

CHANGES IN **RED** BELOW ARE RECOMMENDATIONS BY ELLEN ELLIOTT,
ASSISTANT TO THE ARCHIVIST, NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1.14 Main Street – East

1.14.1 Main Street, East, North Side

[Insert the following after the citation for NVA #12]

**201 East Main Street (Non-Contributing) (Information ~~to be~~ evaluated by Ellen Elliott,
Assistant to the Archivist, Northville Historical Society)**

Description

The property at 201 East Main Street is located in a commercial district in the eastern end of downtown Northville, Michigan, on the north side of the road. A public sidewalk is located along the south edge of the property. A paved parking lot is located east and north of the structure, which can be accessed from two driveways, one on the east side of Hutton Street, and one on the north side of East Main Street. This parking lot is shared with the property to the east (215 East Main Street). The parking lot abuts Ford Field to the north. The south and west elevations of the building are decorated with a planting bed edged with decorative fieldstone. The building currently contains three separate commercial uses.

This single-story brick commercial building occupies the northeast corner of East Main Street and Hutton Street. The street facades feature gable-end rooflines over entry doors to retail units, and the walk-up banking machine facing Hutton Street. The entire building is capped with a pitched roof. A corner tower is placed over the main entry door at the southwest corner of the building, which is presented in a curved façade to allow the door to directly face the street intersection. The tower structure contains a decorative etched window featuring the occupant's logo. The main entry door is served by a barrier-free access ramp that is flanked by a decorative wrought-iron fence.

History

This property was once home to the Hirsch carriage factory and blacksmith shop;¹ a reproduction of the latter can be found in Mill Race Village. The commercial building that currently stands on this property was erected in 1988² and housed Northville Jewelers³ and M.T. Hunter, a period furniture and lighting store.⁴ By 2004 Main Street Bank had opened in this location.⁵ In 2009 the building was purchased by Monroe Bank & Trust⁶ and was also home to a dental office,⁷ and a

¹ Sanborn, *Northville*, 1893, 2.

² City of Northville Assessor.

³ Advertisement, "Sweetest Day Special." *Northville Record*, October 13, 1988, 11-A.

⁴ Advertisement, "M.T. Hunter." *Northville Record*, December 8, 1988, 21-A.

⁵ Advertisement, "Main Street Bank." *Northville Record*, March 24, 2004, 4A.

⁶ "Monroe Bank Buys Northville building." *Northville Record*, March 12, 2009, B6.

⁷ Advertisement, "Toomajanian and Bowers." *Northville Record*, March 12, 2009, Discover Northville, 33.

CHANGES IN **RED** BELOW ARE RECOMMENDATIONS BY ELLEN ELLIOTT,
ASSISTANT TO THE ARCHIVIST, NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

law firm.⁸ At the time of recordation, the building housed the dental office of Laurie J. Toomajanian, DDS; First Merchants Bank; and the Mulcahy & Mulcahy law firm.⁹ This commercial building was erected in 1988^{xx}.

Evaluation

The property at 201 East Main Street is not significant under any of the National Register Criteria. The commercial building was constructed in 1988 and falls outside the period of significance for the district. It is recommended as a non-contributing resource to the Northville Historic District.

215 ~~-269~~ East Main Street (Non-Contributing) (Information evaluated by Ellen Elliott, Assistant to the Archivist, Northville Historical Society)

Description

The property at 215 ~~-269~~ East Main Street is located in a commercial district in the eastern end of downtown Northville, Michigan, on the north side of the road. The building currently contains ~~two separate commercial uses, each having its own address~~ three tenants.¹⁰ A public sidewalk is located along the south edge of the property, and private sidewalk is located along the west side of the building. A paved parking lot is located west of the structure, which can be accessed from two driveways, one on the east side of Hutton Street, and one on the north side of East Main Street. This parking lot is shared with the property to the west (201 East Main Street). The parking lot abuts Ford Field to the north. The main entryway into the building faces the parking lot (west). The south elevation of the building is decorated with a planting bed edged with decorative fieldstone.

