

PH0026999

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Michigan
COUNTY:	Ionia
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JUL 24 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: John C. Blanchard House

AND/OR HISTORIC: John C. Blanchard House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 253 East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Ionia CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Fifth

STATE: Michigan CODE: 26 COUNTY: Ionia CODE: 067

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>owners live next door and are restoring the house</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Leon Lockwood

STREET AND NUMBER: 241 East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN: Ionia STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Ionia County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Ionia STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

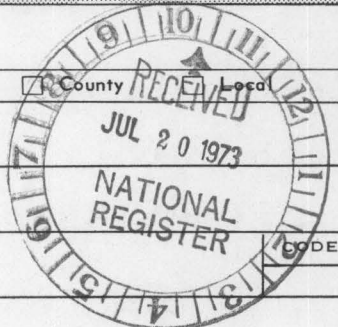
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Michigan

COUNTY: Ionia

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: 100

DATE: JUL 24 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fronted by a now sagging iron fence and presently unoccupied, the Blanchard house preserves nevertheless the palatial appearance attributed to it by a newspaper account of 1880. This impression is given by its massive size (about 47 feet across, 52 feet front to back) and by the still-rich pink and brown colors of its Ionia sandstone. In addition, details confirm the impression of grandeur: the spreading, oval stone front steps or the ornately carved, heavy front doors, double at the right end of the stone front porch, single at the left end. Striking in themselves, the doors are surrounded by baroque twisting wooden trim.

A heavy foundation of smooth, squared sandstone, about four feet high, supports the structure and encases segmental cellar windows. A prominent, protruding sandstone watertable sets off the house from its foundation. Along the full height of the corners, plain sandstone quoins provide decoration. High windows are set upon plain sandstone sills and are topped by elaborate, semicircular sandstone window hoods. The interior windows are paneless and appear to be largely original, although eight-paneled storm windows are in place on the front exterior. Folding blinds remain in place inside the house at almost all windows. One unusual feature is a glassed "pillbox" sun room on the house's right side near the back. Convolute brown wooden brackets surround the roof lines of the front porch and the second story. The roof is the truncated hip type, made of slate, and is topped by a wrought iron balustrade.

A small stream defines the right boundary of the lawn; the left yard is wooded.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1879-1881

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John C. Blanchard's experiences in nineteenth-century Michigan illustrate the openness of opportunities available to a work-committed man in an expanding frontier society. Born in 1822 in New York state, Blanchard at fourteen left school, worked in a mill long enough to buy passage to the West, and then set out promptly and unceremoniously from home. A month's work on a farm at Detroit brought sufficient funds to move on, seasonal work being secured on the way to Shiawassee County, where from the fall of 1836 to the spring of 1837 Blanchard lived with an Indian family and saved his migrant worker's wages. One son of the Indian family was called Pewamo, and for him Blanchard later named the still extant village in Ionia County. Perceiving the value of land at a time of pioneer influx, Blanchard started on foot for the new land office at Ionia, sixty miles away, where he invested almost the whole of his savings in forty acres. Returning through unsettled tracts to Shiawassee County, Blanchard remained there one additional year before accepting work at Lyons in Ionia County, first as a farm laborer and then as a retail clerk. At the beginning of 1840, having determined on a more promising career, he entered a law office as an apprentice, and after passing an examination in 1842 was admitted to practice.

In 1850, having been elected prosecuting attorney at Ionia, Blanchard moved to the town, where he also became a partner in an established law firm. He was re-elected prosecutor in 1852, and then in 1856, being a Democrat, was appointed by President Buchanan, Registrar of the Ionia land office, a position he held for four years.

From 1870 to 1872 Blanchard served as President of Ionia Township, which was in 1873 incorporated as a city. In 1872 he ran unsuccessfully as a Democrat for Lieutenant Governor and afterwards engaged mainly in the private concerns of law practice, farming and development of the Ionia stone quarry. By 1891 Blanchard's land holdings spanned some twenty-four hundred acres. At the time of his death on March 12, 1905, he was admired as a local philanthropist and had served as a trustee of Albion College.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Schenck, John S., History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties, Michigan (Philadelphia: D.W. Ensign and Co., 1881), pp. 122, 170.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Ionia and Montcalm Counties (Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1891), pp. 774-75.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		42 ° 59 ' 01 "	85 ° 03 ' 32 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

UTM
16/658350
4760530
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Joseph M Minton Jr, Sites Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Michigan History Division DATE: March 22, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 208 N Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Lansing STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Samuel A. Mubertson
 Chief, Bureau of Recreation
 and
 Title State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date 7/9/73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/24/74

