

# ADDENDUM

## TO TOWN OF CLINTON RECONNAISSANCE-LEVEL HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY

This addendum to the Historic Resource Survey of Clinton undertaken in 2013–2014 consists of two parts. The first is a digital product, a database (Excel Spreadsheet) listing all the properties built in 1965 or before that were surveyed (777 individual properties). Architectural characteristics of the primary buildings listed in this database include the number of stories, type of roof, cladding materials, windows, porches, chimneys, foundation materials, and additions, among others. Notable landscape features, such as the presence of stonewalls, were recorded as well. Data on secondary buildings, or outbuildings, on the same property are listed as well, but with less detail. Also noted in the database is information found from historic maps of Clinton and some related census findings through Ancestry.com. In addition to the descriptive items, each primary building and secondary building was evaluated for its physical integrity and its historic status. At the end of this addendum is a key to the terminology used in the database.

The second aspect of this addendum is the following brief analysis of selected property characteristics documented in this spreadsheet.

### **Construction Eras**

Table 1 lists the apparent construction dates of all the buildings surveyed by era. These dates were estimated based on visual appearance (style) and whether they were depicted on any of the four historic maps referenced in this survey (1800, 1858, 1867, and 1876). Some buildings may actually contain portions older than what the present appearance suggests, but later additions and/or remodelings have obscured the original appearance.

TABLE 1

18th century	43
First half of 19th century	190
Second half of 19th century	107
First half of 20th century	167
Mid-20th century (1950–1965)	263

### **Architectural Styles**

The architectural styles of buildings in Clinton, listed in Table 2, were assigned based on their appearance, architectural details, and form; for example, chimney placement within side walls was an indicator of an early date of construction, while the Ranch form confirmed a 20th century date. As noted above, these characteristics were also used to determine the approximate date of their construction. In a number of cases, however, a style was not evident—either because it was a utilitarian building without pretensions to having any style whatsoever, or because the building was remodeled without employing a particular style (listed as “undetermined”) or because (as in a barn) style is not applicable (listed as “N/A”). Individually listed barns are in this latter category.

There are several remarkable findings of the survey—one being the large number (75) of Federal style buildings; these date to the period between 1776 and 1820 inclusive. Only buildings exhibiting the Greek Revival style (79), dating to the period 1830–1860 inclusive, and Ranch buildings from the mid-20th century (189) were more numerous. Thus extant Clinton buildings built 150 or more years ago are nearly as numerous as those built during the post-World War II housing boom. This, as much as any finding, indicates the strong historic character of the town.



TABLE 2

American 4 Square	1
Bungalow	12
Cabin / Cottage	48
Cape Cod	50
Classical Revival	58
Colonial	8
Colonial Revival	29
Craftsman	18
Dutch Colonial Revival	1
Federal	75
German Classical Revival	9
Gothic Revival	22
Greek Revival	79
Italianate	26
Modern	23
Queen Anne	3
Raised Ranch	20
Ranch	158
Rotated Ranch	11
Second Empire	3
Shingle	1
Split Level	4
Tudor Revival	2
Undetermined	73
Mixed – Cabion / Modern (Omega Inst.)	1
Not Applicable	41

## Status of Primary Buildings

This category indicates whether the property contributes to the historic character of the town, expressed as either “Contributing” or “Non-Contributing.” Nearly all those buildings constructed in the mid-20th century are considered non-contributing, since most are scattered throughout the community as infill housing. It is possible that in years ahead some of those properties may, as they age, become contributing. Table 3 reveals this breakdown for primary buildings. Again, the historic quality of Clinton is reaffirmed by 61 percent of buildings built 1965 or before with a status of contributing. In addition, 255 properties have at least one contributing secondary structure, which for the most part are barns or detached garages.

TABLE 3

Contributing	478
Non-Contributing	298

## Integrity

A property must retain sufficient physical integrity from its period of significance to be authentic under the criteria established by the National Register, which has been used as the benchmark for this evaluation.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> At this reconnaissance level of survey, selections as to which buildings are deemed “Significant” (as listed in Appendix C) were not based on physical integrity. The physical integrity of a particular property should be considered only if it reaches the status of being considered for local designation or nomination to the National Register.

A preliminary assessment was included, consisting of four classifications:

- Intact.
- Minimally Altered.
- Altered.
- Significantly Altered.

Those properties given the intact classification include those with changes, additions and/or alterations that can be considered historic within the fifty-year historic timeframe. The minimally altered designation indicates a property where the original form, architectural style, and outstanding characteristics remain intact, but some loss of historic fabric is evident (e.g., windows replaced but within original window openings). Altered buildings have had more substantial changes made which lessen their historic integrity (e.g. front porches entirely removed). Significantly altered buildings are generally older, often where construction dates suggest there is historical significance, but for which architectural significance has been entirely obliterated through remodeling, additions, or partial demolition.

Table 4 lists the number of primary buildings in each of these categories. The above numbers demonstrate the high percentage of historic buildings that remain either intact or have been only minimally altered—nearly 75 percent! This is another indication of Clinton’s outstanding historic character.

Intact	150
Minimally Altered	424
Altered	134
Significantly Altered	66

