
From: Matt Becker [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Hautzinger, Steve
Subject: Save 716 N Dunton Ave

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Village of Arlington Heights email system -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Mr. Hautzinger,

I live on the 800 block of N. Dunton. I strongly oppose any demolition and new construction at 716 N Dunton.

It is an exceptional home and this Commission has a responsibility to the community. Once this home is gone, it is gone forever.

And no one should believe this developers crocodile tears of the house can't be saved. They knew or should have known this was not a tear down when they bought it.

It's time to do the right thing and save 716 N Dunton Ave.

Thank you,

Matt Becker

From: Eileen Devine [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 2:06 PM
To: Hautzinger, Steve
Subject: 716 North Dunton

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Village of Arlington Heights email system -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello Steve,

For 36 years I've had the privilege of walking down Dunton Avenue, getting lost in the beauty and history of Arlington Heights. The Italianate home at 716 N Dunton helps provide that connection.

I'm asking the Design Committee to please give a long pause before destroying this home. Instead explore alternatives of how we can go about saving this idyllic architectural beauty.

All of us are the visionaries, and now responsible for this glorious piece of history.

Sincerely,

Eileen Devine
201 W. Euclid Ave
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
[REDACTED]

From: Steve Martini [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 2:28 PM
To: Hautzinger, Steve
Subject: 716 N. Dunton

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Village of Arlington Heights email system -- **DO NOT CLICK** on links or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Steve Hautzinger -

It was brought to my attention that the possible teardown of the home at 716 N. Dunton will be discussed at tomorrow's Design Commission Meeting. I read the staff recommendation and **completely agree** with staff that the structure "should remain and be preserved based on its significant architectural, historical, aesthetic, and cultural value." My wife and I are home owners just a few blocks from this house and we feel that homes such as this one on Dunton are an undeniable part of this community's identity and should be celebrated, not discarded.

Thank you for the reasoned findings of staff and please let us know if the attendance of area residents for tomorrow's meeting would be a benefit in helping to preserve this home.

Sincerely,

Steve Martini
202 W. Euclid Ave.

From: Annie Mentkowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 12:48 PM
To: Hautzinger, Steve
Subject: 716 N. Dunton Potential Tear Down

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Village of Arlington Heights email system -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Mr. Hautzinger:

I am writing to urge the Arlington Heights Design Commission to deny the permit to demolish the house at 716 N. Dunton Ave. It is my understanding that this house was rated *exceptional* in a 2004 Illinois historic structures survey. That finding alone, under the village municipal code, should be enough to deny the tear down request. VAH Municipal Code 13.7 item C states that the Design Commission has the power and responsibility to deny a request to tear down a home that is considered to have significant cultural, historical, architectural or aesthetic value. This home's age, unique style, and building details make it a significant cultural, historical and architectural asset to the village.

Moreover, in the nearly five years I have lived in the neighborhood I have watched the neighborhood change from a quaint, charming, historic neighborhood to one filled with cookie cutter new construction McMansions. Aesthetics aside, losing yet another historic home to new construction is wasteful from an environmental standpoint. The amount of waste generated from tearing down and rebuilding is appalling. Surely, this beautiful structure can be saved.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Annie Mentkowski
823 N. Dunton Ave

From: Michael Weber [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 9, 2023 4:05 PM
To: Hautzinger, Steve
Subject: 716 N. Dunton Ave.

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Village of Arlington Heights email system -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Mr. Hautzinger,

I hope this email finds you well. In my more than two decades of residing in Arlington Heights, I've had the privilege of serving as a board member and past president of HANA (Historic Arlington Neighborhood Association). Currently, I also sit on the board for the Arlington Heights Historical Society. I am writing to you today because, once again, we find ourselves in a position where we must protect the unique charm of our neighborhood by preserving a house whose character is unmatched and impossible to replicate in today's world.

Having witnessed numerous teardowns and remodels in and around the HANA neighborhood, as well as throughout Arlington Heights and the surrounding suburbs, I believe that 716 N. Dunton Ave. is a truly exceptional property that should be safeguarded. The proposed new home bears a striking resemblance to the standard designs found in the neighborhood, and while it may conform to the modern "aesthetic," it threatens to erase the distinctiveness that has made the HANA neighborhood so special. What's more, any replacement for this beautiful home would likely maximize the floor area ratio (FAR) and once again overshadow neighboring residences. A prime example is the new home built on the open land that was once part of the 716 property, a clear case of prioritizing square footage and profits over preserving our neighborhood's character.

I would like to share an excerpt (italicized) from a communication I received from Dan Schoenberg at the Historical Museum:

According to materials from the Arlington Heights Historical Society, this house was known as the Behlendorf home and was originally constructed around 1878 for a Mr. Hanchett, a local photographer. The property served as a rental from 1887 to 1894 when it was acquired by Charles Behlendorf for his family. The Behlendorf family resided at 716 N. Dunton until 1963, after which their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Verton Collingnon, continued to call it home until at least 1977 (when property records become less clear).

Apart from its distinctive Italianate detailing and brick cruciform floor plan, the house featured a unique zinc-lined shower stall in the primary bedroom, supplied with rainwater collected in a tank installed in the attic.

Furthermore, the 2004 Historic Architectural Survey conducted by the School of the Art Institute of Chicago recognized this house as an exceptional example of local historic architecture and emphasized its historical architectural significance.

Drawing on my experience as an architect who has been involved in numerous residential designs in and around Arlington Heights, I can attest that it is far too easy to opt for demolition and new construction rather than preserving and enhancing an existing house to retain its character. The character and diversity of our neighborhood are of paramount importance. Removing yet another historically significant home to make way for another generic "cookie-cutter" residence would only reaffirm the belief that history and neighborhood character hold little value in Arlington Heights. At times, it falls upon clear-headed individuals to step in and preserve and honor our housing past. I urge the Design Commission to vote in favor of preserving this house and oppose its demolition.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Weber, NCARB, ALA
