

1700 Ludington Street

Before



After

**COMING
SOON**

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Escanaba Central Historic District

Name of Property
Delta Co., Michigan

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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was previously occupied by a small frame building up through the 1929-50 Updates edition. This more recently constructed eastern bay extends the full length of the lot from Ludington to the rear alley. City directories reveal that by 1937 Norstrom Motors is entered for the first time and is addressed as 1636, continuing through the 1941 edition. By 1948, the business located here is Ludington Motors, which continues through the 1963 edition. Fred W. Schmitt was President and Ole E. Norstrom Secretary-Treasurer. of Norstrom Motors For many years Ole and his wife Edna operated Chrysler dealerships in Escanaba and Gladstone (Escanaba Daily Press 2008b).

1700. Building (1929-1937)

This is a single story, polygonal-plan, flat-roofed commercial building that occupies a corner lot near the edge of the central business district. This renovated synthetic stucco and glazed tile-clad former gasoline service station is set at a 45-degree angle to the intersection. The fenestration of the angled façade consists of an entry door flanked by three fixed-pane windows, while the narrow elevation facing Stephenson Avenue is pierced by a door flanked by a fixed-pane window, and the narrower wall facing Ludington Street contains only a single fixed-pane window. All fenestration occurs at street level within wall planes clad in synthetic stucco, while the upper façade is composed of glazed tiles, as is the rear elevation, which faces an alley and is pierced by a single fixed-pane window.

Sanborn maps reveal this filling station was constructed after 1929 on a portion of the lots formerly occupied by the large DeGrand Motor Co. building (the same period when a large building was constructed at 1702-1704 Ludington that occupied the remainder of the DeGrand footprint). The 1929-50 Updates edition records a building with the distinctive footprint of the current building labeled Filling Station and Greasing. City directories reveal that 1700-1708 is the DeGrand Motor Co. in 1929. By 1937, the Ludington Shell Service filling station is addressed as 1700 Ludington, becoming Louie’s Service Station by 1941. In 1948 the DeGrand Oil Co. office and filling station is located here, while the 1953 edition places the DeGrand Oil Co. wholesale and Johnny’s Shell Service filling station at 1700. By 1959 1700 houses Snyder’s Shell Service gas station, continuing through 1963.

1704. Escanaba Machine Co. Building (1929-37)

This is a brick, single story, flat-roofed, enframed window wall commercial building facing Ludington Avenue, with a rear ell of concrete block opening to the alley and Stephenson Avenue, which together creates the structure’s L-plan. (The building abuts the north and west side elevations of the building at 1700 Ludington Avenue.) The façade consists of a recessed off-center entry vestibule and three broad bays formed by large display windows with aluminum framing. The large expanses of glass east of the entrance each consists of six windows with aluminum muntins, while those to the west of the entrance are comprised of four windows equal in size to the others. Stack bond brick that is pierced by a glass block window is employed in the wall plane of the recessed entrance, while common bond brick is used elsewhere, punctuated by rowlock bond employed in the display window sills and in two separate string courses above the windows. The upper rowlock separates the buff-colored stack bond brick employed in the upper façade from the common bond red brick used elsewhere in the street elevation. The visible west side elevation is concrete block, pierced by five large glass block windows with masonry sills.

The concrete block rear ell component extends eastward to Stephenson Avenue, with fenestration composed of a large central overhead door and adjacent steel entry door that are flanked on each side by two bays of glass block windows with masonry sills. The north elevation is pierced by five bays of glass block windows identical to

Historic Photo

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