

OHPD  
COPY

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

OMB No. 1024-0018

REFNUM 01001280

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: **Limbach Block Historic District**

other name/site number: **Ohio Historic Inventory # SUM-1528-19**

2. Location

street & number: **7843, 7845, 7847, 7849, 7851, and 7853 Main Street**

not for publication: **N/A**

city/town: **Clinton**

vicinity: **X**

state: OH county: **Summit**

code: **153**

zip code: **44216**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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 Power, Dept. Head, Planning, Inventory, Registration      September 26, 2001  
Signature of certifying official      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.



Name of related multiple property listing: **Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of Clinton/Warwick MPD**

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

Historic: **Commercial**  
**Domestic**

Sub: **Multiple Dwelling**

Current : **Domestic**  
**Vacant**

**Multiple Dwelling**

Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification: **Commercial Italianate; Queen Anne**

Other Description:

Materials: foundation **Sandstone** roof: **asphalt**  
walls **Brick, Clay tile Wood** other: **rubber**

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:  Local .

Applicable National Register Criteria: **A and C**

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : **N/A**

Areas of Significance:

Commerce  
Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: **1878-1930**

Significant Dates: **Historic, 1878, 1886, 1930**

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.

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

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: **.50**

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

- |       |        |         |    |
|-------|--------|---------|----|
| 1) 17 | 446960 | 4530670 | 3) |
| 2)    |        |         | 4) |

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description:   x   See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet. The boundary of the Limbach Block Historic District contains the buildings and property associated with the Limbachs and the Railroad Era in the Village of Clinton.

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

Name/Title: Jeff Winstel and Sam Tamburro, Historians for the Village of Clinton

Organization: NPS/ Cuyahoga Valley NP      Date: 6/00 (revised March 2001)

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

City or Town: Brecksville      State: OH      ZIP: 44141

=====  
Additional Documentation  
=====

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map indicating the property's location.

Figure 1 1927 Sanborn Insurance map.

Figure 2 Site Map.

Figure 3 Photograph Map

**Photographs**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 6

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Description

The Limbach Block Historic District is located on the north side of Main Street (between Water Street and Middle Street) in the Village of Clinton. The district's boundary includes the following buildings: 7843, 7845, 7847, 7849, 7851, and 7853 Main Street.

The district contains two contributing resources: 7843 & 7845 Main Street and 7849 & 7851 Main Street. Both 7847 and 7853 (Covered Bridge Drive Thru) Main Street are considered non-contributing resources in the district.

**7843 & 7845 Main Street**

Built in 1878, this section of the Limbach Block is built in the Commercial Italianate style evidenced by its rectangular massing, flat roof, 3-bay vertical modules, and the façade division of the two horizontal zones: residential and retail (photos 1-4).

The building is brick (common bond) and the roof is covered with a rubberized roofing material. The roofline is capped by a metal cornice line and features a overhanging molding supported by curving brackets that are consistent with the fenestration pattern. The second floor windows are two-over-two, double hung sash with segmental-arch brick headers, projecting lintels and cut stone sills (photo 7).

A metal cornice with dominant end blocks marks the division between the upper residential zone and the lower retail zone. The two commercial fronts each contain a central entry door flanked by large display windows (photo 3).

The 7843 Main Street commercial front contains a central entrance with a segmental arch transom. The entrance is flush with the wall plane. Two segmental arch display windows flank the entrance. These windows feature a large central pane framed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 7

---

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Description (continued)

by smaller rectangular and square panes with a top segmental arch transom light (photos 5-6).

The 7845 Main Street storefront façade contains fluted cast-iron columns with Corinthian capitals flanking the central recessed entry. The base of the columns are stamped with the name Massillon Iron Works. The large display panels have been replaced by one-over-one, double-hung sash windows with drywall infill covering the original window openings. The cast iron mullions for the upper panes are intact, as are the recessed side panels and the entry doors transom light mullions. There is a single modern door set in drywall (photo 9).

The west elevation of the building contains three symmetrically spaced chimney stacks piercing the roofline. The third and second floor fenestration is characterized by slightly shorter versions of the façade's upper floor windows. The first floor contains one large one-over-one, double hung sash window with a three-light transom. The window has a segmental-arch brick header with a brick sill. At the north end of the west elevation, a door opening has been infilled with brick. A metal fire escape extends to the third floor and windows have been converted into doors at the fire-escape's second and third floor landings (photo 8).

A two-story shed-roofed addition has been added to the north elevation of the building. The addition, most likely added in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, is constructed of tile block covered with wood siding (photo 10). The siding has been partially removed from the west elevation exposing the tile blocks and the furring strips used to attached the siding. The addition has several windows and also contains a door on the west elevation and three along the north elevation. A concrete slab porch fronts the north elevation of the addition.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 8

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Description (continued)

The east elevation of the building contains a central chimney stack on the same plane as the wall. A row of four 4/4 sash segmental windows, which contain the same projecting lintel and stone sill, run the length of the second floor. The adjacent 2-story building masks the lower portion of the elevation (photo 7).