This two-story commercial building has large upper story rectangular windows, and smaller windows on the main floor. The façade is faced with brick up to the bottom of the second floor windows, and then with a smooth composite material above that is painted a subdued white. A brick band, in complimentary colors, decorates the brick fascia approximately one-third up the facade. The second story windows are flanked with masonry piers. A frieze board above the second story windows is decorated with truncated square pyramids in a regular horizontal pattern. Vertical brackets also decorate the frieze board at the corners of the building and corners of the westerly dormer. The building features a pitched roof, with the gable ends facing the north and south elevations, each containing circular ornaments. A gabled dormer occupies the western façade and is placed over the main entry door accessed from the parking lot.

⁸ Advertisement, "Northville Business Directory," *Northville Record*, March 12, 2009, Discover Northville, 44.

⁹ City of Northville Assessor.

¹⁰ Per phone call with building owner.

CHANGES IN **RED** BELOW ARE RECOMMENDATIONS BY ELLEN ELLIOTT,
ASSISTANT TO THE ARCHIVIST, NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

History

A portion of this property (251 East Main Street) formerly held a residential dwelling.¹¹ By 1927 it served as the medical office of Drs. Harold and Irene Sparling until 1964.¹² In 1948, another portion of the property (215 East Main Street) was home to a farm supply store owned by Roger Christensen.¹³ By 1953 this site was occupied by Kroger¹⁴ and later by A & P grocery store in 1961.¹⁵ Stone's Unfinished & Custom-Made Furniture occupied the old A & P building in 1972.¹⁶ The current commercial building which stands at 215 East Main was erected in 1973¹⁷ with Stone's Unfinished Furniture occupying the new space¹⁸ and later re-opening as The Sawmill in 1981.¹⁹ In 1983 the building was sold to a firm of medical suppliers, James H. Plagens and Associates.²⁰ By 1999 updates to the building were made by the current owner, Dennis Engerer, with the construction of a new façade and the addition of a second level.²¹ At the time of recordation the building housed Northville Physical Rehabilitation; Northville Dermatology; and Forever Fit, a certified personal training center.²² This commercial building was erected in 1973^{xx}.

Evaluation

The property at 215 ~~269~~ East Main Street is not significant under any of the National Register Criteria. The commercial building was constructed in 1973 and falls outside the period of significance for the district. It is recommended as a non-contributing resource to the Northville Historic District.

~~295~~—311 East Main Street (Non-Contributing) (Information ~~to be~~ evaluated by Ellen Elliott, Assistant to the Archivist, Northville Historical Society)

Description

The property at ~~295~~—311 East Main Street is located in a commercial district in the eastern end of downtown Northville, Michigan, on the north side of the road. This building directly abuts the building to the west (215 ~~269~~ East Main Street), and wraps around this neighboring building at the rear. This building also abuts the building to the east (333 East Main Street). The property abuts Ford Field to the north. The ground floor of the building contains two retail units, as well as a recessed carriage-style garage door into an underground parking lot. The two ground

¹¹ Sanborn, *Northville*, 1893, 2; Sanborn, *Northville*, 1909, 2.

¹² Polk, *Plymouth/Northville*, 1927, 274; "Practiced Here 40 Years." *Northville Record*, December 28, 1967, 1.

¹³ Polk, *Plymouth/Northville*, 1948, 332.

¹⁴ Polk, *Plymouth/Northville*, 1953, 268.

¹⁵ "A&P Manager Don Duval Brings 25 Years Experience into New Job." *Northville Record*, December 14, 1961, 17.

¹⁶ Advertisement, "Now Open." *Northville Record*, November 30, 1972, 18-A.

¹⁷ City of Northville Assessor.

¹⁸ Polk, *Plymouth/Northville*, 1975, 93.

¹⁹ Advertisement, "Announcing our Grand Re-opening," *Northville Record*, January 1, 1981, D1.

