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PART V: DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND STATEMENT OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE OLIVER STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

"Quantification of District Attributes, Boundary Description, and Rationale for Boundary Selection"

The Oliver Street Historic District basically is residential in character, an area with boundaries carefully selected to include within them a concentration of the finest and most opulent residential material in the City of Owosso (PHOTOS #4, #5, #6, and #7) (See Map #4 - "Oliver Street Historic District"). Indeed, of the 122 properties contained within the Oliver Street Historic District, all but 8 are residential sites. Of these 8 properties, 7 are churches and 1, unfortunately, is a gasoline station. Eight structures, or approximately six percent of the District's buildings, are considered "intrusive." In these cases, however, except for the gasoline station located at 404 North Washington, the intrusive character stems from a post-1929 construction date rather than from an architectural style that actually detracts from the District's overall appearance (PHOTO #8).

The boundaries include within them structures along both sides of Oliver from Third on the west to Oak on the east except for the block between Ada and Shiawassee where only structures on the south side of Oliver are included; structures in and surrounding Fayette Square; structures on both sides of Washington from Goodhue on the north to Williams on the south; structures on both sides of Williams from Washington on the east to Adams on the west and then those structures on the north side of Williams westward to Shiawassee; and lastly, structures on both sides of Ball, Water, Adams, Pine, and the east side of Shiawassee between Oliver on the north and Williams on the south. So defined, the District is approximately fifty-eight acres in size.

While the boundaries clearly delineate an area of fine material within, they also delineate a neighborhood clearly distinct from its surroundings. To the north of the District's boundaries, the residential character of the neighborhood does continue. There is much less of a concentration of fine housing, however, than is viewed along the grand promenades of the Oliver Street District. Additionally, it is important to note here that the full block on the north side of Oliver Street between Ada and Shiawassee was eliminated because it is the location of the Owosso Central School, built in 1950. To the south of the Oliver Street District, a buffer zone of newer mixed commercial and residential buildings toward the east and a lesser concentration of good-quality residential fabric toward the west defines the boundaries.

"Historical and Architectural Overview of the District"

The early attraction of the Oliver Street area lay in its physical attributes. First, it rested at one of the highest elevations in town, which, while not really very high, did offer a mildly commanding view of the town "below." Second, Oliver Street stood

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close enough to downtown and the all-important millrace to make it accessible to each family's breadwinner, yet far enough away to maintain a clearly separate residential environment highlighted by large lawns, orchards, and attractive open spaces. Third, the only original park in town, Fayette Square, rested at the intersection of Oliver and Washington Streets and served to maintain the area's pastoral setting even as new development took place. And fourth, by the turn-of-the-century, growing prosperity and better roads expanded Oliver Street to its present historic district boundaries; a new marketing attraction thus developed as lots opened up closer to the Shiawassee River and the great stands of mature oaks that marked the river's banks.

From the beginning, Oliver Street was the residential area reserved for the leaders of Owosso. After the first pioneers and landowners, the two Williams Brothers, built here in 1838 and 1840, most of the other families that were to hold a place in Owosso's history quickly followed. This group included, of course, the town's industrialists, merchants, bankers, and professionals who gained their wealth early and invested a portion of it in their residences.

Architecturally, the District, once called "Aristocrats' Row," displays construction undertaken during all three periods of Owosso's growth during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These periods included the early pioneer, pre-industrial settlement from 1836 to 1856 that yielded homes built in simple Greek Revival styles; the middle period reflecting the coming of the railroads, the expansion of markets, and the development of the woodworking and furniture businesses from 1856 to the 1890s that yielded a prosperous display of High Victorian designs; and the late period of iron- and steel-related industrial development from the 1890s to the start of the Great Depression in 1929 that yielded homes in the various Revival styles.

With this long and continuous history of development, the Oliver Street District does not display a homogeneous picture of construction or a group of architecturally distinct enclaves marking separate periods of growth. Rather, Owosso's development created an architecturally mixed streetscape for the District. Property owners who built new homes in the Oliver Street area prior to the Depression selected sites on residential blocks already established by the 1890s. Thus, a diversity of architectural styles soon existed on every block within the Oliver Street District. Today, the result is a stimulating mixture of Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Italian Villa, French Second Empire, Romanesque, Carpenter Gothic, Queen Anne, Eastlake, Georgian Revival, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Dutch Revival, and a wide array of eclectic combinations. The diversity is not at all disharmonious.

The surprising fact about this wide diversity of design, however, is that Owosso rarely had a trained architect in its midst. Rather, the skilled craftspeople and entrepreneurs who populated the town used their pattern book knowledge and polished woodworking skills to develop a residential streetscape that reflected the day's most popular styles and their own creative ambitions. Indeed, upon reviewing the homes and churches of the Oliver Street District, one can not say that the residents were in the least conservative or behind-the-times in their architectural design.

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Today, the Oliver Street area remains Owosso's "Grand Promenade." The streets are narrow and canopied by aged curb-line trees; the feeling, particularly in the summertime when the foliage is fullest, is intimate and human scaled. Beyond the line of trees, the residences of the Oliver Street District sit back on deep, ample properties that allow space for additional trees and complementary landscaping. Moving west from the District's eastern boundary along Oliver Street itself, the promenade gently rises toward its intersection with Shiawassee Street where some of the District's finest homes are centered. On the way, around Fayette Square and south on the side streets - Ball, Water, Adams, and Pine - additional fine residences are visible. West from Shiawassee Street, Oliver slopes downward along the Shiawassee River where its properties extend to the water's edge. Within this District stand some of Owosso's best homes and churches.

"Historical and Architectural
Overviews of Pivotal Structures"

Oliver Street remains a full and complete chronicle of Owosso's architectural and historical development from the 1830s to the era of the Depression. Few streets in other Michigan towns can match the long-lived continuity and growth reflected in Owosso's premier promenade. A representative sampling of the Oliver Street Historic District's pivotal structures supports this statement.

