

REF # 73001332

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Ohio
COUNTY:	Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	4-11-73

1. NAME

COMMON: Hower Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 60 Fir Hill

CITY OR TOWN: Akron

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 14

John F. Seiberling, Jr.

STATE: Ohio CODE: 039 COUNTY: Summit CODE: 153

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: The University of Akron

STREET AND NUMBER: 302 E. Buchtel Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Akron

STATE: Ohio CODE: 44304 039

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Summit County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER: 209 S. High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Akron

STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Ohio

COUNTY: Summit

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

367-16

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hower Mansion, situated on a high, well-landscaped 2.5 acre plot is a picturesque red brick Victorian Mansion in the French Second Empire style. Typical of the style are the many projecting pavilions, each with its own roof. Spacious verandas connect the projecting bays and the wide eaves are supported by ornamental brackets. Also typical are the high mansard roofs of fishtail slate shingle and the elegantly detailed dormers. There are several chimneys, each with great decorative detail. A four story tower at the northeast corner accents the boldly modeled composition. The tower, with its mansard roof, arched and round dormer windows and bracketed eaves, is surmounted by a wrought iron railing and a weather-vane which indicates the year the building was completed, 1871.

There are 42 rooms in the mansion, many embellished with black walnut trim, marble fireplaces and parquet floors. The furnishings include priceless art objects and antiques brought from Europe. Among the notable interior details are the beautifully etched door and overdoor panels in the front hall and the main stair, which rises four stories to the observation tower. Beyond this stairway is a central octagonal hall which leads to all the other rooms on the ground floor.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1871**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The finest of the few remaining large Victorian houses in Akron, the Hower Mansion is a superb example of an architectural style from an era when wealthy men built pretentious homes to display their wealth.

John H. Hower, the designer and first owner of the house, was a leading Akron industrialist. In 1861, he helped organize the Excelsior Mower & Reaper Company in nearby Doylestown and he later served as Vice-President of another farm machinery company, the J.F. Seiberling Co.. In 1881, he formed Hower & Company, a milling firm which was an important forerunner of The Quaker Oats Company.

In 1871, the Hower Mansion was completed and 100 years later, Mr. Hower's grandchildren, Mr. John M. Crawford and John B. Hower, deeded the mansion to the University of Akron. Mrs. Crawford has a life estate and continues to occupy the house.

The Hower Mansion is significant as the best preserved and one of the most elaborate and pretentious Victorian houses in northeast Ohio.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Campen, Richard N., Architecture of the Western Reserve 1800-1900,
The Press of Case Western Reserve University, 1971. pp 160-61.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "	41 ° 4 ' 47 "	81 ° 30 ' 28 "		
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William V. Wallace, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Summit County Historical Society DATE: Aug. 8, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 550 Copley Road

CITY OR TOWN: Akron STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Ohio
COUNTY	Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Hower Mansion			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 60 Fir Hill			
CITY OR TOWN: Akron			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Summit	CODE 153
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Louis Tobias			
DATE OF PHOTO: Jan. 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Tobias Studio, 950 S. Arlington St., Akron, Ohio			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. north elevation			

INT: 154-72

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Ohio
COUNTY	Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Hower Mansion			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 60 Fir Hill			
CITY OR TOWN: Akron			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Summit	CODE 153
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Louis Tobias			
DATE OF PHOTO: Jan. 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Tobias Studio, 950 S. Arlington St., Akron, Ohio			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Northeast elevation			

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Ohio	
COUNTY	
Summit	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

