

## Mattingly, Gabrielle

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**From:** Randy Bernacki [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 11:29 AM  
**To:** Mattingly, Gabrielle  
**Subject:** Owners seek to demolish additions to Nichols Library

Hi Gabrielle,  
Please forward this email to the members of the Naperville Historic Preservation Commission.

Honorable Members of the Naperville Historic Preservation Commission:

I just read an article in the Naperville Sun (see link below) that the owners of Naperville's old Nichols Library have applied for a permit to demolish the two additions attached to the 119-year-old downtown building and the members of the Naperville Historic Preservation Commission are scheduled to consider the partial demolition permit request at your Jan. 25 meeting.

The article quotes the reasoning of the owners for this request as follows:  
"Demolishing the additions "helps us to visualize what the property looks like for perspective on new development with old Nichols Library on site," Brown said. "We still have aspirations for doing mixed-use residential and commercial there on the site that blends in with the cityscape and ties in with old Nichols Library.""

I find the request as well as the reasoning for the request unusual. With all the planning technology available to developers, architects, engineers, general contractors, sub contractors etc, why would an owner incur the expense to demolish any part of the structure to "visualize what the property looks like for perspective on new development with old Nichols Library on site".

Furthermore what if the old Nichols Library is damaged in any way during the demolition of the additions? What if the damage is substantial to the point where repair risks the viability of being able to preserve old Nichols?

Before any part of the old Nichols Library is demolished the owners should provide a detail written development plan for the property.

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Respectfully,  
Randy Bernacki

[REDACTED]