

Elizabeth Rice Merryweather and Hugh Merryweather
30 Mill Lane
Hingham, MA 02043

September 15, 2025

To: Hingham Historic Districts Commission
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

RE: 709 MAIN STREET PROPOSED PROJECT

Dear Members of the Commission,

We are writing to express our opposition to the project at 709 Main Street as it is currently proposed and to urge the commission to require that any alterations made to this historic property be consistent with Hingham's deep commitment to preserving its historical legacy. As this commission well knows, the Historic Districts Commission "is charged with preserving the historical and architectural legacy of the town by reviewing the appropriateness of all proposed exterior alterations and renovations of historic properties located within the town's local historic districts."

Preserving history in the face of contemporary pressures is, no doubt, a difficult challenge. Here, however, the proposed project at 709 Main Street would add almost 4000 additional habitable square feet to the historic Pyam Cushing house, nearly doubling the size of the existing residence, and would destroy the original character of the historically significant home. Endorsing the conversion of this historic home, located prominently in the center of Glad Tidings Plain, to a large, contemporary condominium complex would effectively remove the Pyam Cushing House's place in Hingham's history for all to enjoy and learn from, do irreparable damage to the historically valuable character of Glad Tidings Plain, and set a dangerous precedent for future projects involving historic homes.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Historic Districts Commission to reject the 709 Main Street project as it is currently proposed, and require that any alterations made to this property maintain the property's historic value and character.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth and Hugh Merryweather". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.