

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received AUG 29 1985
date entered OCT 10 1985

Continuation sheet Item number Page

- 1. Name: Wallace Block/Old Saline Village Hall
- 2. Location: 105-113 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline, MI
- 3. Classification: building, private, occupied, unrestricted, commercial
- 4. Property Owner: Fred Bleicher
P.O. Box 7500
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

7. Description

Condition: good, altered; original site

Although built for different owners (see #8 below), the Old Village Hall and the Wallace Block have always formed a structural whole. The nicely detailed two-story Italianate structure occupies 116 x 70 feet of commercial property on the east side of S. Ann Arbor just wouth of the alley which separates it from the neighboring Union Block at 100-110 E. Michigan (photo # 25). Like the neighboring building, the S. Ann Arbor block fronts the sidewalk and forms a key component of the historic four-corners of Saline. The L-shaped, seven-and-one half bay red brick structure has one-story brick and two-story tile-sheathed rear additions and is topped by a roof which slopes toward the rear. The building's design features are similar to those of the Union Block: recessed second-story panels articulated by twin rectangular window openings with hoodmolds, a dentillated cornice with brackets, a secondary wooden cornice above the street-level facade, and the typical Italianate first floor design of a central recessed entry way flanked by large display windows set on slightly raised foundations.

The north one-and-a-half bays, which comprise the Corporation Building portion, have undergone the most alteration. The crowning tower above the half bay was removed in 1931, and during the 1960s the City bricked over the upper upper story windows. Renovations begun in 1977 included removal of aluminum awnings and intrusive signage, addition of electric gaslight reproductions and ceiling skylights, and interior remodeling into office suites and commercial use.

- 8. Significance: period--1800-1899; 1900-
Areas of significance--architecture, commerce
Specific dates--1887, 1977

The Italianate Wallace Block features the best-preserved nineteenth

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

century commercial storefront in Saline and serves as a key visual reminder of the historic character of the City's four-corners. The present building replaced a series of wooden Greek Revival structures destroyed in the fire of 1881. The property also served as the site for an earlier brick structure known as the Miller Block. Since post-fire abstracts still refer to the Miller building, it is uncertain whether the existing structures are built over, or incorporate some of the walls and/or foundations of, the earlier building. On May 2, 1887, the Village Council Minutes report the purchase of land for an engine house and the appointment of a committee to select plans and specifications. On June 6 of that same year the minutes note that "Toledo parties" would provide the cornice and building plan, which also included a village hall upstairs, and that Conrad Schaffer of Saline had agreed to provide the brick. The fire station has since been remodeled for commercial use, and the Village Hall portion now features carpeting and dropped ceilings.

That same year, Edwin Wallace built the adjoining Wallace Block of six stores with a second story hall in which Wallace and successors operated the Saline Opera House for a number of years. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the Opera House was one of the social centers of Saline, offering local and travelling shows and providing space for church socials and dances. The Saline Observer notes in 1912 that Henry Rentschler installed a new maple dance floor (May 30, 1912). The Opera House space subsequently served as a meeting hall and basketball court. The raised stage and 16 foot ceiling are still intact above the southern two bays; however, the present owner is remodelling the upper story into one and two-level office suites. Original owner Wallace also had an apple orchard, manufactured cigars with Henry Mandt from 1879 to 1881, and served in several Village posts, among them deputy marshall in 1868, trustee in 1873, and supervisor in 1879-80.

9. Major Bibliographical Sources

(see General Bibliography section for full citation)

Abstract, 105-113 S. Ann Arbor.

Michigan Gazetteer, 1879, 1881, 1899.

Saline Historic District Commission, Saline Has a Past in Its Future, 1976.

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Saline Historic District Commission Survey Notebook, 1975

Saline Observer, 1890-1912.

Saline Village Council Minutes, 1887.

Walsh, Rita, 1979 draft of the Saline Multiple Resource Nomination.