Intact interior features include tongue and groove wainscoting in the interior stairway and original door and transom molded wood trim. The transom windows are solid pane elliptical shaped lights with molded trim.

The third floor of building contains an intact ballroom space. Featuring a ticket taker booth, a bandstand and coatroom on the back wall. The room is lighted by the expanse of tall Italianate windows running the length of the façade. The hardwood floor features an inlaid diamond parquet pattern in the center. Molded plaster ceiling coffer panels and circular molded medallion decorate the ceiling of the ballroom space (photos 11-13).

**7847 Main Street (non-contributing resource)**

Attached to the east elevation of the three-story Italianate block is a two-story wood-frame structure with a press board front. The roof is covered with asphalt paper. Two modern two sash windows pierce the second floor façade and a central entry door with a transom light is located on the first floor. A remnant gutter marks the façade's roof-wall junction.

The rear elevation of the building is stepped down from two to one-and-one-half stories. The top floor of the north elevation contains two two-over-two, double hung, sash windows with plain



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 9

---

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Description (continued)

surrounds. The first floor has wood siding similar to the 7843 and 7845 Main Street buildings.

**7849 & 7851 Main Street**

The 1886 brick addition (7849 & 7851 Main Street) of the Limbach Block is two stories in height and consists of three modules. The first two modules are three bays wide separated by a central bay that contains the stairwell from the street level to the second floor. The last module is four bays wide and contains a sizeable projecting second floor balcony addition, which is roofed and walled in. The modules are separated by slightly projecting pilasters that run the height of the facades (photos 14, 16).

Common façade elements to all three modules are located in the entablature. The roof-wall junction is capped by a row of alternating brick corbels and dentils. Below this row and in between the pilasters are horizontal panels of sawtooth brick—two panels on the first two modules and three on the end module (photos 21-22).

A square fixed window is located in the bay that marks the stairwell between the first and second modules. A projecting brick beltcourse runs beneath the sawtooth panels. The brickwork entablature on these buildings is a departure from the Italianate heavy bracketed cornices typical of the 1870s. The use of brick to create multi-textured wall plane is associated with Queen Anne style architecture, a style popular throughout the country in the 1880s-1890s period.

The first two module's second floor window openings are similar to 7843-7845 Main Street buildings. The same double end brick projecting segmental-arch lintels and sandstone sills are evident. The windows, however, have been replaced. More modern one-over-one sash has replaced the two-over-two sash segmental

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 10

---

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Description (continued)

arch top glass panes. A metal horizontal cornice separates the upper zones of the façade from the lower retail zone (photo 16).

The display windows are single pane, plate glass, and are framed by thin aluminum mullions and rest on stone lintels. The recessed central entry door is fronted by stone landing (photo 17).

The entry door between the two modules contains the original transom light and opening, but the door appears to be of recent vintage. The door leads to the second floor apartments (photo 16).

The middle module has a recessed central entry and contains a transom light situated over double doors. The doors have two glazed panels over a kick plate panel. Large windows that comprise the sides of the recessed entry consist of one-over-one panes with original mullions, molded sill and inset kick plate panel. Chamfered square posts mark the corner of the recessed entry. Large two-over-two display windows with original mullions flanked the entry and rest on a molded apron or kick plate panel (photos 19-20).

The end module (7851 Main Street) on the block evidences the greatest degree of alteration. Below the entablature containing the corbeled, dentiled, and sawtooth patterned brickwork, a large hipped and gabled roofed and walled in balcony addition extends out over the sidewalk. Recent two-over-two, vinyl windows run the length of the addition's façade and one is located on the gable end. This appendage is supported by square wooden posts set on brick bases. Four cast iron, scrolled brackets project out from the wall plan under the balcony floor. A metal exterior stairway provides access to this space from the east elevation of the building (photos 15, 23).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 11

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Description (continued)

The storefront retains the original basic divisions of the bays and some historic surrounds, but most of it has been altered. The flanking display windows retain the horizontal mullion division line. The large square panes with false mullions make up the lower windows opening area. The kick plate panels look to be original (photo 23).

The eastern elevation of the end module retains the stepped down roofline and most of the second floor window openings, along with the exterior stairway. Only one truncated chimney stack remains of the four taller stacks with corbelled out tops. The double window is set into a former box oriel window wall opening (photo 24).

The rear elevations of 7849-7851 Main Street block contains numerous frame and concrete block shed additions. A wooden stair with landing extending out perpendicular from the north elevation is connected to a second-story egress (photos 25-27). The first module's (7849 Main Street) first floor rear wall contains some of the historic openings. A double entry door similar to the historic front entry door found on the adjacent module is centered on the wall (photo 28). A single transom opening is located over one of the double doors.

