Michigan SHPO Architectural Properties Identification Form

Property Overview and Location

Street Address	135 North Main Street				
City/Township, State, Zip Code	Clarkston, Michigan 48346				
County	Oakland				
Assessor's Parcel #	14-08-20-328-003				
Latitude/Longitude (to the 6th decimal point)	Lat: 42.739910	Long: -83.420891			
Ownership	Private ☒	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Public-Federal ☐	Multiple ☐

Property Type

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Building ☒ select sub-type below Commercial ☐ Residential ☒ Industrial ☐ Other ☐	Structure ☐ Object ☐



Architectural Information

Construction Date	c 1905	
Architectural Style	Queen Anne	
Building Form	Rectangular	
Roof Form	Front Gable	
Roof Materials	Asphalt Shingles	
Exterior Wall Materials	Clapboard	
Foundation Materials	Fieldstone	
Window Materials	Wood	
Window Type	Double Hung	
Outbuildings	Yes ☒	No ☐
Number/Type:	1/Garage	

Eligibility

Individually Eligible	Criterion A ☐	Criterion B ☐	Criterion C ☐	Criterion D ☐
Criteria Considerations:	a. ☐ b. ☐ c. ☐ d. ☐ e. ☐ f. ☐ g. ☐			
Component of a Historic District	Contributing to a district ☒	Non-contributing to a district ☐	Historic District Name:	Clarkston Historic District
Not Eligible ☐				

Area(s) of Significance	Domestic Architecture and Historic Community Connection					
Period(s) of Significance	1832-1970					
Integrity – Does the property possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?						
Location ☒	Design ☒	Materials ☒	Workmanship ☒	Setting ☒	Feeling ☐	Association ☒
General Integrity:	Intact ☒	Altered ☐	Moved ☐	Date(s):		
Historic Name	Taylor, Austin					
Current/Common Name	Steele, Nicole					
Historic/Original Owner	Taylor, Austin					
Historic Building Use	Single Family					
Current Building Use	Single Family					
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Unknown					
Builder/Contractor	Unknown					

Survey Date	November 5, 2022	Recorded By	Michael Moon	Agency Report #	

For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N	Date:

Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the property, including all character defining features and any accessory resources.

The house at 135 North Main Street faces east on the west side of Main Street and backs up on the Clinton River Watershed Lower Mill Pond. The house is facing the starting point of Clarkston Road at North Main Street. On the north end of the east (front) elevation is a two-story three-sided tower with a steeply pitched roof. The gable has fish scale shingles and a wide overhang of the tower with exposed rafter ends. In the center of the gable is a large, square spider web window. Each of the two levels has three one-over-one double hung window evenly spaced around the tower. A chimney is visible from the east elevation.



(east elevation)

To the south of the tower on the second level is another one-over-one double hung window. The front door is solid wood with four narrow sidelights on each side and a white arched pediment.

The orignal section of the north elvation has three double hung windows (one-over-one) on the second lelvel. The first floor has two one over one double hung windows directly below the windows toward the west on the second floor. There is a smaller windows directly below the window on the west side of the second level. The one-story westerly addition with a low-pitched asphalt shingled roof with a double hung window (one-over-one) and a doorway leading to the garage. A chimney is visible on the north elevation of the one-story addition.

The central (east facing) windows of the tower and the one above the front door appear to be one-third over two-third. The front door is approached on the south by four cement and stone steps with a cement and stone porch landing. There is a single wood handrail on the east side of the steps and a single wrought iron balustrade around the small porch.

To this point, all of the windows have a simple hood mold.



(north elevation)

The two car garage is on the north side of the house


(southeast elevation)

The south elevation orignal portion of the house has two large double hung windows (one third -over-tow thirds) near the east end, one on each level, vertically aligned. Therre is a third, smaller double hung one over one window to the west partially below the second floor and above the first (proably in a stairwell). West of the windows is a second tower almost identical to the first but with a louvered gable vent but no window in the gable. All of the windows are the same as the east elevation tower. On the west facing side of the tower, there is a single one over one double hung window on the first level.

