

Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission
Department of Planning and Economic Development
25 Fourth Street West, Suite 1400
Saint Paul, MN 55102
Phone: (651) 266-9078
ApplyHPC@stpaul.gov

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION DESIGN REVIEW APPLICATION

This application must be completed in addition to the appropriate city permit application if the affected property is an individually designated landmark or located within an historic district. For applications that must be reviewed by the Heritage Preservation Commission refer to the HPC Meeting schedule for meeting dates and deadlines.

1. CATEGORY

Please check the category that best describes the proposed work

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repair/Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Sign/Awning | <input type="checkbox"/> New Construction/Addition/
Alteration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving | <input type="checkbox"/> Fence/Retaining Wall | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Application Review Only |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demolition | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

2. PROJECT ADDRESS

Street and number: 737 Plum Street Zip Code: 55106

3. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of contact person: Joe Musolf

Company: Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul

Street and number: 25 West Fourth Street, Ste. 1100

City: Saint Paul State: MN Zip Code: 55102

Phone number: (651) 266-6594 e-mail: joe.musolf@ci.stpaul.mn.us

4. PROPERTY OWNER(S) INFORMATION (If different from applicant)

Name: _____

Street and number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone number: _____ e-mail: _____

5. PROJECT ARCHITECT (If applicable)

Contact person: _____

Company: _____

Street and number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone number: _____ e-mail: _____

6. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Completely describe ALL exterior changes being proposed for the property. Include changes to architectural details such as windows, doors, siding, railings, steps, trim, roof, foundation or porches. Attach specifications for doors, windows, lighting and other features, if applicable, including color and material samples.

Demolition of 737 Plum Street

Attach additional sheets if necessary

7. ATTACHMENTS

Please list any attachments that are included in this application. Refer to the Design Review Application Process Checklist for required information or attachments.

Attachment A: Structural Report and Photographs
Attachment B: Exterior Photographs

Attach the above listed to this application or attach in an email to ApplyHPC@stpaul.gov

Will any federal money be used in this project?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are you applying for the Investment Tax Credits?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I, the undersigned, understand that the Design Review Application is limited to the aforementioned work to the affected property. I further understand that any additional exterior work to be done under my ownership must be submitted by application to the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission. Any unauthorized work will be required to be removed.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____
Signature of owner: *[Signature]* Date: 9.9.15

Send completed application with the necessary attachments to ApplyHPC@stpaul.gov or to:
Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission
Department of Planning and Economic Development
25 Fourth Street West, Suite 1400
Saint Paul, MN 55102



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

*25 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102*

*Telephone: 651-266-6655
Facsimile: 651-228-3261*

Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission
Department of Planning and Economic Development
25 Fourth Street West, Suite 1400
Saint Paul, MN 55102

RE: 737 Plum Avenue Request for Demolition

September 17, 2015

Dear Heritage Preservation Commissioners,

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul (HRA) requests approval for the demolition of 737 Plum Avenue, which is located within the Dayton's Bluff Heritage Preservation District.

The HRA has evaluated the structural integrity of the property as well as gauged the interest on the part of developers in rehabilitating the structure. An evaluation of the structural condition, which includes photographs of structural conditions and supports demolition, is attached to this application.

Economic considerations accounted for the cost of rehabilitation, market conditions and the lack of return on investment, all of which make public subsidy of this project impractical. A Previously received developer proposal indicated that the total development cost could be as high as \$447,000, resulting in a subsidy requirement of \$307,000.

Use as a single family residential structure was the only use explored; no adaptive re-use options were evaluated.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Musolf".

Joe Musolf
Principal Project Manager

Attachments:

Attachment A: Structural Report and Photographs

Attachment B: Exterior Photographs



**Mattson
Macdonald
Young**
structural
engineers

Bassett Creek Business Center
901 North 3rd Street, #100
Minneapolis, MN 55401

612-827-7825 voice
612-827-0805 fax

14 September 2015

Sarah Zorn
Planning and Economic Development
25 West Fourth Street, Ste. 1100
St. Paul, MN 55102

Project No.: 15537.00
Re: Structural Condition Review of the building at 737 Plum St.

