

Oct. 10, 19

Dear Dr. Flanders,

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Gordon Olson and Reid Holland because I both know of my "obsession" with Blendon Landing. I talked to Dick Atkinson of HVS in church and he assured me you were approachable so I thought I'd tell you what I'm at (so to speak).

I am immediate past chairperson of the Kendville Historical Commission, a member of the Jenison Historical Society, and founder of Haire Cemetery Association (the old cemetery at Cottonwood & Filmore). I am Secretary of the local D.R.C. chapter, church historian, member of several preservation & genealogical groups, and I'm actively involved in historical research in the Grand River Valley area. I know Gordon from these activities. I am a HVSU graduate ('77) and did research for Reid for the Kirkhof Manuscript, as well as tutoring history. I tell you all this so you won't think I'm a crackpot or worse, a little old spinster with more imagination than facts. I've had experience with both.

Anyway, I have been researching the history of the Landing for a few years. Three of my great, great grandfathers worked at the Landing, as well as a couple of great-grandfathers & numerous uncles. I was taken by my grandfather (born 1829) to the Landing many times as a child and he would tell me about it in its hey day so he heard it from his father & grandfather. He was born in Blendon Township and was a blacksmith in Jenison. Fortunately my forbearers liked to preserve their history, so many things remain.

They are all passed on to me since I have such an interest. I have references to the area in old family histories, journals, maps, articles and I also have the names of many of the people who worked there, & of the men who made the bricks, the foreman & other snippets of information. One of my ancestors was a blacksmith and I have in my possession some of the tools used at the landing. A man in the area has the B.L. log marker and another has some bottles.

I'd be glad to talk with you or stroll around the area if you'd like. I am very interested in the "dig" out there and would love to help you in any way I can.

If you feel that I have any information you can use, don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Sherry Schow

Loring
descendant

4398 Blackfoot Dr.
Grandville, Mi. 49418

Ph. 538-5936

534-4569 in 19
95

Schuyler Lee
Schow

~~Fred C Schow Sr~~

~~1903 100 SW By Ctr~~

~~878-9824~~

Daughter
Jodie
Madison

Mrs

Racine

Dear Ms. Schouw:

I am a graduate student at Grand Valley State, sole author of the thesis "The Archaeology of Blendon's Landing: A Late 18th-Century Fortified Village in Western Michigan." I have additional information regarding Blendon's Landing, where it was located in the spring place of the former fort. He still has the original map of the fort. He knows the history. He is alert and would be interested to discuss this with you.

Feel free if you are interested to stop by for more information, then would issue. November 17, 1982

She is home during the day and nights (except once in a while). At 895-4270

Pat
Ms. Sherry Schouw
4398 Blackfoot Dr.,
Grandville, MI 49418

Dear Ms. Schouw:

I was delighted to hear from you about your interest in Blendon's Landing. The only thing that bothers me is how we missed getting to know each other here on campus back in the late 1970's, although I think we were doing "low-profile" archaeology elsewhere right then. I assume that you were not in any of my classes.

I would be very interested in talking with you and certainly walking down to the site if we can do it before the heavy snow sets in. I think that it might be enlightening for you to come out to the lab, at your convenience, to see some of the material we have recovered and share information about the site. Please let me know what would be a convenient time for you. I am out of regular class at 2:30 every day this term, or I could arrange for most weekends if that is better for you (a Saturday morning or afternoon, perhaps).

Sincerely,
Richard E. Flanders, Ph.D.
Professor of Anthropology

REF:ps