

NANTUCKET HISTORICAL COMMISSION

16 Broad Street, Nantucket, MA 02554

April 27, 2016

Mr. Edward S. Toole, Chairman
Nantucket Zoning Board of Appeals
2 Fairgrounds Road
Nantucket, MA 02554

Dear Mr. Toole,

As chairman of the Nantucket Historical Commission, I have been asked to send a letter, by unanimous vote, regarding the proposed 40B project at 106 Surfside Road.

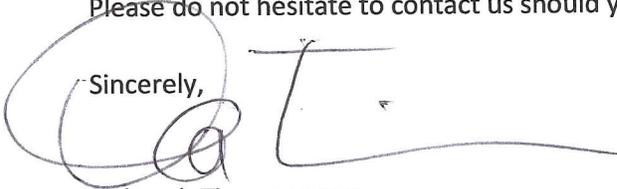
Our board is concerned about the impact the proposed project would have on the historic integrity of the island and its National Historic Landmark status. This project would adversely affect the Nantucket character and appearance that makes the island a unique and special place. Nantucket's historic integrity – its architecture, landscapes and neighborhoods – is a main draw for second-home owners and the tourist industry which is the backbone of our economy.

Nantucket Island's uniqueness is irreplaceable and must be protected by all stewards of this small island. The long-time preservation ethic of Nantucket has and remains an essential reason for the survival of its rich architectural heritage. In 2000 concern for the island led The National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) to name Nantucket as one of its 11 most endangered places in the United States. According to the NTHP website; "The list is used to raise awareness about the threats facing some of the nation's greatest treasures." The island in its entirety makes up the Historic District. Any new building, anywhere on the island, especially one of this magnitude, has the potential to greatly add to the erosion of the island's historic integrity and character.

Further, we are extremely concerned about potential archeological areas that might be on the site. This area was once a thriving Indian village, and this particular site is in close proximity to the Indian burial grounds.

This Commission, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, feels very strongly that this project should not move forward. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Deborah Timmermann,
Chairman

Cc: Eleanor Antonietti
Board of Selectmen