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NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: **William Smith House**

other name/site number: **Ohio Historic Inventory #SUM-1531-19**

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: **7894 Main Street**

not for publication: **N/A**

city/town: **Clinton**

vicinity: **na**

state: **OH** county: **Summit**

code: **153**

zip code: **44216**

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this   x   nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property   X   meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

*Barbara Paven*  
Signature of certifying official

*Dept. Head  
Planning, Inventory  
& Registration*

*July 22, 2002*  
Date

Ohio Historic Preservation Office-- OH SHPO  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

=====
4. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register
\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

=====
5. Classification
=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows include buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total. Values: Contributing=2, Total=2.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of the Village of Clinton/Warwick.

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic: Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

Current : Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

=====  
7. Description  
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Architectural Classification: Other: Vernacular

Other Description: Queen Anne Details

Materials: foundation Sandstone roof: Asphalt  
walls Wood weatherboard other: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.  X  See continuation sheet.

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:  LOCALLY .

Applicable National Register Criterion C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1895-1920

Significant Dates: Historic; 1895, 1916, 1919.

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
 Other state agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property: .5

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

- 1) 17 447080 4530580 3)
2) 4)

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet. Pumroy Lots 47 and 54.

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet. The nominated property contains the building that is historically associated with the Railroad Era heritage of the Village of Clinton and continues to retain its historic integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By  
=====

Name/Title: Sam Tamburro, Historian for the Village of Clinton

Organization: NPS/ Cuyahoga Valley NP      Date: 1/02

Street & Number: 15610 Vaughn Road      Telephone: (330) 657-2096

City or Town: Brecksville      State: OH      ZIP:44141

=====  
Additional Documentation  
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Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map indicating the property's location.

Figure 1 Site and photo map.

Figure 2 First Floor plan map.

Figure 3 Second Floor plan map.

Figure 4 1927 Sanborn Insurance map.

Photographs

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 1

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description**

The Smith House is located on Lot 47 and 54 (7894 Main Street) in the Village of Clinton (photos 1-4 and figures 1-3). The house is situated on the south side of the street and the property also includes an empty grassy lot directly east of the house. Several large Maple trees are located throughout the lot and a garage is sited on the southeast section of the property, facing the back alleyway. There are two contributing resources within the nominated property: the house and the garage.

Built circa 1895, the Smith House is a wood balloon-frame, front-gabled Queen Anne. The house gables contain a diamond shingle treatment. The Smith House has gable roof dormers on the east and west side of the building and both dormers are covered with wood shingles, similar to the gable treatment. The house is clad with horizontal wood siding with corner boards and all roofs are covered with asphalt-tab shingles. A chimney is located in the center of the roof. The house's foundation is cut sandstone with a full basement under the core section of the building.

A front porch is supported by square columns and wraps around the north and west elevations of the house (photo 2). The porch entrance is located at its northwest corner. The entrance is detailed with a saw-tooth treatment and serves as the façade "entry" to the porch and house (photo 2).

Doors are located along the north, west, and south elevations of the house. The doors on the north and west elevations appear to be original. The door along the façade (north elevation) of the house contains a large, oval, leaded-glass panel over a garland-ornamented panel (photo 5). The door along the west elevation has a single glazed panel and eight colored-glass panels over four sunburst panels (photo 6).

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National Park Service

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description** (continued)

Full-size windows are one-over-one, double-hung sash with plain surrounds and wood shutters. Smaller, paired, windows are in both of the gable apexes. The east elevation of the house contains a large double-hung sash window with a leaded-glass transom, which is characteristic of the Queen Anne style (photo 7).

The addition (27'x 22') along the south side of the house (photos 3 and 8) contains a dining room, kitchen, and bathroom. The addition includes a door (south elevation), several full-size windows as well as two fixed multi-paned windows. A shed-roof entry porch is on the southwest elevation of the addition (photo 3).

The interior of the house has much of its original fabric intact. The first floor door and window surrounds are plain faced with molded decorative crowns with large pocket doors (photo 9 and 10). The second floor door and window surrounds contain bull's-eye corner blocks. Wide baseboards are throughout the house. The house's staircase wall is paneled with hardwood in a rectangular decorative design, a characteristic of the Queen Anne style (photo 11).

