



FREEPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Engaging our community to experience connections between past & present.

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October 18, 2023

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Dear Mr. Reiche:

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At the August 16 meeting of the Project Review Board, you received the application for a demolition permit from Mr. Bruce Macomber to remove the Class B outbuilding at 48 Bow St. At that meeting, I offered the assistance of Freeport Historical Society in documenting the building for our records as well as help finding an interested party to move the building to another location.

On September 14, I visited the building with our Collections & Education Manager, Ms. Audrey Wolfe, and the chair of our Collections Committee, Mr. David Coffin. After examining and photographing the structure, we reached the conclusion that significant portions of the original structure have been replaced over many decades and many others require replacement. The overall structure is a mix of many different eras of repair. In our opinion, the limited historic value does not warrant the effort required to move the structure in its entirety, and salvage of the older components would be the most effective way to preserve the historic portions of the building.

Staff

Eric C. Smith
Executive Director

I realize our conclusion does not alter the waiting period for removal of the building, nor would the time required to reclass the structure to Class C. However, we did want to report our finding back to the PRB as you continue your process related to the demolition permit.

Audrey Wolfe
*Collections &
Education Manager*

We appreciate your efforts to preserve Freeport's historic buildings, as well as the Macombers' gracious welcome to document this building before its removal.

Harper Batsford
*Community Engagement
Coordinator*

Sincerely,

James C. Cram
Director Emeritus

Eric C. Smith,
Executive Director

cc: Caroline Pelletier, Town Planner
Bruce Macomber, applicant