

**State of Michigan Historic Preservation Office
Intensive Level Survey**

Rochester Hills Historic Districts Survey

Address

Street: 1021 Harding Ave.
City: Rochester Hills **County:** Oakland **ZIP** 48307
Current Name:
Historic Name: Ostrom, H.W. House



Evaluations

Contributes to: Eureka Fruit Farm
NR Eligible: NR Eligible
Contributing: Contributing Site
SHPO Evaluation:

Photo

Filename: RHPhotos\Harding\1021 Harding 1 SE.jpg
Roll: **Frame:**
View: Southeast
Credit: Burke Jenkins
Caption: H.W. Ostrom House, 1021 Harding Ave., Rochester Hills, MI

Resources on Property/Status

Historic Use: D/single dwelling
Current Use: D/single dwelling
Owner Type: Private

Main Building

Foundation	Roof:
1. Stone: Granite	1. Asphalt
2. Concrete	2.
3.	3.
Wall:	Other:
1. Brick	1.
2. Wood: Weatherboard	2.
3. Metal: Aluminum	3.

Period of Significance:

Area of Significance:

- 1 Architecture
- 2 Agriculture
- 3

Arch/Builder:

Date Built: ca. 1865

Architectural Classification:

Material Notes:

Description:

Gable roof upright and wing with rear ell. Two story upright, 1 1/2 story wing and 1 1/2 story rear ell. Common bond brickwork with brick water table. Angular arches over doors and windows. Mostly 4/4 windows. Louvered shutters. Bay window on east side has Tudor arches over windows. Porch on east side of rear ell has posts in storage. Front porch on wing has narrow chamfered posts. Two front doors from porch both have arched panel doors. Small wood frame rear ell in southwest corner of main house and rear brick ell. Recent metal roof porch with concrete floor on west side of rear ell. Enclosed rear porch addition with aluminum siding and concrete foundation has partly built deck. 3/1 kitchen windows (in rear ell) appear to have replaced an earlier, longer window. Some flat skylights added to rear ell. Newer brick chimney on west side.

Other Buildings/Features:

Pumphouse to west of rear ell. Barn in rear. Gambrel roof storage shed behind barn recently moved to property from across the street. Remnants of orchard on east side.

Significant Persons:

Statement of Significance

As described in the 1907 Barnes Rochester Directory, the Eureka Fruit Farm was established in 1870 by H.W. Ostrom, who was 80 years old in 1907. The farm had 24 acres of bush berries with more varieties than any other farm in the township. Ostrom introduced the custom of drawing berries to Detroit by team, avoiding commission men, carrying his own cashier, and selling directly to the consumer. He had one of the most profitable berry farms in the state and employed 85 pickers at the height of the season. Paul Miller's family bought the house in 1974. According to Paul Miller there is a cistern under the kitchen floor and evidence for a kitchen stove.

References:

Michigan Rural Property Inventory, Avon Township, 15ZZ; 1021 Harding Rd., Inventory of Historic Properties, Avon Township, 1978; City of Rochester Hills Assessor's Office; Paul Miller, personal communication, 16 April 2002.

Surveyor's Comments:

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Evaluations

Contributes to: Eureka Fruit Farm
NR Eligible: Not NR Eligible
Contributing: Contributing Site
SHPO Evaluation:

Resources on Property/Status

Historic Use: AS/agricultural outbuilding
Current Use: D/secondary structure
Owner Type: Private

Photo

Filename: RHPHOTOS\Harding\1021b Harding W.jpg
Roll: Frame:
View: Southwest
Credit: Burke Jenkins
Caption: 1021 Harding Ave., Rochester Hills, MI

Main Building

Foundation:	Roof:
1. Concrete	1. Asphalt
2.	2.
3.	3.
Wall:	Other:
1. Wood: Weatherboard	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Period of Significance:

Area of Significance:

- 1 Agriculture
- 2 Architecture
- 3

Arch/Builder:

Date Built:

Architectural Classification:

Material Notes:

Description: Square pumphouse with pyramidal roof.

Other Buildings/Features:

Significant Persons:

Statement of Significance: 1870 photo shows windmill operating pump. Well is still used.

References: Paul Miller, personal communication, 16 April 2002

Surveyor's Comments:

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Evaluations

Contributes to: Eureka Fruit Farm
NR Eligible: Not NR Eligible
Contributing: Contributing Site
SHPO Evaluation:

Resources on Property/Status

Historic Use:
Current Use:
Owner Type: Private

Photo

Filename: RHPHOTOS\Harding\1021a Harding SW.jpg
Roll: Frame:
View: Southwest
Credit: Burke Jenkins
Caption: 1021 Harding Ave., Rochester Hills, MI

Main Building

Foundation:	Roof:
1. Stone	1. Metal
2. Brick	2.
3.	3.
Wall:	Other:
1. Wood: Weatherboard	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Period of Significance:

Area of Significance:

- 1 Agriculture
- 2
- 3

Arch/Builder:

Date Built:

Architectural Classification:

Material Notes:

Description: Side gabled barn with one level on north and two levels on south. Slight ramp to north side. Some brick mixed in with stone rubble foundation.

Other Buildings/Features:

Significant Persons:

Statement of Significance: The 1870 photo shows a different barn. Miller thinks this barn was built on an earlier foundation. Miller recently put on the metal roof.

References: Paul Miller, personal communication, 16 April 2002

Surveyor's Comments: