Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Kosky and Glynn Associates
July 30, 1999
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

(X) New Submission ( ) Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

B. Associated Historic Contexts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settlement</th>
<th>1825 - 1850</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>1820 - 1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>1820 - 1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>1820 - 1990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Form Prepared by

name/title: Kosky and Glynn Associates

street & number: 7200 Hack Rd.
telephone: 517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034

city or town: Saline
state: MI
zip code: 48176

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

__________________________________________ Date
Signature and title of certifying official

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

__________________________________________ Date
Signature of the Keeper
Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E. Statement of Historic Contexts (See continuation sheets)</th>
<th>Page Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overview of Historic Contexts</td>
<td>E01 E40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlement 1825 - 1850</td>
<td>E01 E02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation 1820 -1977</td>
<td>E03 E17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture 1820 - 1904</td>
<td>E17 E23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture 1820 - 1990</td>
<td>E23 E29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/Subsistence farming 1800 - 1850</td>
<td>E29 E38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/Dairy farming 1850 - 1968</td>
<td>E34 E35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/Market farming 1890 - 1990</td>
<td>E35 E36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F. Associated Property Types</th>
<th>F01 F04</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See continuation sheet.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G. Geographical Data</th>
<th>G01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See continuation sheet.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H. Summary and Identification of Evaluation Methods</th>
<th>H01 H02</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See continuation sheet.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Major Bibliographical References</th>
<th>I01 I07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See continuation sheet.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>J. Photography</th>
<th>J01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Overview of Historic Contexts

The properties nominated in Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township, Wayne county, Michigan are significant in that they represent the type of housing and agricultural outbuildings common in the township during Canton’s periods of settlement and subsequent agricultural development. Canton until recently was an agrarian community. The nominated properties include farmhouses and outbuildings, which serve to illustrate this aspect of Canton’s history. The earliest buildings in the multi property listing are seven Greek Revival houses. Among them, the Boldman House, constructed circa 1840 is an example of the Basilica type (often-called Hen and Chicks.) This house type though common in Michigan is rarer than other Greek Revival structures and the Boldman House is one of only three remaining in Canton Township. Two other houses of a later date are also included in the nomination. They are the Smith House, a two-story brick cross-gable type constructed in 1904 and the Fischer (Fisher) House; a frame cross-gable constructed in 1897. These latter two buildings serve to represent the development of the township as an agricultural community. The Smith property belonged to one of Canton’s earliest settlers. As their farm prospered and as the family grew the newer house was constructed reflecting their prosperity. Children of a German immigrant family constructed the Fischer (Fisher) House. German immigrants added an important chapter to Canton’s agricultural history in the mid to late 19th century. The size and architectural detailing of the houses and outbuildings in the nomination trace not only the development of architecture through the century but also the development of agriculture from subsistence farming to a lucrative commercial enterprise. Canton Township has a reminder of its past in these buildings.

Canton’s beginnings coincide with the opening, in 1825, of the Erie Canal. With the canal settlers had a direct route to Michigan Territory. They were able to travel along the canal to Lake Erie and then by steamer or sailboat across the lake to Detroit and Monroe. A national road, the second funded by the U.S. Congress, led them into the interior. This road, the Chicago Road, cut through the lower sections of Canton Township. Thousands of settlers used this route and Sheldon’s Inn in Canton Township was a popular stopping place the second night out of Detroit.

As settlements were established the Michigan Territorial Government funded other roads to connect the communities. Present day Geddes Road was originally the South Territorial Road laid out in 1834 to connect Ann Arbor with the Chicago Road and Detroit. Its point of beginning was on the Chicago Road near Sheldon Corners. Timothy and Rachel Sheldon came from New York, and purchased the land in June of 1825. On their property they built the Greek Revival home that came to serve as a post office and as a stagecoach inn.
Another transportation route also led early settlers into Canton. Running from the Chicago Road on a diagonal northeasterly from near Ypsilanti is “The Ridge.” Cutting through Canton’s western sections it is part of an extensive geological formation, 400 miles long, which marks the beach line of glacial Lake Whittlesey. The natives used this high ground as a trail. Settlers followed the native trail and finding water and good farmland settled along the route. Several farmsteads were located on the “Ridge” in 1838 when Bela Hubbard, working as the state geologist, surveyed Canton Township. His field notes indicate that he talked with Mr. Braford, whose Greek Revival house is one of the nominated sites. Other houses in the nomination are located on the “Ridge.” The Bartlett/Travis House and the Kinyon House both mark the early settlement along this route.

Census records show that most of Canton's original settlers were from New York, Vermont or England. They brought with them the Greek Revival style of architecture, popular in New York, and modified its typical forms to suit their needs on the frontier. They established farmsteads where they practiced mainly subsistence farming.

A second wave of settlers arrived in Canton in the second half of the nineteenth century. Political and social troubles in central Europe, beginning in the early 1840's and continuing until the end of the century brought many German immigrants to Michigan. They established successful farms and built dynasties that made names like Hasselbach and Lohr common in Canton Township. One of the early German immigrant farmers in Canton Township was Michael Fischer of Wurtemberg who immigrated in 1847 at the age of 14. His family prospered and eventually his son built the large cross-gable house listed in the nomination.

Following the German immigration Canton's population remained relatively stable. By the end of the nineteenth century many families had lived for three generations on their farms and created dynasties that continue in Canton to the present. The story of these families' success and the story of Canton's development as a successful farming community is evidenced in the succession of homes they built. The first homes they built were log homes, then Greek Revival houses, and later larger more modern homes. Farming provided a good living, and the increasingly larger and more modern living quarters reflected this. In this nomination the Smith House (1904) and the Patterson/Gilmore House (1897) are both homes of such Canton dynasties.

The township remained mostly rural until the opening of I-275 in 1977. The properties included in the nomination interpret four important themes or contexts in Canton's rural history, settlement, transportation, architecture, and commerce. They are discussed in detail in the following sections:
Revolutionary War to 1820

After the Revolutionary War the newly formed United States of America began to make plans for the new territories that had been wrested from the control of the British. Congress passed the Ordinance of 1785 providing for the survey, orderly division, and sale of western lands. The Ordinance of 1787 which created the Northwest Territory set out the steps by which the territories would eventually become states, and how they would be governed until that time. The public sale of land in the Northwest Territory was a means of raising revenue to settle the enormous debt from the Revolutionary War.

However there were several obstacles before the United States could implement its plans for the new territories. The Native Americans held legal claim to all of Michigan except land in and around Detroit, Mackinac, and Sault Ste. Marie. This was partially resolved in 1807 when the chiefs of the Ottawa, Potawatomi, Chippewa, and Huron signed a treaty with Governor Hull to cede most of southeastern Michigan in return for $10,000 and future promises. Besides the Native American claims, the British refused to relinquish their profitable trading posts, and instigated trouble between the pro-British Native Americans and any new settlements. The War of 1812 finally ejected the British, and the Native American chiefs signed a succession of treaties relinquishing claim to most of their lands in the Northwest Territory. This paved the way for settlement.

The first migrations were to western Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Then the wave moved down the Ohio River to Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. Few settlers were attempting the more difficult journey to Michigan because of unfavorable early reports. General Duncan McArthur reported in 1814 that: “The banks of the Detroit River are handsome, but nine-tenths of the land in the Territory is unfit for cultivation” (Bald p.144). Edward Tiffin, the surveyor general of the United States, reported that Michigan consisted primarily of swamps, lakes, and poor sandy soil. This misinformation regarding Michigan was partially responsible for a delay in its settlement. Compounding the problem, travel to Michigan was longer and more difficult. Therefore, most of the early settlers moved into the lands that were accessible via the Ohio River.
Preparing the Land for Settlement
Despite a slow start, surveying the land in Michigan began in 1815, and by 1825 most of the southern part of the Lower Peninsula was completed. An east/west line called the “baseline” (now Eight Mile Road), and a north/south line called the “prime meridian” (near Lansing) were established. Townships were laid out from the prime meridian and base line.

The location of Canton Township can be described as: 2 South, Range 8 East; ie, the second township south of the base line, and eighth township east of the prime meridian. Townships were six miles square and subdivided into thirty-six sections. Each section was divided into quarter sections of 160 acres. Title to most of the land in Michigan was established by this survey system, except for a few “private claims” dating from the days of French and English rule. The sale of lands began in 1818 with an auction in Detroit.

The most important catalyst to settlement in Michigan was the completion of the Erie Canal in October 1825. It connected the Hudson River to Lake Erie at Buffalo, where settlers boarded a boat to travel by way of Lake Erie to Detroit and Monroe. This route greatly facilitated the movement of settlers into the rich farmlands of Michigan. Eventually the canal also made shipping goods to the east easier and cheaper.

In 1820 the population of Michigan Territory (which included Wisconsin and Minnesota) was 8,765; by 1830 it had increased to 31,640 (with 29,000 living in Michigan). However, by 1840 after Michigan had become a state, the population increased dramatically to 212,267 (Dunbar and May p. 165). This was the largest increase of any state or territory and prompted the saying that immigrants had caught “Michigan Fever.” The federal census of 1840 showed the population of Canton Township itself was 1081.

Early Settlers
All of the land in Canton Township was sold between 1825 and 1850, a total of 328 parcels. The first purchasers were Philander Burd and Samuel Burd whose land patents were dated May 30, 1825. A week later Timothy Sheldon and Lucretia Downer filed (June 6) followed on June 9 by Orva Clay, and on June 13, 1825 by James Halleck, Jared Fairman, Abijah White and Alfred Moore.

Other people who purchased land in 1825 were Moses Bradford, Alfred Fellows, Royce Fellows and Festes Fellows. Of the thirteen land purchasers of 1825, only James Halleck, Orva Clay, and Abijah White were not listed on the 1830 federal census; indicating that most
of the people who purchased land in Canton Township intended to settle there and were not just speculating on land.

Settlers who purchased land in 1825 must have made much of the journey on foot because the Erie Canal did not open until October 1825, and all but three of the earliest patents were filed for before the end of June 1825.

In the early years of Canton Township settlement, 1825-1830, a total of 78 parcels was sold. The boom years of 1831-1835 saw 224 parcels sold; with 87 parcels in 1833, the peak year. Between 1836 and 1850 land sales had slowed to a trickle with only 26 parcels sold in 14 years (Peck p. 89).

Timothy and Rachel Sheldon, two of the earliest settlers in Canton Township, traveled from Monroe County, New York with their possessions in a wagon. They had originally intended to settle further west, but they stopped for the night in Canton because it was at the end of their second day of travel from Detroit. Timothy and Rachel were favorably impressed with the surrounding area and decided it was where they wanted to settle. They purchased 160 acres in 1825, built a home, farmed the land, and turned their home into an inn for travelers on the Chicago Road. Eventually a hamlet called Sheldon Corners grew up around the inn.

The Bradfords were a family of early Canton pioneers. Moses, who was first to settle in Canton, patented 160 acres in section 5 in 1825. His father, Aruna, patented several parcels: 80 acres in section 8 in 1826; 80 acres in section 6 in 1827; and 40 acres in section 9 in 1831. Aruna sold the land in section 6 (48145 Warren) to his other son, Benjamin, in 1835. The property remained in the Bradford family until 1911.

John and Pamela (sic) Patterson obtained the original patent for 160 acres in section 8 in 1826. Pamela died in 1834 at the age of 28 (probably in childbirth) and is buried in Kinyon Cemetery. John married Eliza Barr and purchased land in section 7 (6205 Ridge Road) in 1844. After his first wife's death the new couple may have wanted to start their new life in a new home. 6205 Ridge Road remains in the ownership of descendants of John Patterson.

The Kinyons were another prominent Canton pioneer family. Elisha and Dilla purchased 80 acres in section 6 near Joy and Ridge roads in 1831. Their son, Orrin, purchased 120 acres along Ridge Road from his father in 1834. Orrin married Roxanna Fairman, the daughter of another pioneer Canton family, in 1835. They had eight sons, but only three survived. The
other five children are buried at Kinyon Cemetery. Kinyon School was also named after the family.

**Settlement in Neighboring Townships**

In Nankin Township (directly east of Canton Township) settlement began in 1817, a little earlier than Canton. A total of 295 parcels were sold. Between 1817 and 1825 thirteen parcels were sold. Nankin’s boom was between 1830 and 1836 (about the same time as Canton) when 215 parcels were sold, with a peak of 52 parcels in 1834. Nankin had a long slow-down period between 1837 and 1852, when only 12 parcels were sold; between 1852 and 1894 only 16 parcels were sold.

Superior Township, located west of Canton in Washtenaw County, sold a total of 233 parcels between 1824 and 1848. Almost all of the land was sold between 1824 and 1831, 197 parcels. Settlement of Superior Township was completed earlier than Canton, with the remaining 36 parcels sold by 1848 (Peck p. 163). The earlier immigration to Superior Township might be explained by the fact that the Huron River flows through Superior Township. Because traveling by river was easier than traveling overland by foot and wagon, migration into Superior Township was quicker and earlier.

**Travel from Detroit**

Once settlers had arrived in Detroit, they could choose one of several routes to the interior. One alternative was by water via the Rouge, Huron, or Clinton rivers -- or on one of the primitive “roads” of the day. Roads north to Pontiac and south to Ohio were in place in the early 1820’s. The road west (the Chicago Road) was not built until the late 1820’s. It followed the Old Sauk Native American trail westward from Detroit through Ypsilanti, then southwest to Fort Dearborn (Chicago) through the southernmost tier of counties. The Territorial Road, also built in the late 1820’s, branched off the Chicago Road at Sheldon Inn and ran through the second tier of counties through Kalamazoo to St. Joseph on Lake Michigan. The Chicago Road/Old Sauk Trail (present day U. S. 12/Michigan Ave.) runs east/west across Sections 25, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36 in the southern portion of Canton Township. Since the Chicago Road was the primary route west, most settlers traveling west to Canton from Detroit probably used this route. Canton Township was at the end of the second day of travel from Detroit.
Early Roads
Early roads cut through the forest were just wide enough for a wagon. During rains the roads were muddy, and when dry became rutted and bumpy. Often logs were placed over the worst of the mud holes, hence the name "corduroy" roads. Once the traveler left the road, only "blazed" trees marked the way -- if at all. One early pioneer wrote: "Beyond this limit of civilization the way through the woods was marked by blazed trees, and the difficulties of clearing a passage for a wagon through the thick undergrowth and around fallen trees and quagmires can be more easily written about than realized" (Utley p. 444).

An 1838-41 map of Canton Township drawn by Bela Hubbard, who accompanied Douglass Houghton on a geological survey of Michigan, showed two major east/west roads across the township: the Chicago Road and the South Territorial Road which branched off the former at Sheldon's Tavern. The map showed a "road opened" and "road laid not opened" along what would become Cherry Hill Road. It showed a "road opened" along what is now Proctor Road. North/south roads opened at the time were Beck Road (up to Cherry Hill) and Canton Center. Hubbard labeled what later became Haggerty and Sheldon (north of Cherry Hill) roads as "traveled road(s)." The "Ridge" (which was also a Native American trail) is a clearly marked diagonal across the western side of the map.

New England Influences
Many of the early settlers in Michigan and Canton Township emigrated from the state of New York or New England. In discussing the increasing number of people coming to Michigan, Silas Farmer stated in his History of Detroit and Wayne County and Early Michigan that "The larger part of these immigrants were from New York, and the rest mostly from New England. It is probable that, in proportion to its population, Detroit, and in fact the entire State of Michigan, has a larger percentage of New York and New England people than any other western city or State" (Farmer p.335).

Of the nine properties in this nomination, six were settled by families from New York or New England, one from England, and two from Germany. The following graph illustrates the state/country of origin of each of the property owners:
New England had an important influence on the development of both Detroit and Michigan, especially in the areas of religion, government, education, and architecture. These New Yorkers brought their New England ideals of hard work, responsibility, home, church, and education. "Nowhere in the West did Yankee stock predominate as much as in Michigan" (Dunbar and May p.170). Of the original purchasers of land patents in Canton Township, 168 were from Wayne County, Michigan or Detroit, 112 from the state of New York, three each from Connecticut and Pennsylvania, two each from Massachusetts and Vermont, one each from Ohio and Kentucky. In addition, two were from “Upper Canada” and one from England (Peck p. 89).

In fact many more purchasers may have been from New York or New England than was reflected in the official records. This was because the records listed the most recent residence of the purchaser, who may have resided only a short time. For example, when Aninah Bradford purchased his first land in 1826, he listed his place of residence as Monroe County, New York. When he made additional purchases in 1827 and in 1831, he listed his residence as Wayne County, Michigan.

Many people had moved into western New York from New England in the hope of improving their lives. However, by 1825 many had perceived that things were not improving. A number of farmers had purchased land on easy terms from a large land company, but had not been able to make the payments. The abundance of cheap land further west with easy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Settlers</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Origin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orrin and Roxanna Kinyon</td>
<td>7675 Ridge Road N.</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John and Eliza Patterson</td>
<td>6205 Ridge Road N.</td>
<td>Connecticut/N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas and Maria Bartlett</td>
<td>500 Ridge Road N.</td>
<td>N.Y./Vermont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David and Elizabeth Boldman</td>
<td>3339 Canton Center Road</td>
<td>N.Y./Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William and Mary Smith</td>
<td>3704 Sheldon Road S.</td>
<td>England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael and Catherine Fischer</td>
<td>4896 Sheldon Road S.</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillip and Maria Dingledey</td>
<td>1638 Haggerty Road N.</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy and Rachel Sheldon</td>
<td>44134 Michigan Avenue</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin and Mary Ann Bradford</td>
<td>48145 Warren Road</td>
<td>New York</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
access via the Erie Canal attracted many of these New York farmers to migrate to Michigan in the hope of starting over on more productive land (Stevens p. 328-29).

One method used to encourage interest in immigration was the distribution of maps and gazetteers in the eastern states. To entice people who were reluctant to leave family and friends, one gazetteer suggested forming "colonies for immigration" in which a number of families would agree to emigrate together. It painted a very optimistic financial picture: "A father may sell his small farm in the East for a sum that will purchase a dozen large ones in the West, of the best quality of the land. He may thus better his own condition, and settle a handsome property upon each of his family, who, in a few years, may become wealthy and independent, without the least difficulty" (Blois p.160). Brave words, considering that the east was in the midst of a depression following the panic of 1837!

Township Government
The township form of government was taken from the New England model. In the territories the "township" replaced the "town" as the unit of local government. The town meeting was the governing body, and gave every adult male the right to take part. The township was not unique to Michigan, but followed the pattern set by Ohio and Indiana of establishing township government. In 1825 Congress authorized Michigan voters to select all township officials except judges (Dunbar and May p.185).

Until 1834 Canton was part of the much larger Plymouth Township, when Plymouth Township was split in half and Canton Township came into being. The name "Canton" resulted from a law that prohibited the incorporation of any township having the same name as any post office (Farmer p.128). Nearby townships such as Nankin and Pekin, which were organized in 1829, had chosen Chinese names, and the name "Canton" was most likely chosen because it was unique. The first township election was held in the home of John Chaffee. The first supervisor was James Safford; Amos Stevens was elected justice of the peace; and Thomas Hooker, clerk (Farmer p. 128).

In addition to all the duties associated with running a farm, many of these people were very active in township government as shown by the following chart:
Religion

Many of the pioneers' ancestors had crossed the ocean in search of religious freedom. The earliest settlements in New England were centered on the church, and its teachings dictated the way people conducted their everyday lives. The early settlers to Michigan brought their religious convictions with them, and soon after settlement they began to gather for services.

According to an 1838 Gazetteer of Michigan the largest Protestant denomination in Michigan was the Methodist Episcopal which consisted of 9,241 communicants. Next largest were the Presbyterians with 3,294; followed by the Baptists with 3,230; and the Episcopalians with 448. Roman Catholics numbered 20,000-24,000, but that number included children. Several other religions existed in smaller numbers: Congregationalists, Lutherans, Friends (Quakers), and Universalists (Blois p. 148-50). Two denominations represented in Canton Township were the Methodist Episcopal and the Presbyterian. By 1835 they were holding religious services in the homes of the pioneer families in Cherry Hill and Sheldon Corners.

A Methodist minister traveled a "circuit" of local communities. In the settlement era the Reverend Marcus Swift, one of the local circuit preachers, followed a ten-point circuit which included both Sheldon and the Ridge/Cherry Hill. The Methodist circuit rider was a welcome sight to lonely settlers in the wilderness. Not only did the minister offer spiritual guidance, baptize the young, perform marriages, and bury the dead, but also brought news of the
outside world and from other communities in the area. Circuit riding was a grueling and demanding occupation that took the rider away from home and family for long periods of time. Consequently the circuit rider would often serve for a period of time and then look for a more settled way to minister.

The Cherry Hill Methodist Episcopal congregation had been holding services in homes and barns since the early days of settlement. They were able to build their first church in 1848 on land that belonged to the Crandell family on Ridge Road next to the Cherry Hill Cemetery. The frame structure served the community until replaced by a brick building in 1882. The Sheldon Presbyterian Church was built in 1850, and the Sheldon Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1858 on land donated by Timothy Sheldon.

Schools
Just as firmly held as their religious beliefs by the new settlers was the value of education as a means of improving their lives. In 1826 a territorial law reserved the sixteenth section of every township for the state of Michigan. Proceeds from the sale or lease of the lands were designated for a perpetual fund, the interest of which was to be used for primary education. An 1827 law specified that every township composed of fifty households should provide itself with a schoolteacher of “good moral character.” The following schools are associated with properties in this nomination:

Bartlett School. The Bartlett School was operating early in the settlement period. In 1848 the school board voted to build a “new” school -- 22 x 26 feet. It was named for the Bartlett family who farmed land on both sides of Canton Center Road (Palmer p. 4).

Kinyon School. The Kinyon School was located in Plymouth Township, at Joy and Ridge roads. It was named for early pioneers, the Kinyon family. Seventy children attended; thirty from Plymouth Township, and forty from Canton. The first school was built in 1837, replaced in 1849, and replaced again in 1883 (Palmer p. 221).

Sheldon School. In Sheldon Corners, school was initially held in one of the homes, but in 1835 Timothy Sheldon donated land for a school. The school was named after him and the hamlet where it was located. The original log structure was initially replaced with a frame structure and then in 1868 by the existing brick school (Palmer p. 275).

Three other schools that were also operating in the settlement period were the Cherry Hill School, the Hanford School, and the Hough School.
The people of the school districts were responsible for financing, building, operating, and maintaining these schools. By 1840 Canton Township had six schools in operation, demonstrating the priority that the pioneers placed on education.

**Housing**

The first task of the pioneer was to build a shelter, usually of logs. The first house would have been a log cabin, usually one room about 14 x 16 feet. The logs were held together by notching them at the corners. The floor was made of logs cut in half laid with the flat side facing up. The chimney was made of sticks, covered with mud plaster an inch or two thick to prevent fire. The fireplace was very large and constructed of stone. The roof consisted of wood shakes or shingles about three feet long. Once the pioneer had the logs ready, he would call for a house “raising” since the logs were too much for one or two people to handle. All the neighbors from miles around would come for a “raising bee.” There was a difference between a log cabin (which was usually one room), and a log house (which was two rooms or more and 1-1/2 to 2 stories high) (Markham p. 552-3).

There are no log structures extant in Canton Township. However, portions of log construction remain visible in several houses. 3339 S. Canton Center (Boldman House) has thirteen huge log floor joists and one fifteen inch square hand-hewn center beam visible in the basement. 6205 N. Ridge (Patterson House) has hand-hewn beams in the basement.

In time the log cabin or house would be replaced with a more refined house, when the settler might either add on to his present house or build an entirely new one. If a farmer was prosperous enough he might build his home in the Greek Revival style that was predominant between 1830 and 1850. After the Revolutionary War the old colonial styles were abandoned because they reflected the influence of England. People wanted a style that reflected their newly won independence. The Greek Revival style developed from the great interest in the Greek War for Independence and the recent archeological discoveries of the classical world. This was the style that came with the pioneers from New York and New England in the 1830's, and adapted by them to suit their agricultural and frontier way of life.

The Greek Revival style is characterized by a low pitched gabled or hipped roof; a cornice line with a wide trim band; a narrow or full-width porch supported with square or rounded columns; and a front door surrounded by narrow sidelights and rectangular transom lights. Settlers transplanted the style from the eastern states, and Greek Revival houses were to
be seen in every state settled between 1830 and 1850. After 1860 the Greek Revival style was gradually supplanted by the Gothic Revival and Italianate styles (McAlester and McAlester p. 180).