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National Park Service

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description (continued)**

A gable-roofed garage is situated southeast of the house (photos 12 and 13). According to the Summit County Auditor's records, the garage was built in 1919. The garage is covered with wood siding and the roof is clad with asphalt tab shingles. There is a gabled cupola in the center of the roof. Paired windows are located in the north gable apex and the south apex has a door/window opening. The building has two overhead doors along the south side, facing the alley. All of the full-size windows are one-over-one with plain surrounds. A door is located on the north side of the building. The garage is considered a contributing resource.



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National Park Service

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Photographs**

The following information is the same for all of photographs.

Name of the Property: William Smith House  
County and State: Summit County, Ohio  
Photographer: Sam Tamburro  
Date of Photograph: March, 1999, June 1999  
Location of the Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley NP

1. House, north and east elevation, facing southwest.
2. House, north and west elevation, facing southeast.
3. House, south elevation, facing north.
4. House, south gable apex, facing north.
5. House, north elevation door.
6. House, west elevation door.
7. House, east elevation picture window.
8. House, west elevation, facing east.
9. House, door surround with pocket door.
10. House, interior window surround.
11. House, wood paneled stairs.
12. Garage, east and south elevation, facing west.
13. Garage, north elevation, facing south.
14. House, (circa 1890s), north elevation, facing south.
15. House, (circa 1920s), north elevation facing south.

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National Park Service

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Statement of Significance**

The William Smith House meets the registration requirements for properties eligible under Criteria C as specified in the Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of Clinton/Warwick Multiple Property Documentation Form (Clinton MPD).

The house is significant under Criterion C for containing elements that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The Queen Anne style is significant to the development of Clinton as it represents the built environment\* from the railroad era and the prosperity it brought to the community.

**Historical Background**

Like all the land in Franklin Township (Summit County), the U.S. Government originally owned Pumroy Lot 47. Thus, the entire township was designated the Congress Lands. With the completion of the Ohio & Erie Canal in 1832, the land directly east of the canal prism became a prime area of commercial development.

In 1837, William and Francis Pumroy purchased a large parcel of land in Section 35 of Franklin Township east of the Ohio & Erie Canal and south of the Village of Orradeen, which was founded in 1835. The brothers named the area the Village of Pumroy, divided it into approximately 70 lots and quickly began to sell property.

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Background (continued)**

In 1852, lot 47 was purchased by John Russell from William Pumroy. According to the Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, a house was added to lot 47 the following year.<sup>1</sup> The 1856 Summit County Property Atlas indicates that a structure existed on the lot. An interview with a historian from the Village of Clinton indicates that the lot originally contained a Greek Revival house.

In 1880, Jacob Breitenstine purchased the property from John Russell. Three years later Breitenstine sold the property to William Smith. Smith also purchased the adjacent lot 55. Smith co-owned a large lumbering operation in the Village of Clinton. The lumber yard was located on Oradden Lots 10, 11, and 12 near the O&E Canal. The 1890-91 Akron and Summit County Directory describes William Smith's lumber mill in the following manner:

W.H. Smith, Contractor and Builder, Planing and Saw Mill. Dealers in Rough and Dressed Lumber, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Shingles, etc., also agents for Gaar, Scott & CO's, Portable and Traction Engines, Saw Mills and Threshers. Clinton, Ohio.<sup>2</sup>

Smith ran a large operation and the business proved to be an important part of the community's economy. The tax valuations on the house remained consistent throughout the 1880s at \$330. In 1895, the property's value increased to \$670 with the notation in the Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates to "add house."<sup>3</sup> It

<sup>1</sup> 1853 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates.

<sup>2</sup> 1890-91 Akron and Summit County Directory, (N.H. Birch & Company, 1891), 462.

<sup>3</sup> 1895 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates.

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Background** (continued)

appears that the core section of the house was built in 1895. The Summit County tax records indicate that the rear (south) additions were added in the early twentieth century. The 1916 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates indicate that the property value increased over \$1,000. Moreover, two historic photographs from that period show the existence of the additions along the west elevation (photos 14 and 15). The garage was added to the property in 1919. The historic photographs also indicate that the wraparound porch was "remodeled" around 1920. Photograph 14 shows the porch detailed with turned spindle posts and balustrade. Photograph 15, taken around 1920, indicates that the porch was updated. Alterations included the removal of the diagonal, corner entrance and the replacement of the turned posts and balustrade with square posts, a shingled parapet, and shallow arches.