**7853 Main Street (non-contributing resource)**

Directly to the east of 7849-7851 Main Street presently, attached to the first floor is the "Covered Bridge Drive-Thru", a one-story wood-frame, shed-roof structure (photo 24, 29). The Covered Bridge Drive-Thru contains a gable roof façade and is attached to the Limbach Block's east elevation. The structure is a contemporary addition and is considered a noncontributing resource within the district nomination.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 12

---

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs.

Name of Property: Limbach Block Historic District

County and State: Summit County, Ohio

Photographer: Sam Tamburro

Date of Photograph: July 1998\*

Location of Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

1. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, west and south elevations, facing northeast.
2. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, east and south elevations, facing northeast.
3. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, façade, facing north.
4. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, façade, facing north.
5. 7843 Main Street, façade, facing north.
6. 7843 Main Street, interior south elevation, facing south.
7. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, south elevation, facing north.
8. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, west elevation, facing east.
9. 7845 Main Street, façade, facing north.
10. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, north elevation, facing south.
11. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, third floor ballroom interior north wall, facing north.
12. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, third floor south windows, facing south.
13. 7843 & 7845 Main Street, third floor east window, facing east.
14. Limbach Block façade, facing northwest.
15. Limbach Block façade, facing northwest.
16. 7849 & 7851 Main Street, façade, facing north.

---

\* The properties retain much the same appearance today and have not experienced any alterations.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 13

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs.

Name of Property: Limbach Block Historic District

County and State: Summit County, Ohio

Photographer: Sam Tamburro

Date of Photograph: July 1998\*

Location of Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

17. 7849 Main Street interior south elevation, facing south.
18. 7851 Main Street façade, facing north.
19. 7849 & 7851 Main Street center module façade, facing north.
20. 7849 & 7851 Main Street center module south interior wall, facing south.
21. 7849 & 7851 Main Street, façade cornice and window hoods, facing north.
22. 7849 & 7851 Main Street façade cornice and window hoods, facing north.
23. 7851 Main Street, south elevation, facing north.
24. 7849 & 7851 Main Street, east elevation, facing west.
25. 7849 & 7851 Main Street, north elevation, facing south.
26. 7849 & 7851 Main Street, north elevation, facing south.
27. 7849 & 7851 Main Street, north elevation, facing south.
28. 7849 Main Street, north elevation doors, facing south.
29. 7851 Main Street, south elevation, facing north.
30. 7851 & 7853 Main Street, east elevation, facing west

---

\* The properties retain much the same appearance today and have not experienced any alterations.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Page 14

---

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Photographs (historic)

The following information is the same for all photographs.

Name of Property: Limbach Block Historic District

County and State: Summit County, Ohio

Photographer: Unknown

Date of Photograph: Unknown

Location of Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area

31. 7843 & 7849 Main Street Building, circa 1920 photo, south elevation, facing north.
32. 7843 & 7849 Main Street Building, circa early 1900s, south elevation, facing north.
33. 7843 Main Street Building, circa early 1900s, south elevation, facing north.
34. Limbach Block circa 1920s south elevation, facing northwest.
35. Limbach Block circa 1950s south elevation, facing northwest.
36. Limbach Block circa 1950s south elevation, facing northwest.
37. 7843 Main Street Building, early 1930s, south elevation, facing north.
38. Limbach Block circa 1920s south elevation, facing northwest.
39. 7851 Main Street circa 1900s south elevation, facing north.
40. 7843 Main Street Building, early 1900s, west and south elevations, facing north.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 15

---

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Statement of Significance

The Limbach Block Historic District is being nominated under Criterion A for significance in the area of Commerce. During the Village of Clinton's "Railroad Era," the Limbach Block became the center for commerce in the community. Built between 1878 and 1886, the Limbach Block Historic District constitutes the only extant business buildings remaining on Main Street and is an expression of a "node of commerce" in the community.

The Limbach Block is also significant under Criterion C for architecture. The buildings are intact examples of Italianate and Queen Anne architecture in Clinton and became the "anchor" of Main Street in the village.

The Limbach Block represents a substantial portion of the extant commercial architecture in the Village of Clinton. The Fire of 1909 destroyed most of the commercial buildings along Water Street, leaving the Limbach Block as the commercial center of the village. The only other brick commercial buildings in the Clinton MPD area is the Schmitt commercial block in downtown Warwick. The Schmitt Block, as the Clinton MPD form indicates, has lost most of its historical integrity due to insensitive rehabilitation.

Within all of Summit County, Clinton's Limbach Block is one of the most intact, late-nineteenth century commercial nodes of any O&E Canal village. Both Boston Village and Peninsula Village (northern Summit County) do not contain any brick commercial buildings over one-story high. Because of its scale, Akron's nineteenth-century commercial architecture cannot fairly be compared with Clinton's, and Barberton's "main street" post dates the "canal era."