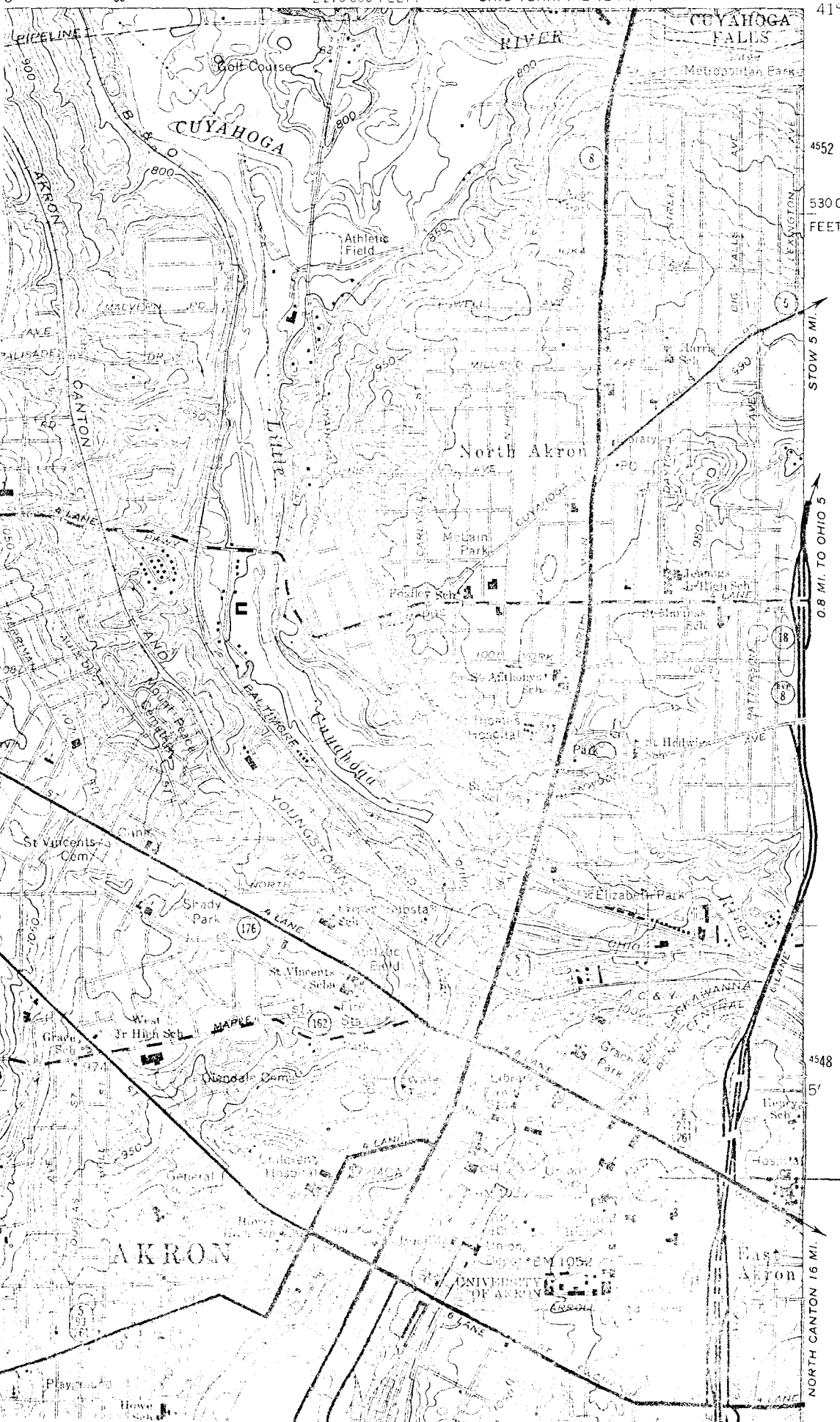
1. NAME			
COMMON: Hower Mansion			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 60 Fir Hill			
CITY OR TOWN: Akron			
STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Summit	CODE 153
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series, Akron, West Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1967			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

AKRON WEST QUADRANGLE
OHIO-SUMMIT CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SE/4 AKRON 15' QUADRANGLE

4766 III NW
(HUDSON)

0" 455 2 270 000 FEET 1 OHIO TURNPIKE 12 MI. 81°30' 41°07'30"



HOWER MANSION

Latitude: 41° 04' 47"
Longitude: 81° 30' 28"

