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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Jonathan Price House

other name/site number: Ohio Historic Inventory # SUM-1532-19

2. Location

street & number: 7903 Main Street

city/town: Clinton

county: Summit
code: 153

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official:

Ohio Historic Preservation Office -- OH SHPO

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official   Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register  
    See continuation sheet.

___ determined eligible for the National Register
    See continuation sheet.

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain): ______________


Signature of Keeper   Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

<table>
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<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
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<td>1 objects</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 Total</td>
</tr>
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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: ___0___
Name of related multiple property listing: Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of The Village of Clinton/ Warwick

6. Function or Use

| Historic: Domestic | Sub: single dwelling |
| Current: Domestic  | Sub: single dwelling |

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Gothic Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation: Sandstone  
Walls: Wood  
roof: Asphalt shingle  
other: 

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

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: C: Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1854 - 1940

Significant Dates: Historic 1854, 1900

Significant Person(s): N/A
Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. _X_ See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

_X_ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: .5

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1) 17 447140 4530600 3)
2) 4)

_X_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: _X_ See continuation sheet. Summit County, Franklin Township, Pumroy Lots 57, 58, and 59.
Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.
The nominated property contains the buildings and curtilage that are historically associated with the house and continue to retain historical integrity.

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

Name/Title: Jeff Winstel and Sam Tamburro, Historians for the Village of Clinton
Organization: NPS/ Cuyahoga Valley NP Date: 10 December 2001
Street & Number: 15610 Vaughn Road Telephone: (330) 657-2096
City or Town: Brecksville State: OH ZIP: 44141

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Additional Documentation
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Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map indicating the property’s location.

Figure 1 1927 Sanborn Insurance map.
Figure 2 Site and photo map.
Figure 3 First Floor plan map.
Figure 4 Second Floor plan map.

Photographs
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Description

The Gothic Revival Jonathan Price House was constructed in 1854. This house occupies a prominent location in the Village of Clinton being located on a corner lot of Main Street and Fulton Street. Mature trees are located throughout the lot, which also contains a utility shed (noncontributing), and an outhouse (contributing).

The 2 1/2 story house has a rectangular massing and steeply sloped gable roof covered with asphalt fish-scale shingles (photo 1). The house is clad with board and batten siding. The battens have chamfered edges. Beneath the roof’s cornice line runs a prominent, scrolled verge board skirting the bottom of the projecting eave around the core section of the building (photos 2 and 4).

The gable front street orientation has a three-bay-width at the first and second floor levels and a single bay under the gable apex (photos 1 and 2). The gable apex is marked by a central finial with pyramid shaped top, chamfered edges, and bun pendent (photo 2). The gable finial joins the running verge board.

The window in the gable apex is crowned with a hoodmold lintel and contains plain surrounds housing a 2/2 six light sash (photo 2). The second floor of the façade contains three evenly spaced windows of similar design (photo 1). The first floor of the façade is marked by a molded stringcourse that bows toward the center (photo 5). The first floor has door-window-window pattern, featuring windows of similar design as those marking the upper floors, but much more attenuated.
Price House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

Description (continued)

End posts mark the corners under the low-pitched roofline. Beneath the windows runs a water-table course. The foundation is constructed of dressed and cut sandstone block, which evidence original chisel marks (photo 13).

A flat-roofed, front porch canopy supported by two square Doric columns covers the façade's side entry. Beneath the porch roof runs the same scrolled verge board. The trabeated entryway features a 4 light transom and three-panel paired sidelights with a molded panel below. A large hoodmold caps the outer surround of the transom and sidelights (photo 3). The elevated wood porch is covered with wood floorboards and accessed by two concrete steps.

The western elevation is one story in height. The northern end contains a modern, single-pane picture window (photo 8). The other window in this elevation is a 1/1 sash. The rear elevation contains a centrally placed, two-story bathroom/bedroom addition, with a one-story entry area on the east side (photo 10).