JOSIAH TURNER RESIDENCE - 705 Goodhue Street
(PHOTO #9)

This 1856 two story, wood-framed and clapboard Greek Revival house has a slightly imbalanced three bay front facade highlighted by narrow corner pilasters and original sidelights that frame the front doorway. Above, a full entablature marks a gable end pierced by an ocular attic vent. The residence originally belonged to Josiah Turner, a graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont who went on to serve as a judge for twenty-five years, as a United State Consul at Amherstberg, Canada, and as the holder of many elective offices both in the City of Owosso and the State of Michigan.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - Fayette Square
(PHOTO #10)

Elise LeBrun moved to Owosso with her husband, Felix, soon after the Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad reached Owosso in 1856 and opened the City to a new wave of settlement. In Owosso, Elise met young Mary Williams, a daughter of Benjamin Williams, who had been confirmed in the Episcopal Church while attending school in Burlington, New Jersey. As close friends and as the only Episcopalian communicants in the area, the two women set about to establish a church in Owosso and build a parish. Mary Williams persuaded her father and her uncle, Alfred Williams, to reserve the northeast quarter of Fayette Square as the site for their church. At the cost of \$10,000, Owosso's growing parish of Episcopalian laid their church's cornerstone on September 26, 1859 and completed construction of the building in one year.

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The red brick structure is Romanesque in styling and displays traditional design features such as asymmetrical massing, semicircular arches for all the windows and doors, arcaded corbelling around the tower, buttresses with modest projections, and a wheel window in the gable end of the steep gable roof. Through the years, the church has undergone several structural changes. In 1881, for example, the congregation added a rectory at the northeast corner of the main building; this addition later was removed. The church closed for four months in 1892 while parishioners added a new foyer to the west facade of the structure and an altar bay to the east facade; these alterations created a cross-shaped floorplan for the church and moved the main entranceway from the south facade to the west. One additional change was made when a cyclone removed the tower's steeple in 1911. In spite of the fact that these physical changes have impacted the original appearance of the Christ Episcopal Church, the two additions - and even the shortened tower - have gained historical significance in their own right and help maintain the church as an architectural highlight of the Oliver Street District's streetscape.

EBENEZER GOULD RESIDENCE - 419 North Shiawassee Street
(PHOTO #11)

Ebenezer Gould, Owosso's first merchant, an early attorney, and a colonel in the Civil War, built this fine brick Italianate residence in 1860. The thirty-six-paned belvedere, with its baroque-inspired finial, surmounts a symmetrical, cubic, two story, three bay building. The corniceline brackets, the double arched window caps, the front entryway on the east side, and the two story piazza on the south, all display beautifully carved wood detailing. The house is in its original condition except for its painted brick and its interior conversion to apartments.

GOODHUE-CHRISTIAN RESIDENCE - 302 West Oliver Street
(PHOTO #12)

The Goodhues, a pioneer family with extensive land holdings in the County and one of the City's major dry-goods businesses, built this fine brick Italianate residence around 1860. Ebenezer F. Dudley, a wealthy creamery owner, purchased the home from the Goodhues and converted the grand structure into apartments. Fortunately, Daniel Christian, founder of Christian's Department Store, purchased the house after the turn-of-the-century and returned it to single-family use. Christian passed the home on to his son, Leigh, who served as the second president of Owosso's largest and best known commercial establishment. During the Christian Family's period of ownership, a new, wider portico and a more elaborate door enframingent were added when the structurally damaged bevedere was removed; the elaborate eavesline and window enframingents, however, remained the same. A single story side porch, added later, carefully duplicates the detailing of the main house.

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AMOS GOULD RESIDENCE - 515 North Washington Street
(PHOTO #13)

Along with the Goodhue-Christian and Ebenezer Gould Residences, this structure ranks as one of the three most handsome homes in Owosso. Amos Gould, the original owner of the home, was, perhaps, the City's most prominent citizen. As Owosso's first mayor, as its first banker, as a judge, as a State Senator, and as a man with extensive real estate holdings and lumber investments, Gould was an outstanding character in Owosso's history. Before 1860, Gould built his original home on this property in a simple style executed in wood and stucco. In 1873, however, he remodeled the home into an elaborate Italianate residence that he felt better reflected his growing wealth and importance. The remodeling included bricking over the facade in handsome and costly yellow New York State brick, adding a mansard roof, and applying an almost staggering amount of richly carved wooden detailing. Similar to the Ebenezer Gould and Goodhue-Christian Residences, the Amos Gould Residence stands on attractively landscaped grounds. The only missing architectural features are a third story tower above the garden facade entrance on the north and the elaborate balustrades that once capped the porches and bay windows.

WILLIAM FLETCHER RESIDENCE - 118 East Oliver Street
(PHOTO #14)

William Fletcher, a member of Daniel Ball's original millrace crew and a man who gained his wealth by establishing one of Owosso's most successful grist mills, built this home for his family in 1874. Irregular in massing, the house is a fine example of Italian Villa design. The first floor parlor and the master bedroom on the second floor mark the home's exterior with a finely detailed tri-sided bay on the front facade. The tower, whose large finial has been removed but whose ocular window at the third story level remains, dramatizes the home's front entryway. Ornate stone window enframements and wood brackets at the eavesline provide additional detailing for the structure's exterior. Inside, magnificent stained glass double doors and marble fireplaces highlight the parlors, the residence's finest rooms.

GUERDON DIMMICK RESIDENCE AND CARRIAGE HOUSE - 713 West Oliver Street
(PHOTOS #15 and #16)

The same family has owned this grand Italian Villa residence since its construction in 1876. The brick structure is in pristine condition, both inside and out, and displays the asymmetrical massing and dominant tower that typically mark the style. Handsomely arched windows with voussoirs marked by keystones, porches on both the front and side facades, brackets at the corniceline, and a varied roofline add a wealth of detail to the structure. A back roof replacement, executed in a French Second Empire style, offers an interesting design note to the east side of the residence. At the home's west side, a charming brick carriage house combining a fantasy of Dutch Revival, Italianate, Gothic, and High Victorian styling occupies a wooded lot. Behind the building constructed in 1885, one can still see the tracks of the riding

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ring where the family's Palamino ponies trained and exercised. Guerdon L. Dimmick, an Owossoite who made his fortune in real estate, built the home and its carriage house for his family. Dwight Dimmick, Guerdon's father and an early Owosso entrepreneur who established a successful crockery business and invested in real estate, lived in the house with his son's family for many years.

