

THIS OLD BARN NEEDS LOVE



MARCH 17 PHOTO BY RYAN GARZA/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Steve Stier, vice president of the Michigan Barn Preservation Network, is fighting to save the Leelanau County Poor Farm barn in Maple City. The barn "embodies a really good building that deserves to be kept," he says. "All we need to do is find a use for it."

Leelanau County landmark in danger of demolition



JOHN CARLISLE

MAPLE CITY — It's a grand old barn, plank framed and white walled, with a high cathedral ceiling of dark brown wood. It was the site of a century of important local history. And it's a picturesque element of the state's western countryside.

But it's been slowly falling apart for years. And unless money is soon found

to shore it up, it's going to be destroyed.

The Leelanau County Poor Farm barn stands alone in a field of dandelions and grass, just off a narrow, winding highway that passes through the family farms and softly curving green hills of the Leelanau Peninsula

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