

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 6521 Mt. Pleasant Road not for publication N/A

city or town Green vicinity N/A

state Ohio code OH county Summit code 153 zip code 44232

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ___ 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 ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is: _____ Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

_____ 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): _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)		Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously-listed resources in the count)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	5	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/>	public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site			sites
<input type="checkbox"/>	public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			structures
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> object			objects
			5	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling	VACANT/not in use
AGRICULTURE/animal facility	AGRICULTURE/animal facility
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding	AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/agricultural pasture	AGRICULTURE/agricultural pasture
FUNERARY/cemetery	FUNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
LATE VICTORIAN/Stick/Eastlake	foundation STONE/sandstone
	walls WOOD
	roof ASPHALT; STONE/slate
	other WOOD

Refer to Continuation Sheet

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Refer to Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of person significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

1883-1927

Significant Dates

1883

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 197 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	460180	4529550	3	17	460900 4528407
2	17	461070	4529760	4	17	460180 4528440

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David L. Taylor, Principal

organization Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc. date October, 2006

street & number 9 Walnut Street telephone 814-849-4900

city or town Brookville state PA zip code 15825

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Green

street & number P. O. Box 278 telephone _____

city or town Green state OH zip code 44232-0278

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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7. Description

The Levi J. Hartong House and Farm (Photos 1-30; Fig. 1) consists of a 197-acre tract located in a rural portion of the City of Green, Ohio, in southern Summit County, Ohio. The property lies along Mt. Pleasant Road, immediately north of the Stark County line and a short distance from the Akron-Canton Regional Airport. The Hartong house and the other resources are at the end of and beyond an unpaved private lane leading northward from Mt. Pleasant Road. The nominated property includes a 2½-story c. 1883 wood frame farmhouse with Eastlake-style trim, which has been linked to a former summer kitchen with several additions (Photos 1-20), a substantial timber frame Sweitzer barn (Photos 21-23), a wood chicken house (Photo 24), a concrete block well house (Photo 25), two smaller sheds of wood construction (Photos 26-27), four ponds (Photo 28), a c. 1970 wood garage (Photo 29), and agricultural fields historically associated with the property. A small family cemetery (Photo 30) located on the property but not associated with the Hartong family pre-dates the Period of Significance and is an uncouneted landscape feature within the context of the nomination. All but the garage (Resource No. 8; Photo 29) and one of the sheds (Resource No. 6; Photo 26), which post-date the Period of Significance are contributing resources within the context of the nomination. Scattered across the nominated acreage are wooded sectors with a variety of deciduous trees of varying age. The nominated tract retains integrity in all of its seven component qualities. Abutting the nominated tract to the north is Boettler Park, a municipal recreational facility owned by the City of Green.

The nominated tract is anchored by the 2½-story Levi J. Hartong farmhouse (Photos 1-5) which is oriented to the east and stands near the center of the nominated acreage. Dating from c. 1883, it is 3,523 s. f. in area, of wood frame construction, and was originally built in a bilaterally asymmetrical cruciform-plan. The house rests on a foundation of tooled sandstone blocks and features an intersecting gable roof system, penetrated by red brick chimneys and presently clad in asphalt shingles. The northernmost section is 1½ stories in height (Photo 2) and may predate the southernmost section, which is a full 2½ stories in height; however, this cannot be substantiated. The exterior surfaces of the main house are finished in comparatively thin decorative shiplap siding (Photos 3-5), while those of the northern wing are finished in German siding with a somewhat larger profile (Photo 5). Two single-story Eastlake-style porches are on the facade (Photos 1-3, 5), each accessing the interior. The southernmost porch (Photo 3) is L-shaped, while the northern porch (Photo 2) is rectangular. Each porch retains its original form and detail, including porch skirting and turned support posts and pilasters, spindle balustrades, and locally distinctive sawn and turned wood trim (Photos 1, 2, 3, 5). This trim includes brackets, decorative intrados in the arches of the porches, pendants, and stylized dentil bands along the fascia, characteristic of the Eastlake style which was popular when the house was erected. Two entries access the interior from each porch; the doorways retain their historic wood doors, with glazed upper sections and paneled lower sections, and historic wood screen doors, trimmed with turned ornament.

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The facade incorporates a forward-projecting section which forms one of the extensions of the cruciform plan. Terminating in a gable roof, this section exhibits lavish sawn bargeboard in the pediment (Photos 2, 4). A 2-story bay window extends eastward from the living room on the first story and from the largest of the bedrooms on the second floor. This bay window is penetrated by openings with double-hung sash on each face and is capped with a cornice trimmed in Italianate-style sandwich brackets and a decorative dentil band at the juncture of the soffit and fascia.

Fenestration on the Hartong house is flat-topped throughout (Photos 1-5, 7-8). Most windows are double-hung, with 1/1 sash. At each window on the facade and the south gable end are exterior louvered shutters of wood, original to the 1880s construction of the property (Photos 1-5). "Eyebrow" windows are on the northern section, also with shutters of corresponding dimension (Photo 2). The windows feature modest surrounds with pedimented heads (Photos 1-5). Some windows on the rear (west) elevation have been replaced with modern units, but these replacement units correspond to the originals in configuration and dimension (Photo 8).

Modifications have been made at the northwest corner of the historic farmhouse (Photos 6-8). A formerly-detached dependency which appears to have been a summer kitchen (Photo 7) has been linked to the house by 1-story additions. A single-story addition has been made to this former dependency, and an open wood stair accesses the second story of the north gable end of the original house (Photo 6). These modifications, which permitted the incorporation of caretaker's and guests' quarters into the property, appear to date from the 1970s, are on secondary elevations, and do not significantly detract from the otherwise strong integrity of the house.

The rear (west) elevation of the Hartong House features the projecting arm of the cruciform plan as well as a modern wood deck (Photos 7, 8). Unlike the facade, the rear projection does not terminate in a bay window. Instead, the north and south sides of the rear projection are penetrated by openings containing double-hung sash on both the first and second story and paired windows penetrate the west gable end.

