



**TOWN OF PLYMPTON**  
**HISTORICAL**  
**COMMISSION**

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25. August 2010

Plympton Building Department  
5 Palmer Road  
Plympton, MA 02367

Re: 18 Elm Street

Dear Sirs,

On Tuesday, August 3, 2010, I had the opportunity to visit the barn at 18 Elm Street. The barn is clearly older than 75 years and thus is subject to the town's Demolition Delay Bylaw for Historically or Architecturally Significant Buildings. Much of the first floor of the barn rests on earth and significant insect damage has resulted. There is also evidence of an active insect problem. As I understand it, this is the reason for the structure's planned demolition, as it is highly unlikely that the building is structurally sound such that it would survive being lifted to add a new, properly excavated foundation. Additionally, the extensive insect problem poses a longterm challenge for the overall health of the structure.

I have been advised that every effort will be made to salvage reusable materials from the structure - those without evidence of active insect infestation. Additionally, the building will be rebuilt in a similar footprint and scale to the existing building, which should complement the c1830 home.

Based on the site visit noted above, the expert input of Richard Burnet, and the discussion of the above at the August Plympton Historical Commission meeting, the Commission would not object to an emergency demolition permit being issued on 18 Elm Street given the significant deterioration of the building's structure

Should there be questions or concerns, please contact me directly at 617-905-9288.

Thank you.

Jon Wilhelmsen, Chair  
Plympton Historical Commission