

City of Lawrence KANSAS

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February 15, 2007

Lawrence City Commission 6 E 6th Street Lawrence, KS 66044

RE: DR-09-112-06, 1019 Kentucky Street, Demolition

Dear Commissioners:

The Lawrence Historic Resources Commission (HRC) at our meeting on January 18, 2007, did not approve the demolition of the structured located at 1019 Kentucky Street. The HRC determined that the project, as proposed, does not meet the established standards and guidelines for properties located in the environs of a National Register of Historic Places district or property. Specifically, the HRC found:

In accordance with the <u>Standards and Guidelines for Evaluating the Effect of Projects on Environs</u>, the standard of evaluation, the proposed project does not meet Standards # 1 and 4, and will encroach upon, damage or destroy the listed historic property and its environs.

- 1. The character of a historic property's environs should be retained and preserved. The removal or alteration of distinctive buildings, structures, landscape features, spatial relationships, etc. that characterize the environs should be avoided.
- 4. Demolition of character-defining buildings, structures, landscape features, etc. in a historic property's environs should be avoided. When the severity of deterioration requires removal within the environs, compatible reconstruction shall occur.

While the HRC concedes that this particular structure may have reached a state of deterioration that will not allow for feasible rehabilitation, the standards and guidelines specifically address that compatible reconstruction shall occur to minimize the impact on the historic resources. It is the lack of a compatible replacement structure as part of this project that led to the HRC denial of the demolition request.

We continue to encourage the applicant to work with staff to revise the project so that it meets the identified standards and guidelines while achieving the desired project goals.

Sincerely,

Michael Sizemore, Chair

Lawrence Historic Resources Commission