The interior of the Hartong house (Photos 9-20) includes an unfinished basement containing storage areas and mechanicals, five rooms each on the first and second stories, and a finished attic containing small storage rooms. On the first story are a living room with a bay window (Photos 9-11), a dining room (Photo 13-14), kitchen (Photos 12-14), and parlor (Photo 16), along with a laundry room/bathroom. Original trim is found in most areas of the first story, including molded baseboards, modest window and door surrounds, and wainscot in the living room which extends up the stair to the second story (Photos 9-11, 15-17). Doors are of a four- and five-panel design and most retain historic hardware (Photos 10, 12, 17). The doors opening into the living room from the porches are capped with single-light transoms (Photo 5). Hardwood floors are found on the first story and

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random-width flooring of fir is on the second; the attic is carpeted. Only two fireplaces remain in the house; others were likely removed in the course of retrofitting the heating system. A simple wood mantle is in the dining room and a substantial Classical Revival-style wood mantle is in the kitchen (Photo 12); this latter mantle appears to pre-date the main house and may strengthen the possibility that this section was built first. An open straight-run stair (Photo 11) leads from the livingroom to the second story. The stair features a modest square newel and a plain spindle balustrade, and by its design appears to date from the 1920s. A bathroom/laundry room has been built in the northern section of the first story and the kitchen has been expanded with the linking of the original house to the aforementioned dependency. A portion of the original kitchen wall has been removed to allow an unobstructed sightline into the dining room (Photos 13, 14).

The second story of the house (Photos 18-19) originally included four bedrooms. The rearrangement of some second-story spaces is evident, although it is not known when such spatial reorganization occurred. Two bedrooms and a full bath are on the southern section of the second story, with the larger of these bedrooms including the aforementioned bay window. Two rooms and a bath have been separated off on the northern section, likely for the use of guests. Trim on the second story is considerably simpler than that on the first.

The attic is accessed from the second story by a narrow enclosed stair with winders. It is divided into rooms and the steeply-pitched ceilings (Photo 20) correspond to the slope of the roof; doors between the rooms are cut accordingly. Two small skylights have been inserted into the slope of the roof on the rear (west) elevation. They are on a secondary elevation and are not visible from the facade.

The Hartong house anchors a former farm of slightly less than two hundred acres. Several dependencies are associated with the property. A contributing single-story $\pm 6' \times 20'$ wood frame shed-roofed outbuilding (c. 1920; Resource No. 4; Photo 24), which appears to have been a chicken coop, stands approximately thirty feet north of the house. Long and narrow in its form, it rests on a poured concrete foundation and is penetrated by four fixed-sash six-light windows with exterior operable louvered shutters on the facade. Access is gained through a single wood door on the east elevation, which also penetrated by a single shuttered window. Metal ventilators are on the roof surface.

Approximately twenty feet northeast of the house is a c. 1920 contributing $\pm 6' \times 10'$ well house of concrete block construction (Resource No. 3; Photo 25). This building has a laterally-oriented gable roof with a small cupola on the ridgeline and windows on the gable ends. Inside is a double trough of concrete and a spigot serving the well. Although small in scale, it is prominently sited in close proximity to the house and typifies the type of modest dependencies associated with nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century farmhouses.

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The largest dependency associated with the property is a $\pm 45' \times 90'$ contributing timber-frame Sweitzer barn (Resource No. 2; Photos 21-23), finished in vertical wood boards. The barn rests on a tooled sandstone foundation and has a laterally-oriented gable roof of slate. A datestone on the foundation of the south elevation bears the inscription LEVI HARTONG and the date 1883. All four sides of the barn are penetrated by a series of louvered vents with decorative curvilinear heads. The forebay faces east, allowing the direct sun to warm the livestock, and a wagon ramp accesses the barn from the west, opening into a generous hay mow and granary. A fenced barnyard is immediately east of the barn. The interior of the barn is essentially original; the barn is presently used to stable the horses used by the Summit County Sheriff's mounted division.

South of the barn are two additional agricultural dependencies (Photo 26-27). Both are of wood construction, finished in vertical boards, and both have gable roofs. The smaller (Resource No. 5), a contributing resource dating from c. 1900, has a gable-end orientation, with a hinged double door in the north gable end, while the other (Resource No. 6), a noncontributing building dating c. 1980, has a laterally-oriented gable roof, with three hinged doors on the north elevation.

Approximately 900 feet north of the house is a small graveyard (Photo 30) enclosed within a non-historic vinyl fence. An area $\pm 6' \times 12'$ is enclosed and contains two headstones and what appear to be two marble footstones. One of the headstones is damaged, with the upper third missing; the other is intact. The intact stone memorializes Johanna Grable a member of the family from whom Cyrus Hartong acquired the nominated tract in 1859. The damaged stone memorializes Elizabeth Markham, the wife of A. H. Markham, who died in 1853. Both stones are of the tablet form, a widely-used traditional tombstone form.¹ The cemetery is not associated with the Hartong family and is treated as an uncounted landscape feature within the context of the nomination.

Beyond the cemetery, approximately 1,200 feet north of the house, is a c. 1990 1½-story gambrel-roofed barn (Resource No. 8; Photo No. 29) which is a noncontributing feature due to its age.

The agricultural fields associated with the Hartong Farm are fallow and some are overgrown; they are treated collectively as a contributing site within the context of the nomination. Pathways have been cut and are kept mowed, allowing access throughout the farm by those using the property as a recreational venue. Four ponds are found on the nominated tract; they are uncounted landscape features within the context of the nomination. The southernmost pond is a game preserve maintained under an easement to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. A second pond is immediately north of the Sweitzer barn (Photo 28),

¹See Richard Francaviglia, "The Cemetery as an Evolving Cultural Landscape, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 61 (1971), pp. 501-509.

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and the other two are further north. The latter three ponds are maintained as “catch-and-release” fishing areas, part of the park system of the City of Green.

The topography of the nominated tract is essentially flat, with only minor undulations throughout. The City of Green (Green Township until 1992) is a high-growth area located between the urban centers of Akron and Canton. As noted earlier, the Akron-Canton Regional Airport is nearby and the City is dotted with modern commercial and residential development. The City of Green maintains two municipal parks, one of which, Boettler Park, abuts the nominated tract to the north but is not included within the nominated area. The Hartong farm is to be retained by the City as a rural green space within this rapidly-developing north-central Ohio suburban community.

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8. Significance

The Levi Hartong House and Farm is locally significant under National Register Criterion A, representing patterns in *agriculture*, as a nineteenth-century Summit County, Ohio farmstead anchored by a farm house and a substantial 1883 Sweitzer barn, along with additional agricultural outbuildings, ponds, associated agricultural fields, and a family graveyard. With respect to Criterion C, the property is significant for its *architecture*, including the Eastlake design elements evident in the house, and the presence of the Sweitzer barn, an agricultural mainstay on Ohio farms for decades but rapidly disappearing in the wake of commercial and residential development and the all-too-frequent passing of the family farm. The period of significance for the property begins in 1883, when Levi Hartong erected the barn and house, and ends in 1927, the date of Hartong's death.