The 1927 Sanborn Insurance Map reveals that the south elevation of the house contained another addition separate from the main structure (see figure 4). This addition is no longer extant.

William Smith continued to serve as an important figure in Clinton's business community during the first decade of the twentieth century. As the Clinton Story notes, Smith was one of the founding members and a member of the board of directors of the Clinton Savings Bank and a director of the Franklin Industrial Company in Warwick.<sup>4</sup>

Smith died in 1917, leaving the house to his wife and family. For most of the twentieth century, Smith daughter, Effie Ikins,

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<sup>4</sup> Sandra Walsh Dreurey, The Clinton Story, (Clinton Historical Society: Clinton, Ohio, 1991), 15, 159.

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Background (continued)**

lived in the house. More recent owners include the Urians and Bruno and Joyce Romansky, the current owners.

**Criterion C: Architecture**

The William Smith House contains significant characteristics of construction practices associated with Railroad Era in the village of Clinton as defined in the Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resource of Clinton/Warwick Multiple Property Documentation Form (Clinton MPD).

The William Smith House evidences features associated with the vernacular interpretation of the Queen Anne building tradition, which is identified in the Clinton MPD as being representative of one of the architectural styles in the Village of Clinton after the Civil War. The house (c. 1895) is a homestead-type house, a front-gable, rectangular plan building. The porch is one-story high and extends along the north and west sides of the house. The wraparound porch is a consistent architectural element of the Queen Anne style.<sup>5</sup> After the 1920 "updates," porch now exhibits "Craftsman-like" details. In addition, the house's gable apexes contain a diamond shingle treatment, which is characteristic of the Queen Anne style in the Clinton area as defined in the Clinton MPD.

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<sup>5</sup> Steve Gordon, How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory, (Columbus, OH: Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992), 91.

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William Smith House  
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Summit County, Ohio

**Criterion C: Architecture** (continued)

The William Smith House is characteristic of the influence of railroad in the Village of Clinton. With the national emergence of railroads, popular architectural styles were being widely distributed in plan and pattern books as well as trade journals.<sup>6</sup> Houses built adhering to modern styles indicated a certain level of success and prosperity. From all available accounts, Smith's lumber mill was a successful operation, and it is reasonable to conclude that his home represented a subtle reflection of his prosperity.

**Historical Integrity**

The historical integrity of the William Smith House is well preserved. All of the nominated buildings have a high degree of design integrity. The house maintains its original wood siding and still retains its defining features such as a wraparound porch and wood-shingled gable apexes. The house's massing and fenestration retain significant integrity of materials and workmanship. The buildings are in the same location they were during the period of significance (1895-1920) and are effective in communicating their historical functions. The small town setting surrounding the nominated property provides integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

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<sup>6</sup> Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1997), 88; Gordon, How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory, 91.

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William Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Major Bibliographic References**

