Michigan SHPO Architectural Properties Identification Form

Property Overview and Location

Street Address	149 North Main Street				
City/Township, State, Zip Code	Clarkston, Michigan 48346				
County	Oakland				
Assessor's Parcel #	14-08-20-181-009				
Latitude/Longitude (to the 6th decimal point)	Lat: 42.740130	Long: -83.420610			
Ownership	Private ☒	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Public-Federal ☐	Multiple ☐

Property Type

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

(Insert primary photograph below.)



Architectural Information

Construction Date	c 1880
Architectural Style	Greek Revival
Building Form	Rectangular
Roof Form	Front Gable
Roof Materials	Asphalt Shingles
Exterior Wall Materials	Aluminum Siding
Foundation Materials	Fieldstone
Window Materials	Vinyl
Window Type	Double Hung
Outbuildings	Yes ☐ No ☒
Number/Type:	

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	None					
Current/Common Name	Kuhn, Mary Ransom					
Historic/Original Owner	VanSyckle, George W.					
Historic Building Use	Single Family					
Current Building Use	Single Family					
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Unknown					
Builder/Contractor	Unknown					

Survey Date	10/20/2020	Recorded By	Nancy 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.

This Greek Revival style structure sits on the west side of North Main Street and backs up to the Clinton River Watershed Lower Mill Pond. The two-story wood frame house (on the north end) has a front gable with both floors having two windows four-over-four double hung with black shutters on the front (east) elevation. A brick chimney is visible near the north edge of the gable on north elevation.



(east elevation)

There is a single-story shingled hipped roof south wing as part of the east elevation. There is a total of five porch pillars (each consisting of two small circular columns) with a decorative capital and a square base. There are three pillars across the east elevation and two pillars on the south elevation creating a wraparound front porch. The entrance to the house is on the east elevation with a four over four double hung window with dark colored shutters on each side. Two steps lead to the wooden floor and solid wood six panel door. On the south elevation of the two-story portion of the house inside the porch is a stationary four light window. On the south elevation of this addition inside the porch is another four over four double hung window.



(east elevation – south wing)



(south elevation)

The south elevation west of the porch has a stationary twelve pane (four by three) window with black shutters; further west is a tall slender four-over-one double hung window with black shutters. The house continues further west but unable to get a good view. A tall brick chimney is visible in the hipped roofline.



(north elevation)

The north elevation has a prominent brick chimney near the east end. On the west side of the chimney is a four over four

double hung window with dark colored shutters on each floor vertically aligned. The driveway along the north side of the house leads to an attached garage on the west elevation.

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 1860 and 1872 maps of the Village of Clarkston identify George W. VanSyckle as owner – no footprint of a building; the 1908 map identifies Frank King estate (7/2/1865 – 6/24/1905) with a footprint of a rectangular structure. Based on historical tax records it appears the house was constructed between 1877 and 1885. By 1929 the ownership was J. S. & E. A. Seeterlin and Frank Leonard. Mr. Leonard (11/11/1876 – 11/9/1952) lived in Clarkston for 45 years first as a bakery owner, then with the changing economy he began servicing Ford and Buick automobiles in the early 1920s.



(date unknown - probably the 1930s – east elevation)



(date unknown – probably the 1930s) – south elevation)



(date unknown – probably the 1930s – west elevation)

Harold (9/12/1929 – 2/17/2009) and Norma (12/2/1931 – 7/24/2011) Goyette owned and operated the Goyette Funeral Home in Clarkston for 43 years next door at 155 North Main Street while living in this house. Mr. Goyette served in the Korean War, president of Clarkston Rotary and Michigan Funeral Directors Association District Six, member of the American Legion, Cedar Lodge #60 F. & A. M., and a volunteer fireman with the Independence Township Fire Department.

Mary Ransom Kuhn purchased the home in 1995 from the Goyette's. In December 2004, the house caught fire which destroyed all of the home furnishings; the insurance company recommended that the house be torn down, but the Clarkston Historic District Commission refused since the structure of the house remained. The historical documents related to the house were destroyed in the blaze. Within nine months the inside was once again livable. The first floor was recreated with the historic look of wide baseboards, trim moldings, and fireplace mantel recreated.



(date unknown – east elevation)



(date unknown – north elevation)

The original BUILDING -STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM for the Michigan History Division (completed December 10, 1975) reported aluminum siding over clapboard and a separate garage. The garage is now connected to the back of the house via a breezeway and easily distinguished as a different architectural style.

In 2001, 17 existing windows were replaced with Wallside vinyl windows of the same dimensions and number of panes.

In 2015 the front porch (east elevation) was restored using like-for-like materials and staying with the same design.

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. This is required for all properties.

This structure is another example of a Greek Revival home built in the Village. Overall, despite some changes the house retains its historic architectural details and holds sufficient integrity in several aspects to remain as a contributing resource to the Clarkston Historic District.

References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

(1) Independence Township Tax Assessment book of 1871;
(2) 1872 and 1860 maps of Clarkston, *Atlas of Oakland County*;
(3) Research done using the grant funding obtained by Mollie Lynch, Library Director 1991 – 2005 and researched by Susan K. Basinger;
(4) *The Clarkston News* 1952 November 13 article "Frank Leonard Succumbed Sunday";
(5) *The Clarkston News* 2009 February 25 obituary for Harold A. Goyette;
(6) *The Clarkston News* 2011 July 27 obituary for Norma G. Goyette;

(7) *Home Tour Clarkston Scamp Silver Anniversary Edition 1983-2007;*
(8) BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM, Michigan History Division, completed December 10, 1975 by Betty Galligan;
(9) Clarkston Historic District Certificate of Appropriateness dated July 23, 2001 for 149 North Main Street;
(10) Old photo from Cara Catallo and Geraldine House (her parents owned the house in the 1930s).