The Levi Hartong House and Farm lies at the southern edge of the present-day City of Green, immediately north of the Stark County line. This area lies south of the Western Reserve, within Township 12, Range 9, in the mammoth tract known as the Congress Lands. Writing in 1908, William Doyle noted

As is often the case, there is some question as to who was the first settler, but the consensus of opinion gives that honor to John Kepler, with others claiming that it was either William Triplett or John Curzen.²

In any case, a new township was created in 1811 and remained part of Stark County until the incorporation of Summit County in 1840. Green Township, like much of this part of Ohio, was undeveloped and rural in character, and as settlers arrived they began to clear the land for farming. A significant proportion of the original settlers were of German ancestry from the southeastern counties of Pennsylvania; these "Pennsylvania Dutch" constituted the township's earliest majority.

Five small villages developed in the township: Greensburg, East Liberty, Comet, Aultman, and Myersville. Greensburg (sometimes spelled with an "h" at the end), the township's principal village, was platted north of the Hartong Farm, at the intersection of two roadways. The east-west thoroughfare, now Greensburg Road, was called Main Street, and the north-south thoroughfare originally was Market Street (north of Main Street) and Massillon Street (south of Main Street). The north-south road now bears the name "Massillon Road" (State Route 241) and lies immediately east of the nominated tract. The settlement was known both as Greensburg and by the name of its post office, Inland.

²William B. Doyle, **Centennial History of Summit County, Ohio** (Chicago: Biographical Publishing Company, 1908), p. 120.

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Fewer than 1,000 made their homes in the 33-square-mile township prior to 1840 and Green Township remained sparsely populated throughout the balance of the nineteenth century. Subsequent population figures include: 1840: 1,536; 1880: 1,827; and 1900: 1,911.

Ohio's Wayne, Tuscarawas, and Stark Counties contained the earliest wheat belt west of Pennsylvania and the Genesee Valley of New York State. Green Township, originally part of Stark County and today lying immediately north of Stark County, was part of this early agricultural tradition. The life of the Green Township wheat farmer, however, was not always an easy one, and producers often had to travel to Cleveland or Steubenville for the processing of their product; Judith Christy in her 2002 **Green: Our Heritage Our Home**, noted that "for several years, the closest mill was in Steubenville."³

Much of the nineteenth century and the early decades of the twentieth century saw little growth in Green Township. Historic atlas maps indicate that the township remained rural in character, dotted by farmsteads of varying size, with Greensburg somewhat south of the township's geographical center. One of these farmsteads was the tract acquired by the Hartong family, which is the subject of this nomination.

As Canton and Akron grew in the early decades of the twentieth century, Green Township maintained its rural, agriculture-based cultural landscape, little-changed from the post-Civil War era. Technological advances came to the area, to be sure, but only minor physical changes occurred until well into the twentieth century. Interurban service into Akron was established and the line ran to Greentown, but Greensburg residents had to make their own way to Greentown to use the service.

The rumblings of suburbanization in Green Township began in the 1920s, when some of the larger farming landowners sold off their property for residential and commercial development. The population of the Township began to grow following World War I, rising to 2,642 in 1930, approaching 4,000 in 1940, and exceeding 10,000 by 1960. The 2000 Census recorded more than 20,000 as residents of the City of Green. Federal funding made possible the development of an airport serving the Akron-Canton area, and a 2,300-acre former agricultural tract east of the nominated parcel now contains the Akron-Canton Regional Airport, which opened in 1946.

In 1962 Interstate 77 opened, and the three exits within Green Township added considerably to the economy as well as to the pressures for land conversion from agricultural to residential and commercial use. By the last two decades of the twentieth century, portions of Green Township, including the Hartong Farm, remained essentially rural, although the character of the

³Judith P. Christy, **Green: Our Heritage, Our Home**. Green, Ohio: Greensburg Local School District, 2002, p.

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township was changing rapidly in the shadow of suburbanization in the Akron-Canton corridor. With the rising need for intergovernmental sophistication and inter-municipal cooperation, in 1988, a 3-square-mile municipality was established in the center of Green Township, followed by its merger with the township to create the City of Green which was approved by the electorate in 1992.

The Hartong Farm is an important surviving link to the nineteenth-century agricultural heritage of Green Township. Moses Grable was farming this tract prior to the 1839 acquisition of the property by his father, Jonathan.⁴ Jonathan Grable farmed the property for nearly two decades until relocating to the village of Greensburg, c. 3 miles north of the farm, where he died in 1856. Grable and other members of his family are buried in a small family graveyard which pre-dates the Period of Significance and is an uncounted landscape feature within the context of this nomination. Cyrus Hartong purchased the farm from the Grables in 1859. He was a member of one of the Pennsylvania Dutch families who settled Green Township. His father, Jacob Hartong, was born in 1796 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch country, and moved to Green Township where he lived until his death in 1869.⁵ Jacob Hartong's son, Cyrus (1816-1897) wed Elizabeth Wetzel and acquired the Grable farm in 1859, when his own son, Levi, was fifteen years of age. Levi J. Hartong (1844-1927) was born in Green Township, one of the ten children of Cyrus and Elizabeth Hartong. He likely acquired the subject property after his father's retirement from active farming. Levi Hartong and his family would farm the property for the balance of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century. The majority of the buildings on the property were erected by Levi Hartong, including the farmhouse and the Sweitzer barn, the date of which is confirmed by a signed datestone set into the foundation on the barn's south elevation.

The property passed through successive ownerships until it was acquired in 1982 by industrialist Henry S. Belden, IV and his wife, Barbara. The Beldens used the property, by then known as "Southgate Farm," as a seasonal home and likely constructed the additions which are presently on the north elevation. About 1990 they erected a new seasonal residence on an adjacent parcel (east of and not part of the nominated tract), and the Hartong house was used by employees of the family. In 2005, the City of Green acquired the tract for use as a park and nature preserve; the barn serves as headquarters for the Summit County Mounted Sheriff's patrol and future plans for the house are incomplete.

The Criterion A significance of this property is derived from its position as a nineteenth-century Green Township farmstead, characteristic of dozens of farms which dotted Summit and Stark Counties prior to the significant growth of the cities of Akron and Canton in the twentieth century. Located in northeastern Ohio's "breadbasket," for generations farms such as the

⁴Judy Williams, Ohio Historic Inventory form for the subject property, No. SUM-3214-20; 1997; revised by J. Brown, 2006. Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Columbus, Ohio.

