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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Bartlett, Thomas and Maria Blackman, House

other names/site number Bartlett-Travis House

2. Location

street & number 500 North Ridge Road not for publication N/A
city or town Canton Township vicinity N/A
state Michigan code MI county Wayne code 163
zip code 48187

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Brian D. Conway 4/27/00
Signature of certifying official Date

MI SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

Edson H. Beall

- entered in the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined eligible for the
 National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined not eligible for the
 National Register
- ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain): _____

[Signature]

Signature of Keeper

6-2-00
Date
of Action

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ___ private
- public-local
- ___ public-State
- ___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- ___ district
- ___ site
- ___ structure
- ___ object

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing |
|--------------|--------------------|
| <u> 1 </u> | ___ buildings |
| ___ | ___ sites |
| ___ | ___ structures |
| ___ | ___ objects |
| <u> 1 </u> | <u> 0 </u> Total |

National Park Service

United States Department of the Interior

**National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Section Number 7 Page 1**

**Bartlett-Travis House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI**

Description:

This is a New England Large house with extensions to the side and rear. The north section of the house is stepped down slightly in height. A two-story ell is located behind the north section. The clapboarded house is topped by a wood shingle roof with two brick chimneys, and has a cement block foundation faced with fieldstone. There is a wide cornice line adorned with paired teardrop brackets (most of the brackets are original.) Most of the windows are four lights-over-four, but there are three six-over-six windows in the rear ell. The small entry porch on the west facade has pilasters on either side of the door with simple molding above. It also has chamfered columns, and is accented with scrolled brackets and millwork (the brackets and millwork are mainly original.) The simple wood door has one large pane of glass. The entry porch has a wood floor and steps. The roof of the porch is accentuated with a decorative iron railing. There is a large wrap-around porch beginning on the west (front) facade and wrapping around to the south facade (this porch was reconstructed from photographs.) It has round wood columns, wood floor, a solid wood balustrade, and two sets of wood steps (front and rear). The front steps have fieldstone supports. There is a gable with a sunburst design over the rear steps. Three wood and glass entry doors lead from the wrap-around porch into the house. There is a handicapped ramp at the rear of the house leading onto the porch. Details of the brackets and columns are accented by red-brown paint. The body of the house is painted with yellow-gold and the trim in a cream color.

The front parlor (south front) has decorative full height molding around the windows and one door. The molding has "ears" at the top and tapers out slightly as it descends to the floor. There is raised panel molding beneath the windows. The simple baseboard is nine inches wide. Several other rooms have remnants of wide molding. The dining room (north front) had wainscoting that consisted of two plain wide painted boards that will be restored in the future and reinstalled. Several surfaces in the house have remnants of grained painting.

The front of the house was the original house. It was built as a Greek Revival Upright and Wing (1840). The upright was one-and-a-half story and the wing was one story. There were two large rooms and one small room in the upright on the first floor and three rooms on the second floor. The wing only had one room. Construction details indicate that a large fireplace may have been located in the center room in the upright. At some point the house was expanded to two full stories and all the windows changed to the present four-over-four configuration (1870's). In the front parlor the windows were made to fit in the existing openings. Later (1880's) the two story back ell was added (this section has six-over-six windows). The wrap-around porch was added about 1914. The front door was most likely the original door. In the Victorian updating the center wood panel was replaced with one large pane of glass.

The original portion of the house is post and beam construction with ash and poplar woods. The back ell is balloon framed. The first floor is made of 10" x 10" hand hewn beams and also early milled lumber. (This would indicate a construction date in the 1840's when milled lumber became available.) Much of the material in the house is original. Some changes have been made to the interior to accommodate its use as a museum (such as adding a modern handicapped accessible bathroom, and changing the steep, narrow stairs to make them safer.)

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United States Department of the Interior

**National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Section Number 7 Page 2**

**Bartlett-Travis House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI**

Site Description:

This house was formerly located at 7041 Canton Center Road. It was moved to this site in 1989. This property consists of 21.62 acres located on the east side of Ridge Road. It is north of the hamlet of Cherry Hill and within the boundaries of the locally designated Cherry Hill Historic District. The area around the house and outbuildings is cleared and the rest of the property is heavily wooded with thick undergrowth. Only an area 175 x 240 feet around the house is included in this nomination.

