



## MICHIGAN HISTORIC PRESERVATION NETWORK

December 6, 2023

Mayor Nathan Bocks, City of Holland [n.bocks@cityofholland.com](mailto:n.bocks@cityofholland.com)

CC:

Quincy Byrd

[q.byrd@cityofholland.com](mailto:q.byrd@cityofholland.com)

Lyn Raymond

[l.raymond@cityofholland.com](mailto:l.raymond@cityofholland.com)

Scott Corbin

[s.corbin@cityofholland.com](mailto:s.corbin@cityofholland.com)

Bylnda Sól

[b.sol@cityofholland.com](mailto:b.sol@cityofholland.com)

David Hoekstra

[d.hoekstra@cityofholland.com](mailto:d.hoekstra@cityofholland.com)

Nicki Arendshorst

[n.arendshorst@cityofholland.com](mailto:n.arendshorst@cityofholland.com)

Jay Peters

[j.peters@cityofholland.com](mailto:j.peters@cityofholland.com)

Tim Vreeman

[t.vreeman@cityofholland.com](mailto:t.vreeman@cityofholland.com)

Mark Vanderploeg

[m.vanderploeg@cityofholland.com](mailto:m.vanderploeg@cityofholland.com)

LETTER OF SUPPORT TO PREVENT THE DEMOLITION OF THE OLD WING MISSION IN  
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN

DEAR MAYOR BROCK,

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) is the 44-year-old statewide preservation organization that advocates for Michigan's historic places that contribute to the state's economic vitality, its sense of place, and our connection to the past. The MHPN has recently become aware of LG Energy Solutions' purchase of the Old Wing Mission and adjacent properties for a proposed expansion of their battery plant. This letter is written to support the prevention of the demolition of the Mission.

The house is commonly accepted as the oldest remaining structure in the area. It is associated with the founding of Holland in 1847. In addition to the physical structures, there is a high probability of undocumented archaeological resources on the site, based on studies of adjacent parcels. The resources could include artifacts from European and Odawa Indian settlements in the area.

Although not ideal, one solution would be to move the house to a new site, but only after complete documentation of any archaeological resources. We suggest that LG Energy Solutions consider donating the proposed demolition cost toward moving the building.

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313 E. César E. Chávez Avenue  
Lansing, Michigan 48906  
Phone 517-371-8080  
Fax 517-371-9090  
Email [info@mhpn.org](mailto:info@mhpn.org)

The City of Holland and the surrounding community are leaders in preserving Michigan's cultural resources. We thank you for your continuing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda Rigdon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**BRENDA RIGDON**

Executive Director