

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Boundary Justification: For a complete boundary justification, please see Part X, "Description of Physical Appearance and Statement of Historical and Architectural Significance for the Dibbleville/Fentonville Historic District in City of Fenton - Quantification of District Attributes, Boundary Description, and Rationale for Boundary Selection." Continuation Sheet #7/8-77.

Individual Sites

1. 901 South Leroy Street - "David B. Colwell Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre  
Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle  
UTM Reference: 17/278780/4740590  
Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-1035

2. 209 East High Street - "Edwin M. Adams/H. J. VanAtta Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre  
Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle  
UTM Reference: 17/278920/4740640  
Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-1019

3. 210 East High Street - "Colonel J. Hinckley Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre  
Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle  
UTM Reference: 17/278920/4740580  
Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-1030

4. 801 South East Street - "Edwin Trump Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre  
Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle  
UTM Reference: 17/279060/4740580  
Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-2723

5. 800 South East Street - "H. N. Jennings Residence"  
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre  
Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle  
UTM Reference: 17/279000/4740580  
Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-1025

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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PART XI: DESCRIPTIONS OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND STATEMENTS OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR FORTY-THREE INDIVIDUAL SITE NOMINATIONS\*

\*Notes: The size and design of the Michigan History Division's Survey Data Cards is such that not all the information required for individual sites within the Multiple Resource Nomination could be provided on them. Thus, rather than simply attaching copies of these inventory forms to the nomination, information on the significance of the individual sites is provided in the following section. UTM reference points, acreage, property owner names, etc., will be found integrated into the appropriate sections of the National Register Nomination with similar information provided for the historic districts.

Unless otherwise noted, outbuildings associated with individually nominated properties are of contemporary vintage and not specifically addressed in the text.

CITY OF FENTON INDIVIDUAL SITES: 10 total: 1 commercial - depot; 1 institutional - seminary; 8 residential

A number of architecturally and historically significant structures are located outside the boundaries of the Dibbleville/Fentonville Historic District in Fenton but stand within the city limits. They include the following sites.

① ✓ DAVID B. COLWELL, <sup>House (G.C.M.R.A.)</sup> RESIDENCE - 901 South Leroy Street  
Fenton  
(PHOTO #47)

National Register  
Selection Criteria  
B.  
C.

The residence at 901 South Leroy Street was built in 1870 by David B. Colwell of the Fenton Flour Mills partnership of Colwell and Adams. Colwell bought out partner Edwin Adams in 1880, however, and continued the business on his own. He also owned a sawmill in Fenton located northwest of his flour mill. A successful businessman, Colwell owned mills credited as having among the highest yields in the area.

Colwell chose an imposing site for his monumental Italianate home on Leroy Street. The two-and-one-half-story brick residence exhibits a square main mass to which is attached a small, one-story square wing dating from the twentieth century. The front facade features a Classical gabled portico and an entry door framed by sidelights and an entablature. The trabeated four-over-four double hung sash at the first and second story levels create a symmetrical fenestration for the facade and exhibit stone lug sills and lintels. The attic story presents a brick beltcourse at its base and is pierced by small rectangular windows in the frieze. The structure is further ornamented with overhanging eaves and a low-pitched hipped roof covered at a later date in light red tiles. The residence at 901 South Leroy achieves significance not only because of its historical associations with a businessman of local importance, but as a fine example of high style nineteenth century Italianate architecture.

Prominent members of nineteenth century communities often chose to locate residences on points of higher elevation. Several successful Fentonville residents

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followed this trend and built their homes on the aptly named High Street located just south of the Dibbleville/Fentonville Historic District's southern boundary. The following two residential sites are representative of this phenomenon.

*Adams-Van Atta House*  
EDWIN M. ADAMS/H. J. VanATTA RESIDENCE -  
209 East High Street (1868)  
Fenton  
(PHOTO #48)

National Register  
Selection Criteria  
B.  
C.

Built in 1868, the Italianate residence at 209 East High Street was originally the home of Edwin M. Adams. In 1872, Adams, in partnership with David B. Colwell, became one in a succession of owners of the Fenton Mills. Late in the 1880s, Dibbleville furniture maker H. J. VanAtta resided in the home. It has remained in the VanAtta family since that time with VanAtta's daughter, Alice, maintaining ownership today.

The two-story, wood-framed and clapboard-sheathed structure exhibits traditional Italianate massing and plan as well as Italianate decoration. There is a first-story open porch with turned supports and balustrade which may date from a later period. Double hung sash are placed symmetrically in the facade and are highlighted by entablature-like hood moldings. The structure is capped by a hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves below which are paired brackets and a wide frieze.

*House (G.C.M.R.A.)*  
COLONEL J. HINCKLEY RESIDENCE - 210 High Street  
(1868) Fenton  
(PHOTO #49)

National Register  
Selection Criteria  
B.  
C.

The residence at 210 High Street was built in 1868 by Colonel J. Hinckley and stands on a spacious, well-landscaped lot located directly along High Street. Though little else is known about its original owner, the stately home was occupied at various times in its history by several of Fentonville's most prominent businessmen including the leading nineteenth century industrialist, A. J. Phillips. Other owners include Brent Birdsall, a dry goods merchant in business for over thirty years in Fenton; David Latourette, who established Fentonville's first bank, the First National Bank, and endowed the prestigious Fenton Seminary located at 309 High Street (see "Part XI: Descriptions of Physical Appearance and Statements of Historical and Architectural Significance for Forty-three Individual Site Nominations, Continuation Sheet #7/8-94, and PHOTO #56); and finally, in the 1920s, Earl Bunce, president of a successful cement plant in Fenton, the Aetna Cement Company.

