



P.O. Box 296  
Madison, WI 53701-0296  
(608) 441-8864  
info@madisonpreservation.org  
www.madisonpreservation.org

October 5, 2020

Landmarks Commission  
City of Madison

Re: Landmarks Commission Agenda for October 5, 2020, item 6: 619 and 621 North Lake Street

Dear Commissioners:

The Commission is scheduled to take up a demolition proposal for the two buildings at these addresses on North Lake Street. The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation only recently learned that the demolition proposal is on the October 5<sup>th</sup> Agenda and has not had an opportunity to discuss the matter and formulate a position.

The Trust has a strong interest in the position the Commission takes in making its recommendation to the Plan Commission. As the September 29<sup>th</sup> Staff Report makes clear, these two buildings are contributing structures to the Langdon Street National Historic District. This is a very significant demolition request, with ramifications throughout the District. The 47-page National Register nomination, filed in 1986, presents highly important information about the history of the district and its context within the larger history of the City of Madison. While it includes brief descriptions of these two structures, the nomination document really does not delve into their specific history beyond what is mentioned in the Staff Report. Since 1986, significant development has occurred in the district. That development has tremendous bearing on these two remaining structures.

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation conducts its regular Board meetings in the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. As a result, the Trust seeks the Commission's indulgence as we respectfully ask that your consideration of the matter be deferred to a subsequent meeting so the Trust may at least have the opportunity to take an informed position regarding this demolition request and to have the opportunity to consider whether additional research regarding these buildings is appropriate or necessary.

Sincerely,

Kurt Stege

President

*Dedicated to Preserving Madison's Historic Places*

*A local partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation*