

Lambert, Michael

From: Carolyn Gange <carolyngange@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 10:49 AM
To: Lambert, Michael
Subject: ● 4 E. State Street Demolition request

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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EXTERNAL EMAIL - USE CAUTION

Dear Mr. Lambert,

We would like to advocate for the preservation of one of our few remaining non-retail historic landmarks, the 1840s blacksmith shop. This idea may be duplicative, but if so, demonstrates an interest in preserving this structure.

We agree that its current location may not be suitable for site redevelopment or public access, so we'd like to see potential relocation in partnership with the Kane County Forest Preserve.

Island Park, Fabyan Forest Preserve (perhaps near the windmill), Peck Farm or even in proximity to the Durant House or Pioneer Sholes School are all suitable relocation sites appropriate for a historic building. It could be used as a small shelter or museum with a simple interpretive sign; utilities would not even be necessary.

Given the stone structure's uniqueness, simply demolishing it because of its perceived lack of value to a developer is not something the Commission or the people of Geneva should support.

Perhaps funds raised through a private-public partnership could offset the cost of relocation and restoration. Until a thoroughly exhaustive effort by its current owner, the city, the Park District, Forest Preserve and the public to repurpose and retain this portion of our history is done, a demolition request should not be granted.

Thank you,
Carolyn & Tony Gange
1102 James St
Geneva, IL

Lambert, Michael

From: Patricia MacLachlan <pmaclach0@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 3:15 PM
To: Lambert, Michael
Subject: ● Shodeen and demolition of historic smithy

EXTERNAL EMAIL - USE CAUTION

Dear Mr. Lambert

I realize this is a bit late but I hope in time for the commissioners to read before making a decision regarding this important historical structure. Unfortunately I am unable to attend the meeting.

To the Historic Preservation Commission

Please do not allow the destruction of this important piece of Geneva history!

The Shodeen Corporation has a deep commitment to this community and has acted in a civically responsible manner over its many years of building in Geneva. Doing what is right has been good for them and the city in the long run

Their proposed development at the entry to Geneva's downtown on the southeast side of the Fox River couldn't be more important to the image and character of our notably beautiful and charming historic community. This highly visible site contains the historically important old smithy that they are asking to demolish. Once gone it will be gone forever and gradually erased from the concrete, visible history that gives Geneva its character. Bronze commemorative plaques are no substitute.

During their tenure in Geneva the Shodeen's have shown creativity and flexibility in their building benefiting the character of the city and their own bottom line that depends on it. With the preservation of this structure **required**--a sine qua non --they **can** find a way to beneficially incorporate it in a final plan that will be mutually beneficial to them and even more importantly to Geneva as a whole, the community you represent.

Please save this piece of history for all of us, our offspring and the many who choose to visit Geneva because character has prevailed over perceived short term profit.

Sincerely yours,
Patricia P. (Trish) MacLachlan
318 South Fifth Street

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Patricia P. MacLachlan