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From: eric thekentuckytrust.org <eric@thekentuckytrust.org>

To: Leslie Cissell <lesliecissell@aol.com>; 5thmortonstone <5thmortonstone@gmail.com>

Sent: Mon, Nov 28, 2016 11:41 pm Subject: Re: Hearing on Tues, Nov 29

Leslie, Ted et all,

I am writing to let you know I can't attend tomorrow's hearing. Some personal appointments won't allow me to come as I had hoped to. I am very sorry but I know I leave it in capable hands. I am attaching and copying a letter of support below describing my interactions with the owners to date and my opinion of the houses condition. I hope this helps. I will be available by phone about 10:30 thru the meeting should you all need to give me a call for any reason. I know I have been a bit had to get in touch with lately and I apologize. I wish you the best of luck tomorrow, you have my support!

Eric

November 28, 2016

Re: Smith House, 2833 Tremont Ave, Louisville, KY

Dear Sir & Madam,

My name is Eric Whisman and I am the Executive Director of the Kentucky Trust for Historic Preservation. Earlier this year it was brought to my attending the requested demolition of what is known as the Bishop Smith House at 2833 Tremont Drive in Louisville. I immediately reached out to the owners and offered our assistance to sell the house by purchasing an option on the property for a period of time that would allow my organization to market for sale the property. The Clifford's did not accept our offer of assistance but did allow me in July of 2016 to view the house and show the home to one prospective buyer. An offer was made by the buyers to for the house and partial lot being offered by the Clifford's for sale, which was not accepted. I followed up with an offer to accept an easement on the house that could potentially offset the value of the home with a tax benefit that would make renovation of the house more affordable, or allow them to sell the house for a lesser value while taking advantage of the tax credit to offset any loss in profit. This was also rejected by the owners.

In my visit to the house, and in comparison to the hundreds of houses I view each year, I felt the Smith House was in remarkable shape and was completely habitable as is. Though some finishes were dated, including pink plumbing fixtures, the whole of the house was well maintained inside and out. The gentleman (the owners father) who allowed us access to the house even remarked about the meticulous upkeep of the home by its former owners. Front and rear porches which usually show signs of age were in remarkably good condition without obvious signs of rot, the interior was well appointed without any obvious signs of decay. Most surprising was my review of the mechanicals in the home which were all installed within the last decade and appeared to be in good working order.

My impression of the house as a whole was of one in good condition that could be inhabited as is, without any expense. Though tastes vary and for the dated finishes of the interior, a person could spend any sum of money to finish the interior to their liking. From my assessment the whole of the house was impeccable, without any obvious structural deficiencies, and few to no obvious repairs needed to inhabit the home. In fact, in my opinion, the house retains a high degree of original historic fabric uncommon for the age of house.

As an architectural historian by trade and in reviewing each room and space of the Smith House, I was excited to find many original details throughout the home that directly relate to the period of occupancy of Bishop Smith and the construction of the house. The principal floor featured what I believe to all original trim moldings, door casings, window sashes and other finishes appear to be original to the period and in good condition, thought four original mantles on the main floor have all been changed. In the basement I was surprised to find original brick paved floors and evidence of an original finished interior space with surprisingly large windows hiding behind paneling and carpets. This discovery gave credence to the use of the home as a school as I would not have expected the degree of finish in the basement for the period, an obvious

intentional finish to allow use daily use of the space. In whole, from my inspection the Bishop Smith house is in good candidate and a rare survivor of its period and history.

Some alterations include additions of a dormer c1940, a kitchen wing c1870, yet the Bishop Smith House retained a high degree of original finish upon my visit in July. Though I am aware the owners recently removed several dumpsters full from the house, I cannot say whether these finishes remain. However, for the degree or original fabric of the building both inside and out to the period of significance relating to Bishop Smith, and the Farmington neighborhood of the period of its construction, this house is a terrific and unique surviving example of federal era architecture in Louisville. Evidence of interior finishes and a lightly altered exterior that would qualify it for a full restoration as a museum piece should anyone wish to do so, a rare survivor. Further more, for the meticulous upkeep of the house throughout its history, the building today is structurally in very good condition and a terrific candidate for a rehabilitation to make it a modern home with little expense. Certainly the neighborhood would qualify even a substantial renovation budget with an acceptable rate on return should the owners wish to do so.

For all these reasons, the Bishop Smith House qualifies as Local Landmark per the intent of the local statute and was appropriately designated such recently. The Local Landmark status should be upheld and enforced to preserve this unique and significant part of Louisville, Kentucky and America's history.

Sincerely,

Eric Whisman

Executive Director

Kentucky Trust for Historic Preservation

502-320-9735

eric@thekentuckytrust.org

www.thekentuckytrust.org

Residential - Single Family Residence

List Number: 1428359

Address: 2833 Tremont Dr, Louisville, KY

40205

Area: 02-Buchertwn/Hghlnds/Germantwn

Total Living Area: 5,226 Basement: Partially Finished Total # Bedrooms: 4

Disclosure: Yes Style: Traditional Status: Closed

School District: Jefferson

Above Grade Finished:

3,432

Total Baths: 3

Sqft - Total Unfin: 400 Nonconform SqFt Fin: 0 Nonconform SqFt UF: 0 Listing Price: 650,000

County: Jefferson Subdivision: NONE Baths - Full: 3 Baths - 1/2: 0 Age: 165

Stories: 2

Year Built: 1850

Open House Info:

Directions: Bardstown Rd. to Tyler Lane to Street

Charming historic home on large lot. Covered front porch enters to large foyer with tall ceilings, large living room with fireplace, spacious dining room with fireplace and eat-in kitchen. Screened porch overlooks in-ground pool. Bedroom and 2 full baths on first floor, 3 bedrooms and full bath on second floor. Basement is partially finished and there is a detached 2 car garage.

