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Katie Pereny, Secretary  
Historic District Commission  
City of Mackinac Island  
Mackinac Island, MI 49757

Re: **SHEPLER'S FERRY DOCK RAMPS MODIFICATION**  
Market and Main Historic District  
Design Review

Dear Ms. Pereny:

I have reviewed the proposal to modify the structural framing under two boarding ramps on the docking side of the Shepler Ferry dock at 7431 Main Street, in the Market and Main Historic District. The Shepler Ferry Dock is a Contributing resource in the district.

Steel beams and columns, under the dock walking surface, supporting the boarding ramps would be altered by cutting out and re-welding to accommodate the lower water level existing on Lake Huron at this time.

Two of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards address the type of change proposed to this resource. Under **Standard 2**, the historic character of the property would be retained and preserved. And under **Standard 9**, alterations would not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. In fact, the very process of periodically tinkering with ramp elevations is itself a historic character element of significance of the dock, and its historic purpose of interfacing with the ever-changing Great Lake Huron.

The proposed alterations would be functionally and aesthetically appropriate to the Shepler's Ferry Dock, and would be compatible with the Market and Main Historic District. As such, I believe the Standards for review are met.

Sincerely,

RICHARD NEUMANN ARCHITECT

  
Rick Neumann

- c. Chris Shepler, Shepler Ferry  
Dennis Dombroski, City of Mackinac Island  
Gary Rentrop, Rentrop & Morrison