

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

204

Item number

7/8

Page

128

Photo #103
ABEL BROCKWAY HOUSE
1631 Brockway
1864
National Register Criteria: A, B, C

The home at 1631 Brockway and the original Brockway farm have seen several phases of Saginaw's history. The original farm covered all the land bounded by what are now Wells, Gratiot, Thurman, and Brockway Streets. Before 1859, five different owners held the property. The last of these owners was Benjamin Cushway, Saginaw's official Indian Blacksmith, who owned it during Saginaw's pre-lumber agricultural period. In 1859, the farm was purchased by Abel Brockway who owned it through the rise and fall of the lumber industry. It was next owned by Harker Jackson at the time when the automobile was making its first impact on Saginaw's economy. Although the farm is now gone, the house still stands, recalling three separate but integrated periods of Saginaw's development.

Abel Brockway built his home in 1864. Brockway came to Saginaw in 1856 at the age of thirty-eight. He was a shrewd businessman who wasted no time in making an indelible mark on Saginaw's economy. He was a member of that group of early Saginaw capitalists which, under the leadership of Ammi Wright, built the economic base of Saginaw and, thus, ensured the City's success. Abel participated in business ventures involving lumber, railroads, banking, and any other activity that was of major consequence. He was also involved in civic organizations and served as City Alderman for a number of years. The house, during his residency, consisted of only the two story center portion.

Upon Brockway's death in 1886, the land and the home were inherited by his daughter, Mary. She, however, had married into a wealthy family and did not need her inheritance. During liquidation of the estate, she gave the land east of Elm Street to the City in 1896. South Intermediate School now stands on Elm Street where the farm's orchards once were. The remainder of the estate she platted as "Brockway Gardens" and sold the land in parcels.

Around 1920, Harker Jackson purchased the home and its remaining land. Jackson, born in Ontario, was an honors graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Architecture. He came to Saginaw to work with his father in cork pine lumbering and sash manufacture, but his real love was design. It was Harker Jackson who designed the additions to the house. Due to the care he took to blend the design and construction of the new with the old, these additions appear almost original. The four wooden fluted columns on the porch are from Dr. Florentine's Hospital for Women, one of Saginaw's earliest health care institutions.

The final result of Brockway's and Jackson's efforts is a home which incorporates nineteenth and twentieth century architectural styles into an amazingly coherent whole. The original two story portion began as a simple Greek Revival structure. The home was

**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

205

Item number

7/8

Page

129

"Colonialized", however, by the addition of two one-and-one half story wings and a two story front portico with a simply articulated pediment and four fluted columns with lotus leaf capitals. The white clapboard sheathing, the balanced fenestration, the simple gable roofs, and the symmetrical massing of the large residence all contribute to its grandeur.

The prominence of the Brockways, the stylish and complementary architecture of both the original home and its additions, and the constant private use have made the Brockway House a local historical landmark which is architecturally significant in Saginaw and aesthetically indispensible to its neighborhood.

Photo #104
WENZEL HOUSE
1203 South Fayette
1874
National Register Criteria: C

This home is located one block west of Michigan Avenue, separated from the South Michigan Avenue Historic District by several modern intrusions. It stands today as one of Saginaw's finest examples of Italianate architecture. The main body of the home is a two story frame cube with a pediment breaking the bracketed eavesline of each facade. Further detailed by dentils and moldings, this broken eave is rarely found in Saginaw. A twelve pane belvedere atop the home has an arched roof line which is reflected in the arched enframingent of the second story window found below in the Fayette Street facade. The home has a one story wing on the back with an alcove porch rimmed by dentils; these dentils and other details of construction indicate that this unusual porch is original to the home. One feature which is not original to the 1874 construction is the porch on the Fayette Street facade. This classically-inspired alteration adds a hipped roof, balustrade, and columns to what, otherwise, is a thoroughly Italianate structure.

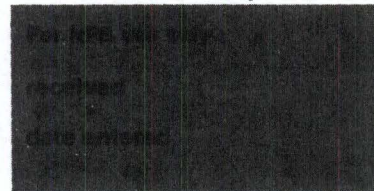
Since its construction in 1874, this home has had only two owners, which may explain its near perfect condition. The first owner was Mr. Wenzel, a Saginaw harness maker. The second owner, Harold Sperbeck, presently has the house for sale.

