



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

Department of City Planning

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MEMORANDUM

TO: New Bedford City Council

FROM: New Bedford Historical Commission

DATE: February 14, 2021

RE: **BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW**
19 Taber Street (Map 40 Lot 5) Circa 1912 Two Story Primary Building and 1913 Garage

In accordance with the requirements of the New Bedford City Code, Article XI, Section 2-157 Demolition of Buildings, the New Bedford Historical Commission [NBHC] has examined the structure located at the above-captioned site in order to determine its historical significance and whether it is in the public interest to preserve such structure.

The NBHC reviewed the application for demolition at its February 7, 2022, meeting, and hereby forwards its findings and recommendation in this matter to the New Bedford City Council:

- The property at 19 Taber Street retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is representative of the early twentieth century development of one of New Bedford's finest residential areas when the city's textile industry continued to prosper, generating economic prosperity among a growing middle class of businessmen and entrepreneurs.
- The property is associated with George Robert Cherry (1874-1946), founder and eventual President of Cherry and Company which established several retail stores under the name of Cherry and Webb.
- The buildings are architecturally significant, designed by renowned New Bedford architectural firm Caleb Hammond and Sons in the regionally rare Italian Renaissance style.
- The property is directly adjacent to and abuts the Moreland Terrace National Register District.
- The applicant did not provide any supporting documentation relative to the building's structural integrity or whether adaptive re-use of the building was explored.
- The Commission seeks the opportunity to work with the property owner and the public to seek alternative options that will preserve, rehabilitate, or incorporate the existing buildings into a site development plan.

In light of these findings, the New Bedford Historical Commission has determined that the buildings at 19 Taber Street are Historically Significant and Preferably Preserved historic buildings.

Cc: Southcoast Hospitals Group, Applicant
Department of Inspectional Services
Mayor's Office

Attachments: NBHC Staff Report