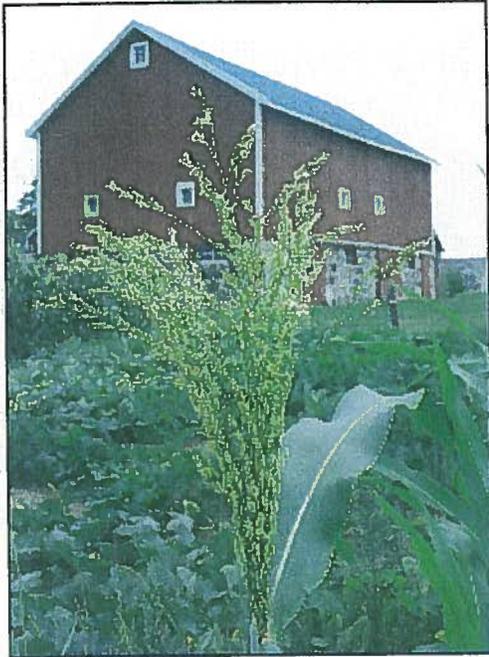
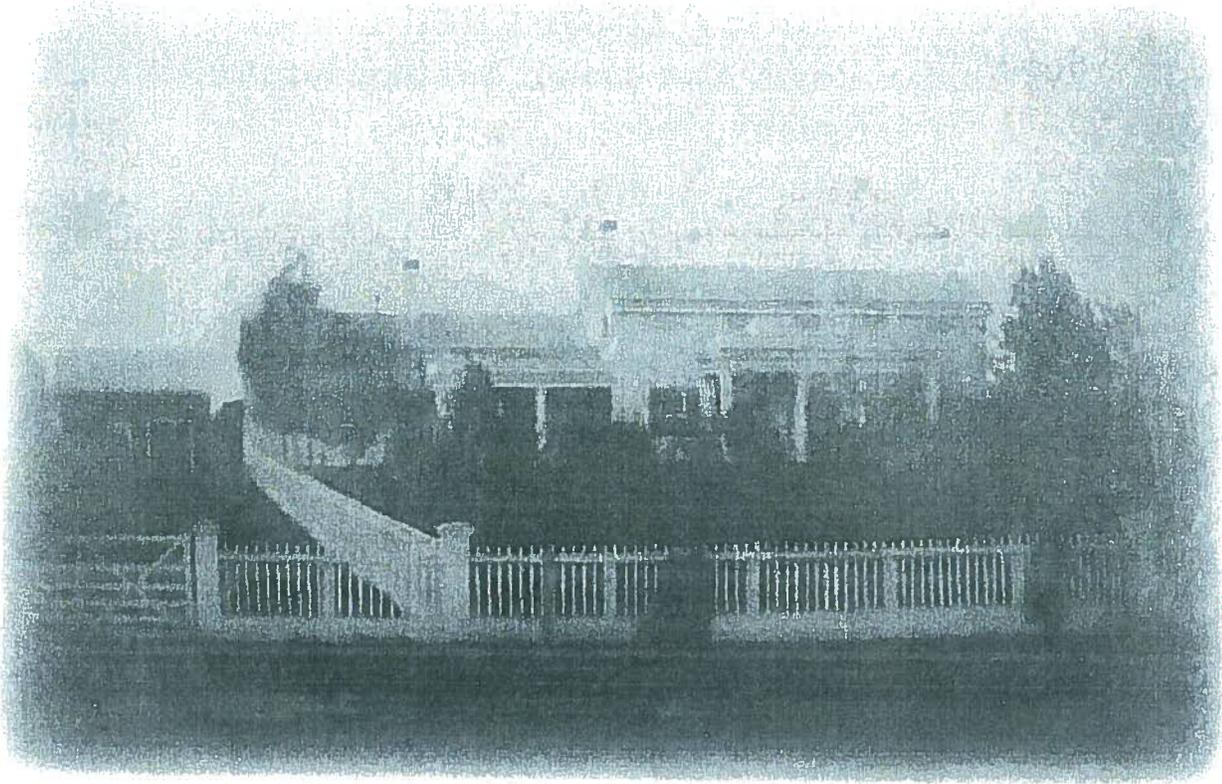


Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead
797 Textile Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
Pittsfield Charter Township
Washtenaw County, Michigan



Historic District
Study Committee
Final Report
November 2011





The Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead from an early photo

Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead Historic District Study Committee Report

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Final Report September 2011

I. Introduction

In a land contract agreement made on 16 November 2000, Harold A. Wilson and Mary I. Wilson sold the historic Sutherland-Wilson Farm to the Charter Township of Pittsfield to be used as a Farm Museum. The agreement listed an ambitious restoration plan under the general guidance of the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission. Subsequently, volunteers from the Pittsfield Township Historical Society began to implement the restoration plan.

In 2008, the Historical Commission contracted with Ina Hanel-Gerdenich to undertake "An Inventory and Analysis of Historic Resource Survey" of the Township making four recommendations:

1. Increase dialog within the community to promote the understanding of preservation and its principles, to encourage appreciation of the Township's history, and to solicit input from community members.
2. Conduct additional research for planning purposes.
3. Establish a historic resources protection program.
4. Modify the Township Master Plan to incorporate the concepts of community preservation.

Since the completion of the Survey, the Commission has noted the destruction of several historic properties (Lavender Farm, Cody Farm, Valentine School).

The Commission's 2009 Annual Report followed by asking for the creation of a Historic District to further protect the property asking the Board to appoint the Historical Commission members as a "Historic District Study Committee."

On 24 February 2010, the Township Board for Pittsfield Charter Township approved a resolution to establish a Historic District Study Committee, and a second resolution appointing citizens of the Township to the Historic District Study Committee.

Members of the Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead Historic District Study Committee:

Tom Dodd holds an MS in Art Education and has 50 years teaching experience. He taught 19th Century Architecture at Ann Arbor Community High.

As Depot Town Association president, he helped lead the rehabilitation and restoration of that historic Ypsilanti neighborhood. He founded *The Depot Town Rag* in 1976 and continues to edit that newsletter. He served as Ypsilanti City Councilmember and Mayor Pro Tem. He was appointed to the Michigan Sesqui-centennial Commission in 1985 by Governor James Blanchard.

From 2004-6 he served on the Washtenaw County Historic District Commission where he inventoried the County's historical markers and proposed and promoted subsequent marker placements. He has edited various publications for local historical societies. He is now retired from Ann Arbor Public Schools and Washtenaw Community College and serves as chair of the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission.

Janice O. Harwood is a fifth generation owner of the W. W. Harwood Farmstead in Pittsfield Township. Carefully following family photos and an 1874 lithograph of the home, she took an active role in the research and planning for the recent restoration of the house on the farmstead. Built in 1848, it was used in the underground railroad and is listed in the National Park Service Network to Freedom.

Harwood has a B.S. degree in Home Economics Education from Michigan State University and an M.A. in Education from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. She has 31 years experience as a home economist and 4-H Youth Agent for Cooperative Extension in California, Michigan and Pennsylvania. She has published research in nutrition and food habits of immigrants from Laos and Mexico. She has written educational programs in nutrition education and educational materials for 4-H Clothing Projects.

During her professional career, she was a member of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, National Association of Extension Family and Consumer Sciences, Society of Nutrition Education and International Federation of Home Economics. She was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the National Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. The University of California Cooperative Extension awarded her for Outstanding Performance in Affirmative Action.

In 2006 Harwood returned to Pittsfield Township and is living in the family home. She is active in the Saline Area Historical Society serving as a docent at the Rentschler Farm Museum. She is also a member of the Pittsfield Township Historical Society.

Linda Kortesoja Klenczar, ASID, is a professional member of the American Society of Interior Designers, (ASID) with a BS in Interior Design from Michigan State University and extensive study in History of Architecture and Furnishings from ancient Egypt to current, Art History, and with minor studies in Landscape Architecture, Building Construction and Industrial Design.

She served on the State Board of the Michigan Chapter of the ASID 1981 to 1985, was State Chair of the Education Committee for the Michigan Chapter of the ASID, 1981 to 1985. Her continuing education studies are in the area of aging in place, accessible homes and structures, and “green” technologies and alternative energy methods to make dwellings more efficient.

She has been a professional designer for 41 years, having worked on many projects of historic homes of significance from the 20th century such as an Ann Arbor Frank Lloyd Wright residence, a 1922 Ernest Flagg design home in Barton Hills, and other homes of noted architecture.

She was the first interior designer on staff at Eastern Michigan University beginning in 1970 where her work included several 19th Century buildings. She has done interior design work for historic churches in Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana.

As an artist who paints historic structures and sites, she has seen some of those structures now collapsed from abandonment and some, such as the Cody House in Pittsfield Township, destroyed for commercial development. “Preservation and reuse of significant historic structures is a great concern to me,” says Klenczar. “No building should be destroyed for a parking lot, commercial building or new construction, without significant study and every effort to move and/or preserve said structure.

Betty L. LeClair is a lifelong resident of Pittsfield Township and has seen a great number of changes. After graduating from Cleary University with an Associate Degree, she worked at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital and GarWood Industries. From 1960-1980 Betty was a stay-at-home mom raising three daughters. During that time, community activities included Girl Scout leader, room mother, fund raising for a number of charities, four years as a precinct delegate, an election chairperson or election inspector for twelve years, and assisted her husband’s campaign for township trustee. She returned to the work force in 1980 and was employed by the Ann Arbor Public Schools until retirement.

For the past thirteen years she has been President of the Pittsfield Township Historical Society and commissioner on the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission where she was instrumental in helping to restore the Sutherland-Wilson barn, Greek Revival home, and carriage house; assisted in the Farm Museum being listed in the National Register of Historic Places; providing historical programs for Society members and the public; provided news articles for the Society’s quarterly newsletter; assisted in the archives and fundraising for the purpose of restoring the Farm Museum. In November, 2009 she received a Certificate of Appreciation from Pittsfield Charter Township.

“It is important to help maintain and continue to restore Pittsfield’s history,” says LeClair. “The Sesqui-centennial Sutherland-Wilson Farm Museum is an important part of Pittsfield history which we are fortunate to have. Historic gems like this farm museum are becoming more and more rare; therefore everyone needs to take part in its preservation.”

Al Paas is a graduate of the University of Michigan, with a B-Arch degree, and a licensed architect since 1973. His professional practice included 10 years with his own firm located in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, and 25 years as Executive Vice President of DesRosiers Architects in Bloomfield Hills, MI. The Ypsilanti office was located in the historic Ladies Library Building.

Projects included work on the restoration of the Ladies Library building and the restoration of the Hutchinson House for the High Scope Educational Research Foundation, on River Street, in Ypsilanti. Other architectural commissions included the design of the current Pittsfield Township administration building and two of the Township fire stations.

As a resident of Pittsfield since 1971, his community involvement includes a 12-year term on the Township Planning Commission, with several years as Chairperson. He has also served at various times on the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Construction Appeals Board.

Paas's term on the Planning Commission was a time of dramatic growth and change in the Township when family farms were rapidly being converted to subdivisions, apartment complexes, shopping centers and industrial parks. This process made it apparent to him that, in order to preserve a portion of the Township's historical fabric, existing structures would require a combination of protection and viable re-use.

Helen M. Richards has lived in the Ann Arbor area since 1951 when she enrolled at the University of Michigan as a freshman student. After completing the requirements for the MALS degree at the University of Michigan she joined the staff of the Dunning-Hough Library in Plymouth, Michigan, where she served as children's librarian for three years.

After a period devoted to beginning a family and participating in the activities of Calvary Presbyterian Church, the Washtenaw Pharmaceutical Society Auxiliary, and her children's organizations, Richards rejoined the work force in 1973 as a research and development librarian at Applied Dynamics. In 1975 she joined the staff at Cleary College. Cleary had a program for inmates at the Milan Federal Penitentiary and as the librarian she introduced the men to library resources enabling them to complete classroom work. She later served as Director of Library Services and in that role she chaired the internal committee that organized and carried out Cleary's successful application for accreditation by the North Central Association.

As a member of the Pittsfield Township Historical Society, Richards serves as archivist and has devoted significant time and energy to organizing the artifacts and documents in the Township Archives so they are more user friendly and accessible to the public. She writes for the Society's newsletter and has prepared displays/exhibits for the display case in the lobby of the Pittsfield Township Administration Building. She was appointed to the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission in 2002 and continues to serve in that role.

In 2010 her many contributions to Pittsfield Charter Township were recognized in a certificate of appreciation from the Township Board.

Patricia Tupacz Scribner's membership on the Pittsfield Historical Commission and the Pittsfield Township Historic District Study Committee is a tribute to her early life growing up on a working farm in Belleville. Internalizing the values of hard work and commitment, she now focuses her managerial skills on preserving the character of the Township that drew her here 18 years ago.

When her two daughters were young, even while employed full time, Scribner understood that it was important to make time to serve. Her involvement encompassed chairing a Huron Valley Girl Scouts Troop Committee, participating in the Mother's March for the March of Dimes, volunteering with the Ypsilanti High School Band Boosters and serving as President of the Governing Board for the Ypsilanti Student-Parent Center.

As a Ford Motor Company employee, Scribner was involved for 36 years as a union member, officer and international representative. In 1985 she co-founded and coordinated the Cancer Awareness Program at the Saline Ford Visteon Plant where she worked for 20 years. Active in her union, she served as an elected Trustee-Chair of the Executive Board where she conducted semi-annual audits of the local union finances.

She was elected chair of the Washtenaw County UAW Community Action Program (CAP) Council, and as a UAW Constitutional Convention Delegate. Additionally she was a cast member in the theatrical production of Workers' Lives/Workers' Stories. In 1991 she was appointed and served for 16 years as an International Representative for the UAW Women's Department.

After retirement in 2008, Scribner was elected Treasurer of Pittsfield Charter Township marking a milestone in her long history of public service. She continues in her 22nd year on the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mary Ellen Wall's family moved to Pittsfield Township in 1973 and has lived in the same house for 37 years where they raised four children and nurtured several others. They now have 12 grandchildren, five of whom live in Pittsfield Township.

Wall handled all business marketing and fulfillment functions for the family business, Pierian Press, which was located in a historic house in Pittsfield Township.

She helped found and served as chairperson of People on the Move, which was the initial service in Washtenaw County that provided transportation to handicapped and elderly residents and later was merged into the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority.

For 18 years, she was a member of the American Business Women's Association, serving as president, vice president and newsletter chair. For seven years she co-chaired the Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival for ABWA, earning approximately \$80,000 for women's sports at Pioneer High School, college scholarships, and advancement programs. With her husband, she helped establish the first neighborhood watch in Pittsfield Township which they managed until support was provided by the Department of Public Safety.

Wall was elected to two four-year terms on the Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Commission, serving as chairperson during the second four-year term when they planned and created Lilly Park and Marsh View Meadows Park. While on the P&R Commission she was appointed liaison to the Pittsfield Historical Commission in 1989 where she has served as secretary and vice-chair. She is now chair of the Historic District Study Committee.

A member of the Pittsfield Historical Society, Wall serves as vice-president and newsletter editor. She chaired the Sutherland-Wilson Farm barn dedication and Harvest Festival Fundraiser. For three years, she planted and cared for the historical garden at the Sutherland-Wilson Farm, canning and preparing produce for the Festival and for Food Gatherers.

For thirteen years Wall helped with the restoration of her grandfather's flour mill in southeast Ohio. Stratton Mill was built in 1878 providing flour to Nickles' Bakery in southeast Ohio. Her grandfather developed and Stratton Mill produced one of the first self-rising whole wheat pancake mixes. She has restored and renovated her grandfather's home near the Stratton Mill and operates it as a weekly rental and bed and breakfast (see Stratton House Inn: www.strattonhouse.com).

Meetings:

The Historic District Study Committee meets in the Pittsfield Township Administration Building Large Conference Room at 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month and the general public is welcome to attend and participate.

II. Charge to the Study Committee

The State of Michigan has declared historic preservation to be a public purpose and has established procedures whereby a local unit of government may establish local historic districts. The Local Historic Districts Act requires and authorizes a local unit of government to appoint a historic district study committee.

Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees appointed a Historic District Study Committee to support historic preservation efforts in the Township. The committee members have been appointed in accordance with required guidelines and currently includes individuals who have clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation.

This committee shall:

- a) Conduct a photographic inventory of resources within each proposed historic district.
- b) Conduct basic research of each proposed historic district and historic resources located within that district.
- c) Determine the total number of historic and non historic resources within a proposed historic district and percentage of historic resources of that total.
- d) The committee shall be guided by the criteria for evaluation issued by the United States Secretary of the Interior for inclusion of resources in the national register of historic places.
- e) Prepare a preliminary historic district study committee report.

