

MAYOR
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**CITY OF STAMFORD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
P.O. Box 10152
STAMFORD, CT 06904 -2152

To: The Honorable Mayor David Martin, City of Stamford
From: Lynn Drobbin, Chairperson
City of Stamford Historic Preservation Advisory Commission

Date: April 21, 2015

RE: Proposed Hoyt-Barnum House Relocation]

c: Martin Levine, City of Stamford
Thomas Madden, City of Stamford
Pam Coleman, SHS

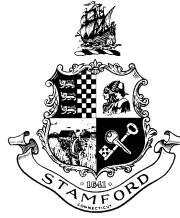
The City of Stamford Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (HPAC), at the April 14, 2015 meeting, discussed the city's proposed purchase of the property and the proposed relocation of the Hoyt-Barnum House, located at 713 Bedford Street. The house is proposed for relocation by the city to accommodate an expansion of the Police Station Headquarters Building, located at 805 Bedford Street. The house is owned and maintained as a museum by the Stamford Historical Society (SHS) and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1969.

The Hoyt-Barnum House, built circa 1699, is the oldest house in Stamford. The builder was a descendant of one of the original founders of Stamford. The large chimney stack of the Hoyt-Barnum House is made of field stone, laid up with clay, animal hair, and straw. The house is braced timber frame construction or post and beam. The foundation is of field stone. The west room of the house is plastered. The east room is whitewashed and the hearth room walls are sheathed with wood paneling, thus showing the various finishing techniques incorporated into the house during its evolution.

The city has requested that the Stamford Historical Society file a demolition notice for the Hoyt-Barnum House to keep the police station project moving ahead in compliance with state and OSHA requirements. In accordance with **Chapter 27: HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION, Sec. 27-2: Power and Duties**, and **Sec. 27-8: Referral to the Commission by other departments, boards or commissions**, as excerpted and attached to this notice,

HPAC has issued a list of actions that need to be conducted prior to the filing of a demolition permit and included in the application for HPAC review:

1. Details of the move, such as: schematic drawings of how the building will be disassembled into manageable components for transportation and how it will be re-assembled on the new site.
2. Process for contracting the move.
 - a. Site preparations
 - b. Plans
 - c. Financial agreements



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3. Required stabilization prior to the move.
4. Details for the preservation of the original interior finishes.
5. Timeline for the move.
6. Detailed documentation of the building exterior and interior conditions, including drawings, photographs and descriptions of all materials and details, i.e. conduct HABS (Historic American Building Survey) level documentation
7. New Site Preparation Plans. The site plan needs to indicate the proposed location of the Barnum House on the new site, indicate the required changes to the existing parking layout, pedestrian access and a grading plan for a sloped site that would accommodate the “basement” and stone foundation.
8. Site plans need to be approved by Zoning and City Engineering departments,
9. Provision for an archeological excavation to be undertaken by professional archaeologists prior to the move and after.
 - a. Provision for security fencing around the perimeter of the excavation for the duration of the excavation.
 - b. Time frame for the excavation
 - c. A process and provisions for SHS to Retrieve and Catalog the Artifacts
10. Initiation of the Process to Get the House Re-listed on the National Register After the Move
 - a. Procedures that will restore the historic status after the move, as delineated in the SHPO letter, are important to retain the National Register status to assure the stewardship into the future. It is also important that the house can be restored to the National Register standards after the move.

And for all of the above, the identification of the responsible parties for each task and the identification of approximate costs and whom shall be responsible for those costs.

Applicable Sections of the Historic Preservation Ordinance

Sec. 27-2. Powers and duties.

- (4) To act in an advisory role to other officials, boards, commissions and departments of the City of Stamford regarding the protection of local cultural resources; including, but not limited to, the Planning Board, the Zoning Board and the Building Department;
- (5) To act as a liaison on behalf of City of Stamford with individuals and organizations concerned with historic preservation;

Sec. 27-8. Referral to the Commission by other departments, boards or commissions. [\[8\]](#)

- A. All applications for development or demolition in any local, State, or National historic preservation district, of any historic site, or of any scenic, historic or rural road within the City of Stamford shall be referred to the Commission for its review. This referral shall be made when the application for

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development or demolition is deemed complete or is scheduled for a hearing, whichever occurs sooner. Failure to refer the application as required shall not invalidate any hearing or proceeding. The Commission may provide its advice, which shall be conveyed through its delegation of one (1) of its members or staff to testify orally at the hearing on the application and to explain any written report which may have been submitted.

- B. It shall be the policy of the City of Stamford and its boards, commissions and departments to give priority to the preservation of the city's historic architecture and character. All boards, commissions and departments of the city, including but not limited to those dealing with planning, zoning, transportation, health and safety, shall consider historic and architectural significance and preservation when making decisions concerning whether and how properties and adjacent infrastructure should be rehabilitated, mothballed, maintained, or demolished, including decisions concerning to whom dispositions of property will be made. Properties owned by the City of Stamford shall not be excluded. Demolition shall be treated as an alternative of last resort and shall be utilized only when other reasonable alternatives do not exist.