Room Name Room Level Width Length Room Remarks

Living Room 1st Floor Formal Dining 1st Floor Eat in Kitchen 1st Floor Bedroom 1st Floor Full Bath 1st Floor Other 1st Floor Full Bath 1st Floor Bedroom 2nd Floor Bedroom 2nd Floor Redmom 2nd Floor Full Bath 2nd Floor Family Room Basement Laundry Basement

@2015 Listing Broker

	(Fin)	(UF)	
AG	3,432	0	
BG	1,794	400	
NC	0	0	
Total	5,226	400	
SaFtSrc:	Annra	iser	

Basement: Partially Finished
Construction: Frame - Wood
Exterior: Pool - In Ground; Porch
Foundation: Other
Fencing: Partial Fence
Heating/Cooling: Forced Air Heat

Garage/Parking: 2 Car Garage; Detached Shingle

Utilities: Electric; Fuel:Natural; Public Sewer; Public Water

M Struct Flood Plain: No

Total # of Rooms: 8

First Floor MBR: Yes

Laundry Level: Basement

Closets

Fireplaces Level 1:2

Lot Dimensions: 150x400

Lot SF: 0 HOA Fee: No Lot SF Source: Survey

Acres: 0

Sold As-Is: No

Condo Features:

Farm Features:

City Tax: 0 County Tax: \$1.23

Deed Bk: 4044

Pg #: 0269

Block: 080H

Lot: 0009

Sub-Lot: 0000

, Lic. #

DOM/CDOM: 1/1

, Lic. # Listing Date: 08/14/2015

Sold Price: \$605,000 Sold Price Sqft: \$176.28 Sold Date: 09/30/2015 Sold Terms: Conventional DUC:

@2015 Listing Broker

Residential - Single Family Residence

List Number: 1433976

Address: 2833 Tremont Dr, Louisville, KY

Area: 02-Buchertwn/Hghlnds/Germantwn

Total Living Area: 5,226 Basement: Partially Finished

Total # Bedrooms: 4 Disclosure: Yes Style: Traditional

Status: Expired

School District: Jefferson

Above Grade Finished:

3.432

Total Baths: 3

Sqft - Total Unfin: 400 Nonconform SqFt Fin: 0 Nonconform SqFt UF: 0

Age: 165 Year Built: 1850

Stories: 2

Listing Price:

Baths - Full: 3

Baths - 1/2: 0

County: Jefferson

Subdivision: NONE

500,000

Open House Info:

Directions: Bardstown Road to Tyler Lane to street

This charming historic home has a warm and inviting covered front porch. You enter into the foyer with tall ceilings and off the foyer is the large living room with a fireplace and spacious dining room with a fireplace. There is also an eat-in kitchen, 1 bedroom and 2 full baths on the first floor. The formal staircase leads to the second floor which has 3 bedrooms and a full bath. The rear screened porch overlooks the in-ground pool. Basement is partially finished and there is a 2 car detached garage.

Room Name Room Level Width Length Room Remarks

Living Room 1st Floor Formal Dining 1st Floor Eat in Kitchen 1st Floor Bedroom 1st Floor Full Bath 1st Floor Other 1st Floor Full Bath 1st Floor Bedroom 2nd Floor Bedroom 2nd Floor Bedroom 2nd Floor Full Bath 2nd Floor Family Room Basement Laundry Basement

	(Fin)	(UF)	
AG	3,432	0	
BG	1,794	400	
NC	0	0	
Total	5,226	400	
SgFtSrc:	Appraiser		

Basement: Partially Finished Construction: Frame - Wood Exterior: Pool - In Ground; Porch Foundation: Other Fencing: Partial Fence Heating/Cooling: Forced Air Heat

Garage/Parking: 2 Car Garage; Detached Roof:

Utilities: Electric; Fuel:Natural; Public Sewer; Public Water

M Struct Flood Plain: No

Total # of Rooms: 8	First Floor MBR: Yes	Laundry Level: Basement	# Closets	#Fireplaces Level 1: 2
Lot Dimensions: 240x150	Lot SF: 0	Lot SF Source: Survey	Acres: 0	Sold As-Is: No
HOA Y/N: No	HOA Fee: No		PARTY OF THE STREET, S	AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER
Condo Features:	en wither with the contraction of the contraction o		THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	
Farm Features:				

City Tax: 0 County Tax: \$1.23 Deed Bk: 10476 Pg #: 0069 Block: 080H Lot: 0009 Sub-Lot: 0000

, Lic. # DOM/CDOM: 169/169 , Lic. # Listing Date: 11/05/2015