²⁰ "Our Opinion." *Northville Record*, December 26, 1983, 8A.

²¹ "Downtown building undergoes renovations." *Northville Record*, April 15, 1999, 9A.

²² Ellen Elliott confirmed list of current tenants through conversation with building owner.

CHANGES IN **RED** BELOW ARE RECOMMENDATIONS BY ELLEN ELLIOTT,
ASSISTANT TO THE ARCHIVIST, NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

floor retail units are accessed via separate recessed doorways flanked by large storefront windows. The second story also contains commercial space.

The façade of this two-story commercial building is faced with mitered block on the ground floor, and brick on the upper floor. The running-bond brick body pattern is interrupted by two brick “columns” and corbelling the brick at the bottom of the cornice. The brick “columns” are capped with square light-colored stone capitals. The upper cornice is decorated with vertical molding. The upper floor windows are rectangular, double-hung windows surrounded by a decorative masonry hood a sill made of a brick header course.

History

This property formerly held a residential dwelling²³ and by 1975, housed the Henrikson Insurance Agency, Detroit Staple Company, as well as the accounting office of Robert Adams, and lawyer Charles Skimins.²⁴ The current commercial building which stands at 311 East Main Street was erected in 2008 by owner Dennis Engerer.²⁵ At the time of recordation the building housed the medical offices of Philip J. Mayer, M.D. and Sotheby’s International Realty.²⁶ This commercial building was erected in 2008^{xx}.

Evaluation

The property at ~~295~~—311 East Main Street is not significant under any of the National Register Criteria. The commercial building was constructed in 2008 and falls outside the period of significance for the district. It is recommended as a non-contributing resource to the Northville Historic District.

333 East Main Street (Non-Contributing) (Information ~~to be~~ evaluated by Ellen Elliott, Assistant to the Archivist, Northville Historical Society)

Description

The property at 333 East Main Street is located in a commercial district in the eastern end of downtown Northville, Michigan, on the north side of the road. This building directly abuts the building to the west (~~295~~—311 East Main Street), and a parking lot to the east. The property abuts Ford Field to the north. This is a single-use building, with its main entrance oriented to the parking lot to the east.

The façade of this one-story commercial building is faced with brick below a row of rectangular windows. This horizontal brick/window configuration spans the entire south façade, and most of the eastern façade. The building features a shallow-pitched hip roof with a wide overhang. The

²³ Sanborn, Northville, 1893, 2; Sanborn, Northville, 1942, 4.

²⁴ Polk, Plymouth/Northville, 1975, 93.

²⁵ City of Northville Assessor.

²⁶ Ellen Elliott confirmed list of current tenants through conversation with building owner.

CHANGES IN **RED** BELOW ARE RECOMMENDATIONS BY ELLEN ELLIOTT,
ASSISTANT TO THE ARCHIVIST, NORTHVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

parking lot east of the building is accessed via one driveway on the north side of East Main Street.

History

This commercial building was erected in 1970 and has consistently housed a restaurant.²⁷ The Palace Fine Foods opened at this location in November 1970.²⁸ By 1981 it was known as the Waterwheel Restaurant²⁹ and then the Dandy Gander Family Restaurant by 1985.³⁰ At the time of recordation, the building was home to Early Bird of Northville.³¹

~~This commercial building was erected in 1970^{xxx}.~~

Evaluation

The property at 333 East Main Street is not significant under any of the National Register Criteria. The commercial building was constructed in ~~2008~~1970 and falls outside the period of significance for the district. It is recommended as a non-contributing resource to the Northville Historic District.

[No other changes are proposed to this section]

²⁷ City of Northville Assessor.

²⁸ “Step Inside the Palace!” *Northville Record-Novis News*, November 25, 1970, 7-A.

²⁹ “Five win in auxiliary drawing.” *Northville Record*, May 27, 1981, 11-A.

³⁰ Advertisement, “Grill cook.” *Northville Record-Novis News*, September 18, 1985, 10-B.

³¹ City of Northville Assessor.