⁵Genealogical information from Internet website: <http://www.geocities.com/charmeddemon/hartong99.html>

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Hartong Farm produced grains to be milled both for local use as well as for export far and wide. Where Green was once solidly agricultural, suburban commercial and residential development have displaced most of the farms which once characterized the former township. This development is linked to the growth of the Akron-Canton area in general, the Akron-Canton Regional Airport (which is in the City of Green a short distance away from the subject property), and the presence of Interstate 77 (with three exits within Green's municipal boundaries). The Hartong Farm, encompassing a farmhouse, and nearby barn, barnyard, and one other historic agricultural dependency, a family cemetery, and several farm ponds, along with the remnants of historically associated producing fields, is among the last remaining farmsteads in the community.

With reference to National Register Criterion C, the Hartong House and Farm are significant for their architecture, supported by the presence of the c. 1883 Levi J. Hartong House and the substantial Sweitzer Barn which Hartong erected in 1883. The house is representative of the Eastlake style, seen in its porches and decorative trim which incorporate both turned and scroll-sawn architectural ornament. The Eastlake style bears the name of Charles Eastlake (1836-1906), an Englishman whose 1868 publication *Hints on Household Taste in Furniture, Upholstery, and Other Details* was highly influential in American design. While Eastlake eschewed the linking of his name to the style, it nonetheless continues to refer to the use of turned and sawn architectural ornament such as the porch posts, the other decorative trim associated with the porches, and the distinctive detailing of the bargeboard in the gables of the Hartong house.

In addition to the house, the architectural importance of the nominated property is strengthened considerably by the presence of Levi Hartong's 1883 timber frame barn which stands about eighty feet east of the house. Substantial bank barns such as this are characteristic of the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century agricultural building traditions of the Pennsylvania Germans and are found throughout the Midwest and upland South.⁶ Writing in a Pittsburgh periodical, Charles Rosenblum noted, "though some debate persists, the form probably originates in Switzerland with German variants, thus the name 'Sweitzer barn.' A cantilevered end, sometimes enclosed by later generations, was intended to provide shelter for farm animals outside."⁷ "Many variations of the bank barn evolved, all typical of Pennsylvania architecture and reminiscent of the time when the farmer was king and barns were the palaces of America."⁸ Levi Hartong, whose grandfather, Jacob Hartong, was a product of the Pennsylvania

⁶ Robert F. Ensminger. **The Pennsylvania Barn: Its Origin, Evolution, and Distribution in North America.** (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press), 1992.

⁷ Charles Rosenblum, "Barns Ennobled," *Pittsburgh City Paper*, rpt on Internet website: [http://www.pittsburghcitypaper.ws/archive.cfm?type=Writing%20on%20the%20Walls&action=get Complete&ref=5739](http://www.pittsburghcitypaper.ws/archive.cfm?type=Writing%20on%20the%20Walls&action=get%20Complete&ref=5739)

⁸Internet website: <http://www.swissheritage.org/structures.html>

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Continuation Sheet

Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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German traditions of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, clearly followed his family traditions in the construction of his Sweitzer barn in Green Township, Summit County, Ohio.

Few other properties in Green are comparable to the Hartong House and Farm. North of the subject property, at 4950 Massillon Road, is the A. and S. Swartz house, an 1882 red brick farmhouse, also with a Sweitzer barn. This is a high-style Italianate building of a similar scale to the Hartong house, but in a less well-preserved state of repair. Further, the Swartz barn has a rubble stone foundation, portions of which have been replaced with non-historic concrete block. Nearby, at 4929 Massillon Road, is the c. 1875 farm which in the nineteenth century was owned by one S. Hartong and by 1910 was owned by Daniel Cramer. It anchors a much smaller farm and is far less pretentious than is the Levi Hartong house; in addition, the barn associated with it is gambrel-roofed, likely dating from the 1920s. The Levi J. Hartong House and Farm encompass a significantly larger farmstead and retain a higher degree of integrity than either of the other two.

Summarizing, the Levi J. Hartong House and Farm is significant on a local level, as an intact nineteenth-century Summit County farmstead which retains integrity in all of its component elements and encompasses a farmhouse with Eastlake-style detailing, along with a little-altered 1883 Sweitzer barn, attendant agricultural dependencies, and pasture land.

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National Park Service

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Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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9. Bibliography

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOURCES

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Switzer Barn: <http://www.swissheritage.org/structures.html>

<http://www.pittsburghcitypaper.ws/archive.cfm?type=Writing%20on%20the%20Walls&action=getComplete&ref=5739>

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10. Geographical Data

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated tract consists of Parcel No. 2812278 as recorded in the Office of the Summit County Auditor. This parcel specifically excludes two areas west of S. R. 241 which are not owned by the City of Green and do not contain historic resources.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated parcel includes the Hartong farmhouse, its associated Sweitzer barn, related outbuildings, ponds, agricultural landscape features and fields, all of which have been historically associated with the farm and retain historic integrity.

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Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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Photography Log

All Photographs:

Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm

Summit County, OH

David L. Taylor, 2006

Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc., Brookville, PA

1. Farmhouse, southeast perspective, looking northwest and showing L-shaped porch and trim, roof system, fenestration, and bay window
2. Farmhouse, facade (east elevation), looking west, showing bay window, porches, fenestration, trim, etc.
3. Farmhouse, facade, detail showing L-shaped porch, trim, fenestration, etc.
4. Farmhouse, facade, detail, showing upper stories of bay window, fenestration, shutters, trim, and bargeboard in pediment of gable.
5. Farmhouse, north porch, detail, showing siding, fenestration, porch trim, etc.
6. Farmhouse, detail of additions at northwest corner, showing originally detached dependency in background, exterior stair accessing second-floor apartment, etc.
7. Farmhouse, west elevation, detail, looking northeast, showing originally detached dependency, linking additions, rear deck, chimney, etc.
8. Farmhouse, west elevation, detail, looking northeast, showing originally detached dependency, linking additions, rear deck, chimney, etc.
9. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking east, showing livingroom, bay window, finishes, etc.
10. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking south in livingroom, showing entry door, doorway to parlor, wainscot, trim, etc.
11. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking west in livingroom and showing open-string stair, newel, balustrade.
12. Farmhouse, interior, first story, kitchen, looking north and showing mantle, chimney cupboard, and laundry room on right
13. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking north from diningroom into kitchen
14. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking west through kitchen
15. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking south from kitchen into diningroom
16. Farmhouse, interior, first story, looking south in parlor, showing fenestration, volume, etc.
17. Farmhouse, interior, first story, parlor, showing typical door, surround, hardware, etc, looking west

