

Sunfield Michigan  
October 11, 1990.

Mrs Sharon Stewart  
Vermontville Clerk  
Vermontville, Michigan

Dear Sharon. I am delighted with what has been accomplished in the restoration of our historic Opera House through Phase 1. This has only been made possible because of the dedicated leadership in the community and the outpouring of help and response on the part of the citizenry.

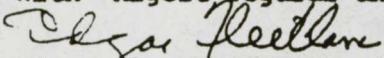
It is certainly evident that the funds raised locally to augment the Grant Monies have created the financial resources to do the work. Also it is plain to any observer that the funds have been spent judiciously and prudent manner.

As we enter Phase 2 of the project the efforts cannot lessen. I know that the community will continue to respond to every need. I am also well aware that there are not the local financial abilities to accomplish the completion in and by themselves. Further Grants and outside involvement is of the essence if we are to finish within a time frame that will prevent further deterioration. The restoration must continue. If I can be of assistance in any way within my power please feel free to call upon me.

As I have stated previously the history and the heritage of Vermontville means a great deal to me. I love history and this is not just in the abstract sense. What means the most is the lessons and the challenge of its heritage. The founders of Vermontville lived by moral, spiritual, ethical and cultural values that must never be lost. I believe this to be especially true in a day and age when these are regarded as passe and with little relativity to the present time in the minds and actions of many people. To me to view the historic Academy, historic First Congregational Church, the Methodist Church across the way and the historic Opera House is a powerful reminder of the values that made us first possible, and then great, as a nation. Their very presence, though mute, speak to me in a most forceful way. My prayer is that we will never lose sight of our incomparable heritage.

I have loved serving Vermontville and have always felt that Rosa and I are a part of it. Again, if there is anything I can do to help be sure and call.

With highest regards and best wishes,

  
Edgar Fleetham, Eaton County Commissioner District 1  
Sunfield, Roxand and Vermontville Townships.