

Headquartered at

Guilderland Historical Society



MYNDERSE-FREDERICK HOUSE

Built 1802

152 Main Street, Guilderland Center

August 19, 1984

ESTABLISHED 1971
PERMANENT CHARTER 1977

Mr. Armand Quadrini
1873 Western Avenue
Westmere
Albany, N. Y. 12203

Dear Armand,

I write with regards to 1245 Western Avenue which was the subject of my concern when I observed with dismay, the condition of the building a short time ago. I was not aware that you still owned it as I associate your name with modern construction, the performing arts, the Library, etc., all of which are assets to the Community.

I wrote, expressing my concerns, in my column in the Altamont Enterprise. A reporter from the Knickerbocker News read the column and followed up on the story.

The building is the oldest survivor of the farming Hamlet of McKownville. It was built and used by a member of McKownville's founding family about 1840. It is the oldest surviving structure by far connected with that family. The brick portion of the house and the major portion thereof is the original. At least one addition is old enough to be significant. The building is worthy of preservation. It should be listed on the National Register and I was disappointed to find that it had not made it.

The building should be, at least, secured against the elements without further delay. I note from the newspaper account that restoration is planned. I trust this is true. Possibly some qualified help should be obtained for this. Originally a onefamily home for more than a century, its best chance for survival would be in this category. It seems too small for multiple apartments and such tenants care little about the place. If properly restored, the income from a single family might be greater than a number of small apartments. Such things have been done in Albany.

The McKownville Improvement Association is also concerned about the future of the building as is the Guilderland Historical Society. The McKownville Fire Department is concerned with its present condition, as a fire hazard.

If I can be of service in aiding the restoration, please feel free to contact me.

c/c McK. Imp. Assoc.
Guilderland Hist. Soc.
McKownville Fire Dept.

very truly yours,

Fred B. Abele