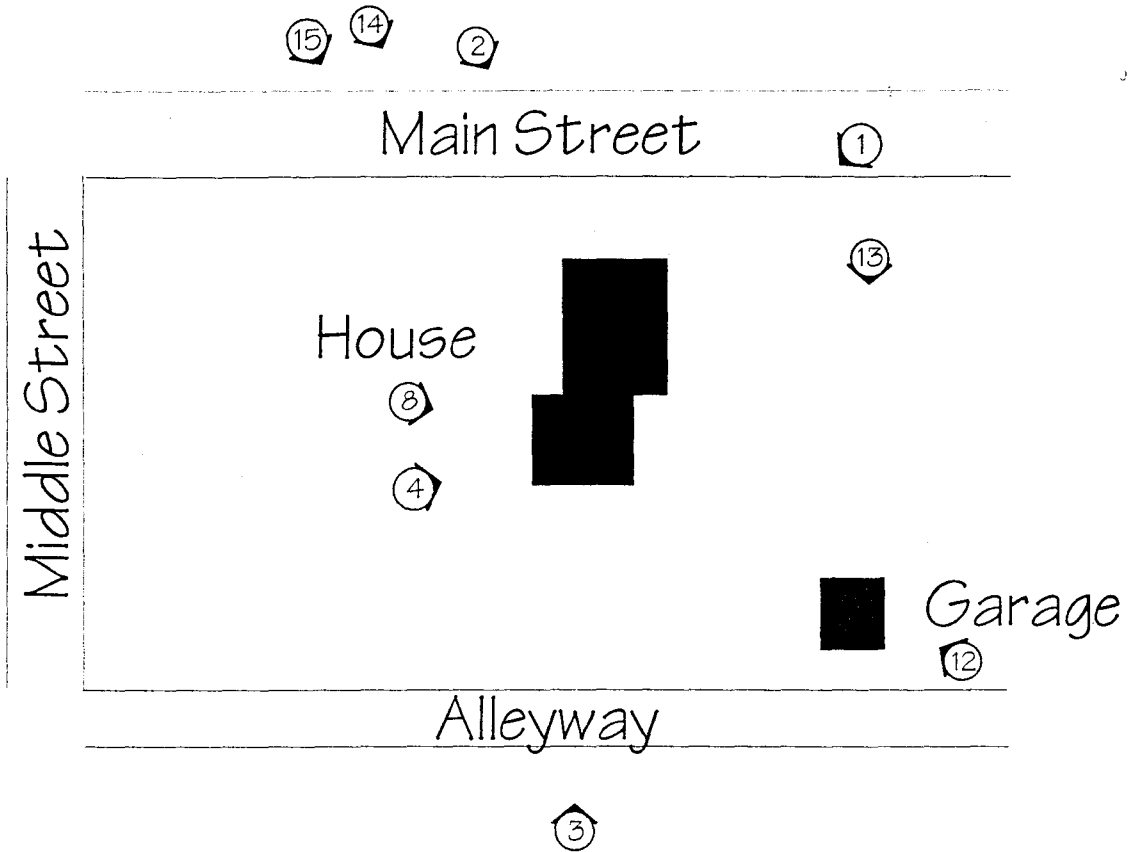
1890-91 Akron and Summit County Directory, (N.H. Birch & Company, 1891), 462.

Dreurey, Sandra Walsh. The Clinton Story. Clinton Historical Society: Clinton, Ohio, 1991.

Gordon, Steve. How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory. Columbus, OH: Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1997.

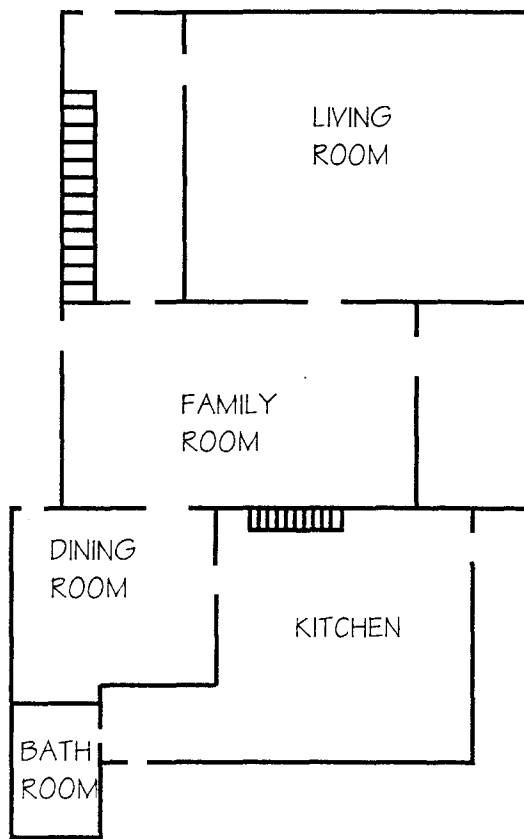
1853 and 1895 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates.



