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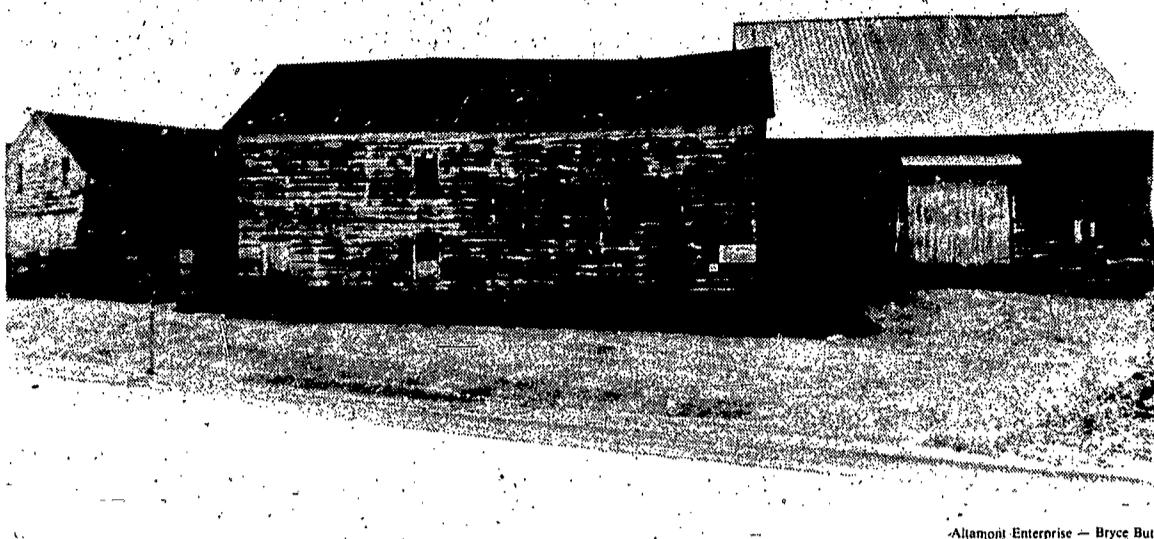
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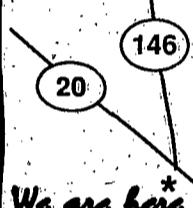
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The barns will be taken apart and reassembled. The original facade will be maintained on the sides that face north, toward Western Avenue. The southern sides will have lots of glass and face the reservoir and a small pond to be dammed on the site.

Besha Associates is an engineering firm that specializes in hydroelectric plants and other water management facilities. The company has clients nationwide, and deals with vendors of specialized equipment worldwide. The barns will house 11,000 square feet of workspace for the firm's 18-20 employees.

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In its application, Besha lists the costs of the project at \$736,000 for land, \$850,000 for buildings, \$200,000 for machinery and equipment, \$253,000 for utilities and roads, \$300,000 for architects' fees, \$50,000 for construction loan fees and interest, and \$100,000 for historic documentation. The bond requested has a life of 25 years.

Peace and Quiet

Besha, a former Guilderland resident, said his firm's engineers were looking for some "peace and quiet" and he has located the structures far from Rt. 20 because "the obvious consideration here is noise."

"This type of barn is rare," he said. "The VanPatten barn (On Rt. 20) is on the National Historic Register, and we want to place the other two on the register. Some significant historical events, we think, are associated with these barns."

He said the firms get visitors from around the world, and the new site "Will give people a sense of what this country is all about, historically."

Authority Member Kathy Kavanaugh asked if Besha had any plans to use the pond, perhaps to generate electricity or for experimentation. He did not. "Everyone wanted an office facing water. Our business is designing dams; we thought it would be nice to have a dam on the property. We are sensitive to the environmental needs of the reservoir: we're the engineers for it."

She also asked if Besha planned to develop it further. Besha said. He added that the possible property tax benefits were nice. "But we're not looking for anything more than anyone else would get." Smircich underlined the fact that the Town Board has not offered this kind of incentive for this kind of development.

Besha said his project could cause spinoffs because "There's a natural environment in Guilderland for doing this sort of thing." Next meeting for the IDA, when the final package should be ready, will occur in October.

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