

September 10, 2008

Patricia Balon, Chair
Historic Preservation Commission
Department of City Development
809 N Broadway
Milwaukee, WI 53202

✓ Patricia T. Najera, Chair
City Planning Commission
Department of City Development
809 N Broadway
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Chairpersons Balon/Najera:

I am a resident of 1522 N. Prospect neighborhood, specifically house number 904. I am writing to you about the proposed Goll Mansion Development at 1550 N Prospect Ave. After attending two presentations by the developer, Boris Gokhman, and viewing his proposed design pictures, I am appalled at the "out of place" proposed 26-27 story addition on to the 1550 N Prospect Ave historic site and the representation that this is a perfect blend of Historic Preservation. As I read the Common Council resolution that provides for the Historic designation, the legal description in the resolved clause includes the entire site. I believe Boris Gokhman's attorney, Mr. Richard W. Donner's portrayal in his letter to you of this subject is incorrect. As described in Boris Gokhman's plans, the Goll Mansion is the "Main Entrance" with a connector to the 27 story addition. This should be judged on the basis of an "addition" to the Goll Mansion. This "addition" proposal totally distracts from the historic site and hides the grandeur of the Goll Mansion building to the east and west of the historic site. I suggest that the developer be convinced to consider a more compatible "addition". An example might be the mansion addition constructed by Mawicke & Goisman at 1509 N. Prospect Ave (see attached picture). An addition of this type would enhance the Goll Mansion for all time.

I was born and raised in Milwaukee and have resided in the City of Milwaukee for 60 years. I love the few remaining historic jewels that we work so hard to preserve. But to hide such a view of the Goll Mansion from the lake and to disguise it from view on Prospect Ave, I feel, really contradicts the City's Historic Preservation Policy.

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Therefore, I ask that you oppose this proposed 27 story addition to the Goll Mansion on the 1550 N Prospect Ave's historic site as being non-compatible to the Goll Mansion site.

However, should you proceed with approval of the developer's submitted COA and Rezoning variance request, I ask that you insert into the COA and any associated Common Council resolution the clause that reflects, "should you not build the addition; nor refurbish the Goll Mansion; and sell the historic site property, the COA approval and any rezoning approvals are rescinded." This would guard the "public interest" from undue profiting by the developer upon sale of the undeveloped historic site.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Croasdaile



RENAISSANCE
P.L.A.C.E.
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