

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP INVENTORY

Address 5240 Pine Knob Trail
Governmental Unit Independence Township
County Oakland
USGS Map Title Pontiac North
Area Map Independence Fire Department
 Street Address Map - 2/14/96
Original Usage Farmstead
Present Usage Single-family residence
Ownership Frances Cowdrey
Photography
Roll: Frame No. 5:0,2
View of Photo NW, W
Date of Photo 8/98
Surveyor/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 8-12, 1998
Recorder/Date D. Dietrich-Smith/Aug 28, 1998

Site No. 35-01
Sidwell No. 08-35-201-040



0. Residence

Description Two-story T-plan house with a gable roof, a rubble stone foundation and several one-story additions. A small concrete entrance porch has replaced the house's original wrap-around covered porch.

Although the records indicate that the house was built in the 1830s, the two-story T-plan form indicates that it was built later in the century. Further investigation would be necessary to determine if one of the smaller wings to the rear of the two-story structure is the original home built ca. 1837.

Also located on the site are several outbuildings with gable roofs, and an outhouse.

Date of Construction house-1837 (WPA Rural Properties Inventory), 1838-(township tax records); outbuildings-unknown
Condition house-fair; outbuildings and outhouse-fair
Integrity house-fair; outbuildings and outhouse-fair

Ownership
History See Appendix B

Significance This site is significant because it is the location of John W. Beardslee's farmstead. J.W. Beardslee purchased this site in 1826. He was the first person to purchase and settle land within the township. The Beardslee family owned this site until at least 1908 (plat map).

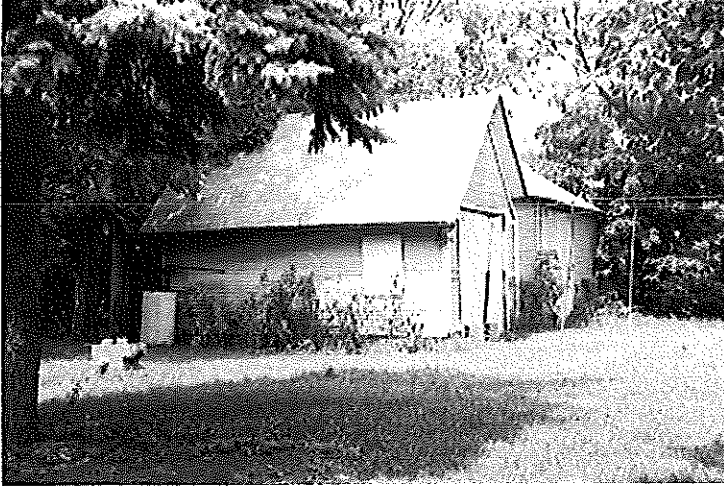
Bibliographic Everts, L. H. and Company, *History of Oakland County, Michigan*. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott and Company.
Reference 1877.

Additional references: see Appendix A

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2. Outbuildings and outhouse (left, in shadow)