

Rima Kharbush
[REDACTED] Spooner St
Madison, WI 53726
[REDACTED]

November 26, 2014

Madison Historical Committee,

I have been a resident at 10 [REDACTED] Spooner since August 2013 and I hope to continue living here for the remainder of my time here in Madison as a veterinary student. I am writing regarding our landlord's request to apply insulated siding to the building that comprises 105,107, and 109 N Spooner.

I feel strongly that the house will greatly benefit from the addition of insulated siding. The house currently has completely inadequate insulation, and it is difficult to stay warm inside during winter. On cold days and nights, one can feel drafts of cold air near all the walls and windows. The walls become so cold that they are almost painful to be in contact with. It is energy-inefficient and very expensive to heat a home in which all of the heat goes directly outside. This is detrimental to the environment as well as significantly stressful on a graduate student budget.

Painting the house is not an adequate solution. While this would improve the current appearance of the house, it would not help with heating the home more efficiently. In addition, this would require stripping off the old paint, which may contain lead. I would prefer not to expose myself and others to noxious lead fumes and paint chips.

I very much enjoy the feeling of my current neighborhood, and I love walking around admiring the houses. I can understand the value and benefit to preserving the historical nature of the community; however, I have noticed that other houses utilize siding. This is not something that I feel detracts from the aesthetic appeal and historical vibe to the neighborhood if applied in good taste.

Sincerely,

Rima Kharbush