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18. Farmhouse, interior, second story, largest bedroom, looking west and showing bay window, etc.
19. Farmhouse, interior, second story, typical bedroom, looking south
20. Farmhouse, interior, attic, showing general conditions, slope of ceiling and resulting door configurations, etc., looking south
21. Sweitzer barn, looking south and showing roof form, exterior surface finishes, foundation, etc.
22. Sweitzer barn, east elevation, looking west and showing fenced barnyard and barn with forebay, louvered vents, etc.
23. Sweitzer barn, interior, showing framing, looking southeast
24. Chicken house, looking northwest
25. Well house, looking northwest
26. Agricultural dependencies located immediately south of Sweitzer barn, looking southeast and showing c. 1980 noncontributing shed on left and historic shed on right
27. View of barnyard, Sweitzer barn and smaller sheds, looking southwest
28. Pond north of Sweitzer barn, looking northeast
29. Non-contributing dependency, looking southeast
30. Markham-Grable cemetery (uncounted landscape feature), looking west

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Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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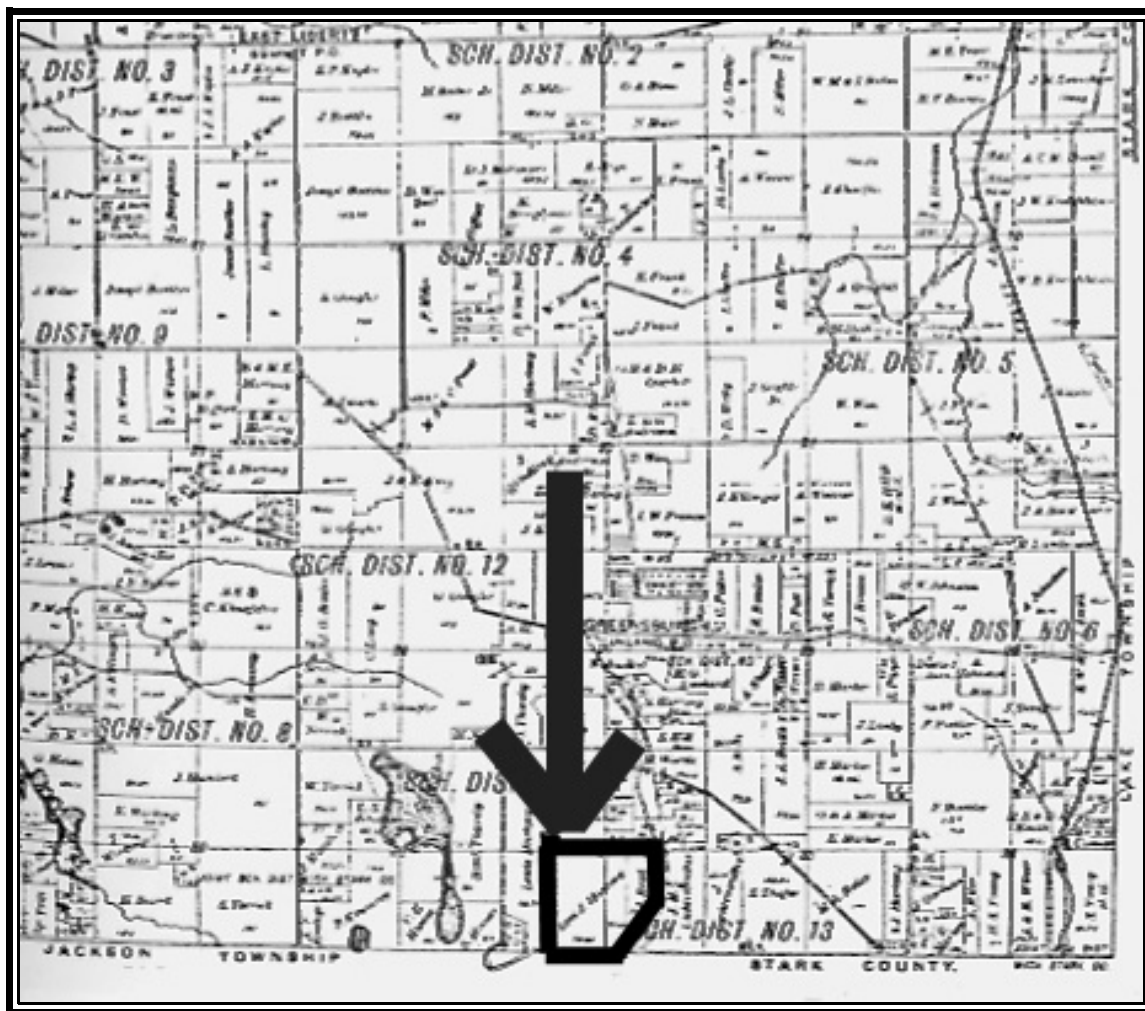


