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Planning & Development

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## CITY OF NEWTON

### Planning and Development Board

06/09/2023

To: Mr. Doug Cornelius, Chair  
Newton Historical Commission  
City of Newton  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

Subject: Planning & Development Board Recommendation on the Proposed  
Landmark Designation for 89-97 Wyman Street

CC: Honorable Newton City Councilors  
Mollie Hutchings, Chief Preservation Planner  
Planning & Development Board

Dear Mr. Cornelius,

The Planning and Development Board is authorized under Newton's Landmark Ordinance (Sec 22-64 (d)) to make recommendations to the Newton Historical Commission regarding properties that have been nominated for landmark designation. The role of the Board in making such a recommendation is to evaluate "the relationship of the proposed designation to the City's adopted policies and plans and the effect of the proposed designation on the surrounding area." In addition, the Board "shall also make recommendations regarding any other planning considerations relevant to the proposed designation."

At its regular monthly meeting held on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup> the Planning & Development Board reviewed the nomination materials and property owner's response as well as a summary staff memorandum prepared by Ms. Hutchings. In addition, several members of the Board visited the property to understand the building and surrounding context.

Ms. Molinsky moved, seconded by Mr. McCormick, the following: The Planning & Development Board recommends that the Newton Historical Commission not landmark the property at 89-97 Wyman Street based on planning considerations. The site is proposed to be rezoned under the Village Center rezoning efforts which are slated to conclude later this year. Landmarking the property would have a detrimental effect on the surrounding area by inhibiting potential future beneficial redevelopment. The motion was approved 6-0-1 (Director Heath abstaining).

Sincerely,  
*Kelley Brown*  
Kelley Brown, Chair