

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6315 Balmoral Terrace

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Clarkston
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residential

Ownership John L. Tuttle

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 5:16,17,18
View of Photo E,NE,NW
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 32-03
Sidwell No. 08-32-427-010



16. Residence (renovated barn)

Description Located on this site is a large barn with a gambrel roof that has been converted into a residence, a concrete block four-car garage with a gable roof and a concrete block storage building with a gable roof.

These are three of five farm buildings that appear to be apart of the Van Norman and/or Haass farms, and are now located with a subdivision on three adjacent properties (see also sites 32-02 & 32-04).

Date of Construction barn/house- 1970 (township tax records- probably a remodel date); concrete block structures-unknown
Condition barn/house-good, concrete block structures-good
Integrity barn/house-fair, concrete block structures-good

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6315 Balmoral Terrace
Page 2

Site No. 32-03
Sidwell No. 08-32-427-010



17. Multi-car garage



18. Cement block building (use unknown)

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 4750 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Oxford
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Kathryn Muresa

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 8:7A 4:3,4
View of Photo N W,S
Date of Photo 2/91 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 13-02
Sidwell No. 08-13-126-002



3. Residence

Description Five farm structures are located on the property including: a rubble stone outbuilding with a gable roof; a large wood frame barn, painted white with horizontal siding and a concrete block foundation; a small wood frame outbuilding with a gable roof and horizontal siding; a moderately sized outbuilding similar to the first two buildings describe; and a rubble stone wall about two feet high, possibly apart of the foundation of a barn. (Because access to the property was prohibited [locked gate] the descriptions of the farm structures were taken directly from the 1991 Historic Structures Survey).

Also located on the property, and observed during the 1998 survey, is a house (viewed and photographed at a considerable distance) and two stone entrance pillars, located along Clarkston Road.

Date of Construction house-1925 (1950 remodeled); farm structures-unknown
Condition all structures-unknown
Integrity all structures-undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

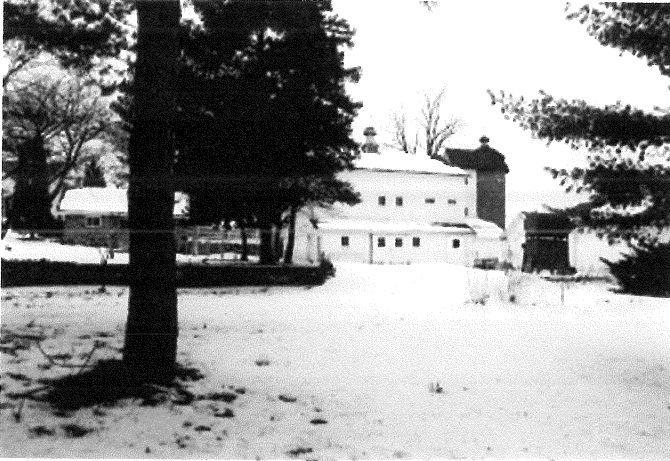
Significance This property was owned by the members of the Walter family from at least 1872-1908 (plat maps), for which Walters Lake was named. It is not know of any structures remain on the property from the time period in which the family farmstead was located on this property.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 4750 Clarkston Rd
Page 2

Site No. 13-02
Sidwell No. 08-13-126-002



7A. Barn complex and silo



4. Entrance

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 5460 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Oxford
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership James D. Gottschalk

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 4:5
View of Photo NE
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 14-03
Sidwell No. 08-14-302-025



Description Two-story square house with a gable roof, a cement foundation, anachronistic exterior siding and a covered porch with brick half-walls.

Date of Construction 1915
Condition good
Integrity undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 5535 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Oxford
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Paul C. Travis II

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 2:22,23
View of Photo NW,SW
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 15-03
Sidwell No. 08-15-476-005



23. Residence

Description The structure of this house has changed considerably since it was described in the WPA Properties Inventory in 1939. At that time, the house was a two-story structure with a rubble stone foundation and a gable roof. Attached to the main structure was a one-story wing. All additional sections have been added since 1939. The house is covered with anachronistic siding.

Also located on the site is a barn with a concrete foundation and gambrel roof, a tile silo and a small outbuilding, and a two-car detached garage.

The 1908 township plat map identified this site as the "Pine Knob Farm."

