

Another milestone was achieved just last week regarding the restoration of the Hicks school. The final inspection for the electrical work has been approved. Installing electrical service in the school was a big project, and, needless to say all the more challenging when working on a nearly 170 year old structure. All of the old wiring, outlets, fixtures, etc were removed and the entire school was rewired including outlets, switches, and lights in all rooms. Period lights were used but were also retrofitted with new sockets and wire. Also required was rewiring of service to a new meter box and installation of another main panel in the house. A huge thank you to my dad, Steve Bennett, who helped me extensively with the wiring, provided consultation, as well as donated some of the materials needed to complete the project!

Last month I presented to the Saginaw Valley chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society at the Castle Museum in Saginaw. The presentation was entitled "The Three Rs: Relocation, Restoration, and archaeological Research of the Hicks School". The talk covered the background of the school, the move of the school from Pinckney to Brighton, the restoration process and challenges, as well as some archaeological research conducted at the school site.

An article related to the Warner site was published in the latest volume (57) of the *Michigan Archaeologist*. The article is entitled "Percussion Cap Rifle and Powder Flask from the Warner Site, 20LV334, Brighton, MI". The article discusses the discovery of a circa 1845 rifle in the attic of the Warner house over fifty years ago and its potential impact (quite literally) on archaeologically recovered items, in particular a group of salt glazed stoneware crock sherds. It also describes manufacturing techniques of the Detroit made rifle as well as an intriguing combination of wear patterns on its various parts. This volume of the *Michigan Archaeologist* has a number of interesting articles covering both historic and prehistoric topics. See more information at <http://www.miarch.org/archaeologist.html>





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HOMESTEAD