

January 26, 2022

Dear MV Commission members,

I was surprised to read in the Gazette the current owners of the Edwin Luce house and their architect, Phil Regan, state that "the extremely poor condition of the house left demolition as the only practical choice."

For about three years, as a caregiver for Mrs. Parker, I was in the Edwin Luce house on a daily basis. I was familiar with the whole house, a comfortable family dwelling that was filled with Mrs. Parker's artworks. At that time the house was not in "extremely poor condition." I noticed that the floor of the downstairs bathroom needed some attention, but basically I was struck by the extreme soundness of the structure. I recall thinking that houses were better constructed in that era than they are now.

It saddens me to think that the owners are convinced that their only option to have an acceptable residence on the site of this dignified old house is to tear it down. I urge the Commission to vote to preserve this historic house.

Kitty Ratledge
Edgartown