- Contributing
- Photo view

FIGURE ONE  
SITE & PHOTO MAP  
WILLIAM SMITH HOUSE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
JAN. 2002





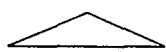
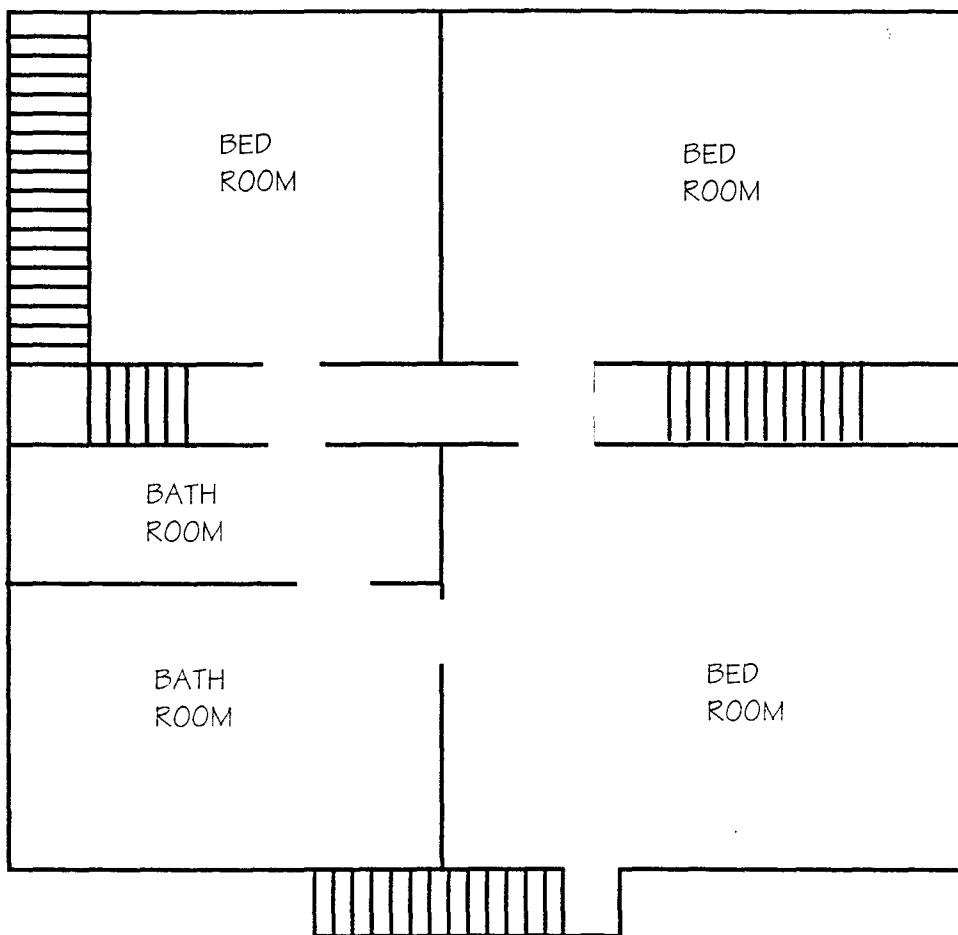
  
NORTH  
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE TWO  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
WILLIAM SMITH HOUSE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
JAN. 2002