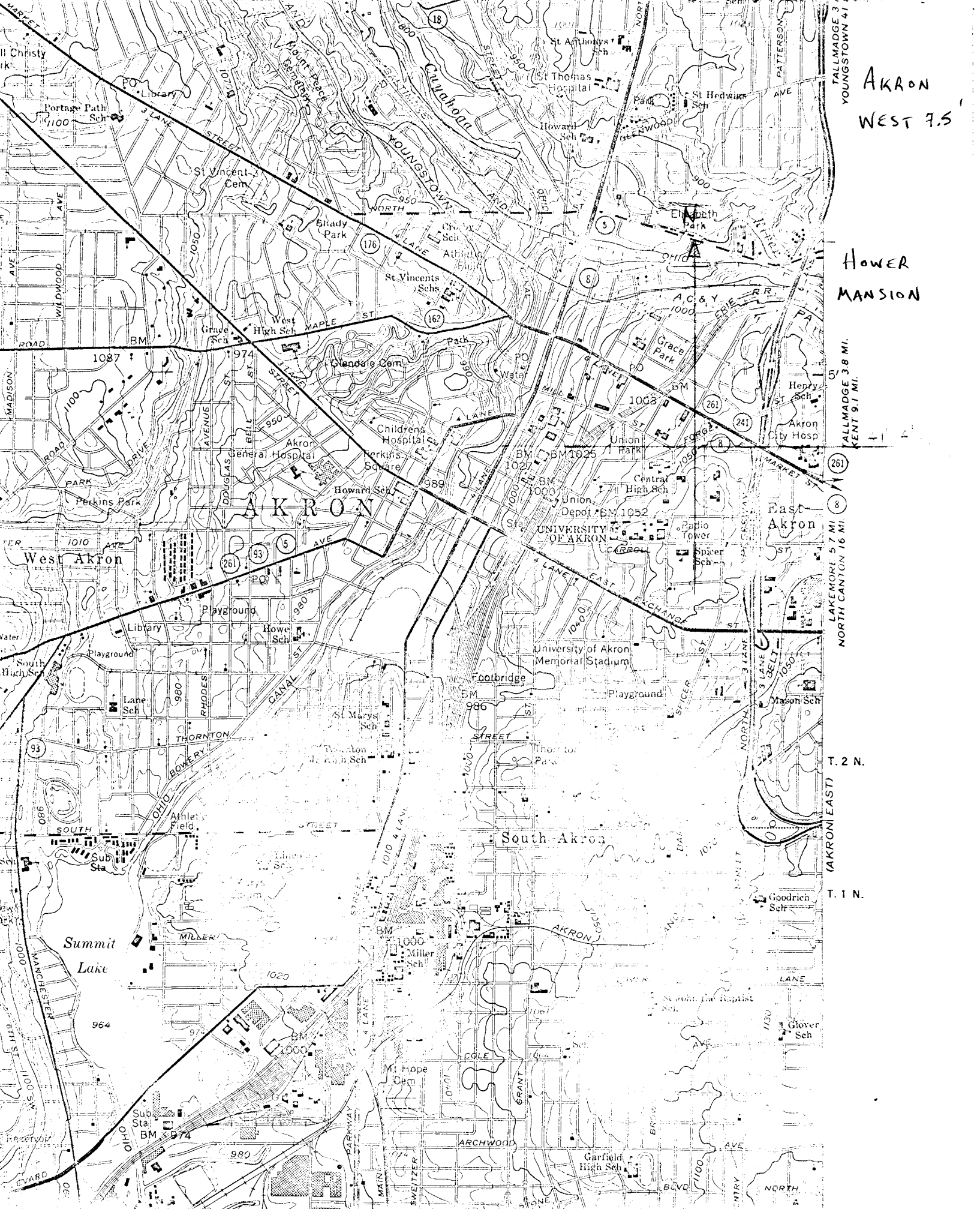
41° 04' 47"

4552
530 000
FEET
STOW 5 MI.
0.8 MI. TO OHIO 5
4548
5'

AKRON

East Akron

UNIVERSITY OF AKRON



AKRON
WEST 7.5

HOWER
MANSION

TALLMADGE 3.8 MI.
CENT 9.1 MI.

LAKEMORE 5.7 MI
NORTH CANTON 16 MI

T. 2 N.

(AKRON EAST)
T. 1 N.

April 23, 1973

Mr. D. J. Guzzetta, President
The University of Akron
Akron, Ohio 44304

Dear Mr. Guzzetta:

I am pleased to inform you that the Hower Mansion, 60 Fir Hill, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of Interior.

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. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Enclosed is a brochure explaining the purposes and goals of the National Register of Historic Places.

Congratulations for recognizing the importance of, and the need for, the careful and sensible preservation of Ohio's landmarks. Your farsightedness will surely serve as an example to other individuals and organizations in this state.

Sincerely,

Judith Kitchen
Architectural Historian

JK/glk
enclosure

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

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

Name: Hower Mansion

County: Summit

Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

Photograph(s)

Photograph(s) (copies)

USGS map(s)

USGS map(s) (copies)

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

Correspondence

Other news clippings

