

Michigan SHPO Architectural Properties Identification Form



Property Overview and Location

Street Address	1 Donovan				
City/Township, State, Zip Code	Grosse Pointe, MI 48230				
County	Wayne				
Assessor's Parcel #	37 006 06 0083 008				
Latitude/Longitude (to the 6 th decimal point)	Lat: 42.381602	Long: -82.908599			
Ownership	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public-Local <input type="checkbox"/>	Public-State <input type="checkbox"/>	Public-Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple <input type="checkbox"/>

Property Type

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> select sub-type below	Structure <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Object <input type="checkbox"/>
Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/>	



Architectural Information

Construction Date	1916
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical
Building Form	U
Roof Form	Hip
Roof Materials	Slate
Exterior Wall Materials	Stucco
Foundation Materials	Concrete
Window Materials	Wood
Window Type	Double hung upper French doors lower
Outbuildings	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Number/Type:	none

Eligibility

Individually Eligible	Criterion A <input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion B <input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion C <input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion D <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria Considerations:	a. <input type="checkbox"/> b. <input type="checkbox"/> c. <input type="checkbox"/> d. <input type="checkbox"/> e. <input type="checkbox"/> f. <input type="checkbox"/> g. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Component of a Historic District	Contributing to a district <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-contributing to a district <input type="checkbox"/>	Historic District Name	
Not Eligible <input type="checkbox"/>				
Area(s) of Significance	Social history, Architecture			
Period(s) of Significance	1898-1940			
Integrity – Does the property possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?				
Location <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Materials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Workmanship <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Setting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Feeling <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Association <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
General Integrity:	Intact <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Date(s):
Historic Name				
Current/Common Name				
Historic/Original Owner	Fremont Woodruff			
Historic Building Use	D/Single Dwelling			
Current Building Use	D/Single Dwelling			
Architect/Engineer/Designer	George D. Mason			
Builder/Contractor				

Survey Date	12/2020	Recorded By	J. Miller	Agency Report #
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For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N	Date:
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Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the property, including all character-defining features and any accessory resources. This is required for all properties.

This hip-roofed, neo-classical styled residence consists of a U-shaped plan. Built of limestone and stucco, the façade features numerous 6x6 paned double hung windows on the upper story and 2x4 paned French doors with transoms on the lower level. The slate roof has two single shed roof dormers and one ribbon of three conjoined dormers centrally located. The exterior walls are stucco with a limestone belt course and a row of dentils under the soffit. The centrally located main entrance protrudes slightly from the wall, features four Doric columns, and is surmounted by a decorative limestone railing. The two front columns have embossed fleur-de-lis capitals with decorative swags between the columns. In the center above the arched door is a protruding leaf-shaped keystone. The upper story features a French door with a wrought iron balconette with elaborate bracketry. Four massive stucco chimneys pierce the roof. A single-story sunroom is featured on the south elevation.

History of the Resource

Provide information on previous owners, land use(s), and construction and alteration dates in a narrative format. This is required for all intensive level surveys, NRPQs, and nominations, and recommended for other identification efforts.

Designed by George D. Mason for Fremont Woodruff (Detroit lawyer) in 1916. Up to this point, Mason's firm was heavily influenced by the Richardsonian Romanesque style. This was his first building designed in a neo-Classical or French Eclectic style. In all, Mason designed at least eleven houses in the Grosse Pointe community (nine of which are still standing). The house originally sat on a parcel that was 3.5 acres in size and ran from the shoreline of Lake St. Clair to East Jefferson Avenue (the original address was 17160 E. Jefferson). It remained in the Woodruff family until 1950. Sometime prior to 1975 the property was sold to Frank Donovan who subdivided the property, making several alterations to the house (the most significant being the renovation of the carriage house). He added several additional houses and made the carriage house (now 8 Donovan) his personal residence. Alterations to the main house appear to be the replacement of windows and downspouts and the addition of a four-car hip roofed detached garage.

