

Brewers Hill/Harambee Neighborhood Conservation Overlay District 2005

1.0 Description

Brewers Hill is a 3x6 block area located west of the Milwaukee River and north of Downtown Milwaukee. In the 1850's, it was built to house both the business owners and laborers who lived beside each other, leading to a mixture of grand houses next to worker cottages and duplexes. Brewers Hill was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983 because of its core of Greek revival and Italianate structures.

Settled between 1850 and 1890 the Harambee neighborhood was filled with German immigrants. The Harambee neighborhood, which overlaps Brewers Hill, has some impressive resources: substantial homes, active commercial areas, residents and community based organizations committed to neighborhood revitalization and strong cultural heritage. The southern portion of Harambee also includes the Halyard Park neighborhood, a suburban-style subdivision of spacious homes built between the late-1970s and mid-1990s.

2.0 Existing Conditions

Today there is increased traffic and use of on-street parking, noise, loss of open/green space, skyrocketing taxes. The threat of oversized condo complexes, in addition to the aforementioned, has changed the character of the neighborhood. Over the past 10 years, new houses have been built to fill the gaps left by the demolition of abandoned buildings that occurred in the 1960's and 1970's.