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 16

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Background

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 (including Lots 18, 19, and 20) and quickly began to sell property.<sup>1</sup>

The Village of Pumroy consisted of what is today known as "downtown" Clinton, which includes the following streets: North, Main, South, Water, Middle, and Fulton (Van Buren). During the same year of its founding, the Village of Pumroy and the Villages of Clinton (directly west) and Orradeen (directly north) merged into one community called Clinton.

Lots 18 and 19 are located on Main Street, and Lot 20 is situated on the corner of Main and Water Streets. Although the lots were based in the center of the canal business district, their development as commercial property remained slow. Water Street, which parallels the Ohio & Erie Canal, contained the most commercially active and profitable property in the Clinton area. Lots 18, 19, and 20 would not be used solely for commercial purposes until the 1870s.

According to the 1852 Summit County records, Frederick Statler held title on Lot 18 and John Reighley owned Lots 19 and 20. At

---

<sup>1</sup> L.V. Bierce, Reminiscences of Summit County, 62. All of the lots in the downtown area of Clinton are listed in the Summit County records as the Pumroy Lots.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 17

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Background (continued)

this time, Lots 18 and 19 were unimproved, but the description for Lot 20 includes a listing for a house and barn.<sup>2</sup>

Titles to the lots changed frequently, and by 1856, records indicate that a structure owned by Samuel Weaver existed on Lot 18.<sup>3</sup> Lewis Wagner purchased Lots 19 and 20 where he operated a boot and shoe manufacturing company.<sup>4</sup>

In 1874, the Limbach Brothers, local shoemakers and sewing machine salesmen, acquired Lots 19 and 20, and Susan Cobb owned Lot 18 where she maintained a residence.<sup>5</sup> In 1875, county tax records indicate that the Limbachs razed the structure located on Lot 20. By 1878, they had constructed a "block" building that increased the property value of Lot 20 to \$2,060.00.<sup>6</sup> Lot 19 remained unimproved, and Franklin Maranville, a tinsmith,

---

<sup>2</sup> Summit County Auditor's Red Book , 1852; Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1852.

<sup>3</sup> Hosea Paul, Map of Summit County Ohio, 1856, (Philadelphia: Matthews & Taintor, 1856).

<sup>4</sup> Paul, Map of Summit County, 1856.

<sup>5</sup> Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1873, 118; Summit County Deeds, Volume, 88, 536; Combination Atlas Map of Summit County, (Philadelphia: Tackabury, Mead & Moffett, 1874), 136.

<sup>6</sup> Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1875, 118; Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1878, 122.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 18

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Background (continued)

purchased Lot 18 in 1878. By 1879, Maranville added a workshop and nearly doubled the value of Lot 18.<sup>7</sup>

The 1886 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates indicates a sharp rise in the property value of Lots 18 and 19 as well as notes the construction of "store buildings." The large increases are consistent with the 1878 increase in the property value of Lot 20. It is reasonable to conclude that these three structures represent the Italianate brick row buildings in Clinton.

Since 1886, the buildings served as the home of merchant businesses in Clinton. The Limbachs eventually acquired Lot 18 from Maranville in 1899 and maintained a boot and shoe factory/store until the early twentieth century.<sup>8</sup>

In 1903, Martin Limbach et al incorporated the Clinton Savings Bank and housed the operation in a corner of the Limbach Shoe Store.<sup>9</sup> By 1918, the Clinton Savings Bank occupied the ground floor of the three-story building on Lot 20. The bank remained in the building until 1963. Then, it moved to the corner of Main

---

<sup>7</sup> Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1878, 122; 1879, 122; The City of Akron and Summit County Directory, 1889-1890, (Akron, OH: N.H. Birch & Company, 1890), 658. Lot 18 increased from \$170.00 to \$300.00 after Maranville added the shop.

<sup>8</sup> Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 251, p. 324; Sandra Walsh Dreurey, The Clinton Story, (Clinton, OH: Clinton Historical Society, 1993), 15.

<sup>9</sup> Dreurey, Clinton Story, 15.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 19

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Background (continued)

and Middle Streets where it remained until recently. The Chippewa Savings Bank close in 1999 and the building now serves as the Village of Clinton's administrative offices.

Several structural additions were made to the Limbach block buildings throughout the years. The addition to the rear of the 7843 and 7845 Main Street Buildings was most likely added in the early twentieth century.<sup>10</sup>

A definitive date of construction for the two-story structure connecting the Lot 20 and Lot 19 buildings has not been determined, but the addition does appear in early twentieth century photographs (photos 38 and 40).

A balcony with wrought iron railing is visible in a late nineteenth century photograph of the Lot 18 building, but its construction date is currently unknown (photo 39). By the 1930s, George Smith, a grocery store owner, enclosed the balcony with a wood frame and siding, which remains today.

In 1963, John F. Kunkle purchased Lot 20 and expanded his hardware store, which was housed in the Lot 19 store building.