There appear to be two consecutive additions in the westerly direction. The first is one and one-half story and joins behind the tower near the last described window. On this south elevation, there is a first level group of three containing a large, square central window flanked on each side by a small double hung window. Immediately to the west is a second single level addition that begins with a wood door having a single square glass pane in the top one-fourth. To the west are two pairs of vertical, rectangualr casement windows. Then near the west end of the addition a set of sliding glass doors. The only visible portion of the west elevation is the gable end of the westerly addition with a large set of sliding glass doors exiting onto a deck surrounded by wood balustrade that continues on both side of several steps descendign to the back yard. The deck has diamond shape wood lattice skirting.

The south elevation of the additon on the east elevation has a solid wood door with a single pane glass in the top one-fourth. There are two steps from the entrance to the side yard. There is a pair of casement windows and a large glass sliding doorway overlooking the gardens alomg the south elevation. These openings are not completely visible due to large bushes.


(southwest elevation)

The only visible portion of the west elevation is the gable end of the westerly addition with a large set of sliding glass doors exiting onto a deck surrounded by wood balustrade that continues on both sides of several steps descending to the backyard overlooking the Clinton River Watershed Lower Mill Pond. The deck has diamond shaoped wood lattice skirting.

This orignal house has a nearly identical twin (130 North Main Street) at an angle across the street on the corner of North Main Street and Clarkston Road.

History of the Resource

Provide information on previous owners, land use, construction and alteration dates in a narrative format. This is required for all intensive level surveys and designation and recommended for other identification efforts.

The house was built for or by Austin Taylor in 1905. The Oakland County Post (8/29/1905) reported "With the near completion of the two new Reese houses on upper Main Street (122 and 130 North Main) in the village the boom in the building line is continuing by the beginning of a new home for A. J. Taylor, just across the street from the Reese property." The Clarkston Village Map of 1908 clearly shows a structure at this address. Taylor was Justice of the Peace in 1907 – 1911 and was involved in the building of a town hall in 1910.

Originally the front door was positioned on the southeast corner, covered by a front porch that wrapped around from the middle of the south elevation to the middle of the east elevation.



(date unknown southeast elevation)

In 1952 the L-shaped porch on the southeast corner of the house along with the diagonally placed front door were removed and a street facing front porch (east elevation) and entryway were added. In 1972, a utility room and family room replaced the deteriorated attached garage (c 1940) on the west elevation. In 1974, a detached garage was built on the north side of the house.



(1989 southeast elevation)



(1989 northeast elevation)

Barbara (12/18/19 – 4/6/2010) and Ted (1918 – 6/10/1987) Thomson lived in the house starting in the 1950s. Ted served two terms as Clarkston Village Council President (1957 and 1959), was a member of the planning commission, the zoning board of appeals, and Independence Township Solid Waste Committee. Ted retired as executive vice president of world headquarters for Ford Motor Company. Barbara was also active in the community. She was a member of the Clarkston Planning Commission and the Clarkston Farm and Garden Club. When Mrs. Thomson left her home in Clarkston (fall of 2008), she donated the home to the Clarkston Community Historical Society and Heritage Museum.

Leif Batell and his wife Nicole Steele purchased the home in 2009. Nicole was familiar with the house since her father used to house sit and mow the lawn while Barb Thomson traveled.

Statement of Significance/Recommendation of Eligibility

Provide a detailed explanation of the property's eligibility for the National Register, including an evaluation under at least one of the four criteria, discussion of the seven aspects of integrity, and recommendations about eligibility. <u>This is required for all properties</u>.

The house was built during the time Clarkston Village was expanding and places for families to live were needed. Although changes have been made, the house retains significant historic architectural details and holds integrity in multiple aspectsto remain as a contributing resource to the Clarkston Historic District. It was home to individuals very important to the community during the twentieth century.

References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

(1) Independence Township Tax Assessment book of 1871;
(2) 1908 map of Clarkston, *Atlas of Oakland County;*
(3) *Clarkston News April 1, 2009* "Couple owns a piece of Clarkston history" article by Kathleen Quandt;
(4) Research done using the grant funding obtained by Mollie Lynch, Library Director 1991 – 2005 and researched by Susan K. Basinger;
(5) *Clarkston News June 17, 1987* "Ted Thomson leaves legacy of better town" article by Julie Campe;
(6) BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM, Michigan History Division, completed December 15, 1975 by Betty Galligan;
(7) Old photos from Cara Catallo.