



WISCONSIN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

August 21, 2014

Ms. Anne Biebel  
Cornerstone Preservation, LLC  
P.O. Box 248  
Cross Plains, WI 53528

**IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO WHS CASE # 13-0799/OU**

Re: Proposed Rapide Croche Boat Transfer & Aquatic Invasive Species Cleansing Station

Dear Ms. Biebel,

We have received and reviewed the materials you submitted describing the history and proposed reuse of the National Register of Historic Places-listed Rapide Croche Lock and its environs for reuse as a boat transfer and aquatic species cleansing station. Your submittal materials are exemplary: clear, concise and complete. I offer the following comments on your proposed reuse plan.

As proposed, the reuse of the Rapide Croche location will adversely affect the historically significant Lock area. However, we recognize that this reuse, from a free-flowing waterway-to-waterway traditional lock system to an isolation and cleansing system, is necessary and critical to the health and safety of the Fox River and other waters of the State of Wisconsin. Your preservation plan for the historic property defines an appropriate balancing and melding of historic preservation principles with the requirements to ensure exclusion of aquatic invasive species from the Fox River. As established in their essence from pages 19 through 34, I am in agreement with the plan elements that you have described.

We would like to work with you to provide input into the visual design of the the Interpretive Facility (described on page 26); and we would like to work with you to finalize a plan for the disposition of the historic, original "metal components and other features" of the lock and canal chamber (described on page 26). These elements may be restored and left in place, may be

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salvaged for public display on or off site, and/or may be salvaged and rehabilitated for use as replacement parts elsewhere along the Fox River system.

At this point in time, I have no further concerns with this proposal. I look forward to hearing from you and working with you as plans develop. With any questions, please contact me. Thank you very much for your continued attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Chip Harry L. Brown III, J.D.

Government Assistance and Training Specialist

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