Hamlets
Sheldon Corners
The crossroads hamlet of Sheldon Corners evolved around the Sheldon Inn because of its location on the Chicago Road at the point where the South Territorial Road originated. It became very important to the people of the area, serving them as a center of trade, commerce, worship, education, and social events; and thriving well into the twentieth century. Its eventual demise resulted from the opening of I-94 in the late 1950's.

Timothy and Rachel Sheldon had planned to settle further west, but after spending a night along the Chicago Road in Canton Township they chose to stay because the area was so desirable. In 1825 Timothy and Rachel bought 160 acres on both sides of the Chicago Road (Michigan Ave.), and built an inn (44134 Michigan Ave.), which served travelers along the road for many years. Eventually the area around the inn developed into the hamlet of Sheldon Corners. By 1838 the South Territorial Road (Geddes Road) angled off the Chicago Road, starting near the Sheldon Inn and forming a triangle of land there. This area, called the “flatiron” functioned as a village green. Michigan Avenue was later widened several times which reduced the space, functionality, and attractiveness of the green. Timothy Sheldon was appointed the first postmaster of Canton in 1830, and was a state representative in 1839 when Detroit was the capitol.

The area eventually grew to include two churches (Methodist and Presbyterian), Sheldon School, Sheldon Cemetery, two general stores, three blacksmiths, a creamery, and a cobbler shop. Michael Fischer (4896 Sheldon Road) operated one of the blacksmith shops in Sheldon Corners.

Cherry Hill
Another early crossroads hamlet existed at the intersection of the present day Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. It was originally known as “The Ridge” because settlement clustered along a portion of “the ridge,” a rise in the land that marked the shoreline of an ancient lake. Both Native Americans and the settlers used it as a trail because the ridge remained passable even in rainy seasons. Later the hamlet was renamed Cherry Hill because of the wild cherry trees that grew in the area.
Bela Hubbard accompanied Douglass Houghton on a geological survey of Michigan between 1838 and 1841. On September 19 of 1838 he traveled from Plymouth Corners to Canton Township and noted in his field notebook that he "struck upon what is called "the ridge" at Cady's on the center line. ...The course of this Ridge is noted on the map. It forms a most remarkable feature in the geology of the country." Mr. Hubbard was so impressed by the ridge running in a diagonal across the western edge of Canton Township that he bored a hole into the center of the formation at the Hanford farm (6430 Ridge Road) and took samples of each stratum. He also included a diagram of the strata in his field notebook (Hubbard Field Notes, Notebook #3).

Water was a very important commodity to the early settlers/farmers, and Mr. Hubbard mentions the process of finding and the quality of the water in Canton Township. "Water is obtained on the ridge from wells, at a depth of 12 to 20 ft. (says Mr. Bradford) & is esteemed the best in the county." Hubbard also mentions Hanford (6430 Ridge): "I dug 4 ft. into the soil of the flat on the E. of the ridge at Hanford's (sec. 8). First 2 ft. loamy sand, below it a bed of quicksand." He goes on to say that at a depth of 6 ft., after going through gravelly sand, Hanford struck blue clay "as dark as indigo." Hubbard mentions another spring at the Bradford farm (48145 Warren) that was "strongly impregnated with iron" (Hubbard Field Notes).

There were several other crossroads hamlets such as Murrays Corners on the border between Canton and Superior Township; Lilley's Corners; and Tonquis Creek. They never grew to the size or importance of Sheldon Corners and the Ridge (Cherry Hill).

Patterns of Immigration
Between 1790 and 1820 there were fewer than 250,000 immigrants to the United States. The defeat of Napoleon in 1815 caused upheaval in Europe and the number of immigrants began to increase. Abundant land, economic opportunity, and political and economic freedom were some of the reasons that people flocked to the United States. Others came simply to escape starvation in their own countries (Garrity p. 294-5).

Before the Civil War immigrants were primarily from the northern-European countries of Britain, Ireland, and Germany; and in this hemisphere, Canada (Garrity p. 294-6). People were migrating to the United States from Canada because of the political turmoil in the 1830's resulting from Upper and Lower Canada rebelling against England in a demand for
greater self-government. Immigrants from the British Isles and Canada were assimilated most easily because of the similarity of language, and social and cultural institutions.

German
There was a steady flow of German immigrants in the 1830's due to economic and political conditions in the aftermath of the Napoleonic Wars. By 1833 thirty-four families had settled in the Ann Arbor area with the support of Reverend Schmid, and had established the first Lutheran parish in Michigan. Prior to this the Lutheran religion was virtually unknown in Michigan. German immigrants were also important in the founding of Ypsilanti, Saline, Dexter, and Scio. Many other German communities grew up in the Saginaw Valley such as: Frankenmuth, Frankentrost, Frankenlust, and Frankenhilf. After 1850 the Germans constituted the largest ethnic group immigrating into Michigan, soon gaining a reputation for raising exceptionally fine grain and cattle, and having a "good eye for land" (Ethnic Groups p.129).

After the revolution of 1848 the number of German immigrants increased greatly due to the increasingly unstable political climate. In 1848 there was a demand in many of the German states for a democratic constitution and unification. An improving economy and a split between the lower and middle classes diffused the revolutionary spirit causing the revolution to fail. This caused many German professionals, artisans, and intellectuals to immigrate to the United States. Later in the century the constant struggle for dominance among the German states, and wars with Austria, France, and Spain caused political and economic turmoil and even larger numbers emigrated from Germany.

The German immigrants were separated from other settlers by their language and their religion. They were welcomed, however, because of the cultural contributions that they could make, and because of their reputation as industrious, skilled workers.

By 1860 slightly less than 20% of Michigan's population of 749,113 was foreign-born. Most of these came from England, Ireland, and Scotland (61,497). 38,787 immigrants were from Germany and another 36,482 were from Canada (Dunbar and May p. 242-45).

Census data
The Canton Township population was 1333 in 1850 and 1513 in 1860. The first census that enumerated the population according to the country of origin was the 1850 federal census. The following chart shows the number of foreign-born residents (over 20 years old) in Canton Township and their place of origin:
Canton Township Census Data 1850 - 1860 - Origin (adults)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>England</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Ireland</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Holland</th>
<th>Switz.</th>
<th>Total Foreign</th>
<th>Total Canton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>1513</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total number of non-native-born residents had more than doubled from 1850 to 1860. Canton Township generally reflected the national trend of increased immigration, except for a lower percentage of Irish immigrants.

Houses of Foreign-Born Residents
Three houses in this nomination were built by immigrants to the United States or their families. William and Mary Smith (3704 Sheldon Road S.), both born in England, immigrated to Canton Township in 1830 and purchased their original land patent. Their son, George Sr., was also born in England. William and Mary purchased additional land in 1835 on which their grandson, George Jr., would eventually build the house at 3704 Sheldon in 1904.

Michael Fischer (4896 Sheldon Road S.) was born in Wurttemberg, Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1847 with his cousin when he was 14 years old. Michael married Catherine Hasselback, who had immigrated from Hesse Damstadt, Germany in 1852. They originally settled in Sheldon Corners, where Michael operated a blacksmith business. In 1862 they bought the land on Sheldon Road for a farm.

Phillip Dingley (1638 Haggerty Road) was born in Germany in 1831 and immigrated to the United States when he was fifteen years old. He first settled in Buffalo, New York, but eventually moved to Canton Township. His first wife, Elisabeth Diehl, died and Phillip married Maria Hasselbach in 1861. Maria, too, had been born in Germany and emigrated to the U.S. with her parents. At first they had a farm on Haggerty Road near Palmer, but in 1881 they purchased the land further north and built this Upright and Wing house with Victorian details.

End of the Settlement Era (1825 - 1850)
By 1850 Michigan was transformed into a state with a population of 397,654 from a sparsely inhabited land of fur trading outposts and Indian villages. Much of the land previously covered by forests was under cultivation. In 1834 Canton Township's population had
increased sufficiently for the township to be split from Plymouth Township and become a township on its own merit. In 1830 the population of Wayne County (excluding Detroit) was 668. By 1840 Canton Township alone had a population of 1081.

By 1850 there were clusters of village life at Sheldon Corners and the Ridge (later to be known as Cherry Hill). All of the land in Canton Township had been patented from the government. The population was 1333, an increase of 23% over 1840. The population was spread fairly evenly throughout the township, with slightly more families concentrated in the south half.

On the 1850 census most of Canton’s 1333 residents listed themselves as farmers or laborers, with forty-two indicating other occupations. Many of the basic needs of a small community were met by: 17 carpenters; 6 blacksmiths; two each schoolteachers, lumbermen, masons, shoemakers, and physicians; and one each clothier, bookbinder, engineer, sawyer, miller, tailor, clergyman, butcher, and innkeeper. The existence of seventeen carpenters would indicate a large amount of construction at the time.

The people of Canton Township had begun to replace their earliest cabins with larger and more stylish homes. Roads were being built and improved and the Michigan Central Railroad ran across the southeast corner of the township. Life was becoming a little easier and their farms were a little more prosperous. Life at the time must have seemed very good.

**Historic Context 2: Transportation 1820-1977**

Like that of so many Midwestern places the history of Canton Township’s settlement, growth and development is inextricably linked to transportation. Settlers arrived in Canton lumbering in carts and wagons over the Chicago Road. Later with the advent of the railroad they built prosperous farms importing needs and exporting produce over the rails. Finally when the pioneer automotive industry centered production in southeast Michigan, Canton was among the first areas to experience the boom it brought to travel and travel infrastructure. Situated along major transportation routes and located near centers of commerce, Canton became a thriving farming community and remained such well into the twentieth century. The speed of the automobile and the convenience of the nation’s interstate systems, each shortening travel time, led to the development of Canton as a residential community. Today this imprint of transportation’s history is very much visible in the settlement pattern and infrastructure of Canton Township.
Canton's beginnings as a farming community coincide with the opening of two important transportation routes, the Erie Canal and the Chicago Road. While Michigan was under French and then British control little was done to foster settlement or to improve transportation infrastructure. Those Europeans who lived in the territory were mainly involved in the lucrative fur trade or with the military, which helped to control the Native American population. They used native trails and waterways as a means of transportation. After the War of 1812, when the British relinquished both Detroit and Mackinac, and with the Indian threat under control the government of the United States began to take steps to attract settlers. A survey was commissioned in order to offer land for sale and steps to improve transportation were initiated. A major canal system and the Chicago Road, the second road to be funded by the U.S. Congress, turned westward migration north into Michigan.

The Erie Canal, inaugurated in 1825, opened the floodgates to settlement of the Michigan Territory. Settlers from New York, in particular, traveled the new waterway to Buffalo where they boarded sail and steamships that carried them to Detroit and Monroe in Michigan. Here they found the routes to the interior primitive and muddy, often little more than native trails. Congress, concerned with keeping the natives in control, commissioned a military road to carry troops from Detroit to Chicago. Father Gabriel Richard, a Roman Catholic priest and a member of Michigan Territory's delegation to Congress, lobbied successfully for federal appropriations. He understood the importance of the road to settlement. In 1824 Congress earmarked $3,000 for survey of the road. Orange Risdon and his crew began in Detroit with plans to cut a new route straight west. Within the first mile they realized that the funds would not be sufficient to build a new road. They abandoned their plans and following the pre-existing Sauk Trail surveyed the route to Fort Dearborn in present day Chicago. This road became a main “thoroughfare” carrying thousands of settlers to the interior of Michigan.

The "road" cut through the forest was just wide enough for a wagon, often with tree stumps left in place. Primitive bridges were laid across streams and rivers. During rains the road was muddy and it became rutted and bumpy when dry. Logs were often placed over the worst of the mud holes. Although this primitive route was almost impassable at times, the *State Gazetteer* reported, in 1840, that "travel on this road (was)...immense, equal to, if not more, than any other in the United States." With so many on the road a need arose for accommodations for travelers. Inns and taverns were opened along with other businesses. By 1830 a twice-weekly stage was running along the route. This soon increased to daily stages so crowded that reservations had to be made in advance.
Located along this "road," two day's journey from Detroit, Canton became an important stopping place. Settlers Timothy and Rachel Sheldon of New York selected land here in June of 1825. Soon their "inn" became a popular overnight stop, the second night out of Detroit. Other settlements soon appeared along waterways to the north and south of the Chicago Road and along "the Ridge," a geological feature in northwest Canton Township.

With new communities developing it was soon apparent that other roads needed to be opened. One of the first of these was the South Territorial Road. On November 4, 1829, the territorial government authorized the road to be built "commencing in Chicago Road at or near the Inn of Timothy S. Sheldon, in the Township of Plymouth (later Canton), in the County of Wayne, thence west on the most direct and eligible route through the village of Ann Arbor...And west to Lake Michigan." A second act of the Territorial Government, March 3, 1831, opened the roadway to the public. The traffic carried by the Chicago Road and the South Territorial Road, later Geddes Road, helped make Sheldon Corners a major settlement in the township.

A third major road on the 1838 map was the route that followed "the ridge" through the western sections of the township. One of the few township roads not aligned to the grid, Ridge follows geological high ground along the former shoreline of the glacial Lake Whittlesey. The Potawatomi used this route, where during the rainy seasons the ground stayed dry even when the surrounding areas were under water. The route, allowing relatively easy access to Ypsilanti to the west and Plymouth to the north, prompted the growth of the hamlet of Cherry Hill where it intersected modern Cherry Hill Road.

The roads were kept in relatively good repair at the junction of Chicago Road and South Territorial. An article appearing September 11, 1834 in the Michigan Emigrant Weekly, which advocated spending Territorial treasury funds for the upkeep of roads, states: "The condition of the Chicago Road, as far as its intercession (sic) at Sheldon's by the Territorial Road, is referred to as an illustration of the propriety of this suggestion."

While major roads, these two were not the only early roads opened in the township. The survey map produced by Bela Hubbard in 1838 includes but does not name the current Canton Center and Cherry Hill Roads which bisect the township on east-west and north-south axis. Also shown but unnamed are a portion of Sheldon, Proctor, and Ridge roads. A few other short stretches of roadway are also indicated. An interesting note is that Cherry Hill is opened west of Canton Center but not east. Even though settlements existed in the area the road was not extended east until 1922. This could indicate that the Cherry Hill settlement, located along "the Ridge," was focused toward Ypsilanti in Washtenaw County instead of Detroit to the east.
These roads with their stage and wagon traffic were the farmer’s contacts with civilization. He used them to take crops to markets in Detroit or Ypsilanti. On them he traveled to churches, schools, and villages. Transportation was difficult and the settler seldom strayed far from his own community.

An improvement in transportation would wait for the coming of the railroads. In the interim efforts were made to improve the road system. In 1848, the Michigan State Legislature passed the Plank Road Act. Companies received charters to build roads and were granted the right to charge a toll to finance the road’s construction and maintenance. In 1851, the Detroit-Saline Road was chartered. Planking was placed along fifty miles of the Chicago Road at a cost of $66,795. Eventually these “plank roads” were surfaced in gravel but they continued to operate as toll roads into the twentieth century. By 1900, eighteen miles between Detroit and Wayne were still in operation with five tollgates. Five gatekeepers were employed at $29 per month and a superintendent at $55. Although not indicated on early maps, several sources mention a tollgate at the Nankin/Canton Township line. The 1860 census lists Bradshaw Hodgkinson’s profession as tollgate keeper. Hodgkinson’s property lay near the corner of Haggerty Road and Michigan Avenue (the Chicago Road). This would help substantiate records of a tollgate at the above location. Although an improvement, these roads were not the answer to the need for rapid, year round transportation. Many were not profitable, as shown by the following figures from 1900 for the Chicago Road. The gross income was $1,200 yearly and maintenance was $1,200, producing no profit. Periods of wet weather and the need for constant maintenance rendered them impassable and forced settlers to look to other means of transportation. Area residents saw the railroads as the answer.

On December 24th 1834, a convention was called in Detroit to petition Congress for an appropriation of land to build a railroad across the peninsula. The newspapers of the day indicate that there was some controversy over the proposed route. Monroe appears to have been lobbying strongly for a position on the new line. The following statement appeared December 11, 1834 in The Michigan Whig: “Resolved that we respectfully request the people of Monroe to send delegates to said meeting, at Detroit...with a view to reconcile the conflicting interests of different sections of the country...and thereby the better to ensure the success of our application to Congress.”

The convention was successful in its petition, and Ann Arbor was equally successful in having the route pass through its community. The new railroad was to be laid out along a route surveyed earlier by Lt. Berrien of the War Department. The proposed route passed directly through Canton Township. According to Lt. Berrien...”our line follows the course of the Chicago turnpike...(and) varies but little from it until it approaches the Huron River at Ypsilanti” (The Michigan Whig, January 8, 1835). Early plans also stipulated a lateral line
that would connect the road with the Village of Monroe. When in 1878 the lateral from Monroe was built it went slightly to the west and connected with the Michigan Central Road in Ann Arbor. Although undocumented it is possible that the route might have been planned to pass through Canton Township. This would explain why Abner Hitchcock built a rather large hotel in Cherry Hill. It would also account for the story that he expected business from a “road” to pass through the village.

A second railroad eventually crossed through the northeast section of the township. Originally built in 1878 as the Holly, Wayne and Monroe, the railroad has changed ownership several times over the years. Today it is operated as part of the Chesapeake and Ohio. This road, along with the original Michigan Central, now Amtrak, gave the farmers of Canton ready access to both local and national markets. Today along the routes industrial development attests to the continuing importance of these railroads.

Railroads did not prove to be the definitive answer to the area’s transportation dilemma. Although of great importance for long distance shipping and travel, they were not economically as advantageous as the toll roads. On the road a farmer could haul his goods to market at a rate of ten cents a mile while the railroads charged twenty-five cents.

Another means of transportation rose to fill the gap between the expensive railroads and the inconvenient, often impassable, but cheap toll roads. The interurban or street railroad played a short-lived but important role in the development of transportation in Canton Township. The Detroit, Jackson, and Chicago line was inaugurated in 1898. Its route ran down Michigan Avenue with stops at Sheldon as well as at Seacord’s to the west and Hoffman’s to the east. Along this route Sheldon became a station where farmers delivered milk and other produce to be taken to markets in Detroit and Ypsilanti. Canton residents were able for very little money to travel to Detroit and Ypsilanti and even as far as Toledo. Originally the charge was one cent per mile. The interurban carried the young people of Canton to high school in Plymouth, Wayne, and Ypsilanti resulting in a high percentage of high school graduates for a farming community. The ride to school cost as little as nine cents. The easy access to large communities both to the east and the west helped keep Canton a rural community. But that too would change. By the late 1920’s a new means of transportation, the automobile, would replace the interurban.

Transportation, always a major concern to the widely dispersed farmers of Canton, eventually changed the Township from a rural agricultural community to today’s suburbs. It was the advent of the good roads movement and automobile that led to today’s transportation system. Located just to the west of the newly emerging center of production, Detroit, Canton was in the fortunate position to take advantage of the new means of transportation.
An 1851 act permitted townships to borrow or levy taxes up to $10,000 for the construction and maintenance of local roads. A more regional approach was soon seen as advantageous and Wayne County began to tax for roads. It had one of the first county road commissions in the state. It was originally established in 1906 and reestablished in 1908 after the state Supreme Court declared that the original commission was unconstitutional. By 1907 the commission was filing annual reports on the condition of roads in the county. In 1931 the McNitt Township Road Act began the change that would remove road building and repair from the townships’ jurisdiction. It stipulated that counties take control of the township roads at a rate of 20% a year. By 1936 the takeover was complete and the township responsibility for roads passed to the counties.

Fortunately for Canton it had a friend on the county road commission, John Strong Haggerty. When Henry Ford left the commission in 1908 Haggerty replaced him. A friend of Ford and other influential men like Alexander J. Grosbeck, Michigan governor 1921-1926, Haggerty held many noteworthy posts including a term as Michigan Secretary of State in 1926. However, serving as Wayne County Road Commissioner, he exerted his greatest influence in Canton Township. Canton was the site of his country home and as such it commanded his attention when roads were planned. Under his tenure roads including Michigan Avenue, Canton Center, Cherry Hill, and Ford Road were paved through Canton.

The first to be paved was Michigan Avenue due to its heavy use as a major transportation route. By 1909 paving was completed to the Pere Marquette/C&O railroad crossing at Wayne and to the county line by 1912. When the plans for the paving were begun the county road commission decided to divide the highway into two separate lanes. The street rail companies had in their contracts a stipulation that the tracks were to run down the middle of the highway right-of-way. In order to build a paved road of the required width, space was left in the middle for the tracks. This legacy of the interurban system resulted in the present highway’s boulevard design.

Haggerty exerted his influence and soon roads all over Canton were paved, Canton Center, where his home was located, in 1915, Cherry Hill in 1922 and in 1924 Ford Road. When Cherry Hill was paved a special railroad was built along the route to facilitate the transportation of materials for the project. The road was opened to the east of Canton Center at this time tying the village of Cherry Hill to markets to the east. To commemorate Haggerty’s influence in the township, Artley Road was later renamed Haggerty with no objection from the Artleys, a family who had settled early in Canton and who continued to live along the road.
The early paving of Canton's roads was a boon to the local farmers and helped change the look of farming in the township. With good roads, farmers bought trucks that enabled them to personally deliver their produce to market. Growth of the surrounding urban areas of Detroit, Ypsilanti and Plymouth provided a need for market crops. Canton was happy to fill the need. Soon farms switched from grain and cattle production to tomatoes, radishes, lettuce and dairy products. The 1950's knew Canton as Michigan's "sweet corn capital." Canton became the rural market basket of Wayne County.

The township remained rural until the late 1970's when an evolving transportation system once again changed the face of Canton Township. The interstate system inaugurated in the Eisenhower administration was maturing. A connector route I-275 opened through Canton in 1977 and provided easy access to the growing manufacturing ring around the city of Detroit. Canton became a bedroom community. Today many of the old farmsteads are divided into subdivisions of upscale homes. The Township is making an effort to preserve and document its remaining farmsteads in order that future generations will be able to understand the story of Canton's first two hundred years.

**Historic Context 3: Architecture 1820-1904**

The architecture in the National Register nomination dates from approximately the 1820's to 1904. Nine properties are or were farmsteads and one a country inn, the original owners once farmers. All are vernacular and are reflective of most nineteenth century vernacular structures in rural southeastern Michigan. The architectural style which predominates in this nomination is also the earliest, that of the Greek Revival. Although each building has a style or stylistic details, each is unique based on several influences such as culture, fashion, function, and available materials. During settlement pioneers in what was to become Canton Township built their dwellings based on available materials, site, climate, culture, and what their neighbors had to offer in terms of building skills and local design. With the forest as their main resource for constructing homes and outbuildings, some of the earliest dwellings in Canton Township were built of logs. The Greek Revival houses in the nomination have post and beam construction. Census and newspaper accounts in the mid to late nineteenth century indicate that sawmills and brickyards existed in the township. All the houses are wood except the Smith house at 3704 Sheldon, which has a brick exterior.

Since most early vernacular architecture was owner/builder designed, it is very likely that most structures did not have an architect. Most pioneers in Canton Township were from the eastern states; thus their dwellings looked much like the homes that they had left behind. In the 1830's agricultural journals, the forum for agricultural and rural affairs, began publishing farmhouse plans. The journals also provided information on social life, women's duties,
leisure pastimes, and farm work. Members of farm families sent letters to the journals commenting on house plans and activities of farm living.

In addition to designs in farm journals, Alexander Jackson Downing and Lewis Allen wrote books and articles on improving rural architecture, landscaping, and gardening. Allen’s book, *Rural Architecture*, even suggested types of dogs to buy for one’s rural property. Downing, in *Architecture for Country Houses*, said in 1850, “For every twenty persons who live in villas, suburban cottages, or town houses, there are eighty persons who live in farmhouses. It requires no argument, therefore, to prove that the comfort or convenience of farmers is of more weight and importance, numerically considered, than that of any other class; or that whoever desires to see his country adorned with tasteful dwellings, must not overlook it’s most frequent and continual feature- the farm-house.” These books were widely read; however, the farmhouse plans were a bit more decorative than needed by most farm families. Pattern books were also available which allowed readers to pick out plans for a specific house.