The two-story addition is rectangular massing and is capped by a low sloping shed roof. Board and batten siding also covers the addition. Irregularly placed windows with plain surrounds and 1/1 sash are found in the rear addition. A window in the core's rear elevation is housed in a cutout section of the perpendicular wall of the addition (photo 11).

Attached to the eastern elevation of the rear bathroom addition is a one-story rectangular appendage, which is also covered with board and batten siding. The small addition contains a single
Price House
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Summit County, Ohio

Description (continued)

pane picture window next to a door, which is covered with a
craftsman style gabled canopy, featuring side knee-brace
brackets. The stairs and railing were a later addition. Above
this second rear addition, a door and two windows pierce the
east wall of the two-story bathroom addition (photo 7).

The east elevation contains two paired sets of 6 light 2/2 sash
windows with hood molds and a double 12-light casement window
with the same hood or drip molding (photo 14). A wood water
table course sits on top of the stone foundation (photo 13). The
hood molding is barely visible under the overhanging eave on
this façade. This section of the house was originally a side
porch, as depicted in historic photographs. The owner believes
that the windows were originally part of the core wall of this
elevation and simply moved out when the porch was infilled.
This could also be the case with the siding, given that the
chamfered battens match the profiles found on the other
elevations.

The interior floor plan consists of a side entry hall with
stairway adjacent to a large front parlor. Behind the parlor is
a library. The entry hall contains a molded plaster cornice
with a raised arabesque scroll design. A newel post supports the
handrail, which is supported by two tapered balusters on each
step (photos 17 and 18). An octagonal-shaped chandelier is
suspended from a craftsman-looking iron medallion (photo 16).
The front parlor fireplace mantle is from the 20th century, but
the original tall baseboards and trim appear to be intact.
Price House
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Description (continued)

The east side of the house contains two sitting rooms covered with knotty pine siding. The library is also covered with knotty pine, but the wide floorboards appear to be original. The west side addition consists of a small room in front of the kitchen. The back appendage contains the bathroom, which can be accessed by a winding stair from the second floor room directly above.

The front hall stair that leads to an L-shaped hall accesses the second floor. At the north end of the hall, at the top of the stairs, is a small bathroom. The eastern side of the second floor consists of two large square rooms. Off of the back room the second floor of the rear appendage is located. Trim work on the second floor is limited to plain-faced wood surrounds.

A small outhouse is located in the backyard. This wood frame structure is set in a growth of bushes and is covered by a flared steep-pitched gable roof with fishscale asphalt shingles and exposed rafter ends (photo 15). The gable area has vertical board siding and the remaining elevation planes are covered with horizontal drop siding. A paneled door is located on the front gable elevation and the west elevation contains a 2/2-sash window. Endboards, window, and door surrounds are plain-faced.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs.

Name of Property: Price House
County and State: Summit County, Ohio
Photographer: Jeffrey Winstel
Date of Photograph: February 1999
Location of Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

1. House, south elevation, facing north.
2. House, south elevation, facing north.
3. House, front door (south elevation), facing north.
4. House, 3rd floor window (south elevation) facing north.
5. House, façade molded stringcourse, facing north.
6. House, south elevation window, facing north.
7. House, east elevation of the north addition, facing west.
8. House, west elevation, facing east.
11. House, northwest elevation, facing south.
12. House, west elevation, facing east.
13. House, southeast end board, facing northeast.
14. House, east elevation, facing west.
15. Out house, southwest elevation, facing northeast.
17. House balustrade and stairs.
19. House (historic) west elevation, facing east.

1 A recent visit (February 2002) to the property verifies that it looks as it did when these photos were taken.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs.

Name of Property: Price House
County and State: Summit County, Ohio
Photographer: Jeffrey Winstel
Date of Photograph: February 1999
Location of Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

20. House (historic) east elevation, facing west.
21. House (historic, 1930s) south elevation, facing north.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Statement of Significance

The Jonathan Price house is being nominated under Criterion C for representing a style and method of construction significant to the development of the community.

