

January 5, 2010

Dear HDC Board Members,

My wife Bryn and I would like to find, disassemble, and move an, ideally, 19th century barn onto the property where the old Winkler Mill once stood. We own this piece of land, which is adjacent to our home property at 6425 Winkler Mill Road. We would like some direction from you regarding it.

As our six children get older, some of whom have interest in auto mechanics as well as farm animals, we have felt the need for a space that could accommodate these uses and others.

Our property currently doesn't have a garage, which has led to over-taxed sheds, and little area for farm animal housing. We have loved creating a home and yard environment for ourselves and our children, that replicates, to some extent, a rural, "old-fashioned" lifestyle. We believe a barn could greatly add to our abilities to continue to do so.

We find the idea of locating a 19th century barn appealing. We'd love to find and save a barn that is either slated for destruction or one that is no longer in use and will deteriorate from lack of upkeep. Our hope would be to find a gambrel roofed barn, roughly 25' x 35', x 25 feet high – something similar in proportion, not size, to the barn pictured in the attachments from Oakland University's campus.

While neither our nor the mill property have ever, to our knowledge, had a barn on them, there are three gambrel roofed barns within half a mile of our home of varying sizes as well as many others in Oakland County, and so this barn style seems appropriate for the area.

There seem to be a few sets of standards by which the Secretary of the Interior operates. Which set should we be considering for this kind of project?

What other considerations would you like us to think through?

We are interested in preserving the historical integrity of the Winkler Mill Historic District, and, perhaps adding to it with the addition of an antique barn and so would appreciate your thoughts and guidance on the project.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel & Bryn Brock