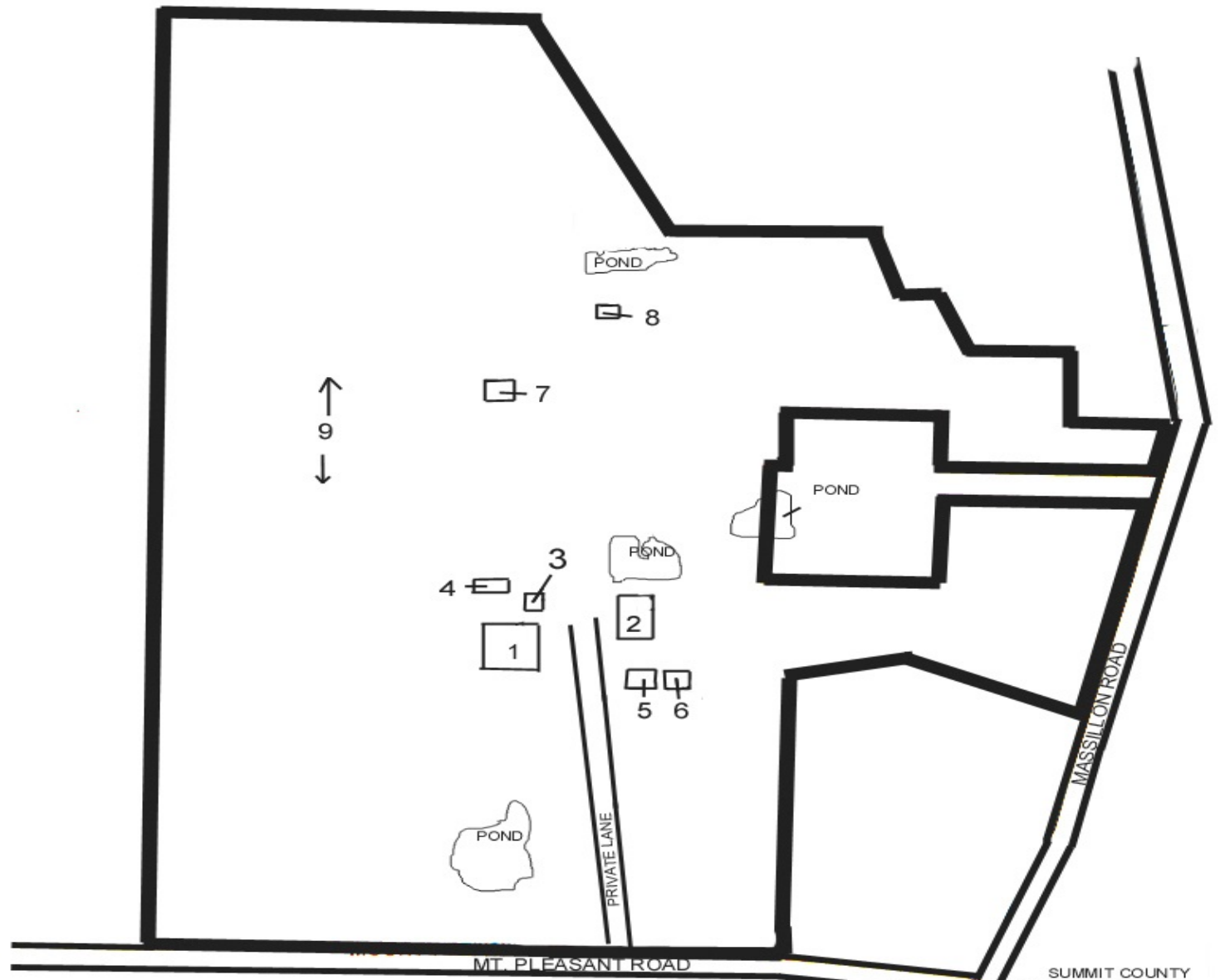
Fig. 1 This segment from an 1891 atlas map showing Green Township’s school districts, depicts the Hartong Farm at the Stark County line, shown by the superimposed arrow. The extent of the Hartong holdings is enclosed within the heavy superimposed line.

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Continuation Sheet

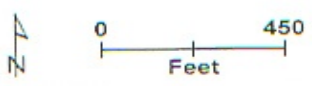
Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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HARTONG, LEVI J., HOUSE & FARM
Green, Summit County, Ohio
Site Plan

- KEY:
- 1 Hartong House
 - 2 Sweitzer Barn
 - 3 Well House
 - 4 Chicken House
 - 5 Small Wagon House
 - 6 Newer Wagon House (NC)
 - 7 Cemetery (uncounted landscape feature)
 - 8 Newer Garage (NC)
 - 9 Agricultural Fields



SUMMIT COUNTY
STARK COUNTY

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

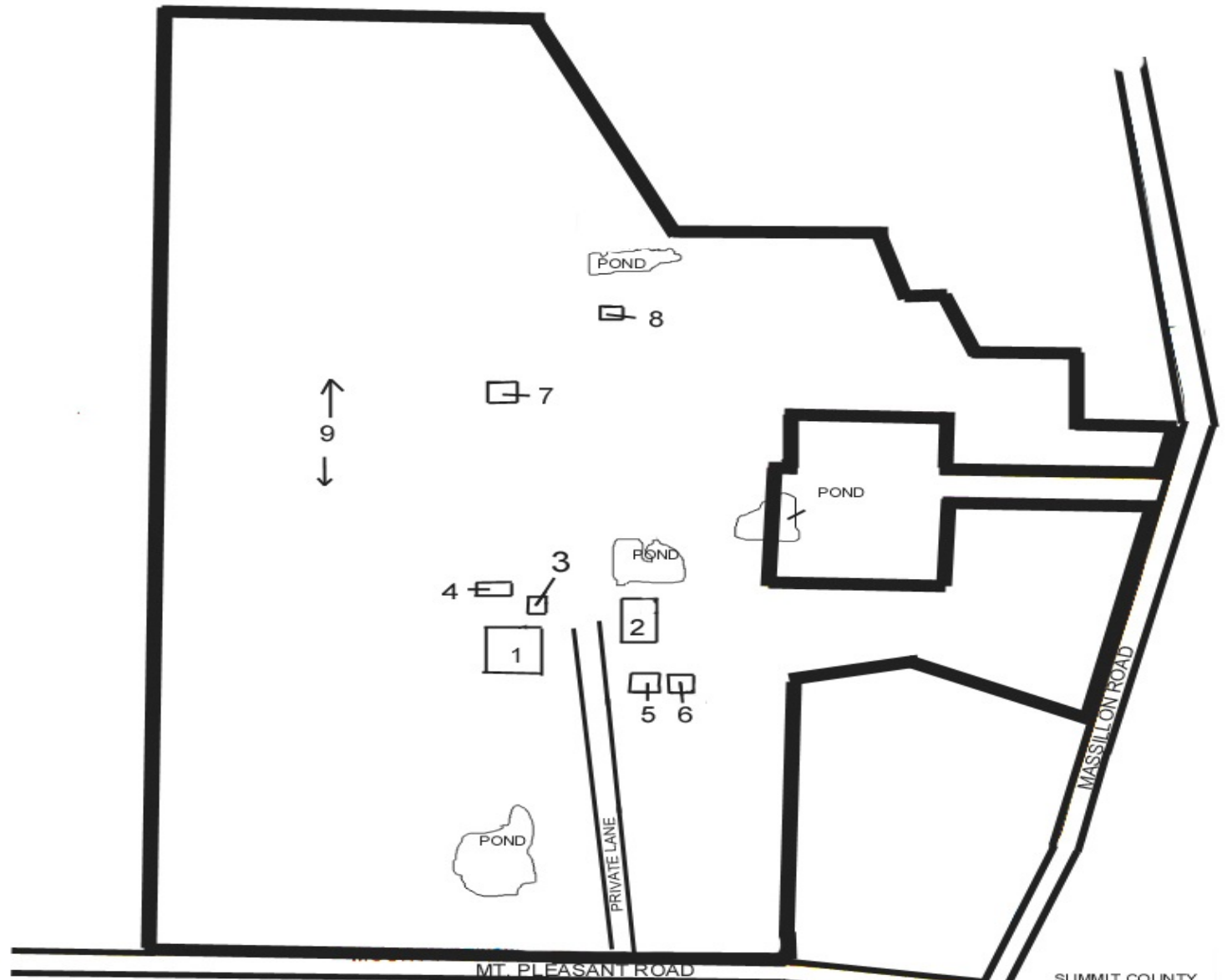
Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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PHOTO KEY