IV. Description of the Proposed District

The Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead is located on the south side of Textile Road, between State and Lohr Roads in Pittsfield Charter Township, southeast of Ann Arbor. The farmstead occupies 4.6 acres of the original farm property. The rest of the farm has been built up with residential development, but the land across the road currently remains open. In addition to a Greek Revival farmhouse that exemplifies the New England one-and-one-half cottage type, the farmstead contains seven other buildings clustered along a horseshoe-shaped lane that runs back from the street past the house's east elevation. These buildings include gable-roofed wood shed, carriage house, hog house, large barn, and icehouse buildings clad in vertical boarding, board-and-batten, and horizontal novelty siding. The property was sold to Pittsfield Charter Township in 1999 and will be restored and managed by the Pittsfield Township Historical Society as a farm museum.

The farmstead forms an L-shaped tract with frontage of 285 feet along Textile Road, a depth of 570 feet, and width at the rear, where a small rectangular projection forms the end of the ell, about 485 feet. The farmhouse stands near the center of the front of the property and faces north toward Textile Road. The primary farm lane extends back from the street, running along the house's east side south to the barn's east end. The woodshed is located on the east side of the lane near the house, the carriage house on the same side, with the hog house a little behind it, the barn west of the hog house at the south end of the drive, and icehouse on the drive's west side southwest of the carriage house. The property also contains a non-contributing modern (1965) garage/apartment located directly behind the house. In front of the house, there are several large older trees arranged roughly in rows along the east side of the main drive. Several of the trees have been identified as sugar maples and the oldest maple is estimated to be 150 years old. The older trees may have been tapped for the purpose of making maple syrup while the Sutherland-Wilson family lived on the farmstead.

III. Summary of Resources on Property

Figure 1. Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead Site Plan

Table #1

Summary of Resources:

Acreage of Property: 4.6 acres

- 1. House*
- 2. Wood Shed*
- 3a. Garage/Apartment
(non-contributing)
- 3b. Pump House*
(attached to east end)
- 4. Ice House*
- 5. Carriage House*
- 6. Hog House*
- 7. Barn*
- 8. Sheep Barn (removed)
- 9. Smoke House (removed)
- 10. Shed (non-contributing)
- 11. House Garden*
- 12. House Yard*

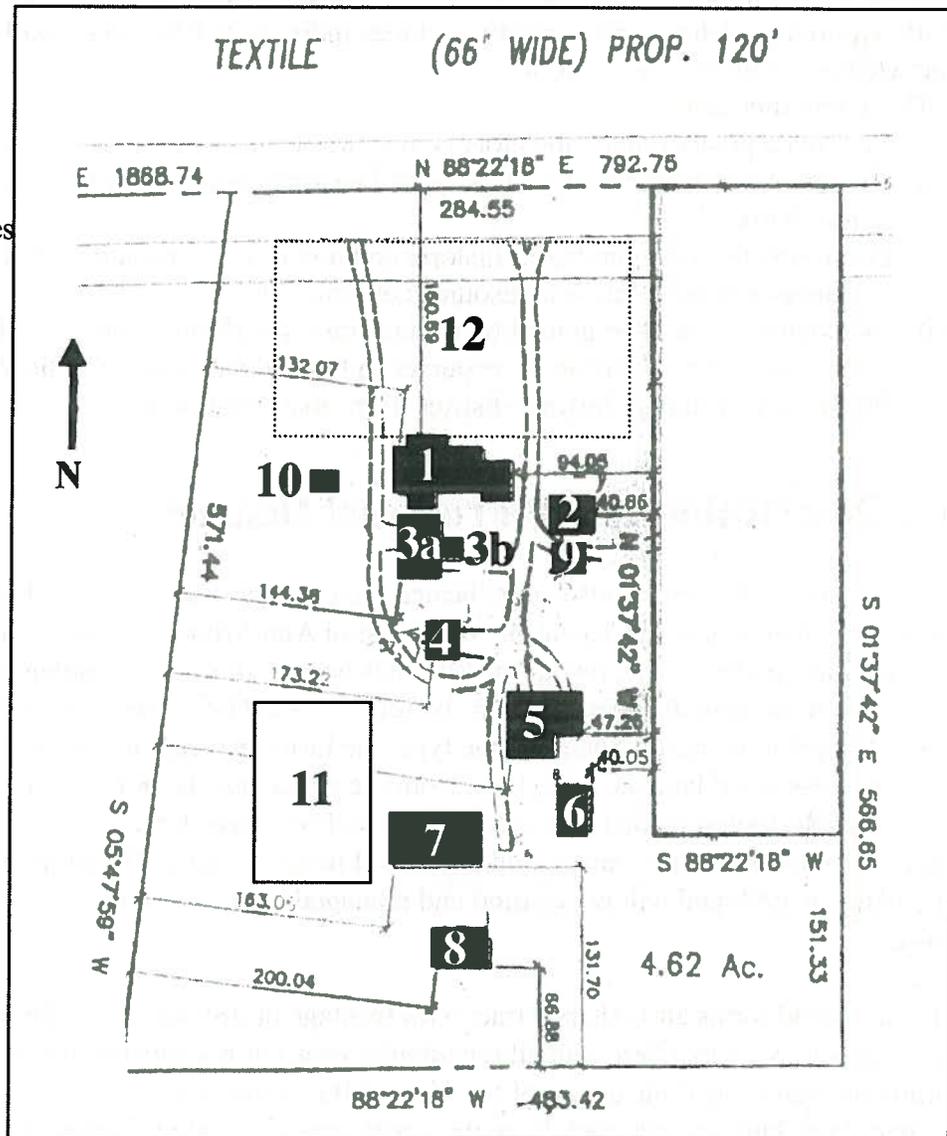
2 structures removed

9 contributing resources

2 non-contributing resources

80% contributing resources

* *Contributing resources considered historically significant*



1. Farmhouse, c. 1850, Contributing

The house's roof ridge parallels the façade. A centered half-length porch with a half-hipped roof leads to the main entrance door, which is flanked by sidelights and topped by a row of dentils under a wide entablature. The house's six-over-six light windows contain some original glass. The white-painted house is sided with clapboard and stands on a fieldstone foundation.

Greek Revival details include a pilaster and entablature entry with sidelights, a board entablature and dentils. Additional details include cornices and returns, eight frieze windows (five on the façade and three on the south elevation) and a four-column front porch. The two middle columns are Doric while the outside ones are square. The east and west ends of the part of the façade behind the porch are marked by plain, square pilasters that match the outside columns, and that portion of the façade is faced in horizontal boarding laid flush.

A one-story wing in keeping with the style of the main house was added onto the eastern elevation of the house around the turn of the century. The addition has a molded cornice, raking and frieze boards, returns and three frieze windows on the rear elevations. It has an open quarter-hip porch with columns and entablature similar to the main porch. For many years the drop wing functioned as a one-bedroom apartment and that space is now being returned to its original form as kitchen and dining room. A rear exterior "wash porch" now serves as the utility room after having been enclosed in 1974.

Over the years, the interior floor plan and room functions have been altered. The living and dining rooms were once a parlor and first floor bedroom. The central hallway that divides the living and dining area from the bedroom and kitchen most likely went across the entire house. A bathroom built in 1958 behind the stairway created a break in the hall. The rest of the hallway remains and still has the original cherry wood staircase and a chandelier. The second floor of the house retained the original floor plan with two large bedrooms, one on either side of the staircase. Plumbing and electricity were installed in 1940 and the chandeliers that run on electricity now were originally fueled by kerosene. Despite these changes, the house retains much of its original character and finishes.

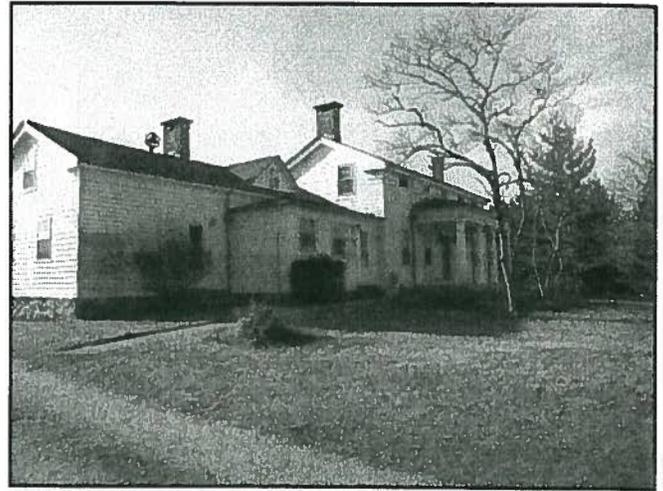


Figure 2. Sutherland-Wilson Farmhouse, north (front) elevation



Figure 3. Sutherland-Wilson front porch, north (front) elevation



Figure 4. Sutherland-Wilson one-story wing porch, north (front) elevation



Figure 5. Sutherland-Wilson Wood Shed, south west elevation

2. Wood Shed, C. 1850, contributing

Also located on the east side of the property is a wood shed. Similar to the hog house, this structure is a one-story wood framed building on a wood and concrete foundation. The siding is of vertical board and batten and painted red with the gable roof line oriented north and south. Openings in the wood shed's walls include several windows and a single door.



Figure 6. Sutherland-Wilson Garage/apartment, southeast elevation

3. Garage/apartment, 1958, non-contributing

Non-contributing resource: Located directly behind the main house is a two-story garage/apartment building. The roof is gabled with the ends facing north and south and has the same green shingle covering that is found on the farmhouse. In keeping with the character of the main house, the horizontal wood siding on the structure is painted white.

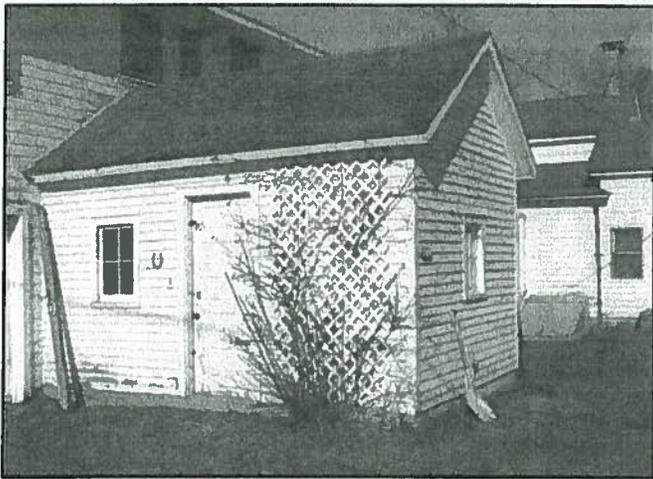


Figure 7. Sutherland-Wilson Pump House, south elevation

3. Pump House, c. 1865, contributing

On the east elevation of the Garage/Apartment there is an attached shed with the same green roof and white siding. Stairs on the north elevation provide access to the second level.

(See table of [non-contributing resources](#) for distinction of how attached "garage/apartment" is to be separated from contributing "pump house.")

4. Icehouse, c. 1850, contributing

Near the garage/apartment building is the icehouse. This structure is a one-story wood framed building that rests on a stone foundation. There is one entrance on the north elevation that is flanked on either side by a double hung 4/4 window. Near the roofline is a third window on the north elevation with a single pane. The siding runs in a horizontal pattern and is painted bright red. On the east elevation is evidence of another opening in the form of a sliding door. The gable roof faces north and south.



Figure 8. Sutherland-Wilson Ice House, southeast elevation

5. Carriage House, c. 1850, contributing

Built structurally much like the large barn, the carriage house stands on a fieldstone foundation and is built with post-and-beam wood framing and vertical board and batten siding. However, the carriage house is unique among the farmstead's outbuildings in that the construction techniques include mortise and tenon joints. Inside the structure is a fully enclosed main area with an upper and lower level with partially enclosed sections. The east area is a lean-to and the south area has an open-end wall. The lower level is a large open room. There are openings for vehicle and pedestrian access, and a transom light window on the north elevation. An opening in the south elevations provides access to the south partially enclosed area. A wooden stairway leads to the upper loft in the southwest corner.

6. Hog House, c. 1850, contributing

The hog house is located on the east side of the property. This structure is a one-story wood framed building on a wood and concrete foundation. The siding is of vertical board and batten and painted red with the gable roof line oriented north and south. There are door openings on the north and east elevations with small four-pane windows.

7. Basement Barn, c. 1850, contributing

The large barn on the property is of the basement type and is located behind the main house and next to the smaller carriage house. The foundation is of stone with a concrete slab-on-grade floor on the east side and an earth floor on the west. The frame is of timber post-and-beam construction. Exterior walls are of wood plank siding. The roof is gabled, oriented east and west. Inside, the barn is divided into two levels. The upper level has a large open space on the east side and a loft on the west. It can be entered from the north elevation by a barn grade earth ramp that goes to the building's vehicle and wagon entrance.

The lower level is also divided into east and west sections. The west section is large and open, while the west side is about one-third the size of the east. The barn was built into the side of a hill and the lower level is accessible from ground level on the south elevation. Openings in the lower level of the



Figure 9. Sutherland-Wilson Carriage House, west elevation



Figure 10. Sutherland-Wilson Hog House, west elevation

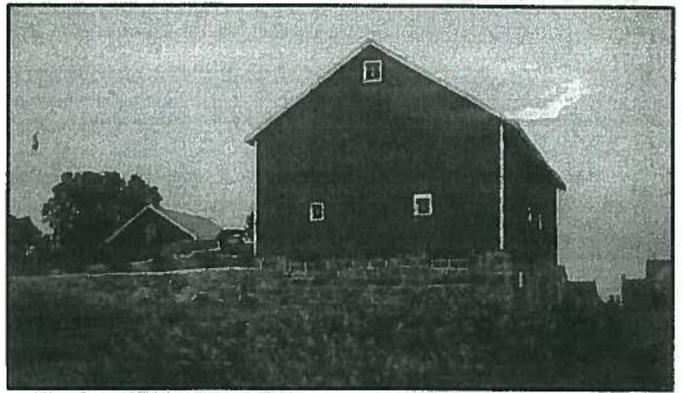


Figure 11 Sutherland-Wilson Basement Barn, west elevation

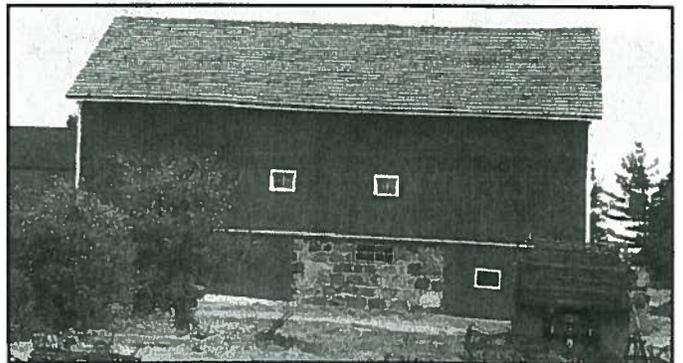


Figure 12. Sutherland-Wilson Basement Barn, south elevation

barn can be found on three of the four elevations. The south and east elevations contain a door and window.

The building's most noticeable alteration is in the vehicle/wagon entranceway on the north side, where there is a sliding door and a hinged door to the left.

8. Shed, non-contributing

A period-appropriate shed has been donated from a farm being demolished on Bemis Road and was moved to Sutherland-Wilson Farm in 2008. It sits just west of the farmhouse.



Figure 13. Sutherland-Wilson Shed, east elevation



Figure 14. Sutherland-Wilson House Garden, southwest view



Figure 15. Sutherland-Wilson Front yard, north elevation

9. Landscape, Garden, c. 1850 to present, contributing

The Wilson family's former house garden west of the Basement Barn has again been cultivated since 2008 with period-appropriate vegetables whose seeds have been culled from historic gardens and garden-suppliers. The garden includes sunflowers, broom corn, Indian corn, sweet corn, Early Girl tomato, Big boy tomato, gourds, Bird House gourds, Roma beans, Blue Lake green beans, Detroit beets, cucumbers, cilantro, dill, giant pumpkins, white pumpkins, pie pumpkins, onions, zucchini, summer squash, and cabbage.

In addition, heirloom varieties of persimmon tomato, Cherokee Purple tomato, and Brandywine tomato were planted and harvested here.

10 Landscape, House Yard, c. 1850 to present, contributing

Mature Sugar Maples shade the Farmhouse's front yard toward Textile Road. The west side of the house is shaded by descendants of the original lilacs.

V. History of Property

The Sutherland-Wilson family lived on their farm at 797 Textile Road for six generations since Langford Sutherland purchased it in 1832. Over the years, Langford bought more land. He and his wife, Lydia McMichael, had eight children, one of whom, Tobias, made his home on the farm. He married Josephine Kanouse and they had two children: Ernest and Bessie. Ernest and his wife, Delia Rheinfrank, had an only child, Mildred, who married Arthur Wilson. Their son, Harold, and his wife Mary Roy and their son Neil, lived on the family farmstead until the parents' deaths. With the death of the Wilsons in 2000, Pittsfield Charter Township became the owner of the farmstead and its buildings. ¹

Langford Sutherland's ancestry goes back to William Southerland (sic) who, with two brothers Robert and David, emigrated in 1684 from Scotland in the Earl of Perth's New Jersey Expedition. Because of ill winds they landed in Virginia. Robert settled where Richmond now is. William and David went north on foot with a large company.

