



STATE OF MICHIGAN

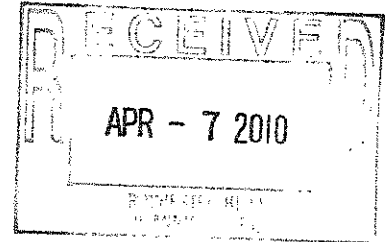
MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
LANSING

JENNIFER GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

KEITH MOLIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 23, 2010

Mr. Derek Delacourt
Deputy Director, Planning and Development
City of Rochester Hills
1000 Rochester Hills Drive
Rochester Hills, MI 48309



Dear Mr. Delacourt:

Staff members of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) have reviewed the preliminary historic district study committee report for the district at Stiles School. Our comments on the report are enclosed. We offer these comments in order to assist communities to prepare final study committee reports that meet the requirements of Michigan's *Local Historic Districts Act* and that provide a strong legal basis for protecting historically significant resources. These comments and recommendations are based on our experiences working with local historic districts. The SHPO lacks authority to give legal advice to any person or agency, public or private.

The report was presented to the State Historic Preservation Review Board at their meeting on January 15, 2010. They had no further comment on the report. The report will be presented to the Michigan Historical Commission at its next scheduled meeting on April 22. Should they have any comments, they will be forwarded to you.

We appreciate the efforts by the city of Rochester Hills to protect its historic resources. If we can assist you further, please contact Amy Arnold at 517-335-2729 or ArnoldA@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Conway
State Historic Preservation Officer

BDC:ALA

cc: file
Enclosure



**State Historic Preservation Office
Michigan State Housing Development Authority**

**Staff Comments, December 18, 2009
Stiles School Historic District, Rochester Hills**

Aerial photographs are not a suitable medium for the visual boundary description. A map with property lines and the outline of the building is required. Please see page 63 of the *Manual for Historic and Architectural Surveys in Michigan*, which is available at www.michigan.gov/shpo under Survey Programs. In addition, the boundary on the aerial photograph includes the 1957 and 1963 additions but according to the Conclusion section of the report the additions are not part of the district. The status of the additions should also be clarified in the Count of Historic and Non-Historic Resources section, which states "the two additions are counted as part of the building." If only the historic section is being designated, then the additions would not be counted as part of the building. Be sure that the written boundary description does not include the additions.