McHARDY-KINCAID RESIDENCE - 115-117 Goodhue Street
 (PHOTO #17)

Born in 1846, Arthur McHardy moved to Owosso in 1867 with his parents, Donald and Ann McHardy. As a young man, Arthur established a hardware business that remained active through a series of different partnerships, one of the more successful being the partnership of Gregory and McHardy. McHardy began construction of his brick residence on Goodhue Street in 1885 and used a design that loosely reflected the Gothic Revival styles popular elsewhere in the country during an earlier, mid-century period. The Gothic influences are evident in the home's cruciform floorplan, pointed arch windows, steeply pitched roof, and elaborate bargeboarding in the gable end. Todd Kincaid moved to Owosso in 1890 after starting one of the area's earliest coal mining operations in Kirby, a settlement about four miles east of Owosso. Kincaid came into possession of the residence after Mr. McHardy died and he married the merchant's widow, Emma Phillips McHardy.

ALVIN BENTLEY RESIDENCE - 805 West Oliver Street
 (PHOTO #18)

Alvin M. Bentley established the Owosso Tool Company, which, after years of steady growth, he incorporated as the Owosso Manufacturing Company in 1891. After World War I, this early firm evolved into the Mitchell-Bentley Corporation, a large manufacturer of automobile trims that marketed its products to most of the large automobile firms. Henry E. Southworth served as Bentley's superintendent for the Owosso Manufacturing Company for many years and prospered with the firm's development. This residence was one of a pair built in 1893 for A. M. Bentley and H. E. Southworth. The home's French Second Empire design, while oddly limited in height, displays a full complement of dormer windows in the shingled mansard roof, brackets at the eavesline, and decoratively incised lintels over each of the home's windows. An attached garage, added much later in the life of the home, is detailed to reflect the style of the residence.

JAMES COLBY RESIDENCE - 406 East Oliver Street
 (PHOTO #19)

James Singer Colby was a nephew of Isaac Merritt Singer, the inventor who patented America's first affordable sewing machine in 1851. While Colby never attained the national prominence of his famous uncle, he did become a well-known and prosperous farmer in Owosso who built a handsome home for his family in 1881. One of the most

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flamboyantly executed of Oliver Street's Queen Anne residences, the brick structure displays an exuberant collection of the style's typical details. A variety of diagonal planes and bays, as well as a dominant corner tower, add interest to the facades. Window treatments include double hung sash, paired double hung sash in elaborate wood enframements, lights flanked by stained glass and wood spandrels, and a grand oriel window. The polychrome slate roof, iron roof cresting, and carved wood detailing at the corniceline and porch add additional ornamentation to the asymmetrically massed Queen Ann structure.

BRUCE BUCKMINSTER RESIDENCE - 426 North Washington Street
 (PHOTO #20)

Owosso's First Baptist Church stood on this site from its date of construction in 1859 until 1875; Deacon Daniel Lyon leased the property to the church for one dollar annually. In the 1880s, however, Bruce Buckminster, an active member of the First Baptist Church's congregation and a well-to-do farmer, acquired the property and cleared it for construction of a residence. Buckminster built the home in 1885 utilizing an exuberantly eclectic design. The brick residence combines the varied floorplan, the asymmetrical massing, and the deep wrap-around porch of the Queen Anne style with the dominant side tower of the Italian Villa, the pointed arch windows of the Gothic Revival, and the elaborate wood window enframements and balustrades of the Italianate. Buckminster's daughter, Mrs. Samuel Willis, inherited the home around the turn-of-the-century; it was during this later period of ownership that the elaborate porch columns were added to the structure's porch and balconies.

FRAIN-BREWER-FORTMAN RESIDENCE - 502 West Oliver Street
 (PHOTO #21)

Although the original owner of this residence remains unknown, research indicates that H. H. Frain, a prosperous local blacksmith, owned the home by the turn-of-the-century. Next, the Eugene Brewer and the Fortman Families resided in the home on West Oliver Street. Built circa 1890, this Queen Anne residence is an example of the refined sense of design that prevailed in Owosso during the late nineteenth century. A chamfered first floor corner places the front entryway at an angle that better addresses the structure's corner lot location. In keeping with Queen Anne styling popular at the time, shadowed corners, bays, and chamfered edges break the planar surfaces of the home's facades. The facades, though all sheathed in wood, reflect a variety of clapboard, shingle, bargeboard, and bandcourse treatments. Additional Queen Anne detailing includes the inviting wrap-around porch, carved spandrels and drops over the first floor bay windows, stained glass windows, and a lively roofline repeatedly broken by ridgelines, dormer roofs, and a clustered brick chimney.

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JAMES OSBURN RESIDENCE - 527 North Washington Street
 (PHOTO #22)

While deceptively simple in massing compared to other Queen Anne residences in the Oliver Street District, this home displays elaborate flourishes of wood ornamentation designed to highlight the handsome detailing of the structure. For example, on the five sided corner bay alone, one sees column-like uprights between the first floor's windows, a block-patterned wood bandcourse between the first and second floors, incised enframements around the second floor's windows, an additional bandcourse between the second and third floors, and small rounded arch windows at the third floor level separated again by stylized columns and connected to the dentilated tower cornice by abstracted keys in the wood window enframements. On the main body of the house, additional wood trimming highlights the details of the porch, the windows, the second floor's bandcourse, and the Palladian-inspired window in the gable end. Built in 1893 by James Osburn, whose family established a successful dry-goods store in Owosso, the residence is an elegant addition to the Oliver Street District's streetscape.