Statement of Significance/Recommendation of Eligibility

Provide a detailed explanation of the property's eligibility for the National Register. Include an evaluation under at least one of the four National Register Criteria and one Area of Significance. Include a discussion of the seven aspects of integrity and make a recommendation about eligibility. This is required for all properties.

Enough of the original fabric remains for this house to contribute to the district.

References

List references used to research and evaluate the individual property. For NRPQ's include copies of key documents.

<https://www.higbiemaxon.com/blog/historical-architecture-of-grosse-pointe-welcome-to-1-donovan-place.html> - Higbie Maxon Agney Realtors & Katie Doelle

Additional photos

Current main entry (2020) (courtesy of the authors)



Historic main entry (1917) courtesy of the Higbie Maxon Agney archives



1917 F. W. about Fermeit Woodruff.

Historic Façade (1917) courtesy of the Higbie Maxon Agney archives



Historic photo of lake side of home courtesy of the Higbie Maxon Agney archives



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Ownership	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public-Local <input type="checkbox"/>	Public-State <input type="checkbox"/>	Public-Federal <input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple <input type="checkbox"/>

Property Type

(Insert primary photograph below.)

Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> select sub-type below	Structure <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Object <input type="checkbox"/>
Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/>	



Architectural Information

Construction Date	1916
Architectural Style	Neo-Classical
Building Form	Rectangular
Roof Form	Hip
Roof Materials	Slate
Exterior Wall Materials	Stucco
Foundation Materials	Concrete
Window Materials	Wood
Window Type	Double hung upper French doors lower
Outbuildings	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Number/Type:	none

Eligibility

Individually Eligible	Criterion A <input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion B <input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion C <input type="checkbox"/>	Criterion D <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria Considerations:	a. <input type="checkbox"/> b. <input type="checkbox"/> c. <input type="checkbox"/> d. <input type="checkbox"/> e. <input type="checkbox"/> f. <input type="checkbox"/> g. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Component of a Historic District	Contributing to a district <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-contributing to a district <input type="checkbox"/>	Historic District Name	
Not Eligible <input type="checkbox"/>				
Area(s) of Significance	Social history, Architecture			
Period(s) of Significance	1898-1940			
Integrity – Does the property possess integrity in all or some of the 7 aspects?				
Location <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Design <input type="checkbox"/>	Materials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Workmanship <input type="checkbox"/>	Setting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Feeling <input type="checkbox"/>	Association <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
General Integrity:	Intact <input type="checkbox"/>	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Date(s): 1975
Historic Name				
Current/Common Name				
Historic/Original Owner	Fremont Woodruff			
Historic Building Use	Garage			
Current Building Use	D/Single Dwelling			
Architect/Engineer/Designer	George D. Mason			
Builder/Contractor				

Survey Date	12/2020	Recorded By	J. Miller	Agency Report #	
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For SHPO Use Only	SHPO Concurrence?: Y / N	Date:	
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Narrative Architectural Description

Provide a detailed description of the property, including all character-defining features and any accessory resources. This is required for all properties.

One-and-a-half story, hipped roof residence with a ribbon dormer on all four sides of the roof, each ribbon containing four windows. Two large chimneys pierce the slate roof. The lower level features floor to ceiling windows or French doors. A two-car attached garage extends from the north end of the building.

History of the Resource

Provide information on previous owners, land use(s), and construction and alteration dates in a narrative format. This is required for all intensive level surveys, NRPQs, and nominations, and recommended for other identification efforts.

Previously existed as a garage to 1 Donovan (17610 E. Jefferson). The garage doors were removed during the c1975 alterations and replaced by French doors.

Statement of Significance/Recommendation of Eligibility

Provide a detailed explanation of the property's eligibility for the National Register. Include an evaluation under at least one of the four National Register Criteria and one Area of Significance. Include a discussion of the seven aspects of integrity and make a recommendation about eligibility. This is required for all properties.

This house was constructed as the original garage to 1 Donovan, it contributes to the historic district.

References

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