Date of Construction house-1930 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory - This date probably represents a remodel date, the stone foundation indicates that the structure is older than 1930); barn-1898 (remodeled in 1936); silo-1928; small outbuilding-unknown; garage-unknown

Condition house-good; barn-good; silo-fair (cap missing); small outbuilding-poor; garage-good
Integrity house-poor; barn-good; silo-fair; small outbuilding-poor; garage-good

Ownership History See Appendix B

Significance This site is significant as the farmstead of the Coon family. Issac D. Coon was one of the earliest settlers in the township, purchasing one hundred and twenty acres in section 15 by 1834. The property remained within the Coon family for over sixty years. Although it is possible, it is not known for sure if any of the structures on the site were constructed by the Coon family.

Bibliographic Reference Chapman Bros., *Portrait and Biographical Album of Oakland County, Michigan*. Chicago: 1891.

See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 5535 Clarkston Rd
Page 2

Site No. 15-03
Sidwell No. 08-15-476-005



22. Barn, silo and small outbuilding

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 5935 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Ortonville
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Office

Ownership Everest Academy

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:15
View of Photo N
Date of Photo 2/91

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 16-01
Sidwell No. 08-16-476-004



Description Gable-front-and-wing house with a rubble stone foundation, decorative window crowns and a one-story addition to the rear, built prior to 1939 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory). The house is partially covered with anachronistic siding and the front porch has replacement roof supports.

Date of Construction 1899 (remodeled in 1915)
Condition good
Integrity fair

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6211 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Clarkston
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Robert & Clarinda Coleman

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 1:9
View of Photo E
Date of Photo 1/91

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 21-01
Sidwell No. 08-21-251-006



Description Two-story rectangular house with a rubble stone foundation, a gable roof and a Tudor style entrance porch, probably a later addition. A flat-roofed addition stands to the east (with balustrades) and acts as a roof balcony. The house has anachronistic siding and windows.

Date of Construction 1885 (1991 survey-reference unknown), 1928 (WPA rural inventory, possibly a remodel date)
Condition good
Integrity undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic Londos, Mrs. (former owner). Personal communication. 1/7/91.
Reference Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6440 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Clarkston
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

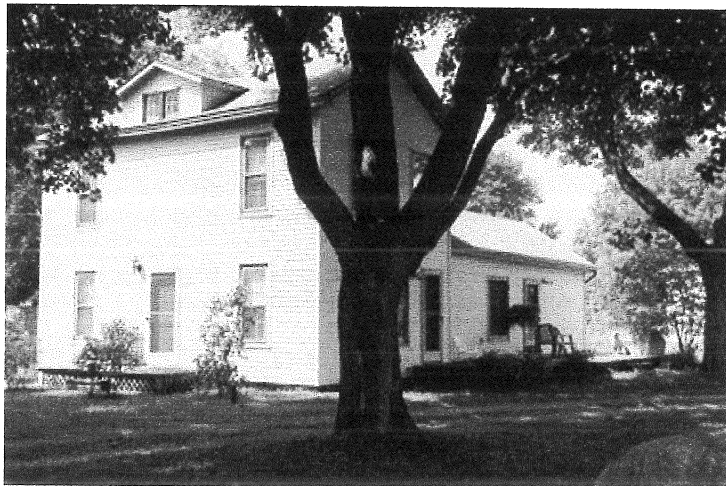
Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Clarkston Congregation of

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 5:5
View of Photo NW
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 21-02
Sidwell No. 08-21-151-026



Description Two-story house with a dormer window, anachronistic vinyl siding, and a one-story addition to the rear. The house does not resemble the floor plan drawn in the 1939 WPA Rural Properties Inventory. It is uncertain if this reflects major changes in the structure (i.e. two-story vs. one and one-half story), or if the wrong structure was identified in the 1939 rural inventory.