GRAHAM-BIGELOW RESIDENCE - 522 West Oliver Street
 (PHOTOS #23 and #24)

This oddly "spliced" residence at the northeast corner of Oliver and Shiawassee Streets combines two distinctive styles of homes into one. At the front, or south side of the structure, a circa 1890 Eastlake-inspired building provides one distinct view of the home. The machine-made wood ornamentation evident in the porch balustrade, at the porch roofline, and in the gable ends, reflects the influence of the Eastlake style popular in Owosso during the last years of the nineteenth century. At the back, or north side of the structure, however, a French Second Empire building, built circa 1870, provides an altogether different appearance for the house. Here, the mansard roof and dormer windows reflect an earlier era of design. Amos Gould built the Second Empire-styled residence for his sister, Villetta Gould Graham. Mrs. Graham became well-known in Owosso as the grandmother of the Impressionist painter, Frederick Frieseke, who was born in the City in 1874. While the builder of the Eastlake-inspired segment of the house remains unknown, research indicates that Rolla P. Bigelow acquired the complete two-part home after the turn-of-the-century. Bigelow had been born in Owosso in 1880 and had gone on to become the wealthy owner of a private banking house in New York City. When he lived in Owosso, he purchased the West Oliver Street home and lavished the interiors of both structures with ornate woodwork, stained glass, and decorative fireplace enframements.

DRAKE - SCOFIELD RESIDENCE - 321 West Williams Street
 (PHOTO #25)

This attractive Eastlake-styled home on West Williams Street belonged to several owners in quick succession after its construction in the 1890s. Built by Sidney R. Drake, the home next housed the Albert E. Hartshorn Family; after the turn-of-the-century,

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Stephen Scofield, owner of Owosso's Yellow Cab Company during the 1920s, resided in the home. Dorr Day, one of the City's first professional photographers, followed Scofield as owner of the residence. With its woven porch apron and machine-made porch balustrade, the home's Eastlake influence is clear. The structure's asymmetrical massing, however, in addition to its wrap-around porch and variety of window treatments, strongly reflects the Queen Anne influence still popular when Sidney Drake built the home in the 1890s.

WILLIAM BIGELOW RESIDENCE/THOMAS DEWEY BOYHOOD HOME - 421 West Oliver Street
(see PHOTO #3)

William H. Bigelow, a pharmacist, moved to Owosso in 1883. He later became Vice President of the City's Citizens Savings Bank and a prosperous member of the community. To reflect that prosperity, Bigelow constructed a large, rambling wood-framed home for his family on West Oliver Street in 1898. On March 24, 1902, Thomas Dewey was born in a modest second story flat above a general store in downtown Owosso. His father, George Martin Dewey, an early postmaster and editor of the Owosso Times, and his mother, Annie Thomas Dewey, moved the family to the Bigelow Residence after they purchased the home in 1914; young Thomas Dewey spent his teen years in the residence. After completing his early education in the Owosso school system, Dewey began law school at the University of Michigan, graduated from that institution, and continued with additional legal studies at Columbia University in New York City. He rose to national celebrity as a racket-busting young chief assistant attorney who, with a staff of twenty lawyers, investigators, accountants, and a special police squad, won seventy-two convictions out of the seventy-three cases he tried during the late 1930s. While wide popular support swept Dewey into the Governorship of New York State in 1946 and 1950, his battles to defeat Franklin Roosevelt for a fourth term during World War II and Harry Truman for an opening term proved unsuccessful. As late as his successful bid as Governor of New York in 1950, Dewey indicated that he still held both public appeal and an ambition for the presidency. His presidential hopes were never fulfilled, however, and his philosophy of "modern Republicanism" remained untried. He campaigned for Dwight Eisenhower in two elections and did much to win New York's block of electoral votes for the war hero. During Nelson Rockefeller's tenure as New York's Governor, Dewey served as a gubernatorial advisor as well as an elder statesman for his party. His death came suddenly in March of 1971 after a golf game in Miami Beach. Dewey's boyhood home, an attractive two story Queen Anne structure with an overlay of Eastlake detailing, is a popularly recognized historic site in Owosso. While its simple clapboard facades, irregular massing and fenestration, broad front porch with splayed uprights, and simple bargeboarding in the paired gable ends are common to the Oliver Street District's streetscape, the structure is recognized as the home of a most uncommon man.

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FREDERICK SMITH RESIDENCE - 403 West Oliver Street
(PHOTO #26)

Frederick Smith, a successful Owosso undertaker in the partnership of Knapp and Smith, built this home on West Oliver Street in 1915. Following Smith's residency, Cecil Goodwill, president of the Barry Steel Company in Detroit, owned the home; Harlow Ross, a local Buick dealer whose father was an employee of General Motors, bought the residence from Goodwill before World War II. The Steck Family established itself in Owosso through its jewelry business, a commercial enterprise which stands today as one of the oldest in the downtown area maintaining its original location. After World War II, Henry Steck bought the Dutch Revival residence for his family. Highlighted by a gambrel roof, balanced massing and fenestration, and front and side porches supported by fluted Doric-inspired columns, the structure represents yet another style found along the Oliver Street District's diverse streetscape.

LEE WOODARD RESIDENCE - 825 West Oliver Street
(PHOTO #27)

Lee Lyman Woodard stands out in Owosso's history as the man who took the Woodard Furniture and Casket Company, which could have met with decline during the early years of the twentieth century, and transformed it into an updated enterprise focused on the production of wrought iron furniture. In 1918, Woodard selected a heavily wooded site on West Oliver Street to build this red brick Georgian Revival home for his wife, Sadie, and sons. Serving as both designer and construction supervisor for the residence, Woodard created the balanced massing and fenestration, the gable roof with eavesline to the street, and the telescoping wings that were common to the Georgian Revival style utilized for his home.

JAMES CURWOOD RESIDENCE - 508 West Williams Street
(PHOTO #28)

James Oliver Curwood, noted author and conservationist whose "Curwood Castle" stands two blocks away, built this brick Georgian Revival home in 1910. One of the most beautifully detailed of the Georgian Revival structures in the Oliver Street District, the home is symmetrical in massing with balanced fenestration and a break in the front facade to highlight the entranceway bay. The windows, which are eight-over-twelve double hung sash at the first floor level, have soldier brick lintels with limestone keystones. The centered entryway is beautifully detailed with a multi-paned transom over the door, sidelights, and a classically-inspired porch complete with modified Doric columns, pilasters, and a dentilated corniceline capped with a balustrade. At the second floor level, balanced pairs of eight-over-eight double hung sash flank a ribbon window in the center bay. Above the dentilated corniceline, three dormers with rounded roofs and multi-paned casement windows highlight the hipped roof.