---

<sup>10</sup> The addition is constructed with glazed tile blocks, a common building material in the early twentieth century. See Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, (New York: Knopf, 1997), 38.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 20

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Background (continued)

Kunkle's Hardware remained an active business in the community until it closed in 1980.<sup>11</sup>

Several other businesses also were located in the Limbach block buildings. In the early 1920s, Dr. H.N. Nipple M.D. maintained an office in the two-story addition situated between Lots 19 and 20. By 1946, Dr. Nipple sold the property to John and LaVerne Matusik who established a confectionery on the ground floor of the building.<sup>12</sup> In 1949, the Matusiks sold the partial lots to John and Pearl Kemble. By 1981, John F. Kunkle purchased the property from the Kembles.<sup>13</sup>

Lot 18 and 19 housed the grocery store for the Clinton area. Numerous families owned and/or operated the Clinton Grocery during the twentieth century including the following: George Smith, Gardner, Remark, Gabor, Dennison, Duma and Beakman.<sup>14</sup> According to the Clinton Story, Lot 18 also housed Larry's Meat Market and later Kulow's Market. Wayne's Barbershop eventually replaced the Clinton grocery stores at the Lot 18 site and operated until the early 1990s.

---

<sup>11</sup> Dreurey, Clinton Story, 67; Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 4864, p. 206.

<sup>12</sup> Dreurey, Clinton Story, 16; Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 2229, p. 516.

<sup>13</sup> Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 4864, 206; Vol. 6528, 784.

<sup>14</sup> Summit County Recorder Deeds, Vol. 3480, p. 285; Dreurey, Clinton Story, 14, 16.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 21

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Background (continued)

Kunkle Hardware store closed in 1978 and in 1984, Virginia Kunkle (John's wife), who still retained ownership of Lots 18, 19, and 20, sold the property to Jerry Hildreth.<sup>15</sup> William B. Nye purchased the lots from Hildreth in 1994 and is the current owner.

The second floor space of the buildings were historically and are currently utilized as apartments, but no businesses are presently located in the Limbach Block. According to local residents, the third floor of the three-story building on Lot 20 was used as a dance hall and a recent survey of the space confirms this function. The room contains a parquet dance floor with a ticket booth and a bandstand located at the north end of the room near the entrance.

Criterion A: Commerce

The Limbach Block served as the center of commercial development in the Village of Clinton from 1878 to 1930. The earliest business directory for the community reveals the type of businesses that were located within the commercial block.

The built environment in Clinton reflects the late nineteenth century railroad era through the shift in building density from Water Street to Main Street in the form of the Limbach Block. Between 1878 and 1886 the Italianate/Queen Anne brick commercial block was constructed. This area would remain the commercial center and largest building block in the small town of Clinton.

---

<sup>15</sup> Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 6854, p. 831-37.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 22

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Criterion A: Commerce (continued)

After 1890, the buildings housed most of the retail enterprises in the village, including a leather goods store, a bank, a doctor's office, grocery store and hardware store.

The anchor business of the Limbach Block was the Limbach Brothers Shoe Manufacturing Company. According to the 1880 U.S. Census' Products of Industry, the Limbach Brothers business was worth \$8,900 and produced \$500 worth of shoes and boots.<sup>16</sup> Moreover, the Products of Industry records indicate that the Limbach Brothers owned the most valuable business in the village in 1880.

By 1890, two years after the Limbach Block was completed, new businesses were moving into the building. The Akron City Directory indicates that the Limbach Block was the home of several new businesses such as George B. Miller's and Levi C. Overmier's provisions store. According to their advertisement, Miller & Overmier sold "dry goods, carpets, groceries, queensware, hats, caps, wall paper, & etc."<sup>17</sup> In addition, physician and surgeon L.E. Sisler opened an office on the second floor of the Limbach Block. Clearly, the Limbach Block was emerging as the "anchor" building in the business district.

After the Fire of 1909, which destroyed most of the businesses along Water Street near the canal, the Limbach Block served as one of a few remaining retail spaces in the area and experienced a further concentration of communities' business activity.

---

<sup>16</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Products of Industry.

<sup>17</sup> 1890-91 Akron City Directory, (Akron, OH: N.H. Birch & Company), 658.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 23

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Criterion C: Architecture

The Limbach Block is also eligible under Criterion C: Architecture for containing significant characteristics of construction practices associated with the Railroad and Industrial Eras in the Village of Clinton as defined by the Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of Clinton/Warwick

Multiple Property Documentation Form. The 1878 section (7843 & 7845 Main Street) of the Limbach Block evidences Italianate elements such as a projecting metal cornice line supported by curved brackets, segmental-arch brick headers, and cut stone sills.

The commercial storefront of the Italianate building contains a central entrance with a segmental arch transom, which is consistent with Italianate commercial style. The storefront, with its central entryway flanked by two display windows, is a consistent commercial store fenestration in the Clinton area. Moreover, the massing of the building indicates its commercial function.

