

From: [Gregory Humphrey](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: RE: Legistar 92803 739 Jenifer Landmarks Matter
Date: Friday, May 22, 2026 8:26:48 AM

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Dear Alder,

I believe this is the first time I have written to all alders about an issue which merits your consideration and efforts.

I am writing to ask you to seek out a Landmarks Commissioner, perhaps Alder Duncan, who would be willing to ask for reconsideration on Legistar 92803. (Commissioner Taylor abstained from the vote so he cannot request reconsideration.) A Commissioner can request reconsideration by, at the latest, the next regular meeting on June 8th.

On May 4th, Landmarks approved a back yard addition for 739 Jenifer that would remove about 30% of the brick house (not counting the 1950's wood addition that was approved for demolition last year). This portion of the house was constructed, at the latest, by 1892.

The short explanation is that Landmarks determined the back brick portion of the house did not have historic significance – a decision made without reference to the reason 739 was deemed historic, which is for the history of a pioneering merchant family that lived in the house for three generations. There is also more recent history, that of 739's being a "center of cloistered gay society" (*Underrepresented Communities Historic Resource Survey Report*) as well as the home of Dick Wagner (one of the Notable People in the *Survey*).

These old homes need advocates, people like you and me. If there is an allowance to nip and tuck and rip and tweak these homes, they will lose their historic charm, the very thing that must be imparted to future generations.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I appreciate it.

Gregory Humphrey (Owner of 1892 home since 2007)
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