



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

November 3, 2017

Mr. Joshua J. Van Lieshout
City of Sturgeon Bay
421 Michigan Street
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO WHS CASE # 17-1364/DR

Re: Westside Redevelopment – Teweles and Brandeis Grain Elevator Demolition

Dear Mr. Van Lieshout:

We have received the materials you submitted. Pursuant to provisions of Wis. Stat. §§ 44.42 and 66.1111, I offer the following comments.

We are not able to review the project as submitted.

Based on the information provided, including the raze order dated October 23rd from the Fire Chief of the Sturgeon Bay Fire Department, we have not been provided sufficient documentation that the building is structurally deficient. We request more information regarding the current structural condition of the building, including any engineering or structural condition reports that support the determination on which the raze order is based, that the building does endanger buildings, persons, or property. As part of the listing on the State Register of Historic Places, our office was provided with three reports indicating the structure is in generally sound condition and within repairable condition. If these conditions have changed since those reports were completed, that information must be provided to our office.

Additionally, we request an explanation of options considered and rejected prior to the decision to demolish the structure. Why is the existing structure inconsistent with future development plans? Has the building been offered for rehabilitation to outside groups or organizations? To the extent that it is not possible to bring the Granary into code compliance, please provide cost estimates demonstrating why it is not feasible to repair.

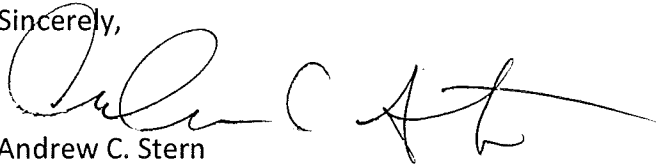
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In light of these conditions, we feel the move to raze the Granary building on November 17th is premature. We believe if options other than demolition exist and have not been explored, you must explore these options and provide documentation outlining possible solutions other than demolition. There is a clear community interest in the property, as evidenced by the property just recently being listed on the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places. The demolition of this property would be great loss to the community. We look forward to working with you on this project.

With questions, please contact me by mail, by email at andrew.stern@wisconsinhistory.org or by telephone at (608-261-2457). Thank you very much for your continued attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew C. Stern". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Andrew C. Stern
Historic Preservation Specialist - Compliance Officer

608-261-2457 (voice)

608-264-6504 (fax)

andrew.stern@wisconsinhistory.org

cc: Thad Birmingham, Mayor