Historical Development

Lot Number 58 is part of the original Pumroy town plat, laid out in 1837. William Francis Pomeroy owned the lot until 1844 when Patterson purchased it. Patterson held the lot until John Price purchased it in 1854. At that time, the value of the lot increased from $48 to $1056, indicating the construction of the house. John Price does not appear in the 1850 census listings for Franklin Township. The only mature Price male listed in this census record is a 40-year-old farmer named William Price.

The 1856 Mathews and Taintor Atlas Map of Summit County contains a street map of Clinton Village with references that list John Price as "General Merchandise & Coal Merchant". An additional reference listing is for J. Price Warehouse. Along with his house on Main Street he is also shown owning lot 67 on North Street - presumably his office. In addition, he is shown to own a few lots that lined one of two canal basins along Water Street. These basins served as parking lots for canal boats and indicate the presence of a loading operation and warehousing operation.

During the later half of the 19th century the house and property changed hands several times. S. Chamberlin, the owner according to the 1860 tax records, also does not appear in the census of population records. In 1870, the property belonged to George A. March and in 1880 it was owned by Henry Stouffer.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Historical Development (continued)

The 1910 map of Clinton shows that a J.N. Stauffer owned lots 57, 58, and 59. J.N. Stauffer is also shown to own Lots 3, 5, and 6, which border one of the two canal basins that existed between Water St and the Ohio Canal. The biography section of a local history The Clinton Story lists a Samuel Stauffer, who lived from 1845 to 1925. He was married twice and had 5 children. The entry states that he operated a service station and "lived in the lovely home on Main Street at the corner of Fulton Street".

The property tax records from 1880 to 1916 indicate several changes in the valuation. From 1880 to 1890, the property is valued at $420. In 1895, the property value drops to $340, while a comparison property (Lot 31 owned by a P. Rhoades) increases from $280 to $380. In 1905, both property values decrease, respectively to $300 and $260. In 1916 the value of the Stauffer property increases to $450 and the Rhoades property increases to $700. The entry for the Rhoades property also includes the abbreviation "blg" next to the figure, indicating a construction project.

From the tax record information, the Sanborn Map, and the photographic record, it appears that changes to the house could have been made between 1895 and 1930. The 1895 decrease in valuation suggests that this is not attributable to a general decrease in the village's tax rate, due to increased valuations for other properties. At the same time, the historic record and material evidence does not suggest any substantial removal of major components of the structure. Perhaps, the change reflects a loss of an outbuilding on the lot. In 1905, the property was again devalued, along with the control sample lot.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Development (continued)**

In 1916, the Stauffer property value increased from $300 to $450. This increase could reflect the rear 1 story addition depicted on the 1927 Sanborn Map. The entry in the tax record duplicates also includes an increase in the two adjacent properties, Lots 57 and 59. The value of Lot 57 increases from $50 to $200, suggesting that the carriage house was built at this time. The value of Lot 59 increases from $30 to $200, suggesting some type of construction project. If this indeed was the case, the structure was gone by 1927 as it is not depicted on the Sanborn Map. Currently, there is not a structure on this lot.²

A 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map provides some information about the physical changes that have been made over time. The map shows a 1-½ story dwelling with a 1-story rear addition on the north elevation and a one-story porch on the front (south) elevation. Two side porches run half the length of the house from the front elevation, squaring off the T-shape plan of the core of the dwelling. The full-length front porch and rear

² It should be noted that Lot 42, located directly west of the nominated boundary of the Price House, has had archaeological fieldwork conducted, and a report was prepared for the site by Aileen N. Heiser entitled *The Tressie McIntosh Site, Clinton, Ohio: Using Nineteenth Century Ceramics as Indicators of Socioeconomic Status and Consumer Choice* (Wooster, Ohio: College of Wooster, 2001). A copy of the report is on file at the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. The site is not included in the nomination as a contributing resource because it is outside of the historic (nominated) boundary of the Price House. Lot 42 is not historically associated with Jonathan Price and was not a part of the property during its period of significance. Lot 42 was only recently acquired by the property owner.
Price House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Development** (continued)

addition were covered with composition roofing and the core section and side porches were covered with either slate or tile, according to the Sanborn Map key. A historic photograph suggests that the roof was covered with slate shingles (photo 20).

