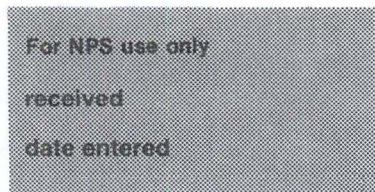


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



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6. 819 South Leroy Street - "Benjamin Bangs Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278780/4740730

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-862

7.

8. 617 South Oak Street - "Frederick Riggs Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278870/4740730

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-865

9. 812 South Adelaide Street - "Volney Church/Carlos B. Shotwell Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278580/4740730

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-1375

10. 309 West High Street - "Fenton Seminary"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278380/4740590

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-577

11. 207 Silver Lake Road - "Fenton Railroad Depot"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278990/4741630

Verbal Boundary Description: Not available

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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② FREDERICK, RIGGS <sup>House (G.C.M.R.P.)</sup> RESIDENCE - 617 ~~South Oak Street~~  
(1868) Fenton  
(PHOTO #54)

National Register  
Selection Criteria  
B.  
C.

Jeremiah Riggs came to Michigan from Litchfield, Connecticut in 1828 and to Fentonville in 1843 after one of his sons, Henry (see "Part X: Description of Physical Appearance and Statement of Historical and Architectural Significance for the Dibbleville/Fentonville Historic District in City of Fenton - Historical and Architectural Overviews of Pivotal Structures," Continuation Sheet #7/8-82, and PHOTO #35), had already settled there. Though a clothier by trade, the senior Riggs became the proprietor of the Riggs House Hotel located in the village. Another of his sons, Frederick, also eventually settled in Fentonville. Frederick was a fur trader and built his residence in 1868 at 617 South Oak Street.

The two-and-one-half-story, wood-framed and clapboard-sheathed structure is vernacular in design and exhibits rectangular massing, symmetrical fenestration, and a simple gable roof. The most ornamental features of the home are the paneled double front door and small, open entrance porches at the front and side.

④ VOLNEY CHURCH <sup>House (G.C.M.R.P.)</sup> / CARLOS B. SHOTWELL RESIDENCE -  
812 ~~South Adelaide Street~~ (1869)  
Fenton  
(PHOTO #55)

National Register  
Selection Criteria  
B.  
C.

Built originally in 1869 by Volney Church, a Fenton resident about whom nothing is known, the residence at 812 South Adelaide achieves significance at a later period in time. The turn-of-the-century brought a significant new industry to the area of Fenton. Cement production, just beginning to achieve importance concurrent with the development of the automobile, was carried on at two nearby lakes. Carlos Shotwell, Secretary of the Egyptian Portland Cement Company, purchased Church's home in 1903 and proceeded to transform the ordinary, unimposing residence into an elegant mansion befitting a man of his stature.

The two-and-one-half-story home exhibits a combination of Queen Anne and Classical Revival characteristics. Its irregular massing and multi-gabled roofs reflect Queen Anne styling, while ornamentation including modillioned cornices and Ionic columns featured on the gabled porte-cochere is more classically inspired. Shotwell, not surprisingly, utilized the product he

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National Park Service**

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produced in executing his stately renovation project. While portions of the home are brick, others utilize cement. The home is important not only as an example of early twentieth century architecture, but as a testimony to the utilization of new building products in residential construction.

9

(GCMRA)  
FENTON SEMINARY - 309 High Street  
(c. 1868) Fenton  
(PHOTO #56)

National Register  
Selection Criteria  
A.  
C.

Fentonville distinguished itself early with a highly developed private and public school system. The Fentonville public system was, as of 1876, one of five systems in the State on the University of Michigan's accredited list. Unfortunately, the private school system failed when financial difficulties, not unknown to such institutions, forced it to close its doors. In addition to primary and secondary schools, Fentonville had three institutions of higher learning, one of which was the private Fenton Seminary, founded by Rosina L. Dayfoot under the auspices of the Baptist Church.

A two-story frame building was the first to house the Fenton Seminary, which served as a feeder preparatory school for Kalamazoo College in the western part of the State. This structure was soon followed, circa 1868, by the extant monumental stone structure at 309 High Street. At the height of its success, the seminary boasted classes in business, languages, music, and calisthenics. By 1886, however, the school's trustees found it impossible to continue operation of the Fenton Seminary and offered the building and grounds to the Baptist Ministers Aid Society. From that time until very recently, it was known as the Baptist Ministers Home and served as a retirement home for clerics.

The three-story stone structure was originally constructed in the Second Empire style, complete with a mansard roof, dormers, and rounded arch windows. A severe fire in 1899, however, destroyed the entire interior, roof, and the original two-story veranda with its balustrades and divided front steps. During the building's reconstruction in 1900, the porch was altered to feature two stone piers, the front stairway was built as a single flight, and the third story was eliminated and replaced by a truncated hip roof. The new roof's details included a centrally placed stepped gable dormer flanked by fanciful metal dormers. The structure remains virtually intact today except for its vacant and neglected condition. It remains one of Fenton's most prominent nineteenth century buildings and there are realistic hopes that it will be rehabilitated in the near future.

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Continuation sheet

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Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Genesee County Multiple Resource Area  
State Michigan

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Colwell, David B., House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

2. Adams-Van Atta House

Substantive Review  
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Keeper Eligible Beth Grovona 11/23/82

Attest

3. Hinckley, Col. J., House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

4. Trump, Edwin, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

5. Jennings, H. N., House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

6. Bangs, Benjamin, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

7. Riggs, Frederick, House

Substantive Review

Keeper Withdrawn by JHPB - 4/21/83

Attest

8. Church, Volney-Carlos B.  
Shotwell House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

9. Fenton Seminary

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/20/82

Attest

10. Fenton Railroad Depot

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 6/20/83

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Church, Volney, / Carlos B. Shotwell House (Genesee  
County MRA)  
Genesee County  
MICHIGAN

Working No. 10/13/82-2850  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83  
Date Due: 11/11/82 ~~11/26/82~~  
Action:  ACCEPT 11/26/82  
 RETURN  
Entered in the National Register  REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Entered in the National Register  RETURN  
 REJECT

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Average of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

USGS Reference

Verbal boundary description and justification

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

---

## 13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

PHOTO: VOLNEY CHURCH / CARLOS B. SHOTWELL

RESIDENCE  
82000565



1. Volney Church/Carlos B.  
Shotwell Residence
2. 812 S. Adelaide  
Fenton  
Genesee  
Michigan
3. Matthew Lampe
4. May 1982
5. Michigan History Division
6. view from E
7. 55 of 92

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000325