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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

QUENTIN L. MESSER, JR.
PRESIDENT, MSF

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Mr. Kenneth McKenzie
McMath-Hulbert Astronomical Society

Dear Mr. McKenzie,

Thank you for submitting a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the McMath-Hulbert Observatory, 895 North Lake Angelus Road, Lake Angelus, Oakland County, Michigan, to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). For your reference, the SHPO Site Number for this property is P69312 and the National Register Project Number for this nomination is NR22-024.

Based on the information provided in the draft nomination form, the McMath-Hulbert Observatory appears to be eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criterion A in the area of Science for its important contributions to the early scientific development of solar observation and understanding. The McMath-Hulbert Observatory also appears to be eligible for individual listing in the National Register under Criterion C in the area of Engineering. The towers and instruments developed at and for the observatory led to important advancements in solar observation which led to significant contributions to the understanding of the sun. The observatory appears to be eligible for listing in the National Register at the state level of significance for its primary and prominent role in the scientific development of the state and nation. The observatory may also be eligible for listing at the national level of significance, but additional documentation is required to ascertain significance beyond the state level at this time.

The McMath-Hulbert Observatory may also be eligible for individual listing in the National Register under additional criteria and themes (e.g., Criterion B for its association with significant individuals and the theme of Education), but additional documentation under more than one criterion and theme is not required.

We encourage you to continue with the National Register nomination process so that this important place may be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions about this opinion, or the National Register program, please feel free to contact me at WalshT@michigan.gov.

Sincerely Yours,

Todd Walsh
National Register Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office



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