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Downtown House Being Deconstructed For Apartments

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By Jeramey Jannene - Jan 25th, 2020 05:35 pm

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Deconstruction of the duplex at 1245-1247 N. Milwaukee St. Photo by Jeramey Jannene.

A Civil War-era house is all but gone, but most of it won't end up in a landfill.

Milwaukee Bucks guard **Pat Connaughton** has made good on his promise to the Historic Preservation Commission to deconstruct, not demolish, the house at 1245-1247 N. Milwaukee St. His firm, Beach House, will replace the structure with a three-story apartment building with three high-end units.

Beach House hired Kenosha-based [Recycleclean](#) to deconstruct the Victorian Gothic house and a crew has been on site this week taking it apart. Materials, including old-growth timber, are piled up along the edge of the corner lot awaiting a new home.

Preservation advocate [Dawn McCarthy](#) applied to have the duplex, altered substantially since its construction, designated as historic. But the commission [rejected the designation](#).

For those interested in the history of the downtown duplex, including a past resident's impact on rebuilding after the [Historic Third Ward](#) fire, a murder and its role in Milwaukee's early Greek community, see [an extensive report](#) prepared by commission staffer [Carlen Hatala](#).

The 26-year-old Bucks guard, who has been with the team since the start of the 2018-19 season, acquired the property in March for \$325,000 according to city records. His firm had applied for a raze permit for the property on October 8th. Connaughton told the commission he intends to live in the new building.

It's not the last time the commission will meet with Beach House. The firm is also proposing to buy a vacant, city-owned lot in the [Brady Street](#) Historic District and [develop a small building](#).

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