

Elmer, Linda

From: Dawn McCarthy <dawnhmcc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 2:01 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission; Bauman, Robert; Elmer, Linda; Askin, Tim; Owczarski, Jim
Cc: Kovac, Nik; mpa@milwaukeepreservation.org; Patti Keating Kahn; Sally Peltz; ann@pieperproperties.com; Matthew T Jarosz
Subject: Letter in Support Files 210613 and 210617
Attachments: Letter in support Files 210613 and 210617.pdf

Dear Chair and Commissioners, Please see the attached letter, copied below, in support of permanent historic designation for the homes at 2279 and 2275 N Summit.
Dawn McCarthy

Honorable Chair and Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the Permanent Historic Designation for 2279 and 2275 N. Summit Avenue (Files # 210613 and #210617).

Thorough research conducted by HPC Planning Staff concludes that the 2 houses qualify based on 3 criteria.

- e-4. Its portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- e-5. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.
- e-8. Its relationship to other distinctive areas which are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on a historic, cultural, or architectural motif

As the report explains “These cottages are significant survivors of the type of worker housing that was being built at the end of the 19th century. Cornell scholars Gottfried and Jennings (2009) categorize this type of one-and-a-half-story gable-end cottage as typical of middle and working-class housing throughout the United States.”

This observation seems especially significant to me. These homes were constructed in Milwaukee near the same bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, thought to be reserved only for the wealthy and for magnificent mansions. Knowing that North Point South was more diverse than usually thought provides a more complete history of the evolution of our City and of how people lived.

These buildings meet three criteria of significance, on their own. Importantly, the protection delivered by permanent designation affords time for an evaluation of these buildings and several others along the western border of North Point South to examine an expansion of the current District in order to retain a more complex picture and understanding.

There is neighborhood support for expanding North Point South. The following resolution was approved by a quorum of eleven (11) board members in attendance at the September 2021 Historic Water Tower Neighborhood board meeting held at the Marcia Coles Community Center on August 31, 2021, with one abstention:

HWTN supports applying to expand the North Point South Historic District to the Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission to include historic homes on the Western border of the District, in order to conduct research and open a public process for consideration of the District expansion.

Historic Water Tower Neighborhood includes both North Point South and North Point North Historic Districts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn McCarthy