

Attachment 6

Section IV d

Describe condition, previous disturbance to, and history of any historic properties located in the APE.

- A) The 1927 Township Hall (Museum and Administration Building) modeled after a Dutch colonial tavern in New York, was constructed in 1927, on the site where it now stands, to serve as Troy Township's center of government. The materials that comprise the brick building are original, including the slate roof. City officials designated a room in the west wing of Township Hall "The Pioneer Room" in tribute to the first settlers of Troy Corners. This room was Troy's first museum. When Troy became a City in 1955, the building became City Hall. In 1968, upon relocating city government to a new civic center, the city council designated the entire historic building the Troy Museum and set aside an area behind the museum to establish a historic village. This building is the official entryway to the Village. Visitors enter through the front door. Following visitor orientation, guests then enter the Village through the building's west exit in the Pioneer Room.
- B) The Log Cabin or Settler's Cabin was relocated to the Village from Frenchtown Township in Monroe County, Michigan in 1981. Records from that community indicate that the cabin was constructed in the 1840s on 2485 Stewart Road. The building was purchased from Matilda Doederlain in 1981 to save it from demolition. The structure was dismantled and the original hand hewn logs that comprise the walls and one bark-covered structural beam were relocated and reassembled in the Village. The logs are approximately two feet in diameter and up to 29 feet long. A new cedar shake roof, windows, plank door, stone chimney and fireplace were added after the building was moved as part of the restoration.
- C) The 1832 Caswell House was the first building moved to the land behind the 1927 Township Hall. The relocation in 1968 was the impetus for the Troy Historical Society to prevent the demolition of other historic structures in the fast-growing community by moving them to the Village. The 2-story timber-frame Caswell House still features original clapboard, some original window panes, and a combination of Federalist and Greek revival architectural features. An ADA compliant accessibility ramp to the buildings east entry was constructed in 2004 in the same style and with the same materials as is planned for the ramps proposed in this application. The Caswell House is on the National Register of Historic Places.
- D) Poppleton School is a red-brick, Italianate-style one-room school house built in 1877 on Big Beaver Road at the intersection of Crooks Road. In 1980 the structure was purchased from a developer. It was carefully photo-documented, dismantled, moved to the Village and reconstructed using the original materials. The original cupola had been removed years ago. Old photographs were used to design a replica. The ADA compliant accessibility ramp to the west entry was constructed when the Caswell ramp was built, following the same specifications.
- E) The General store, built in 1989-90, is a representation of Troy Corner's original general store that stood on Livernois at Square Lake Road and was razed when the property was purchased by a developer. The main part of the General Store in the Village is two-story; the lower east wing houses public restrooms. The structure is sided with clapboard, has a cedar shake roof, and a wooden front porch. The current accessibility ramps were constructed in 1990. They are non-

compliant, badly deteriorated inaccessible. The proposed ramps will provide safe ADA compliant access to the building and will not compromise the appearance of the structure. Rather, the new ramps will match the ADA compliant ramps on the other buildings in the Village.

- F) The Print Shop was remodeled in 1978 from a township-era workshop built behind the 1927 Township Hall. Two-by-four framing was constructed around the original brick shell and sided with clapboard. A new cedar-shake roof and wooden porch were added.
- G) Research indicates that the Wagon Shop originally located in the Troy Corners area (intersection of Livernois and Square Lake Roads) was a pre-Civil War blacksmith shop. The building was scorched in a fire on February 1, 1972, which destroyed the other structures on the property. The collection of 19th century structures had been used as gift and antiques shops. Following the fire the owner Alex Gow sold the property and donated the Wagon Shop to the Troy Historical Society so that it could be relocated and rehabilitated in the Village. About two thirds of the board and baton siding and the barn doors on the north side of the building are original material. A functioning blacksmith forge was added as part of the original restoration.
- H) The Parsonage is a cruciform, balloon frame farm house, sided with clapboard, built by the ladies of the Troy Methodist Church in the 1870s. The house stood on Square Lake Road immediately east of the Church. The exact date of construction is unknown. The Parsonage and the Church were sold in 1963 to Mr. and Mrs. Pettypiece who were antiques dealers. In 1997 the Pettypieces retired, closed their business, and sold the Church and Parsonage to the City of Troy with financial support from the Troy Historical Society. The buildings were not moved to the Village until August 20, 2003. Restorations were completed in ten months and the buildings were opened to the public on June 27, 2004. Construction of a gently curving accessibility ramp to the north kitchen entry was included in the rehabilitation of the Parsonage. This entry was selected so that the original corner front porch would not be compromised.
- I) The 1837 Troy Episcopal Church was built on Square Lake Road east of Livernois. This area known as Troy Corners area was established by pioneer Johnson Niles. In 1862 Troy Corners' dwindling Episcopal community sold the building to the Methodists who worshiped in the church until 1963. During that century, the Methodist community grew and the congregation built four additions and reconfigured the main entrance, eliminating two stained glass windows in the process. The original steeple was also lost during a wind storm between 1905 and 1915. As noted above, the Church and adjacent Parsonage were sold to antiques dealers in 1963. Thirty four years later, the City of Troy with financial support from the Troy Historical Society purchased the buildings.

The Church and Parsonage were relocated to the Village on the same day (August 20, 2003) and restored in 2003 and 2004. The project architect Gerald Yurk worked from historic photos to reestablish the original entry and replace the steeple, restoring the building to its 1910 appearance. Shadetree Glass Studios, specialists in restoring vintage stained glass, restored the original stained glass windows and fabricated replacement windows for those that had been removed in the 1940s. Specifications for the ADA compliant ramp added to the south side of the church were used to construct four other ramps in the Village between 2003 and 2004.

- J) Troy Union School was a very small, simply designed, one-room school built during the Civil War at the intersection of Square Lake and Atkins Roads. The building served as a school until 1903

when it was converted to a single family home. On June 3, 1987, the structure was donated to the City of Troy by Isabelle Moser and Robert J. Moser and then relocated to the Village.

As the structure was nearly identical to the community's original Town Hall (located south of Wattles Road on the east side of Livernois), the old Union School building was repurposed as Town Hall after restorations were completed. It is referred to in the Village as Town Hall, not to be confused with the 1927 Township Hall/ Museum Administration Building that replaced it as the seat of local government in 1927.

An ADA compliant accessibility ramp, using the specifications developed for the ramps on the Church and Parsonage was added in 2003.

- K) The Niles Barnard House was built by the family of pioneer Johnson Niles in 1837. Niles is credited with naming the wilderness community Troy. Records and a structural analysis by architect Gene Hopkins verify that the 1 ½ story portion of the structure was built first and the larger, two-story portion added within 25 years. Physical evidence, primary source records, and artifacts from a kitchen midden suggest the family used the building as an inn or public house.

The house was sold a number of times until it was purchased in 1941 by Norman Barnard, a young attorney. Barnard and his bride Harriet resided in the home their entire married life. Barnard and the community's leadership developed their plan to incorporate the township into a new city in the dining room of the home. Harriet Barnard, Norman's widow decided to donate the house to the City on the condition it be relocated in the Village. To accommodate this donation, the Troy Historical Society purchased two lots on the western border of the Village. A new site plan was developed by Hopkins Burns Design Studio to place the house, add a visitor center, expand parking, and improve pedestrian access and circulation in the Village. The first step in the restoration process for the Niles Barnard House is to provide ADA compliant accessibility.