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CALVIN BENTLEY RESIDENCE - 621 West Oliver Street
(PHOTO #29)

Calvin Bentley, son of A. M. Bentley who founded the Owosso Manufacturing Company in 1885, built this grand Tudor Revival residence during the mid-1920s. At the first floor level, the double door front entryway, four-lighted casement windows, and balustraded porch highlight the brick facade. Stucco and half-timbering, in addition to casement windows and half-timbered ribbing in the gable ends, add detail to the second story level. Used today as Owosso's YMCA, the structure and grounds remain well maintained.



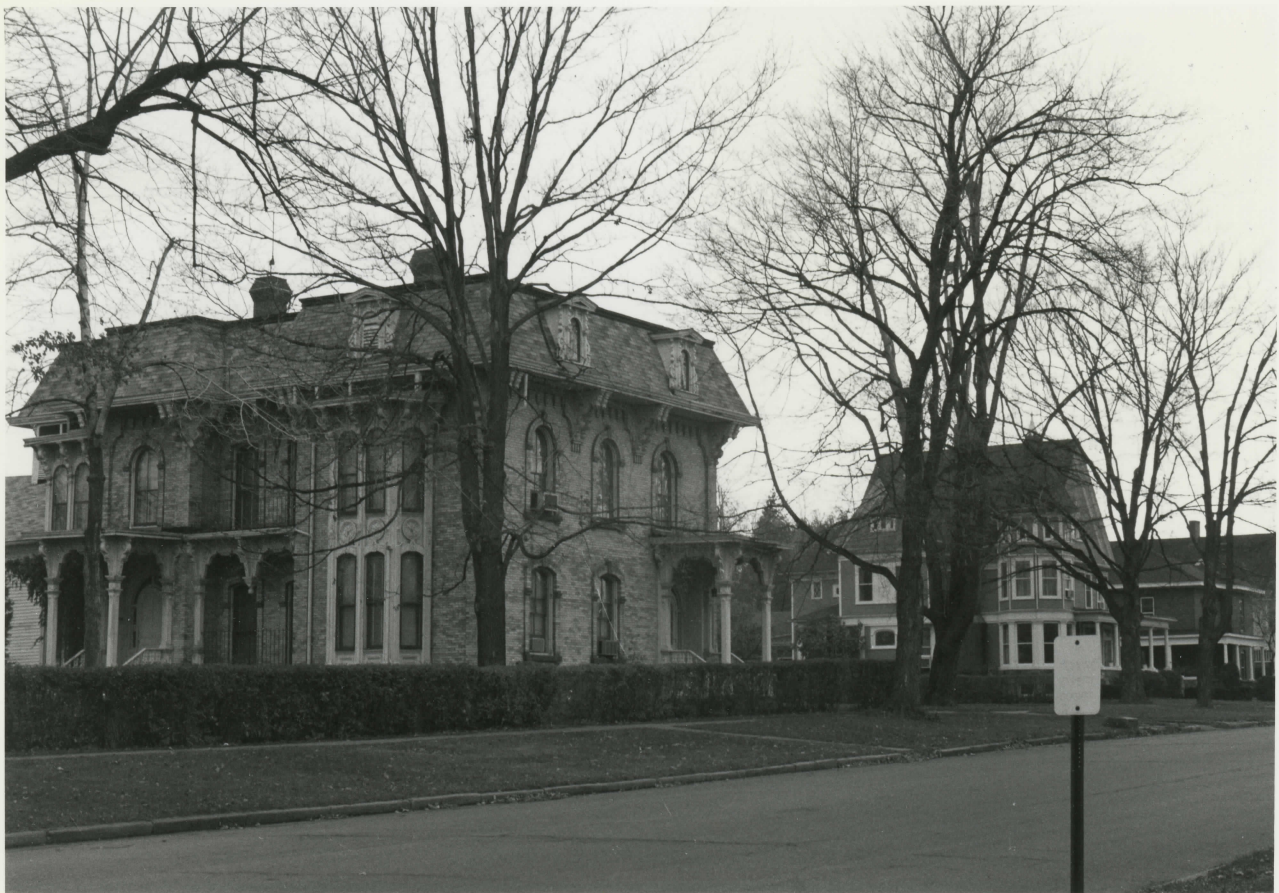
- 1) William Bigelow Residence/
Thomas Dewey Boyhood Home
421 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South East
- 7) PHOTO #3

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Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

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Oliver St HD



- 1) Oliver Street Historic District Streetscape
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Janet L. Kreger
- 4) 10/1979
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing northwestward at the west side of North Washington from Oliver St.
- 7) PHOTO #4

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

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- 1) Oliver Street Historic District Streetscape
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Janet L. Kreger
- 4) 10/1979
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing northwestward at the north side of West Oliver Street from Pine Street
- 7) PHOTO #6

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Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.



- 1) Oliver Street Historic District Streetscape
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Janet L. Kreger
- 4) 10/1979
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing southeastward at south side of West Oliver Street from First Street
- 7) PHOTO #5

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Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

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- 1) Oliver Street Historic District Streetscape
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Janet L. Kreger
- 4) 10/1979
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing northwestward at the north side of East Oliver Street from North Oak Street
- 7) PHOTO #7

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Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

NOV 4 1980



- 1) Residence
205 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South West
- 7) PHOTO #8

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) Josiah Turner Residence
105 Goodhue Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Janet L. Kreger
- 4) 10/1979
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North
- 7) PHOTO #9

NOV 4 1980

FEB 20 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.



- 1) Christ Episcopal Church
Fayette Square
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North East
- 7) PHOTO #10

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.