Photo #105
POTTER STREET RAILROAD STATION
501 Potter Street
1881
National Register Criteria: A, C

The development of the Saginaw Valley's railroad system was, like the development of other area industries, very individualistic. The present railroad system is built upon the foundation laid by five different lines. The first railroad to service the Saginaw area was the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad which connected Saginaw to northwest and southwest Michigan. From its formal opening in 1862, this line prospered

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

220

Item number 10

Page 4

East Saginaw Historic Business District

Acreage: 6.68 acres

UTM Reference: A-10 17/262250/4813110
B-10 17/262150/4812790
C-10 17/261960/4812840
D-10 17/262060/4813180

East Genesee Historic Business District

Acreage: 5.53 acres

UTM Reference: A-11 17/262710/4812590
B-11 17/262710/4812460
C-11 17/262500/4812510
D-11 17/262540/4812640

Benjamin Cushway House

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 12 17/259080/4810390

Ammi and William Wright House

Acreage: Approximately two acres

UTM Reference: 13 17/258280/4810880

Abel Brockway House

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 14 17/258480/4811290

Wenzel House

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 15 17/259300/4810670

Potter Street Railroad Station

Acreage: Approximately two acres

UTM Reference: 16 17/262660/4813720

INDIVIDUAL SITES

<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Property Owner Name and Address</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>
1631 Brockway (Abel Brockway House)	E. Brady Denton 1631 Brockway Saginaw, 48602	1864
1604 Court (Russell Sackett House)	Robert Loucks 1604 Court Saginaw, 48602	1899
519 N. Fayette (Davis Carriage House)	Peter Brand 519 N. Fayette Saginaw, 48602	c. 1880
1203 S. Fayette (Wenzel House)	Harold Sperbeck 1203 S. Fayette Saginaw, 48603	1874
1404 S. Fayette (Benjamin Cushway House)	Mary Narcarto 1404 S. Fayette Saginaw, 48602	1832
207 Garden Lane (Ammi and William Wright House)	Ralph Zemanek 207 Garden Lane Saginaw, 48602	1854
509 Hancock (St. John's Episcopal Church)	St. John's Episcopal Church 509 Hancock Saginaw, 48602	1883
1514 N. Michigan (House)	S.P. Limited P.O. Box #73 Merrill, 48637	c. 1880
1800 N. Michigan (Central Warehouse)	Wallace Strobel 1825 Rust Avenue Saginaw, 48601	1913
501 Potter Street (Potter Street Railroad Station)	Chessie System Box #3297 Saginaw, 48605 Attn: L.R. JODD	1881
130 N. Sixth (Charles Peters, Sr. House)	Walter Banks 1801 Ribble Road Saginaw, 48601	1884
309 S. Washington (Michigan Bell Building)	Michigan Bell Telephone 309 S. Washington Saginaw, 48607	1930

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 5.27.82

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 3

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Central Saginaw Multiple Resource Area
State Michigan

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Bearlinger Building

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

2. Brockway, Abel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

3. Carriage, Davis, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

4. Central Warehouse

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

5. Cushway, Benjamin, House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Tommy MacDougal 7/9/82

Attest

6. East Genesee Historic
Business District

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

7. East Saginaw Historic
Business District

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

8. Grove, The (Hist. Dist.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

9. House at 1514 N. Michigan

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/82

Attest

10. Michigan Bell Building

Substantive Review

Keeper

Tommy MacDougal 7/9/82

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

(Center Saginaw MRA)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Ref # 82002862

Property: Brockway, Abel, House
State, County: _____
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 527/82-1587
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83
Date Due: 6/25/82 - 7/4/82

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

Action: ACCEPT 7/9/82
Entered in the National Register: RETURN _____
 REJECT _____

photos _____
maps _____

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

File # SAN 101

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas 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 _____

UMT References _____

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 _____

Site _____

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

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name	Multiple Property Name	Reference Number
Brockway, Abel, House	Center Saginaw MRA	82002862

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

Nomination Form

Photographs

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000320