Photo Number & Camera Orientation

Nos. 8-19 are interior views of the house



HARTONG, LEVI J., HOUSE & FARM
Green, Summit County, Ohio
Site Plan

- KEY:
- 1 Hartong House
 - 2 Sweitzer Barn
 - 3 Well House
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 - 5 Small Wagon House
 - 6 Newer Wagon House (NC)
 - 7 Cemetery
 - 8 Newer Garage (NC)
 - 9 Agricultural Fields



United States Department of the Interior

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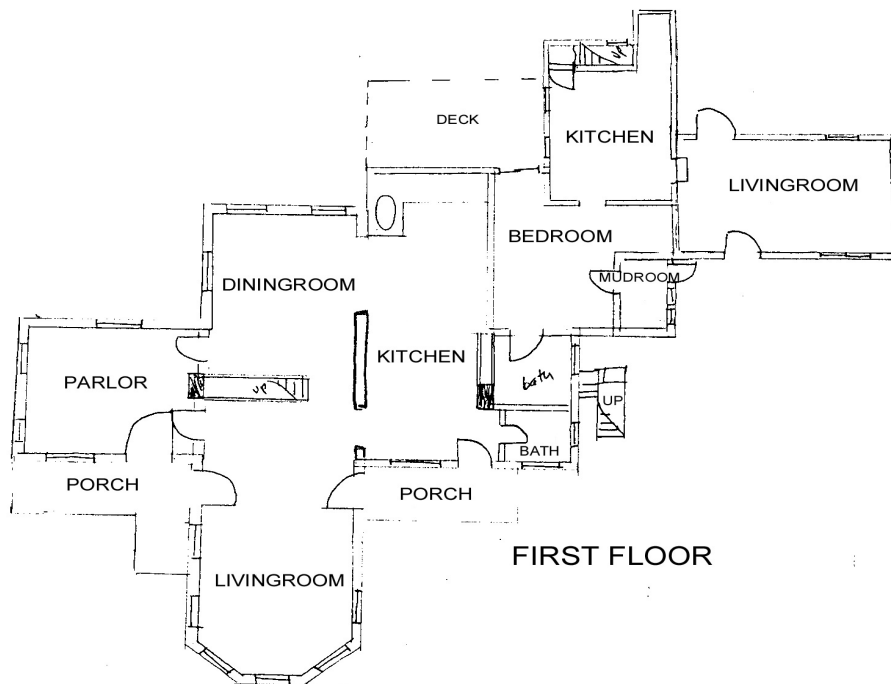
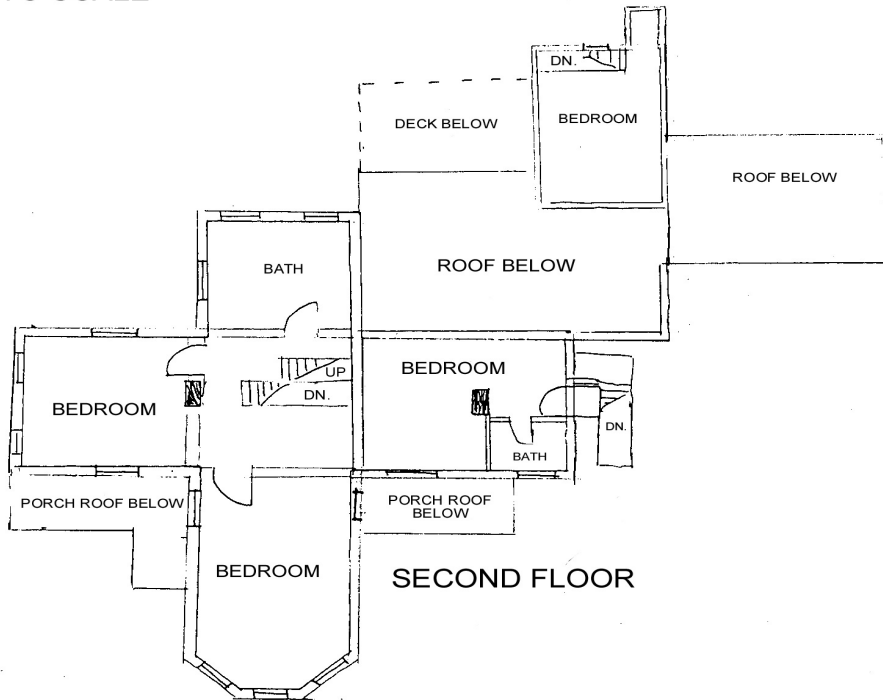
National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