The 1886 brick block (7849 & 7851 Main Street) evidences the change in popularity from the Italianate style commercial block to a Queen Anne style design influence. The brick corbelling, dentil row, and sawtooth pattern are strongly associated with the textural emphasis of the Queen Anne style. The tall second floor windows are more associated with the Italianate style, indicating that this block is somewhat of a transition between the two styles. Both the Italianate and Queen Anne styles are indicative of the influence of the railroad on the community's architecture. Pattern books widely distributed by the railroad network throughout the United States. Through this transportation system, the style was introduced to the Clinton area. The style is associated with the prosperity the Railroad Era in the Village of Clinton. Railroad transportation was

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 24

---

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Criterion C: Architecture (continued)

introduced to the Clinton area in 1852, and the system flourished from the 1860s to the early 1900s.

Furthermore, the 7849 & 7851 Main Street storefronts retain the basic elements of a pedestrian oriented historic commercial row—recessed entry flanked by large display windows. The existing fabric works within the context of the building's historic function, if not reflective of the building's original design.

Period of Significance Justification

The Limbach block Historic District's period of significance is best described as 1878 to 1930, placing it within the "Railroad Era" and the "Industrial Era" of the Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of Clinton/Warwick Multiple Property Documentation Form.

From the initial construction of the buildings in 1878 to the 1930s, the Limbach Block served as the commercial center of Clinton. After the Great Depression of the 1930s, many of the businesses moved to other area locations such as Canal Fulton, Massillon, and Akron. Therefore, the significant era of the buildings dates from their original construction to 1930.

All of the contributing resources within the district reflect a functioning commercial district in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. None of the storefronts were altered to resemble mid-to-late twentieth century commercial display fronts.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8

Page 25

---

**Limbach Block Historic District**  
**Village of Clinton**  
**Summit County, Ohio**

Historical Integrity

The buildings within the nominated district maintain their integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. All of the contributing buildings within the district maintain integrity of design. All of the contributing buildings contain shed-roofed profiles and the massing design of the buildings communicate their commercial function. Additionally, all of the contributing buildings maintain their original brick building material.

All of the contributing buildings within the district are in their original location and the integrity of setting and feeling of the district, a small town "main street," commercial area, are intact. The historic integrity of Clinton's Main Street has not been compromised by new development.

The buildings within the historic district are associated with the commercial development of the Clinton area during its Railroad and Industrial Eras as defined by the Clinton MPD.

Finally, the buildings in the district maintain a high degree of integrity of workmanship. The three-story building (7843 & 7845 Main Street) contains several Italianate elements, such as tall windows, a projecting cornice line with brackets, segmental arch lintels, and cut stone sills. Queen Anne elements, such as the use of brick corbelling to create a multi-textured wall plane, are also evident on the two-story buildings.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Page 26

---

**Limbach Block Historic District  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio**

Major Bibliographic References

- Bierce, L.V. Reminiscences of Summit County. Akron, OH: np  
1852.
- City of Akron and Summit County Directory, 1889-1890. Akron, OH:  
N.H. Birch & Company, 1890.
- Combination Atlas Map of Summit County. Philadelphia: Tackabury,  
Mead & Moffett, 1874.
- Dreurey, Sandra Walsh. The Clinton Story. Clinton, OH: Clinton  
Historical Society, 1993.
- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New  
York: Knopf, 1997.
- Paul, Hosea. Map of Summit County Ohio, 1856. Philadelphia:  
Matthews & Taintor, 1856.
- Summit County Auditor's Red Book, 1852.
- Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Volumes, 88, 251, 2229, 3480,  
4864, 6528, 6854.
- Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1873, 1875, 1878, 1879.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10

