

Chair

Wellington City Proposed District Plan Hearings Panel

Mount Victoria Historical Society is opposed to the removal of the Toomath Building on Ghuznee Street from Wellington City Council's District Plan heritage list in order to allow the owner to demolish.

The façade, which is the part most visible to the public and an integral part of the historic streetscape extending from Cuba Street, is still intact.

For many years, the Council has allowed or encouraged façade retention, with new building behind. While we do not endorse all instances of 'facadism', some are very successful. They allow retention of the heritage of Wellington for future generations and, above all, a human scale at immediate street level. This enhances livability for those dwelling in the central city and the pleasure of the pedestrian experience.

Furthermore, allowing total demolition of this building is likely to encourage demolition by neglect, and even arson, by owners who refuse to sell or renovate buildings.

Joanna Newman

Convenor

Mount Victoria Historical Society

Mobile: [REDACTED]

www.mtvictoria.history.org.nz