

From: [BYRON CHAMPLIN](#)
To: [Weaver, Lisa](#)
Cc: [Shank, Heather](#)
Subject: Fwd: Abbott House, N State St
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 1:56:21 PM

Hi Lisa:

Please share this constituent letter with members of the Planning Board prior to tomorrow's meeting.

Thanks!

Byron

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Lynda Thistle Elliott <thistle3@comcast.net>

> To: chamby@comcast.net

> Date: September 17, 2019 at 10:06 AM

> Subject: Abbott House, N State St

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> Councilor Champlin,

>

> This is to follow up our brief conversation last weekend. I have been following the issue concerning the Abbott House and the requested demolition of the building by the current land owner. I am very pleased that the City Council has not permitted the demolition of this historic building. And urge the Council to stand firm on its decision.

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> The owner has neglected the care of the building (contrary to the purchase agreement), and then due to this neglect claims the building is now beyond repair and must come down. This is not acceptable. The building is not beyond salvage by and large and experts have shown this to be true. The agreement to preserve the Abbott House must be upheld. Concord has lost many historic buildings over the years and should work hard to preserve its history. Further, if Concord wishes to draw new residents, a city that values its history while moving forward is a much more attractive than a city that disregards its past in lieu of profit.

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> I have lived close to this property for nearly 40 years and have been dismayed to see the condition deteriorate while townhouses are built up behind it. How many people know why the front door of the building does not face N State Street? Where did the name come from? What is the history of Abbott Village? Who were the early settlers? What did they do for work? Why is the roof flat? Are the shutters true to the era and did they provide protection to the dwellers of the building? What kind of timbers were used for construction? What is the construction? Are the nails handmade? Is there stone on site from the quarry that rises above it? The building has the potential for several purposes such as office space (for the owner and/or rented office space), community meeting rooms, satellite library, senior and/or VNA services, educational satellite center, early learning site, adult education extension space, etc.

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> Further, I respectfully request the Council consider a historic marker for Abbott House. Historical markers are an asset to Concord and the surrounding community. There are several centuries old buildings and structures in West Concord each with its unique history and story: the Walker House (which by the way was nearly demolished as well several years ago), the Town Pound, Garrison School, the quarry, to name a few. West Concord could be part of an historic 'walk' or trail highlighting the history of the area that includes identification of some of its oldest buildings and structures rather than just another part of town with an empty lot where the Abbott House once stood.

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> Sincerely,

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> Lynda T Elliott

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