This land is on the extreme western edge of Wayne County. At present the area is very rural in appearance, as the western side of Canton Township contains the last remnants of its agricultural tradition. It is located in the locally designated Cherry Hill Historic District. The house is set on slightly higher ground than the surrounding land. It is located on the "ridge", so-called because it is a raised area of land that runs diagonally across the township. This ridge was the shoreline of a prehistoric lake. The land east of (behind) the house is wooded with thick undergrowth. Currently the area around Cherry Hill is under intense development pressure.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Exploration/Settlement
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance 1840-1914

- _____
- _____

Significant Dates 1840
 1867
 1914

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
 N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS) None
 preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data
 X State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property About 1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|-------|---------|----------|------|---------|----------|
| 1 | 17 | 291080 | 4686920 | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |

 See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Section Number 8 Page 1

Bartlett-Travis House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI

Significance: The house is significant because it was the home of a pioneer Canton family, the Bartletts, who settled here in 1839. It is also significant as a well preserved nineteenth-century house of New England Large heritage whose present form reflects a series of nineteenth-century enlargements of the original. The ca. 1840 section of the house was built in the settlement era as a Greek Revival Upright and Wing, a style typical of the early settlers. It has been carefully restored to 1900 time period, and demonstrates the changes that a structure undergoes over time. Small "windows" have been left in the house to show the construction methods of an earlier time.

The property at the former location of the Bartlett house was purchased from the government by Stephen and Sally Clark, Ontario County, New York in 1831. The patent was for 80 acres (the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 9). The property was owned next by Peter Lott (no record of sale from Clark), who then sold it to Darius and Charlotte Blackman in 1837 for \$300.

In 1839 Maria Bartlett bought the N 1/2 of the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 (half of Stephen Clark's original land) for \$400. Thomas Bartlett married Maria Blackman (Darius Blackman's sister) in 1823. Since Maria bought half of the original 80 acres for an increase in price, there may have been a house on the property. The Bartletts' tax in 1843 was \$1.36, and Samuel Lyndon, who owned the other half, was \$0.58. This would support the supposition that Darius Blackman had built the house before he sold the land to Maria Bartlett. However the floor beams are hand hewn logs and early milled lumber which became available in the ca. 1840. This would suggest that Thomas and Maria Bartlett were the original builders of the house. The early section of the house is of post and beam construction and consisted of a 1-1/2 story upright with a one story wing. The house had a narrow, winding stairway to the half story or "loft." The 1840 census listed both Stephen Clark and Thomas Bartlett, but not Lott or Blackman.

The Bartletts' tax in 1850 was \$2.71. By 1861 Thomas owned two more 40 acre parcels, and his total tax was \$160.03. The parcel that contained this house had the highest valuation. When compared to Martin Carleton's 1861 tax of \$24.68 for 160 acres (3339 Canton Center), Bartlett's \$160.03 for 116 acres suggests major improvements on the Bartlett property. By 1865 Thomas only owned the 40 acres in section 9 and 28 acres of the parcel in section 16.

In 1867 George Bartlett (age 32) bought the property from his parents for \$4000 (he also owned the section 16 property; 78 acres in section 10; and the 38 acres in the SW 1/4 of SE 1/4) -- total tax \$57.52. Thomas did not die until 1884, but he may have retired earlier from active farming. As shown below, George greatly increased the size and productivity of the farm. This suggests that most likely it was George who raised the house to two full stories and added the Italianate details. The 1891 atlas showed G. S. Bartlett as still owning the property. The 1900 census listed George's wife, Sarah, as a widow.

The 1860 agriculture schedule of the census showed Thomas Bartlett with 120 acres of clay loam soil with a cash value of \$4800. He had 40 sheep and produced 136 pounds of wool. By 1880 George Bartlett owned the property. The acreage had increased to 250, with a cash value of \$10,000. George had 125 sheep and produced 625 pounds of wool. The value of the equipment and machinery increased from \$95 to \$500 in 1880, and the value of livestock decreased slightly.

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**National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Section Number 8 Page 2**

**Bartlett-Travis House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI**

In 1880, George paid \$500 for labor. The number of milch (milk producing) cows was nearly the same, but the amount of butter produced increased from 200 pounds in 1860 to 600 in 1880.

William and Martha Travis purchased the Bartlett farm in 1908 for \$5400. William S. Travis was born in 1845 in Wallaceburg, Canada. His wife, Martha Cook, was born in 1850. They lived in Pontiac, Dearborn, and Plymouth before moving to Canton Township. The 1912 tax assessment listed the property as the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, section 9, 40 acres; and the W 1/2 of the NW 1/4, section 10, 80 acres; total tax \$113.04. The tax in 1920 was \$234.91, and in 1923 was \$65.93; this would indicate some improvement was made in 1919; probably the porch across the front of the house. However, during the restoration, newspapers dating from 1914 were found in the walls on the porch. If the porch was added then, it is possible that the Travis' may not have been assessed for the porch addition until 1919. William died about 1924, and the land was divided among the children. His daughter, Ella Rowe, owned the parcel with the house. She continued ownership at least through 1954 (no tax books for 1954-1958). By 1959, Thomas Myers owned the house. In 1961 Mrs. Thomas Myers owned it and operated an antique shop in the home. John Darakjian bought the house in 1975.