Also apparent in the photograph is a white picket fence that ran along the front of the property, which is no longer extant. This photograph does not appear to show a rear addition on the house, which suggests it was taken prior to 1916.

Another historic photograph that dates from the 1930s shows the carriage house at the rear of lot 57 along Fulton Street (photo 21).³ This structure is also shown on the 1927 Sanborn Map. A remnant foundation remains where this structure was originally. The 1930s photograph and the Sanborn Map also confirm another change: originally the front porch was the full length of the facade.

The second floor rear addition is apparent in one of the historic photographs, which presumably post-dates 1927. (photo 19). This photograph also shows the side porches still open.

This information suggests that the first floor rear addition was constructed in 1916. The front side porches were infilled after 1930, which resulted in the removal of some of the verge board trim. The second floor rear addition was constructed after 1930.

In 1925, Joseph A. and Gladys Griffith purchased the house from the Stauffers. Joseph Griffith served as Executive Vice

³ The photograph was dated by a long time resident of the town who identified one of the children as an older relative.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Development (continued)**

President of Weather-Seal, a window manufacturing company that pioneered the interchangeable storm window.\(^4\) Griffith also served as the Chairman of the Republican Party in Summit County during the 1940s. Many of the additions and alterations to the house in the twentieth century were done by the Griffiths.

In March 1953, William and Tressie McIntosh purchased the house from the Griffiths and Tressie McIntosh still is the owner of the property.

**Criterion C: Architecture**

The Price house is a locally significant example of residential Gothic Revival architecture that reflects the mid 19\(^{th}\) century economic boom created by the coal industry and the role of the community as a rail and canal transportation node. The house retains many of the character-defining features of the style and evidences high style architecture for the period, indicating a certain degree of worldliness as well as wealth in this small village.

The Gothic Revival style is a 19\(^{th}\) century adaptation of late medieval forms of architecture. The style is credited to Alexander Jackson Davis and his 1837 pattern book, *Rural Residences*. Enthusiastically endorsed by 19\(^{th}\) century writer, lecturer and tastemaker, Andrew Jackson Downing, the Gothic style was popularized through his pattern books, notably, *The Architecture of Cottage Houses* (1850).

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Price House
Village of Clinton
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**Criterion C: Architecture (continued)**

The writings of Downing stressed three important truths which all domestic architecture should evidence. The first he called general truth, meaning that a house looks like a house, as opposed to some other type of structure. He cites an example of a Greek Revival house in a northern climate that has as much space devoted to the Portico as to the interior rooms, suggesting the house looks more like a temple than a house. Local truth is found in the setting—rural or urban. A rural setting suggests that a house be spread out rather than up, taking advantage of the wide-open spaces in the country. Specific truth relates to the beauty inherent in honesty. Downing cites the following example:

A cottage (by which we mean a house of small size) will never succeed in an attempt to impose itself upon us as a villa. Nay, it will lose its own peculiar charm, which is as great, in its way, as that of a villa. This throwing away the particular beauty and simplicity of a cottage, in endeavoring to imitate the richness and variety of a villa, is as false in taste, as for a person of simple and frank character to lay aside his simplicity and frankness, to assume the cultivation and polish of a man of the world.
Price House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio  

**Criterion C: Architecture** (continued)  

Downing also stressed that architectural honesty is expressed by matching the style with the building material. He advises,

> When it is necessary to build of wood, our advice is always to choose a style which is rather light, than heavy—in other words, one in which the style and material are in keeping with each other. It is in false taste to erect a wooden building in a massive and heavy style, which originated in the use of stone, as it would be senseless to build a mock fortification, intended to stand a real siege, whose walls and battlements are of thin pine boards.

In *Hints to Young Architects*, Downing suggests that architectural honesty and truth in a wood frame house is only found if the structure has vertical, rather than horizontal siding.

