

June 23, 2008

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Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development Committee City Hall 200 E. Wells Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re: 2841 W. Richardson Place

Dear Committee Members;

I am writing this letter on behalf of Historic Concordia Neighbors, Inc. (HCNI) to express our opposition to the demolition of 2841 W. Richardson Place.

Neighbors in the mid 80s formed HCNI. The organization moved to set borders for a historically designated area and, with the help of the City of Milwaukee's Office of Historic Preservation, began working with owners to repair, restore and increase the value of properties. The boundaries of HCNI are West of 27th Street to 35th Street, and bordered on the north by Highland Avenue and on the south by Wisconsin Avenue. Preserving the historic character of the neighborhood continues to be central to keeping the neighborhood moving forward. Our neighborhood is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Although the house at 2841 W. Richardson Place may not appear visually to be a house of historical significance, it is the sole survivor of residences that once sat on the only remaining part of the original Watertown Plank Road. Although the early history of the house is still being researched, it is believed that the house was built in the 1850's which would make the structure one of oldest residence in our historic district. The façade is consistent with early Greek Rival architecture which was prevalent during that era.

Part of the mission of HCNI is to promote property rehabilitation as well as promote historic preservation of our neighborhood. Because we are a historic district, we truly feel that this property deserves to be saved. Please take this into consideration as your decision is being made regarding the future of this significant property.

Sincerely,

Kristi M. Westcott, Board President Historic Concordia Neighbors, Inc.