

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
LOWELL HOUSING AUTHORITY,
HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
AND
THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
REGARDING
THE NORTH COMMON VILLAGE PROJECT
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has received a request from the Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) to demolish 18 apartments in two buildings at the North Common Village federally subsidized housing development located at 82-96 Lewis Street and 27-45 O'Brien Terrace, Lowell, and transfer the property to the Holy Trinity Church Greek Orthodox Church (HTC) in Lowell (the "undertaking"); and

WHEREAS, the transfer of the property to the HTC will occur only upon completion of replacement units to be constructed off-site on Fletcher Street in Lowell; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Office (MA SHPO) that North Common Village, one of the earliest federally funded housing projects constructed in the United States, meets the criteria of eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the North Common Village consists of 36 buildings, 6 of which (and part of a seventh) are located within the Preservation District canal buffer area adjacent to the Lowell National Historical Park boundary; and

WHEREAS, HUD has determined that the proposed undertaking will have an adverse effect on the National Register-eligible North Common Village; and

WHEREAS, HUD has consulted with the MA SHPO, the LHA and HTC pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6(b), regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and

WHEREAS, the Lowell Historic Board (LHB) and Lowell National Historical Park (LNHP) have participated in the consultation and have been invited to concur in this Memorandum of Agreement; and

WHEREAS, HUD invited the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) to participate in this consultation pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1) and the Council has declined to participate in a consultation by a letter dated December 8, 2003;

NOW THEREFORE, HUD, the MA SHPO, the LHA and HTC agree that the undertaking will be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

STIPULATIONS

The LHA and HTC shall ensure that the following measures are carried out in coordination with the MA SHPO.

1. PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION – The LHA and HTC will ensure that the property is documented according to the following recordation requirements and that one (1) copy of the documentation package is submitted to the MA SHPO for transfer to the Massachusetts State Archives and one (1) copy of the documentation is submitted to LHB for their records.

RECORDATION REQUIREMENTS - Photographic documentation of existing conditions of 82-96 Lewis Street and 27-45 O'Brien Terrace in the form of 4"x6" archival quality black-and-white photographs which are keyed by number to a photograph description sheet and building sketch plan (exterior) or floor plan (interior). Provide views of overall exterior elevations/interior spaces and representative views of architectural details illustrating windows, doors, entrances and moldings. Provide at least three context views showing the buildings in relationship to their setting. All photographs should be accompanied by negatives and should be archivally - processed and numbered on the back in pencil, but unmounted and with no affixed labels.

LOWELL HISTORIC BOARD

By:



Date:

1/22/04

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

By:



Date:

January 28, 2004