William and his companions, Patrick MacGregorie and David Toshach, along with MacGregorie's flock of Presbyterian families, were persuaded by the Governor of New York to move into New York State. They settled in the area of Cromwell, on territory now incorporated in New Windsor, the first settlement within the limits of the present county of Orange.

William Southerland's (sic) son David was a signer of the General Association in 1775. In 1777 David's grandson, Patrick Southerland (sic) was a hauler of material for the Great Chain on the Hudson River near West Point. Patrick's son Daniel Southerland moved from Orange County to Ontario County, NY.

Langford Sutherland was born in Penn Yan, Ontario County, NY, on 23 January 1802, There he was educated and passed his early life. About 1827 he married Lydia McMichael, b. 8 Mar 1806, NY., dau. of Charles and Sophia Haines McMichael. In 1832 he came to this county, locating in the town of Pittsfield, where he lived until his death in 1865.² When he came West he brought with him his wife and 2 children. Of his family 8 children are yet living, and all but 1 in this county. Mrs. Sutherland with 2 of these children still lives on the old homestead. Mr. Sutherland was a member of the Baptist Church of Ann Arbor, of which he was a prominent member. ³

Langford died 21 June 1865 at the homestead on Textile Rd. The 1880 Census shows their son Tobias Sutherland living there with his family; wife, Josephine and son Ernest (age 7). Also living with them was Tobias' mother Lydia. She died 18 December 1892 at the family homestead. ³

Many of Lydia's siblings also migrated to Michigan, settling in Washtenaw, Oakland & Jackson counties. ²

Chapman's *1881 History of Washtenaw County* notes that D. Sutherland was born in Ontario county, NY, 27 January 1830. He is a son of Langford and Lydia Sutherland, who came to Washtenaw county in June 1833. Mr. Sutherland was reared on a farm, and has followed that occupation through life. He resides on 153 acres of land on sec. 29, formerly a portion of the old homestead. He was married 20 May 1858, to Sarah J. Lewis, a native of Oneida county, NY, where she was born 27 July 1837. Mr. Sutherland has never participated in public affairs, nor aspired for political honors, but is a man who has pursued the just and honorable vocation of a farmer, and therefore is not as conspicuous as other men would have been under the circumstances.

¹ Nomination to National Register of Historic Places

² Pittsfield Township Archives

³ Chapman's 1881 History of Washtenaw County

Tobias Sutherland was born in this county 29 November 1842, and is son of Langford and Lydia Sutherland. He was reared on a farm, educated in the public schools, and 6 December 1871, married Josephine Kanouse, a native of this county and born 19 February 1850. Two children have been born to them—Ernest and Bessie. Mr. Sutherland never aspired to political honors, but has followed agricultural pursuits the greater part of his life. His parents were early settlers in Washtenaw county, coming here in 1833, where the father died in 1865. The mother still survives and resides with her son Tobias at the advanced age of 75 years. They witnessed many of the vicissitudes and privations of life, and are well worthy to be numbered with the noble band of pioneers who first turned the virgin soil in Washtenaw county. Mr. Sutherland has been a member of the Baptist Church for very many years. ⁴

Nelson Sutherland. The gentleman who is at the present time responsible to the corporation of Ann Arbor for the condition of its streets, is he whose name is at the head of this sketch. He was born in Pittsfield Township, five and a half miles south of Ann Arbor, 18 August 1840. He is a son of Langford and Lydia (McMichael) Sutherland, both natives of New York and born near Penn Yan. Our subject's parents came to Washtenaw County in 1832 and settled where their son Nelson was born. They there secured a farm of four hundred and twenty acres and made that their home until June 1864. ⁵

Table 2. Sutherland-Wilson family in continuous ownership until 2000

	Title & Deed	Owner	Acres	Value	Document
1. Langford Sutherland, b. 1802, d. 1865 m. Lydia McMichael, 1827, b. 1806, d. 1892 ⁴	1858	Langford & Lydia Southerland	70	?	Quit Claim Deed
2. Tobias Sutherland, b. 1842 m. Josephine Kanouse, 1871, b. 1850 ⁴					
3. Ernest Sutherland m. Delia Rheinfrank, 1 child	1902	Tobias & Josephine Sutherland	70	?	Quit Claim Deed
4. Mildred Sutherland m. Arthur Wilson	1909	Tobias & Josephine Sutherland	70	\$5600	Warranty Deed
5. Harold Wilson m. Mary Roy	1953	Arthur & Mildred Wilson	70	\$16000	Probate File
6. Pittsfield Charter Township	2000	Pittsfield Township	4.616±	\$100,000	Land Contract

⁴ Chapman's 1881 History of Washtenaw County

⁵ Washtenaw County Records, Pittsfield Township Archives

VI. Statement of Significance

A. The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Areas of Significance:

- a. Architecture
- b. Agricultural
- c. Exploration/Settlement

B. The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

Period of Significance: 1850-1998.

Primary location of additional data: Local Government

Name of repository: Pittsfield Township Historical Society ⁶

The Sutherland Farmstead with its diverse collection of farm buildings is a well-preserved example of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century southern Michigan farmsteads. These farms are rapidly disappearing from the developing suburban area of Washtenaw County. The farmstead also represents a broad pattern in the history of Washtenaw County and southern Michigan of settlement by Euro-Americans from the northeastern United States, in this case, upstate New York. In 1832, Langford and Lydia Sutherland, with their first two children arrived in Pittsfield Township from Ontario County, NY, to establish this farm. Like many early settlers in this region, they built, after first occupying a log house, a Greek Revival house similar to those being built in the east. The Sutherland house is significant in Washtenaw County as a well-preserved example of the New England one-and-one-half cottage of Greek Revival design. The Sutherland farm remained a working farm within the same family for over one hundred and fifty years.

Pittsfield Township became the first charter township in Washtenaw County in 1972. The history of Euro-American settlement in this area however, goes back as far as 1824. When Langford and Lydia Sutherland arrived in what is now Pittsfield Township, they were part of a broad movement of migrants to the area and southern Michigan in general, from New England and upstate New York. Farming made up a significant percentage of land use in Pittsfield Township in 1850. Out of 23,040 acres in the township, farms occupied 15,137 acres. In the 1850 census, the Sutherlands were among 307 farm families in Pittsfield Township. Among these farmers, Langford and Lydia owned one of the largest parcels of land.⁷

The Sutherland-Wilson family had a longstanding history in Pittsfield Township as a pioneering family with a strong connection to the social fabric of the community. They lived a simple life as farmers and members of the Baptist Church. Langford Sutherland's prominence as one of the largest landholders and as a successful farmer in the township did not go unnoticed. A school that was built on land across from his house was named the Sutherland School after the family. Four of Langford Sutherland's eight children attended this school and three of them would play key roles in the development of education on the local level.

Following Langford Sutherland's death in 1865, his son Tobias lived on the farmstead with his mother, Lydia. Tobias married Harriet Knaouse and they had two children. His son Ernest married Delia Rheinfrank and they also resided on the farmstead. Ernest and Delia Sutherland's only child, Mildred, married Arthur Wilson. Mildred and Arthur's son, Harold, the sixth generation of the family in Pittsfield Township, lived here until 2000.

⁶ Nomination to National Register of Historic Places

⁷ *Ibid*

In 1998, a deed was recorded in Liber 3857, page 923 WCR (Washtenaw County Records) from Heartland Trust to Johnson Holding Co. to develop the remaining outlying farm fields for development into residential housing units.

Harold Wilson was the last direct descendant of Langford and Lydia Sutherland to live on the farmstead before the remaining house, barns and their surrounding 4.6 acres of the original farm were sold to Pittsfield Charter Township in 2000.

VII. Boundary Justification

The farm's acreage has been greatly diminished over recent generations. The proposed Historic District includes the 4.6-acre farmstead area now owned by Pittsfield Charter Township. The original farm fields beyond the house and structures once associated with the farm have been developed as a residential neighborhood and contain no historic features.

The present boundary was established in 2000 with the sale of the property to the Pittsfield Charter Township for the development of a farm museum.

Legal Description of the Property

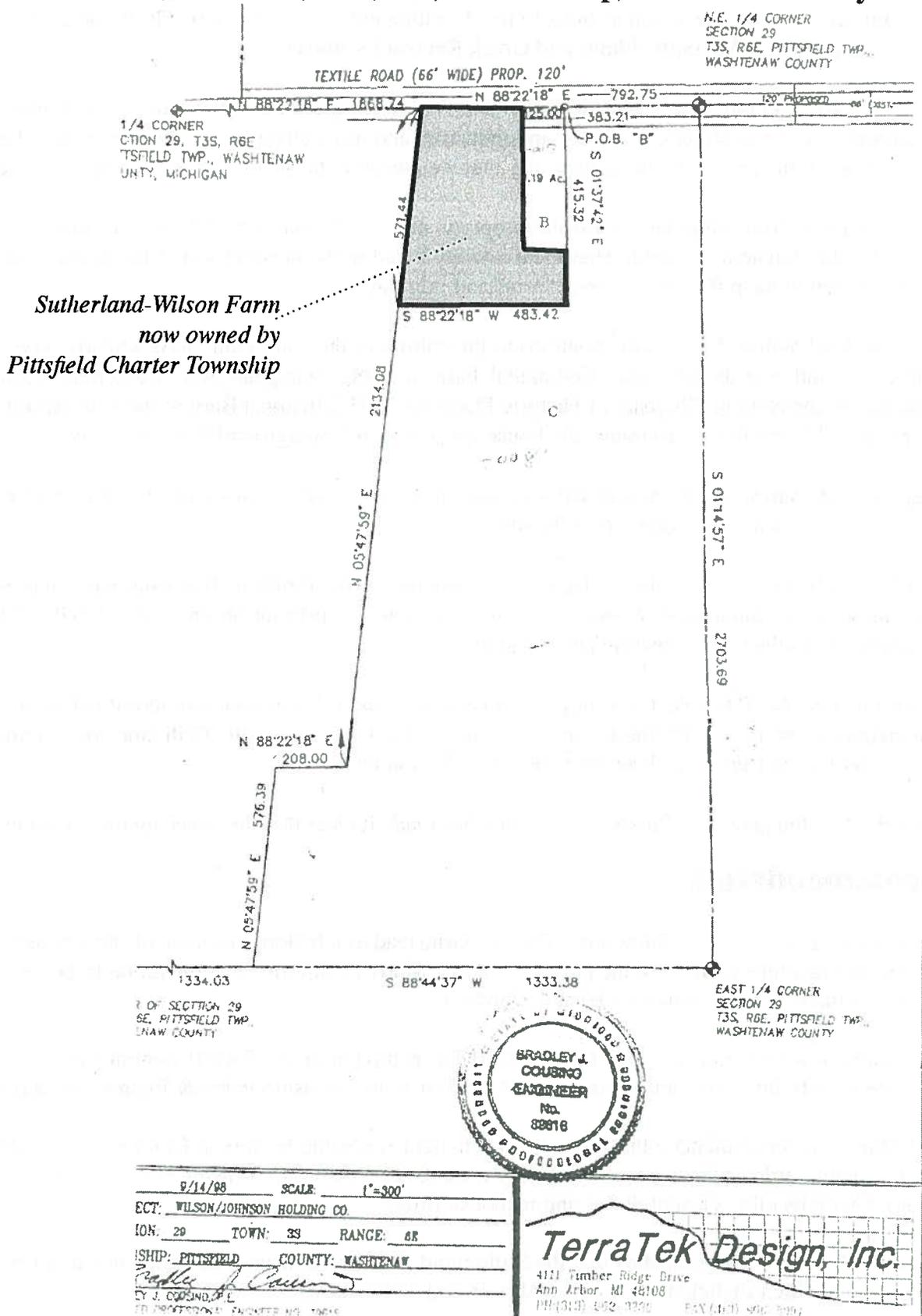
Property plat 1998

**N.E. 1/4 corner, Section 29, T2S, R6E,
Pittsfield Township, Washtenaw County**

Commencing from the Northeast 1/4 corner of said Section 29,
thence S 88 deg. 22' 18" W 508.21 feet to the point of beginning;
thence S 01 deg. 37' 42" E 415.32 feet;
thence N 88 deg. 22' 18" E 125.00 feet, S 01 deg. 37' 42" E 151.33 feet;
thence S 88 deg. 22' 18" W 483.42 feet;
thence N 05 deg. 47' 58" E 571.44 feet;
thence N 88 deg. 22' 18" E 284.55 feet to the point of beginning,
containing 4.616 acres more or less.

Description of Proposed Historic District Boundaries Property plat 1998

N.E. 1/4 corner, Section 29, T2S ,R6E, Pittsfield Twp, Washtenaw County



VIII. Conclusion

Pittsfield Township's Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead represents an important segment in the history of the region through both its social connections to the development of the Township and the architectural significance of its pre-Civil War outbuildings and Greek Revival farmhouse.

Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead is one of the few surviving examples of the area's agricultural history as housing, airports, freeways, shopping centers, and industrial and research parks put the former farm lands to new use. It is vital to the culture of our community that we preserve this nearly pristine example of local history.

Pittsfield Charter Township has owned the property since 16 November 2000 and has entered into agreements with the Pittsfield Township Historical Society to aid in the preservation of the property and, eventually, to be open to the public as a historic farmstead museum.

The Sutherland-Wilson Farm's contributions to the culture of the community have already received several recognitions and awards: Michigan Centennial Farm in 1982, Michigan Sesquicentennial Farm in 1987, placement on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007, Michigan Barn of the Year Award in 2007. According to Wilson family accounts, the house was used for Underground Railroad Activity.

Criterion A: *Its character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the community, state, or country (Agriculture).*

Through the efforts of the Pittsfield Charter Township and of the Pittsfield Township Historical Society, the preservation of the Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead has made significant progress which will be further enhanced and strengthened by Historic District status.

Toward that end, the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission has placed a proposal before the Township Administration and Board of Trustees for the creation of a Historic District Ordinance in anticipation of its ability to protect properties such as the Sutherland-Wilson Farm.

The support by the people of Pittsfield Township has made it clear that this place matters to them.

Recommendation

After a thorough study of the Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead as a historic resource of the Township of Pittsfield, it is the recommendation of the Historic District Study Committee that the property be recognized as the initial portion of the Township's Historic District.

Furthermore, it is recommended that the Pittsfield Township Historical Society continue its stewardship of that property with the continued cooperation of the Pittsfield Township Parks & Recreation Department.

And further, it is recommended that the current Pittsfield Township Historical Commission be modified through existing ordinances to become a newly-established Pittsfield Township Historic District Commission along with its other current duties and responsibilities.

The Study Committee recommends that the Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead be designated as a Local Historic District by the Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees.

IX. Selected Bibliography:

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48104

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Charter Township, "An Inventory and Analysis of Historic Resource Surveys." 2008

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McLennan, Marshall, Sutherland Farm Description.
Washtenaw County Historic District Commission, 1985.

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Woolley, Douglas, former Pittsfield Township Supervisor, on behalf of the Pittsfield Historical Society,
Letter to Dr. Ted Ligibel, Director Historic Preservation Program, Department of Geography,
Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI. National Register Preliminary Information and Farm
History. December 12, 2003.

ATTACHMENT A: Resolutions of establishment

PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RES # 10-13

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Township Board for Pittsfield Charter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held at the Pittsfield Township Administration Building, located at 6201 W. Michigan Avenue, in said Township on Wednesday the 24th day of February, 2010 at 6:30pm.

Present: Israel, Scribner, Hunt, Krone, Yi.
Absent: Grewal, Ferguson

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Krone and supported by Member Scribner

WHEREAS, The State of Michigan has declared historic preservation to be a public purpose and has established procedures whereby a local unit of government may establish local historic districts, and

WHEREAS, The Local Historic Districts Act ("the Act") requires and authorizes a local unit of government to appoint a historic district study committee before establishing a historic district, and

WHEREAS, The Pittsfield Township Historical Commission has requested the Board of Trustees to appoint a historic district study committee, and

WHEREAS, The Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees supports historic preservation efforts in the Township, and

WHEREAS, The Local Historic Districts Act requires that the committee contain a majority of persons who have a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation, and

WHEREAS, The Local Historic Districts Act also requires that the committee contain representation from 1 or more duly organized local historic preservation organizations a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation, and

WHEREAS, The Members of the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission meet both of the above criteria,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees establishes The Pittsfield Township Historic District Study Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Historic Study Committee shall perform the following tasks, as required by Section 3 of the Local Historic District Act (MCL 399.203):

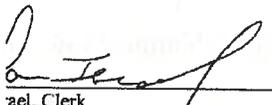
- (a) Conduct a photographic inventory of resources within each proposed historic district following procedures established or approved by the department.
- (b) Conduct basic research of each proposed historic district and the historic resources located within that district.
- (c) Determine the total number of historic and nonhistoric resources within a proposed historic district and the percentage of historic resources of that total. In evaluating the significance of historic resources, the committee shall be guided by the selection criteria for evaluation issued by the United States secretary of the interior for inclusion of resources in the national register of historic places, as set forth in 36 C.F.R. part 60, and criteria established or approved by the department, if any.
- (d) Prepare a preliminary historic district study committee report that addresses at a minimum all of the following:
 - (i) The charge of the committee.
 - (ii) The composition of the committee membership.
 - (iii) The historic district or districts studied.
 - (iv) The boundaries for each proposed historic district in writing and on maps.
 - (v) The history of each proposed historic district.
 - (vi) The significance of each district as a whole, as well as a sufficient number of its individual resources to fully represent the variety of resources found within the district, relative to the evaluation criteria.
- (e) Transmit copies of the preliminary report for review and recommendations to the local planning body, to the department, to the Michigan historical commission, and to the state historic preservation review board.
- (f) Make copies of the preliminary report available to the public pursuant to the Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Historic District Study Committee shall fulfill all other requirements and deadlines established for such committees by the Act.