- 1) Ebenezer Gould Residence
419 North Shiawassee St.
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 8/1978
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North West
- 7) PHOTO #11

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) Goodhue - Christian
Residence
302 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 7/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North
- 7) PHOTO #12

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.



- 1) Amos Gould Residence
515 North Washington St.
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 4/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North West
- 7) PHOTO #13

4 1980

NOV

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) William Fletcher
Residence
118 East Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South West
- 7) PHOTO #14

4 1980

NOV

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) Guerdon Dimmick Residence
713 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 11/1978
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South West
- 7) PHOTO #15

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) Guerdon Dimmick Residence
Carriage House
713 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South
- 7) PHOTO #16

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) McHardy-Kincaid
Residence
115-117 Goodhue Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North
- 7) PHOTO #17

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) Alvin Bentley Residence
805 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 10/1978
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South
- 7) PHOTO #18

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980

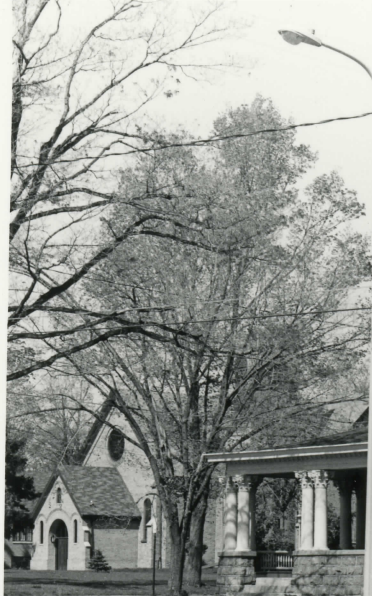


- 1) James Colby Residence
406 East Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 10/1978
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South East
- 7) PHOTO #19

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) Bruce Buckminster
Residence
426 North Washington St.
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North East
- 7) PHOTO #20

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980



- 1) Frain-Brewer-Fortman
Residence
502 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North West
- 7) PHOTO #21

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) James Osburn Residence
527 North Washington St.
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 3/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing West
- 7) PHOTO #22

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) Graham-Bigelow Residence
Front (South) Structure
522 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North West
- 7) PHOTO #23

NOV 4 1980

FEB 20 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.



- 1) Graham-Bigelow Residence
Back (North) Structure
522 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South East
- 7) PHOTO #24

Owosso Multiple Resource AREA?/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) Drake-Scofield Residence
321 West Williams Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 10/1978
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South West
- 7) PHOTO #25

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) Frederick Smith
Residence
403 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteer
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South West
- 7) PHOTO #26

APR 4 1980

NOV

FEB 20 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.



- 1) Lee Woodard Residence
825 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 8/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South
- 7) PHOTO #27

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980

NOV 4 1980



- 1) James Curwood Residence
508 West Williams Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 5/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing North
- 7) PHOTO #28

NOV 4 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

FEB 20 1980.



- 1) Calvin Bentley Residence
621 West Oliver Street
- 2) Owosso, Michigan
- 3) Owosso Survey Volunteers
- 4) 6/1977
- 5) Michigan History Division
- 6) Facing South East
- 7) PHOTO #29

NOV 1 1980

NOV 1 1980

Owosso Multiple Resource Area/Shiawassee Co.

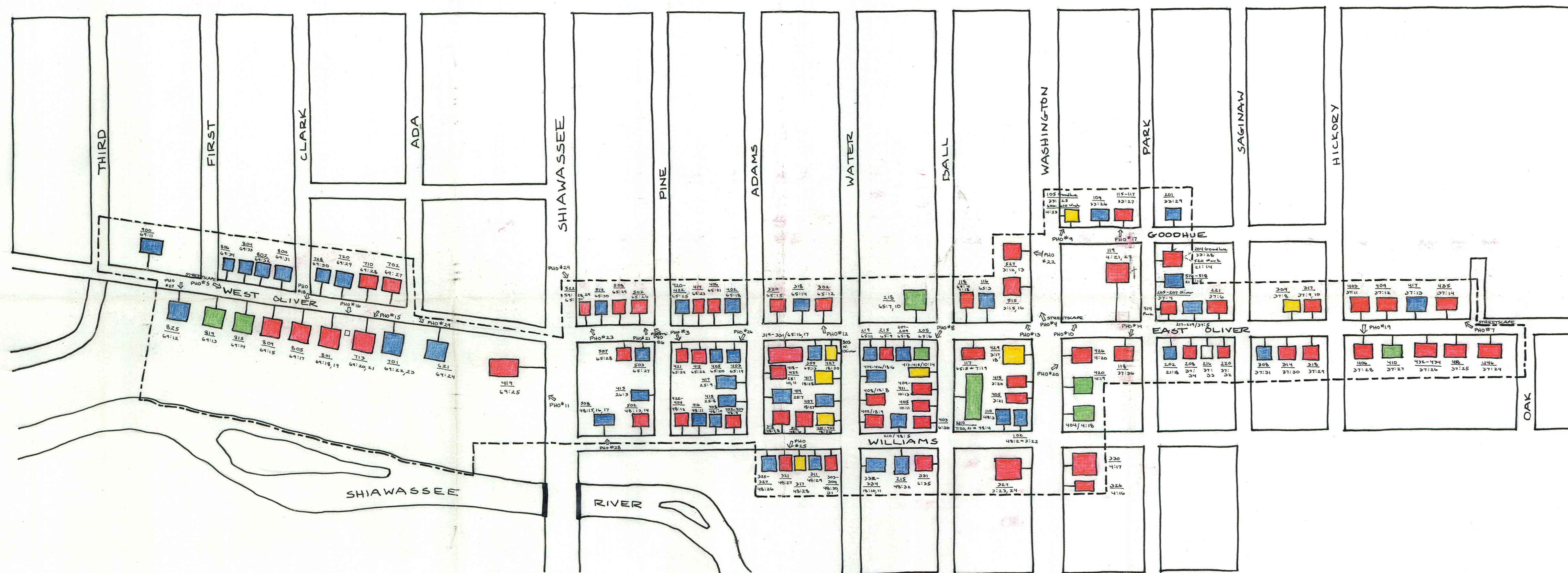
FEB 20 1980



OWOSSO, MICHIGAN / SHIAWA

REVISOR

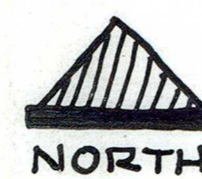
Map details include a grid of streets, a river on the right, and several colored blocks (blue, green, red) with associated numbers. A dashed line runs through the town. The map is oriented vertically on the page.



