

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6494 Eastlawn Ave

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 Gordon Sample

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 6:15
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. 29-01
Sidwell No. 08-29-227-001



Description Located on this site is a cellar outbuilding, partially submerged in the earth. It has a rubble stone foundation and cedar shingle siding. A concrete block wall extends north from this structure.

Date of Construction unknown
Condition good
Integrity good

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This structure, if originally used for fruit storage, would be significant because of its association with the orchards which were historically found through out the township.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7701 Eston 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 & Kathleen Coates

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:11 2:25
View of Photo NW NW
Date of Photo 9/98 8/98

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

Site No. 13-03
Sidwell No. 08-13-301-043



2. Residence

Description Gable-front-and-wing Greek Revival house with a rubble stone foundation, a small recessed front porch and a one-story wing to the rear of the structure. Anachronistic changes to the house include the exterior siding, the loss of an original bell copula (on the one-story rear wing), and the loss of the wide trim band which typically emphasizes the cornice lines of Greek Revival homes.

Also located on the property is a large barn with a rubble stone foundation, a gable roof, and a ridge ventilator.

Date of Construction house-1850; barn-1850
Condition house-good; barn-good
Integrity house-fair; barn-good

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This site is significant because it contains two early farmstead buildings. The barn is architecturally significant because it was the only farm structure found within the township with an extant ridge ventilator.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7701 Eston Rd
Page 2

Site No. 13-03
Sidwell No. 08-13-301-043



25. Barn

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7870 Eston 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 Donald J. Campe
Photography
Roll: Frame No. 2:26,27,28,29
View of Photo E,NE,SE,W
Date of Photo 8/98
Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 13-01
Sidwell No. 08-13-400-003



26. Residence

Description Gable-front-and-wing Greek Revival house with a rubble stone foundation, wood siding and a small recessed porch. A one-story wing to the rear of the structure has a gable roof and a copula with bell (not photographed, see line drawing on page 3). Also located on the property are several outbuildings including: a small barn with gable roof and original decorative vergeboards (see line drawing on page 3), a stone well house with gable roof (stones not visible in photograph-due to vegetation), a wood frame outhouse, and a small drying crib. Mature trees and plantings surround these structures.

Date of Construction house-1850; barn-1837; well house-1850; outhouse-unknown; crib-unknown

Condition all structures-good

Integrity all structures-good

Ownership

History See Appendix B

Significance

This site is significant as the farmstead of Orsamus Beardslee. Beardslee (a relative of the first man to purchase land and settle it in the township-John W. Beardslee) arrived in Independence Township with his parents Aaron and Sarah Beardslee in 1832, first settling in the Sashabaw plains, and a year later making their home on this property in section 13. Orasmus' father died when he was thirteen leaving the responsibility of the family largely in his hands. By the time he was sixteen, he became the sole manager of the farm. In addition to being a farmer, Beardslee also served for seven years as the township supervisor and several years as a Justice of the Peace.

This site is also architecturally significant do to the age and historical integrity of the house, barn and pump house. All of these structures have retained a remarkable amount of their original features (assuming that the copula, bell and trim on the barn are original). It is also significant because it is one of the few properties in left in the township with its original farm house and multiple farm structures.

Bibliographic Reference

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

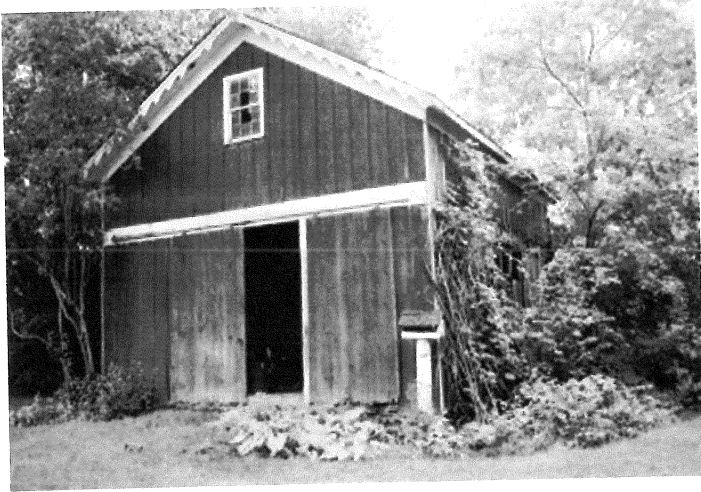
Chapman Bros., *Portrait and Biographical Album of Oakland County, Michigan*. Chicago: 1891

Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7870 Eston Rd
Page 2

Site No. 13-01
Sidwell No. 08-13-400-003



27. Barn



28. Outhouse & crib (in shadows)

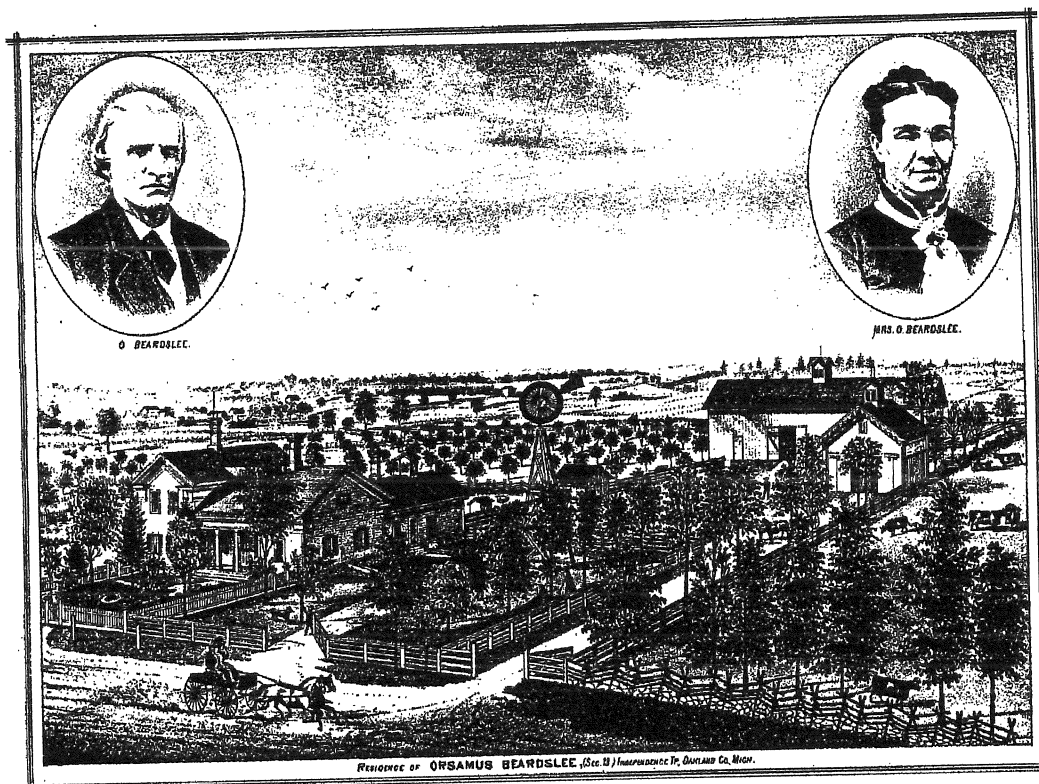


29. Well house (stone)

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7870 Eston Rd
Page 3

Site No. 13-01
Sidwell No. 08-13-400-003



Line Drawing of the Orasmus Beardslee farmstead, ca. 1877

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address	9160 Eston 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	Benjamin A. & Erin Rybicki
Photography	
Roll: Frame No.	3:33
View of Photo	E
Date of Photo	8/98
Surveyor/Date	D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date	D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 27, 1998

Site No. 12-01
Sidwell No. 08-12-200-015



Description Two-story rectangular house with three eyebrow windows, a rubble stone foundation, a one-story addition to the rear, and an attached garage. The description of the house in the WPA Rural Properties Inventory is significantly different from the present house, indicating many structural changes since 1939, or inaccurate reporting in the 1939 inventory. (The house described in the inventory was basically the same shape, however with only one and one-half stories.) Anachronistic changes to the house include an attached garage and exterior siding.

Date of Construction 1850 (WPA Properties Inventory), 1882 (township tax records)
Condition good
Integrity undetermined

Ownership History See Appendix B

Significance This house is significant as the home of Paul and Prudence Beardslee, family members of John W. Beardslee who was the first person to settle within the township, locating his farmstead in section 35 in 1826.

Bibliographic Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 9241 Eston Rd

Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland

USGS Map Title Oxford

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

Original Usage Farmland
Present Usage Clarkston Golf Club

Ownership

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 3:32
View of Photo NW
Date of Photo 8/98

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

Site No. 12-02
Sidwell No.



Description Nine-hole golf course and clubhouse. The clubhouse has a brick exterior and a flat roof.

Date of Construction clubhouse-1950; golf course-unknown
Condition clubhouse-good; golf course-good
Integrity clubhouse-good; golf course-undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This site is significant because of its association with Thendara Park Subdivision, developed in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 9662 Hadley 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 Michelle Ann Zielinski

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 7:19 2:16
View of Photo E SW
Date of Photo 9/98 8/98

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

Site No. 08-01
Sidwell No. 08-08-200-038



2. Residence

Description Two-story L-plan house with a granite foundation and double-hung attenuated windows with gabled lintels. The foundation from the house dates from 1853 and is the only surviving feature of the original house which burnt down sometime during the 1880s. A porch in the corner of the 'L' has decorative spindle-work and balustrades. A porch addition to the southwest of the house was made in 1988, and a two-story wing addition was made to the east in 1994.

Also located on the property is a barn with a gable roof and rubble stone and concrete foundation. Just to southwest of the house is a detached two-car garage.