In 1988 Ken Dividock, a local realtor, donated the house to Canton Township. The township purchased a 21.62-acre parcel near Ridge and Cherry Hill roads in the hamlet of Cherry Hill. In 1989 the house was moved to the site with a matching grant from the state of Michigan. The move returned the house to a location that is rural; whereas its original site is now surrounded by subdivisions. The house was placed on a new foundation; a new roof added to protect the house from deterioration; and new chimneys were built. The Historic District Commission hired the firm of Quinn/Evans Architects of Ann Arbor to develop a preservation plan for Cherry Hill Village, including the Bartlett-Travis site.

Rex Harvey, a local carpenter who specializes in the restoration of historic houses, was hired to restore the house. The restoration began in 1994 and was completed in the fall of 1995. Using construction methods as a guideline, he states that the original house was a small Greek Revival structure. The main section was one and a half story, with a small one-story wing. He believes that in the 1870's the entire structure was raised to two full stories, and the back ell added in the 1880's. Lastly, the wraparound porch was added in 1914, dated by newspapers found in the walls during the restoration.

The current plan is to develop the Bartlett-Travis house as the cornerstone of a living history farm, with outbuildings, crops, gardens, orchards, and animals. Programs will be developed to introduce visitors to the everyday life of a farm in the 1890-1900 period.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Section Number 9 Page 1

Bartlett-Travis House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI

Bibliography:

Bartlett and Travis family files at the Canton Historical Museum.

Canton Township Tax Assessor Records 1843 - 1873 and 1912 - 1961.

Eastern Michigan University. Reconnaissance survey done by Historic Preservation students, 1988.

Kosky and Glynn Associates. Canton Township Agricultural Survey. Canton Township, 1996.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985.

Otis, Charles Herbert. Michigan Trees. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 1931.

Peck, Lt. Col. Paul R. (USAF, Ret.). Landsmen of Wayne County, An Atlas and Plat of the First Land Owners of Wayne County, Mi. Liberty Town Press, 1985.

United States Bureau of Census, Census of Agriculture 1790 and subsequent decades. Washington D. C.: U.S. Dept of Commerce.

United States Bureau of Census, Census of Population 1840 and subsequent decades. Washington D. C.: U. S. Dept. of Commerce.

Wayne County Tract Index. Vol. 15-6-2. Located in the County Building, Detroit, Mi

Wilson, Diane Follmer. Cornerstones. Canton: Canton Historical Society, 1988.

Interviews:

Telephone interview with Rex Harvey (restoration carpenter) 1996

On site interview with Rex Harvey June 15, 1999

Interview with Melissa McLaughlin (Canton Historic District Commission) March 1999

Maps:

1855 Wayne County. (Detroit: John Farmer)

1860 Wayne County, MI (Philadelphia: Geil, Harley & Swerd)

1876 Wayne County, MI Atlas

1893 Canton Township plat map (Wm. C. Sauer)

1894 Wayne County (Mason L. Brown C.E., copied from original source by Silas Farmer, Detroit).

1904 Canton plat map

1914 Canton plat map

1922 Canton Township plat map

1930 Township of Canton, Wayne County, MI (Wall Map, Canton Historical Society)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register Of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Section Number 10 Page 1**

**Bartlett-Travis House
Historic and Architectural Resources of Canton Township
Wayne County, MI**

Boundary Description:

The entire property that the Bartlett-Travis House is located on consists of 21.62 acres. However, only the land that immediately surrounds the house is included in this nomination. That area can be described as: starting at the telephone pole 75 feet north of the house, go 175 feet south along Ridge Road to the next telephone pole; then east 240 feet past the rear of the house; then north 175 feet parallel with the back of the house; and then west 240 feet back to the starting point.