OLIVER STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

OWOSSO MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION

OWOSSO, MICHIGAN / SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

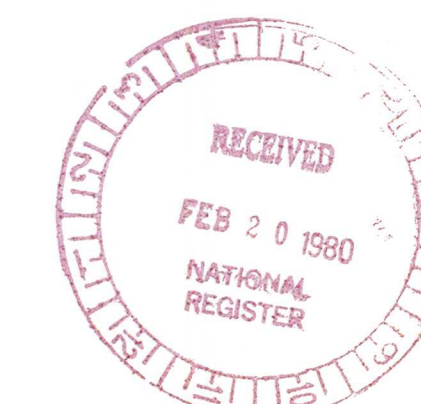


SCALE:
(APPROXIMATELY) 1" = 200'

Note: Buildings not drawn to scale

KEY:

- BUILT 1835 — 1856
- BUILT 1856 — 1890s
- BUILT 1900 — 1929
- INTRUSIONS



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000330

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCERS use only

received FEB 20 1980

date entered

NOV 1 1980

Continuation sheet

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Item number 10

Page 4

Oliver Street Historic District

Acreage: 58 acres

Quadrangle Name: Owosso North Quadrangle

UTM Reference: A-2 - 16/729660/4764810
 B-2 - 16/731130/4764850
 C-2 - 16/729660/4764490
 D-2 - 16/731120/4764520

Verbal Boundary Description:

The NORTHERN BOUNDARY of the District begins at the point of intersection between the center line of Third Street and the extended west end of the rear (north) property line of #900 West Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the rear (north) property lines of the #800 and #700 blocks of West Oliver Street until it extends and intersects the center line of Ada Street; from this point, the boundary moves southward along the center line of Ada Street until it intersects the center line of West Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the center line of West Oliver Street until it intersects the center line of Shiawassee Street; from this point, the boundary moves northward along Shiawassee Street until it intersects the extended west end of the rear (north) property line of #552 West Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the rear (north) property lines of the #500, #400, #300, #200, and #100 blocks of West Oliver Street until it intersects the rear (west) property line of the #500 block of Washington Street; from this point, the boundary moves northward along the rear (west) property lines of the #500 block of Washington Street until it intersects the side (north) property line of #527 Washington Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the side (north) property line of #527 Washington Street until it extends and intersects the center line of Washington Street; from this point, the boundary moves northward along the center line of Washington Street until it intersects the extended west end of the rear (north) property line of #105 Goodhue Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the rear (north) property lines of the #100 and #200 blocks of Goodhue Street until it intersects the side (east) property line of #201 Goodhue Street; from this point, the boundary moves southward along the side (east) property line of #201 Goodhue Street and the rear (east) property lines of the #200 block of Park Street until it intersects the rear (north) property lines of the #200 block of East Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the rear (north) property lines of the #200, #300, and #400 blocks of East Oliver Street until it extends and intersects the center line of the northern extension of Oak Street.

The EASTERN BOUNDARY of the District begins at the point of intersection between the extended east end of the rear (north) property line of #435 East Oliver Street and the center line of the northern extension of Oak Street; from this point, the boundary moves southward along the center line of the northern extension of Oak Street until it intersects the center line of East Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves eastward along the center line of East Oliver Street until it intersects the

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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date entered NOV 4 1980

Continuation sheet

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Item number 10

Page 5

center line of Oak Street; from this point, the boundary moves southward along the center line of Oak Street until it intersects the extended east end of the rear (south) property line of #446 East Oliver Street.

The SOUTHERN BOUNDARY of the District begins at the point of intersection between the center line of Oak Street and the extended east end of the rear (south) property line of #446 East Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves westward along the rear (south) property lines of the #400, #300, #200, and #100 blocks of East Oliver Street until it intersects the rear (east) property lines of the #400 block of Washington Street; from this point, the boundary moves southward along the rear (east) property lines of the #400 and #300 blocks of Washington Street until it intersects the side (south) property line of #326 Washington Street; from this point, the boundary moves westward along the side (south) property line of #326 Washington Street, the side (south) property line of #327 Washington Street, the side (south) property line of #331 Ball Street, the rear (south) property line of #215 Williams Street, the side (south) property line of #332-334 Water Street, and the rear (south) property lines of the #300 block of Williams Street until it intersects the side (west) property line of #325-327 Williams Street; from this point, the boundary moves northward along the side (west) property line of #325-327 Williams Street until it extends and intersects the center line of Williams Street; from this point, the boundary moves westward along the center line of Williams Street and along the side (south) property line of #419 Shiawasse River until it intersects the side (east) property line of #621 West Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves southward along the side (east) property line of #621 West Oliver Street until it intersects the north bank of the Shiawasse River; from this point, the boundary moves westward along the north bank of the Shiawasse River until it intersects the side (west) property line of #825 West Oliver Street.

The WESTERN BOUNDARY of the District begins at the point of intersection between the north bank of the Shiawasse River and the side (west) property line of #825 West Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves northward along the side (west) property line of #825 West Oliver Street until it extends and intersects the center line of West Oliver Street; from this point, the boundary moves westward along the center line of West Oliver Street until it intersects the center line of Third Street; from this point, the boundary moves northward along the center line of Third Street until it intersects the starting point, the extended west end of the rear (north) property line of #900 West Oliver Street.

Boundary Justification: For a complete boundary justification, please see Part V, "Description of Physical Appearance and Statement of Historical and Architectural Significance for the Oliver Street Historic District - Quantification of District Attributes, Boundary Descriptions, and Rationale for Boundary Selection," Continuation Sheet #41.