As the nineteenth century progressed, one can see how social change and architectural change intersected to produce a major transition in American vernacular architecture. From about 1830 to 1855 cities grew rapidly, industrial capitalism was formed, and religious reform movements emerged. In urban areas men worked outside the home, whereas women were responsible for bringing up children and domestic duties. In rural areas patterns changed, also. Whereas in pioneer farm families both men and women’s work intermingled to provide survival of the family, the mid-nineteenth century saw technological change that allowed more division of labor between the sexes. Machinery meant the farmer needed less help from his wife, allowing her to spend a little more time with children and domestic tasks. Agricultural reform encouraged the farmer to specialize, using more intensive farming methods based on business practices. Thus, the farmstead evolved from a place that grew several products that supported the family to a business where goods were exchanged for money, products, or services. Even women became involved in their own dairy and market gardening businesses to help with expenses. Farmhouses were arranged for efficiency, enabling women to contribute to the farm economy.

Some of the changes in house architecture are reflected in this nomination in the additions to farmhouses over time. For example, the c.1838 Bartlett-Travis house has an early addition to the second story and around 1870 a rear ell was added. A rear room in the Kinyon house was once a detached summer kitchen, probably added to the house when an agricultural or social change occurred in the family. Farmhouses usually followed the popular architectural style of the time, but were also designed with function in mind. The following architectural styles and house forms were found in this nomination:
Greek Revival
The earliest extant style in Canton Township is the Greek Revival. Some of the houses, such as the Kinyon, Patterson, Bradford, and Boldman houses, have details and floor plans which are immediately identifiable as those built in the Greek Revival style. The Barlett-Travis house, originally Greek Revival, has been updated with additions and Victorian trim. The following houses have Greek Revival attributes:
- Kinyon, Orrin and Roxanne Fairman, House (1850) 7675 Ridge Road N.
- Patterson, John and Eliza Barr, House (1844) 6205 Ridge Road N.
- Barlett, Thomas and Maria Blackman, House (1838, 1860) 500 Ridge Road N.
- Bradford, Benjamin and Mary Ann, House (1860) 48145 Warren Road
- Boldman, David and Elizabeth Bell, House (1840) 3339 Canton Center Road
- Sheldon, Timothy and Rachel, House (1825) 44134 Michigan Avenue

The Greek Revival style was popular in America from about 1830 to 1850. This classical style emerged as an architectural expression of the new republic's democratic values and admiration for Greece's struggle for independence from Turkey. It was widely used in public and commercial buildings. Builder's guides by Asher Benjamin and Minard Lafever influenced Michigan pioneers to construct this style which resembled Greek temples and had details such as wide cornice, Doric porticos, front door with transom and sidelights, and frieze windows. Although the Canton pioneers may have not referred to these guides, they were influenced by Greek Revival forms from "home," that is the Eastern states. These simple vernacular forms built during the settlement period were adorned with details such as the wide cornice, transom lights and pilasters seen on the Kinyon House and the simple entablature and side lights seen in the Bradford House.

House Forms
Several sub-types emerged, some indigenous to various parts of the country. In Canton Township the side-gable (one-and-one-half or two story) house and the gable front and wing house predominated. The side-gable house sometimes had a one-story front entry porch. Five side-gable houses are documented in the nomination and all but the Sheldon Inn are located on the west side of the township near the hamlet of Cherry Hill. One of the first land purchases in Canton Township was made by Timothy Sheldon in 1825. It would not be unusual for Rachel and Timothy Sheldon to choose the Greek Revival style, also popular in New York State, their previous home. The Sheldons were typical of many Easterners who came to Michigan after roads and canals were built, and brought with them the Greek Revival style. This house/inn is a one-and-one-half story side-gable building. It is built of wood with post-and-beam construction and a hall and parlor floor plan.
New Yorkers brought the gable-front-and-wing house that was adopted by other pioneers, and eventually became the typical farmhouse of the region. A variation of the gable front and wing is the basilica or temple form, with a wing on each side of the gable front. While the Greek Revival in Michigan had its main influence from the New England states and New York, Hamlin states "Yet the Michigan house builders seemed always to strive for new differentiation in the older types, and toward the creation of brand-new types of their own" (Hamlin, p. 294). He goes on to describe the "basilica" form (temple type with wings) which evolved into a form indigenous to Michigan and was found in farmhouses around Ann Arbor and north of Detroit. The Boldman House at 3339 Canton Center Road has attributes of this style with its one-and-one-half story gable front with pedimented full porch flanked by one story wings on each side.

**Upright and wing**

Another common house form was the upright and wing or L-shape house. This house form was popular in the Canton area and in Southeast Michigan in the nineteenth century. The upright and wing/L-shape houses in this nomination are:

- Dingledey, Phillip and Maria, House (1843-1870) 1638 Haggerty Road
- Smith, William and Mary, House (1904) 3704 Sheldon Road

Each culture brought its own building techniques and traditions. For example, the brick upright and wing farmhouses in Monroe County, Michigan follow a German tradition in having brick exterior walls with segmental arch head windows (Eckert, p130). As the century progressed the Michigan farmhouse was ornamented with architectural details that were popular at the time, such as the Italianate, Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival styles. For example, the upright-and-wing Dingledey house has decorative hood moldings on windows, spindlework in the gable peaks, paired brackets under the eaves, and a Gothic Revival window. The brick L-shaped Smith house has decorative millwork, arched window moldings, a bay window, and stained and beveled glass windows.

**Cross plan with Eastlake details**

The cross plan house in this nomination is the Fischer house:

- Fischer, Michael and Catherine Hasselbach, House (1897) 4896 S. Sheldon Rd

From about 1880 to 1910 the Queen Anne style came into vogue. Typical of this style was its asymmetrical massing, patterned gables, hipped and cross-gabled roofs, full and sometimes wrapped porches, towers, and various types of windows such as Palladian, bay, tripartite, keyhole, oval, and leaded. Some early Queen Anne architecture, labeled "Eastlake", has turned or cut trim that is loosely based on furniture designs in Charles Eastlake's book *Hints on Household Taste*. The Fischer House, a vernacular cross plan house, has Queen Anne
architectural details such fish scale shingles in the gables, bay windows, and Eastlake spindlework on the front and side porches.

Outbuildings
After the farmhouse was built, a pattern of outbuildings emerged. Many nineteenth century settlers in Canton came from the New England states where cold winters dictated that farmyards be arranged for convenience and protection from the cold. Some influence also came from European heritage. A. J. Downing in The Architecture of Country Houses offered advice on farm layout: “The farmery, generally, surrounds a square, that being not only the most compact form, but also giving well-sheltered yards for cattle. It is also usually placed directly in the rear of the house, or, at least, on that side of it nearest the kitchen, and should face a southern aspect.”

The house, usually near a road, was typically surrounded by farm buildings with the open space or dooryard, being used for butchering, wood chopping, soap making, clothes washing, and other outside activities. This was a protected spot which family members passed through on their way to the outbuildings. The barnyard, adjacent to the barn, was usually fenced to contain and feed livestock. While large crops such as grain and pumpkins were planted away from the farmyard, most farms had a fenced kitchen garden near the house to provide small crops of peas, beans, cabbage, herbs, onions, beets, potatoes, and fruit such as grapes, strawberries, and gooseberries for home use.

Because most of the properties in this nomination have been reduced in size and many of their old outbuildings are gone, it is difficult to see a “typical” pattern in farmstead arrangement. The Patterson, Smith, Fischer, and Bradford farms have evidence of farm buildings clustered near the farmhouse. Nineteenth century agricultural censuses indicate that Canton Township farms had small orchards consisting of 4-20 fruit trees. While the agriculture censuses documented small orchards on most properties, only the Kinyon farm at 7675 Ridge Road has the remains of an orchard. The acreage surrounding the farm buildings typically consisted of tilled fields, pasture, meadow, and woods. The agricultural census documents all properties in the nomination as having woodlots, but the reduced acreage of most properties makes it difficult to judge the location of original woodlots. The properties at 7576 Ridge Road and 6205 Ridge Road still have wooded areas. All properties were engaged in crop production.

When settlers first came to the area in the early 1800’s, their gardens were primarily for subsistence. As they became more successful and had time, farm families added ornamental plantings such as climbing roses and vines on the porch or doorway, shrubs such as lilacs, forsythia, and spirea in the yard, and flowers such as day lilies, daises, phlox, primrose, violas, and larkspur. Flowers were usually planted where they could be seen from the house.
The Patterson farm has a rose bush, peonies, and day lilies from the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Some families planted trees to commemorate a family birth or special occasion.

While the actual layout of farmsteads has remained much the same over the years, functions of buildings and activities in the dooryard have changed. Mechanization on the farm has changed how jobs were done, eliminated some jobs entirely, and necessitated new structures for housing machinery, tools, and crops.

The outbuildings seen in the Canton nomination include general agricultural barns, chicken coops, smokehouses, milk houses, granaries, sheds, garages, greenhouses, and silos.

While the Midwest has a variety of barns that have been inspired by both culture and agricultural function, two main types of nineteenth and early twentieth century barns were found in the Canton nomination. Both timber frame barns are typical of the Midwest and are recognized by their roof type. The earliest type is the English, or gable end barn. Its basic form is rectangular with a gable end roof and hinged or sliding doors. Both the Kinyon and Bartlett properties have gable end barns. The other barn type is the gambrel (from the French, gambrel, meaning bent part of a horse's leg) roof barn which is rectangular with a dual pitch roof, allowing more loft storage space and overhang which permits rainwater to drain away from the foundation. The Patterson farm has a red gambrel roof barn, probably built in the mid-nineteenth century for general farming. Though paint color varies, some barns, also typical of the Midwest and New York, are painted red with door and window frames painted white. Modern pole and cement block barns have gable roofs such as the one on the Fischer (Fisher) farm. Up until the early twentieth century most foundations were built of stone, with cement block used after that. Roofs are either shingle or metal.

Granaries were small, tightly built, rectangular, gable-roofed structures used for storing wheat, barley, and oats. They were elevated on cement blocks, stone, or wooden piers to keep out vermin. A granary, once located on the Bradford farm, is now at 500 N. Ridge.

Chicken coops come in all sizes, shapes, and building materials. Design varied from those found in pattern books to the whim of the owner. Most have a door, windows, and roof ventilation. Canton has several nineteenth and twentieth century chicken houses that are built in wood or cement block. The Smith farm has several late twentieth-century wood frame varieties. And the Patterson chicken house has been converted for human habitation, complete with fireplace.

The smokehouse was an airtight building usually log, brick, or stone, with small flue opening under the eaves or gable. Meat or fish was preserved by the slow application of wood smoke
that contains a high concentration of creosote to dehydrate and improve the flavor. The Smith farm has an extant smokehouse.

Springhouses were small masonry buildings used to protect the source of spring water. The cold water running through them was used to prevent spoilage of dairy and other perishable farm products. After government regulation required that milk be quickly cooled to 50 degrees F. or lower, milk houses came into existence. They were small, well-insulated buildings usually of cement block, located near the barn. The Bradford farm has an extant milk house.

Located away from the house, and sometimes adorned by hollyhocks, was the “privy” or outhouse. Usually built of wood with a roof ventilator, the outhouse sometimes had a decorative cutout on the door. A necessary part of every early farmstead, they are now hard to find. The Smith farm has an old privy.

Other outbuildings in the survey include garages and tool sheds that tended to be built according to the needs of the farmstead. Although not frequently seen on Canton farms, there were greenhouses in the area, usually built for home use. The Fischer (Fisher) farm has a large eighteen-bay greenhouse previously used for market garden production. The only farm building not typical of farms in the region, is the airplane hanger located on the Fischer (Fisher) farm.

Fencing was very important on farms, both to keep livestock in a contained area, and to keep wild or straying animals out of the garden. The only old fences seen in the Canton Township nomination were of wire with wooden fence posts such as on the Boldman farm. Some farmsteads have cyclone and modern picket fencing.

As the twentieth century progressed, changes in agriculture such as agribusiness, new chemicals, genetic engineering, and soil conservation, created constant changes in the rural landscape. The silhouette of the farmstead went from a cluster of one and two-story buildings in the nineteenth century to the long, one story spread of mid- to late-twentieth century farm buildings occasionally punctuated by a tall metal silo or corn dryer.

**Historic Context 4: Agriculture**

At the time of settlement, people from all walks of life came to this area. Some were land speculators, some had professions or trades, and some were just looking for a new and better way of life. Because Michigan was still a wilderness, most of these people had to
engage in some level of subsistence farming to survive. All properties in this nomination were engaged in agriculture.

In order to examine Canton Township agriculture during this time frame, it is important to view what was transpiring on a national and statewide basis, and what influences may have affected local farmers. Agriculture in the United States after English and French settlement consisted of subsistence farming, with each culture bringing its own methods. After settlers became self-sustaining, they sold crops to newer colonies. Immigrant yeoman farmers, indentured servants, and slaves helped clear the land and grow the crops in the eastern and southern states. Farms were small and the type of farming depended on climate, soil, and access to transportation and markets.

Early methods of distribution of land influenced farming in New England. Land was parceled out in ways that varied from an aristocratic system to a more democratic system. In the latter method, groups interested in forming a new community would petition the legislature for a grant of land 6-8 miles square called a township. A town was located in the center of the township surrounded by lots for houses and farmland. A land ordinance was adopted in 1785 that provided for a rectangular system of survey before sale of property. The ordinance provided for the division of western land into townships of six miles square, each divided into 36 numbered sections of one square mile or 640 acres. This is the pattern seen in Canton Township.

Developments within the state of Michigan influenced Canton Township agriculture. Though there were crops grown by Native Americans and white settlers before 1800, most farms developed in southern Michigan between 1825 and 1850. Later in the century the lumber industry in the Lower Peninsula helped clear lands for agriculture and provided farm markets. Besides the lumber industry, mining in the Upper Peninsula also created markets. When settlement began, there was little produce specialization due to the isolation of farms, lack of markets, and an inadequate transportation network. Each farmstead grew what it needed. In Wayne County, the first recorded settlement was in the Detroit area in 1701. Besides trapping for furs in the eighteenth century, the French engaged in farming in the Detroit area. Their settlement consisted of long lots near the Detroit River where they farmed. Detroit became a fur trading area and eventually lumbering and manufacturing became important. There were ready markets for farm products in Detroit, thus a considerable number of farmers settled in the Detroit area. The Detroit land office was established in 1804, with sales beginning in 1818. Though early reports pictured Michigan as an undesirable place to live, visitors and settlers soon put out the word that it was fertile country surrounded by lakes.

Canton Township, located west of Detroit, attracted settlers in the 1820s. The types of agriculture in Canton Township depended on climate and soil. According to the United States Department of Agriculture soil survey, the Wayne County area is covered by deposits of glacial drift which ranges from deposits of a few feet near the Detroit river and thickens gradually to about 330 feet overlying bedrock in the western and northwestern parts of the
county. Climate is affected by the Detroit River and Lakes St. Claire and Erie to the east, and an eastward downslope from the Irish Hills on the western side of the county. Wayne County climate is cool and humid, with an average yearly temperature of 58.7 degrees F. Precipitation ranges from approximately 22 to 38 inches per year.

The topography in Wayne County ranges from nearly level to strongly sloping. Natural drainage in Canton Township ranges from well-drained areas (Ridge Road) to poorly drained depressions. Of the eight soil associations in Wayne County, Canton Township has four general soil associations: 1. Wasepi-Gilford-Boyer 2. Pewamo-Blount-Metamora 3. Thetford-Granby-Tedrow and 4. Belleville-Selfridge-Tedrow. The township is composed mainly of Pewamo-Blount-Metamora association that, from an agricultural standpoint, is more conducive to growing grain crops than the others.

The first recorded land patents in Canton Township were those of Philander Burd and Samuel Burd in sections 4 and 5 on May 30, 1825. Timothy Sheldon became a landowner in section 34 on June 6, 1825. Timothy and his wife, Rachel, farmed and were proprietors of an inn located on what is now Michigan Avenue. Soon after, patents were issued to settlers such as Elijah L. White, Alfred G. Fellows, Alfred Moore, Welcome Burd, Hugh R. Clyde, and James Hanford. Some of their original farmsteads still stand today.

During settlement in the 1820's to around 1850, most farming in Canton Township was subsistence farming, with each farm producing what it needed for survival. The completion of the Erie Canal in 1825 and the development of a railroad system in Michigan between 1840 and 1860 simplified sending farm products to market. Land sales that accelerated in the 1830's fell during the depression that followed the Panic of 1837. In the 1840's the Michigan economy recovered and the farm economy began a steady expansion. Besides markets within the state, export of farm products outside Michigan became important.

An 1840 agricultural census done in Wayne County states that in addition to livestock and poultry, farmers grew buckwheat, barley, oats, rye, sugar beets, corn, hops, potatoes, tobacco, hay, rice, orchard products, and market garden products. There were 409 nurseries and florists in Wayne County. The 1860 Canton Township Agricultural Census gives an idea of what was grown as farmers moved from a period of subsistence farming (1820 to 1850) into general farming in which farm products were sold for profit. Livestock included horses, oxen, cattle, milch cows, swine, sheep, and hogs. Crops included wheat, rye, Indian corn, oats, hay, buckwheat, and tobacco. Other reportable products probably used by the family included peas and beans, potatoes, apples, butter, cheese, wine, and maple sugar.

By 1860 there were three acres of unimproved (uncultivated) land for every two acres of land under cultivation in the United States. A law was passed known as the Free Homestead Act that gave 160 acres of farmland to every U. S. citizen or person declaring his intention to
become a citizen. This encouraged both immigrants and farmers whose land in the eastern U. S. had become depleted to travel west looking for new land. While early settlement in Detroit was predominantly French, many settlers in Canton Township in the early nineteenth century were from the eastern United States, Canada, Germany, and Great Britain.

Several other developments occurred within the state that influenced agriculture both at the state and local level. The Industrial Revolution during the mid-nineteenth century was a major influence that changed farming through labor saving machines such as the McCormick Reaper, hay loaders, cream separators, manure spreaders, spraying equipment, combines, and many others. The Michigan State Agricultural Society was formed in 1849 to promote the improvement of farming, the state fair being one of its methods to accomplish this goal. Henry Hanford, who resided at 6430 Ridge Road in Canton Township, served as chairman of the executive committee of the Michigan State Agricultural Society.

In 1857 the Michigan Agricultural College was formed to help farmers in various ways. In 1871 the college began extension work which gave advice to farmers by means of “Farmers Institutes” throughout the state. It wasn’t until 1941 that Edith Moyer, daughter of Clarence Sayles who resided at 50135 Hanford Road in Canton Township, helped found the Wayne County branch of the Michigan State Extension Service. Farm bulletins were distributed beginning in 1885, and experimental stations were established in 1889. Farmers were encouraged to keep records and use business methods. While most farmers in Canton most likely kept records over the years, family accounts show that Warren and Esther Palmer (48145 Warren Road) worked in conjunction with Michigan State University to keep records of sweet corn in the 1940’s.

Gradually agricultural products in Michigan became diversified based upon the wide range of soil and climate conditions in the state. The heaviest concentration of farmland remained in the southern Lower Peninsula. Much of the forest-covered land was cleared for farming with prairie land and oak openings an attractive choice for a farm site. The first settlers raised grains, with corn a good choice because the ground did not have to be plowed, only a hole punched for the kernel of corn. Wheat was extensively grown for profit until about 1900 when the western states provided competition. When the fertility of the land was exhausted, farmers went to general farming, combining livestock (cattle, sheep, and hogs) with cereal growing. The *Michigan Farmer*, established in 1845, was the first public format in the state to advocate improving livestock. The earliest specialization in livestock was sheep (1860 to 1910) because it involved less intensive management. As the state’s population grew, farming became more intensive, thus potatoes were more widely grown around 1885, beans and sugar beets around 1905. Fruit was commercially grown on the western side of the state because of the climate and soil conditions.
General farming became the trend in Canton Township after about 1850. Most farms engaged in general farming and sold excess products such as wool, dairy products, beef, hogs, poultry, and grain. One Canton entrepreneur, Solon Goodell, extracted and distilled oil from peppermint which he grew on his farm in the 1880s. The March 8, 1888 Cherry Hill column in The Ypsilantian states that “Farmers are paying their hired hands $18-20. per month.”

An indication of the progression of Canton agriculture from subsistence farming to agriculture as a business may be seen in the changes of the produce categories of the agriculture census from the year 1860 to 1880. In 1860 the census asks for the pounds of butter and cheese produced on each farm. In 1880 the census asks for butter and cheese made on the farm and the amount of milk sold to butter and cheese factories. Dairy operations were prominent in Canton Township from about 1850 to 1968.

During the early twentieth century developments in the field of agriculture occurred such as the beginning of Michigan’s 4-H program in 1917. Fred Korte (Canton Township), with several others, signed a note to the Ford Motor Company for the purchase of land for the Wayne County 4-H Club. He served as president for several years. Other contributing factors were the organization of the Michigan State Farm Bureau in 1919 and the consolidation of several state agriculture-related agencies to form the State Department of Agriculture in 1921.

Although market gardening started to take hold in the 1930’s, the availability of trucks in the 1920’s encouraged more Canton farmers to take garden produce to the Detroit and local markets. An article in the 1936 Plymouth Mail stated, “In the immediate vicinity of Plymouth there are probably more roadside stands where fruits and vegetables are sold than in any other place in Michigan.” In fact The Plymouth Mail has called the Plymouth road to Detroit “the Market highway of Michigan.” The article goes on to say that, “Mr. Gaston, who is at the South Haven experiment station of the college (MSU), finds that the number of roadside markets is greater than ever before in Michigan.” Sweet corn was widely grown, giving Canton the title “Sweet Corn Capitol.” Some market or truck farming still exists in Canton Township.

By the mid-twentieth century only 5 per cent of Michigan’s population was engaged in farming, with many of the farmers supplementing their income with other jobs. Henry Ford, whose presence was felt in Canton Township in many ways, also had an influence on agriculture. The hamlet of Cherry Hill became the site of one of Ford’s “village industries” in 1943. Ford’s first rural plant was opened in Northville in 1920 with the goal of uniting farm and factory. Ford’s plan was to promote farm life by putting small industries in farm communities, thus giving farmers the option of supplemental income. Products such as
soybean based plastics were then used to make industrial products which in turn preserved environmental resources. The village industry at Cherry Hill differed in that the facility was used to rehabilitate World War II veterans who engaged in actual production of door locks and keys while learning skilled trades. While many of these veterans were local, they were not necessarily farmers (Tobin, p.142).

Canton Township Supervisor Greenstein and his staff studied the problem of decreasing township agricultural land in the 1970's. One solution was a Farmland Preservation Program that would save even the non-farmers tax dollars. The proposal came before a vote in November 1978, but was defeated by only a 53% vote. It went before the voters again in 1981, but was defeated a second time. The Canton Township Comprehensive Plan for 1994 sums up current agricultural land use: "With a population growth of more that 420% since 1970, Canton now boasts a population of over 60,000 people but more than one third of the township's 36 square miles still remains in active agricultural uses and rural open space."

Land that is maintained in active agricultural use presently makes up approximately 18% of the total land area of the community and just under half of the remaining undeveloped land in the Township. This land is primarily located west of Beck Road and is used for crops (including corn and soybeans) and dairy farming. Increased growth pressures in the township have resulted in a large conversion of farmland to new residential development. These pressures have resulted in a loss of almost 1800 acres (18%) of agricultural and vacant land since 1990.

**Subsistence farming, 1800-1850**

When settlers came to Canton Township in the first part of the nineteenth century, the area was covered by forest. Forty to eighty acre parcels were cleared for farming, with logs used for houses and simple barns, and stone from the fields for foundations. Most farmsteads consisted of tillable land for crops, land for meadow or pasture, and woods that provided fuel and building materials. Livestock such as a few hogs, sheep, cattle, a milk cow, chickens, a horse and maybe one or two oxen provided for the family's needs.