Page 27

---

Limbach Block  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

Verbal Boundary Description

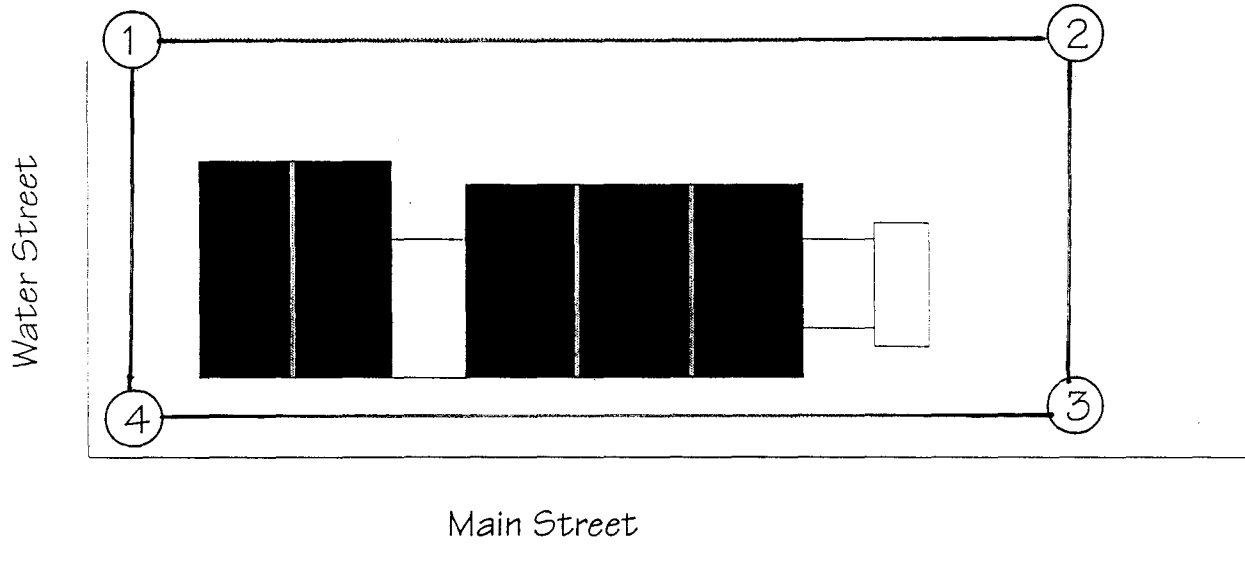
The Limbach Block Historic District is situated on Pumroy Lots 20, 19, and 18 and is bound by Water street to its west, alleyways to its north and east, and Main Street to its south. The commercial block is in the center of the Village of Clinton. The buildings are surrounded by nineteenth-century residential houses and a two-story, brick building is situated west of the Limbach Block (Water Street end). The building is not included in the Limbach Block Historic District's boundary's.


Beginning at Point 1 in the sketch map, proceed east a distance of 150 feet to Point 2; thence proceed distance of 150 feet south along the alleyway to Point 3; thence proceed 150 feet west along the Limbach Block's storefronts to Point 4; thence proceed a distance of 150 feet north to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Limbach Block Historic District contains the buildings and property associated with the Limbachs and the Railroad Era in the Village of Clinton. All of the contributing buildings within the district are in their original location and the integrity of setting and feeling of the district, a small town "main street," commercial area, is intact. The historic integrity of Clinton's Main Street has not been compromised by new development and looks much like it did in the late nineteenth century.





  
 NORTH  
 NOT TO SCALE


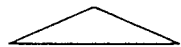
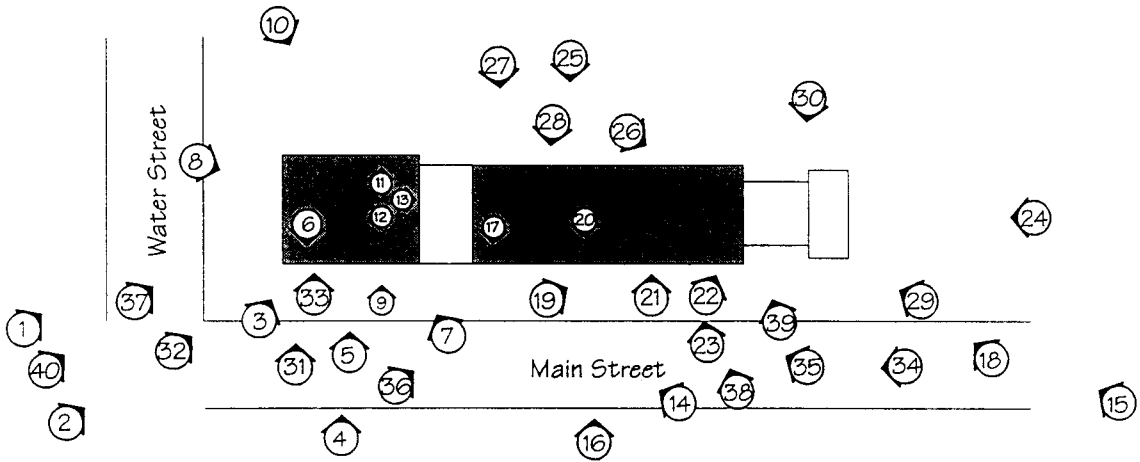