CALL VOTE:

Israel, Scribner, Hunt, Krone, Yi
None.
Grewal, Ferguson.
None.

MOTION DECLARED ADOPTED



Israel, Clerk
of Charter Township

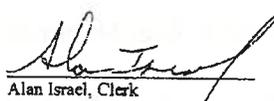


Mandy Grewal, Supervisor
Pittsfield Charter Township

February 24, 2010

CERTIFICATE

I, Alan Israel, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of Pittsfield Charter Township, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting held on February 24, 2010 and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.



Alan Israel, Clerk
Pittsfield Charter Township

Date: February 24, 2010

PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RES # 10-18

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE PITTSFIELD CHARTER
TOWNSHIP HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Township Board for Pittsfield Charter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held at the Pittsfield Township Administration Building, located at 6201 W. Michigan Avenue, in said Township on Wednesday the 24th day of February, 2010 at 6:30pm.

Present: Israel, Scribner, Hunt, Krone, Yi.
Absent: Grewal, Ferguson.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Hunt and supported by Member Yi

WHEREAS, The Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees has established the Pittsfield Township Historic District Study Committee; and,

WHEREAS, The Local Historic Districts Act requires that the committee contain a majority of persons who have a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation, and

WHEREAS, The Local Historic Districts Act also requires that the committee contain representation from 1 or more duly organized local historic preservation organizations a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation, and

WHEREAS, The Members of the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission meet both of the above criteria,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following persons are appointed to the Pittsfield Township Historic District Study Committee:

Existing Historical Commission members

Tom Dodd, formerly with Washtenaw County Historic District Commission
Betty LeClair, president Pittsfield Township Historical Society
Helen Richards, archivist
Patricia Scribner, Township Treasurer
Mary Ellen Wall, long-time resident and historical activist
Letitia Byrd, owner of historical David Byrd Center

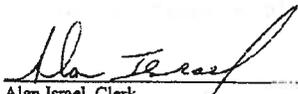
Interested Citizens

Linda Klenczar, interior designer, artist
Janice O. Harwood, owner of historic Harwood Farm
Al Paus, architect

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Israel, Scribner, Hunt, Krone, Yi.
Nays: None.
Absent: Grewal, Ferguson.
Abstain: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED


Alan Israel, Clerk
Pittsfield Charter Township


Mandy Grewal, Supervisor
Pittsfield Charter Township

DATED: February 24, 2010

ATTACHMENT B: Property Descriptions

Records of status of original farm properties:

Quit Claim Deed

Dated September 11, 1858

Liber 635 of Records page 233

Consideration \$1.00 Etc.

Quit Claim Deed

November 28, 1902

Liber 147 of Deeds page 344

Consideration: \$1.00

Warranty Deed

May 5, 1909

Liber 181 of Deeds page 10

Consideration \$5600.00

Death Record of Delia May Sutherland

Place of Death: Pittsfield Township

Date of Death: January 24, 1940

Age at Death: 69 years 7 months 28 days

Occupation: Housewife

Informant: Ernest Sutherland

In the matter of the Estate of Ernest D. Sutherland, deceased. PROBATE FILE NO. 40092.

Order appointing Arthur V. Wilson, administrator, filed April 27, 1953. Order that bond in the sum of \$1000.00 be given.

Bond of Arthur V. Wilson, administrator, in the sum of \$1000.00, filed May 8, 1953; approved by Jay H. Payne, Judge of Probate, May 8, 1953.

Letters of administration to Arthur V. Wilson, filed May 8, 1953.

Waiver of notice and consent to hearing on claims, filed July 20, 1953 signed by Mildred H. Wilson.

Order allowing claims, filed July 20, 1953

Order assigning residue, filed September 11, 1953. (See entry number 12 of this abstract).

Receipt for full distributive share of said estate, filed September 11, 1953 signed by Mildred H. Wilson.

Inheritance tax receipt, filed September 17, 1953.

Discharge of Arthur V. Wilson, administrator, filed September 17, 1953.

Petition to amend, filed January 1, 1954

Order correcting error in real estate description, filed January 11, 1954. (See entry number 13 of this abstract).

Ernest D. Sutherland

By Probate Court To Mildred H. Wilson

Order Assigning Residue, September 11, 1953

Recorded September 1, 1953

Liber 635 of Records page 231

In the Matter of the Estate of Ernest D. Sutherland, deceased

Order Correcting Error in Description

Dated January 11, 1954

Liber 646 of Records page 455

Warrant and inventory,

filed June 22, 1958 describes:

Parcel No. 2. (Among other land). Also the north seventy acres of the west half of the northwest quarter of section 8, town 3 south, range 6 east, all being in Pittsfield Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, excepting there from commencing at the southeast corner of said north seventy acres; thence north along the centerline of South State Street 588 feet; thence west 69 rods; thence south 173.25 feet; thence west 5 1/2 rods; thence south 4414.75 feet; thence east 74 1/2 rods to the place of beginning. Appraised at \$17,500.00. (And other land and personal property). Total appraisal of entire inventory is the sum of \$26,243.74.

E. Luella Lambarta to Arthur V. Wilson and Mildred H. Wilson, husband and wife

Quit Claim Deed

Dated September 11, 1953

Liber 635 of Records page 234

Consideration \$1.00 etc.

**WASHTENAW COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
FORM OF LAND CONTRACT**

THIS CONTRACT made on November 16th, 2000
Between Harold A. Wilson and Mary I. Wilson,
Trustees of the Harold A. Wilson and Mary I. Wil-
son Trust, under Agreement dated June 16, 1992, as
amended

Whose address is 797 West Textile Road,
Ann Arbor, 48108 and Charter Township of Pitts-
field, a Michigan municipal corporation
Whose address is 6201 West Michigan Avenue, Ann
Arbor, MI 48108

Sellers agree:

(a) To sell and convey to Purchaser the "premis-
es" in the Township of Pittsfield, County of Washt-
enaw, Michigan, described as:

*Commencing from the Northeast 1/4 corner of said
Section 29, Pittsfield Township, Washtenaw County,
Michigan; thence South 88 degrees 22 minutes 19
seconds West 508.21 feet to the Point of Beginning;
thence South 01 degrees 37 minutes 42 seconds East
415.32 feet; thence North 88 degrees 22 minutes
42 seconds East 125.00 feet, South 01 degrees 37
minutes 42 seconds East 151.33 feet; thence South
88 degrees 22 minutes 19 seconds West 483.42
feet; thence North 05 degrees 47 minutes 58 sec-
onds East 571.44 feet; thence North 88 degrees 22
minutes 18 seconds East 283.55 feet to the Point
of Beginning, being a part of Section 29, Town 3
South, Range 6 East, Pittsfield Township, Washt-
enaw County, Michigan, and subject to easements
and restrictions of record and rights of the public or
any governmental unit in any part of the property
taken, deeded or used for road, street, or highway
purposes as to Textile Road, subject to the lien of
taxes not yet due and payable at time of closing, and
subject to rights of the tenant in possession in the
Main Apartment.*

Together with all improvements, includ-
ing all lighting fixtures, plumbing fixtures, shades,
louvered blinds, drapery hardware, curtain rods,
wall-to-wall carpeting, story windows and doors,
purchased water softeners, automatic garage door
equipment, antennas (including rotor equipment),
screens, and awnings, if any, and subject to all
building and use restrictions of record and visible or
recorded easements.

Terms of payment

(b) the sales price is \$100,000.00 of which
\$1000.00 have been paid to Seller. Purchaser shall
pay Seller the balance of \$99,000.00 without inter-
est and with no monthly payments until the Wil-
sons terminate their residency on the portion of the
Property set forth in paragraph 1 of the Addendum
hereto, at which time monthly payments of THREE
THOUSAND (\$3,000.00) DOLLARS shall com-
mence on the first day of the month following such
termination and shall continue until the entire pur-
chase price has been paid, or until the death of both
of the Wilsons, whichever event shall occur first.
In the event that both Wilsons die before the entire
purchase price has been paid, the balance of princi-
pal shall be forgiven.

Other items included:

- Duty to Convey
- Title Evidence
- Payments
- Restrictions
- Taxes, Insurance
- Alternative Payment Method
- Approval of Title
- Assumption of Risk
- Maintenance of Premises
- Encumbrances
- Mortgages
- No-Payment of taxes or Insurance
- Assignment
- Possession
- Forfeiture
- Foreclosure and other Remedies
- Insurance process
- Late Charge
- Notice Requirements
- Closing statement, November 17, 2000

**ADDENDUM TO A LAND CONTRACT
DATED NOVEMBER 2000
BETWEEN HAROLD A. WILSON
AND MARY I. WILSON TRUST
AS SELLER AND CHARTER TOWNSHIP
OF PITTSFIELD AS PURCHASER**

**I. Wilsons' Reservation of partial posses-
sion and residency on property.** Wilsons hereby
reserve the right for as long as they wish to retain

possession of the Historic Main residence on the property as their residence with no rent. This right shall terminate upon the earliest to occur of the following events:

A. The date the last of the Wilsons move from the Property after notice to Township that they are leaving permanently; or

B. Thirty days after the last of the Wilsons is moved to a nursing home or similar facility when it is certified that there is no reasonable medical likelihood that they will be able to return to the Property; or

C. The date of death of the last of the Wilsons.

II. Covenants and restrictions on use of Property.

A. The parties agree that it is their mutual desire that the property be used for purposes of a Farm Museum, and that the use of the property will be restricted to that use in both the land contract and deed to be given by Wilsons as follows:

1. The property will be used only for the purpose of a Farm Museum and shall be named in perpetuity as the "SUTHERLAND-WILSON FARM MUSEUM."

B. Township agrees that upon possession, it will commence an aggressive restoration plan looking for completion within 10 years, under the general guidance of the Township's Historical Commission, with such input from the Wilsons as they wish to give. A general plan is set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto. It is understood that the Township's ability to accomplish this goal depends on its ability to obtain restoration grants, donations and volunteer help and that, while it will use its best efforts to do so, it cannot guarantee the completion of any particular work at any particular time.

C. Township agrees that so long as the Wilsons or one of them resides on the Property, Township will promptly clear the snow from the driveway on the Property and will cut the grass as needed.

D. Personal Property. It is understood that most of the historic personal property now located on the property which is related to the farm is intended by the Wilsons and expected by the Township to pass with the property, subject to such specific bequests as the Wilsons may make in their wills or

trusts. This includes all documents, photographs, pictures, paintings, letters and records which both parties agree are vital in recording and developing the family history; Township agrees, however, that it will cooperate with family members who may wish to obtain copies of some of these items at their own expense.

EXHIBIT A TO ADDENDUM TO LAND CONTRACT DATED NOVEMBER 2000 BETWEEN HAROLD A. WILSON AND MARY I. WILSON TRUST AND CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PITTS- FIELD

A. In General the restoration plan will be in two five-year phases:

1. Phase 1 – The first 5 years will be devoted to restoring and/or rebuilding the various buildings. The Historical Commission will occupy the "Main apartment," and Harold and Mary Wilson will occupy the "Main Residence." The Township may decide to rent the "apartment over the garage" in order to help with expenses.
2. Phase 2 – The 6th through 10th year will be devoted to final development of the Farm Museum and will provide for major public use of the buildings. Both five-year phases will be accelerated or decelerated, depending on grants, donations and volunteer help.

B. More specific projections for Phase 1 are as follows:

1st year (Budget Year 2000)

1. Provide code inspections and any required corrections for each of the residential units (i.e. Main Residence, Main Apartment and Apartment Over Garage).
2. Clean up and decorate Main Apartment for occupancy by the Historical Commission and Archives.
3. Apply "preservation measures" to the Big Barn and the Hog House and clean up exterior in order to evaluate structurally relative to restoration. NOTE: There may be poison ivy and/or poison oak here.

4. Anything additional that volunteer help can provide.

2nd year (Budget Year 2001)

1. Sprinkler system for Main Residence and main apartment.
2. New roof on apartment over garage and hook up to water and sewer.
3. New furnace, air conditioning system and water heater for Main Apartment
4. Restoration of Hog House.

3rd Year (Budget Year 2002)

1. Gas fireplace inserts in Main Residence and Main Apartment.
2. Start restoration of Big Barn (i.e. roof, siding, paint).
3. Underground wiring to out buildings.

4th Year (Budget Year 2003)

1. Upgrade and restore Open Garage.
2. Rebuild Sheep Barn.
3. Re-roof small buildings as needed.
4. Install black top pedestrian paths and limited staff and handicapped parking

5th Year (Budget Year 2004)

1. Evaluate Big Barn for potential use and begin interior restoration
2. Continue clean up of all small outbuildings
3. Paint all small outbuildings

6th to 10th Years

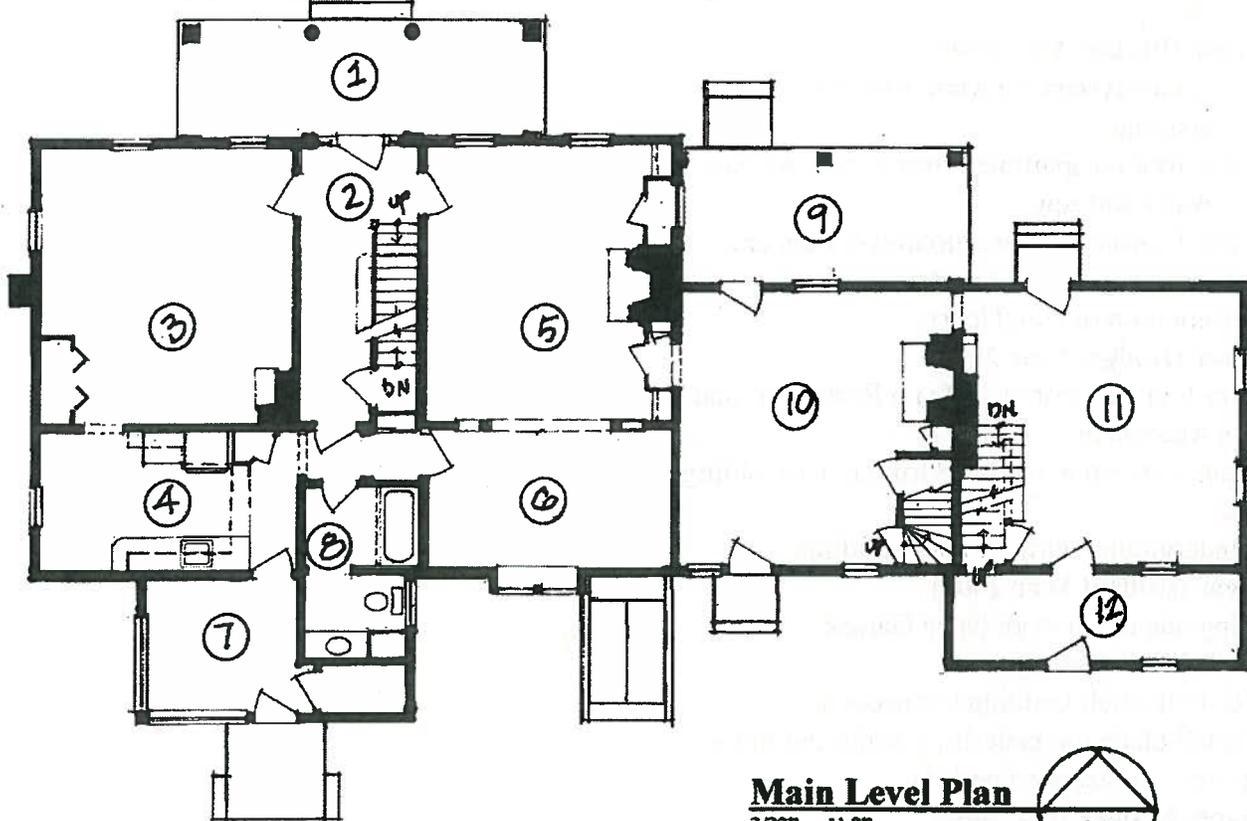
(Budget Years 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)

1. Professional evaluation for use of Big Barn
2. Development of Phase II accordingly
3. Open to public as Historic Site and Farm Museum

Other items of record:

- Warranty Deed
- Legal description
- Property Transfer Affidavit
- Acknowledgement of Homestead Exemption Affidavit and Request to Rescind/Withdraw Homestead Exemption and Property Transfer Affidavit
- Escrow Holding Agreement

