Anthony J. Asher, Developer

Why does Weston redevelop old industrial complexes instead of demolishing them? To answer the question, we must ask why buy one old industrial property instead of another? The answers are the same. Available inexpensive labor force, security within the area, access to interstates, public transportation, perception of the area and neighborhood itself are the ingredients that will determine the future economic viability of the facility.
Some old neighborhoods were stronger than others and had more influence over a way of life than others. That influence is still apparent, although mitigated through time, it is seen more in the non-English speaking areas because these people were more dependent on the neighborhood.

What made the buildings obsolete and what made the neighborhood obsolete? The leaders weren't always long range planners or visionaries. Evidence to draw this conclusion is found in the real estate maze and assembly line maze that were built during the expansion years of various companies and through expansion years of various neighborhoods.

True, change was not as rapid as today and long range planning was not a function as it is today, but some efficiencies could have been considered. Assembly lines through tunnels or small manufacturing facilities in the middle of a residential street could have been avoided.

Neighborhood businessmen's associations help keep the character of the neighborhood alive and maintain the security within the neighborhood. Their self-made networks established through their concern for the area form a non-governmental neighborhood security influence and force of volunteers. Coupled with the police department, the old guard continues to exist.

What remains of the old neighborhood? Enough that the influences, traditions, work ethic and support for individuals all still exist. People there are still concerned about people.