

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 2 Item number 10 Page 3

11) John N. Bagley House
2921 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 333810
N 4689380

17) Detroit Towers
8162 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 335970
N 4690410

12) William H. Wells House and
Carriage House
3931 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 333860
N 4689400

18) Whittier Apartments
415 Burns Drive
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 336130
N 4690860

13) Alden Park Manor
(Alden Park Towers)
8100 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 335730
N 4690520

19) Hibbard Apartments
8905 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 336350
N 4691150

14) Frederick E. Stearns House
8209 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 335680
N 4690560

20) The Kean Apartments
8925 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 336380
N 4691180

15) Arthur M. Parker House
8115 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 335820
N 4690660

21) Frank A. Osborn House
2920 E. Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 333810
N 4689310

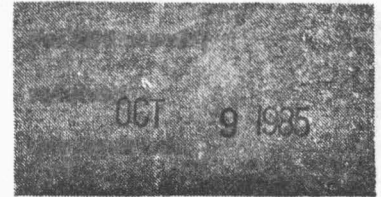
16) Indian Village Manor
8120 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 335870
N 4690640

22) Jefferson Hall
1405 E. Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan
UTM References:
17 E 332710
N 4688760

AUG 29 1985

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1. Historic Name: Frederick K. Stearns House
Common Name: Stearns House
2. 8100 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI
3. Category: Building
Ownership: Private
Status: Occupied
Access: Restricted
Present Use: Commercial
4. Blumenthal Social Services
484 E. Grand Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48207
7. Condition: Good
Altered
Original Site

The Frederick K. Stearns House is a two-and-one-half-story, gable-roofed house, with stuccoed, half timber facades, which faces southeast toward Jefferson Avenue. The house's medieval character is reinforced by a variety of window sizes and grouping and by several projecting bays and broad roof surfaces. The house is constructed of hollow tile.

8. Period: 1900- Significance: Architecture, Art
Date: 1902 B/A: Stratton and Baldwin, Architects

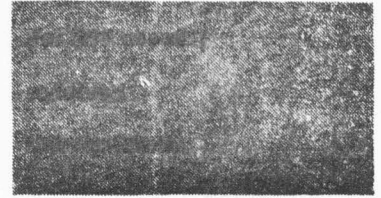
The Stearns House is significant for its association with Frederick K. Stearns and with the architects, Stratton and Baldwin; and it is architecturally significant because of its fine medieval and Arts and Crafts design. This house represents an important movement in artistic design and is characteristic of larger homes associated with the Arts and Crafts movement.

The Stearns House is linked to some key figures in Detroit's artistic community at the turn of the century. Frederick K. Stearns, founder of the Stearns Pharmaceutical Company, was an important collector of Oriental art. His collection, which he donated to the Detroit Museum of Art, contained over 16,000 objects of art from several eastern nations.

The house was designed for Stearns by the firm of Stratton and Baldwin. William B. Stratton and Frank C. Baldwin were partners from 1893 until 1911 and was the first Michigan architectural firm composed of American-trained architects. Both were strong proponents of the Arts and Crafts movement and several of their important works have medieval and Tudor traits similar to those found in the Stearns House.

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Stratton also designed the Pewabic pottery works on East Jefferson Avenue for Pewabic Pottery Company founders Horace James Caulkins and Mary Chase Perry. Perry, a sculptor and potter, married Stratton in 1918. Mary Chase Stratton's tiles were often used in her husband's houses and other buildings, and though the Stearns house pre-dates the Stratton's marriage, it contains a significant display of Pewabic pottery.

Presently the Stearns House is used as Detroit School Board offices and is connected to the Arthur M. Parker House to the east.

9. American Architecture Vol. 111, Jan., 1917.

10. Boundary Description: 810 E. Jefferson, Frederick Stearns House.

West Village Historic District. Parker's re-Subdivision of Lots 77, 78, 79, 80, and 81, Van Dyke Farm, Lot 64 and the West 31.19 feet of Lot 65. L.21, P.99.

This is the entire property associated with the structure.

Acreage: less than 1

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name East Jefferson Avenue Residential TR
State Wayne County, MICHIGAN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Somerset Apartments

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Alvina Byars 10/9/85

Attest

22. Stearns, Frederick K., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Alvina Byars 10/9/85

Attest

23. Walker, Franklin H., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Alvina Byars 10/9/85

Attest

24. Wells, William H., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Alvina Byars 10/9/85

Attest

25. Whittier Hotel

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Alvina Byars 10/9/85

Attest

26. ChateauFrontenac Apartments

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/28/91

Attest

27.

Keeper

Attest

28.

Keeper

Attest

29.

Keeper

Attest

30.

Keeper

Attest

Ref #
85002947

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Stearns, Frederick K., House (East Jefferson
Avenue Residential TR)
Wayne County
MICHIGAN

Working No. AUG 29 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-3-87
Date Due: 9/26/85 - 10/13/85
Action: ACCEPT 10-9-85
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

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

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

PHOTO: FREDERICK K. STEARNS HOUSE

85002947



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Frederick K. Stearns House
East Jefferson Ave. Residential Buildings Thematic
Group
Detroit, Wayne Co., MI

Resource Analysts, Inc., Dec. 1983
Neg.: Michigan History Division
208 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

View from south
Photo 15 of 23

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000324