





dedication, particularly since the facades most visible in the central core have not experienced changes that significantly impact historic vistas.

- The organizational scheme and palette of materials of the buildings, which differentiated administrative volumes from technical volumes, was intended to be an expandable system that would allow for additions to the complex as needed. A number of buildings completed after 1956 were done with the involvement of the Saarinen office. The additional buildings continued the fundamental vocabulary of materials established by the original design without exception in the core campus area around the lake.
- Historic exterior finishes survive on almost all of the campus buildings, including the original, highly-colored, double-glazed brick, the original glazing, and sandwich panel walls.
- Signature spaces and features such as the lobbies, executive office suites, cafeterias and the Central Restaurant, the sculptural stairs, auditoria, double-loaded corridors, interior gray-green brick walls, Hauserman panel systems, and integrated ceiling grids, all survive without significant loss of historic fabric or major alterations.
- Within the landscape, character-defining features also survive essentially unaltered throughout: historic roadways, walkways, parking lots, lawn areas, the signature water tower, the gridded tree “forest” perimeter, historic gate houses and entrances, fountains, lakes, and reflecting pools. The signature lake islands, river stone embankments, and concrete paving edges, all survive.

**Owner of Property:** General Motors Corporation

**Acreage of Property:** Approximately 400 acres

**Origins of Nomination:** The Michigan State Historic Preservation Office hired a consulting firm to prepare the NHL nomination as part of its Michigan Modern Initiative.

**Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:**

- NHL designation will recognize one of Eero Saarinen’s exceptional Modern designs, regarded as a benchmark in his nationally significant career.
- NHL designation will recognize one of the most significant and comprehensive Modern designs—integrating architecture, landscape, and interior design—in the United States.

**Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:** None known.

**Landmarks Committee Comments:**

*National Park System Advisory Board*

<http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/Fall2013Nominations/GMTechCenter.pdf>



**Landmarks Committee Recommendation:** Designation. Mr. Hoyos moved, Dr. Carson seconded; unanimous approval.

**Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of 12/12/2013):**

David N. Fixler, FAIA, Society of Architectural Historians, Heritage Conservation Committee, Chicago, Illinois

Kevin Roche, Kevin Roche, John Dinkeloo and Associates, LLC, Hamden, Connecticut

Steven M. Bieda, State Senator, 9<sup>th</sup> District, Lansing, Michigan

James R. Fouts, Mayor, City of Warren, Michigan

Jayne Merkel, Architectural Historian, New York, New York

Jon Switalski, State Representative, 28<sup>th</sup> House District, Michigan House of Representatives

Amy L. Arnold, Preservation Planner, State Historic Preservation Office, Lansing, Michigan

Cesar Pelli, FAIA, Pelli, Clarke, Pelli Architects

Nancy M. Finegood, Executive Director, Michigan Historic Preservation Network, Lansing, Michigan

Dr. Theodore H. M. Prudon, FAIA, President, DOCOMOMO International, New York, New York

Dale Allen Gyure, Ph.D., Professor of Architecture, College of Architecture and Design, Lawrence Tech University, Southfield, Michigan

Shawn Pomaville, Managing Director, MotorCities National Heritage Area, Detroit, Michigan  
City of Warren Board of Commissioners Resolution No. R13-294, Macomb County, Michigan

Brian D. Conway, State Historic Preservation Officer, Michigan

**Advisory Board Recommendation:**