ATTACHMENT C: Farmhouse Floor Plans

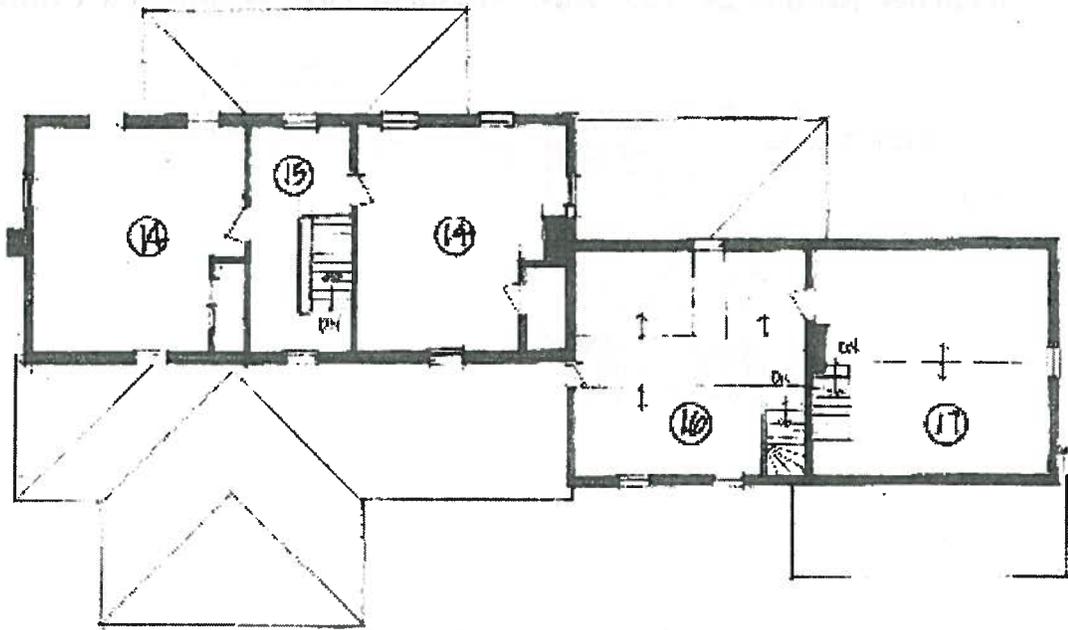


Main Level Plan

3/32" = 1'-0"

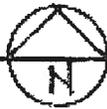


- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1: Roofed Entrance Porch</p> <p>2: Entry Foyer and Stair: Assume that foyer originally extended to the rear exterior wall.</p> <p>3: Used as Dining Room after the construction of the new Kitchen. Previously this space was used as Bedroom. Closet added at that time.</p> <p>4: Currently the Kitchen. Assume this was converted to this use about 1958. Previously used as a sleeping or sitting room.</p> <p>5: Parlor or Sitting Room: Storage areas along east wall were added and a door to the porch to the east was closed off.</p> <p>6: Part of the Parlor. Space may have been used as a Formal Dining Room.</p> <p>7: Single story addition: May have been an open porch. Used as a laundry room when the Kitchen was built in 1958</p> | <p>8. Bathroom added about 1958. Introduction of indoor plumbing.</p> <p>9: Originally a roofed porch. Space enclosed as a Kitchen and Bathroom as a part of converting the eastern portion of this level into a one-bedroom rental apartment. Open porch was restored in 2009.</p> <p>10: Living room of the Apartment. Assume that the space originally served as a Dining Room. Stair accesses a semi-finished attic room above.</p> <p>11: Assume this space was the original kitchen. It was converted to a bedroom for the rental apartment when the new kitchen was built in 1958. Includes stairs to both the basement and attic above.</p> <p>12: Originally an open porch. Enclosed in 1974. Exterior door on the west wall was closed off</p> |
|---|--|

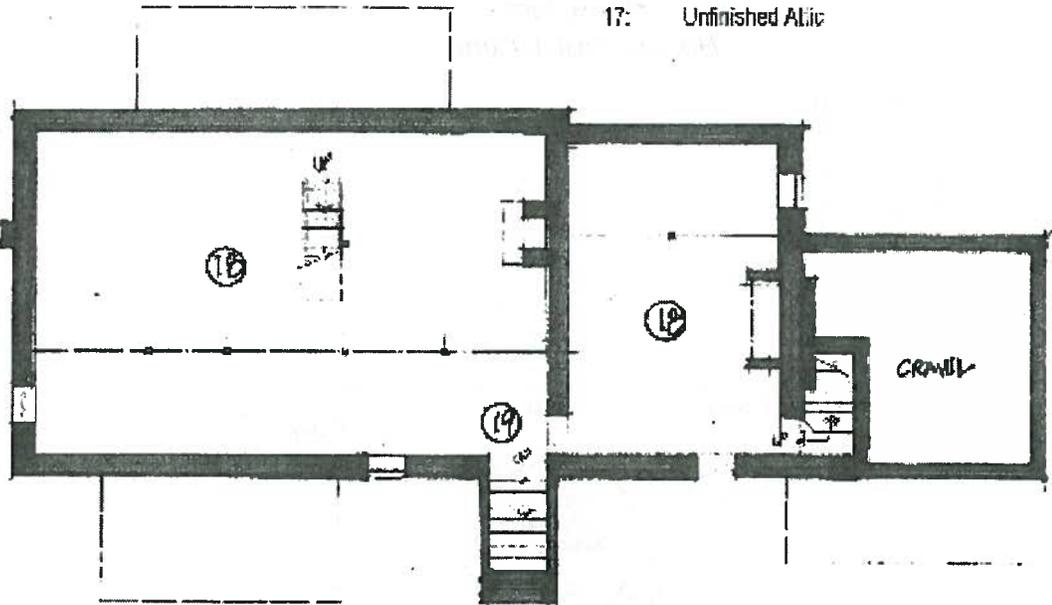


Upper Level Plan

3/32" = 1'-0"

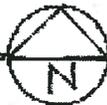


- 14: Bedroom: Closets added later
- 15: Center Hall and Stair
- 16: Semi-Finished Attic: Possible room for hired help.
- 17: Unfinished Attic



Basement Plan

3/32" = 1'-0"

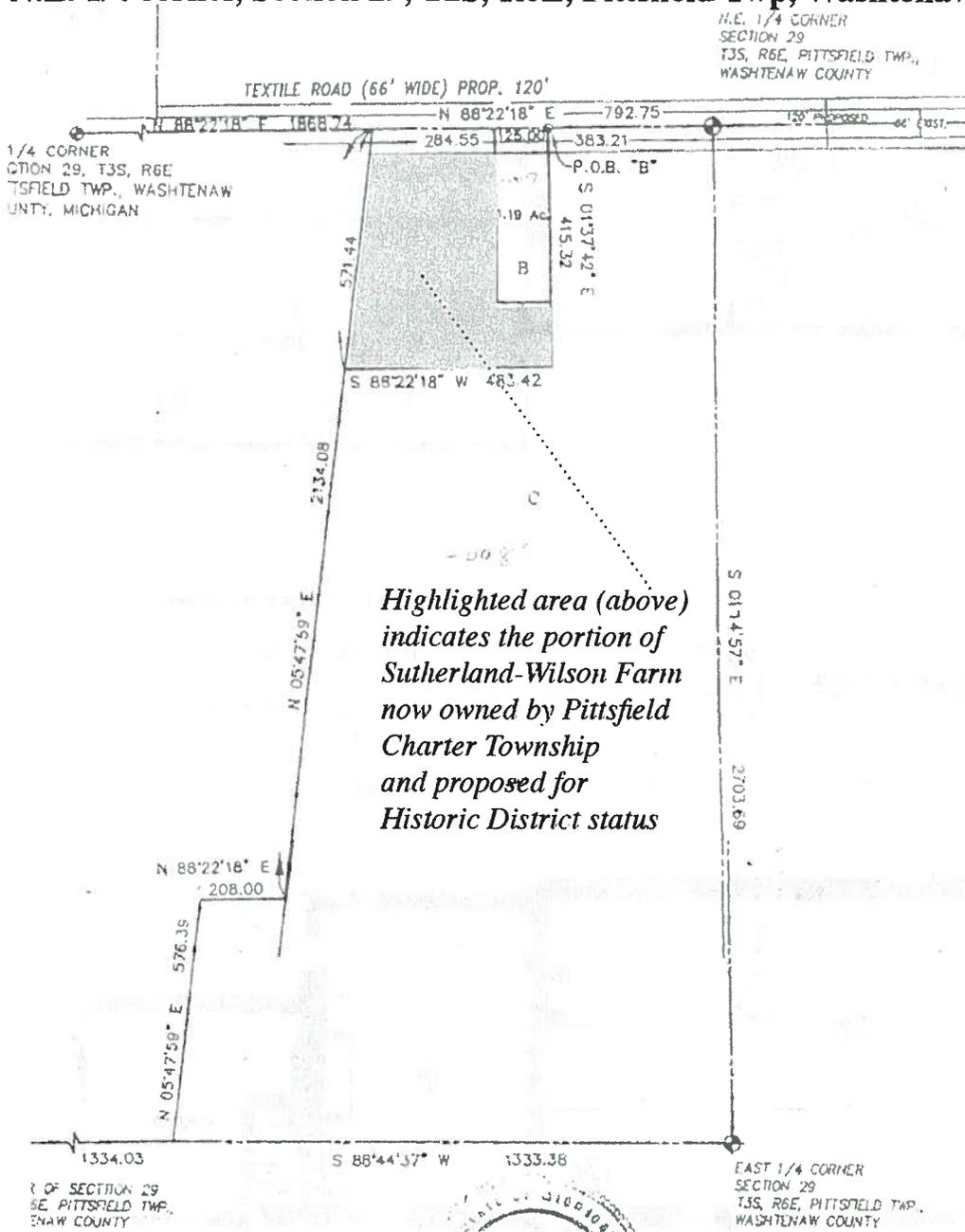


- 18: Unfinished Basement
- 19: Stair to Grade

ATTACHMENT D: District Base Map

Property plat 1998

N.E. 1/4 corner, Section 29, T2S, R6E, Pittsfield Twp, Washtenaw County



Highlighted area (above) indicates the portion of Sutherland-Wilson Farm now owned by Pittsfield Charter Township and proposed for Historic District status



9/14/88 SCALE: 1"=300'

TRACT: WILSON/JOHNSON HOLDING CO

SECTION: 29 TOWN: 3S RANGE: 6E

SHP: PITTSFIELD COUNTY: WASHTENAW

BY: J. COUSSING, P.E.

TerraTek Design, Inc.

4111 Timber Ridge Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48106
PH: (313) 663-3200 FAX: (313) 663-3200

ATTACHMENT E: Narrative History

The Sutherland-Wilson family lived on their farm at 797 Textile Road for six generations since Langford Sutherland purchased it in 1832. Over the years, Langford bought more land. He and his wife, Lydia McMichael, had eight children, one of whom, Tobias, made his home on the farm. He married Harriett Knaouse and they had two children: Ernest and Bessie. Ernest and his wife, Delia Rheinfrank, had an only child, Mildred, who married Arthur Wilson. Their son, Harold, and his wife Mary Roy and their son Neil, lived on the family farmstead until the parents' deaths. Mary preceded Harold in death. Harold died a few years later. With the death of the Wilsons in 2000, Pittsfield Charter Township became the owner of the farmstead and its buildings.

Today, the Pittsfield Township Historical Commission presents this study toward the creation of Historic District designation for the Sutherland-Wilson Farm which is being preserved to become the Township's historic farm museum.

Sutherland-Wilson family in continuous ownership until 2000

1. Langford Sutherland
m. Lydia McMichael
2. Tobias Sutherland
m. Josephine Kanouse
3. Ernest Sutherland
m. Delia Rheinfrank
4. Mildred Sutherland
m. Arthur Wilson

5. Harold Wilson
m. Mary Roy

Children and known descendants of Langford and Lydia Sutherland

1. **Mary A. Sutherland**, b. 16 September 1827;
m. Dewitt Hurd, -- daus. Emily, Jennie, son Edward

2. **Daniel Sutherland**, b. 27 Jan 1830, d. 2 February 1895, near Penn Yan, NY; m. Sarah Jane Lewis 1858

3. **Jane A. Sutherland**, b. 20 May 1830, Pittsfield Twp. Washtenaw Co, MI, m. Hebron Hurd; -- daus.
Lydia, Edith, Cynthia, son Raymond

4. **Sarah Adaline Sutherland**, b. 9 Aug 1833;
m. Charles Henion; -- dau. Carrie; sons Arthur and Edward

5. **Susan Sutherland**, b. 22 June, 1836, Pittsfield Twp., MI; m. Henry Tower

6. **Nelson Sutherland**, b. 18 Aug 1840, d. 23 November 1894, Pittsfield Twp., m. Gabriella Rohrabacher
(Drake) 24 Nov 1866, Saline, MI; d. 24 Nov 1925, Ann Arbor, MI

-- dau. Ada Arminda Sutherland, b. 6 January 1869, Ann Arbor, MI, d. 27 Mar 1955, Pontiac MI;
m. 17 July 1889, Ann Arbor, MI, Louis Parker Jocelyn, b. 10 Nov 1863, Albany, NY; d. 19
Feb 1942, Daytona Beach, FL

-- dau. Ethel Louise Jocelyn, b. 2 Nov 1896, Ann Arbor, MI; d. 5 March 1971, Redford, MI.
m. 21 Aug 1918, Whitmore Lake, MI, Robert Farquhar Watt

-- dau. Marian Jocelyn, b. 1903 Ann Arbor, MI; d. 12 Sept 1960, Meadville, PA;
m. Rand G. Schenck

-- son. Frank Langford Sutherland, b. 19 Feb 1850, Washtenaw Co., MI;
m. Minnie Davis, b. 1874, d. 30 August 1908; 2nd wife: Jane Vandeventor

7. **Tobias Sutherland**, b. 29 December 1841, Pittsfield Twp., Washtenaw Co., MI;
m. Dec 1871 Josephine Kanouse, b. 19 February 1850, m. 9 December 1871

-- son. Ernest David Sutherland, m. Delia Rheinfrank;

-- dau. Mildred Sutherland m. Arthur V. Wilson

-- son. Harold Wilson*, b: 20 December 1925, d. 14 June 2003; m. Mary Roy* 1949;
--son. Neil Wilson, b. 7 July 1955, d. 10 August 2000, m. Anita Bruder, 21 April 1970

--dau. Ernestine Wilson, b. 1924, 1st m. Harold Schaefer, 1945, div. 1978;

2nd m. Robert Meenan, b. 1980, d. 10 May 2010

-- dau. Kathleen Ann Schaefer Meyer, 1947

-- son. Kurt Arthur Schaefer, 1951

-- dau. Karol Alane Schaefer Holley, 1952

-- dau. Kim Anita Schaefer Raney, 1955

-- dau. Bessie Sutherland

8. **Harriet Sutherland**, b. 13 April, 1844; d. Bay City, MI; m. 1st Frank Harwood, m. 2nd Unknown Martin

-- dau. Susan Harwood, m. Ernest B. Perry

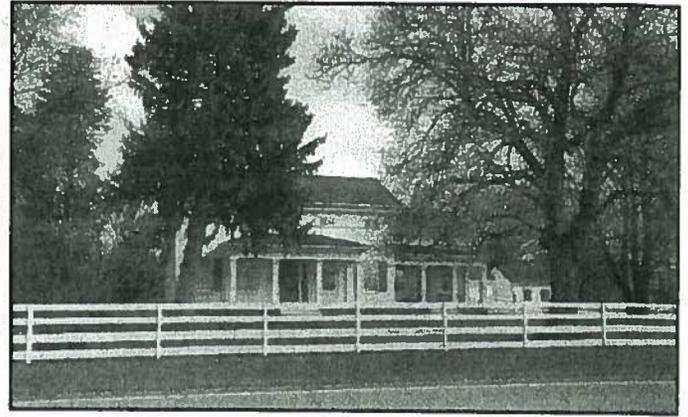
-- son. Harold Perry

* Last family owners of the farm when sold to Pittsfield Charter Township in 2000