Each farmstead was self-sufficient, growing its own produce, making its own butter, and providing meat for the table. Crops such as corn, wheat, and hay were probably grown to make bread and feed the animals. While only speculative, it is likely that farm families, particularly large families such as the Kinyons and Pattersons who lived in close proximity, traded labor and goods such as honey, orchard, and garden produce. The Sheldons not only raised produce for themselves, but most likely raised enough to feed travelers who spent the night. Although no agricultural census existed this early, it can be assumed by the early date of the house that the Bartletts were also engaged in subsistence farming.
Dairy farming, 1850-1968

By the 1850's many Canton farmers had improved their lot by buying more land, increasing the numbers and types of support structures on their farms, and possibly building a larger house or adding to the existing one. Due to better transportation, mechanization, and scientific methods the type of farming changed from subsistence to general farming. In addition to general farming, some farmers specialized in dairy farming and many others sold dairy products to supplement their income. A 1940 article on Michigan dairying sums up the progress which was made from the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century: "From a primitive art in which the artists were the wives and daughters of pioneer farmers; the barn a dark, damp stable housing all manner of domestic animals; the creamery, the crowded kitchen of the pioneer's log cabin; the dairy industry in this state has grown into a science, employing the genius of highly educated men in all its branches. .... Michigan's cows are housed in modern, well ventilated barns, erected especially for dairy cows. These cows have been freed from that great plague, tuberculosis. They are fed scientifically balanced rations, their milk is handled under the supervision of boards of health, processed in up-to-date plants, and in many cases delivered sweet and fresh to the ultimate consumer as far away from the point of production as the distance across the state"(Lamb, p.41 3-41 4).

While Lenawee County is considered to be the birthplace of commercial dairy farming in Michigan, Canton Township also played an important part in dairy history beginning in the 1850's. An article in the 1856 Michigan Farmer relates the story of a Canton dairy farmer by the name of Fairman. While the editor of the paper was visiting the Fairman farm and evaluating what he perceived to be an inferior dairy herd, it occurred to him that an industrious breeder might be able to produce a line of reliable milk cows. The article goes on to say that "Mr. Fairman was one of the first to make cheese on a commercial scale." Although it is not known which Mr. Fairman the article refers to, it is possible that he was a member of the prominent Fairman family that settled in Section 5 in 1826.

Apparently after the Michigan Farmer editor's idea became reality, Michigan's commercial cheese industry took hold. Another mid-nineteenth century Canton Township cheese factory was that of David Boldman on Canton Center Road. Lenawee County led the way with ten cheese factories in 1874, Wayne County had five, and there were four in Genesee (Lamb, pp. 413-433). It is difficult to evaluate the extent of nineteenth century dairy farming in Canton due to variables such as changes in methods of agriculture and transportation, changes in categories in the agricultural census in each decade, and difficulty in interpreting census statistics. For example, the 1860 agricultural census asks for "cheese and butter production," whereas the 1880 census asks for "milk sold or sent to butter and cheese factories, cheese made on the farm, and butter made on the farm." Census reports estimate
that each person used approximately 15 pounds of butter each year, which means in general terms that farms which produced more than about three hundred pounds of butter per year probably sold the excess (Wattenberg, p. 329). In 1880 the census reports that 179 farms produced 300 to 2180 pounds of butter. While it is difficult to discern which farms engaged in "commercial" dairying, it can be said that in 179 out of 227 farms, dairy production was part of the farm operation. It appears that the Bradford farm was engaged in dairy farming in 1860 as the agricultural census records 1500 pounds of butter and 2000 pounds of cheese. Though the Smith house was not built until 1904, the Smith farmstead that proceeded it in the nineteenth century was engaged in dairy farming and later in general farming.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century the Ypsi Creamery was located in Cherry Hill and served the surrounding area. After its closure, the Detroit Creamery was established in Cherry Hill. It was purchased by the Wilson Dairy in 1916 and operated until the 1940's when Henry Ford bought and moved the building for use as a dormitory for disabled World War II veterans. Also, in the early twentieth century, the Stein farm at 41822 Michigan Avenue served as a milk station. Local farmers brought milk to the Stein farm and from there it was taken on the interurban to Detroit.

Types of Farming in Michigan outlined crop distribution in Michigan in 1939. Wayne County fell in the "Dairying and Truck Crops Area" because of its proximity to the Detroit markets and was called "one of the most intensive dairy regions of the state" (Michigan Special Bulletin No. 206, p.42). Dairying in Canton decreased in the 1960's when truck farming became profitable. The Palmers (Bradford farm at 48145 Warren Road) went from dairying to market gardening in the 1960s because it was more profitable. The Gill farm on Ridge Road, the last working dairy farm in Canton Township, recently went out of business.

Market Farming 1890-1990

In the latter part of the nineteenth century agriculture was viewed as a business, thus more intensive methods of farming were necessary. In addition to general and dairy farming, market farming evolved. Most farmers still engaged in general farming, but grew extra garden produce to supplement their income.

Horse or oxen drawn carts were used for transporting produce until the interurban came to the area in 1898 and provided an additional method to get to the Western and Eastern markets of Detroit. Families such as the Palmers, Gotts, Fischers, and Taylors were engaged in market, or later to be known as truck farming. The Fischer farm on Sheldon Road went from general farming to market gardening in the 1940s. They built a large greenhouse on their farm to start plants, and eventually took produce to market in Detroit.
Canton Township farmer Roy Schultz provides an overview of truck farming from the 1920's until the present in his article "Canton Township, Sweet Corn Capital." In the early 1900's the largest local market for truck farmers was Detroit's Eastern Market. In order to insure a market space, since space was on a "first come" basis until 1912, Canton farmers took their produce to Detroit in horse drawn wagons the night before market. They often stayed in a hotel located above the stable. After 1912 they were able to rent space, and when trucks became common in the 1930's truck farmers needed only to be there between 3 and 5 a.m. on market day. Until secure trucks became common, farmers worried about thieves stealing produce from their wagons on the way to market. Another problem was swindlers who, in the confusion of the marketplace, tried to cheat the farmers when making change. In the 1940's this was remedied, when the Eastern Market organization issued badges to people with licenses to help farmers.

Not only were transportation methods changing in Wayne County but agriculture also was undergoing radical changes in the 1920's and 1930's. In the 1930's agriculture expert E. S. Hill said of the Wayne County area, "Considerable areas that were farm land in 1915 and 1920 have since been sub-divided or purchased for sub-divisions, and farming has been abandoned" (Hill, Michigan History Magazine, vol. 22, p.317). In Canton Township, however agriculture was not abandoned but rather changed. While general and dairy farming were predominant in the past, many Canton farmers chose to include truck or garden farming as part of their operations. Two things happened in the 1920's which encouraged truck farming. One was a real estate boom in the Detroit area that increased land values to $1000. per acre, thus pushing farmers into the surrounding hinterland. The second was attributed to the fact that trucks were becoming more common; thus farmers no longer needed to live within horse-and-wagon distance from the marketplace or depend on the interurban. With the exception of the Palmers and Shuarts, most of the dairy and market growers moved here from Detroit. Most owned their own land until the 1940's when there was a trend toward renting land.

While truck farming included produce such as melons, cucumbers, and tomatoes, it was sweet corn that eventually made a name for Canton Township. The rise of Canton as a sweet corn center began in the 1920's and 1930's with family names such as Jorgenson, Palmer, Hauk, Schultz, Waldecker, Budd, Korte, Wilkin, Bordine, Bird, and Gotts. Many other farmers joined them into the 50's, 60's, and 70's when sweet corn production reached its peak. Some farmsteads, like those of the Hauks and Palmers, still raised sweet corn into the 1990's.

In the 1920's sweet corn was a labor intensive crop. Early, medium, and late Golden Bantam corn was planted in April, cultivated by two horses and a row cultivator, and picked in the heat of an August day. Two methods were used for picking corn. One was a corn boat (sled)
that was pulled by a horse between forty-two-inch rows while corn was counted and slid into bags. The other was to bag corn in the field and put it at the end of the rows to be picked up later by a truck. Most of the labor was provided by family members, although some hired hands were used.

By the 1930's trucks and tractor cultivation made farming easier. Of course, life was never "easy" for the farmer, and at this time the European corn borer arrived in Michigan to make early sweet corn almost unmarketable. Mid-season corn was edible, but the late corn was home to a second infestation of worms. During 1933-34 all farming was affected by the weather, with these years being the driest on record. According to records kept by Warren and Esther Palmer in conjunction with Michigan State University, melons sold for 35 cents per bushel. During the 1940's farm labor was hindered by World War II. Live-in hired labor became outdated, with hourly workers filling the gap. By 1940, however, of the total Canton Township population of 2,111, the rural farm population was still a majority of 1,819. Tractors and hi-clearance rigs became more efficient at harvesting corn. Michigan State University and the University of Illinois developed the chemical rotenone to control the corn borer, using Fred Korte's corn as a test crop.

The 1950's saw improvements in herbicides. Chain stores and shippers were buying from local growers and several truck farmers stopped the dairy part of their operation. Instead of crops being taken to market in a truck by the farmer, clients such as Krogers would come to the farm with large trucks to pick-up produce to be delivered to their stores. More improvements were made in the 1960's such as hy-bred seed corn (Gold Pirate and Gold Cup were popular). DDT was replaced by better insecticides, and sprayers replaced dusters. Productivity was increased by cutting corn early in the day, then keeping it cool. The 1960's approached the peak of sweet corn production, with markets as far away as Massachusetts, Georgia, and Texas. In the 1970's U-Pick farms reached a peak with strawberries, beans, and tomatoes sold in addition to sweet corn. There are still a few farmers involved in truck farming.

In the 1980's the community became involved with sweet corn marketing. Bob Schultz grew the corn for the Canton Rotary to supply the Plymouth Rotary's Chicken Barbecue. The high school swim team husked the corn, then repackaged, counted, iced, and delivered it on the morning of the barbecue. Author Ray Schultz estimated that in his thirty years of growing corn, he hired several hundred high school students. The farmers of Canton have provided summer employment for many teens over the years (Schultz, p.3-44). Some truck farming is still done in Canton today.
Associated Property Types

The nine houses in this nomination relate to two National Register Criteria:
- Criterion A -- properties relating to an event or chain of events important in illustrating the historic context.
- Criterion C -- properties having common architectural style, period, or method of construction.

Registration requirements: The nine farmhouses and significant outbuildings will usually meet registration requirements because of their traditional forms, floor plans and materials. Architectural style in the early phase of settlement is Greek Revival, with later nineteenth century vernacular forms being adorned with Victorian trim. For these dwellings to qualify for registration they should retain a rural setting. They should also retain stylistic integrity where a style is present. The forms, floor plans or materials that elicit their period of construction and the rural life of the time should be present.

PROPERTY TYPES -- 1

I. Greek Revival Farmhouses in Canton Township during settlement 1825-1860

II. The six Greek Revival farmhouses constructed during settlement were originally built as single family dwellings. One property, the Sheldon Inn, was a farmhouse which became an inn. The vernacular styles were most likely owner-designed. The following is a list of the six dwellings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Kinyon (1850)</td>
<td>7675 Ridge Road N.</td>
<td>Greek Revival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Patterson (1844)</td>
<td>6205 Ridge Road N.</td>
<td>Greek Revival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Barlett-Travis (1838, 1860)</td>
<td>500 Ridge Road N.</td>
<td>Greek Revival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Bradford (1860)</td>
<td>48145 Warren Road</td>
<td>Greek Revival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Boldman (1840)</td>
<td>3339 Canton Center Road</td>
<td>Greek Revival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Sheldon (1825)</td>
<td>44134 Michigan Avenue</td>
<td>Greek Revival</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All farmhouses are built of wood, have post-and-beam construction, and stone foundations. All currently have reduced acreage and are no longer working farms. The Bartlett-Travis house has been modified with additions and Victorian trim, but is included with properties in early settlement because of its Greek Revival origins and its subsistence farming context. Four of the properties are located on the west side of the township near the hamlet of Cherry Hill which still retains its rural ambiance. The other two are located in the mid-southern section of the township near the main thoroughfare of U.S. 12 (Michigan Avenue), the location of the former hamlet of Sheldon Corners.

III. Significance
- **Criterion A/ Settlement and Development**: These properties dotted the fabric of the landscape when wilderness was dominant and subsistence farming part of survival in Canton Township. They
are significant because they represent the time frame in which the area was settled by pioneers who were predominantly from the eastern part of the United States. In addition to shelter, these vernacular farmhouses are representative of the subsistence farming which was the backbone of survival. After the Industrial Revolution agriculture became an important business in the township, one that would last into the late twentieth century.

Properties significant under Criterion A include the Kinyon House, Patterson House, Sheldon Inn, Bradford House, Barlett-Travis House, and Goldman House.

- **Criterion C/Architecture**: One of the earliest styles of architecture in Canton Township was the Greek Revival which includes both the forms brought by easterners, and a temple form which settlers called their own and which became indigenous to the area. There are only three known upright and double wing Greek Revival houses left in the township, one being the Boldman House at 3339 Canton Center Road.

Dwellings which are significant under Criterion C include the Patterson House, Barlett-Travis House, Boldman House, Sheldon Inn, and Bradford House.

**Property Types -- 2**

I. Farmhouses of the later settlement and development period 1843-1904

These three single-family dwellings represent types of farmhouses seen in the latter part of the nineteenth century in Canton Township and southeast Michigan. The Dingledey house is an example of an upright and wing wood house that was updated over time, probably as agriculture progressed from subsistence to a business venture making more resources available to the family. The brick Smith house and the wood Fischer house also exemplify farmhouses built by successful farmers. All three are adorned with Victorian trim such as brackets, porches with spindle work, and hood moldings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7. Dingledey (1881)</td>
<td>1638 Haggerty Road</td>
<td>Upright-and-wing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Smith (1904)</td>
<td>3704 Sheldon Road</td>
<td>L-shape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Fischer (1897)</td>
<td>4896 Sheldon Road</td>
<td>Cross-gable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. The Fischer house was built by the second generation of a pioneer family on property where an earlier family structure existed. It is in a rural setting.

III. Significance

- **Criterion A/Settlement and development**: These farmhouses are significant because they represent a phase of development in Canton Township in which the growth of the agricultural community is reflected in its architecture. Farmhouses in this time frame take on a more "dressed-up" look due both to the innovation of more modern tools, and to the prosperity of
successful farm families. As an outgrowth of the Industrial Revolution, modern farm machinery made possible better agricultural methods that resulted in additions to houses and improved outbuildings. Significant under Criterion A are the Smith House and the Fischer House.

- **Criterion C/Architecture:** While these farmhouses represent different styles, their vernacular forms have been enhanced with Victorian detailing. The availability of woodworking machinery made possible the brackets and spindle work seen on the Dingledey, Smith, and Fischer houses. Another influence was the railroad that brought the cut lumber and prefabricated trim which turned simple folk houses into more fashionable Victorian homes. It also provided more markets for farmers, thus allowing them to “update” or build more modern homes. Properties significant under Criterion C are the Dingledey House and the Smith House.

**Property Types -- 3**

I. Agricultural outbuildings associated with farmhouses built during settlement and development.
II. Extant outbuildings were found on four of the nine properties. Most dates of construction are unknown.

**Barns**

One gambrel roof wood barn (Patterson farm) and one metal pole barn (Fischer farm) were found. The Patterson barn was used for general farming and the Fischer barn was used for market farming. The Kinyon house has a wood building with metal roof that was part of a larger barn at one time. In the past the large barn was used for general farming, and the extant building was most recently used as a horse barn.

**Milk house**

One milk house was found on the Bradford farm. It is of twentieth century cement block construction with shingled hip roof.

**Granary**

One granary was extant. It is a frame one-and-one-half story building with gable ends and shingle roof. There are sliding doors in one of the gable ends with a hay door above. It is located on the Bradford property.

**Storage sheds/buildings**

Four of the farms had storage buildings; all appeared to have been built in the twentieth century. Construction materials included cement block, metal, and wood. A masonry one-story storage building was built in 1999 on the Fischer farm to replace an airplane hanger, originally used by the family to house a piper cub and later for storage.
Chicken coops
A variety of chicken coops built from the 1940s to the 1970s were found on two of the farms. The Smith farm has five chicken coops with either wood or shingle siding. One of the buildings has Italianate window moldings. The Patterson farm has a large frame chicken house that has been converted to a summerhouse with fireplace.

Smokehouse
The Smith farm has a brick and concrete one-story smokehouse with shingled gable roof. It has a door on the east facade.

Greenhouse
The Fischer farm has a greenhouse with attached boiler building. There are eighteen rectangular attached bays of paned glass with gable-ends. The building was constructed in 1940 for a market gardening operation. Other early twentieth-century greenhouses existed in Canton Township, but most were for family use.

III. Significance
These outbuildings are significant because they represent not only the building traditions of the farmers, but their dreams and aspirations as well. From the skill shown on the masonry of the Smith smokehouse to the engineering that went into the Fischer greenhouse, one sees a variety of building techniques, materials, and types of agriculture represented.

They also represent changes over time in agriculture. For example, the Bradford milk house was originally a springhouse that used water to cool milk until twentieth century regulations required temperature control. The Fischer greenhouse represents a period in Canton Township when market gardening became more economically feasible than general or dairy farming. The metal pole barn on the Fischer (Fisher) farm represents the frugality of the farmer: it is cheaper and less time-consuming to construct a modern metal pole barn than it would have been to construct a modern barn similar to the Patterson wood gambrel roof barn. The Kinyon, Patterson, Bradford, and Fischer farmsteads have extant outbuildings.
Geographical Data

The properties in this multiple property nomination Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township are all located within the political boundary of Canton Township. Canton Township is located at the western edge of Wayne County, Michigan in the southeastern part of the state. The township is comprised of thirty-six square miles of flat to gently rolling land, and is about thirty miles west of Detroit and fifteen miles east of Ann Arbor.

Canton Township is bounded on the north by Joy Road; on the east by Hannan Road; on the south by Van Born/Mott Road; and on the west by Napier Road. Major roads running east and west include Michigan Avenue (U.S. 12) and Ford Road (M 153). Canton Center Road bisects the township on a north-south course. The 1-275 expressway runs north and south through the eastern part of the township and 1-94 is located just south of the township.

Four waterways cross the township: Fellows Creek drains the northwest portion of the township and empties into the Rouge River just north of Michigan Avenue near Harman Road; Willow Creek runs southeast from Joy and Beck to the easterly township line, south of Ford Road; Tonquish Creek runs southeast from Joy Road, west of Lilley Road to the easterly township line, north of Warren; and the Rouge River runs west to east across the southwest quarter of the township.

Commercial development is located primarily on Ford Road, Michigan Avenue, and along Canton Center Road between Cherry Hill and Warren Roads. Mini-malls and commercial office development are located at various intersections throughout the township. Several industrial areas are located near the major transportation corridors of 1-275 and Michigan Avenue.
Summary and Identification of Evaluation Methods
The multiple listing of Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan is based upon a 1996 architectural resources inventory of the township conducted by Kathleen Glynn and Susan Kosky. The inventory was funded through a historical preservation grant from the Michigan Historical Center and was administered by Canton Township. The survey inventoried twenty-five properties chosen by township officials and recommended ten as eligible for the National Register. Using the ten selected properties as a basis, further research was conducted including interviews, site visits, and assessment of contributing outbuildings. With further evaluation by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, nine properties were chosen for the multiple resource nomination.

The selected 1996 survey properties were revisited and reevaluated. With consideration of their history and architecture the nominated properties were grouped under four historic contexts: settlement, architecture, agriculture, and transportation. The research methods focused on developing these contexts and on intensively documenting the nominated properties. Each property was located on a USGS map; individual maps were prepared noting the location of both the farmhouse and the agricultural outbuildings. Photographs were taken; inventory cards were prepared; research was conducted, including researching the chain of ownership, census and tax records, and newspaper articles. Other primary and secondary sources as well as oral histories were utilized. Narrative architectural and historic descriptions were written. The surveyors used knowledge gained through observation and research to ascertain the integrity of the nominated properties.

Research identified two waves of settlement in Canton Township. The original settlement era began with an influx of settlers from New York and New England upon the opening of the Erie Canal and the survey of the Chicago Road. Buildings on the nomination from this era reflect the Greek Revival style common in New York and New England at that time. Beginning post-Civil War and progressing through the 1890s, Canton experienced an influx of German settlers who purchased and consolidated existing farmsteads. Their homes reflect styles and detailing consistent with styles popular on a national level. The size and ornamentation of the houses reflect the affluence the new wave of settlers was able to achieve in a short period of time. Thus the period of construction, in regards to the seven Greek Revival houses, is an indicator of the first owner’s origin. The latter period houses were either second or third homes of first wave settlers or the homes of newly arrived immigrant families.

The agricultural and transportation contexts are interlinked because as transportation methods developed and changed, agriculture grew to take advantage of these changes. Although the original settlers mainly practiced subsistence farming, the size of farms, the large dairy barns, and the existence of large greenhouses indicate that the area became dependent on marketing produce via transportation to the surrounding urban areas.
Two hamlets developed in the township where basic goods and services were provided to residents. However the proximity of urban centers near the township and the access to reliable transportation helped to inhibit the growth of large commercial districts. The township remained rural, servicing the surrounding urban areas well into the twentieth century. The properties included in the nomination reflect the rural nature of the township. All of the houses were originally farmhouses. Two inns, one in each hamlet, served as civic centers for the dispersed rural population. Each property fits well in the chosen contexts and represents the rural aspects of Canton’s history.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 1   Page 2

Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township


Marriage Records in Wayne County (Burton Historical Collection in the Detroit Public Library).


Michigan Department of Agriculture. Special Bulletin No. 206.


Articles:


**Interviews:**

- Harvey, Rex  
  June 15, 1999
- Howell, Dena  
  June 14, 1999
- Kowalski, Jeff and Kelly  
  November 1995, March 1996
- Lake, Dedra  
- McLaughlin, Melissa  
  March 1999
- Palmer, Joan  
  January 1996
- Palmer, Russell  
  January 1996
- West, Dorothy  
  October 1995

**Maps:**

- 1838-41 Bela Hubbard map of Canton Township (located in the Bela Hubbard Collection in the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Main Library)
- 1855 Wayne County (Detroit: John Farmer)
- 1860 Wayne County, MI (Philadelphia: Geil, Harley & Swerd)
- 1876 Wayne County, MI
- 1893 Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)
- 1894 Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit)
- 1904 Canton plat map
- 1914 Canton Township plat map - Sauers Atlas 1914
- 1922 Canton plat map
- 1930 Township of Canton, Wayne County, MI (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society)
- 1942 Canton Township (W.S. McAlpine Map Co.)
- 1960 Canton Township (Rockford Map Publishers)
- 1970 Canton township (Rockford Map Publishers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper Articles:</th>
<th>Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Crier:</td>
<td>Name of Multiple Property Listing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zazula, Charles.</td>
<td>Canton Observer:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avery, Ann Morton.</td>
<td>September 9, 1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton Observer:</td>
<td>Michigan Emigrant Weekly:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 13, 1992</td>
<td>January 6, 1830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9, 1996</td>
<td>May 11, 1831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 1997</td>
<td>December 12, 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Emigrant Weekly:</td>
<td>September 11, 1834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 3, 1835</td>
<td>January 3, 1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Michigan Whig:</td>
<td>Yanuary 8, 1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11, 1834</td>
<td>January 18, 1835</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Records of the Wayne County Road Commission. Annual Reports, Cherry Hill Road. 1922, 1940.

