State Historic Preservation Office Michigan Historical Center

Staff Comments, August 24, 2007 1207 North Livernois Road

If this house has been a designated local historic district since 1978, how did the historic district commission approve a two-story addition—that is now being used to show the house has lost its historic integrity— in 1987? It also appears that the vinyl siding and vinyl windows, which are also being used as a reason the house has lost its historic integrity, have been installed since the house became a designated a local historic district. Since this resource had significance as the first frame house in Oakland County, the fact that it was moved within the county would have been less consequential to its status as a historic resource. But, coupled with the physical changes apparently allowed by the historic district commission, we would agree that the historic integrity of the resource has been compromised. We hope that in addition to updating the historic district ordinance and historic resource survey, the city of Rochester Hills is also expanding it's training for historic district commissioners and updating it's design guidelines.