Michigan SHPO Architectural Properties Identification Form

Property Overview and Location

Street Address	62 North Main Street				
City/Township, State, Zip Code	Clarkston, Michigan 48346				
County	Oakland				
Assessor's Parcel #	14-08-20-402-023				
Latitude/Longitude (to the 6th decimal point)	Lat: 42.737770	Long: -83.418230			
Ownership: Private X	Public-Local ☐	Public-State ☐	Public-Federal ☐	Multiple ☐	

Property Type

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

(Insert primary photograph below.)



Architectural Information

Construction Date	c. 1850	
Architectural Style	Greek Revival	
Building Form	Irregular	
Roof Form	Front Gabled	
Roof Materials	Asphalt Shingles	
Exterior Wall Materials	Clapboard	
Foundation Materials	Fieldstone	
Window Materials	Wood	
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						
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 X	Altered ☐	Moved ☐	Date(s):			
Historic Name	M. H. Clark Home						
Current/Common Name	Knapp, Kevin and Howell, Melissa						
Historic/Original Owner	Clark, Milton H and Hannah						
Historic Building Use	Single Family/Multi Family						
Current Building Use	Single Family						
Architect/Engineer/Designer	Original Unknown; 1937 architect was J. K. Burns of Rochester, MI						
Builder/Contractor	Unknown						

Survey Date	May 24, 2022	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 house sits on the east side of North Main Street and backs up onto Parke Lake.



(west elevation)

The two-story original portion of the Greek Revival house has a front-gabled roof with wide trim (undecorated boards) with two twelve-over-twelve double hung windows with dark colored shutters on both floors on the north side of the front door. The windows are aligned vertically. The upper two begin in the open pediment. The front door has narrow sidelights (three) with transom light of multiple divided lites above. The door is framed by classical pilasters. Above the door is a broken pediment with a stylized pineapple carving in the opening. This figure has been used as a symbol of welcome and hospitality since the 18th century in Colonial America. The sides of the pediment are lined with dentilation. From the small concrete slab front porch supported by fieldstones, there are three steps down to the flagstone walkway.



(west elevaton)

There is a single level south wing with a low pitch hipped roof. Slightly more than one half the length (north end of this section) is occupied by a recessed porch. The porch opening is supported by two doric style columns in the center with a similar pilaster at each end. There is dentilation the entire length under the eaves. On the porch there are three evenly spaced windows facing west, all double hung nine over nine. Each end window (north and south) has dark shutters. The middle window has no shutters. This window had been a door when this was a two-family house and converted to a window in 1937 when it became a single-family residence.

At the south end of the one-story west elevation (outside the porch) is an eight over twelve double hung window with dark colored shutters. The south wing has a tall prominent chimney.



(entrance on the west elevation)



(north elevation – looking east)

The two-story north elevation has a prominent chimney (chimney is wider at the bottom than at the top that extends through the roof overhang feet above the roofline) toward the east end. On the east side of the chimney on the first floor is a fifteen over fifteen double hung window with dark colored shutters. There is no window on the east side of the chimney on the second floor. On the west side and next to the chimney on the second floor is a ten over ten double hung window directly above an eight over eight double hung window. Both windows have dark shutters, but the windows are different sizes. In the middle of the second floor on the north elevation and west of the chimney is another six over six double hung window with dark colored shutters. Toward the west end of the second floor is an eight over eight double hung window with dark colored shutters.

On the north elevation on the first floor continuing west from the eight over eight double hung window next to the chimney is a pair of eight over eight double hung windows with dark colored shutters. Next to the pair of windows on the west is another six over six double hung window with dark colored shutters. Directly below the window toward the west end on the second floor is another twelve over twelve double hung window with dark colored shutters.

There is dentilation of the cornice under the eaves along the entire north elevation.



(north elevation – looking west))



(south elevation looking east)

Moving east along the south elevation from the southeast corner the first window is eight over twelve double hung with dark colored shutters and continuing east is another six over six double hung window with dark shutters. Next is the canted bay with an eight over twelve double hung window on both the east and west ends and a pair of ten over fifteen double hung windows on the south side. Below the windows is wood paneling. The bay roof is shed-like extension of the south elevation roof. Continuing east along the south elevation is a grouping of three small roll out windows two over three with dark colored shutters. Next comes a wooden door with a three-by-three glass pane in the top one half of the door. On the east side of the door is a double hung window six over six with dark colored shutters. At the east end of the south elevation is the attached garage with one window ten over ten with dark colored shutters.

Dentilation is present on the cornice along the entire south elevation including the attached garage.



(south elevation)



(south elevation looking west)



(east elevation – south end – two car garage)

The additions to the north and south ends of the house have created a courtyard in the east elevation. On the south end of the courtyard is a two-car garage with a side gable. The north elevation of this south extension to create a courtyard going from east to west has a series of windows. The garage has a ten over ten double hung window with dark colored shutters. Continuing west are two one over one double hung windows then a doorway entrance to the house. Then there are four more one over one double hung windows.