Date of Construction unknown
Condition good
Integrity undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6527 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Clarkston
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

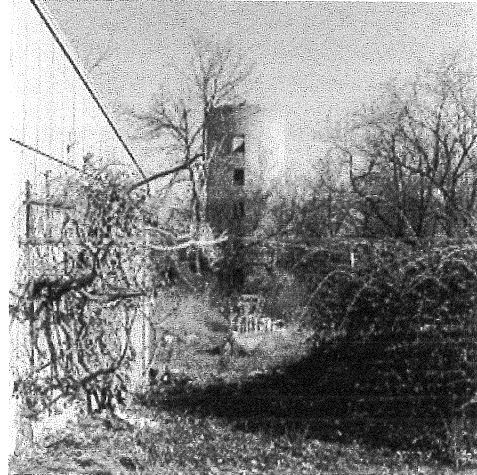
Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Suzanne Zanoti

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 1:6
View of Photo E
Date of Photo 11/90

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 20-02
Sidwell No. 08-20-427-001



Description Located on the site is a concrete silo and a rubble stone foundation of a barn, which has been incorporated into the construction of a contemporary house.

The farm house associated with these structures was located across the road (see site 20-01).

Date of Construction silo-unknown, barn-unknown
Condition silo-fair (no cap); barn-ruin
Integrity silo-fair; barn-poor

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic Reference Henry, Mrs. Robert (former owner). Personal communication. 1/24/91
Park, Robert & Margery. Personal communication. 1/21/91
Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6560 Clarkston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Clarkston
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Robert D. & Margery Parke

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 1:3
View of Photo N
Date of Photo 11/90

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 20-01
Sidwell No. 08-20-278-006



Description Two-story L-plan house with a stone foundation, two bay windows, and attenuated windows with decorative window crowns. The facade has two front-gables, with a decorative "S" located in the secondary gable (presumably for "Sibley", the family that owned the house in the late 1800s and early 1900s). The house has anachronistic siding, and several additions, built prior to 1939 (shown on the WPA Rural Properties Inventory).

The farm's barns and silos were located across the road from the house (see site 20-02).

Date of Construction 1884 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory), 1864 (1991 survey-reference unknown)
Condition good
Integrity good

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance The house is architecturally significant as a good example of the late 19th houses built within the township. It retains many of its original decorative features.

The site was also the property of Nelson Clark, who with his brother Jeremiah platted the first tract of land in Clarkston. It has not been determined whether the house was constructed during the time period when Nelson owned the property.

Bibliographic Reference Henry, Mrs. Robert (former owner). Personal communication. 1/24/91
Park, Robert & Margery. Personal communication. 1/21/91
Seeley, Thaodeus D., *History of Oakland County, Volume 1*. Chicago & New York: Lewis Publishing Company. 1912.
Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7785 Clement Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Clarkston
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Francis J. & Kellie M. Guibord

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 6:10
View of Photo SE
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 31-04
Sidwell No. 08-31-151-002



Description Gable-front-and-wing house with a rubble stone foundation. According the owner, the original configuration of the house has changed, due to a fire in the kitchen twenty years ago and subsequent reconstruction. Hand hewn rafters are found within the original section of the house. Anachronistic features include the decorative shutters and the exterior siding.

Also located on the site is the foundation of an outhouse (front of house), a dump area (front of house) and a foundation of a barn (maybe on adjacent property).

Date of Construction house-1880 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory), 1934 (township tax records, probably a remodel date); foundations-unknown

Condition house-good; farm structures-ruins
Integrity house-poor; farm structures-poor

Ownership History See Appendix B

Significance The site is significant as the location of the Miller farmstead. Paul Miller purchased the property as early as 1857 and the property remained in the Miller family for over seventy years.

Bibliographic Reference Guibord, Kellie. Personal communication. 8/98
Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 4680 Clintonville Rd
Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland
USGS Map Title Pontiac North
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Site No. 36-02
Sidwell No. 08-36-300-008

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Walter Napierski

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 11:20 4:35
View of Photo NE NE
Date of Photo 2/91 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998



20. Residence

Description Rectangular one and one-half story house with a gable roof, an enclosed porch, and a one-story addition to the south.

Also located on the property is an outbuilding with concrete half-walls and a gable roof.

Date of Construction house-1837 (remodeled in 1938); outbuilding-unknown
Condition house-good; outbuilding-fair
Integrity house-poor; outbuilding-undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic Reference Owners have original abstract and historic photos of the house.
Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 4680 Clintonville Rd
Page 2

Site No. 36-02
Sidwell No. 08-36-300-008



35. Barn

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 5840 Clintonville Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Pontiac North
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:6
View of Photo E
Date of Photo 9/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 26, 1998

Site No. 25-04
Sidwell No.



