



City of Somerville

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

Eric Parkes

Chair

Robin Kelly

Vice-Chair

Dick Bauer

Ryan Falvey

DJ Chagnon, *A/t.*

ADDRESS: 234 Pearl Street

CASE: HPC.DMO 2023.03

APPLICANT: Barros Properties LLC, 65 Mountain Ave, Dorchester, MA 02124

OWNER: Stuart Pitchel, Trustee of 234 Pearl Street Realty Trust, 30
Freeman St, Arlington, MA 02474

DETERMINATION: *NOT* Preferably Preserved *WITH CONDITIONS*

DECISION DATE: June 20, 2023

This decision summarizes the findings made by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) at their June 20, 2023, meeting regarding the preferable preservation of **the principal structure** located at **234 Pearl Street**.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

The Applicant proposes to demolish the structure located at **234 Pearl Street**.

DETERMINATION

The HPC voted unanimously (4-0) that the building at 234 Pearl Street is **NOT** Preferably Preserved with Conditions, in accordance with Section 7-28 (f)(5) of the DRO. By making this determination, the HPC has deemed that the demolition of the building at 234 Pearl Street would not be detrimental to the architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the City.

In their deliberations, the HPC found that though the structure does not adequately contribute to the streetscape and does not adequately reflect the history of the architectural style of the area, that its contribution to the history of Gilman Square should be noted in the future structure by way of interpretive signage.

Therefore, in accordance with Section 7-28(f)(5)b of the DRO, 234 Pearl Street has been determined to be **NOT** "preferably preserved with conditions".

The following conditions apply. Failure to comply with this certificate and the conditions added thereto may result in delays to final sign-offs and/or other changes/ delays.

CONDITIONS

1. **Digital photographs (interior & exterior):** Digital photographs consistent with the standards set by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) shall be taken of each elevation of the building as well as of the building interior. Digital files shall be named indicating the portion of the building represented in the photograph (elevation (right, left, front, rear), interior room use, etc.) Digital photos shall be submitted to Preservation Planning in OSPCD on a jump (thumb) drive and via email.

93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143
(617)-625-6600 ext.2500
www.somervillema.gov
historic@somervillema.gov

2. **Interpretive signage:** Interpretive signage shall be created and installed at the Premises, in conjunction with the City of Somerville Preservation Planners, as follows:
 - a. The interpretive signage includes the transportation history of Gilman Square and the subdivision information regarding housing for commuters.
 - b. Applicant to work with Staff on the text, images, design, and placement.
 - c. The City of Somerville Preservation Planners shall supply the text and photographs to be used in the signage.
 - d. The City of Somerville Preservation Planners shall have the final sign-off on the final design, style, and content of the signage.

Submitted on behalf of the HPC:



Wendy Szczehowicz
Planner, Zoning & Preservation