Dear Sarah:

We visited the existing house at 737 Plum St. on Tuesday, August 25th, 2015. The purpose of our visit was to form an opinion of the building condition and to identify any areas of damage, deterioration, or deficiency and to assist the owner in planning the future of the house. The following is a summary of our observations and opinions:

Scope

This report concerns only the structural frame and elements that are an integral part of the load resisting system for the building. We did not observe and report on the building electrical systems, mechanical systems, fire protection, egress, and life safety compliance with the building code.

Our review concerned the basement level and the foundation walls that could be observed directly within that space, any visible roof systems, any visible wall structures, and any visible beams or joists. Observations that were performed are considered a cursory "walk-through" of the building. The performance of the structural system and framing elements was judged by visual observation only. This work should not be considered a detailed investigation of the building or of specific elements of the building framing system. During our walk through no finishes were removed to expose structural systems.

Calculations were not performed on the total building system nor were the apparent load capacities of the floor or roof determined as a part of this report.

Qualifications of the Personnel

Joe Cain P.E. is the author of this report, the lead investigator, and the Structural Engineer of Record (SER). Joe has 30 years of experience in the field of structural engineering and has performed condition reviews as the SER on numerous buildings that are similar to the subject building. Travis Stanley E.I.T. has aided in the observation work, analysis, and research and has contributed to the preparation of the report.

Methods of Investigation

The method of investigation was by casual observation and was limited to those structural elements that were exposed to view. However, much of the structural system was covered by finish material, in which case the performance of the finish material was assumed to reflect the performance of the structural elements to which the finish material was attached. No attempt was made to perform an exhaustive investigation of all structural elements. No finish material was removed or damaged to expose the underlying structural elements. No existing as built documents were available for our use. Nor were we made aware of any previous reports related to the structural condition of the building or investigation of building elements.

Building Description

The building is a two story house with a full basement. The original structure was constructed on or about 1880. The roof is constructed with hand framed lumber joists which are supported on wood stud bearing walls at the building perimeter. The house appears to have had one or more additions since its initial construction.

The foundation walls that could be observed were constructed with rubble limestone masonry below grade. The first floor is supported at the interior of the basement level with heavy timber beams, supported on timber columns that extend to the basement floor. The basement floor areas that were not covered were observed to be concrete slab on grade. It is assumed that the building walls and interior columns rest on spread footings.

Observed Conditions

In general, the structural elements of the building framing and foundation were judged to be in poor condition. There were conditions of deterioration or damage noted in the observations and will be described below in more detail.

The post at the front porch is loose. When a gentle force was applied to the post's base, it displaced one to two inches. Picture 1 shows the base of the post after the displacement occurred. The light patch on the concrete is the original location of the post. The easy displacement implies that it is no longer supporting any load. An awning is above the porch and was probably originally designed to be supported by the post. Picture 2 shows the front porch, including the top of the post and the awning.



Picture 1 – Front Porch Post



Picture 2 – Front Porch

The chimney above the main portion of the house may need to be repaired. Some of the bricks have been damaged and are missing pieces. Picture 3 shows the chimney as seen from the ground below, including a couple of the damaged pieces. We were unable to observe the top of the chimney more closely.



Picture 3 – Chimney in Center of House

Water damage was observed in the ceiling of the 2nd floor. It is likely that the roof is damaged and allows water to get into the house. We were unable to review the roof to observe its condition. It is also likely that the water damage is more extensive than the one area that we were able to observe. There was a smell of mold present during our walkthrough suggesting that water damage and mold growth is prevalent throughout the house. Picture 4 shows the area of the 2nd floor that we were able to observe that has water damage.



Picture 4 – Water Damage to 2nd Floor Ceiling

Some of the floors within the home are slightly uneven (not pictured). This is likely due to localized settling within the home.

Many of the joists are rotting in the basement. Much of the damage is located where the joists bear on the foundation wall. Picture 5 shows two such joists.



Picture 5 – Joists Bearing on Foundation Wall

The interior foundation walls are different at different locations. This is likely due to the house being constructed in separate additions. The foundation walls appeared to be functional. Picture 6 shows the interior limestone foundation wall with a brick foundation wall behind it. Picture 7 shows a different foundation wall in the basement. It is relatively free of cracks and seems to be in good condition.