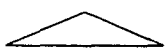
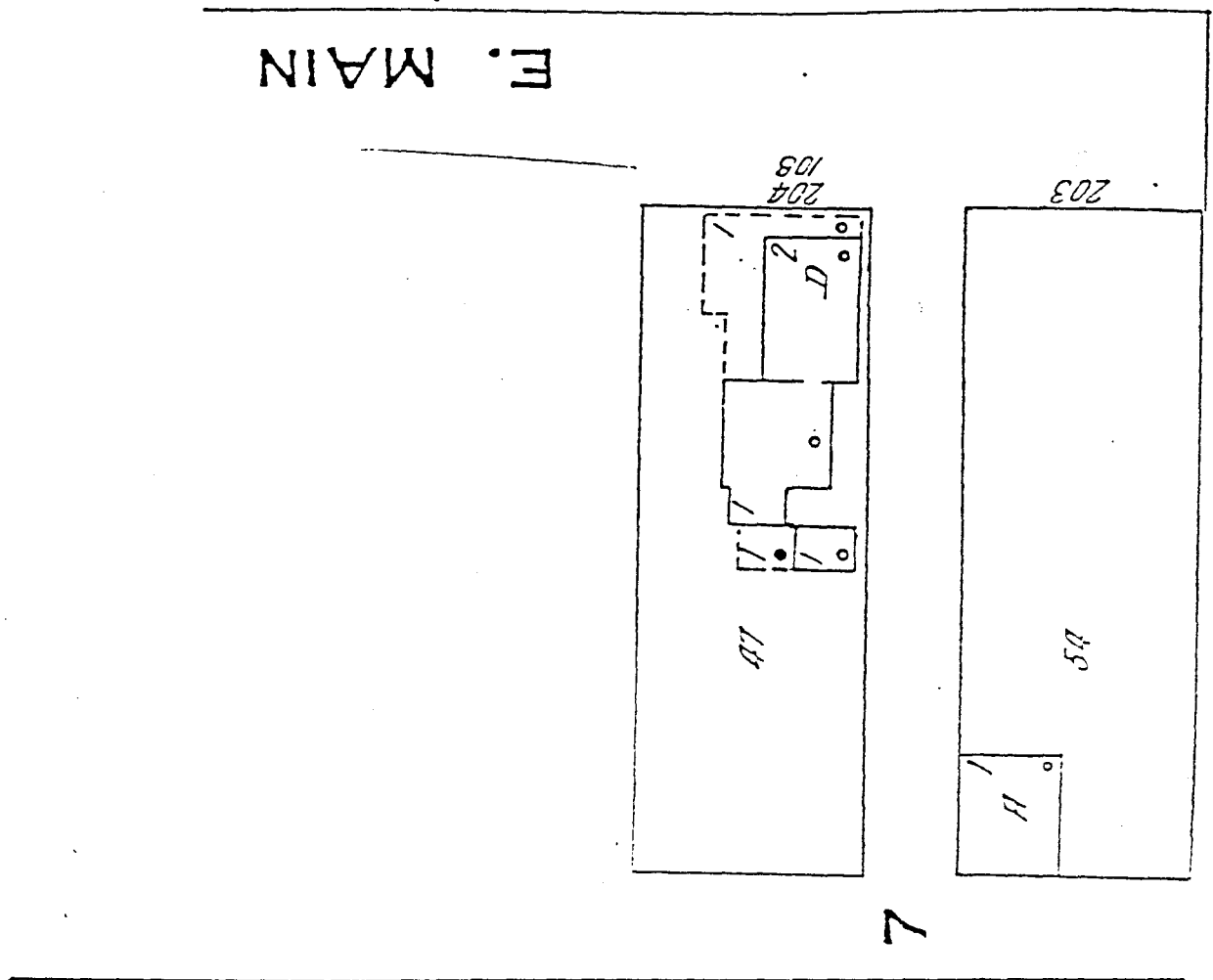
  
NORTH  
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE THREE  
SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
WILLIAM SMITH HOUSE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
JAN. 2002



