

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

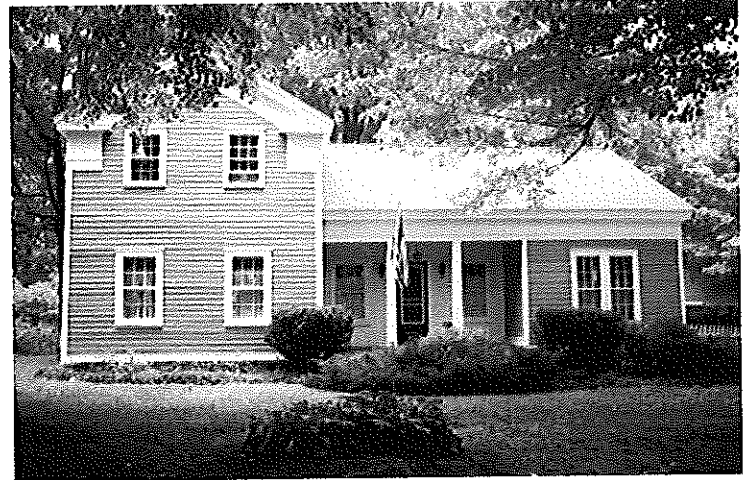


25. Barn

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



27. Barn



28. Outhouse & crib (in shadows)

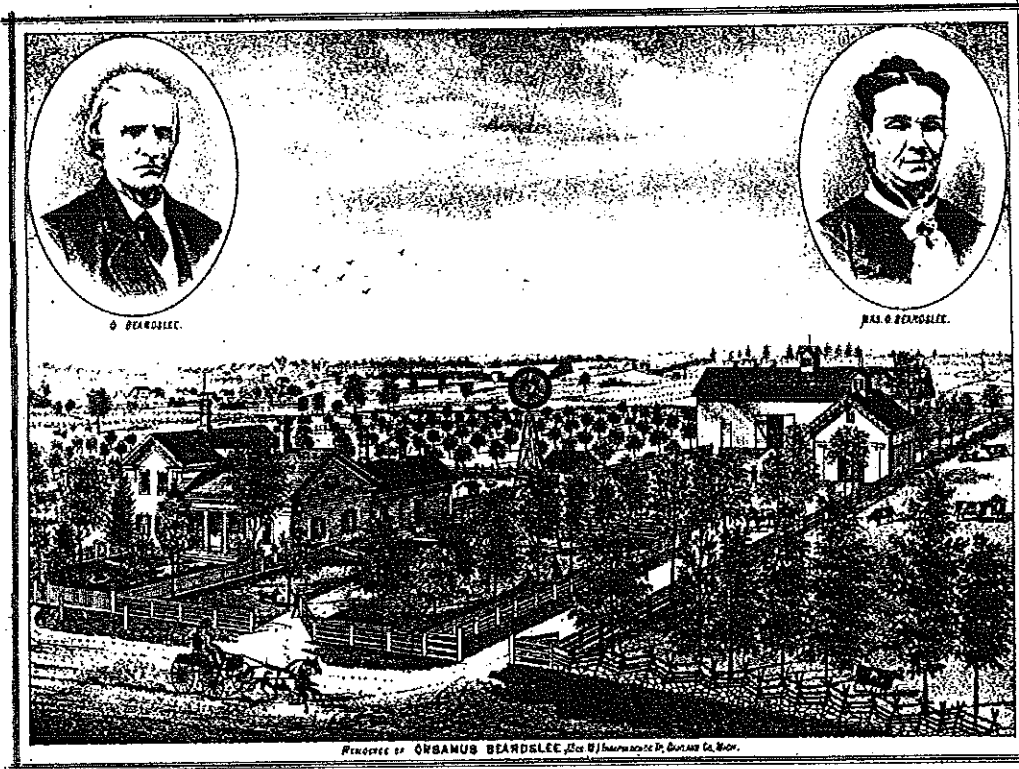


29. Well house (stone)

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 7870 Eston Rd
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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