Records of the Wayne County Road Commission. Annual Reports, Ridge Road. 1924.
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Photographer</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>View</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinyon house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinyon site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH facing NW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patterson house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E façades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patterson site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH facing NW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boldman house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>11/98</td>
<td>BOMH W &amp; S facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boldman house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boldman site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith house/side porch</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith privy</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith smokehouse</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barlett-Travis house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>11/98</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barlett-Travis site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>11/98</td>
<td>BOMH N&amp;W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>11/98</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer greenhouse</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>11/98</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer boiler house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer site/1897house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer 1940 house</td>
<td>K Glynn</td>
<td>1/96</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fischer 1940 house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon Inn</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon Inn site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dingledey house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dingledey house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dingledey site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; E facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford house</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford milkhouse</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH S &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford site</td>
<td>K. Glynn</td>
<td>12/95</td>
<td>BOMH N &amp; W facades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

   historic name_ Kinyon, Orrin and Roxanne Faiman, House

   other names/site number Lake, House

2. Location

   street & number 7675 Ridge Road N.
   city or town Canton Township
   state Michigan code MI county Wayne code 163 zip code 48187

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___. does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___. nationally ___. statewide X. ___. locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

   Signature of certifying official __________________________ Date

   ___. SHPO
   State or Federal agency and bureau

   In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

   Signature of commenting or other official __________________________ Date

   State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

   I, hereby certify that this property is: __________________________ Signature of Keeper Date of Action
_____ entered in the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet
_____ determined eligible for the National Register

_____ See continuation sheet
_____ determined not eligible for the National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain): ___________________
5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X private,</td>
<td>X building(s)</td>
<td>Contributing 1 Noncontributing 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__ public-local</td>
<td>__ district</td>
<td>buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__ public-State</td>
<td>__ site</td>
<td>sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__ public-Federal</td>
<td>__ structure</td>
<td>structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historical and Architectural Resources of Canton Township: N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Agriculture/subsistence Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions) Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
walls wood roof asphalt foundation stone
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1850

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Kinyon, Orrin

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet
Orrin and Roxanne Fairman Kinyon House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # __________
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __________

Primary Location of Additional Data
X State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: ________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __2.8____

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>291710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Kosky
organization Kosky and Glynn Associates date July 30, 1999
street & number 7200 Hack Road telephone 517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034
city or town Saline state MI zip code 48176
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name ____________________________

street & number 7675 Ridge Road N __________________ telephone _________________

City or town Canton __________________ state Mi __ zip code 48188

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
The Kinyon house is a one-and-one-half story double pile Greek Revival house with a wide cornice line and returns in the gable ends. It has post and beam construction and floor plan in keeping with a New England Large house. There is a rear shed roof addition with one-story wing that has a vestibule entry. A former one-story porch on the southeast corner was enclosed (date known) as part of the current kitchen. The family room in the southwest corner was once a separate summer kitchen. This five bay house has a front door surround with pilasters that is topped by three transom lights. The front entry porch has square columns topped by balustrade. The house sits on a stone foundation with cement block foundation under the additions. There is 6/6 fenestration. The house is well maintained both inside and out.

This 2.98 acre property is situated on a rural road with some new homes being built in the vicinity. The house, with modern garage and remains of the barn (date unknown) and foundation to the south, sit among mature conifer and deciduous trees facing the road. The rear of the property, bordered by a line of trees, has a meadow-like open space with the remains of an orchard in the northwest corner. The wooded area on the north side of the house slopes gently to the north.
Orrin Kinyon purchased this site in 1834 and built the house c.1850, which exemplifies Canton’s period of early settlement. The Greek Revival house typifies the vernacular “New England Large” form brought by pioneers from the eastern states. This large family was engaged in subsistence farming and was prominent in the community. The farmstead saw changes in agriculture over the years, with members of the Kinyon family farming the property until 1940. The Kinyon Cemetery is located on Ridge Road near the homestead and is a current reminder of Canton pioneers. The Kinyon School, while no longer standing, was important in the education and socialization of township families.

This 2.98 acre property is situated on a rural road with new homes being built around it. The house, with garage and remains of the barn to the south, sit among mature conifer and trees facing the road. The rear of the property, bordered by a line of trees, has a meadow-like open space with the remains of an orchard in the northwest corner. The wooded area on the north side of the house slopes gently to the north.

In 1825 Abijah and Sally White purchased this property which originally consisted of 396.7 acres and included the East ¼ of the Southeast ¼, and the South 20 acres of the East ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 6, Town 2 South, Range 8 East. The abstract shows that the Whites sold eighty acres to Peter Cook and the remaining property (upon which the farm was subsequently located) to Elisha Kenyon in 1831. The Kinyons (the spelling varies) were one of the prominent pioneering families in Canton Township.

Orrin Kinyon, born September 26, 1808 or 1809, was the eldest of the nine children of Elisha and Dilee (Wilcox) Kinyon. On March 4, 1834, Orrin purchased 20 acres, the East ½ of the Southeast ¼, and the South ½ of the East ½ of Northeast ¼ from his parents. According to genealogy recorded in Cornerstones, the original family home was on Joy Road, and the Ridge Road farm built later. It is likely that the Greek Revival house at 7675 Ridge Road was built by Orrin Kinyon in the early 1850’s, as there is a moderate tax increase between 1854 and 1855. Orrin married Roxanna Fairman, whose family came to Canton from New York, in 1835. The Kinyon children attended their namesake school that at one time stood on the northwest corner of Joy and Ridge Roads. Of their eight sons, five died at a young age and are buried in the Kinyon Cemetery.

Of the three sons that lived, Ira became the next Kinyon to own the family farm in 1893. He married Clara Estella Crosby on October 29, 1875, and they had two daughters, Clara Luella (born 1876) and Gertrude Estella (born 1879). The 1884 Federal Agricultural Census gives some idea of the Kinyon farm at that time. The 1893 atlas indicates that Ira owned land contiguous to the Ridge Road farm, so it is speculated that the acreage in the agricultural census reflects both the Joy Road and Ridge Road farm operations. It states that the soil was composed of sand and gravel, and consisted of 185 acres tilled land, 55 acres pasture/meadow, and 80 acres wooded land. Livestock included 9 milk cows, 6 calves, 15 lambs (10 died), and 17 swine. They produced 6 pounds of butter, 10 acres hay, 20 acres corn, 20 acres winter wheat, 1 acre potatoes, 25 acres apples, and 50 cord of wood. The stone foundation of a barn currently sits to the south of the house as a reminder of what was once a working farm.

On September 22, 1899 Ira Kinyon died and left the property to his wife, Clara, and daughters, Clara L. Miller and Gertrude E. Kinyon. Roxanna Kinyon died May 27, 1900, and her husband, Orrin, died February 19, 1901. Up until about 1912 parcels of the property were sold to various parties. Clara Estella Kinyon died May 15, 1910. According to tax records, her will states that she left Clara Kinyon Miller the apple orchard (SE1/4 and the S1/2 of the NE1/4) and Gertrude received money and personal property.

Frank and Clara Miller, married in 1897, were the parents of seven children. Clara died at age 40 on June 30, 1915. The abstract shows that Mr. Miller gave Michigan Bell Telephone Company permission to put in and maintain telephone lines on the property in 1928, which indicates that the farm possibly had a phone installed around that time. After the Great Depression, there were several years in which taxes were not paid on the farm, probably a reflection of “hard times” in general.
In 1939 the property was transferred from Frank B. Miller and his wife, Bertha Dillon Miller, to John and Bessie Miller. After 1940 the Kinyon/Miller family no longer occupied 7675 Ridge Road. It was sold to Bernard and Jessie Rich and Eiden and Leona Rich in 1940, to Walter and Marguerite Peet in 1944, to Sam Getsleson in 1952, and to Dr. Steiner around 1961.

It is now owned by Dedra and Richard Lake who have kept the exterior of the home much the same, and modernized the interior. According to Mrs. Lake, a detached summer house was rolled on logs from the rear of the yard and attached to the back of the house. The time frame of this project is unknown, but when remodeling was done a few years ago, logs supported by rocks were found under what is now the family room. A porch on the south elevation was enclosed to form the kitchen. The clapboard siding is intact under vinyl siding. Part of a barn remains, but all other outbuildings were torn down.

A large horse chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum), an apple, a wild cherry, and several mature maple trees grow in the front yard. Maple and pine trees grow in the back yard. Old lilies thrive long the north side of the house. A variety of trees form a border on the north boundary of the property. Although modern homes are being built close by, the large old trees in the yard, the meadow in the rear, and remnants of an apple orchard in the northwest corner give a suggestion of nineteenth century farming.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register Of Historic Places

Orrin and Roxanne Fairman Kinyon House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI

Section Number 9 Page 1

Bibliography


Canton Township Section Maps. Plymouth, Mi: Dietrick, Baily & Associates, P.C.,

Canton Township Maps located at Canton Historical Society, Canton, Mi.

1855 Wayne County. (Detroit: John Farmer)
1860 Wayne County, Mi (Philadelphia: Gell, Harley & Swerd).
1876 Wayne County, Mi Atlas.
1893 Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)
1894 Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit).
1904 Canton plat map Canton Township plat map reproduced from Sauer's Atlas 1914.
1922 Canton plat map
1930 Township of Canton, Wayne County, Mi (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society) Canton Township.
1942 (W.S. McAlpine Map Co.)
1960 Canton Township. (Rockford Map Publishers)


*Canton Township Death Records.* Copied by Joan Palmer, Canton Historical Society.


Interviews: Dedra Lake(1995), and Dorothy West(1995).

Jackson, Ronald Vern & Gary Ronald Teeples, ed.


Wayne County Tract Index. Located in the County Building, Detroit, MI

Verbal boundary description

06J1A1A1B
PT of SE ¼ SEC 6 T2S RSE
DESC AS BEG NO1DEG 17M 10S E
1320.34 FT FROM SE COR SEC 6 TH
N89DEG 57M 50S W 366.59 FT TH
N01DEG 17M 11S E 353.89FT
S89DEG 57M 50S E 366.58FT TH
S01DEG 17M 10S W 353.89FT TO POB
2.98 AC

The boundaries on the nomination have been chosen to coincide with the legal description of the property that remains currently associated with the Kinyon House.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking “X” in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter “N/A” for “not applicable.” For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name _________ Patterson, John and Eliza Barr, House

other names/site number _________ Gilmore House

2. Location

street & number _________ 6205 N. Ridge Road

city or town _________ Canton Township

state _________ Michigan code MI county _________ Wayne code 163 zip code 48187

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this _________ X nomination _________ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property _________ X meets _________ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _________ nationally _________ statewide _________ locally. ( _________ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

MI SHPO

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _________ meets _________ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( _________ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

______ entered in the National Register _________ See continuation sheet

______ determined eligible for the National Register _________ See continuation sheet

______ determined not eligible for the National Register

______ removed from the National Register

______ other (explain): ________________________________

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action
5. Classification

Ownership of Property  Category of Property  Number of Resources within Property
(Check as many boxes as apply),                    Contributing  Noncontributing
 X  private       X  building(s)  1  3  buildings
 ___ public-local  ___ district   ___   ___  sites
 ___ public-State  ___ site       ___   ___  structures
 ___ public-Federal  ___ structure ___   ___  objects

Total  1  3

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Agriculture/subsistence  Sub:

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic  Sub: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification  Greek Revival
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
foundation  Stone
roof  Wood/Shingle
walls  Wood/weatherboard
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

X A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

___ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

___ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark “X” in all the boxes that apply.)

___ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

___ B removed from its original location.

___ C a birthplace or a grave.

___ D a cemetery.

___ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

___ F a commemorative property.

___ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture, Exploration and settlement

Period of Significance c.1844

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder John Patterson, builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet
Patterson, John and Eliza Barr House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

9. Major Bibliographical References
   see continuation sheet
   (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
   ___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
   ___ previously listed in the National Register
   ___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
   ___ designated a National Historic Landmark
   ___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # __________
   ___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __________

Primary Location of Additional Data
   X State Historic Preservation Office
   ___ Other State agency
   ___ Federal agency
   ___ Local government
   ___ University
   ___ Other

Name of repository: ____________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>291720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Susan Kosky
organization  Kosky and Glynn Associates date  July 30, 1999
street & number 7200 Hack Road telephone  517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034
city or town  Saline state  MI zip code 48176
Patterson, John and Eliza Barr House  
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township  
Additional Documentation  
Submit the following items with the completed form:  
Continuation Sheets  
Maps  
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.  
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.  
Photographs  
Representative black and white photographs of the property.  
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)  

Property Owner  
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)  
name _____________________________ tel. _____________________________  
street & number 1150 S. Canton Center  
city or town Canton  
state MI telephone 734-397-1000  
zip code 48188-1699  

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).  
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Patterson, John and Eliza Barr House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI

Narrative Description

The John and Eliza Barr Patterson House is a one-and-one-half story frame Greek Revival house with wide frieze and box cornice with returns. This five-bay New England one-and-one-half cottage faces east on a gravel road. The symmetrical front façade fenestration includes a center doorway with four-light transom flanked by two twelve over twelve windows on each side. The north façade has three over three fenestration. The south façade has a center entry with entablature. The west façade has a plain door and asymmetrical fenestration. It has clapboard siding, a center chimney, shingle roof, and stone foundation. According to Diane Wilson's book, Cornerstones, the Gilmorees replaced the home's roof, replaced clapboard siding and some of the windows, and removed a deteriorating portico.

The interior of the house has had little remodeling. There are four bedrooms and a c.1940 bathroom upstairs. The bedroom in the southwest corner retains original stenciling in a leaf pattern with border around the top. The ground floor has a living and dining room in the front half of the house, and a bedroom and kitchen in the rear. Wooden cupboards in the kitchen appear old, but are difficult to date, although the family thinks they are original to the house. A small first floor bedroom in the southwest corner is called "the birth room" by family members because a relative, Barbara Banks, was born there. Original hardware adorns the interior doors. The basement has hand-hewn beams.

A one-story frame summer house with fireplace (former chicken coop, date unknown), and shed roof frame storage shed are located at the rear of the house. A small two-story frame twentieth century barn with hip roof is also located in the rear of the house. A gambrel-roof barn, once located to the south of the house, collapsed around 1978 or 1980. Part of the foundation is intact.

The nominated property is located on the north end of a 48.79 acre parcel and consists of 43,556 square feet of land (almost one acre) which encompasses the house, outbuildings, and archeological site. The drive is bordered on the south by five large (a sixth was cut, leaving a stump) yellowwood trees (cladrastis lutea), used by American settlers to make yellow dye for textiles. On the north side of the driveway entrance is a Scotch pine (pinus sylvestris). Large maples and a silver linden (Tilia tomentosa) provide summer shade in the front yard. To the west of the house and outbuildings is a line of mature blue spruce (Picea pungens) that separates the mowed yard from a meadow. A large old apple tree grows a few feet behind the house. Several Norway spruce (Picea abies) dot the property. The wooded land north of the house slopes north toward Fellows Creek. A stone and cement barn foundation is located south of the present barn and is surrounded by an overgrowth of trees, wild black raspberries, poison ivy, and weeds. The yard retains its old lilacs, peonies, and lily of the valley. The family relates that a rose bush, planted by Grandma Sadie Shuart nearly 100 years ago, still thrives in the front yard. The land was tilled behind and south of the farmstead until recently when the 48.79 parcel on which this farm is located was purchased by Canton Township. Hanford School (built 1855) is located north on Ridge Road. The site still retains its nineteenth century feeling, but there is new residential development nearby.
Statement of Significance

This excellent example of vernacular Greek Revival architecture was built c. 1844 and helps illustrate the building types brought from the Eastern states during Canton's period of settlement. It has been well maintained over the years. The Patterson family initially engaged in subsistence agriculture, then continued to contribute to the growth and economy of the township using more modern methods and equipment. The farm was owned by the same family until 1999.

The property at 6205 N. Ridge Road was first recorded as a land patent from President Quincy Adams to Albert G. Fellows on October 31, 1825. It once consisted of 160 acres in the SE 1/4 of section 7. The house is now located on 48.9 acres in the southeast corner of section 7 facing Ridge Road. Mr. Fellows, from Monroe County, New York, appears on the first tax rolls and in the 1830 Michigan census. His brothers, Festus A. Fellows and Roy S. Fellows, bought the adjacent property in section 8. Fellows Creek, named after the brothers, once ran across their farms. It is still part of the landscape today, running across much of Canton and into the Lower Rouge River. An abstract indicates that the property was sold by Albert and Sally M. Fellows to Linus Potter on July 7, 1841. The tax rolls indicate that 53 acres on the east side of the SE 1/4 was owned by Linus Potter and the remaining part of the SE 1/4 was owned by Phelps Philomen. Though an 1855 atlas shows A. Fellows on the property, tax rolls and deed confirm Potter's ownership.

Three years later the property was sold to John Patterson and has stayed in the family until the present. Patterson (July 23, 1804-October 3, 1856), who came to Michigan from Connecticut, also had an original land patent in the south east quarter of section 8, though he was listed in the 1827 tax rolls as a non-resident. Family members say Patterson built the Greek Revival house, with log beams in the basement. It was probably built c. 1844. John Patterson's first wife, Pamela, died at age 28 on July 4, 1834. Corinna Patterson was born at about the same time as Pamela's death.

John Patterson then married Eliza Barr (10/17/1810-4/7/1885) from New York, and they are found in the 1850 census along with their children Mortimer, Alphonzo, Charles, and Cornelia. Other children of Eliza and John who died at a young age were Julia A., Minerva, and Roxana. When John Patterson died in 1856 at age 52, he left the land to Eliza with the stipulation that it should pass to their son Charles after Eliza's death.

Eliza Patterson married George W. Peters, a farmer from Massachusetts. Eliza Peters' name appears on the I 660 and 1876 atlases, and on the tax rolls for property in sections 7 and 8 through 1873 (except 1872 when it was in Charles Patterson's name). The 1884 Agricultural Census gives a statistical picture of the activities of the farm at that time. They tilled 45 acres of land, had 15 acres of pasture/meadow, and 10 acres of unimproved land. Eliza owned $300. worth of livestock, her cows produced 300 pounds of butter, and she grew hay, corn, oats, winter wheat, potatoes, and three acres of apples. Eliza Peters died April 7, 1885 at age 70 years.

In 1887, following his mother's death, Charles Patterson moved his family from Caro, Michigan back to the family farm. Charles had a daughter, Delcina, from a first marriage. In 1879 he married Roseanna Blackmer from Vermont, who had a son, Walter. Charles and Roseanna had two daughters, Sadie (1879) and Mabel (1883). It was Sadie, married to Bert Shuart in 1900, who continued the family tradition of occupying the homestead after her father's death in 1907. Of the Shuart's four children, Florence (1903), Bernice (1906), Charles (1911), and Ruth (1918), it was Florence who eventually made the Ridge Road property her home. Florence married William Gilmore in 1936, and bought the farm in 1937. Mrs. Gilmore attended Hanford School, Ypsilanti High School, and Cleary College in Ypsilanti where she worked at a bank. The farmhouse is located on a rise of land that slopes gently to a wooded area north of the house. Old lilacs, apple, evergreens, and deciduous trees adorn the yard. Evergreens were a gift from the Huron Street home of Daniel Quirk in Ypsilanti, president of the Ypsilanti Savings Bank, and employer of Florence Gilmore in the 1930's. Mrs. Gilmore died March 13, 1999.
Bibliography


Canton Township Section Maps. Plymouth, Mi: Dietrick, Baily & Associates, P.C.,

Canton Township Maps located at Canton Historical Society, Canton, Mi.
1855 Wayne County. (Detroit: John Farmer)
1860 Wayne County, Mi (Philadelphia: Geil, Harley & Swerd).
1876 Wayne County, Mi Atlas.
1893 Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)
1894 Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit).
1904 Canton plat map Canton Township plat map reproduced from Sauer's Atlas 1914.
1922 Canton plat map
1930 Township of Canton, Wayne County, Mi (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society) Canton Township.
1942 Canton Township (W.S. McAlpine Map Co.)
1960 Canton township. (Rockford Map Publishers)
1972 Canton Township (Rockford Map Publishers)


Canton Township Death Records. Copied by Joan Palmer, Canton Historical Society


Interview: Jeff and Kelly Kowalski, 1995-6.

Jackson, Ronald Vern & Gary Ronald Teeple, ed.


Wayne County Tract Index. Located in the County Building, Detroit, Mi

Verbal Boundary Description

One acre of the property described as:

07L3B L4
E 60 ACRES OF SE ¼ of SEC 7
T2S R8E EXC THAT PART BEG AT SE
COR OF SEC 7 TH N89DEG 40M 10S W
987.35 FT TH NODEG 04M 25S W
68.45 FT TH N89DEG 51M 24S E
725.26 FT ON A CURVE TO THE RIGHT
RAD 34437.48 FT ARC 230.07FT TH
SODEG 04M 25S E 75.84 FT POB ALSO
EXC N 425FT 48.79AC

The boundaries of this nomination comprise approximately one acre (43,556.9 square feet) on the north end of the above 48.79 acre parcel. It begins from a point at the south end of the guard rail which parallels the west side of Ridge Road over Fellows Creek and goes 208.7 feet west, then goes to a point 208.7 feet south, then to a point 208.7 feet east, then to a point 208.7 feet north to the beginning point.

Boundary Justification
These boundaries were chosen to encompass the area immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings.
UPSTAIRS

BATH

BEDROOM

BEDROOM

BEDROOM

BEDROOM

DOWNSTAIRS

KITCHEN

BEDROOM

LIVING ROOM

DINING ROOM

FLOOR PLAN
NOT TO SCALE

PATerson HOUSE
6025 N. RIDGE ROA
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Bartlett, Thomas and Maria Blackman, House

other names/site number Bartlett – Travis

2. Location

street & number 500 N. Ridge Road

city or town Canton Township

state Michigan code MI

county Wayne code 163

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

MI SHPO

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ See continuation sheet

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ See continuation sheet

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain): __________________________

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action
5. Classification

Ownership of Property  Category of Property  Number of Resources within Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)  (Check only one box)  Contributing  Noncontributing
  x  public-local  x  building(s)
  ___  public-State  ___  site
  ___  public-Federal  ___  structure

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the
Name of related multiple property listing  Number of resources National Register
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat:  Domestic  Sub:  Single dwelling

Current Functions  (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat:  Recreation and Culture  Sub:  Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification  Other: New England Large House
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials  (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation  Stone
roof  Wood Shingle
walls  Wood/weatherboard
other

Narrative Description  (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_X_ A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_X_ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Settlement

Architecture


Period of Significance 1840-1924

Significant Dates 1840 1860 1880

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.
9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS) None
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # __________
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __________

Primary Location of Additional Data
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: __________________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  21.62 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>291080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kathleen Glynn
organization: Kosky and Glynn Associates
street & number: 7200 Hack Road
city or town: Saline
state: MI
zip code: 48176

date: July 31, 1999
telephone: 517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034
Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**
- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

---

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name ____________________________

street & number 1150 Canton Center Rd. S. ______ telephone ________

city or town Canton ____________________________ state MI zip code 48188

---

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0016), Washington, DC 20503.
Description:
This is a New England Large house with extensions to the side and rear. The north section of the house is stepped down slightly in height. A two-story ell is located behind the north section. The clapboarded house is topped by a wood shingle roof with two brick chimneys, and has a cement block foundation faced with fieldstone. There is a wide cornice line adorned with paired teardrop brackets (most of the brackets are original.) Most of the windows are four lights-over-four, but there are three six-over-six windows in the rear ell. The small entry porch on the west facade has pilasters on either side of the door with simple molding above. It also has chamfered columns, and is accented with scrolled brackets and millwork (the brackets and millwork are mainly original.) The simple wood door has one large pane of glass. The entry porch has a wood floor and steps. The roof of the porch is accented with a decorative iron railing. There is a large wrap-around porch beginning on the west (front) facade and wrapping around to the south facade (this porch was reconstructed from photographs.) It has round wood columns, wood floor, a solid wood balustrade, and two sets of wood steps (front and rear). The front steps have fieldstone supports. There is a gable with a sunburst design over the rear steps. Three wood and glass entry doors lead from the wrap-around porch into the house. There is a handicapped ramp at the rear of the house leading onto the porch. Details of the brackets and columns are accented by red-brown paint. The body of the house is painted with yellow-gold and the trim in a cream color.

The front parlor (south front) has decorative full height molding around the windows and one door. The molding has “ears” at the top and tapers out slightly as it descends to the floor. There is raised panel molding beneath the windows. The simple baseboard is nine inches wide. Several other rooms have remnants of wide molding. The dining room (north front) had wainscoting that consisted of two plain wide painted boards that will be restored in the future and reinstalled. Several surfaces in the house have remnants of grained painting.

The front of the house was the original house. It was built as a Greek Revival Upright and Wing (1840). The upright was one-and-a-half story and the wing was one story. There were two large rooms and one small room in the upright on the first floor and three rooms on the second floor. The wing only had one room. Construction details indicate that a large fireplace may have been located in the center room in the upright. At some point the house was expanded to two full stories and all the windows changed to the present four-over-four configuration (1870’s). In the front parlor the windows were made to fit in the existing openings. Later (1880’s) the two story back ell was added (this section has six-over-six windows). The wrap-around porch was added about 1914. The front door was most likely the original door. In the Victorian updating the center wood panel was replaced with one large pane of glass.