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NOT TO SCALE



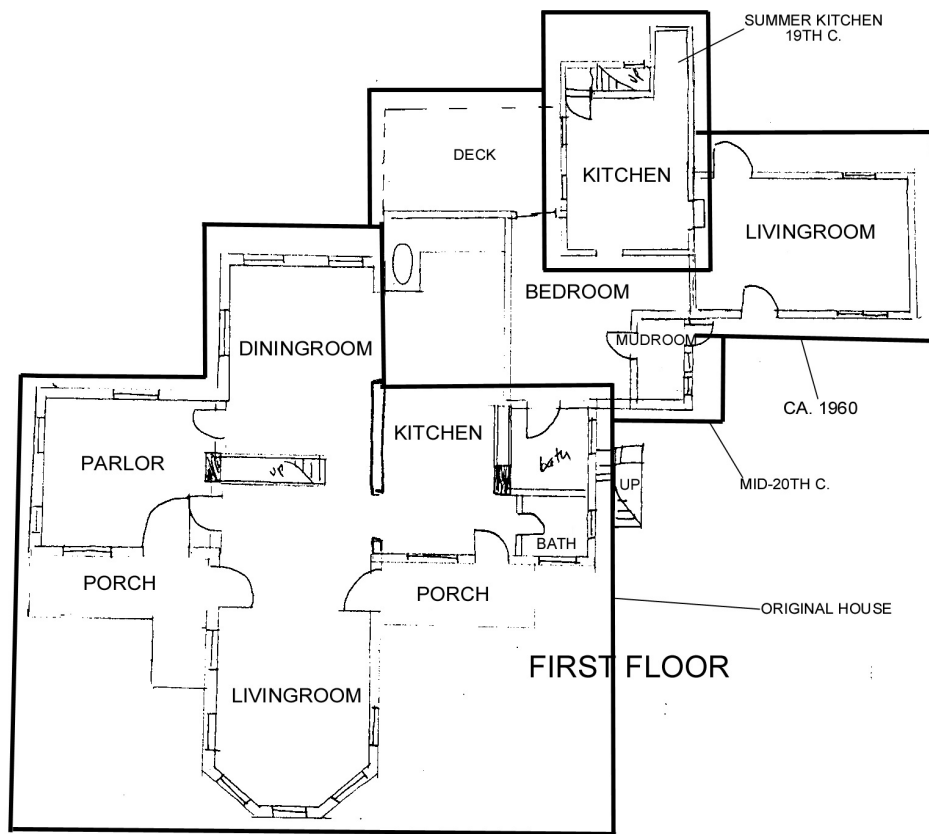
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Hartong, Levi J., House and Farm
Summit County, OH

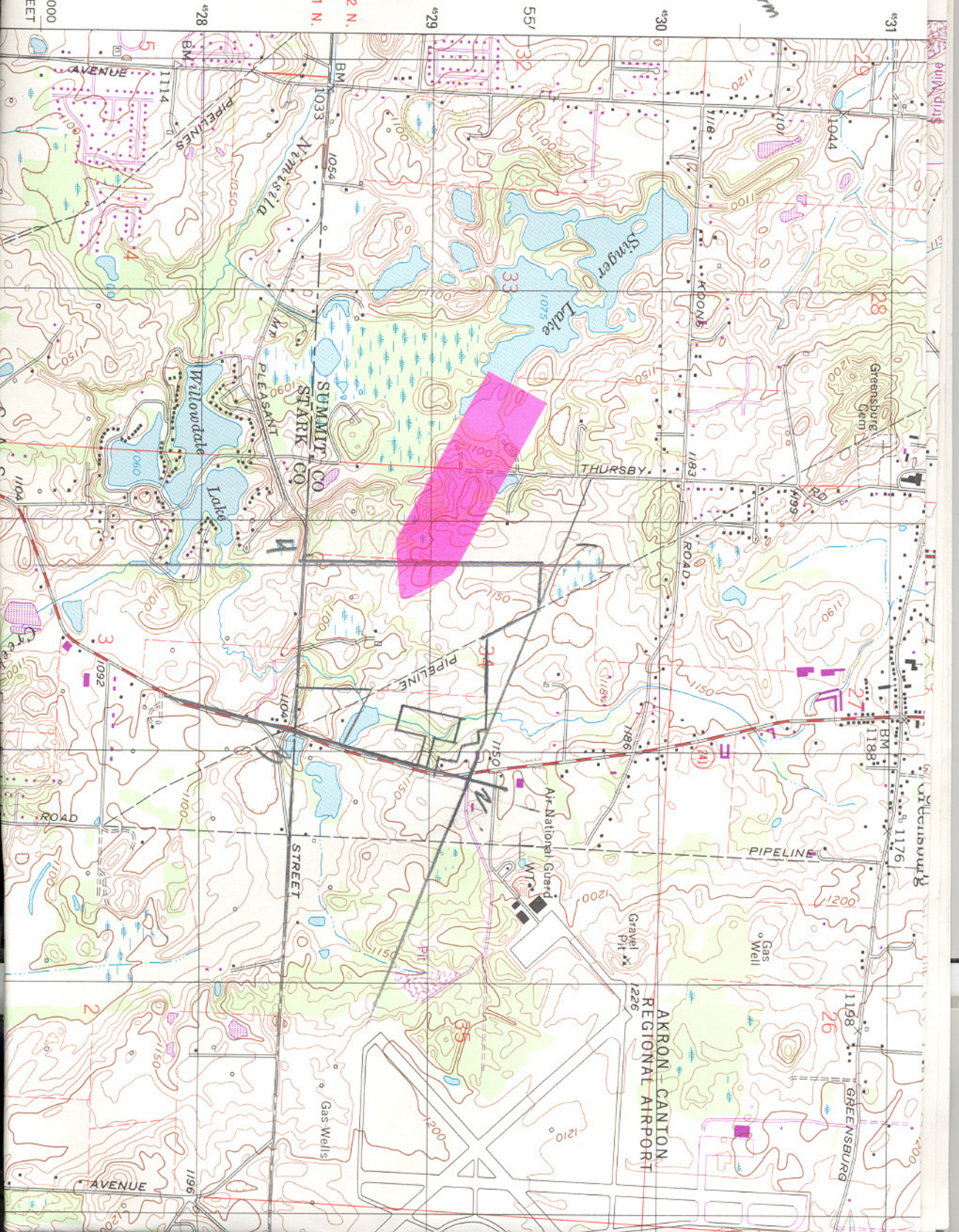
Section Number Illustrations Page 19

LIKELY EVOLUTION OF THE
HARTONG FARM HOUSE



Hartony, Levi J. House & Farm
 Summit Co. OH
 UTM References:
 1: 17460180 / 4529550
 2: 17460180 / 4529550
 3: 17460180 / 4529550
 4: 17460180 / 4529550

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 FEET





November 1, 2007

Wayne L. Weithe
Director of Planning
City of Green, P.O. Box 278
Green, Ohio 44232-0278

Dear Mr. Weithe:

Congratulations on the recent listing of the **Hartong, Levi J., House & Farm** into the National Register of Historic Places!

The National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior listed the **Hartong, Levi J., House & Farm** at 6521 Mt. Pleasant Rd. in Green, Ohio on October 17, 2007. The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio that 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,

SIGNED

Barbara A. Powers
Department Head
Inventory and Registration

Cc: David L. Taylor, Form Preparer
Mayor Dan Croghan, City of Green
Senator Kimberly A. Zurz, District #26
Representative Stephen Dryer, District #43
Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study
Paul Graham, Ohio Department of Transportation

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Ohio Historic Preservation Office

567 East Hudson St Columbus, Ohio 43211-1030 ph: 614.298.2000 fx: 614.298.2037
www.ohiohistory.org