Description Gable-front-and-wing house with anachronistic siding.

Date of Construction unknown
Condition good
Integrity undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6150 Clintonville Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Pontiac North
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Summer house
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Margaret Bossert

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 2:36
View of Photo E
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 26, 1998

Site No. 25-02
Sidwell No. 08-25-100-005



Description One and one-half story rectangular house with a gable roof and a concrete post foundation. Anachronistic changes to the house since 1939 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory) include the enclosure of the front porch and the construction of a one-story addition to the south.

Date of Construction 1930
Condition good
Integrity fair

Site History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6480 Clintonville Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Pontiac North
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Janar Properties

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:8
View of Photo SE
Date of Photo 9/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 26, 1998

Site No. 25-03
Sidwell No. 08-25-100-001



Description The house has the basic shape and roof pitch of a side-gabled Greek Revival houses that were typically constructed throughout the township. Anachronistic changes to the structure including windows, decorative shutters, metal awnings and exterior siding.

Date of Construction unknown (An indication of a house on this property appears in the 1872 Atlas of Oakland County, Michigan.)

Condition good
Integrity poor

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6851 Clintonville Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Pontiac North
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Jonathan & Nancy Penvose

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 2:35
View of Photo NW
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 23-01
Sidwell No. 08-23-426-006



Description Front-gabled Greek Revival house. Anachronistic changes to the structure include a concrete foundation, an enclosed porch, decorative wood shutters, and aluminum siding and windows. The house lacks the wide trim band which typically emphasizes the cornice lines of Greek Revival houses.

Date of Construction house-1837, remodeled in 1913 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory)
Condition good
Integrity poor

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This house is significant as the home of the Beardslee family from 1836 until at least 1896 (plat maps). The property was purchased in 1836 by Benagar and James Beardslee, relatives of John W. Beardslee, the first person to purchase and settle land in the township.

Bibliographic Reference Everts, L. H. and Company, *History of Oakland County, Michigan*. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott and Company. 1877.

Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7531 Clintonville Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Oakland
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership Frederick J. Ecklund

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:9
View of Photo SE
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 26, 1998

Site No. 14-04
Sidwell No. 08-14-476-014



Description Two-story rectangular plan house with a concrete block foundation, a gable roof and a one-story addition to the rear. The house has anachronistic exterior siding.

Date of Construction 1875
Condition good
Integrity fair

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This site is significant as the John J (1834), Amos (1857-1896 plat maps) and the Mills V. (1908-1930 plat maps) Beardslee farmstead. The Beardslees were relatives of John W. Beardslee, the first person to purchase and settle land within the township.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7610 Clintonville Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Oxford
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage School house
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership James Dixon

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:10
View of Photo NE
Date of Photo 9/98

Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 13-04
Sidwell No. 08-13-301-015



Description Wood frame schoolhouse with many anachronistic changes including a concrete block chimney and aluminum window awnings and exterior siding.

Date of Construction ca. 1840
Condition good
Integrity fair

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This structure is significant as one of only two extant schoolhouses within the township. Hunter's School, as it was known, was the fourth school built in the township. In 1840 ninety dollars were raised by the citizens of Independence Township to construct this building; parents were assessed two cents each day that their children attended the school.

Bibliographic Reference Waddell, Richard Lee. *A Bicentennial Historical Sketch of Oakland Co.* Pontiac, Michigan. The Commission. 1976.

Seeley, Thaddeus D. *History of Oakland County.* Lewis Publishing Co. 1912

Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6850 Cranberry Lake Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Ortonville
Area Map Independence Fire Department
Street Address Map - 2/14/96

Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence

Ownership James D. Livermore

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 1:10
View of Photo N
Date of Photo 8/98

Surveyor/ Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 17-02
Sidwell No. 08-17-176-003



Description Two-story house with a concrete foundation, a gable roof and a covered front porch. The porch and the chimney, constructed of rubble stone, were probably renovations made during the 1920s or 1930s.

Also located on the property is a concrete block detached two-car garage with gambrel roof.

Date of Construction house-1890; garage-unknown
Condition house-good; garage-good
Integrity house-good;

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance The house is architecturally significant as a good example of an 19th century house that was updated in the early 20th century with local stone. These renovations reflect the increased use of stone as a decorative feature within the township during the 1920s and 1930s.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A