Petition to: 1) request the removal of the historic designation of Markles Flats and, 2) provide for its demolition

To: Landmarks Preservation Commission 108 East Green Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
Mayor Carolyn Peterson 108 East Green Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

We, the citizens of Ithaca, have brought our collective voices together to respectfully request that the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the office of the Mayor remove the historic designation from the Markles Flats Building (Court and Plain Street), Ithaca and enable this building to be demolished.

The designation of a building as a historic landmark is a process designed to designate a site whose preservation and rehabilitation would add to the vitality and economy of our community.

However, due to

- the fact that after the NYSEG remediation, the Markles Flats site will be a "Class 4 - .. has been properly closed but that requires continued site management, consisting of operation maintenance, and monitoring" by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- the significantly degraded state of the Markles Flats building itself
- the limitations and constraints the building imposes on the completion of the coal tar remediation attempted by NYSEG and the DEC
- the fact that it is unknown how long the remediation efforts will contain the toxins left underneath the Markles Flats Building
- the fact that Markles Flats will never be able to be used for children, thus excluding it from being qualified for federal and state funding for school renovation
- the fact that no building should be valued more than the health of the public

We feel that by retaining Markles Flats and limiting the coal tar cleanup, this site will continue to place our community at risk to volatile chemical migration of soil gases and groundwater contamination and jeopardize public health. As a consequence, as long as Markles Flats remains, it will exist as a blight on our community and serve against the intentions of its historic designation and the renewal and rehabilitation it strives for.

We request that the historic designation of Markles Flats be removed immediately and building allowed to be demolished.

Name	Address

Name	Address

Markles Flats Petition to remove historic designation and provide for its demolition