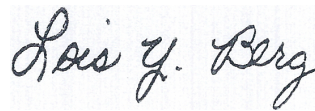
Janet Halstead, Executive Director
Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy



FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT
BUILDING CONSERVANCY



Genell Scheurell, Senior Field Officer
Chicago Field Office
National Trust for Historic Preservation



Lois Berg, President
Frank Lloyd Wright Wisconsin Heritage
Tourism Program

*The **Madison Trust for Historic Preservation** is a private, non-profit educational and advocacy organization founded in 1974, and dedicated to increasing awareness of and commitment to Madison's history, architecture and the preservation of our historic places.*

*The **National Trust for Historic Preservation** is a privately funded nonprofit organization that works to save America's historic places. From our headquarters in Washington, D.C. and our 13 field offices, we take direct, on-the-ground action when historic sites are threatened. Our work helps build vibrant, sustainable communities. We facilitate public participation in the preservation of sites, buildings, and objects of national significance or interest. We advocate with governments to save America's heritage, and we strive to create a cultural legacy that is as diverse as the nation itself so all of us can take pride in our part of the American story.*

*The **Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy** is an international preservation organization based in Chicago. Founded in 1989, its mission is to facilitate the preservation and maintenance of the remaining structures designed by Frank Lloyd Wright through education, advocacy, preservation easements and technical services.*

*The **Frank Lloyd Wright Wisconsin Heritage Tourism Program** is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization created with the assistance of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the State of Wisconsin Department of Tourism. Its mission is to promote, protect and preserve the heritage of Frank Lloyd Wright in his native state of Wisconsin.*