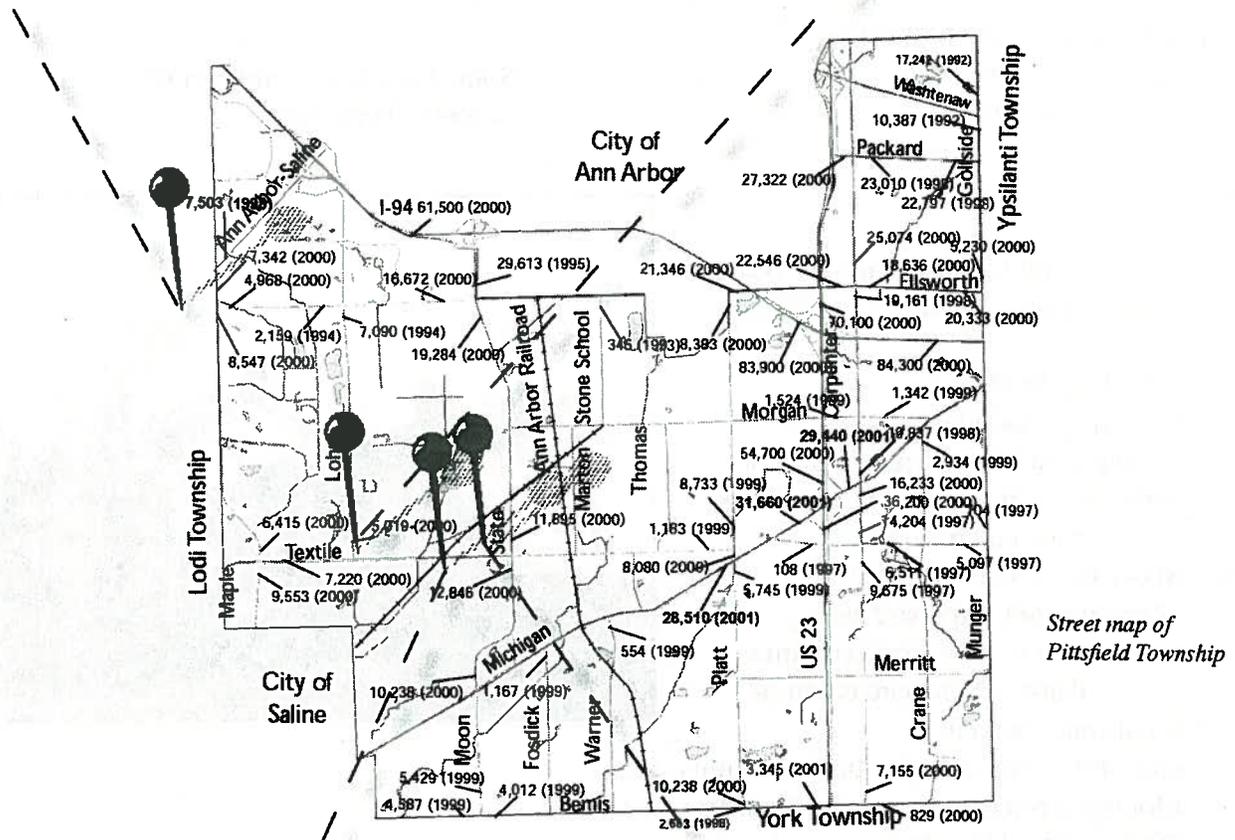
ATTACHMENT F: Similar houses in the neighborhood



Nearly identical farmhouse four miles west in Scio Township at 508? A2/Saline Road (street number unclear) across from Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. Note same porch column treatment.



Greek Revival in stucco, one mile west at 1880 Textile Road



**Sutherland-Wilson Farmstead
797 Textile Road**



Cody House, 1/4 mile east on Textile Road (demolished 2009-10)

ATTACHMENT G: Michigan Above-Ground Survey Forms

#1 FARMHOUSE

ADDRESS

Number: 797
City/Village: Ann Arbor

Direction s/w

Street: Textile Road
Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall
Helen Richards
Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm
Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Date Built: 1850s
Style: Greek Revival

Source of Date: Court records
Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Stone
Walls: Wood frame and post & beam
Roof: Shingle and metal



DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

Roof ridge parallels façade
Centered half-length porch, hip roof
Front door with sidelights, dentils, &
wide entablature
Six-over-six light windows
White painted clapboard siding
Main porch w/ two Doric columns
flanked by square columns
Fieldstone foundation
One-story wing added at turn of century
Molded cornice, raking, frieze boards
Open quarter-hip porch
w/ columns similar to main porch
Rear wash porch now closed in

HISTORY: Same family lived here from 1850 to 2000. Now owned by Pittsfield Charter Township.

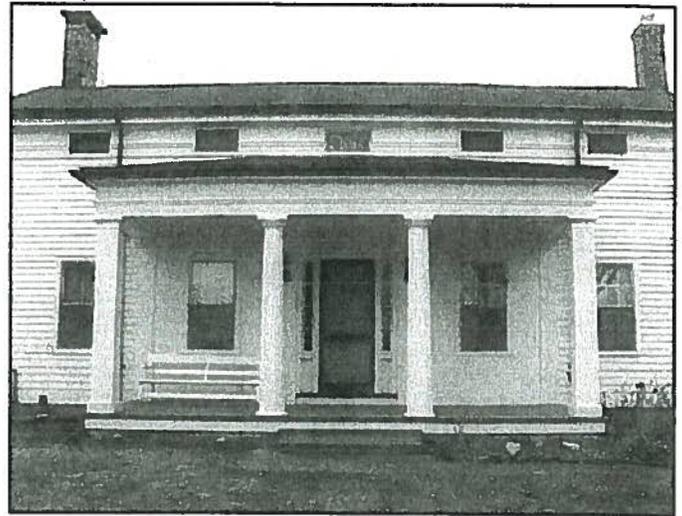
COMMENTS:

PHOTO INFO:

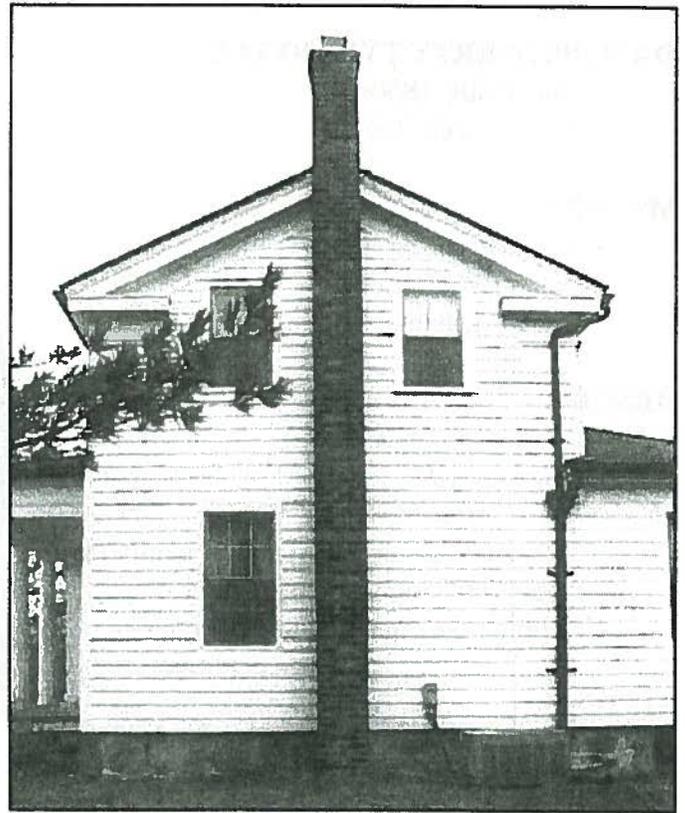
File Name: Farm House
Roll No. Frame No.
Photographer: Dodd, April 2010

ADDITIONAL FARMHOUSE VIEWS

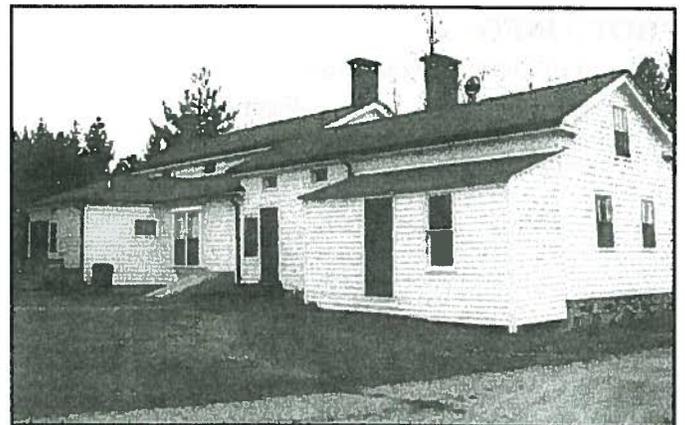
Front (north) façade
Front porch detail



West façade detail
Gable end returns
Six-over-six windows



South (rear) façade
Back porch
Bathroom addition
East wing
Enclosed wash porch



#2 WOOD SHED

ADDRESS

Number: 797
City/Village: Ann Arbor

Direction

Street: Textile Road
Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall
Helen Richards
Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm
Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

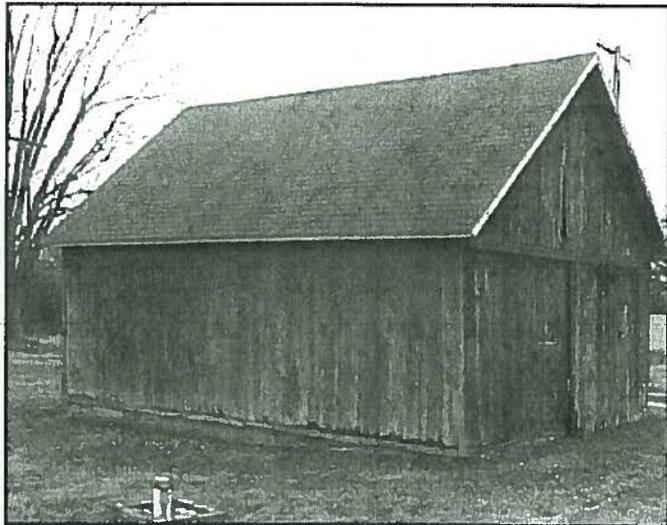
DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Date Built: 1850s
Style: Greek Revival

Source of Date: Court records
Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Stone
Walls: Wood frame
Roof: Asphalt shingles



DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

Similar to Hog House
One-story, wood framed on wood & concrete foundation
Vertical board & batten siding painted red
Gable roof oriented north/south
Sliding doors at east and west ends

HISTORY:

COMMENTS:

PHOTO INFO:

File Name: Wood Shed
Roll No. Frame No.
Photographer: Dodd, April 2010

#3 GARAGE/APARTMENT (non-contributing) & PUMP HOUSE

ADDRESS

Number: 797

Direction: s/e

Street: Textile Road

City/Village: Ann Arbor

Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall

Helen Richards

Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm

Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Pump House built: 1865

Style: Modified Greek Revival

Garage/Apartment built: 1958

Source of Date: Court records

Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Concrete

Walls: Wood frame

Roof: Shingle

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

Gabled roof facing north/south

White-painted horizontal wood siding

HISTORY:

Built as tenant apartment

Now being used for Society's tool storage

COMMENTS:

Non-contributing Garage/Apartment
to be removed when restoration
is completed

PHOTO INFO:

File Name: Garage/Apartment

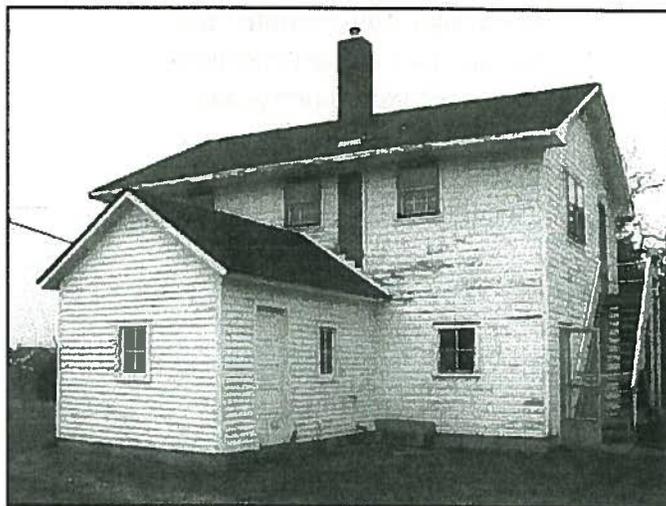
Roll No. Frame No.

Photographer: Dodd, April 2010

File Name: Pump House

Roll No. Frame No.

Photographer: Dodd, April 2010



*NOTE: Pump House at rear of Garage/Apartment
to be preserved as a contributing resource*

#4 ICE HOUSE

ADDRESS

Number: 797

City/Village: Ann Arbor

Direction: s/w

Street: Textile Road

Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall

Helen Richards

Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm

Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Date Built: 1850s

Style: Greek Revival

Source of Date: Court records

Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Stone

Walls: Wood frame

Roof: Steel

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

One-story wood-framed

on stone foundation

North entry flanked by double-hung

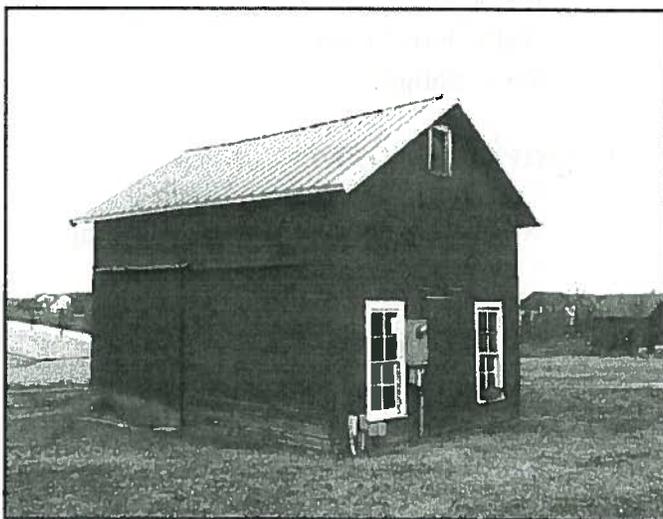
4/4 windows

Third single-pane window on north peak

Horizontal siding painted red

Sliding door on east elevation

gable roof faces north/south



HISTORY:

Ice cut from local pond was stored in straw

COMMENTS:

PHOTO INFO:

File Name: Ice House

Roll No.

Frame No.

Photographer: Dodd, April 2010

#5 CARRIAGE HOUSE

ADDRESS

Number: 797

Direction: s/e

Street: Textile Road

City/Village: Ann Arbor

Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall

Helen Richards

Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm

Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Date Built: 1850s

Source of Date: Court records

Style: Greek Revival

Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Stone

Walls: Wood frame

Roof: Steel

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

Structure similar to basement barn

Fieldstone foundation

Post & beam framing w/ vertical
board & batten siding

Mortise & tenon joints

Enclosed main area

Lean-to on east side

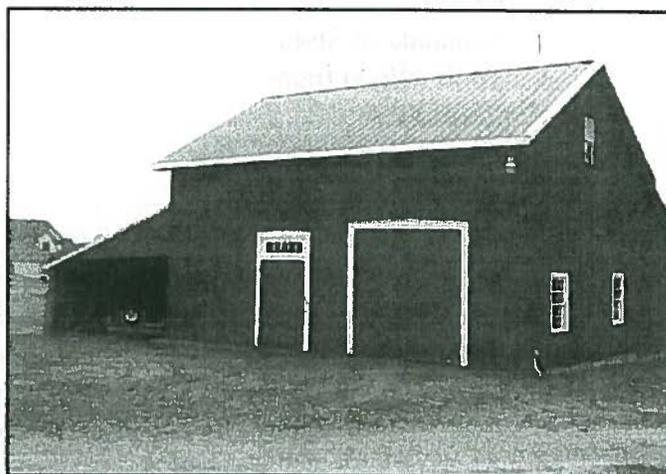
Lower level is a large open room

Openings for vehicles & pedestrians

Wooden stairs to southwest corner loft

6-over-6 windows at gable ends

Transom window of horse door



HISTORY:

Chew marks made by bored horses

COMMENTS:

PHOTO INFO:

File Name: Carriage House

Roll No.

Frame No.

Photographer: Dodd, April 2010

#6 HOG HOUSE

ADDRESS

Number: 797

Direction L s/e

Street: Textile Road

City/Village: Ann Arbor

Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall

Helen Richards

Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm

Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Date Built: 1850s

Source of Date: Court records

Style: Greek Revival

Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Stone

Walls: Wood frame

Roof: Steel

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

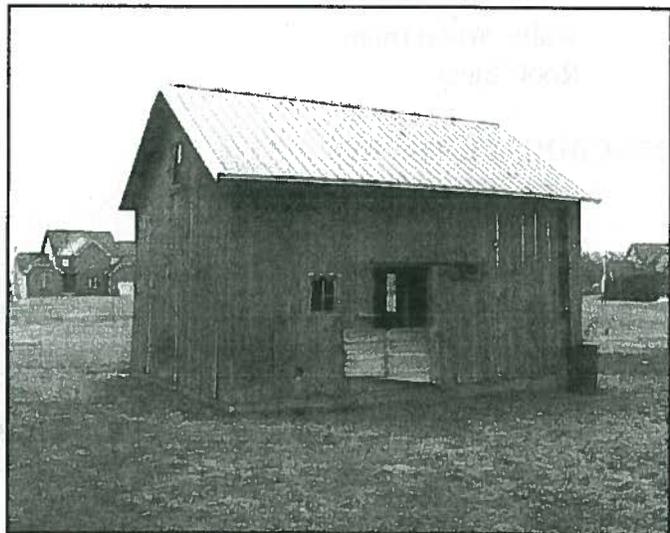
One-story, wood frame on wood and concrete foundation

Vertical board & batten siding

Gable roof oriented north/south

Doors on north and east elevations

Four small four-pane windows



HISTORY:

No longer called "the pig pen"

COMMENTS:

PHOTO INFO:

File Name: Hog House

Roll No. Frame No.

