United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: David Smith House

other name/site number: Ohio Historic Inventory # SUM 3097-19

2. Location

street & number: 7966 Cleveland-Massillon Road

city/town: Clinton

state: OH county: Summit code: 153

vicinity: N/A

not for publication: N/A

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 ___ 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.

Barbara Tanner
Planner, Inventory

Signature of certifying official

State or Federal agency and bureau

Ohio Historic Preservation Office -- OH SHPO

August 2, 2002

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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

buildings
sites
structures
objects
Total

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: Queen Anne

Other Description: Gabled-Ell

Materials: foundation Sandstone walls Wood siding roof: Asphalt 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: LOCAL

Applicable National Register Criterion: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1894

Significant Dates: Historic: 1894
David Smith House  
Summit County, Ohio

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 
_X Federal agency 
_ Local government 
_ University 
_ Other -- Specify Repository: __________________________________________

=================================
10. Geographical Data
=================================
Acreage of Property: .28 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1) 17 447080 4530480 3)  
2)  
4) 

_X_ See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet. Summit County, Franklin Township, Track 32, lot northwest, west of Fulton Street, .28 acres.

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

Name/Title: Sam Tamburro, Historian for the Village of Clinton
Organization: NPS/Cuyahoga Valley NP Date: 1/02
Street & Number: 15610 Vaughn Road Telephone: (330) 657-2096
City or Town: Brecksville State: OH ZIP: 44141

A USGS map indicating the property’s location.

Figure 1 Site and photo map.
Figure 2 First Floor plan map.
Figure 3 Second Floor plan map.
Figure 4 Historic Photo.
Figure 5 Historic Photo.
David Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description**

The David Smith House is situated on the corner of Cleveland-Massillon Road and South Street in the village of Clinton (Photo 1 and Figure 1-3). The lot is landscaped with evergreen and rhododendron bushes and contains several mature trees. The United Methodist Church is located directly to the northeast of the house, along the east side of Cleveland-Massillon Road.

There are two contributing resources within the nominated area: the house and barn. The Quonset hut (c. 1960), located directly south of the barn, is a twentieth-century addition to the property and is considered a noncontributing resource because it was built outside the period of significance (1894) for the property.

Built in 1894, the David Smith House is a wood-framed, gabled-ell Queen Anne style building (Photos 2-5). The house is two stories with a one-and-a half-story addition on the west side of the house (Photos 6-7). The west wing addition is the former summer kitchen that was attached to the core section of the house during the twentieth century.

All faces of the house are covered with narrow wood weather board siding with end boards, and the roof is covered with asphalt tab shingles. There is a chimney located in the center of the core section’s roof. An additional chimney is located at the west end of the addition.

The windows are one-over-one, double-hung sash with detailed surrounds. The window surrounds contain saw-tooth lintels and quatrefoil corner blocks (Photo 8). The house’s two exterior doors located along the house’s east elevation contain large glazed panels surrounded by smaller glazed panes (Photo 9).
Description (continued)

The bottom panels contain intricate carved details and incised decoration.

A screened-in, porch is located on the east and north sides of the building (photo 1). The porch appears to be an early-twentieth-century replacement (Figures 4-5). The door in the north elevation is also an early-twentieth-century replacement, though the screen door may be nineteenth-century vintage (Photos 10-11). The house’s gable apexes contain high-style gable braces with wood shingle treatment (photo 2). In addition, all of the apexes contain one small, one-over-one, double-hung sash window (Photo 2).

The house has a full basement with a cut-sandstone block foundation and the floor is poured concrete (Photo 13). The house’s interior includes original wood trim with molded lintels, baseboards, and sills. The interior door and window surrounds have corner blocks with a circular flower motif (Photo 9).

The barn is situated to the west of the house (Photos 14-15). Built in 1894, the barn is a two-story, post-and-beam building with a concrete slab floor. The foundation is cut sandstone block. The barn does not contain a basement. The building is clad with vertical wood siding with end boards. The roof is covered with standing seam metal roofing material. There are doors located on the east and south elevations of the building and there is one two-light window located along the east side (Photo 16). A large overhead door and two second-story loft doors are located on the west side of the barn (Photo 17). The interior contains both partially sawn log beams and rough-sawn beams with hewn-and-pegged mortise and tenon joints (Photo 18).
The floor joists are constructed of full-dimensional, rough-sawn lumber.

Directly south of the barn is a noncontributing wood-frame Quonset hut. The Quonset hut is clad with wood siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles (Photo 19). The structure has a central door flanked by two windows.
Photographs

The following information is the same for all of photographs.

