

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

127

Item number #10

Page 10

6. 819 South Leroy Street - "Benjamin Bangs Residence"
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278780/4740730

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-862

7.

8. 617 South Oak Street - "Frederick Riggs Residence"
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278870/4740730

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-865

9. 812 South Adelaide Street - "Volney Church/Carlos B. Shotwell Residence"
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278580/4740730

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-1375

10. 309 West High Street - "Fenton Seminary"
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278380/4740590

Verbal Boundary Description: Property Tax #X-577

11. 207 Silver Lake Road - "Fenton Railroad Depot"
Fenton, MI 48430

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

Quadrangle Name: Fenton Quadrangle

UTM Reference: 17/278990/4741630

Verbal Boundary Description: Not available

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produced in executing his stately renovation project. While portions of the home are brick, others utilize cement. The home is important not only as an example of early twentieth century architecture, but as a testimony to the utilization of new building products in residential construction.

9

FENTON SEMINARY - 309 High Street
(c. 1868) Fenton
(PHOTO #56)

(GCMRA)

National Register
Selection Criteria
A.
C.

Fentonville distinguished itself early with a highly developed private and public school system. The Fentonville public system was, as of 1876, one of five systems in the State on the University of Michigan's accredited list. Unfortunately, the private school system failed when financial difficulties, not unknown to such institutions, forced it to close its doors. In addition to primary and secondary schools, Fentonville had three institutions of higher learning, one of which was the private Fenton Seminary, founded by Rosina L. Dayfoot under the auspices of the Baptist Church.

A two-story frame building was the first to house the Fenton Seminary, which served as a feeder preparatory school for Kalamazoo College in the western part of the State. This structure was soon followed, circa 1868, by the extant monumental stone structure at 309 High Street. At the height of its success, the seminary boasted classes in business, languages, music, and calisthenics. By 1886, however, the school's trustees found it impossible to continue operation of the Fenton Seminary and offered the building and grounds to the Baptist Ministers Aid Society. From that time until very recently, it was known as the Baptist Ministers Home and served as a retirement home for clerics.

The three-story stone structure was originally constructed in the Second Empire style, complete with a mansard roof, dormers, and rounded arch windows. A severe fire in 1899, however, destroyed the entire interior, roof, and the original two-story veranda with its balustrades and divided front steps. During the building's reconstruction in 1900, the porch was altered to feature two stone piers, the front stairway was built as a single flight, and the third story was eliminated and replaced by a truncated hip roof. The new roof's details included a centrally placed stepped gable dormer flanked by fanciful metal dormers. The structure remains virtually intact today except for its vacant and neglected condition. It remains one of Fenton's most prominent nineteenth century buildings and there are realistic hopes that it will be rehabilitated in the near future.

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Item number

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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

⁷⁵ 1. Colwell, David B., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

⁷⁶ 2. Adams-Van Atta House

Substantive Review
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

eligible
Keeper Beth Grosvonts 11/23/82

Attest

⁷⁷ 3. Hinckley, Col. J., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

⁷⁴ 4. Trump, Edwin, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

⁷⁵ 5. Jennings, H. N., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

⁷⁶ 6. Bangs, Benjamin, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

⁷⁷ 7. Riggs, Frederick, House

Substantive Review

Keeper Withdrawn by JHPD - 4/21/83

Attest

8. Church, Volney-Carlos B.
Shotwell House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

9. Fenton Seminary

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 11/26/82

Attest

10. Fenton Railroad Depot

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Melvin Byers 6/20/83

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Fenton Seminary (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

Entered in the
National Register

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USIT Reference _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

PHOTO: FENTON SEMINARY

83000508



1. Fenton Seminary
2. 309 High
Fenton
Genesee
Michigan
3. Matthew Lampe
4. May 1982
5. Michigan History Division
6. view from N
7. 56 of 92

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000325