Photographer: Dodd, April 2010

#7 BASEMENT BARN

ADDRESS

Number: 797

City/Village: Ann Arbor

Direction: s/w

Street: Textile Road

Township: Pittsfield

SURVEY INFO

Survey Date: Spring 2010

Surveyors:

Mary Ellen Wall

Helen Richards

Tom Dodd

NAME

Historic Name: Langford & Lydia Sutherland farm

Common Name: Sutherland-Wilson Farm

DATE/PROPERTY TYPE/STYLE

Date Built: 1850s

Style: Greek Revival

Source of Date: Court records

Property Type: Agricultural

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Stone

Walls: Wood frame

Roof: Steel

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES:

Stone foundation

w/ concrete slab floor on east side

On-grade door on east end

Earth floor on west side

Timber frame post & beam construction

Mortis and tenon joints throughout framing

Exterior wood plank siding

Gabled roof oriented east/west

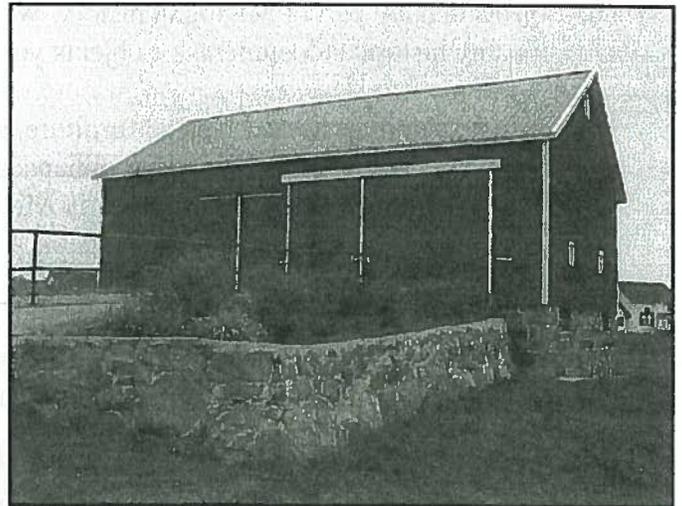
Two-level interior

Upper: open on east side, loft on

west side entered by ramp

Lower: east & west sections, openings

on three elevations



HISTORY:

Restored in 2006, received Michigan Barn Preservation Network's "Michigan Barn of the Year" award in 2007

COMMENTS:

PHOTO INFO:

File Name: Basement Barn

ATTACHMENT H: Awards, Certifications, & Recognitions

Michigan Centennial Farm Designation

February 2, 1982
Harold & Mary Wilson
797 Textile Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Wilson;

The members of the Michigan Historical Commission, advisory board to the Michigan History Division, Department of State, congratulate you upon becoming a Michigan Centennial Farm owner. Your farm is one of more than 4,000 that have been recognized since the program was started in 1948. We are happy to welcome you into this group of distinguished citizens.

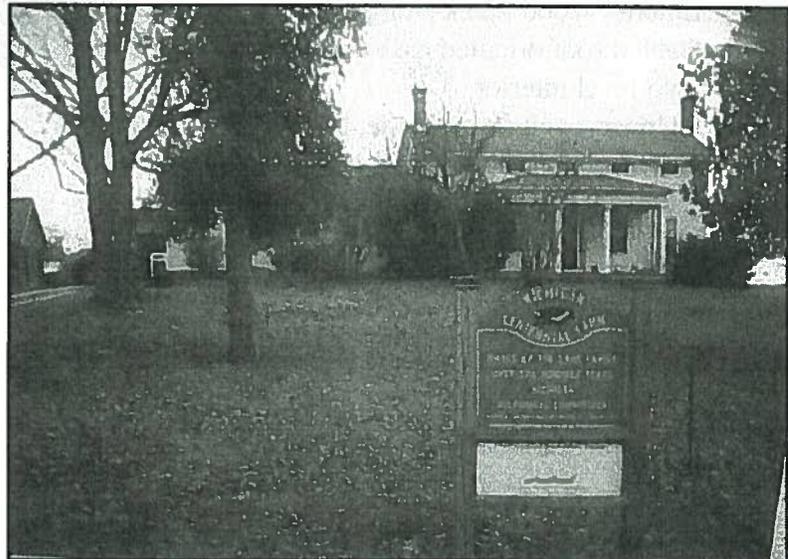
Ownership of a Centennial Farm is evidence that you and your forefathers have a long and continuing relationship to Michigan's past. Because of this relationship, you may be able to help us. One of the major goals of the Michigan History Division is the collection of documents, letters, photographs and objects that are part of Michigan history. We would like to urge you to consider donating to the Division any historical documents or objects you or your family may have collected over the years.

Perhaps your family possesses period furniture, photographs, books, diaries, letters, uniforms, Indian artifact, toys, clothing, flags, calendars, almanacs, household gadgets, Michigan brand name containers or just about anything related to life in early Michigan. If you have such items and would like to donate them to the Michigan History Division, I would appreciate hearing from you. All gifts with an established monetary value are tax deductible.

Congratulations again upon becoming a Centennial Farm owner, and please accept our cordial invitation to visit Lansing and the State Historical Museum and State Archives.

Sincerely,
John J. Collins, President
Michigan Historical Commission

Willard Wickers, Vice President
Elizabeth Adams
Alexis Praus
Charles V. Hagler
Jerry D. Roe
Gov. William G. Milliken, Ex-Officio





Centennial Farm Certificate

To All to Whom These Presents Shall Come:

The Historical Commission of the State of Michigan does hereby certify that in recognition of the ownership of this farm by the family of Harold & Mary Wilson since 1836 and the contribution its members have made to the development of Michigan, the Michigan Historical Commission does hereby certify this land to be a centennial farm and the present owner thereof to be a centennial farmer.



William J. Franklin
GOVERNOR

John J. Collins
PRESIDENT, HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Edward S. Sider
VICE PRESIDENT, HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Elizabeth A. Adams
COMMISSIONER

Charles W. Taylor
COMMISSIONER

Walter W. Taylor
COMMISSIONER

Henry W. Taylor
COMMISSIONER

Edw. W. Taylor

The Michigan Sesquicentennial Commission

Presents this
CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION
to the family of

Harold & Mary Wilson

in recognition of the singular achievement of maintaining an active farm within the same family for 150 years or more in the year of Michigan's Sesquicentennial of statehood — 1987.



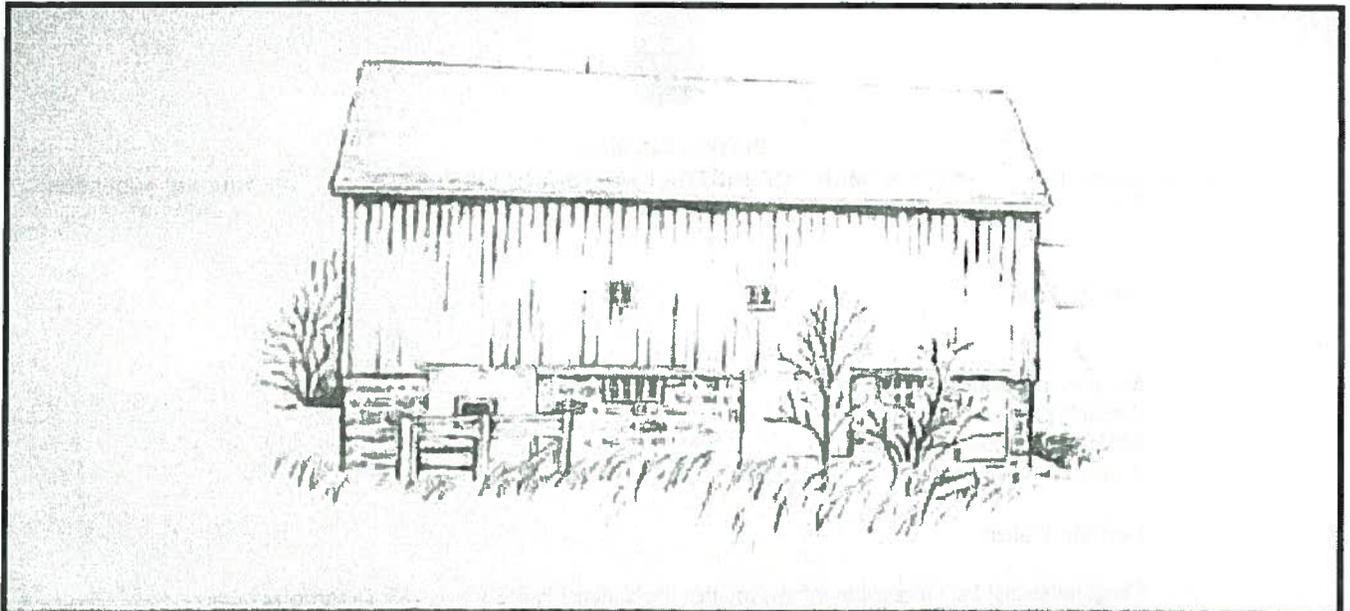
Richard H. Austin
Secretary of State

Gene Stevenson
President, Historical Commission

Wm. J. Zahrad
Chairman, Sesquicentennial Commission

Martha M. Bigelow
Director, Bureau of History

Michigan Barn of the Year award



Michigan Barn Preservation Network
Barn of the Year—2007

Adaptive Commercial or Non-Profit Use
Pittsfield Township Historical Society
(Sutherland — Wilson Farm)
Pittsfield Charter Township
Built 1850

Michigan Barn Preservation Network's

Barn of the Year - 2007

for Adaptive Commercial or Non-Profit Use
to the Pittsfield Township Historical Society
(Sutherland-Wilson Farm)
Pittsfield Charter Township
Built 1850

National Register of Historic Places



JENNIFER GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, ARTS AND LIBRARIES
LANSING

DR. WILLIAM ANDERSON
DIRECTOR

June 03, 2006

Mr. James R. Walter, Supervisor
Pittsfield Charter Township
6201 West Michigan Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Dear Mr. Walter:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, has listed the Langford and Lydia McMichael Sutherland Farmstead, 797 Textile Road, Pittsfield Charter Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, in the National Register of Historic Places. The keeper of the national register listed the property on May 16, 2006.

Nominations of Michigan properties to the national register are made by the State Historic Preservation Office of the Michigan Historical Center, Department of History, Arts and Libraries, in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

We are pleased this significant property has been recognized as among the nation's historic resources that are worthy of being preserved, and I encourage you to keep abreast of historic preservation by joining the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. The network publishes a quarterly newsletter and hosts an annual conference each spring, which brings together preservationists from throughout the state. The network's website is: www.mhpn.org.

I invite you to contact our office with any questions you may have. Questions may be addressed to National Register Coordinator Robert O. Christensen at christensenro@michigan.gov or (517) 335-2719.

Thank you for your interest in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian D. Conway".

Brian D. Conway
State Historic Preservation Officer

**A PROCLAMATION OF CONGRATULATIONS
RECOGNIZING THE PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S
RECEIPT OF THE 2009 MICHIGAN RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

March 24, 2010

- WHEREAS,** Ten years ago, Pittsfield Township purchased the 1850's Sutherland-Wilson Farm and the Township Historical Society took on the restoration mantle of the historic site, and;
- WHEREAS,** The Society has done a complete barn renovation, repaired the out buildings including the carriage house and ice house, cleaned up the entire site, planted crops, and have given the Greek Revival farm house a face lift inside and out thereby creating a farm museum site for the community to remember and enjoy its agricultural heritage, and;
- WHEREAS,** The Society's dynamic, grueling rescue involved countless hours of commitment and labor, fundraising and marketing efforts, oversight of construction contracts, the planting and harvesting of crops, and the acquisition of period farm equipment, and;
- WHEREAS,** In October 2009, the Historical Society and the Parks & Recreation Department co-sponsored the first annual Fall Harvest Festival at the farm site with over 400 people attending and featuring hay wagon rides, docent tours of the buildings, music by the Saline Fiddlers Restring, exhibits of farm equipment, displays, children activities, sale of produce from the crops, pick your pumpkin, shoe kicking contest, traditional family farmstead games and refreshments, and;
- WHEREAS,** Without the dedicated efforts of the Pittsfield Township Historical Society, this farm museum and community gathering place would not exist for the enjoyment and historical awareness of the public, and;
- WHEREAS,** The Michigan Recreation and Park Association presented its 2010 Community Service Award to the Pittsfield Township Historical Society on March 10, 2010 at their recognition ceremony in East Lansing, Michigan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pittsfield Charter Township Board of Trustees hereby expresses its congratulations to the Pittsfield Township Historical Society upon their receipt of this prestigious recognition.



Mandy Grewal, Supervisor
Pittsfield Charter Township

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PITTSFIELD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

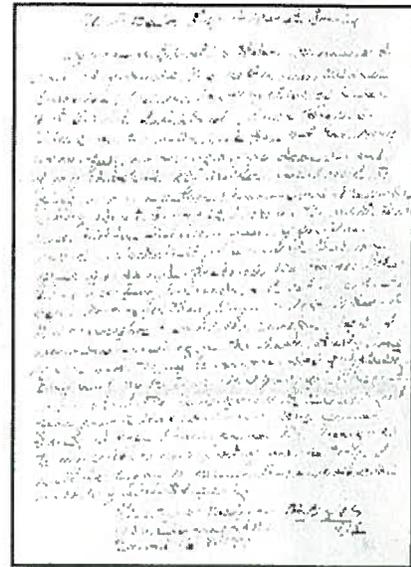
Mandy Grewal, Supervisor Alan Israel, Clerk Patricia Lupacz Scribner, Treasurer
Annette Ferguson, Trustee Stephanie Hunt, Trustee Gerald Krone, Trustee Michael Yi, Trustee

Testimony of Underground Railroad Activity

From the Pittsfield Township Historical Society website:

http://pittsfieldhistory.org/index.php?section=history&content=farm_ugrr_affidavit

Handwritten affidavit by Ernestine Wilson Meenan concerning the Sutherland-Wilson farmhouse and the underground railroad.



Affidavit Transcript

TO: THE PITTSFIELD TWP. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

My name is Ernestine Wilson Meenan and I am 78 years old. My mother was Mildred Sutherland Wilson, the only child of Delia and Ernest Sutherland. I was born and raised on the Sutherland farm and have many wonderful memories of my grandparents and of my childhood.

My brother and I used to play in an upstairs bedroom and I remember asking about a small door in the wall that was hidden behind a piece of furniture called a washstand. I was told that my great-grandparents harbored the slaves who were escaping to Canada and when authorities came looking for them, they were told to hide in the "crawl space" until the searchers left. I remember crawling in the dark, dusty, long space and trying to imagine how frightened they must have been.

As I grew up, I learned more about the "Underground Railroad" and felt proud that we were a compassionate family. I hope I have passed this legacy on to my children as a part of our history.

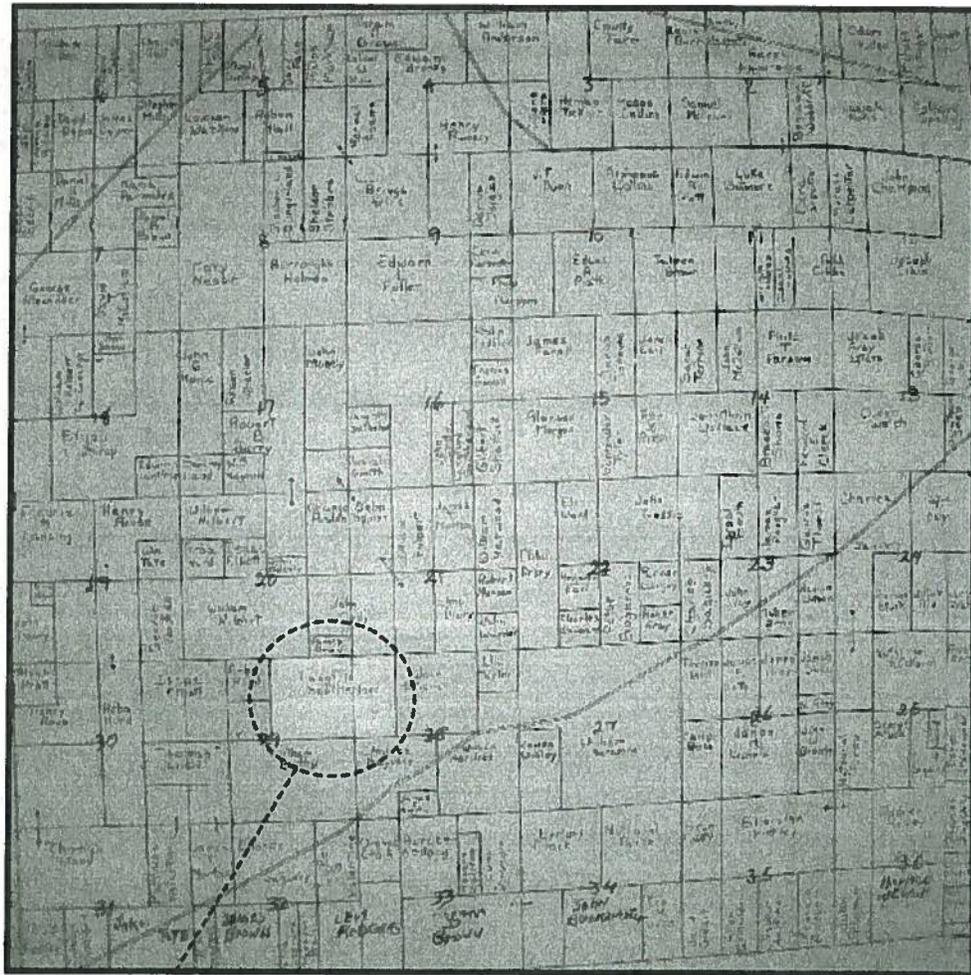
I will be happy to discuss this in more detail with any interested party.

