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## REFERENCE

## INTRODUCTION

The research of existing historic structures constitutes a first step towards identifying and protecting the intrinsic character of Independence Township. It consists of identifying and photographing historic structures, researching the structures, analyzing the research, and documenting the information uncovered.

The method used included documentation of on-site conditions, letters to property owners of identified structures, personal communication with resource people, research at Independence Township Library, Oakland County Register of Deeds, Pioneer Historic Society, Pontiac Public Library, and Independence Township Tax Records.

The visual and written research was analyzed and then recorded on Inventory Forms identifying the photographic views and documenting resources. A base map of Independence Township was also used to key the identified historic structures to their sites.

Independence Township was divided into six areas in order to identify the historic significance of each one. These areas are keyed to the inventory cards and the base map. The areas are: The Northwest Quadrant, Clinton River, Walter's Lake, Clarkston - Saginaw Trail, Pine Knob, and Sashabaw Plains. The Location of these areas are identified by the following Independence Township sections.

Northwest Quadrant contains part of sections 4, 9, and 16 and all of sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, and 18.

Clinton River contains part of sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 16, and 21.

Walter's Lake contains part of sections 3, 10, 13, 14, 15, and all of sections 1, 2, 11, and 12.

Clarkston - Saginaw Trail contains part of sections 19, 21, and 33, and all of sections 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, and 32.

Pine Knob contains sections 22, 23, and 24 in their entirety.

Sashabaw Plains contains sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36, and part of section 33.

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY  
6495 Clarkston Road  
Clarkston, Michigan 48346

December, 17 1990

Re: historic property located at:

xxxx xxxx  
Clarkston  
Michigan 48348

xxx xxxxxxx  
xxxx xxxxxxx  
Clarkston  
Michigan 48348

Dear Mr. xxxxxxx:

Independence Township has retained the office of Preservation Planning Inc. to identify and research historic structures in Independence Township. These buildings are a continual reminder of the rural atmosphere and character of Independence Township. They visually identify the continuum of time.

As an owner of an important structure we would like your assistance in documenting your building(s). We would appreciate information you have pertaining to the current and past ownership of your property. Please call Betty-lee Sweatt at Preservation Planning Inc. 851-7125 or send information to Independence Township % Joan E. McCrary, Township Clerk, 90 Main Street, Box 69, Clarkston, Michigan, 48016. Information we are looking for might include:

Abstracts  
Early maps identifying property  
Family photographs with structure  
Property deeds

Please notify us if we have, by mistake, used the wrong name for the indicated historic property.

During the next several weeks we will be calling you for additional information and a personal interview. We are looking forward to talking to you.

Most Sincerely,

Betty-lee Seydler-Sweatt

## Independence Township Inventory Form Terminology

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<b>Barn</b>	A farm building used for storing farm products and sheltering livestock.
<b>Church</b>	A place for public Christian worship.
<b>Contemporary House</b>	For the purpose of this study the term Contemporary House refers to building constructed within the last fifty years. It does not refer to a style of architecture.
<b>Farm</b>	Land cultivated for agricultural production. Land devoted to the raising and breeding of domestic animals.  Word History: The word farm is derived from the Latin <i>firmus</i> , "fixed", "firm" whose Medieval Latin form, <i>firma</i> , meant "fixed payment." The earliest sense of English farm is that of a fixed amount payable as a tax or rent. It was a common practice to lease agriculture lands for a fixed annual rent instead of a percentage of the crop. The word <i>farm</i> was also applied to land occupied on such terms. From the 16th century <i>farm</i> was used to indicate any cultivated agricultural land, regardless of circumstances of its tenancy or ownership.  For the purpose of this study the term "Farm" shall be used under the definition "Original Usage" if outbuildings still remain from the original farm. The term "Farm" shall be used under the definition "Present Usage" if the property is a working farm in 1991.
<b>Farmhouse</b>	A building used as a dwelling by one or more families on a farm.
<b>House</b>	A building used as a dwelling by one or more families.
<b>Land</b>	A tract of land that is owned but the owner is not living on the property.
<b>School house</b>	A building used as a school.
<b>Single-family Residence</b>	The place in which one family lives.
<b>Residence</b>	The place in which one lives.
<b>Silo</b>	A tall cylindrical structure in which grain is stored.

Reff: Webster's II, New Riverside University Dictionary, The Riverside Press Company, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2 Park Street, Boston, Mass. 1988.

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Betty-lee Seydler-Sweatt

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Independence Township

**From:** Richard K. Carlisle

**Date:** July 12, 1999

**Re:** Historical Sites Survey

Enclosed is a copy of the 1998 Independence Township Historic Sites Survey, stored on fourteen IBM formatted discs. Discs 1 through 12 contain the individual survey sheets for the one hundred and thirty-one properties identified in the survey. Disc 13 holds all of the supporting text for the survey, including the Site Index, Quadrants, Historical Context and Appendices A and B. Also included on disc 13 are the master pages used to create the individual survey sheets. The survey map, identifying all of the surveyed properties within the Township, is stored in bitmap format on disc 14.

While transferring the survey data onto IBM formatted discs, it was discovered that an address was typed incorrectly on the Site Index. Please replace the original Site Index found within your copies of the survey with the enclosed revised copies.