

To: Donald F. Cropsey, Jr., Chief Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator  
From: Don Reeb, Vice President, McKownville Improvement Association  
Subject: The House at 1257 Western Avenue  
Date: February 18, 2002

The 1257 Western Avenue house, the "blue house," is in need of significant repair. Its condition is a disgrace. Also the lot, as Rodger Stone's letter of February 14, 2002 to the owner, Armand Quadrini, notes, has been the object of complaints concerning its run down nature. This is a complaint about the building and the lot.

The present owner of 1257 Western Avenue seems to have engaged in purposefully neglect in hope that the property would be rezoned as a multiple residential or commercial site. The Association has no intention of permitting that to happen. Poor building maintenance to obtain rezoning is civic blackmail.

The Tudor style cottage at 1257 Western can be an attractive home for someone once again if the owner would fulfill his business and civic responsibilities. The house was occupied, paying rent to the owner and appropriate property taxes to the Town. The owner's neglect has resulted in its disrepair. He purchased an asset and turned it into a liability for himself, the neighbors and the Town.

The nearby house, at the northeast corner of Knowles and Western, is the historic Knowles family farm house. There are additional historic homes nearby. The streetscape of older homes in that area is an asset. To promote greater appreciation of our heritage, Association members will begin soon to document the historic buildings in McKownville. Historic preservation is a duty of every citizen and government.

It is the hope of the McKownville Association that the "blue house" be repaired and reoccupied as a single family home, the grounds be cleaned of accumulated trash and fallen trees, and the lawn be appropriately trimmed in season. We very much appreciate the efforts by the Town to return this home to good use, benefiting its neighbors, its owner, and paying appropriate property taxes to our local governments.

CC: Kenneth D. Runion, Supervisor  
Rodger E. Stone, II, Zoning Enforcement Officer  
1257 Western Avenue neighbors