10. Geographical Data

acreage: less than one

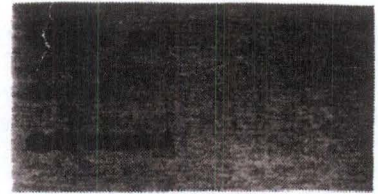
Quadrangle: Saline, scale 1: 24,000

UTM References: 17/270290/4671760

Verbal boundary description: lot 75, also beg at Sw cor of lot 72, th e'ly 78.7 ft in S/L of lots 72 and 73, th s'ly to NE cor of lot 75, th w'ly 80.34 ft in N.L of lot 75, th n'ly 22.5 ft to POB, being part of lot 74 and all of lot 75, Assessor's Plat 6.

Justification: This is the entire property associated with the structure.

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Saline MRA
State MICHIGAN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 11. Union Block Substantive Review *for* Keeper accept Patrick Andrus 10/10/85
Attest _____
- 12. Van Duzer, Samuel D., House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Shelous Byers 10/10/85
Attest _____
- 13. Wallace Block-Old Saline Village Hall Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Shelous Byers 10/10/85
Attest _____
- 14. Watson, Henry R., House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Shelous Byers 10/10/85
Attest _____
- 15. Zalmon Church House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Shelous Byers 10/10/85
Attest _____
- 16. Aldrich, Edgar, House Substantive Review Determined Eligible *for* Keeper Eligible Patrick Andrus 10/10/85
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest _____
- 17. Saline Methodist Episcopal Church Substantive Review Determined Eligible *for* Keeper Eligible Patrick Andrus 10/10/85
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest _____
- 18. Barnegat Historic Complex Substantive Review Keeper _____ 25
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Attest _____
- 19. _____ Keeper _____
Attest _____
- 20. _____ Keeper _____
Attest _____

REH

85002964

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Wallace Block--Old Saline Village Hall (Saline
MRA)
Washtenaw County
MICHIGAN

Working No. AUG 29 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.3.87
Date Due: 9/26/85 - 10/13/85
Action: ACCEPT 10-10-85
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the _____
National Register _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

new info received 2/21/86

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 ___ national ___ state ___ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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received

2/21/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

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Continuation sheet

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10. Geographical Data

acreage: less than one

Quadrangle: Saline, scale 1:24,000

UTM References: 17/270290/4671760

Verbal boundary description: lots 75 and 76, Accessor's Plat 6.

Justification: This is the entire property associated with the structure.

AENR86029A

85002964

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Wallace Block--Old Saline Village Hall
(Saline MRA)
Washtenaw County
MICHIGAN

Working No. 2/21/86

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 4/7/86

Action: ACCEPT 3-3-86

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

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Quadrangle name _____

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Verbal boundary description and justification _____

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State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RICHARD H. AUSTIN

SECRETARY OF STATE



Additional Information

LANSING

MICHIGAN 48918

BUREAU OF HISTORY

**ADMINISTRATION, PUBLICATIONS
ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**
208 N. Capitol Avenue
517-373-0510

STATE ARCHIVES
3405 N. Logan Street
517-373-0512

MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM
208 N. Capitol Avenue
517-373-3559

February 10, 1986

Rec'd
FEB 21 1986

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Supervisory Historian
National Register of Historic Places Branch
Interagency Resource Management Div.
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is a revised National Register nomination text for the Wallace Block/Old Saline Village Hall in Saline, Washtenaw County, Michigan. The building has been listed in the National Register as part of the Saline multiple resource nomination for historic and architectural resources. This revised text provides a corrected street address and verbal boundary description.

Sincerely,

Martha M. Bigelow
Director, Bureau of History
and
State Historic Preservation Officer

MMB/ROC/sl

cc: Fred Bleicher

enc.

85002964

25

PHOTO: WALLACE BLOCK--OLD SALINE VILLAGE HALL



#26

S5/14

- a. Saline Multiple Resource Nom.
(105-113 S. Ann Arbor)
- b. Saline, Washtenaw Co., MI
- c. L. Sommers
- d. fall, 1984
- e. Mich. Bureau of History
208 N. Capitol
Lansing, MI
- f. facing E
- g. photo #25 of 40

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000333