ATTEST:
Charles A. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 7-24-74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Michigan	
COUNTY	
Ionia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 24 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (John C. Blanchard house)

Ionia newspapers place the building of Blanchard's large, sandstone-faced Italianate residence between the years 1879 and 1881. On November 21, 1879 the Ionia Sentinel reported:

"John C. Blanchard is making arrangements to build a brick veneered residence on his lot on Main Street. The material is now being prepared, and the work of construction will begin early in the spring, the old house being moved to the back part of the lot. This will be one of the most commodious of the many elegant dwellings in the city." By December 2, 1880 the Ionia Standard could relate that "J.C. Blanchard's new and palatial residence is to be heated with steam." Finally, the Sentinel, following the custom of publicizing both public and private improvements to the city, noted that "J.C. Blanchard has hired Charles Brood to grade the landscape around his new house."

The house is clearly one of the largest and certainly the most imposing in the town, as well as one of the "purest" of the local Italianate group. Its Ionia sandstone exterior has been polished and displays today much of the richness of pink, red and brown hue that it must have reflected almost a century ago. The house belongs to an active period of residential construction in Ionia between about 1870 and 1885, the period immediately following upon Ionia's arrival as a thriving small city built on the energies of its settlers of the 1830's and 1840's.

A letter from the present owner of the house states that the building cost in 1879-81 was \$40,000, despite the fact that the sandstone was procured from the quarry in which Blanchard held an interest.



8/12/93

NAME OF PROPERTY Blanchard, John C., House, Meck.

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

1. Name. _____

2. Location. _____

3. Classification. _____

4. Owner of Property. _____

5. Location of Legal Description. _____

6. Representation in Existing Surveys. _____

7. Description. _____

8. Statement of Significance. _____

9. Bibliography. _____

10. Geographical Data.

a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. Longitude (or Latitude) appears to be off by about . Please check.

b. Acreage. _____

11. Form Prepared By. _____

12. Certification. _____

Photographic Coverage. _____

Map Coverage. Please refer to "How to Complete National Register Forms".

Other. Xeroxed material is not acceptable. Please see Newsletter dated July 1, 1973

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy the National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked. Shades

SIGNED: [Signature]

PROPERTY Blanchard, John C., House STATE Mich.

REF # 73000951

WORKING NUMBER 7.20.73.3337 IONIA

TECH REVIEW
Photos 1
Maps 2

CONTROL REVIEW not & long can't be checked

cm
7-23-73

HISTORIAN good local sign. v #8 — poor #7

OK
Accept
AML

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Poor photo

Accept 8/14/73
Accept
KHC
8/17/73
C. Shull

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accept
Harris for Wintery
7-24-74

National Register write-up 8/21

Send-back 8.15.73

Federal Register entry Sept. 3, 1974

Re-submit 7.9.74

Entered JUL 24 1974



FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
John C. Blanchard House	John C. Blanchard House	JUL 24 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Michigan	Ionia	Ionia
STREET AND NUMBER		
253 East Main Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Michigan History Div.	1972	Michigan History Div.
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