Date of Construction house-1892, barn-1853, garage-unknown

Condition house-good; barn-good, garage-good

Integrity house-good (Although the recently completed addition has significantly alters the integrity of the house, the house is still considered to have good integrity because it is one of the few houses in the township with a significant amount of original exterior architectural embellishments.)

barn-good, garage-good

Ownership

History See Appendix B

Significance This property is significant because the house is a good example of the late 1800s architecture found within the township (despite the recent addition) and because of the barn, one of the oldest extant barns in the township.

Bibliographic Evo, William (former owner). Personal communication. 2/2/91

Reference Zielinski, Michelle Ann. Personal communication. 8/6/98

Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 9662 Hadley Rd
Page 2

Site No. 08-01
Sidwell No. 08-08-200-038



9. Barn

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 10300 Hadley 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 William & Charmaine Kunz

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 2: 4,5
View of Photo E, E
Date of Photo 8/98

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

Site No. 04-05
Sidwell No. 08-04-100-050



4. Residence

Description Front-gabled two-story Greek Revival house with a rubble stone foundation, a covered wrap-around porch and distinctive transom and side lights surrounding the front door. Anachronistic elements include aluminum siding and decorative shutters.

Several farm buildings are located on the property including two barns with gable roofs and a small concrete block outbuilding, possibly a well house or a milk house.

Date of Construction house-1875; barns-may date from ca. 1875. (A gable roofed barn 30x60' with stone foundation was identified on the WPA 1939 Rural Properties Inventory.)

Condition house-good; barns-fair.

Integrity house-good; main barn-good; secondary barn-fair (garage door addition).
farm landscape-good (mature plantings, several farm structures, rural road).

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance The house is significant as a good example of Greek Revival architecture found within the township. The distinctive transom and side lights surrounding the front door and the wrap around porch are original Greek Revival features found on only a few houses within the township.

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 10300 Hadley Rd
Page 2

Site No. 04-05
Sidwell No. 08-04-100-050



5. Two barns and small concrete block building (E)

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7300 Holcomb 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 Michael Mosharo

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

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

Site No. 20-03
Sidwell No. 08-20-101-001



Description Rectangular plan house with a stone foundation. Anachronistic elements include decorative shutters and a window dormer. A photo ca. 1890 indicated a covered front porch.

Date of Construction 1865 (township tax records), 1918 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory-probably an remodel date)
Condition fair
Integrity poor

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic Radcliff, Jennifer (ed.). Heritage: A Pictorial History of Independence Township and the Village of Clarkston.
Reference Clarksonton, Michigan: Clarkston Community Historical Society: 1976.

Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7755 Holcomb 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 A. O'Neill

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 12:4
View of Photo W
Date of Photo 2/91

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

Site No. 18-04
Sidwell No. 08-18-376-004



Description Two-story neoclassical house with a front portico recessed under the front roof. The 1991 survey indicated that there was one large barn with a gambrel roof and two smaller barns with gable roofs located to the west of the house. These structures were not observed from the road during the 1998 survey.

Date of Construction 1903 (township tax records); barns-ca.1920 (1991 survey-reference unknown)
Condition house-good; barns-unknown
Integrity house-good; barns-unknown

Ownership History See Appendix B

Significance The house is architecturally significant as a good example of the neoclassical style of house built within the township during the early 1900s.

The property is also potentially significant as the site of one of Henry Ford's experimental farm. This information was obtained from Richard Powe, a resident of the township. Further investigation would be necessary to confirm this information.

Bibliographic Powe, Richard. Personal communication. September 1998.

Additional references: see Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6800 Hubbard 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
& business (Selmar Farms)

Ownership Maria J. Baylis

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 15:23A
View of Photo NE
Date of Photo 2/91

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

Site No. 08-04
Sidwell No. 08-08-300-021



Description A two-story house, with a gable roof, a board and batten exterior, and a rubble stone chimney. It appears that many alterations and additions have been made to this building. A closer inspection is necessary to determine the age and integrity of the house.

Date of Construction 1840 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory); 1976 (township tax records, possibly a remodel date)
Condition good
Integrity undetermined

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance Undetermined

Bibliographic
Reference See Appendix A

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 6801 Hubbard

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 Mark S. & Joy Easley

Photography
Roll: Frame No. 1:33
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. 17-01
Sidwell No. 08-17-126-014



Description Gable-front-and-wing house with a stone foundation. Anachronistic features include aluminum siding, an attached two-car garage and the extension of the front covered porch. Original turned porch supports have been replaced with simple square supports.

Date of Construction 1885
Condition good
Integrity fair

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance The house is significant as the house of George Urch. Urch was born in Bristol England in 1829 and traveled with his parents to America in 1835. His family was among the first settlers in the township. The Urch family owned the property that the house is located on for at least fifty years.

Bibliographic Reference Chapman Bros., *Portrait and Biographical Album of Oakland County, Michigan*. Chicago: 1891.
Additional references: see Appendix A