Boundary Justification:

The Bartlett-Travis house sits on 21.62 acres, however, only an area approximately 175 x 240 feet immediately surrounding the house is included in this nomination. Since the focus of the nomination is on the architecture and history of the house, only it and the area immediately surrounding the house are included.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Kathleen Glynn
organization Kosky and Glynn Associates date July 30, 1999
street & number 7200 Hack Road telephone 517/423-5058
city or town Saline state MI zip code 48176

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

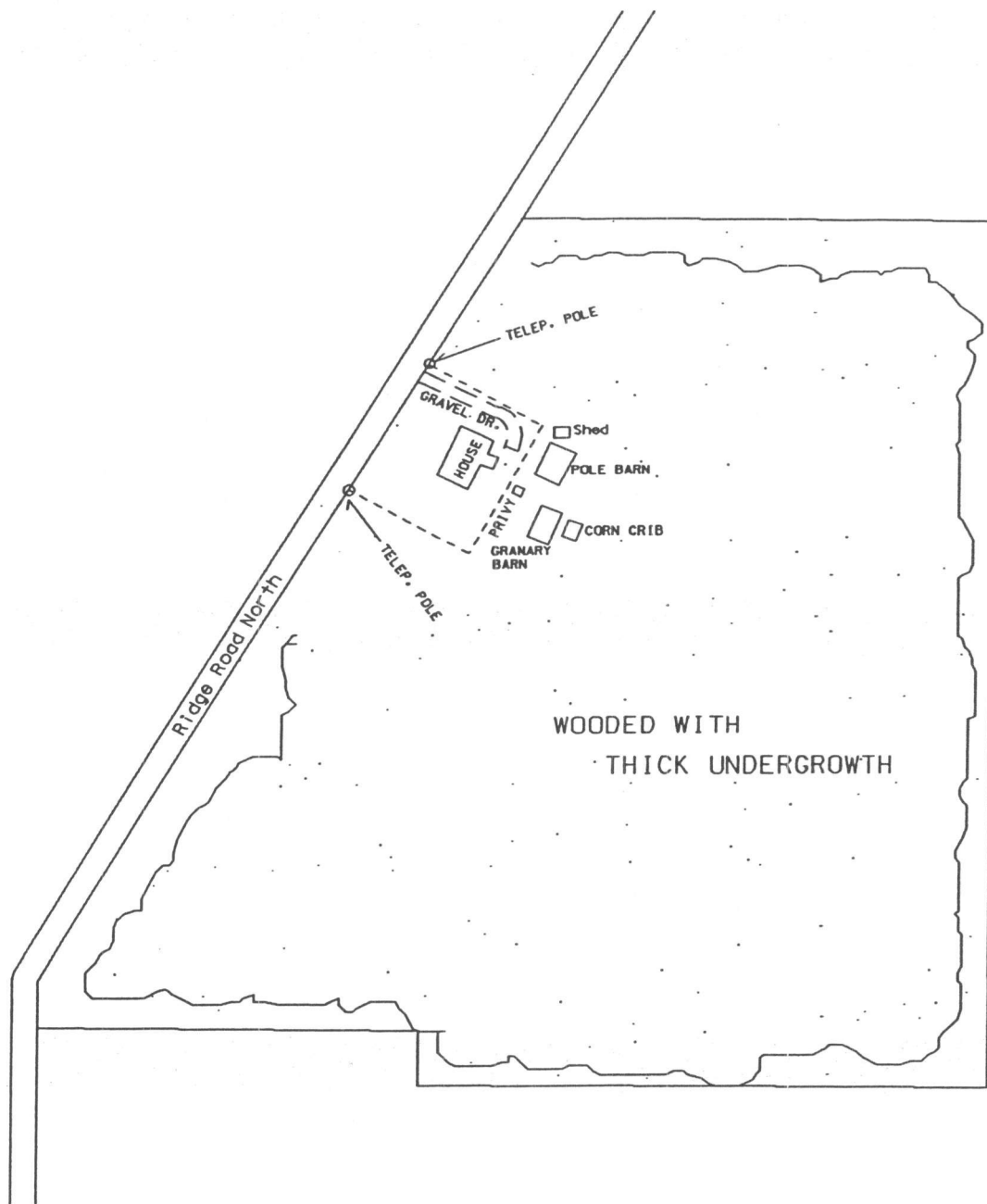
=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)
name Charter Township of Canton
street & number 1150 South Canton Center Road telephone _____
city or town Canton state MI zip code 48188

=====
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES OF CANTON TWP. WAYNE CO. MI