The east elevation of the center of the two extensions has four glass floor to ceiling panels some of which are doors. On the first story roof is another small wooden area with a small, narrow, horizontal window next to the two-story portion of the north extension.



(east elevation)

The north extension of the courtyard is two stories with an open pediment gable. On the second floor are four windows next to each other, the two in the middle are eight over eight and the windows on the side are each six over six. All windows are double hung. On the southside of this second floor are tow small single pane windows. The first floor is a large, canted bay covering the entire east facing end of this addition, with twelve over twelve double hung windows on each side and two fifteen over fifteen double hung windows in the middle.

History of the Resource

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

The 1872 map of Clarkston shows a building footprint with a name of M.H. Clark. The property line backs up to Parke Lake. The northwest corner of Main and West Washington Streets (now a parking lot) was the site of Milton Clark's general store in 1844 named Clark & Stearns, later just Clark. Milton Clark loved politics and invited friends to the house on election night to await the results of Grover Cleveland's reelection in 1892. Mr. Clark raced upstairs from hearing the vote tallies when Cleveland won the election. Milton reached the top of the stairs to share the news; he collapsed and died of a heart attack. Mr. Clark remained a general merchandise and hardware merchant until his death. The Clark family retained ownership until the house was sold in 1937.



c. 1855 Milton H. Clark (1820-1892), Grandson Milton (1875-1937), wife Hannah (1824-1896), daughter Josephine (1863-1931)

In 1937 Mr. and Mrs. Ernest V. Squier owned the property and the first thing they did was remove the Victorian Porch across the front that had been added during the Victorian Era to beautify the house. The façade was returned to as close to its original appearance as possible. They also converted the house to a single-family residence. The two basements were tunneled together and approached from the outside door at ground level. The south end of the house was siding over studs (used as a summer cottage) so the Squier family scouted around the country to find original narrow siding to finish the exterior and old timbers to complete the remodeling. It should also be noted at this time there was no landscaping along Parke Lake.



(west elevation – 1937)

An addition was added to the rear of the single (south) wing to include a kitchen, utility closet, a maid's room, and a small bathroom. Sometime later, a two-car garage was added to the end of that wing.



(northwest elevation – 1955)



(west elevation – 1989)



(northwest elevation – 1989)

Ernest V. Squier and Carma M. Squier sold the house to Ronald E. Spohn and Helen C. Spohn in March 1945. The house was sold to James C. Hitchcock and Janette M. Hitchcock on a land contract in June 1970. James Hitchcock enjoyed sailing his sunfish in Deer Lake and Parke Lake behind the house. James was the traffic manager of Ford Motor Company, and he served as division chairman of the 1971 Torch Drive. Kevin Knapp and Melissa Howell (the granddaughter of previous owners Ronald and Helen Spohn) purchased the home from James Hitchcock in October 2017. Kevin Knapp is currently secretary of the Village of Clarkston Planning Commission.

In 2019, a second story was added to the 1937-era north wing of the house. An existing screened-in porch and connecting breezeway were incorporated into the existing footprint of the house, and screens were replaced by double-hung windows.

The current owners, Kevin Knapp and Melissa Howell, in 2022 replaced the fence along the north elevation beginning at the northeast corner of the structure.

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>.

This structure is another example of a Greek Revival home built in the mid-1850s. Overall the house retains its historic architectural details and holds sufficient integrity all seven aspects to remain as a contributing resource to the Clarkston Historic District. The original owners Milton and Hannah Clark were prominent citizens in Clarkston and built one of the first general merchandise and hardware stores in the village.

Although some additions have included Greek Revival details, other aspects such as windows allow differentiation from the original. Some changes have been by now gained historical significance of their own.

References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property.

(1) Independence Township Tax Assessment book of 1871;
(2) 1872 map 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) Emil Lurch/Lorch comments on this house in 1934. He suggested this house plus structures at 76 North Main and 58 North Main were built about the same time;
(5) *Clarkston A Michigan Legacy Preserved* Clarkston Community Historical Society;
(6) A personal letter written May 5, 1973 from Mrs. Ernest Squier to Mrs. Hitchcock;
(7) *Images of America Clarkston* Cara Catallo for the Clarkston Community Historical Society 2015;
(8) *Heritage,* Philadelphia: L.H. Everts & Co., 1877 Edited by Jennifer L. Radcliff;
(9) Photos and information from the current homeowners Kevin Knapp and Melissa Howell plus Cara Cattalo;
(10) BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM, Michigan History Division, completed October 29, 1975 by Betty Galligan;
(11) *Clarkston News 1971 September 23* article “Hitchcock named U. F. chairman”;
(12) Clarkston Historic District Certificate of Appropriateness dated November 13, 2018, for 62 North Main Street;
(13) Clarkston Historic District Certificate of Appropriateness dated April 24, 2022, for 62 North Main Street.