> We greatly prefer the vertical to the horizontal boarding, not only because it is more durable, but because it has an expression of strength and truthfulness which the other has not. The main timbers which enter into the frame of a wooden house and support the structure, are vertical, and hence the vertical boarding properly signifies to the eye a wooden house; in the same manner, the main weight of a stone or brick house is supported by walls laid in course, and hence the truthfulness of showing horizontal courses in brick or stone buildings.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Criterion C: Architecture (continued)

The style is mostly found in rural areas and is particularly abundant in the northeast. It represents the beginning of the romantic period of mid-19th century architecture that was a reaction to the austerity of the Greek and Classical revival forms.

The Price house evidences defining characteristics of the Gothic Revival style. The vertical emphasis of the house is conveyed by the steeply pitch roof with decorative vergeboard, punctuated by finials located at the gable peak and the eave corners. The board and batten wood siding also emphasizes the vertical and the molded label lintels over the windows and doors have strong association with the Gothic Revival Style.

The importance of the style to the community of Clinton is that it reflects the degree of prosperity that the Ohio & Erie Canal brought to the small community. The house was built by John Price, who is listed on the 1856 Atlas of Summit County, map of Clinton as a “General Merchandise and Coal merchant” with offices located on North Street.

Coal was an important part of Clinton’s 19th century economy. As early as 1838 Franklin Township had three operational coal mines. According to William Perrin, that same year Michael Becker, a Prussian miner, moved to Clinton and opened a large operation. Several coal distributor’s advertisements in Cleveland newspapers during the 1830s, such as George C. Davis & Company, emphasize the quality of their coal stock from the “celebrated” mines of Clinton.

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5 Perrin, A History of Summit County, 630.
Price House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

**Criterion C: Architecture (continued)**

The major port of destination for Clinton's coal was Cleveland, and by the 1850s shipments exceeded 60,000 tons annually. Cleveland's growth as an industrial center was facilitated by the coal shipments transported on the O&É Canal. To facilitate coal shipments mine owners built the Messenger Canal, a canal slip, in 1847. The Messenger Canal ran directly to the edge of the coal mines northwest of the village and connected with the O&É Canal at Lock 2 near Clinton. The Messenger Canal provided essential access for the coal companies into the O&É Canal system and the Cleveland market. Profits from this industry are best manifested in the village by John Price's high style Gothic Revival house on Main Street.

**Historical Integrity**

The historical integrity of the Price House is apparent, despite the 20th century modifications. The nominated building has a high degree of integrity of design and still retains its defining features of a Gothic Revival style house. The house's steep roof pitch, verge boards, massing and fenestration, all retain significant integrity of materials and workmanship. The house is in the same location it was during its period of significance, and it is effective in communicating its historic function as a residence. The small town setting surrounding the nominated property provides integrity of setting, feeling, and association with Clinton's Canal Era.

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7 Sillman Maps, Summit County, Franklin Township, 1909, Ohio Canal Maps, Ohio Historical Society.
Price House
Village of Clinton
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**Historical Integrity**

It is worthwhile to note that the changes made to the house were respectful of the architectural style and finishes. The two side porches were infilled and clad in matching board and batten siding and rest on cut sandstone block. It is possible that the materials were simply moved to the opposite wall planes. The single pane picture window on the west elevation evidences the historic drip-mold surrounds, suggesting an original paired window fenestration that matches the opposite side elevation's fenestration.

The change of the front porch to a single bay used the same Doric column pillars and verge board trim. The additions to the rear also used the board and batten and the addition was constructed in a manner that provides room for the full width of one of the original windows. The east elevation stoop was constructed in a craftsman style, which is obviously later but still reflects the medieval, organic influence of the Gothic style.
Price House
Franklin Township
Summit County, Ohio

Major Bibliographic References


Sillman Maps, Summit County, Franklin Township, 1892, Ohio Canal Maps, Ohio Historical Society.
FIGURE ONE
SANBORNE MAP, 1927
PRICE HOUSE
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO
CLINTON VICINITY
MAY 2002

NORTH
NOT TO SCALE