

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

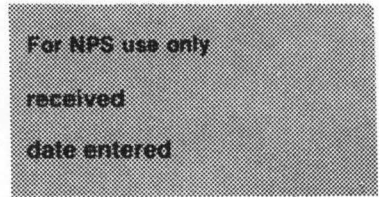
date entered

Continuation sheet 2 Item number 10 Page 3

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>11) John N. Bagley House<br/>2921 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 333810<br/>N 4689380</p> <p>12) William H. Wells House and<br/>Carriage House<br/>3931 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E <del>333860</del><br/>N 4689400</p> <p>13) Alden Park Manor<br/>(Alden Park Towers)<br/>8100 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 335730<br/>N 4690520</p> <p>14) Frederick E. Stearns House<br/>8209 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 335680<br/>N 4690560</p> <p>15) Arthur M. Parker House<br/>8115 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 335820<br/>N 4690660</p> <p>16) Indian Village Manor<br/>8120 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 335870<br/>N 4690640</p> | <p>17) Detroit Towers<br/>8162 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 335970<br/>N 4690410</p> <p>18) Whittier Apartments<br/>415 Burns Drive<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 336130<br/>N 4690860</p> <p>19) Hibbard Apartments<br/>8905 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 336350<br/>N 4691150</p> <p>20) The Kean Apartments<br/>8925 East Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 336380<br/>N 4691180</p> <p>21) Frank A. Osborn House<br/>2920 E. Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 333810<br/>N 4689310</p> <p>22) Jefferson Hall<br/>1405 E. Jefferson Avenue<br/>Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan<br/>UTM References:<br/>17 E 332710<br/>N 4688760</p> |
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East Jefferson Avenue Residential Buildings Thematic Nomination UTMs.

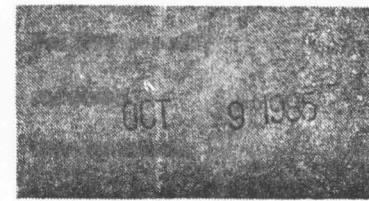
East Jefferson Avenue Residential Buildings Thematic Group  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan

- 1) Double House  
(Lopatin and Ward Building)  
547-549 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 332000  
N 4688300
- 2) The Palms  
(The Palms Apartment Building)  
1001 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 332390  
N 4688590
- 3) Ella Thayer House  
1386 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 332650  
N 4688700
- 4) The Somerset  
(Parkcrest Apartment Building)  
1523 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 332770  
N 4688800
- 5) Pasedena Apartments  
2170 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 333080  
N 4688920
- 6) Phillip McMillan House  
2201 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 333180  
N 4689030
- 7) Alexander Chene House  
(Little Harry's Restaurant)  
2681 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 333480  
N 4689190
- 8) Franklin H. Walker House  
2730 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 333620  
N 4689210
- 9) Garden Court Apartments  
2900 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 333660  
N 4689240
- 10) Joseph Campen House  
2910 East Jefferson Avenue  
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan  
UTM References:  
17 E 333700  
N 4689260

AUG 29 1985

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1. Historic Name: William H. Wells House  
Common Name: Wells House
2. 2931 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI
3. Category: Building  
Ownership: Private  
Status: Occupied  
Access: Restricted  
Present Use: Educational
4. (1) University of Detroit      (2) Carriage House property  
4001 W. McNichols              owned separately  
Detroit, MI 48221
7. Condition: Good  
Unaltered  
Original Site

The Wells House, located on the northwest side of East Jefferson Avenue adjacent to the Bagley House, is an irregular-plan, two-and-one-half-story, Romanesque Revival building with a highly picturesque composition. The Jefferson Avenue facade is formed by an apsidal projection and by a turret with a concave conical roof at the southeast corner of the house. Various other bays project from the irregular and coursed, rock-face stone facade in randomly chosen directions. The interior is Georgian Revival in style.

A one-and-one-half-story carriage house at the rear of the lot was built in 1891. Its first story is constructed of red brick; the gable ends and domers of the steep-pitch roof are clapboard-sided.

8. Period: 1800-1899      Significance: Architecture  
Date: 1889              B/A: William Henry Miller, Arch.

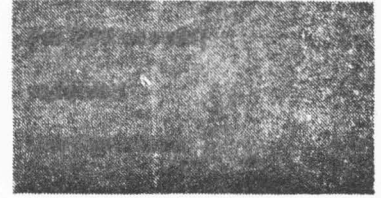
The Wells house is significant as an outstanding example of Romanesque residential architecture in Detroit for its present integrity, and for its association with architect William Henry William.

When the Wells House was built, the property on which it stands was owned by the heirs of William Croul. In 1900 T. Harrington received ownership of the property and immediately sold it to William H. Wells who had been living in the house for about ten years. Wells was a partner in the law firm of Wells, Angell, Boynton and McMillan. After Wells' death, his widow sold the house to Ella Left Barbour, who owned the property until 1949. The University of Detroit Alumni Association purchased the property in 1966 from York Michigan Realty and donated it to the University of Detroit.

Architect William Henry Miller designed the Wells House, which was constructed in 1889 by the Vinton Company

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of Detroit. Miller, of Ithaca, New York, was Cornell University's first student of architecture and is known for his major works in Ithaca, including Cornell University's Uris Library.

10. Boundary Description: 2931 E. Jefferson, William Wells House.

Subdivision of Lot No. 13 of the Joseph Campau Farm Private Claim No. 609. Lot 5 and the E. 1/1 of the Lot 4. L342, P528.

This is the entire property associated with the structure.

Acreage: less than 1

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Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name East Jefferson Avenue Residential TR  
State Wayne County, MICHIGAN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Somerset Apartments

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelton Byars 10/9/85

Attest

22. Stearns, Frederick K., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelton Byars 10/9/85

Attest

23. Walker, Franklin H., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelton Byars 10/9/85

Attest

24. Wells, William H., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelton Byars 10/9/85

Attest

25. Whittier Hotel

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelton Byars 10/9/85

Attest

26. ChateauFrontenac Apartments

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

2/28/91

Attest

27.

Keeper

Attest

28.

Keeper

Attest

29.

Keeper

Attest

30.

Keeper

Attest

REF#  
85002949

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Wells, William H., House (East Jefferson  
Avenue Residential TR)  
Wayne County  
MICHIGAN

Working No. AUG 29 1985  
Fed. Reg. Date: 3-3-87  
Date Due: 9/26/85 - 10/13/85  
Action:  ACCEPT 10-9-85  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Entered in the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

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

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**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: \_\_\_\_\_

PHOTO : WILLIAM H. WELLS

85002949



UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT  
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY  
LIBRARY  
1928

13  
William H. Wells House  
East Jefferson Ave. Residential Buildings Thematic  
Group  
Detroit, Wayne Co., MI

Resource Analysts, Inc., Dec. 1983  
Neg.: Michigan History Division  
208 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

View from south  
Photo 13 of 23

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000324