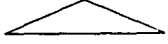
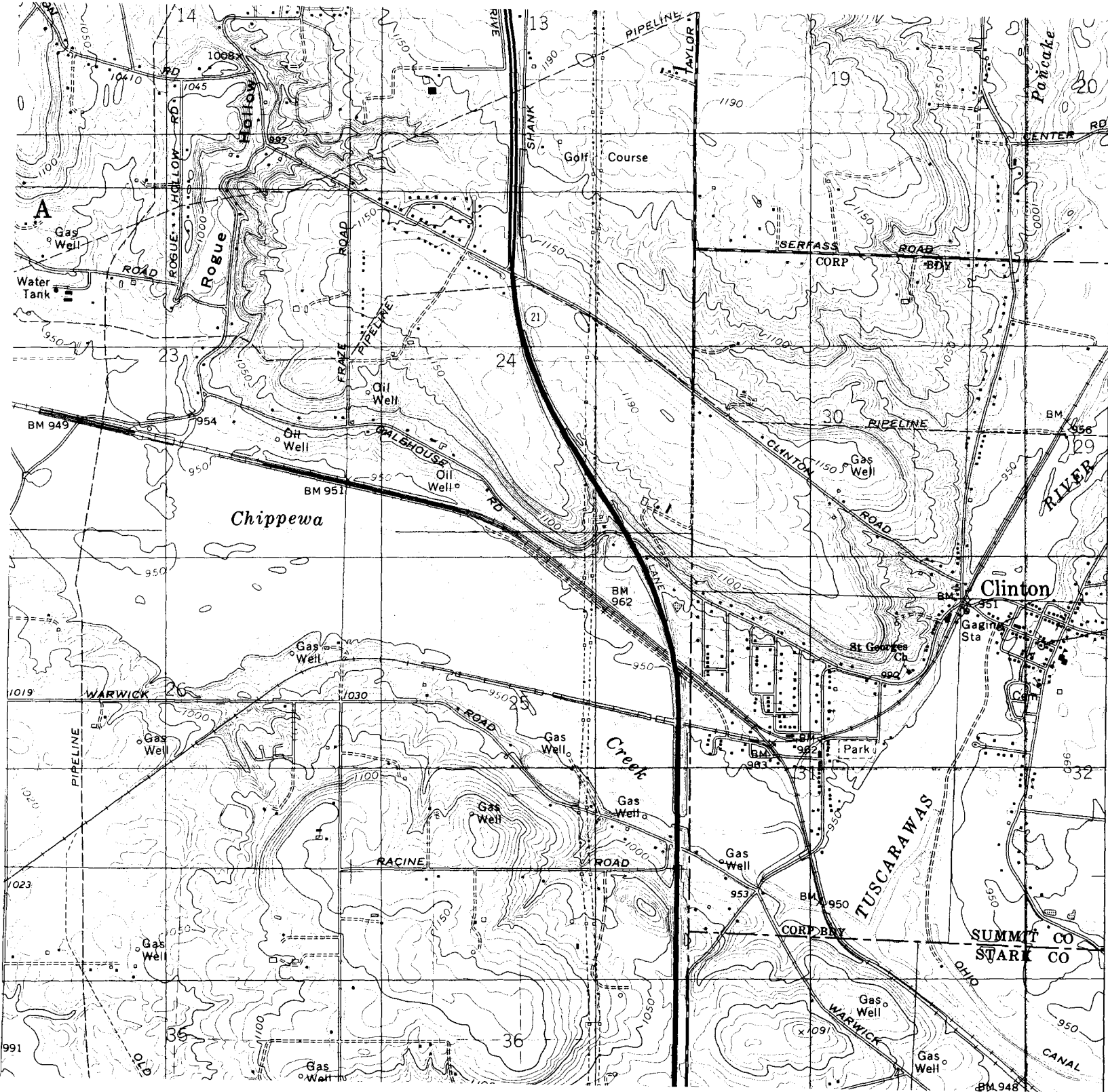
  
 NORTH  
 NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE FOUR  
 1927 SANBORN MAP  
 WILLIAM SMITH HOUSE  
 SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
 CLINTON VICINITY  
 JAN. 2002



William Smith House  
 Z E N  
 17-447080-4530580  
 Summit Co. OH

(CANAL FULTON)  
 4665 1 NE

31

30

55'

T. 2 N.

T. 1 N.

29

SUMMIT CO  
 STARK CO

BM 948

## Ohio Historic Preservation Office

567 East Hudson Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43211-1030  
614/ 298-2000 Fax: 614/ 298-2037

Visit us at [www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/](http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/)



OHIO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
SINCE 1885

April 18, 2003

Bruno and Joyce Romansky  
7894 Main Street  
Clinton, Ohio 44216

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Romansky:

Congratulations on the recent listing of your property into the National Register of Historic Places!

The National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior listed the **William Smith House** at 7894 Main Street in Clinton, Ohio on March 11, 2003. The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended.

The Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) is available to advise you in maintaining the historic character of your property. As you know from previous mailings received from this office, there are no restrictions placed on your property following the National Register listing. However, the OHPO strongly encourages owners of historic properties to consider all options before completing work that could damage the structure or impair its historic integrity. Careful planning can facilitate the sensitive incorporation of contemporary alterations with the historic fabric. The OHPO provides free information on how to sensitively rehabilitate and repair historic properties, upon request.

Thank you for your interest in historic preservation and the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Powers  
Department Head  
Planning, Inventory, and Registration

Cc: Sam Tamburro, National Park Service, Form Preparer  
Mayor Tom Mayberry, Village of Clinton  
Senator Leigh E. Herington, District #28  
Representative Twyla Roman, District #48  
Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study  
Paul Graham, Ohio Department of Transportation

# Ohio Historic Preservation Office

## National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Smith, William, House

County: Summit

Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

Photograph(s)

Photograph(s) (copies)

USGS map(s)

USGS map(s) (copies) *photocopy of USGS map in nomination packet*

Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)

Correspondence

Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_