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

1. House, east elevation, facing west.
2. House, south and east sides, facing west.
3. House, south elevation, facing north.
4. House, south elevation, facing north.
5. House, southwest elevation, facing east.
6. House, west elevation, facing east.
7. House, west elevation, facing east.
8. House, window in the north elevation, facing south.
9. House, east elevation door.
11. House, north screen door, facing south.
12. House, east gable apex, facing west.
13. House, basement bulkhead stairs, facing west.
15. Barn, north elevation, facing south.
16. Barn, east elevation, facing west.
17. Barn, west elevation, facing east.
19. Quonset Hut, east elevation, facing west.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9

Page 5

David Smith House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

Statement of Significance

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

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

Historical Background

The lots that the David Smith House is situated on were originally owned by Alonzo Smith, a local farmer and large property owner. According to the Summit County Tax Auditor’s Duplicates, Alonzo Smith sold a small parcel of his land, approximately .28 acres, to David Smith in 1893.¹

In the following year, Smith constructed the house and barn on the corner of South Street and Cleveland-Massillon Road. The Summit County Tax Auditor’s Duplicates indicate that a $600 house and $150 barn were added to the property in 1894.² The summer kitchen that now is attached to the west section of the house appears to be original. The summer kitchen contains similar wood weather board and window surrounds as the house and appears in a early twentieth-century photograph of the property (figure one).

¹ 1893 Summit County Tax Auditor’s Duplicates.
² 1894 Summit County Tax Auditor’s Duplicates.
David Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio  

Historical Background (continued)  

David Smith was co-owner (with his brother William) of a large lumbering operation in the Village of Clinton. The lumber mill and yard were located on Orradeen Lots 10, 11, and 12 near the guard lock on the O&E Canal. The 1890-91 Akron and Summit County Directory describes Smith Brothers’ lumber mill in the following manner:

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

After a short ownership, David Smith sold his interests in the lumber mill to his brother William. In 1903, David purchased N.H. Housman’s Hardware Store located in the Limbach Block building. The store was renamed C.C. Smith Hardware and remained a mainstay of the commercial block throughout the twentieth century.

David, with his wife Mary E. Huber, raised eight children in the house: Dora, Clarence, Thurman, Carrie, Ruth, Lewis, Miriam, and Amelia. David died in 1928, leaving the house to his daughter Dora McLaughlin.

3 David Smith, with his brother William, purchased the lumber mill in 1889.  
David Smith House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Background (continued)**

Lewis, David’s youngest son, continued to reside in the house with his wife Minnie Ruth. Lewis took over the hardware store on Main Street and also served as the Executive Director for the Summit County Soldiers and Sailors Relief Agency. In addition, Lewis was elected as the mayor of the village of Clinton and served from 1926 to 1928.

The house has remained in the ownership of the Smith Family throughout the twentieth century, except for a brief period when the property was owned by Frank Matchett, who bought the property in the mid 1970s. Since 1991, the house has been owned by Susan Elizabeth Smith, David Smith’s granddaughter and Lewis Smith’s daughter.

**Criterion C: Architecture**

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

The David Smith House evidences features associated with the vernacular interpretation of the Queen Anne building tradition, which is identified in the Clinton MPD as being representative of one of the architectural styles in the Village of Clinton after the Civil War. Built in 1894, the house is a Gabled-Ell, a half I-house form attached to a perpendicular wing with gabled ends.

---

7 Dreurey, *The Clinton Story*, 158.
David Smith House  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

Criterion C: Architecture (continued)

The porch is one-story high and extends along the east side of the house. In addition, the house’s gable apexes contain a shingle treatment with high-style gable braces. The window surrounds are detailed with saw-tooth lintels and quatrefoil corner blocks calling attention to the house’s craftsmanship. Moreover, the house’s two exterior doors along the east elevation contain large glazed panels surrounded by smaller glazed panes and bottom panels that contain intricate carved details and incised decoration (Photos 11-12). Many of the house’s wood architectural details may reflect Smith’s early occupation as a proprietor of a lumber mill. The decorative exterior and interior woodwork almost serve as “advertisements” for the Smith Brothers’ lumber milling operation, which sold machine-cut, dressed wood, doors, and wood shutters.

The architectural David Smith House also reflects the influence of the railroad in the village of Clinton. With the national emergence of railroads, popular architectural styles were being widely distributed in plan and pattern books as well as trade journals.8 Houses built adhering to modern styles indicated a certain level of success and prosperity.

---

Historical Integrity

The historical integrity of the David Smith House is well preserved. All of the nominated buildings have a high degree of design integrity. The house maintains its original wood siding and still retains its defining features such as wood-shingled treatment gable apaxes. The house's massing and fenestration retain significant integrity of materials and workmanship. The buildings are in the same location they were during the period of significance (1894). And even though the summer kitchen has been attached to the core section of the house, its roof profile has remained relatively undisturbed. The small town setting surrounding the nominated property provides integrity of setting, feeling, and association.
David Smith House
Village of Clinton
Summit County, Ohio

**Major Bibliographic References**


Summit County Tax Auditor’s Duplicates, 1893, 1894.
FIGURE THREE
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
DAVID SMITH HOUSE
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO
CLINTON VICINITY
JAN. 2002
November 5, 2002

Susan Smith
7966 Cleveland-Massillon Road
Clinton, Ohio 44216

Dear Ms. Smith

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 David Smith House at 7966 Cleveland-Massillon Road in Clinton, Ohio on October 4, 2002. 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