The original portion of the house is post and beam construction with ash and poplar woods. The back ell is balloon framed. The first floor is made of 10” x 10” hand hewn beams and also early milled lumber. (This would indicate a construction date in the 1840’s when milled lumber became available.) Much of the material in the house is original. Some changes have been made to the interior to accommodate its use as a museum (such as adding a modern handicapped accessible bathroom, and changing the steep, narrow stairs to make them safer.)
Site Description:
This house was formerly located at 7041 Canton Center Road. It was moved to this site in 1989. This property consists of 21.62 acres located on the east side of Ridge Road. It is north of the hamlet of Cherry Hill and within the boundaries of the locally designated Cherry Hill Historic District. The area around the house and outbuildings is cleared and the rest of the property is heavily wooded with thick undergrowth. Only an area 175 x 240 feet around the house is included in this nomination.

This land is on the extreme western edge of Wayne County. At present the area is very rural in appearance, as the western side of Canton Township contains the last remnants of its agricultural tradition. It is located in the locally designated Cherry Hill Historic District. The house is set on slightly higher ground than the surrounding land. It is located on the "ridge", so-called because it is a raised area of land that runs diagonally across the township. This ridge was the shoreline of a prehistoric lake. The land east of (behind) the house is wooded with thick undergrowth. Currently the area around Cherry Hill is under intense development pressure.
Significance: The house is significant because it was the home of a pioneer Canton family, the Bartlets, who settled here in 1839. It is also significant as a well preserved nineteenth-century house of New England Large heritage whose present form reflects a series of nineteenth-century enlargements of the original. The ca. 1840 section of the house was built in the settlement era as a Greek Revival Upright and Wing, a style typical of the early settlers. It has been carefully restored to 1900 time period, and demonstrates the changes that a structure undergoes over time. Small "windows" have been left in the house to show the construction methods of an earlier time.

The property at the former location of the Bartlett house was purchased from the government by Stephen and Sally Clark, Ontario County, New York in 1831. The patent was for 80 acres (the E 1/2 of the NE ¼ of Section 9). The property was owned next by Peter Lott (no record of sale from Clark), who then sold it to Darius and Charlotte Blackman in 1837 for $300.

In 1839 Maria Bartlett bought the N 1/2 of the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 (half of Stephen Clark's original land) for $400. Thomas Bartlett married Maria Blackman (Darius Blackman's sister) in 1823. Since Maria bought half of the original 80 acres for an increase in price, there may have been a house on the property. The Bartletts' tax in 1843 was $1.36, and Samuel Lyndon, who owned the other half, was $0.58. This would support the supposition that Darius Blackman had built the house before he sold the land to Maria Bartlett. However the floor beams are hand hewn logs and early milled lumber which became available in the ca. 1840. This would suggest that Thomas and Maria Bartlett were the original builders of the house. The early section of the house is of post and beam construction and consisted of a 1-1/2 story upright with a one story wing. The house had a narrow, winding stairway to the half story or "loft." The 1840 census listed both Stephen Clark and Thomas Bartlett, but not Lott or Blackman.

The Bartletts' tax in 1850 was $2.71. By 1861 Thomas owned two more 40 acre parcels, and his total tax was $160.03. The parcel that contained this house had the highest valuation. When compared to Martin Carleton's 1861 tax of $24.66 for 160 acres (3339 Canton Center), Bartlett's $160.03 for 116 acres suggests major improvements on the Bartlett property. By 1865 Thomas only owned the 40 acres in section 9 and 28 acres of the parcel in section 16.

In 1867 George Bartlett (age 32) bought the property from his parents for $4000 (he also owned the section 16 property; 78 acres in section 10; and the 38 acres in the SW 1/4 of SE 1/4) -- total tax $57.52. Thomas did not die until 1884, but he may have retired earlier from active farming. As shown below, George greatly increased the size and productivity of the farm. This suggests that most likely it was George who raised the house to two full stories and added the Italianate details. The 1891 atlas showed G. S. Bartlett as still owning the property. The 1900 census listed George's wife, Sarah, as a widow.

The 1860 agriculture schedule of the census showed Thomas Bartlett with 120 acres of clay loam soil with a cash value of $4800. He had 40 sheep and produced 136 pounds of wool. By 1880 George Bartlett owned the property. The acreage had increased to 250, with a cash value of $10,000. George had 125 sheep and produced 625 pounds of wool. The value of the equipment and machinery increased from $95 to $500 in 1880, and the value of livestock decreased slightly.
In 1880, George paid $500 for labor. The number of milch (milk producing) cows was nearly the same, but the amount of butter produced increased from 200 pounds in 1860 to 600 in 1880.

William and Martha Travis purchased the Bartlett farm in 1908 for $5400. William S. Travis was born in 1845 in Wallaceburg, Canada. His wife, Martha Cook, was born in 1850. They lived in Pontiac, Dearborn, and Plymouth before moving to Canton Township. The 1912 tax assessment listed the property as the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, section 9, 40 acres; and the W 1/2 of the NW 1/4, section 10, 80 acres; total tax $113.04. The tax in 1920 was $234.91, and in 1923 was $65.93; this would indicate some improvement was made in 1919: probably the porch across the front of the house. However, during the restoration, newspapers dating from 1914 were found in the walls on the porch. If the porch was added then, it is possible that the Travis' may not have been assessed for the porch addition until 1919. William died about 1924, and the land was divided among the children. His daughter, Ella Rowe, owned the parcel with the house. She continued ownership at least through 1954 (no tax books for 1954-1958). By 1959, Thomas Myers owned the house. In 1961 Mrs. Thomas Myers owned it and operated an antique shop in the home. John Darakjian bought the house in 1975.

In 1988 Ken Dividock, a local realtor, donated the house to Canton Township. The township purchased a 21.62-acre parcel near Ridge and Cherry Hill roads in the hamlet of Cherry Hill. In 1989 the house was moved to the site with a matching grant from the state of Michigan. The move returned the house to a location that is rural; whereas its original site is now surrounded by subdivisions. The house was placed on a new foundation; a new roof added to protect the house from deterioration; and new chimneys were built. The Historic District Commission hired the firm of Quinn/Evans Architects of Ann Arbor to develop a preservation plan for Cherry Hill Village, including the Bartlett-Travis site.

Rex Harvey, a local carpenter who specializes in the restoration of historic houses, was hired to restore the house. The restoration began in 1994 and was completed in the fall of 1995. Using construction methods as a guideline, he states that the original house was a small Greek Revival structure. The main section was one and a half story, with a small one-story wing. He believes that in the 1870's the entire structure was raised to two full stories, and the back ell added in the 1880's. Lastly, the wraparound porch was added in 1914, dated by newspapers found in the walls during the restoration.

The current plan is to develop the Bartlett-Travis house as the cornerstone of a living history farm, with outbuildings, crops, gardens, orchards, and animals. Programs will be developed to introduce visitors to the everyday life of a farm in the 1890-1900 period.
Bibliography:

Bartlett and Travis family files at the Canton Historical Museum.


Wayne County Tract Index. Vol. 15-6-2. Located in the County Building, Detroit, MI


Interviews:
Telephone interview with Rex Harvey (restoration carpenter) 1996

On site interview with Rex Harvey June 15, 1999

Interview with Melissa McLaughlin (Canton Historic District Commission) March 1999

Maps:
1855 Wayne County. (Detroit: John Farmer)
1860 Wayne County, MI (Philadelphia: Geil, Harley & Swerd)
1876 Wayne County, MI Atlas
1893 Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)
1894 Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit).
1904 Canton plat map
1914 Canton plat map
1922 Canton Township plat map
1930 Township of Canton, Wayne County, MI (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society)
Boundary Description:

The entire property that the Bartlett-Travis House is located on consists of 21.62 acres. However, only the land that immediately surrounds the house is included in this nomination. That area can be described as: starting at the telephone pole 75 feet north of the house, go 175 feet south along Ridge Road to the next telephone pole; then east 240 feet past the rear of the house; then north 175 feet parallel with the back of the house; and then west 240 feet back to the starting point.

Boundary Justification:

The Bartlett-Travis house sits on 21.62 acres, however, only an area approximately 175 x 240 feet immediately surrounding the house is included in this nomination. Since the focus of the nomination is on the architecture and history of the house, only it and the area immediately surrounding the house are included.
THOMAS BARTLET HOUSE
500 N. RIDGE RD.

NOT TO SCALE
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: David and Elizabeth Bell House
other names/site number: Robbe House; Osborne House

2. Location

street & number: 3339 Canton Center S.  
not for publication: N/A

city or town: Canton Township

vicinity: N/A

state: Michigan  
code: MI  
county: Wayne  
code: 163  
zip code: 48188

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official  
Date

MI SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register  

___ See continuation sheet  

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ See continuation sheet  

___ determined not eligible for the National Register  

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain): ____________________________

Signature of Keeper  
Date of Action

___ entered in the National Register

___ See continuation sheet  

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ See continuation sheet  

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain): ____________________________

Signature of Keeper  
Date of Action
5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply),</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>Contributing Noncontributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>x</em> private,</td>
<td><em>x</em> building(s)</td>
<td>1 1 buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-local</td>
<td>___ district</td>
<td>___ sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-State</td>
<td>___ site</td>
<td>___ structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-Federal</td>
<td>___ structure</td>
<td>___ objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 1 Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing  Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic  Sub: Single dwelling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>Single dwelling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: Domestic  Sub: Single dwelling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>Single dwelling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Description

**Architectural Classification** Greek Revival
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>foundation</td>
<td>Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>roof</td>
<td>Asphalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walls</td>
<td>Asbestos siding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td>Wood, Brick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

  X A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

  B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

  X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

  D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

  A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

  B removed from its original location.

  C a birthplace or a grave.

  D a cemetery.

  E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

  F a commemorative property.

  G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

  Settlement
  Architecture
  ____________________________
  ____________________________
  ____________________________
  ____________________________

Period of Significance 1835-1889

Significant Dates ca 1835 ca 1858

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.
9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS) None
   ___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
   ___ previously listed in the National Register
   ___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
   ___ designated a National Historic Landmark
   ___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  # ____________
   ___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record  # ____________

Primary Location of Additional Data
   ___ State Historic Preservation Office
   ___ Other State agency
   ___ Federal agency
   ___ Local government
   ___ University
   ___ Other
   Name of repository: ____________________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  10.25 ac.

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>295030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4683815</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   __ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Kathleen Glynn

organization  Kosky and Glynn Associates  date  July 31, 1999

street & number  7200 Hack Road  telephone  517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034

city or town  Saline  state  MI  zip code  48176
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
  A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
  A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
  Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Checklist this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name ________________________________
street & number 42125 Remis Road telephone ____________________
city or town Belleville __________________ state MI zip code 48111

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0016), Washington, DC 20503.
House Description:

This house is a two-story, basilica form, Greek Revival house. The two-story center portion is flanked by one-story wings. The fronting two-story center section of the house has a triangular pediment, entablature, and a square Doric column at each end. The house has a modern porch with a concrete floor, and a brick foundation and steps. The wide cornice line has returns on the gable ends. The center, front (west) facade is defined by pilasters and accented with white siding. There are two windows on the second story and two windows flanking the center door. The upper windows are six lights-over-six and the lower windows are nine-over-six. Both have fluted molding with unadorned corner blocks. The front door is wood with ten lights of beveled glass. The door is surrounded by the same trim as the windows. It has a modern louvered storm door. The remaining windows are six lights-over-six with plain molding. A one-story ell on the north facade has a wide cornice line with returns. A modern brick chimney is located on the north facade. The Greek Revival detailing continues on the rear section containing the kitchen. The house is covered with blue asbestos siding, has a shingle roof, and a fieldstone foundation.

Interior: Originally the floor plan consisted of a front room flanked by two smaller rooms in the wings. At some point the wall to the north wing was removed making the front room larger. The windows flanking the door in the living room have full-height fluted molding with unadorned corner blocks and raised panel molding beneath the windows. The other two front windows have fluted molding and plain corner blocks. The fireplace in the living room was added in the 1940's or 1950's by the current occupant's grandparents. The steps to the two bedrooms upstairs are enclosed and very narrow. The door closing off the steps appears to have been added at a later date. The door to the south wing has three vertical panels and the same fluted molding and corner blocks. There are two rooms in the south wing, a bedroom and a laundry room. The dining room is beyond the living room. The wide opening into the dining room continues the fluted molding and corner blocks. The bedroom ell has six-over-six windows with simple molding. The kitchen may have been a separate building and added to the original house. The basement under the main part of the house has 13 log beams of 12"-15" diameter and a 12" square hand-hewn center beam. Charles Osborne excavated the current basement deeper. There is no basement under the bedroom ell. The construction of the kitchen section is 2" x 4" timber.

Site Description:
The property is currently 10.25 acres with approximately 300 feet fronting on Canton Center Road. Only an area immediately surrounding the house is included in this nomination. Among the structures located on the property are the house and a cement-block outdoor fireplace/barbecue grill. This once common, but fast disappearing, feature probably dates to the 1950's. The only feature remaining from the farming era is a ramp and the remnant of a foundation that is located south of the house. This was formerly a "cheese factory" as indicated on the 1876 atlas. Part of a cement floor and an earthen ramp are still visible. A modern two-car garage is listed as non-contributing.

The property is located in a line of houses that face Canton Center Road. There is wooded, open, or tilled land behind the houses. The terrain in this area is gently rolling. The land behind this
house is an open meadow to the property line, and was formerly used as a horse pasture. There is a hedgerow of small trees and shrubs on the north border of the property. The house itself is set on a rise, and the garage is located behind (east of) the house. A line of four catalpa trees and two other trees (possibly elm or hickory) is located south of the house. There is a large silver maple in the front yard and several large old lilac bushes close to the house. Several clusters of peonies and daylilies stand close to the house. A very large white ash tree and another catalpa tree along with other young specimens exist in the back yard.

Between the house and the garage is a concrete patio area that is bordered on the south with a flowerbed. The outdoor fireplace/barbecue grill is constructed of cement blocks with an iron grill. It is about three feet wide with a four-foot high chimney. It most likely was built in the 1960’s. The garage is a modern gable-front two-car garage. It has a shingle roof, aluminum siding, and a cement foundation. A three-foot wide cement strip extends from the garage to behind (east) the barbecue grill. Beyond this property to the south, the land is heavily wooded and slopes down to a branch of the Rouge River.
Significance:

The Boldman House is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style/Basilica form. The Basilica form is unique to southeast Michigan, western New York, and northeast Ohio. It is one of only a few remaining basilica-form Greek Revival houses in Canton Township. The two-story portico is rare in the north. Another example of a two-story portico like this one is in Dexter along the Huron River. The property is also significant because of its association with the early settlement and subsequent development of Canton Township. Built by early settler Henry Boldman ca. 1835, and enlarged or improved by David Boldman ca. 1858, this was a very fine house and reflected growing affluence and a sense of pride as the early settlers moved from their humble beginnings to a more cultured way of life.

Jared Stephens from Steuben County, New York, obtained the original land patent in 1829 for 80 acres (the W 1/2 of the SW 1/4) in section 27. This was the first land patent in the section. Jared sold to Henry Boldman in 1833 for $150. David Boldman, of New York, bought the property in 1839 for $300. It is not known if Henry and David are related (David's parents were Donald and Catherine Boldman). Since the price of the property doubled between 1833 and 1839, it is possible that the house was built during that time. However, the price increase could be accounted for by the rapid rise in property values as settlers streamed into the area. The existence of thirteen huge log joists used in construction of the house indicates an early construction date.

By 1845 David added 21 acres in section 34. The 1850 census listed David as 35 years old and a farmer. His sister, Margaret, and his mother, Catharine, lived with him.

Between 1850 and 1860 the value of the property increased from $2000 to $5000. The tax increase between 1855 and 1861 indicated that there was a major improvement to the property in that time period. David's farm was prospering and he added on to his house. In addition, the number of persons in the household also increased substantially! David was now married to Elizabeth Bell (born in Scotland) and had three children: Kate (6), William (3), and George (1). His mother and sister still lived with David, along with Jane Rothwell (12) and a hired hand. In addition to farming and family obligations, David served the township in several capacities: as constable in 1844 and 1849; highway commissioner in 1847, 1865, 1871, 1874, 1875, and 1876; and treasurer in 1864.

The 1860 agricultural schedule of the census showed that the Boldman farm produced 400 pounds of butter and 200 pounds of cheese. The 1870 census showed that Elizabeth's mother was living in the household in addition to two men who worked in the cheese factory. (David's mother and sister were not living with them.) The value of the farm as quoted in the census more than doubled from $5000 in 1860, to $11,000 in 1870. The 1876 atlas labeled one of the structures on David's property as a cheese factory. The 1880 schedule listed 300 pounds of butter, but does not list cheese at all, so evidently cheese production ceased between 1870 and 1880. The 1860 schedule also showed 22 sheep, but none in 1880. It is probable that by 1880 David was scaling back his farm operation because he was 65 years old.

David and Elizabeth's daughter, Kate, married Benjamin Robbe in 1880, and they had two children:
John and Susan. Benjamin died of appendicitis at the age of 33 in 1887, and Kate moved back to her parents' home with her two small children. Earlier, in 1884 David and Elizabeth sold the property to their son, William, for $4000. David Boldman died in 1889, and Elizabeth in 1896. In 1890 William sold the south 38 acres to James Bartlett for $3000, but two years later Kate bought the property back from Bartlett for $2000. Then in 1893 Kate bought the north 42 acres from William for $2000. Evidently William had no desire to be a farmer.

In 1907 Kate deeded the north half of the property to her son, John. Between 1920 and 1930, John sold his 40 acres (two 10 acre and one 20 acre parcels); in 1931 Kate sold 15 acres. Farming on a large scale stopped when the property was sold as smaller parcels in the 1920-31 time period. These land sales may have reflected the economic slump that affected farmers in the 1920's. Kate died in 1942 and in 1943 Charles Osborne bought the N 10.25 acres of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of section 27 (this is the same property description that is on the current tax assessment worksheet). Shortly after the Osbornes purchased the house, they found that they needed a new furnace. During the war, the only way to get a furnace was to provide housing during the wartime shortage. Therefore Charles remodeled the two bedrooms on the second floor into an apartment and added a bathroom and exterior stairs.

Charles owned the property until his death in the mid-1980's. Then his son and daughter-in-law, John and Donna Osborne, purchased it. John's mother lived in the house until about 1990. John states that the cheese factory was located in a barn south of the house. By 1990 the barn was badly deteriorated, and was removed. Remnants of the foundation are visible to the south of the house. Mr. Osborne also recalled that small crops such as vegetables were grown and sold from a produce stand, and cows and horses were raised. There was also an apple orchard and a grape arbor.

John lives in Belleville, and is renting the property to his daughter. She is the third generation of the Osborne family to live in the house.
Bibliography:


Interview with Dena Howell June 14, 1999.


Wayne County Tract Index. Vol. 15-6-2. Located in the County Building, Detroit, Mi


Maps:

1855    Wayne County. (Detroit: John Farmer)
1860    Wayne County, MI (Philadelphia: Geil, Harley & Swerd)
1876    Wayne County, MI Atlas
1893    Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)
1894    Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit).
1904    Canton plat map
1914    Canton plat map
1922    Canton Township plat map
1930    Township of Canton, Wayne County, MI (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society)
1942    Canton Township (W.S. Mc, Alpine Map Co.)
Boundary Description:

Although the house is located on 10.25 acres only the land immediately surrounding the house is included in this nomination. That area can be described as: starting at the fence on the north property line at Canton Center Road; th south along the road to the south property line; th east following the south property line 245 feet; th north to the north property line; th west 245 feet to the POB.

Boundary Justification:

Although the house is located on 10.25 acres, only the area immediately surrounding the house is included in this nomination.
DAVID BOLDMAN HOUSE
3359 CANTON CENTER RD.

NOT TO SCALE
**Property Master Query**

**Property Master Index**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township of Canton</th>
<th>Property Master Query</th>
<th>GM443</th>
<th>04/20/2000</th>
<th>16:31:39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Sidewell No**

| 135-99-0001-704 A |

**Street Address**

| 5228 SHELDON S |

**Legal Description**

| 34J2B |

**PAR OF SW 1/4 SEC 34 T2S R9E**

**REG DUE 5 649 FT FROM CEN 1/4**

**COR OF SEC 34**

**TH DUE 5 529 FT**

**TH DUE W 685 FT**

**TH N 07D 22M 20S E 662.48 FT**

**TH DUE E 230 FT**

**TH DUE S 230 FT**

**TH DUE S 65 FT**

**TH DUE E 170 FT**

**TO FOD 9.00AC**

**For 135-99-0001-704**

| BOR | 140.140 | 137.390 |
| SEV | 140.140 | 137.390 |

**[PGUP/PGDN] to continue or [ESC] to Quit**

**Community**

| 2020 |

**GroupWise 1.1xp**

**General Ledger System**

**GroupWise 1.exe**

**GroupWise**

**Netscape Communicator**

**Print Now**

**[Start]**

**Novell delivered**

**GroupWise 4.1a**

**Notify**

**Canton Apps**

**FOXPROX.E...**

**[D] 04:32 PM**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Master Index</th>
<th>Property Master Query</th>
<th>04/20/2000</th>
<th>CM443</th>
<th>16:31:39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sidewell No</th>
<th>135-99-0001-704 A</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>5228 SHELTON S</th>
<th>Taxpayer</th>
<th>CLARENCE JOHN FISCHER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mailing Address</td>
<td>5228 SHELTON S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subdiv</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>Unit/Lot</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>34</th>
<th>Zoning</th>
<th>LI-2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AssetType</th>
<th>Exempt</th>
<th>Yr Built</th>
<th>Yr Sold</th>
<th>Frontages</th>
<th>Lot Size</th>
<th>Lot Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>PrevSidwell</th>
<th>VBS Conn</th>
<th>VBS Comm</th>
<th>Sev Dist</th>
<th>Septic</th>
<th>Land</th>
<th>Bldg</th>
<th>Assnt</th>
<th>Asmt</th>
<th>BOR</th>
<th>SEV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>001370 W</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>140.140</td>
<td>140.140</td>
<td>140.140</td>
<td>140.140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Arrow UP/DOWN to browse, [L]legal, [T]axinfo, [O]wner Hist or [ESC] to Quit |

- Community: 2020
- GroupWise.1.exe
- General Ledger System
- CPSW
- GroupWise
- Enters
- Netscape Communicator
- Print Now
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Start time</th>
<th>Usage</th>
<th>Phone Number or ID</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>621</td>
<td>4/20</td>
<td>3:43PM</td>
<td>1'24&quot;</td>
<td>15173350348</td>
<td>Send</td>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>EC 96 Completed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 1'24" Pages sent: 4 Pages printed: 0

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
1150 South Canton Center Road
Canton, Michigan 48188-1699

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
734-398-5858, FAX 734-398-5272

FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO:    Bob Christiansen
FAX #: 517-339-0348
FROM:  Michael Ager
DATE:  April 20, 2000
RE:    4896 S. Sheldon Road
PAGES: Four

NOTES: You are right. I have attached the legal for the additional property. There had been a property split.
**Send Confirmation Report**

Name: CANTON RESOURCE DEV.  
ID: 734 398 5272  
18 Apr '00 3:56PM Page 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job</th>
<th>Start time</th>
<th>Usage</th>
<th>Phone Number or ID</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>612</td>
<td>4/18</td>
<td>3:55PM</td>
<td>0'27&quot;</td>
<td>Send</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>EC 96</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 0'27"  Pages sent: 1  Pages printed: 0

---

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON**
1150 South Canton Center Road
Canton, Michigan 48188-1698

**RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**
734 397-6288, FAX 734 396-5277

**FAX TRANSMITTAL**

TO:  Bob Christlenson

FAX #  517-925-0348

FROM:  Michael Ager

DATE:  April 18, 2000

RE:  4688 S. Sheldon Road

PAGES:  One

NOTES:  Fisher Farmstead legal

---

**HFISDET Township of Canton**

**PROPERTY MASTER INDEX**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Master Query</th>
<th>JB8411</th>
<th>16:41:52</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sidwell No.</th>
<th>135-99-0001-705 A</th>
<th>4996</th>
<th>SHELDON S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subdiv Unit/loc Section</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>Proj No:</th>
<th>-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Lt-2</td>
<td>Map Loc:</td>
<td>49180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zipcode:</td>
<td>49180</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assmnt Type</th>
<th>Homestead</th>
<th>Value Pct: 2.0000 OR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exempt</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>SCH Dist: CD16 MAPLE-FN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spclasmite:</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr Built</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr Sold</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frontages</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sewer Dist:</th>
<th>Septic:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLDG1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WSS Com:</th>
<th>Prev Sidwell:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assmnt</td>
<td>1,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSV</td>
<td>1,280</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot Size</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

([FPA/FDP] to continue or [ESC] to Quit)
TO: Bob Christianson
FAX #: 517-335-0348
FROM: Michael Ager
DATE: April 18, 2000
RE: 4896 S. Sheldon Road
PAGES: One
NOTES: Fisher Farmstead legal

[PGUP/PDGN] to continue or [ESC] to Quit
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name  Smith, George, and Mary Pine, House

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number  3704 Sheldon Road S.  not for publication  N/A

city or town  Canton Township  vicinity  N/A

state  Michigan  code  MI  county  Wayne  code  163  zip code  48188

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ___ X ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ___ X ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this ___ property be considered significant nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official  MI SHPO

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

in my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is: ___ entered in the National Register  ___ See continuation sheet

___ determined eligible for the National Register  ___ See continuation sheet

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain):  

Signature of Keeper  Date of Action
5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply),
- Private, x
- Public-local
- Public-State
- Public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)
- X Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure

Number of Resources within Property
- Contributing 3
- Noncontributing 6
- Buildings
- Sites
- Structures
- Objects
- Total 3 6

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Historical and Architectural Resources of Canton Township, Wayne Co., Michigan

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: ____________________________ Sub: ____________________________
- Domestic
- Single dwelling
- Secondary structure

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: ____________________________ Sub: ____________________________
- Domestic
- Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification other/gabled-ell house
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
foundation stone
roof asphalt
walls brick
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

___ A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

___ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

___ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

___ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

_____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

_____ B removed from its original location.

_____ C a birthplace or a grave.

_____ D a cemetery.

_____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

_____ F a commemorative property.

_____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
architecture

Period of Significance 1904-1928

Significant Dates 1904 1928

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet
9. Major Bibliographical References
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data
X ___ State Historic Preservation Office
    ___ Other State agency
    ___ Federal agency
    ___ Local government
    ___ University
    ___ Other
Name of repository: ____________________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ___ .64 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>295960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>___</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Gladys Saborio
organization: Kosky and Glynn Associates  date: July 30, 1999
street & number: 7200 Hack Road  telephone: 517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034
city or town: Saline  state: MI  zip code: 48176
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _________________________________

street & number ________________________ telephone (734) 397 1895

city or town _____________ state ____________ zip code ____________
The George Smith House, an excellent example of an early twentieth century gabled-ell house, sits on a half-acre parcel near what was the former Sheldon Corners hamlet. Though the present acreage is small many outbuildings, old and modern, clustered to the north and rear of the property help to give the feeling of the former farmstead. Both the north and west edges of the property are bounded with wooded areas that help to isolate the farmstead from surrounding modern development. Plantings that include old lilacs and farm roses add to the ambiance. To the east across Sheldon Road open farmland lends a rural feeling to the property.

