

GREENWOOD FOREVER

FAQs

1. Why do we need a bigger kitchen? Hasn't worked so far?

The camp is, in fact, much bigger than it was originally, and the kitchen was built as a private family kitchen, not an institutional one. Glenn and Gina (the current cooks) are both adamant that no other professional would ever agree to work under these conditions. Worse yet, they themselves, are finding it increasingly difficult and, at times, unsafe to have so much traffic coming through such tight quarters while they are preparing food.

2. Why can't we simply remodel the existing facility and avoid a move outside the main house?

Moving outside the main house offer us many advantages:

- a) The unpredictability of construction will not affect our camp operations
- b) You never know what you are going to find in an old house with a stone foundation and 80 year old electrical wiring. Starting from scratch will help us avoid large cost over-runs and avoid unexpected expenditures.
- c) At the moment, the main house is "grandfathered" and not subject to some modern health and safety codes. If we were to conduct an extensive renovation, we would need to pull permits and would likely be asked to bring our existing facility up to commercial code, which is far more onerous and expensive to comply with. By starting from scratch with a new facility we are in a position to make the new facility meet all modern building code requirements without dealing with antiquated systems and structure.
- d) Moving the kitchen to our proposed site will allow for deliveries to be made on a separate access road that will be more accessible to 18 wheelers and stay out of the way of daily camp life.
- e) By taking the kitchen out of the main house we are freeing up space that can then be re-purposed to meet the needs of our growing faculty.

3. You are not changing the scope of the camp by increasing the number of campers or adding a different 'customer' group. Why the need for all the construction?

The condition of the camp, with the Main House over 100 years old, is quite simply not at its best, or most efficient. Repairs and improvements are necessary to ensure the continuing beauty and safety of its buildings and grounds into the future.

Furthermore, the camp has seen the benefits of employing a faculty that can offer more than music (such as poetry writing, for example). However, campers are missing out on having the entire faculty living on the camps grounds. Many faculty members currently live in Northampton and commute to camp. Additionally, some faculty members have young families and the camp simply does not have enough housing suitable for them.

3. This camp serves a small constituency. Does it make sense to increase the expense base by all the new construction?

The Board recognizes that additional improved housing would allow the camp to consider additional, non-camp uses off season, and would like to explore additional revenue generating opportunities.

4. The camp has served its "small" constituency well with many fond memories in its current structures. Will we not lose something by creating more modern facilities?

While many campers remember with great fondness showering outside, outhouses, and concerts as well as sleeping in the loft of the old barn, no one who has experienced the new barn could say that it wasn't a superb improvement for the camp. Still, other camps have improved their facilities without harming their programming or camp experience. New facilities provide increased safety, convenience and meet the modern codes. Fond memories are generated by relationships with faculty, counselors and fellow campers, as well as beautiful music worked on and performed, and the fun of a variety of summer adventures in a country setting with close friends. Greenwood has always been about the people in a very special place. The place deserves to continue to be special, but the people will continue to make it great.