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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE  
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION*

May 31, 2013

593 Somerville Avenue Trust  
Vincent Pascale et al, Trustee  
c/o Richard DiGirolamo  
424 Broadway  
Somerville, MA 02145

**Re: Demolition of 587 Somerville Avenue, ca. 1913 store -NOT Significant 5/21/2013**  
**589 Somerville Avenue, ca. 1845 house -Significant 5/21/2013**  
**593 Somerville Avenue, ca. 1918 garage-Significant 5/21/2013**

Dear Mr. Pascale,

On Tuesday, May 21, 2013, the Historic Preservation Commission made three decisions regarding your property at 587, 589 and 593 Somerville Avenue.

They voted unanimously (7-0) to determine the **ca. 1913 store at 587 Somerville Avenue was NOT 'Significant'**, per Section 2.17.B of the Demolition Review Ordinance 2003-05. Although the building is "at least 50 years old," the Commission determined not to be a significant building or structure after a finding that the building or structure is neither:

- 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, (n)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."*

The structure was determined not 'Significant' because there were many other less altered buildings that better exemplified the building type.

The Commission voted unanimously (7-0) to determine the **ca. 1845 dwelling at 589 Somerville Avenue 'Significant'** because the building, per Section 2.17.B of the Demolition Review Ordinance 2003-05, is "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."*

The structure was determined 'Significant' due to an association of the property with Edward Flanagan, laborer and later foreman of the Middlesex Bleachery; his family who were also achieved some prominence; and with Louis Guazzaloca who also achieved some modicum of the American Dream as a descendent of an Italian immigrant family, and its architectural style which conveys significance regarding location, design and materials.

The Commission voted (6-1) to determine the **ca. 1918 Garage at 593 Somerville Avenue 'Significant'** because the building, per Section 2.17.B of the Demolition Review Ordinance 2003-05, is "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."*

The structure was determined 'Significant' because the various parts of the building were interesting in themselves and needed further research into their purpose and evolution before a full determination of 'significance' and 'preferably preserved' could be made.

The Commission will hold a public hearing on June 18, 2013 to review the initial determination of 'Significance' and if the building should be 'Preferably Preserved.' Per Section 4.2.D, "If the Commission determines that the demolition of the significant building or structure would be detrimental to the architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social heritage of the City, such building or structure shall be considered preferably preserved." Public testimony will be taken at the hearing, followed by a discussion and a vote by the Commission.

If you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me at (617) 625-6600 x 2534.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kristi Chase".

Kristi Chase  
Preservation Planner, Planning Division  
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development

Cc: Paul Nonni, Sr. Building Inspector, Inspectional Services Division  
George Proakis, Director, Planning Division  
J. Brandon Wilson, Executive Director, Historic Preservation Commission  
John Long, City Clerk