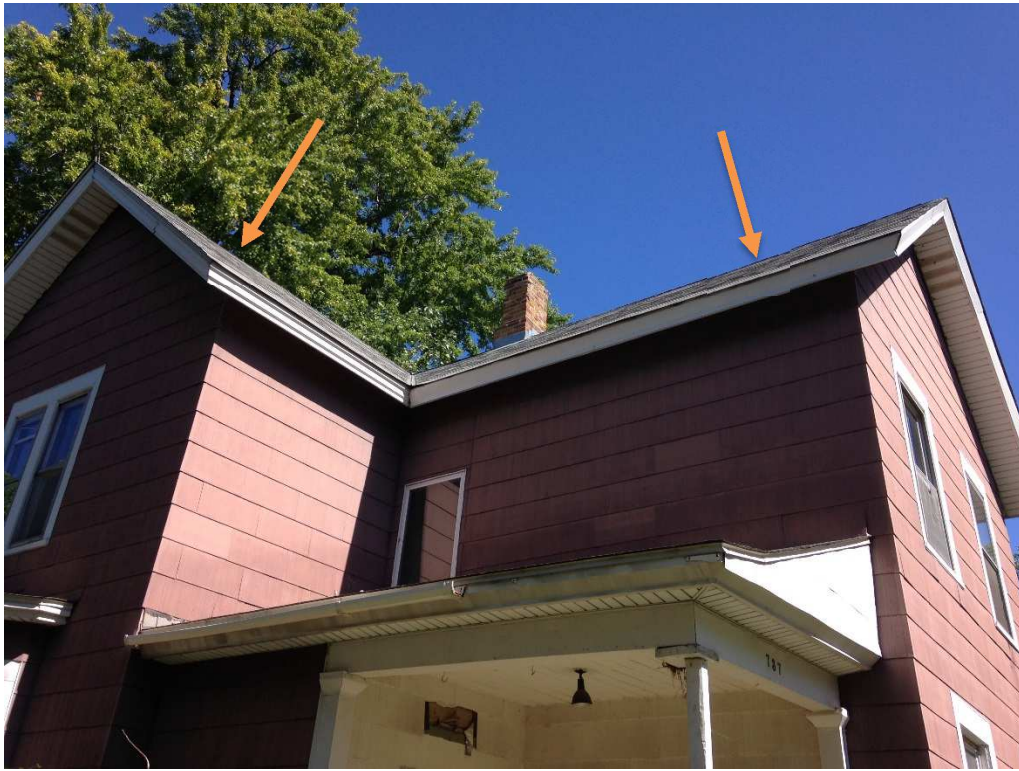


Picture 6 – Interior Foundation Walls



Picture 7 – Interior Foundation Walls

The roof and exterior walls, as observed from the outside, appeared to be in good condition. The roof was flat and there were no obvious problems. The exterior walls appeared to be plumb. Picture 8 shows two such roofs and Picture 9 shows one such wall.



Picture 8 – House Roofs



Picture 9 – House Exterior Wall

Summary

The residence at 737 Plum St. is in generally poor condition. As stated above, we made no attempt to remove finish material. Our opinions are based on what was in plain sight. The problems that were seen are likely more extensive than what we observed but were covered with finish materials. In addition to what was previously listed, there could be more issues that we could not observe. Repairs are possible, but it would likely be relatively costly. A more thorough structural review would be required in order to give details for the repair of any specific structural system.

Limiting Conditions:

The opinions and recommendations contained in this report are based on a cursory observation of the building. No attempt was made to perform an exhaustive investigation of all conditions and building elements. It is possible that conditions exist that cannot be discovered or judged as a result of this limited nature of investigation. The work provided in the preparation of the report concerns the structural system only and is not intended to address mechanical, electrical or plumbing systems, fire protection or handicap accessibility. The owner is encouraged to discuss these items with a building official and other design professionals for guidance and recommendations.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely
Mattson Macdonald Young, Inc.



Travis Stanley, E.I.T.



Joe Cain, P.E.

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota.



Joe Cain, P.E.

09/14/2015

MN Reg. No. 40119