Mason Street Historic Residential District

Acres: 7 acres

Owosso Multiple Resource Area

Shiawassee Co.

REC 2.20.80

TRA 3.18.80

YP

Check - 508 W. Williams

GEORGE W. HODDY

508 W. WILLIAMS STREET

OWOSSO, MICHIGAN 48867

517-723-4405

is included as

A (Contributing Building)

CALLED

March 21, 1980

Carol L. Shull,
Acting Keeper of the National Register,
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service,
Department of the Interior, Pension Bldg.
440 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20243.

Ref. 661

Re. Owosso Multiple Resource Area
502 W. Williams & 415 Pine

Also - 503 W. Oliver

Dear Mrs. Shull:

Thank you for your letters of March 18
advising that the area, in which my property
listed above is located, has been nominated
for listing in the National Register of Historic
places.

I consider this an honor to Owosso
and to me to receive your approval of
this nomination so please give it your
favorable consideration.

I understand that my home
at 508 W. Williams, is also included
in this nomination since it is the
former home of James Oliver Curwood.
I did not receive a notice from you
on this address.



Sincerely
George W. Hoddy

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D MAR 28 1980

 INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

 NO. OF TWO MONTHS SENT

X TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN 4.3.80

INITIALS SHH

LAW OFFICES
W. L. MEULEMAN, III
5800 GRATIOT ROAD, Suite 115
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48603
PHONE (517) 799-8785

YP
Saginaw Co.

March 21, 1980

Miss Carol D. Shull
Acting Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Pension Bldg.
440 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20243

Attn: NOM

RE: IN REPLY TO 661

RE: OWOSSO MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA

Dear Miss Shull:

In reference to your letter of March 18, 1980, regarding the Owosso Multiple Resource Area which has been nominated for inclusion in the National Register, it is my opinion, as a homeowner within the historic district, that all four districts previously proposed for nomination should be listed on the National Register.

The areas nominated as well as the individual residences contained within those areas certainly meet all the criteria for inclusion in the National Register.

On behalf of myself, as well as other homeowners in the area, we would be pleased if the Department of the Interior would act quickly in passing this nomination.

I remain

Very truly yours,



W. L. Meuleman, III
421 W. Oliver St.
Owosso, MI 48867/Thomas Dewey Boyhood Home

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D MAR 25 1980

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

MAP OF THE MATERIAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____

3-25-80

Shiawassee Co.

YP send info

DEAR MS CAROL D. SHULL,

REPLY NUMBER 661

RE: OWOSSO MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA
208 EAST OLIVER.

IN REGARDS TO HOUSE THAT WAS OWNED
BY JACK GERHOLD
419 W. CORUNNA AVE.
CORUNNA, MI 48817

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT I'M THE
NEW OWNER OF THE HOUSE;
RANDALL J. FRANKLIN
208 E. OLIVER
OWOSSO, MI 48867
517 - 725-9854

YES I'M IN FAVOR OF HAVING ^{THE} DISTRICT
LISTED, BECAUSE THE ONLY WAY TO
BE ABLE TO KEEP THESE OLD HOMES
UP AND IN THE HISTORIC WAY
WOULD BE TO HAVE GOV'T HELP
TO DO THE PROPER JOB.

WOULD YOU PLEASE LET ~~ME~~ ME KNOW
IF THE HOME IS PUT ON THE LIST,
AND THEN HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED
IN THE PROGRAM.

THANK YOU,

Randall J. Franklin

YP -
Send HR,
Grants

*Change
John
1/6 - 1/18*

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D APR 1 1980

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (AT...)

INFORMATIVE MATERIAL

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACH...)

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____

es/b/4 es

Ms. Shall

Shall

NP

Handwritten initials

reid.
2-20-80

(MI)

LAW OFFICES
DES JARDINS, DES JARDINS AND MOORHEAD

312 WEST MAIN STREET

P. O. BOX 458

OWOSSO, MICHIGAN 48867

TELEPHONE (517) 723-5114

JERRY L. DES JARDINS
THOMAS E. MOORHEAD

NORMAN L. DESJARDINS
1901-1979

April 21, 1980

Ms. Carol D. Shull
Acting Keeper of the National Register
Technical Preservation Services
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Pension Building
440 G Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20243

Re: Owosso Multiple Resource Area

Gentlemen:

On behalf of Olive L. Matthews, the owner of a parcel of real estate located at 303 West Oliver Street, Owosso, Michigan, the southwest corner of the intersection of Oliver Street and Water Street, I wish to request that her property will not be included in the district which was accepted for the National Register of Historical Places.

Miss Matthews does not believe that any of the benefits described in your communication would be helpful to her.

Yours very truly,

DES JARDINS, DES JARDINS AND MOORHEAD

Jerry L. Des Jardins
Jerry L. Des Jardins

JLD/tlo

cc: Miss Olive L. Matthews

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D APR 23 1980

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT

FILED IN _____

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____

ja 8/8

memorandum

DATE: April 27, 1987

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Camille Martone

SUBJECT: Part 2 Appeal

TO: PAD/NR/LARS

Property: First Methodist Church Parish House Oliver Street H.D.
117 West Oliver Street
Owosso, Michigan *Shawson G.*

Meeting: Wednesday, May 27, 1987
10:30 AM
Dr. Connally's office

*MR
attend*

Issues: Removal of historic sash and replacement with heavily tinted
single pane windows
Demolition of two historic porches
Reworking the main entrance
Site regrading

The owner will attend.

Tax Act Appeal, Part II : 117 W. Oliver St.

Oliver St. H.D.

Owosso MRA (Shiawassee County), MI

Oliver Street H.D (listed 11/4/80)

an area of opulent homes and religious structures

114 homes, 7 churches, 1 gas station

boundaries selected to include a concentration of the finest houses in Owosso - district once called "Aristocrats' Row"

period of significance spans all 3 major periods of Owosso's development from 1838 - 1929

result = architecturally mixed streetscape :

Greek Revival	} all or most major styles of the period
Gothic Revival	
Italianate	
Sec. Empire	
Romanesque	
Queen Anne	
20 th C. revival styles	