

December 23, 2008

Mr. Paul Gross
Moshe Safdie Associates
100 Properzi Way
Somerville, MA 02143

**Re: 92 Properzi Way, Somerville, MA
HPC 08.72 D**

Dear Mr. Gross,

On Tuesday, December 16, 2008, the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to make the initial determination that the house buildings at 92 Properzi Way is "significant" as set forth in the Demolition Review Ordinance #2003-05, section 4.2. under section B. This was because the building was (Section 2.17) "at least 50 years old, and is or has been determined by the Commission to be a significant building or structure after a finding that the building or structure is either:

- i. "Importantly associated with one or more historic persons or events, or with the broad architectural, cultural, political, economic or social history of the City or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or
- ii. "Historically or architecturally significant (in terms of period, style, method of building construction, or association with a reputed architect or builder) either by itself or in the context of a group of buildings or structures, and therefore it is in the public interest to be preserved or rehabilitated rather than to be demolished."

Specifically, the significance of the house is as a worker-owned cottage, located in a neighborhood of several such buildings. The neighborhood began development before 1852 as workers housing for the Bleachery, Wyatt's brick factory and the American Tube Works.

The Commission will be holding a public hearing to review the SHPC's initial determination of "significance" and whether the building should be "preferably preserved" per section 4.3 "that it is in the public interest to be preserved or

rehabilitated rather than to be demolished.” While the ordinance requires the Applicant submit photos and building descriptions, these have been done by the HPC Staff to aid in the initial determination of ‘significance’. Please submit any other information you may have that could effect the determination. Public testimony will be taken, followed by discussion and a vote by the Commission.

If you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact us at (617) 625-6600 x 2525.

Sincerely,

Kristi Chase
Preservation Planner

Cc: Paul Nonni, Sr. Building Inspector, Inspectional Services Division.
John Long, City Clerk