KOSKY and GLYN ASSOCIATES

Site No. 82

JULY 30, 1999

THOMAS BARTLETT HOUSE
500 Ridge Road North

Canton, Michigan 48187

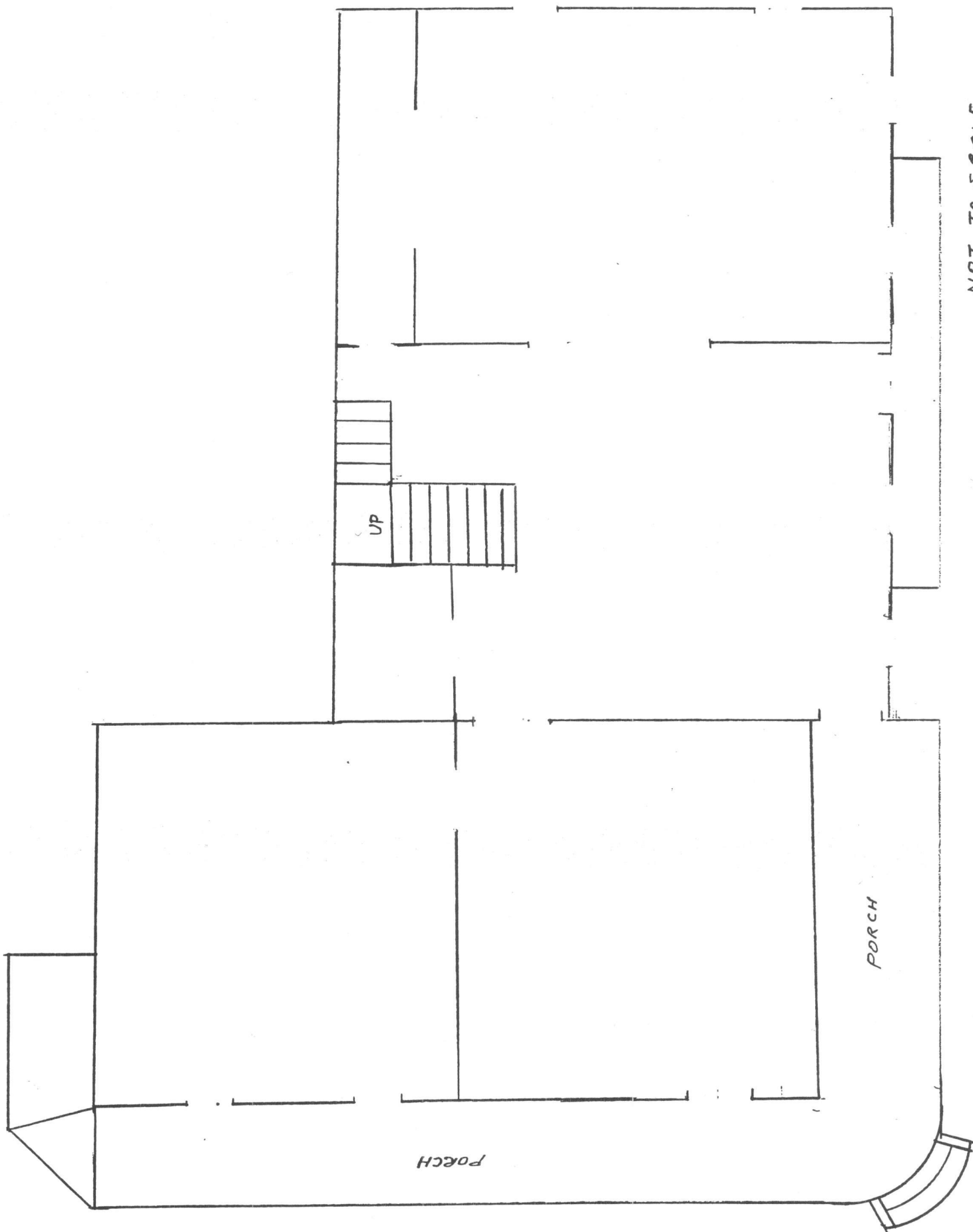
21.62 Acres Section 18

Scale 1:3600



Site Plan by J. SABORIO

THOMAS BARTLET HOUSE
500 N. RIDGE RD.



NOT TO SCALE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Bartlett, Thomas and Maria Blackman, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Canton Township MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MICHIGAN, Wayne

DATE RECEIVED: 5/05/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/17/00
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/02/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/19/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000614

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 6-2-00 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



BARTLETT-TRAVIS HOUSE

500 RIDGE ROAD N.

CANTON TOWNSHIP

WAYNE CO

MICHIGAN

4830211-22

PHOTO 4:8



BARTLETT-TRAVIS HOUSE
500 RIDGE ROAD N.
CANTON TOWNSHIP
WAYNE CO.
MICHIGAN

PHOTO 4:10

4830211-2-2

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500269