

MADISON TRUST



for Historic Preservation



National Trust  
Partners Network

4/25/16

Landmarks Commission  
Amy Scanlon/City Preservation Planner

RE: 219 W. Gilman-Demolition

Dear Amy and Commission Members:

Our organization is opposed to the demolition of 219 W. Gilman St to make way for a new structure combining the property with the adjacent property at 223 W. Gilman. 219 is a property just on the outside of the Mansion Hill Historic District and is in a sensitive area, between a historic residential neighborhood and a historic business district.

The main issue we have is for the potential to create a dangerous precedent in an area that has had enormous development pressures recently to build larger and larger projects that ultimately erode the scale and rhythm of the existing neighborhood. This is a contributing property to the Mansion Hill National Historic District, as is the entire Mansion Hill Local Historic District. As these properties are lost, the National Historic District loses more and more of its continuity, context and contiguousness, elements that are critical to cohesive districts. Precedents of this type will encourage further demolition, increase development pressure and slowly erode the unique fabric of this district.

Please consider the very real potential of creating a dangerous precedent in this proposal by opposing the demolition of this contributing building.

Sincerely,

Sam Breidenbach  
President

*Dedicated to Preserving Madison's Historic Places*

P.O. Box 296 Madison, Wisconsin 53701-0296 608-441-8864 [www.madisontrust.org](http://www.madisontrust.org)

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