 CONTRIBUTING  
 NONCONTRIBUTING

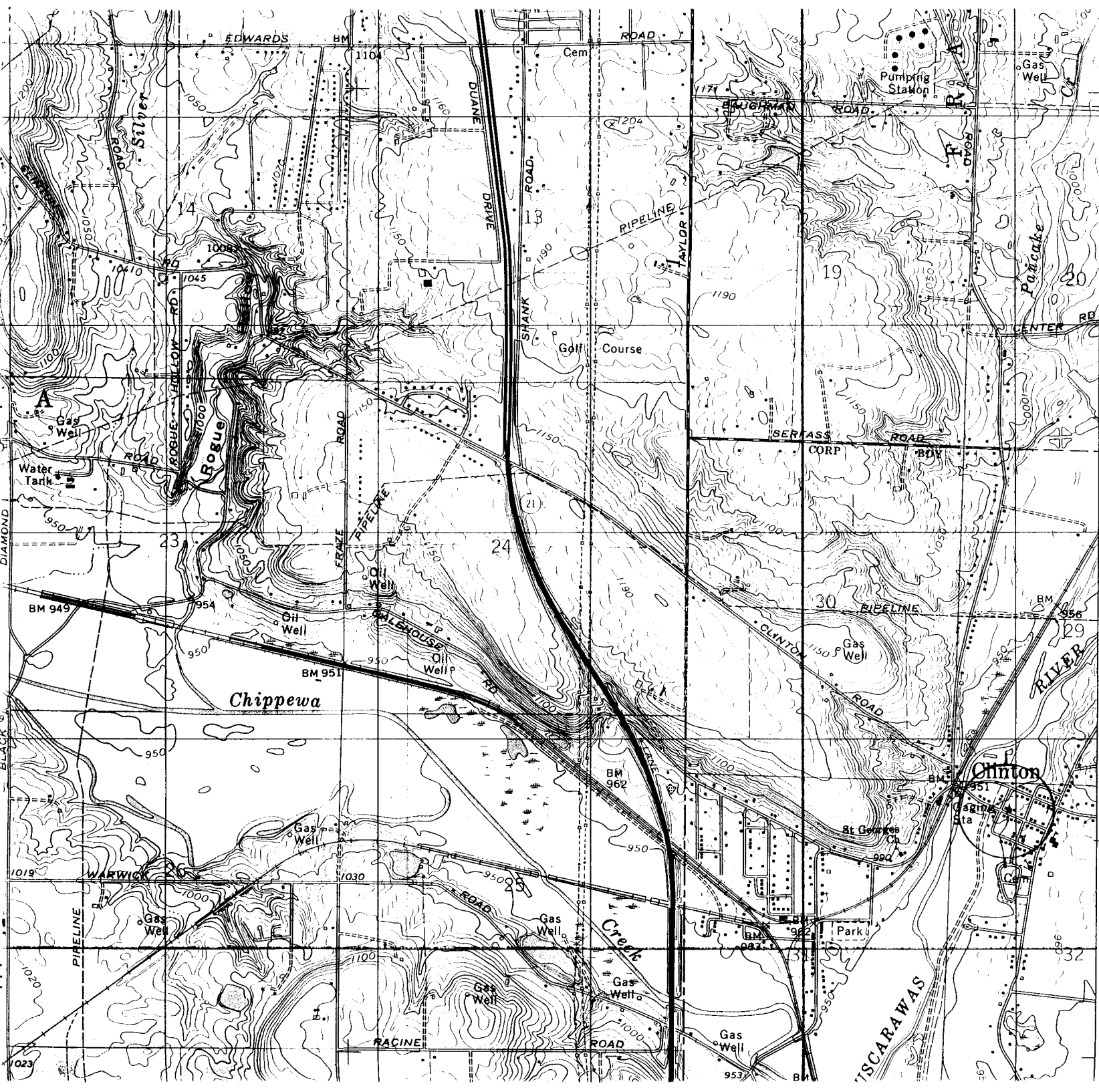
FIGURE TWO  
 SITE PLAN  
 LIMBACH BLOCK HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
 CLINTON VICINITY  
 AUG 99



NORTH  
NOT TO SCALE

- CONTRIBUTING
- NONCONTRIBUTING

FIGURE THREE  
PHOTOGRAPH MAP  
LIMBACH BLOCK HISTORIC DISTRICT  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
AUG 99



57'30"  
"34  
"33  
"31  
"30  
55'

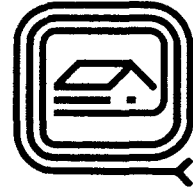
(CANAL FULTON)  
4665 1 NE

Summit Co., OH  
Limbach Block  
Historic District  
ZEN  
17 446960 4530670

## 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

January 3, 2002

Mr. William B. Nye  
4538 Lahm Drive  
Akron, Ohio 44319

Dear Mr. Nye:

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 **Limbach Historic District** at 7843, 7845, 7847, & 7849 Main Street in Clinton, Ohio on November 29, 2001. 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

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

January 3, 2002

Mr. Theodore Myers, Jr.  
1969 S. Main Street  
Akron, Ohio 44301

Dear Mr. Myers:

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 **Limbach Historic District** at 7851 Main Street in Clinton, Ohio on November 29, 2001. 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**

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

January 3, 2002

John M. and Colleen M. Fowler  
621 E. Paige Avenue  
Barberton, Ohio 44203

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fowler:

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 **Limbach Historic District** at 7853 Main Street in Clinton, Ohio on November 29, 2001. 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