The house, which cost $2,058.76 to build, is a two-story, brick, gable-ell building with an additional two-story ell to the rear. Its foundation is of fieldstone with the stone laid in ashlars courses across the façade. The stone, basement walls are two feet thick. According to Stuart Hoops, family member and former owner, many of the bricks used in the walls were handmade on the site. Due to the lack of electricity in Canton Township in 1904, gas lines were built into the walls for lighting. Two large windows on the first story of the façade have transom sash, in the upper portion one has stained glass and the other has beveled glass. There are two similar large windows on the north elevation and one in the bay on the south elevation. Other windows are narrow, one-over-ones placed both singly and in pairs. Corbeled bricks form segmental arches over the windows. A rectangular bay window is located on the main story of the south elevation. There are two entry doors on the façade, one on the wing section and one on the gable section. Both are covered with a small entry porch with a lattice apron. A second full-length porch runs along the north side of the rear ell. Both porches have spindle-work columns and decorative millwork.

Materials from the former, seventy year old, Smith family home were incorporated into the new building. Oak and hard maple joists, interior doors and other materials were used. The stylistic additions of the glass, the porch trim, and the decorative brick work make this an outstanding building for Canton Township where the majority of historic homes were utilitarian farmhouse buildings.

According to Hoops, a former icehouse was located on the property. Its location is uncertain. To the rear of the house and garage, a smokehouse, a privy, and five chicken coops complete the property’s buildings. The smokehouse is located to the rear (west) and south of the house. It is constructed of the same brick as the main building. It is a small, windowless, gable-roof structure with an entry on the east-facing façade. The privy has board-and-batten siding, a gable roof, a window on the west elevation and a door on the east. It is noteworthy both for its excellent condition and for the three-hole configuration on the interior. Five chicken coops and a two car garage were constructed in the 1970’s and are listed as non-contributing. All outbuildings are in excellent condition.
The William Smith house is an imposing late Victorian/early 20th century example of the gabled-ell house form. Built in 1904, the house and its history reflect the transformation of Canton Township from a rural agricultural community to a modern suburban community.

In 1830 William Smith of England purchased 80 acres of land described as W1/2 of the SE1/4 section 27 Canton Township, from the original owner Benjamin Halstead. In 1835 he purchased another 80, adjoining, acres to establish a farm that encompassed the entire SE1/4 section. On this farm he and his wife, Mary Collins Smith, raised a family of seven children, establishing a dynasty of Smiths who came to occupy an important place among the agricultural families of Canton Township.

The Smiths originally practiced subsistence farming and expanded into cash crops as their circumstances and those of the township changed. Like other farmers in the Township the family thrived on the productive land. They raised wheat, oats, corn and other crops associated with general farming.

By 1856 George Smith Sr., son of William, owned his father's land. He continued raising crops similar to those his father had, in addition to adding 125 sheep to the farm. In 1880 he produced 625 pounds of wool. George Sr. married three times and George Jr., son of his second wife, Matilda, inherited the farm and continued to raise crops similar to those that his father and grandfather had in the preceding generations.

In 1904 George Jr. constructed the nominated house for his wife Mary Pine. The old family home was demolished and materials from it were used in construction of the new house.

In 1928 the agricultural depression following World War I and George's advancing age led him to sell most of his farmland. The house remained on a one-acre parcel. When George died in 1943 the property passed to his wife. She continued to live in the house until her death.

Following her death her daughter Ruby Jane and son-in-law Edward Hoops purchased the property. Due to growing industrial development in the area surrounding Canton, Edward was able to earn a living outside agriculture. The home became a suburban dwelling. Ruby and Edward Hoops' son George Edward continued to live in the family home after his marriage and inherited the property when his mother died. Their son, Stuart, owned the property until he sold to the current owners in 1994.
Bibliography


Canton Township Tax Assessor Records: 1843-1873 (located in the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Main Library) and 1912-1961 (located at the Canton Historical Museum).


Newspapers:

The Observer, August 13, 1992

Unpublished Sources:

Eastern Michigan University. Reconnaissance. Survey conducted by Historic Preservation Students, 1988

Verbal Boundary Description:

THE S1/2 OF THAT PT OF THE SW 1/4 OF SEC 27 DESC. AS BEG AT THE S1/4 COR OF SEC 27 AND PROC TH N 89DEG 11M W ALONG THE S LINE OF SAID SEC 257.0FT TH DUE N 214.36FT TH S 89D 40M E 257.0FT TO THE N AND S 1/4 LINE OF SEC 27 TH DUE S ALONG SAID LINE 216.51FT TO POB

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries encompass the property associated with the house since 1928.
National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking “X” in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter “N/A” for “not applicable.” For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Sheldon Inn

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number: 44134 Michigan Avenue

not for publication: N/A
city or town: Canton Township

vicinity: N/A

state: Michigan
code: MI

county: Wayne
code: 163
zip: 48108

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant X nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official: ___________________________

Date: ___________________________

MI SHPO

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official: ___________________________

Date: ___________________________

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register

_____ See continuation sheet

_____ determined eligible for the National Register

_____ See continuation sheet

_____ determined not eligible for the National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain): ___________________________

Signature of Keeper: ___________________________

Date of Action: ___________________________
5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply)</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>x building(s)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>public-local</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>public-State</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>public-Federal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>district</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historical and Architectural Resources of Canton Township Wayne County, Michigan

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- Cat: Domestic
- Sub: single dwelling
- Cat: Government
- Sub: post office
- Cat: Commerce/Trade
- Sub: tavern
- Cat: Domestic

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- Cat: Domestic
- Sub: apartment house

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Mid-19 century/Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
- foundation: concrete
- roof: asphalt
- walls: asbestos
- other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheets
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

  x  A  Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
  ___ B  Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
  x  C  Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
  ___ D  Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

  ___ A  owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
  x  B  removed from its original location.
  ___ C  a birthplace or a grave.
  ___ D  a cemetery.
  ___ E  a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
  ___ F  a commemorative property.
  ___ G  less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

  Architecture
  Exploration/settlement
  Transportation
  Government

Period of Significance 1825-1848

Significant Dates 1825    1848

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation  N/A

Architect/Builder  N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet
9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # __________
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __________

Primary Location of Additional Data

___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other

Name of repository: ________________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .24

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>296960</td>
<td>4683100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>_______</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Gladys Saborio

organization Kosky and Glynn Associates date July 30, 1999

street & number 7200 Hack Road telephone 517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034

city or town Saline state MI zip code 48176
Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**
- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

---

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name: Kenneth Eck

street & number: 44134 Michigan

telephone: 734 397 5952

city or town: Canton

state: MI
zip code: 48188

---

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Today what was once the Sheldon Inn, a settlers inn and stagecoach stop on the old Chicago Road, is a two-family apartment building. A two-story, side-gable Greek Revival structure, it sits on a ¼ acre site a few feet back from its original location. Several old trees on the property help to give a feel of the former site. It is located in a commercially zoned area between a modern church on the west and two small businesses on the east.

The building, though altered through time, still exhibits its Greek Revival architecture. It is a two-story side-gable building with return cornice detail. A full width front porch with slightly splayed piers on wooden supports was added in the 1930’s. On the east end of the facade is a one-story wing, built in the 1830’s, for the owner’s unmarried sister. The wing is also in the Greek Revival style with return cornice detail and a modern porch covered with a metal awning. To the rear is a one-story wing with roofline perpendicular to the core block. On the east elevation of the rear wing is a shed roof addition.

Of post and beam construction, the building is covered in wooden clapboard siding overlaid with asbestos siding. The roof is covered in modern asphalt shingles and the foundation is of formed concrete block. The inn was moved onto this foundation in 1929 when it was set back to accommodate the widening of Michigan Avenue.

The original building’s facade consisted of six, symmetrically placed openings on a six bay main block. There were six evenly spaced six-over-six windows on the upper level and on the lower level were two six-over-six windows centered below the central upper windows. Six-over-six windows were located under the upper windows on either end of the facade. Entry doors were placed below the remaining windows. This gave a symmetrical configuration to the facade, typical of Greek Revival buildings and also provided both a private entry for the family and an entry for the inn’s guests.

The facade presently has been altered. The two central windows on the upper story are original. The two windows on either side of these are wider replacement sashes, which eliminate two full bays on the upper level. The two entry doors remain on the lower level but windows are replacement sashes located in such a manner as to break the original symmetry.
Built circa 1825 The Sheldon Inn is of outstanding historical importance as one of the earliest inns established on the state's pre-eminent early highway. When it was built, there was virtually nothing west of it all the way to the Indiana line and Chicago. Situated on Michigan Avenue just to the east of the junction of that highway with Sheldon Road and Geddes Road, the former South Territorial Road, it became the focal building of Sheldon Corners, a crossroads hamlet which grew up around it.

The inn was originally the home of Timothy and Rachel Sheldon, immigrants from New York State. They chose to settle near their overnight campsite along the Chicago Road, on land which was apparently to their liking. The original land patent sold to Timothy Sheldon, dated June 6, 1825, was for 160 acres (the NW 1/4 of the NE1/4 and the E 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of section 34). The Sheldons built their home on this parcel. Almost immediately it became an inn serving the rapidly growing number of travelers on this important early road at what soon became an important intersection. Six years later Rachel Sheldon purchased an additional 80 acres (the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4).

The inn became the accustomed stopping place for immigrants the second night out of Detroit. Major Abraham Edwards, first president of the Territorial Legislative Council and register of the White Pigeon federal land office, mentions it in his account of a journey along the Chicago Road. "In the month of August, 1828, I left Detroit with my wife and ten children...prepared to camp out every night. The first night we slept at Van Eyck's tavern, at Dearborn; the second night at Sheldon's and the third night two miles west of Ypsilanti, where for the first time we used our tent and cooked our own meals "Michigan Pioneer Collection vol. 3. pages 148-151."

Early mention of the settlement is noted on Bela Hubbard's 1838 Michigan Survey map. An 1829 Michigan Territorial Act designates the inn as the starting point of the South Territorial Road, a road which was designed to connect the settlement of Ann Arbor with Detroit by way of the Chicago Road.

In 1848 plans for the Michigan Central Railroad called for it to follow the Chicago Road as far as Ypsilanti and Sheldon's became a stop on this important new transportation route. In 1898 what had become a scheduled stagecoach stop and a railroad stop became a stop on the Detroit to Ypsilanti interurban route.

Eventually the settlement, known as Sheldon's Corners, had a brick school, two churches, a weigh station for milk, three blacksmith shops, two general stores, and a cobbler shop. The earliest post office in the township was located here, with Timothy Sheldon as postmaster. He also served on the board of trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church and was township clerk in 1838.

The property passed from the Sheldons to their nephew, Charles Sines, who appears as owner on the 1893 atlas. He was a son of Philip Sines who with Timothy Sheldon was involved in several financial and real estate transactions, which contributed to the growth of the early settlement. Their properties were subdivided to be used for several of Sheldon's Corners' institutions, the Sheldon School, the Canton Methodist-Episcopal Church, and the Presbyterian Church (Wilson, p. 526-530).

The date of the building's return to residential use is uncertain; however there is record that Charles Morton was renting it in 1875. In 1894 he purchased the property and his family made their home there until 1942. Andrew G. and Louise Marie Smith purchased the property from the Morton family in 1942 and converted it to multiple family use.

In 1929 Michigan Avenue (Chicago Road) was widened and the historic inn was moved back (north) a few feet onto a new foundation to accommodate the widening of the road. The inn subsequently passed through several owners, returning to a dwelling as the land was divided and subdivided. On June 3, 1985, the Michigan Historical Commission named Sheldon's Corners a State Historical Site.
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

PT OF NE ¾ OF SEC 34 T2SR8E BEG S88DEG 51M 30S W 1642.50FT AND S1DEG 23M 50S E 337.50FT AND S88DEG 51M 30S W 515FT AND S1 DEG 23M 50S E 461FT AND S82DEG 20M 30S E 7.00FT AND S1DEG 23M 50S E 337FT AND S81DEG 27M 30S W 50.38FT FROM NE COR OF SEC 34 TH S81DEG 27M 30S W 90FT TH NODEG 51M 20S W 138FT TH N89DEG 08M 40S E 71FT TH S9DEG 04M 25S E 127.27FT POB

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries in the nomination have been chosen to coincide with the legal description of the property that remains currently associated with the historic inn.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name  Fischer, John, and Edna Truesdell, Farmstead

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number  4896 Sheldon Road S.

not for publication  N/A

city or town  Canton Township

vicinity  N/A

state  Michigan  code  MI  county  Wayne  code  163  zip code  48188

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  X  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  X  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

MI SHPO

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  

See continuation sheet  

determined eligible for the National Register  

See continuation sheet  

determined not eligible for the National Register  

removed from the National Register  

other (explain):  

Signature of Keeper  

Date of Action
5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>x</em> private,</td>
<td><em>x</em> building(s)</td>
<td>Contributing: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-local</td>
<td>___ district</td>
<td>Noncontributing: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-State</td>
<td>___ site</td>
<td>buildings: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-Federal</td>
<td>___ structure</td>
<td>sites: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>structures: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>objects: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total: 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Historic and Agricultural Resources of Canton Township, Wayne Co., MI**

6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat:</th>
<th>Sub:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>single dwelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/subsistence</td>
<td>horticultural facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry/processing/extraction</td>
<td>energy facility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat:</th>
<th>Sub:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>single dwelling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Description

**Architectural Classification** Queen Anne
(Enter categories from instructions) other/1945 ranch house

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>foundation</th>
<th>brick</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>roof</td>
<td>asphalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walls</td>
<td>wood/weatherboard wood/shingle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet
Fischer Farmstead
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Wayne County, MI

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

X A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

___ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

___ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

___ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

___ B removed from its original location.

___ C a birthplace or a grave.

___ D a cemetery.

___ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

___ F a commemorative property.

___ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture
Architecture

Period of Significance 1897-1949

Significant Dates 1897 c1940 1945

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets
Fischer Farmstead
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Wayne County, MI

9. Major Bibliographical References
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  # ___________
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ___________

Primary Location of Additional Data
X State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: __________________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  10

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>295790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>_____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>_____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>___</td>
<td>_____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Gladys Saborio

organization  Kosky and Glynn Associates  date  July 30, 1999

street & number 7200 Hack Road  telephone  517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034

city or town  Saline  state  MI  zip code  48176
Fischer Farmstead
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
name __ Louis Fischer __
street & number __ 4896 Sheldon Road S. __ telephone __ (734) 397 2877 __
city or town __ Canton Township __ state __ MI __ zip code __ 48188 __

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
The Fischer Farmstead is located on a ten-acre parcel fronting on Sheldon Road and delimited on three sides by wooded area. Two residential buildings are situated to the front (east) of the property, an 1897, vernacular/Queen Anne style farmhouse and a 1945 brick ranch house. Significant outbuildings, including eighteen interconnected greenhouses and a boiler building, used in truck farming operations are located to the rear of the newer house. On the parameter of the property, to the north of the 1897 house, is what remains of a large barn, silo and milk house. A modern garage and a hangar used to house a small private plane are located to the rear of the earlier house. Situated adjacent to buildings which form the remnants of the former Sheldon Corners hamlet, the Fischer Farmstead is a reminder of a rural way of life that is rapidly disappearing in Canton Township.

The 1897 Fischer House is a two-story, clapboarded, cross-gable farmhouse, built on a fieldstone and brick foundation. The house has Queen Anne features including fish scale shingles in the gables and spindle trim on the porches. A bay window in the south gable adds architectural interest and expands the floor space of the first story. Two narrow one-over-one windows on the east elevation have projecting cornices and a wider window, centered, below has a decorative fish-scale canopy. Spindle trim on the two porches, tucked into the elbows of the cross gable on the south, is typical of late nineteenth century decorative features. Attached to the rear of the main block is a two-story wing with a shed roof addition. On its rear elevation the addition has a band of windows. The house has a corbeled brick chimney located on the north end of the core block. In 1973 a modern garage was added to the house’s northwest corner.

In 1945 Clarence Fischer, grandson of Michael Fischer, built a brick ranch house with colonial style detailing. The façade has a central, gable-roofed entry. The door is flanked to the right by a small octagonal window with mullions. Two large windows are paired on the left of the façade and two others are placed to the left of the entry. A smaller window is situated to the right of the entry. Windows, while of the wide, modern, double-hung variety, have wooden mullions, which emulate eight-over-eight, colonial windows. A porch area set back under the roof finishes the right end of the façade. Each gable has a small window in the peak and others similar to those on the façade. Symmetrically placed, they are, however, not equally sized thus serving the interior floor plan more than the exterior symmetry. The roof has a rather steep pitch with two, centrally placed, brick chimneys and two wooden dormers, which add to the colonial style detailing.

Although the property has not been farmed for the past few years several outbuildings remain on the property and are still intact. Among the outbuildings located to the south and west of the house, and contributing to the farm-like feel of the property, are an eighteen interconnected greenhouses, and a metal-roofed boiler building used in the truck farming era of the farmstead.

The greenhouses are narrow, each with an entry door in the east facing gable-front. They are wooden framed buildings with glass panels forming both the roofs and walls. Though the buildings are set on concrete sills, the interiors have only dirt floors with concrete walks running the entire length of the buildings. Interior doors provide access to the interconnected buildings.

In a boiler building situated to the north of the greenhouses, coal provided fuel to produce heat for the greenhouses. The boiler building is composed of two attached gable-end, frame buildings and a flat-roofed, two-story, metal portion. Solar panels cover most of the south elevation and a portion of the east elevation.
Centered on the east elevation is a sliding door. When it is closed the solar panels are exposed; when it is opened they are covered. A small entry door, to the far left, is the only opening on the northern portion of the gable-roofed building. A tall, imposing, brick chimney, ventilator and coal elevator are part of a two-story metal attachment to the north. The main entrance on this windowless portion of the building is large enough to allow a small truck to enter.

A nondescript, concrete block, sorting building, from the truck farming era, a modern garage/pole barn, a metal storage shed, and a 1956 era concrete block airplane hangar, are also located on the property. Because of their lack of detail or because of their rather recent construction they are all listed as non-contributing.

The history of the farmstead and its remaining buildings helps to illustrate the development of agriculture in Canton Township. With its close proximity to urban areas, and with development of modern transportation systems, the Fischer farm’s, like Canton Township’s, agriculture evolved from subsistence farming to cash crops, to market farming.
The Fischer House is significant in that it typifies late nineteenth-century Queen Anne farmhouses. It is somewhat unusual in Canton Township where gabled-ell and upright-and-wing farmhouses seem to have been the norm down to the turn of the century. The greenhouses/boiler building complex is a rare surviving piece of architecture directly related to the period of truck farming in the township. The ranch house also reflects direct effects of truck farming based prosperity. The Fischer house constructed in 1897 by children of German immigrants attests to the degree of affluence and assimilation this important group of Canton farmers was able to achieve in just one generation. Although not original settlers, the German immigrants that came to Canton in the second half of the nineteenth century greatly contributed to the development of agriculture in the township.

On August 18, 1834 James Adams, from Wayne County, Michigan purchased from the United States government the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter (40 acres) of section 34 Canton Township. Tax records show that the property stayed in the Adams family until approximately 1862 when Michael Fischer purchased it. In 1847, at the age of fourteen years, Michael immigrated from Wurttemberg, Germany. He settled in the hamlet of Sheldon's Corners, operating a blacksmith shop and building a house on the "Sheldon Triangle." He married another German immigrant, Catherine Hasselbach, who arrived with her parents in Canton in 1852. By the second generation they had become prosperous enough that their son, John, was able to build the large house that today sits on the property. It cost ninety dollars for the "framing up." Located to the north of the new house, the family’s original house was used as a milk-house. Its remains can still be found on the property. John’s family took an active part in the rural life, which centered on Sheldon’s Corners, and he and his wife raised four children. Their third-born Clarence continued to live on the homestead farming the land and establishing the family as an important link in Canton’s history.

However, by the time Clarence inherited the farm the growth of urban areas around Canton was beginning to change the face of agriculture. His family, using farming methods brought from Germany, had developed a prosperous farm raising wheat, oats, corn and other grains. He kept livestock and practiced general and dairy farming. Successful as the farm had been Clarence needed to change farming techniques and products as Canton Township changed. Advances in transportation and changes in the surrounding markets provided an impetus for change on the Fischer farmstead.

The development of urban markets in Detroit, Plymouth and Ypsilanti created a demand for produce and the improvement of Canton’s roads, which made these markets easily accessible to the farmer, changed the look of the farm. In the early 1940’s eighteen large greenhouses were built to the southwest of the house and a sorting shed for preparing produce for market was constructed. A structure, which housed boilers fueled by coal, was built to heat the greenhouses. So successful was this new venture that in 1945 Clarence Fischer was able to build a brick ranch style house on the property, south of the 1897 house. Fields were sown with sweet corn and the switch to truck farming was complete.

In 1972 Louis, Clarence’s son, purchased the farm. He continued truck farming, taking produce to Detroit’s Western Market until it closed and then to the Eastern Market. No longer keeping a dairy herd, Louis took down the farm’s large barn in the early 1970’s. Its foundation is located north of the house. In 1980 he built an attached two-car garage at the northwest corner of the house.
Though no longer a working farm, the farmstead continues to be occupied by the family. The farmstead's buildings retain their historic integrity and serve as an excellent example of the development of farming in Canton Township.
Bibliography:


Canton Township Tax Assessor Records: 1843-1873 (located in the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Main Library) and 1912-1961 (located at the Canton Historical Museum).