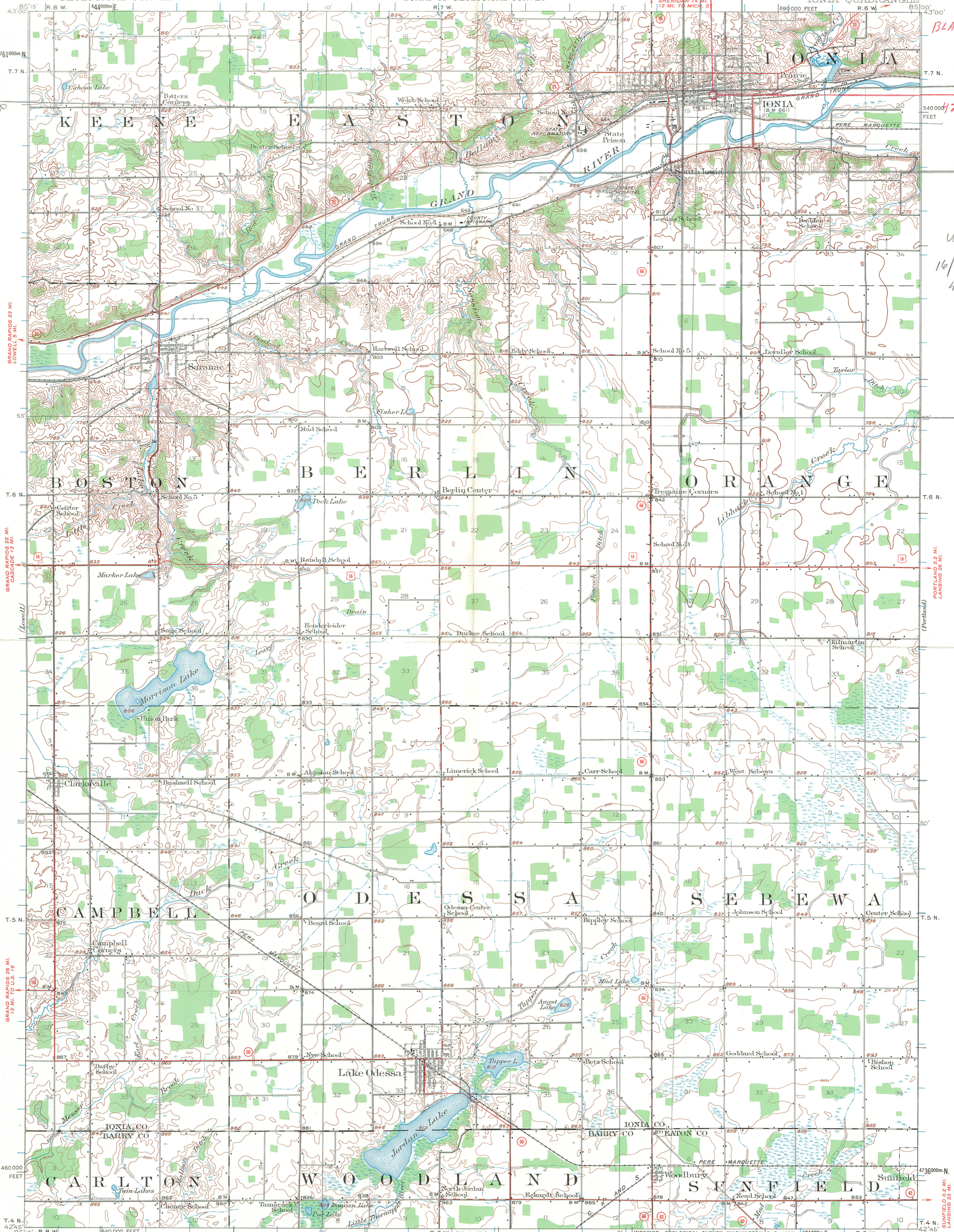
faces north on large lot in residential extension of Main Street

GPO 932-009

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

BLANCHARD HOUSE

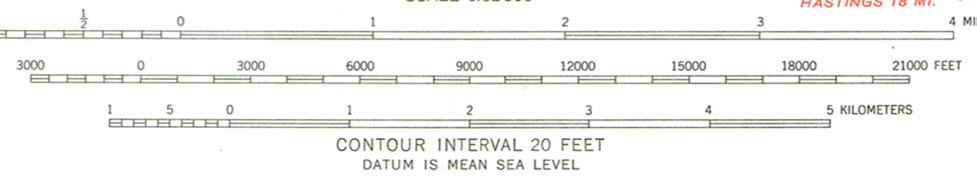
UTM
16/658350
4760530
CD



W.H. Herron, Acting Chief Geographer
Glenn S. Smith, Topographic Engineer in charge
Topography by J.H. Jennings and L.L. Lee
Control by J.R. Ellis, Oscar Jones, L.D. Townsend,
H.S. Senseney, and E.C. Bibbee
Surveyed in 1916.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ———— Light-duty ————
Medium-duty ———— Unimproved dirt ————
U.S. Route State Route

APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION, 1953



SCALE 1:62500
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

Polyconic projection
10,000-foot grid based on Michigan (Central)
rectangular coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
KELLY 6.6 MI.
CHARLOTTE JUNG, U.S. 27 17 MI.

IONIA, MICH.
N 4245-W 8500/15
1916



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME

COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE <i>(Assigned by NPS)</i>
John C. Blanchard House	John C. Blanchard House	

2. LOCATION

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Michigan	Ionia	Ionia

STREET AND NUMBER

253 East Main Street

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
Michigan Dept. of Highways	May 1968	1 inch - 1000 feet

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

Only best copy available

↑
NOTE



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MICHIGAN

Date Entered JUL 24 1974

Name

Location

Blanchard, John C., House

Ionia
Ionia County

Also Notified

Hon. Philip A. Hart
Hon. Robert P. Griffin
Hon. Richard Vander Veen
Regional Director, Midwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Samuel Milstein
Deputy Director, Recreation
Dept. of Natural Resources
Mason Bldg.
Lansing, Michigan 48926

PR MMott/row 7/25/74

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
John C. Blanchard House	John C. Blanchard House	JUL 24 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Michigan	Ionia	Ionia
STREET AND NUMBER		
253 East Main Street		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S. Geological Survey, Ionia, Michigan	1916	1:62500

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.



FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. APPLICANT'S APPLICATION	a. NUMBER 110-23-4352	3. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER	a. NUMBER 9145/8
1. TYPE OF ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> PREAPPLICATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION (Mark appropriate box) <input type="checkbox"/> NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt.) <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION	4. LEGAL APPLICANT/RECIPIENT a. Applicant Name : Michigan History Division b. Organization Unit : Department of State c. Street/P.O. Box : d. City : Lansing e. County : Ingham f. State : Michigan g. ZIP Code: 48918 h. Contact Person (Name & telephone No.) : Martha M. Bigelow (517) 373-0510		b. DATE 19 77 01 05	b. DATE ASSIGNED 19 76 04 12	
7. TITLE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT Acquisition of John C. Blanchard House (Ionia, Ionia County) Sources of non-federal match are mortgages of \$15,000 each by the First Security Bank and the Ionia County National Bank of Ionia.			5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 38-600134 W		
10. AREA OF PROJECT IMPACT (Names of cities, counties, States, etc.) Ionia, Ionia, Michigan			6. PROGRAM (From Federal Catalog) a. NUMBER 1 5 9 0 4 b. TITLE Historic Preservation		
13. PROPOSED FUNDING a. FEDERAL \$ 15,000 .00 b. APPLICANT 15,000 .00 c. STATE .00 d. LOCAL .00 e. OTHER .00 f. TOTAL \$ 30,000 .00			8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT A-State B-Interstate C-Substate District D-County E-City F-School District G-Special Purpose District H-Community Action Agency I-Higher Educational Institution J-Indian Tribe K-Other (Specify): Enter appropriate letter <input type="checkbox"/> A		
14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: a. APPLICANT 1-19 b. PROJECT 5			9. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE A-Basic Grant B-Supplemental Grant C-Loan D-Insurance E-Other Enter appropriate letter(s) <input type="checkbox"/> A		
16. PROJECT START DATE Year month day 19 77 01 05 See #34			11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING 500,000		
17. PROJECT DURATION 36 Months			12. TYPE OF APPLICATION A-New B-Renewal C-Revision D-Continuation E-Augmentation Enter appropriate letter <input type="checkbox"/> A		
18. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY 19			15. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 12c or 12e) A-Increase Dollars B-Decrease Dollars C-Increase Duration D-Decrease Duration E-Cancellation F-Other (Specify): Enter appropriate letter(s) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		
20. FEDERAL AGENCY TO RECEIVE REQUEST (Name, City, State, ZIP code) Dept. of Interior, Washington, D. C. 20240			19. EXISTING FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 23-76-00232-00		
22. THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT a. To the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this presapplication/application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is approved. b. If required by OMB Circular A-95 this application was submitted, pursuant to instructions therein, to appropriate clearinghouses and all responses are attached: sponsor <input type="checkbox"/> No response attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			21. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
23. CERTIFYING REPRESENTATIVE Martha M. Bigelow, State Historic Preservation Officer			24. AGENCY NAME Department of Interior		
25. APPLICANT SIGNATURE <i>Martha M. Bigelow</i>			26. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT National Park Service		
27. DATE SIGNED 19 77 01 08			28. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Grants Administration Div.		
29. ADDRESS 18th & C Streets NW., Washington, D.C. 20240			29. ADDRESS 18th & C Streets NW., Washington, D.C. 20240		
30. FEDERAL GRANT IDENTIFICATION 23-76-00232-00			31. ACTION TAKEN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. AWARDED <input type="checkbox"/> b. REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> c. RETURNED FOR AMENDMENT <input type="checkbox"/> d. DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> e. WITHDRAWN		
32. FUNDING a. FEDERAL \$15,000 .00 b. APPLICANT 15,000 .00 c. STATE .00 d. LOCAL .00 e. OTHER .00 f. TOTAL \$30,000 .00			33. ACTION DATE 19 77 2 10		
34. STARTING DATE 19 77 2 10			35. CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Name and telephone number) Stephen D. Newman (202) 523-5472		
35. ENDING DATE 19 80 2 9			36. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
38. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION a. In taking above action, any comments received from clearinghouses were considered. If agency response is due under provisions of Part 1, OMB Circular A-95, it has been or is being made.			37. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.) same as #35		

SECTION I - APPLICANT/RECIPIENT DATA

SECTION II - CERTIFICATION

SECTION III - FEDERAL AGENCY ACTION