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Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Genesee County Multiple Resource Area  
State Michigan

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Colwell, David B., House                   | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 2. Adams-Van Atta House                       | Substantive Review<br>DOE/OWNER OBJECTION | Keeper <u>Both Grosvenor 11/23/82</u>     |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 3. Hinckley, Col. J., House                   | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 4. Trump, Edwin, House                        | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 5. Jennings, H. N., House                     | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 6. Bangs, Benjamin, House                     | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 7. Riggs, Frederick, House                    | Substantive Review                        | Keeper <u>Withdrawn by JHPO - 4/21/83</u> |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 8. Church, Volney-Carlos B.<br>Shotwell House | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 9. Fenton Seminary                            | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 11/20/82</u>   |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |
| 10. Fenton Railroad Depot                     | Entered in the<br>National Register       | for Keeper <u>Melvin Byers 6/20/83</u>    |
|   |   | Attest _____                              |

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Colwell, David B., House (Genesee County MRA)  
Genesee County  
MICHIGAN

Working No. 10/12/82-2850  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83  
Date Due: 11/11/82 — 11/26/82  
Action:  ACCEPT 11/26/82  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Entered in the National Register  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

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

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

|          |                    |            |             |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| Category | Ownership          | Status     | Present Use |
|          | Public Acquisition | Accessible |             |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

## 8. Significance

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

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

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

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

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

USGS References

Verbal boundary description and justification

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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

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## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

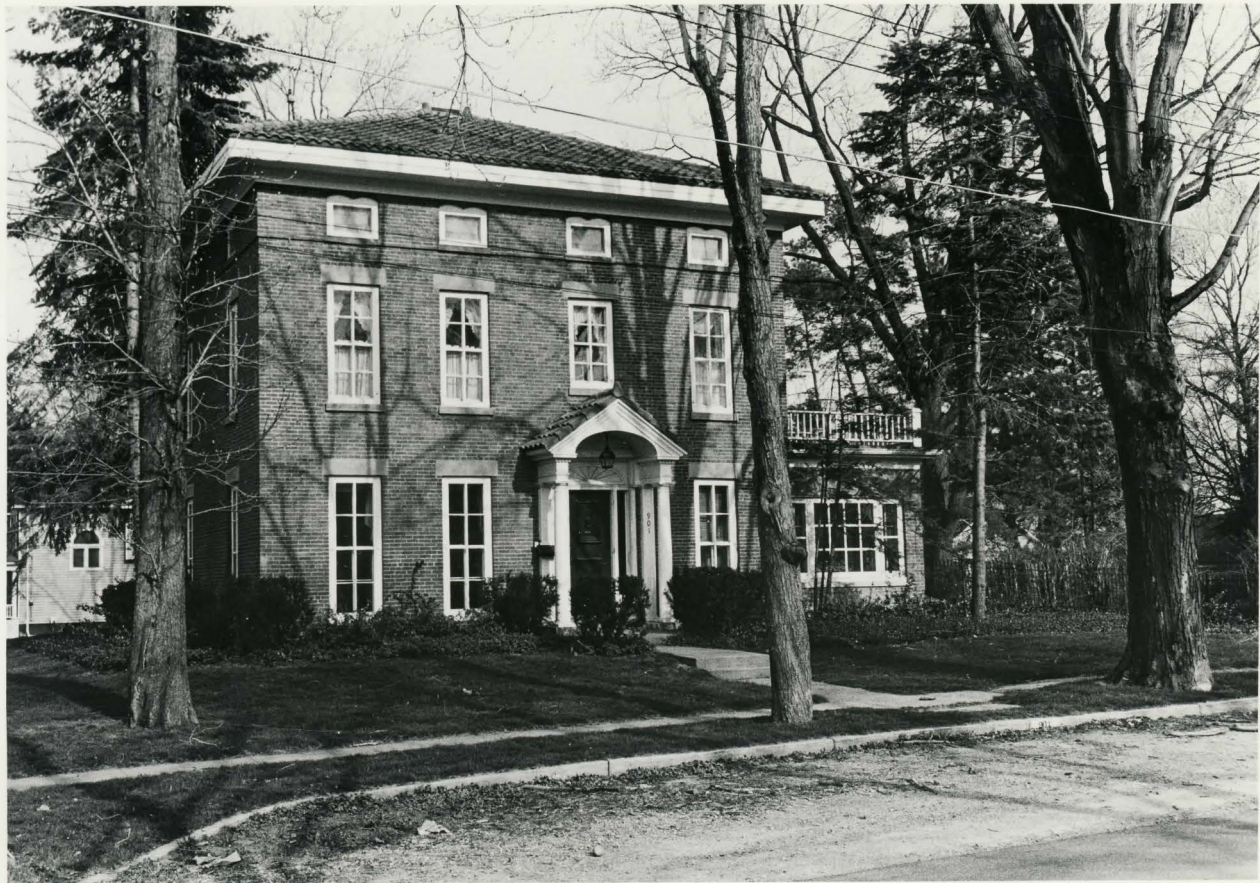
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

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

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

PHOTO: DAVID B. COLWELL RESIDENCE

82000506



1. David B. Colwell Residence
2. 901 S. Leroy  
Fenton  
Genesee  
Michigan
3. Matthew Lampe
4. May 1982
5. Michigan History Division
6. view from W
7. 47 of 92

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000325