Interviews:

Mabel and Louis Fischer, 1996.

Unpublished Sources:

Eastern Michigan University. Reconnaissance. Survey conducted by Historic Preservation Students, 1988

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

THE S1/2 OF THAT PART OF THE SW ¼ OF SEC 27 DESC. AS BEG AT THE S1/4 COR OF SEC 27 AND POC TH N 89DEG 11M W ALONG THE S LINE OF SAID SEC 257.0 FT TH DUE N 214.36 FT TH S 89D 40M E 257.0 FT TO THE N AND S ¼ LINE OF SEC 27 TH DUE S ALONG SAID LINE 216.51 FT TO POB

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries comprise the entire John Fischer farmstead.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name  Dingledey, Phillip and Maria Hassesback, House
other names/site number  Dingledey House

2. Location

street & number  1638 Haggerty Road N.
city or town  Canton Township
state  Michigan
code  MI
county  Wayne
code  163
city or town  N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

MI  SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

in my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

______________

______________
### 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply, check only one box)</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>x</em> private,</td>
<td><em>x</em> building(s)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ public-local</td>
<td>____ district</td>
<td>____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ public-State</td>
<td>____ site</td>
<td>____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____ public-Federal</td>
<td>____ structure</td>
<td>____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Name of related multiple property listing**
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

[Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township](#)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

- **Cat:** Domestic
- **Sub:** Single dwelling

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

- **Cat:** Domestic
- **Sub:** Single dwelling

### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Other: Upright and Wing House

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Foundation: Stone
- Roof: Asphalt
- Walls: Wood/Weatherboard
- Other: 

**Narrative Description**
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

___ A Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

___ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

___ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

___ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

___ B removed from its original location.

___ C a birthplace or a grave.

___ D a cemetery.

___ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

___ F a commemorative property.

___ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance ca. 1881

Significant Dates ca. 1881

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation sheet.
9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheet.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS)** None
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # ____________
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ____________

**Primary Location of Additional Data**
X State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: _______________________________________

10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 1.09 ac.

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>298220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4687620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

**name/title** Kathleen Glynn

**organization** Kosky and Glynn Associates **date** July 31, 1999

**street & number** 7200 Hack Road **telephone** 517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034

**city or town** Saline **state** MI **zip code** 48176
Dingledey House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name __________________________

street & number 1638 Haggerty Road N. __________________________ telephone ________________

city or town Canton __________________________ state MI __________ zip code 48187

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
House Description:
This is an Upright and Wing house with Victorian details. A one-story wing is located between a two-story gable front section, and a 1½ story gable front section. The recessed porch on the wing has chamfered columns and arching brackets. There is an eight-foot window near the door with six lights over six. The remaining windows are six-lights-over-six with black shutters. The house has clapboard siding painted blue with white trim. The upper story windows have pedimented crowns, and the first story windows have straight hood moldings. The wide cornice line is accented with paired brackets under the eaves. Spindelwork detailing with a drop is located in the apex of the gable peaks. The 1½ story upright has a Gothic Revival window with a heavier pedimented crown. A modern fieldstone chimney is located on the south facade. Another brick chimney is located in the center of the north upright. The house has a rubble stone foundation. The five-panel wood entry door has a two-light transom above. There is a wood screen door over the entry door. The porch on the rear of the house has a shed roof and spindelwork supports. A cellar door is located in the basement on the rear facade with rubble stone steps leading down to it.

Site Description:
The property consists of 1.09 acres. The gable front two-car garage is located slightly northeast of the house. It has blue board-and-batten siding over concrete block construction. It has a shingle roof, aluminum garage door, and a cement foundation. The remnant of a wood skateboard rink (ca. 1970) is deteriorating, and is located behind a wood fence in a wooded area. It is about thirty feet long, twelve feet wide, and five feet high.

The house sits on a rise in the land. There is a brick driveway and front walk leading to the house. A white fence borders the walk. A very large elm tree is located north of the driveway. There is a graveled space for parking two cars east of the elm tree. A large weeping willow tree is located behind the garage. There are several lilac bushes in the yard: one is near the front walk; another is on the south front of the house; and several are on the south boundary of the property. A large maple tree is located in the front yard. An antique sleigh planted with impatiens ornaments the front lawn. A small plow is used as the centerpiece of a flowerbed in the front lawn.

The land north and east of the property is lightly wooded and undeveloped at present. I-275 is about 3/4 of a mile to the east. Ford Road is 0.5 mile north with commercial and office development. A large group of one-story apartment units is located south of this property. A new condominium development is being constructed directly west across Haggerty Road.
Significance:
This property is significant because of its architecture. It is an excellent example of an Upright and Wing farmhouse built in the 1881 time period. The double upright is unusual. The amount of Gothic Revival and Italianate detailing reflects a home built to demonstrate growing affluence. The house remains in excellent condition with the original clapboard siding and ca.1880 details intact.

The original land patent was obtained in 1833 by Abraham Bockoven of Seneca, New York for 40 acres in the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 13. The property was then owned by Moses and Hannah Kies who sold it to Cornelius Henion in 1837 for $500. Henion sold it to Levi and Eliza Markell in 1840 for $250. This decrease in price probably reflected the financial panic of 1837. Levi and Eliza sold to Henry Markell in 1844 for $800. This increase in price probably reflects the general improvement in the economy, but also a major improvement such as the construction of a house. Levi and Eliza don’t appear in later census indexes, and a Henry Markell was listed on the index in Washtenaw County.

David Dean bought the property in 1853 for $400. There is no indication why the price of the property decreased. David was listed on both the 1840 and 1850 censuses. The 1850 census listed David (65) as a farmer, along with his wife, Catherine (57), and their four children. The value of the property was given as $500. David died about 1855 and their son, William, bought the property. The 1861 tax assessment was $29.00, which would indicate that William made improvements to the property.

William Dean sold the property to Warren Vinton in 1869 for $2500. Vinton sold it to Thomas Mason in 1873 for $5200. Mason sold it to John Cole in 1874 for $6400, and he sold it to Horatio Crain in 1875 for $7500. This large increase in the value of the property over this six-year time span most likely indicated major improvements to the property.

William Dean was not listed on the 1860 agricultural schedule of the census. Warren Vinton was listed on the 1870 survey with 40 acres of improved land and 10 acres of wooded land. $5000 was the cash value of the farm, $150 the value of implements and machinery, and $50 in wages paid. Vinton had 4 horses, 2 milch cows (milk producing), 16 sheep, and 2 swine with a total cash value of $480. He grew winter wheat, Indian corn, and barley. He produced 75 lb. of wool and 200 lb. of butter. The estimated value of all the farm products was $800.

Crain sold the north half of the property to Louisa Eggeman in 1875 for $3000. Crain died around 1877 and the south half was sold to Mary Woolsey in 1878. (There was no Louisa Eggeman or Mary Woolsey listed on the agriculture schedule of the 1880 census.)

Mary Woolsey sold her land to Phillip Dingley in 1881 for $1250. Phillip Dingley had emigrated from Germany in 1846 at the age of 15. He settled in Buffalo, New York and married Elizabeth Diehl in 1852. They moved to Michigan in 1857, and Elizabeth died in 1859. Two years later Phillip married Maria Hasselbach, who had also emigrated from Germany with her parents. Phillip and Maria were the parents of eight children. In addition to farming, Phillip also planted a vineyard and made wine. Originally Phillip and Maria purchased 70 acres further south on Haggerty near Palmer
Road. They purchased this land in 1881 and built this home. This house with its abundance of Victorian details reflected growing affluence and a sense of pride as settlers moved from their humble beginnings to a more cultured way of life. Eventually the Dingledey property grew to about 250 acres on both sides of Haggerty Road.

Phillip Dingledey died in 1899, and Maria in 1909. The property passed to their children: George, Jacob, Phillip, and Mary Dingledey, Tanna Miller, Anna Streng, and Emma Stein. One son, Philip Michael, was township clerk 1911-1914. Another son, Jacob, lived on the west side of Haggerty Road. His son, Phillip, was Canton Township supervisor 1965-1974.

Sarah M. Fogarty bought the property in 1911 for $2400. Sarah died and her husband, John H., owned the property. He died around 1923, and their daughter, Rose Fogarty Dingledey, inherited and sold it the same year to John Spisz on land contract. John owned the property until his death in 1940. Louis Jedynak bought the property in 1944. Jedynak split the 40 acre parcel into smaller ones between 1946 and 1953, which was the beginning of the trend to subdivide large parcels of land. Samuel and Alma Spicer bought a 12 acre parcel in 1946, and they sold it to Alan and Dorothy Strong in 1953. The Strongs sold to Donald and Yvonne Kurtz in 1972. Gary and Wanda Stevens owned it 1979-1995. Theodore and Nancy Robinson are the current owners of 1.09 acres.

The house looks much the same now as in a ca. 1895 photograph.
Bibliography:


Dingledey family files at the Canton Historical Museum.


Wayne County Tract Index. Vol. 16-21-17. Located in the County Building, Detroit, MI


Maps:
1855 Wayne County. (Detroit: John Farmer)
1860 Wayne County, MI (Philadelphia: Geil, Harley & Swerd)
1876 Wayne County, MI Atlas
1893 Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)
1894 Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit).
1904 Canton plat map
1914 Canton plat map
1922 Canton Township plat map
1930 Township of Canton, Wayne County, MI (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society)
1942 Canton Township (W.S. Mc, Alpine Map Co.)
Boundary Description:

13S1A2A
That PT of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼
of SEC 13 T2SR8E Desc as beg
SODEG 05M W 1521.79 FT and S89DEG
28M 10S E64.11FT FROM THE NW
COR OF SEC 13 S89DEG 28M 10S E
237.23FT TH SODEG 15 M W 200.36 FT
TH N89DEG 28M 10S W 237.23FT TH
NODEG 15M E 200.36FT to the POB
1.09 AC

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of this nomination encompass the entire property associated with the house.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name  Bradford, Benjamin and Mary Ann, House

other names/site number  Bradford - Palmer House

2. Location

street & number  48145 Warren Road

city or town  Canton Township

state  Michigan  code  MI  county  Wayne  code  163  zip code  48187

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

MI  SHPO

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet

___ determined eligible for the National Register

See continuation sheet

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action
5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply)</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>Contributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>x</em> private.</td>
<td><em>x</em> building(s)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-local</td>
<td>___ district</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-State</td>
<td>___ site</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ public-Federal</td>
<td>___ structure</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "NA" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat: Domestic</th>
<th>Sub: single family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/subsistence</td>
<td>agricultural outbuilding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat: Domestic</th>
<th>Sub: single family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vacant/not in use</td>
<td>secondary structure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  Greek Revival
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>foundation</th>
<th>Stone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>roof</td>
<td>Asphalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walls</td>
<td>Aluminum siding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_x_ A  Property is associated with events that have made significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
___ B  Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
_x_ C  Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
___ D  Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

___ A  owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
___ B  removed from its original location.
___ C  a birthplace or a grave.
___ D  a cemetery.
___ E  a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
___ F  a commemorative property.
___ G  less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Settlement

Architecture

________________________________________________________

Period of Significance  1860

Significant Dates  1860  1860  1860

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  N/A

Cultural Affiliation  N/A

Architect/Builder  N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.
9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS) None

__ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
__ previously listed in the National Register
__ previously determined eligible by the National Register
__ designated a National Historic Landmark
__ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # __________
__ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # __________

Primary Location of Additional Data

X State Historic Preservation Office
__ Other State agency
__ Federal agency
__ Local government
__ University
__ Other

Name of repository: ____________________________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _0.86 ac_

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>292810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title _Kathleen Glynn_

organization _Kosky and Glynn Associates_ date _July 31, 1999_

street & number _7200 Hack Road_ telephone _517-423-5058 / 734-464-9034_

city or town _Saline_ state _MI_ zip code _48176_
Bradford House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township

Wayne County, MI

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name  Shawn L. Burton

street & number  48145 Warren Road              telephone_____________

city or town  Canton                               state  Mi  zip code  48187

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Description:

This house is a two-story, side gabled, Greek Revival style house. It has a symmetrical three-bay front facade. There is a wide cornice line with returns on the side gables. A brick chimney is located on the west facade. The windows are one-light-over-one. The front entry is composed of pilasters, abbreviated sidelights with wood panels below, and a simple entablature. A later concrete stoop and steps lead up to the door. Aluminum siding covers the clapboard walls. The foundation is composed of fieldstone. The roof is covered with French method shingles (diamond pattern). A one-story shed roof addition is located across the rear of the house and has a concrete block foundation. There is a glassed-in porch on the addition. There is also a small, one-story addition to the west facade with a concrete block foundation.

Site Description:

The property is currently 0.86 acres. The house faces north to Warren Road. It is located in the midst of subdivision development. A grass and gravel driveway leads from the road and curves back to the long garage. Four large spirea bushes dot the west side of the driveway, and a maple tree sits where the driveway curve begins. There is a huge old oak tree in the front yard. This is probably the oldest tree on the property and could be 100 - 150 years old. The yard is dotted in the front and back with evergreens, maple, birch, pine, and locust trees. None are of the size and girth of the huge oak. There are foundation plantings of evergreens and spirea around the house, with a bed of lily-of-the-valley in the west front corner of the house. The east property line is irregularly defined with a line of small trees and shrubs.

There is a c. 1915 milkhouse behind the house. It is constructed of rusticated cement block with a cement foundation and a hipped wood shingle roof. There is a doorway on the south façade and small windows on the east and west facades. It is in poor condition with the roof, windows, and door almost gone. The milkhouse is surrounded by several trees and shrubs.

An elongated three-bay garage is located near the west property line. It is constructed of cement blocks painted white on a cement foundation with an asphalt shingle roof. It has one modern garage door and two wood sliding doors. It was originally a tool house where farm machinery, trucks, and cars were repaired. It was built c. 1945.
Significance:

This property is significant because of its association with the early settlement of Canton Township. Canton pioneers Aruna and Mary Bradford, whose son Benjamin built this house, purchased the property in 1826. The Bradfords came from Monroe County, New York; their settlement reflected a typical pattern of settlement by people from New York to southeastern Michigan. This house is also significant because of its architecture. It is a fine example of a Greek Revival, side-gable farmhouse typical of the period 1840-1860. It has a beautiful Greek Revival doorway with entablature and sidelights. This was a very fine house and reflected growing affluence and a sense of pride as the early settlers moved from their humble beginnings to a more cultured way of life.

Moses Bradford was the first family member to patent land in Canton Township. He bought 160 acres in section 5 in 1825. His father, Aruna (Arunah), obtained the original patent to this property (80 acres, the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4, section 8) in 1826. The Bradford family was from Monroe County, New York. (Aruna also patented 80 acres in section 6 in 1827 and 40 acres in section 9 in 1831.)

In 1835, Aruna and his wife, Mary, sold the 80-acre parcel in section 8 to their other son, Benjamin, for $500. It is believed that this parcel must have had a house on it at the time (probably the small one story section that was later moved across Warren Road). Another 80 acre property, the Boldman's at 3339 Canton Center, sold in 1833 for $150.

Bela Hubbard accompanied Douglass Houghton on a geological survey of Michigan 1838-41. In September of 1838 he was traveling through Canton Township and mentions a Mr. Bradford in his Field Notes. Mr. Hubbard was very impressed with the ridge of land that runs diagonally across the western side of Canton Township, and the properties of both Moses and Benjamin were located on the ridge. Hubbard states in his field notes "Water is obtained on the ridge from wells, at a depth of 12 to 20 ft. (says Mr. Bradford) & is esteemed the best in the county. A well at Mr. Bradford's is 12 ft. ... through light gravel, water tolerably good & supply sufficient." He goes on to say that "Mr. B. says that in digging the well and cellar of the house, layers were struck of clean loose small gravel that fell in 'like shelled corn.'"

According to the 1850 census, Aruna was 69 years old, Moses was 47, and Benjamin was 37. Aruna and Mary were living with Benjamin and his family. In addition to this property, the 1850 tax rolls showed that Benjamin paid taxes on the 40 acres in section 9, and 77 acres in section 17 that Aruna had owned for a total acreage of 195, and total tax $14.40. By 1855 Benjamin also owned another 77 acres in section 5 next to Moses' land; total tax $30.49. The tax assessment remained almost the same through 1860, and then in 1861 tax for the same 4 parcels was $115.78 (the parcels in sections 8 and 5 have the highest valuation of $1000 each). This increase indicates a major improvement to the property, probably the present house was added. (In 1908 the original one-story section of the house was detached and moved directly across from the present house on Warren Road. It was later demolished.)
A comparison of the 1860 with the 1880 agriculture schedules of the census shows that Benjamin's total acreage remained about the same. The cash value of the land and that of the machinery and implements remained almost constant. The value of the livestock decreased markedly from $1709 in 1860 to $725 in 1880. Benjamin had 150 sheep producing 450 pounds of wool in 1860, and 22 sheep in 1880 with no wool production. He had 10 milch (milk producing) cows in 1860, and 2 in 1880. In 1860 he produced 1500 pounds of butter, and 2000 pounds of cheese. In 1880 butter production decreased to 450 pounds, and no cheese was produced. The amount paid in wages remained about the same. Wheat production increased from 60 bushels in 1860 to 200 bushels in 1880, but oat and Indian corn production in 1880 was about half of what it was in 1860.

Benjamin died in 1882. He was going through a gate on an ox cart near the barn. The wind swung the gate around and upset the cart, throwing Benjamin to the ground. The cart turned over, crushing him, and he died a few hours later. His wife inherited 1/3 of his property and the remainder was divided among his five children. His son, Albert, inherited this property, and Albert's twin, Herbert, inherited the land on the north side of Warren. Albert died in 1886 at age 40, followed eight years later by his wife, Janette, leaving their daughter, Sarah (13), an orphan. Her uncle, Herbert, who was also the executor of the estate, raised Sarah.

Linley Allen and Bertha Wiseley bought the 80 acre parcel from the Bradford family in 1911. Linley Allen Wiseley married Bertha Maude Bright in 1895. They became the parents of four sons and two daughters.

When the Wiseleys purchased the farm, it had a large barn and a granary barn. They built a milk house over the well. They raised hay, alfalfa, field corn and sweet corn, and also had mules, cows, chickens, and horses. The large barn burned ca. 1920, and they built another large barn to replace it. The granary (later called the shop) remained from the time of the Bradfords. (The granary was moved to the farm complex owned by Canton Township at 500 N. Ridge Road.)

Linley entered politics in 1915, and served as Canton Township supervisor between 1925 and 1932. Their daughter, Esther, was a teacher at the Hanford School. She married Warren Palmer in 1921, and they bought a farm at Beck and Hanford Roads. Esther and Warren had two sons, Russell and Richard, and they attended Hanford School where Esther had taught earlier.

In 1939 Warren and Esther purchased the farm on Warren Road from the Wiseleys. They modernized the house with indoor plumbing, and constructed an addition across the back of the house. The addition contained a kitchen, dining room, and a bathroom. By 1950 a concrete slab for a porch existed off the addition, and by 1960 the porch had a roof above it. The porch was enclosed after that, and a room was also added to the west facade.

When Warren and Esther's sons were old enough, they also helped on the farm. Russell, who was married in 1941, remembers a mule barn located near the shop (granary) at that time. He also remembers that the tool house (long garage) was built around 1945. Warren Palmer and Sons raised corn and were also dairy farmers. Warren sold corn wholesale to Kroger from 1925 to 1975. Esther's diaries have accounts of picking the corn and delivering it to Kroger, and also of Warren
loading the truck and taking the corn to the Detroit market. Warren and Esther kept records of the corn sales and prices at the request of MSU.

Richard Palmer married Joan Cavell of Plymouth in 1952, and they built a new home next door to his parents' home on Warren Road. A 1955 picture shows the farm with both of the houses, and a large barn to the south with two silos. The large barn had several subsequent small additions for more cows. There were two corncribs. One crib had an adjacent open area where a wagon or truck could be pulled through and the corn unloaded. The fertilizer storage barn was adjacent. The second corn crib was located west of the large barn; it had a cement floor and two trucks could be driven into it. There was also a refrigerated storage room.


After Warren's death, Russell and Richard continued to operate the farm as Palmer Brothers. They owned about 250 acres and rented another 50 acres on the north side of Warren Road. They usually planted about 150 acres of sweet corn and 150 acres of soybeans. They also maintained a large herd of dairy cows for many years. They raised Jersey cows rather than Holstein (as many of the neighboring farmers did), because although Holstein cows give more milk, the Jersey milk is higher in butterfat content, and the farmer was paid according to the butterfat. Around 1966 the Palmer Brothers had to decide to either cease dairy farming and use the land for corn, or greatly expand the dairy herd in order to be profitable. They chose to concentrate on corn and soybeans. By this time, the corn production was large enough that a semi-truck came to the farm, and backed up to the loading dock of the refrigerated building.

Dick and Joan Palmer had three children: Richard, Wendi, and Robert. Joan was the president of the Canton Historical Society. The family has diaries written by Bertha Wiseley and Esther Palmer recording the typical day to day life on a farm in the 1930's and '40's. Joan stated that Warren had a recollection of seeing the one story section of the house cut off and moved across Warren Road when he was a child (ca. 1908). It was used as a house for many years.

About 1990 the farmland was sold to a developer, but Russ and Dick continued farming until about 1992. Most of the outbuildings were taken down at that time, and Joan has a video of some of the demolition. At the time of the 1996 Intensive Survey the property contained the 1950's ranch house that Dick and Joan Palmer built and the 1860 Bradford House, in addition to the granary, milk house, tool building, and garage. In late 1996 the property was divided and this parcel contains only the 1860 house, the long garage, and the milk house - 0.86 acres. Shawn Burton purchased the property in December 1996. In 1997 the granary was moved to the site of a living history farm owned by Canton Township at 500 N. Ridge Road in Cherry Hill.
Boundary Description:

08D1A1A
PART OF THE NE1/4 SEC 8 T2S R8E
DESC AS BEG N 89DEG 36M 39S E
489.40FT AND S 00DEG 23M 21SEC W
60.01FT AND N 89DEG 36M 39S E
141.28FT FROM N ¼ COR OF SEC 8
TH N 89DEG 36M 39S E 158.72FT
TH S 00DEG 23M 21S W 229.99FT
TH S 89DEG 36M 39S W 170.33FT
TH N 00DEG 23M 21S E 64.87FT
TH N 11DEG 32M 46S E 59.97FT
TH N 00DEG 23M 21S E 106.44FT
POB
0.86ACRES

Boundary Justification:
The boundary of this site encompasses the entire property associated with this house.
THE ORRIN KINYON HOUSE SITE 4 - 7675 N. RIDGE
THE JOHN PATTERSON HOUSE SITE 7 - 6205 N. RIDGE
THE DAVID BOLDMAN HOUSE SITE 54 - 3339 CANTON CENTER RD.
THE THOMAS BARTLETT HOUSE SITE 82 - 500 RIDGE RD.
THE GEORGE SMITH HOUSE SITE 105 - 3704 SHELDON RD. S.
THE JOHN FISHER FARMSTEAD SITE 120 - 4896 SHELDON RD. S.
THE PHILLIP DINGLEDEY HOUSE SITE 145 - 1638 HAGGERTY RD.N.
THE SHELDON INN SITE 257 - 44134 MICHIGAN AVE.
BENJAMIN BRADFORD SITE 329 - 48145 WARREN RD.

KOSKY and GLYNN ASSOCIATES
Historic Preservation Consultants
JULY 30, 1999

Charter Township of Canton

Scale in Miles

By J. SABORIO
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinyon, Orrin and Roxanne Fairman, House</td>
<td>7675 Ridge Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patterson, John and Eliza Barr, House</td>
<td>6205 Ridge Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bartlett, Thomas and Maria Blackman, House</td>
<td>500 Ridge Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boldman, David and Elizabeth Bell, House</td>
<td>3339 Canton Center Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith , George Jr. and Mary,. House</td>
<td>3704 Sheldon Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheldon Inn</td>
<td>44134 Michigan Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisher, John and Edna Truesdell, House</td>
<td>4896 Sheldon Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dingledey, Phillip and Maria Hasselback, House</td>
<td>1638 Haggerty Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford, Benjamin and Mary Ann, House</td>
<td>48145 Warren Rd.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>