SIGNED: Ernestine W. Meenan
1830 Silverwood Dr.
Concord, CA 94519

DATED: 06/22/03

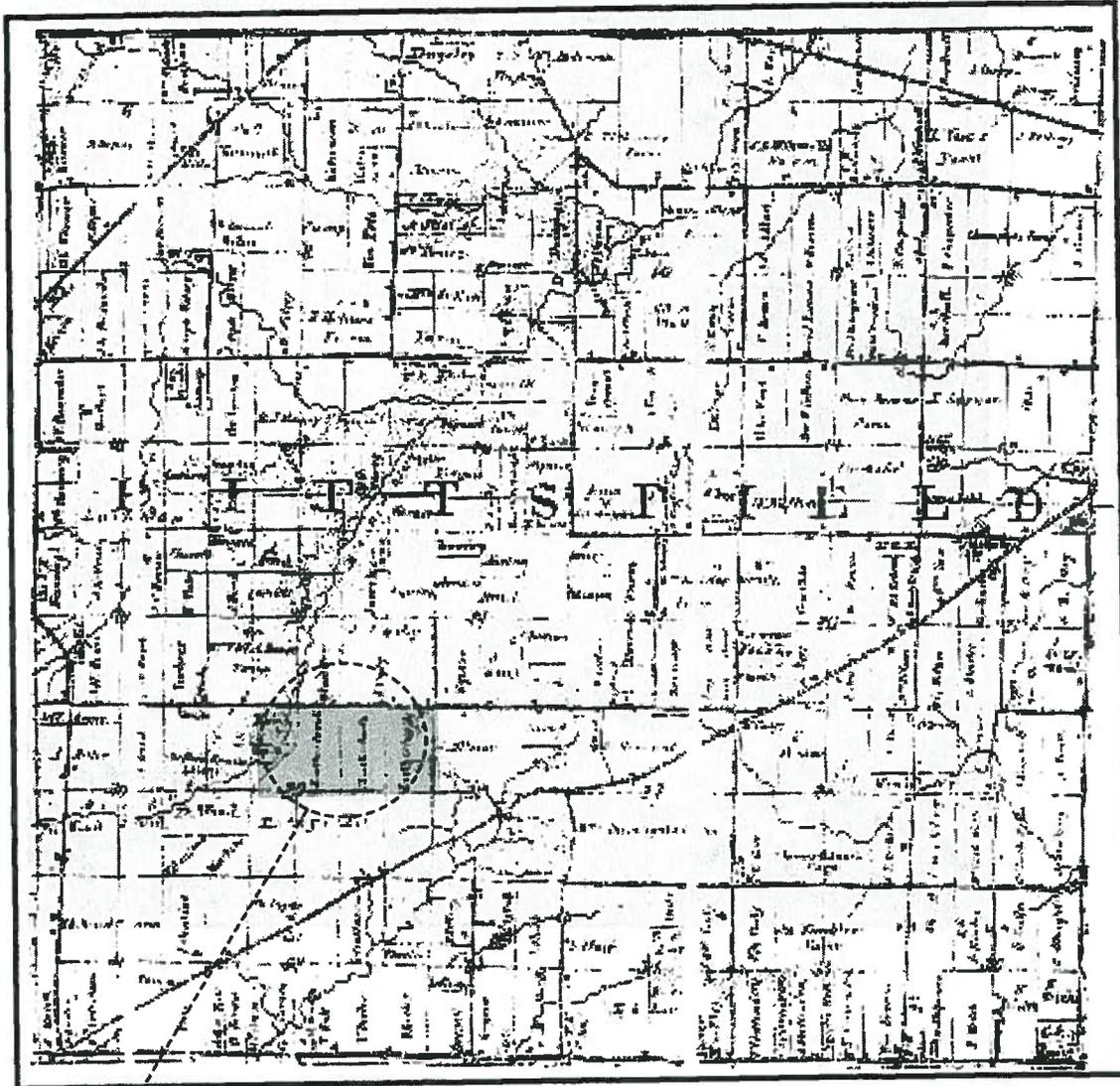
ATTACHMENT I: Maps

1840 Plat Map of Pittsfield Township showing the Sutherland Farm



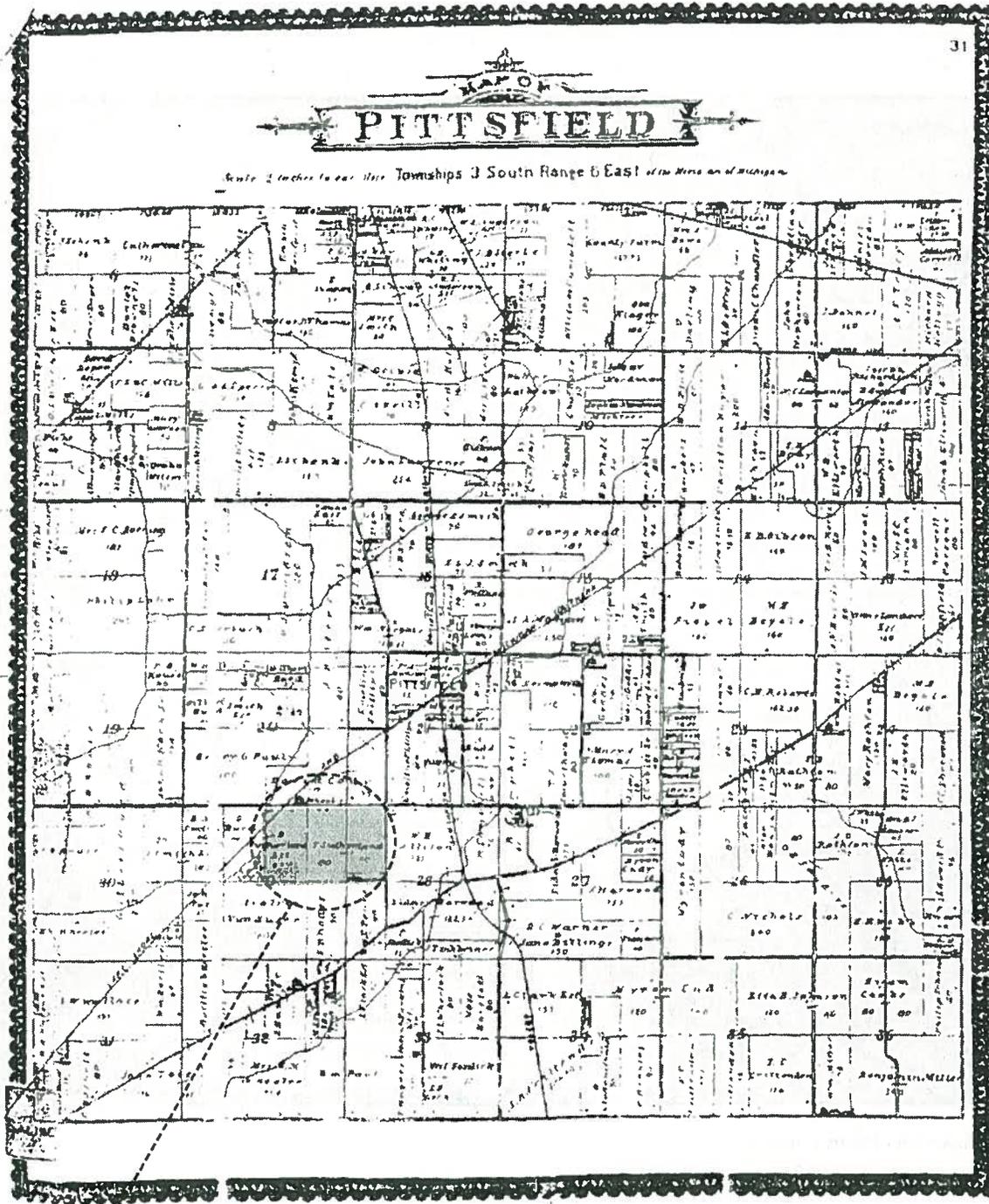
Sutherland-Wilson property

1856 Plat Map of Pittsfield Township showing the Sutherland Farm



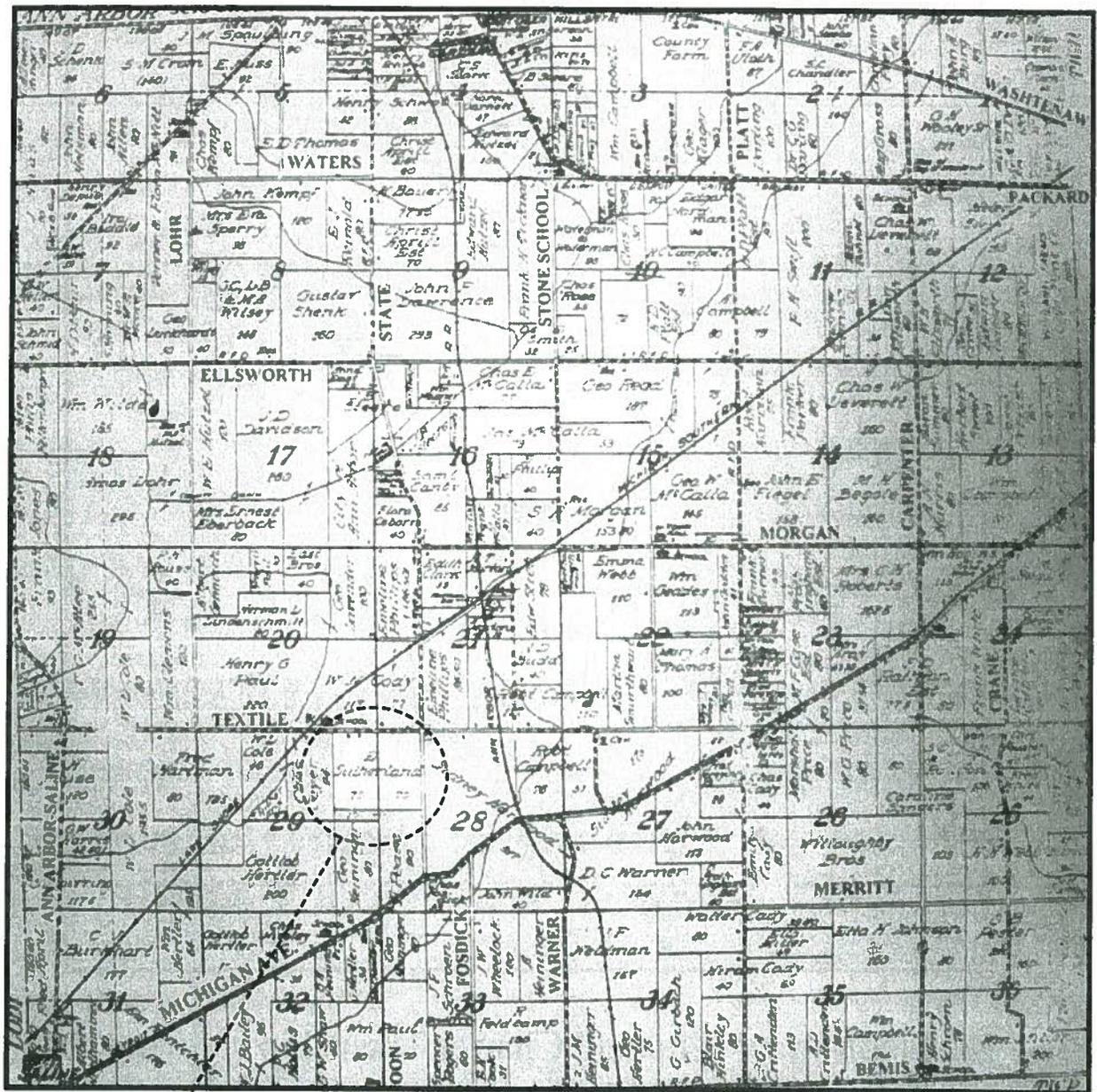
Sutherland-Wilson property

1895 Plat Map of Pittsfield Township showing the Sutherland Farm



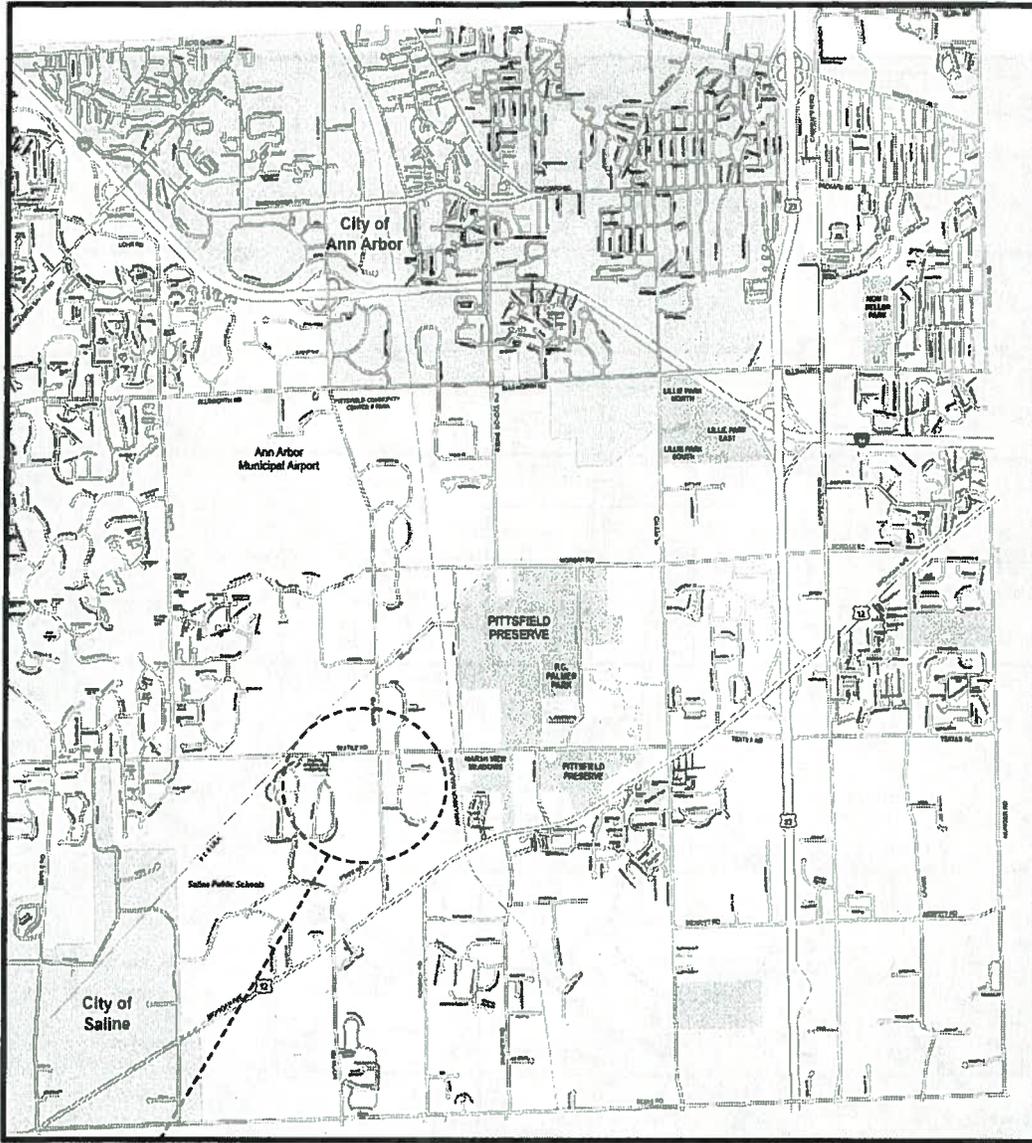
Sutherland-Wilson property

1915 Plat Map of Pittsfield Township showing the Sutherland Farm



Sutherland-Wilson property

2011 Traffic Map of Pittsfield Charter Township showing the Sutherland-Wilson Farm



Sutherland-Wilson property

2011 Plat Map of Pittsfield Charter Township showing the boundaries of the proposed Sutherland-Wilson Farm Museum property

