**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN **HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS**
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

### 1 NAME

**HISTORIC**

**33-Su-32**

**AND/OR COMMON**

Barker Village Site

### 2 LOCATION

**STREET & NUMBER**

**CITY, TOWN**

Akron

**STATE**

Ohio

**VICINITY OF**

14th-John F. Seiberling

**COUNTY**

Summit

**CODE**

039

**CODE**

153

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES, RESTRICTED
- YES, UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

**NAME**

Akron Metropolitan Park District

**STREET & NUMBER**

975 Treaty Line Road

**CITY, TOWN**

Akron

**STATE**

Ohio

**VICINITY OF**

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**

Summit County Recorder's Office

Summit County Courthouse

**STREET & NUMBER**

72 South High

**CITY, TOWN**

Akron

**STATE**

Ohio

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**TITLE**

The Archaeological Collections

**DATE**

1975 ff

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

Archaeology Lab, Cleveland Museum of Natural History

**CITY, TOWN**

Cleveland

**STATE**

Ohio
The Cuyahoga River valley has been known for its prehistorical resources since the early 1800’s. Campsites, villages, mounds, and fortified hilltop sites are the type of occupation areas in existence in this valley, ranging in time from the earliest inhabitants (8,000 B.C.) through early European contact times. The preservation of many of these sites is next to none and has caused many of the cultures that once existed to have only one or two known occupation sites still partially intact.

The Barker Village Site has been recognized as a prehistoric village in print since 1881 in William Perrin’s History of Summit County, Ohio. Perrin reports that when the Ohio Canal was cut through this area, it exposed an unknown number of human skeletons. This cut was made through the extreme eastern portion of the bluff and site. Additionally, when the railroad (Baltimore and Ohio) was put through, thirty to forty human skeletons were also removed from the Barker Village Site bluff. No further record of these skeletons has been kept and there whereabouts is unknown.

The small saplings growing on the site are evidence of this fact.

Only two small testing operations have been recorded for this site. In 1966 Gary Biro of Peninsula, Ohio put three test pits into the village area and removed only broken fragments of cracked animal bone. Also in 1966 Steve Fuller of Stow, Ohio put in a test trench on the eastern central portion of the site. Through his efforts, triangular flint projectile points, bone beads, worked slate, and much shell tempered ceramics were recovered. The material was recovered from several trash and fire pits exposed during this limited testing. He also recovered one child burial. From the materials recovered, it appears that the site was occupied during a later stage of the Whittlesey Phase. This would give it a date of about A.D. 1200 on.
## Significance

### Specific Dates A.D. 1200 on

The Barker Village Site is one of many occupation areas recorded in the Cuyahoga River valley for prehistoric cultures. The preservation of many of these sites range from excellent to completely destroyed. Within the last ten years at least five late prehistoric sites have been subject to partial to complete destruction. Fortunately, the Barker Village Site is not one of these sites. For the Middle and Late Whittlesey periods in the Cuyahoga River Valley only a handful of sites are known. Therefore, the Barker Village Site is an important prehistoric occupation site to protect for it represents a culture with only a few examples of its remains left. From the preliminary reports of the site from Perrin (1881) and Fuller (1967) it appears as though the site may be one of the largest prehistoric villages from this time period in the valley.

There is no doubt that much information and remains are buried below the plow zone at Barker Village Site. The testing by Steve Fuller was extremely good for an amateur archaeologist and his records are sufficient to positively identify both firepits and trash pits. With the amount of human remains removed from the site, it is quite evident that the area was occupied for an extensive period of time. Careful examination of this village site could provide prehistorians with an excellent picture of the culture that inhabited the Cuyahoga River valley during late prehistoric times.

It is hoped that the placing of the Barker Village Site on the National Register of Historic Places will aide in the preservation of this important link to Ohio's past.
9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Perrin, William Henery, 1881. History of Summit County, Ohio, Chicago: Baskins and Batty.
Fuller, Steve, 1967. The Barker Site, Personal manuscript. (Copy on file at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY
UTM REFERENCES
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY
NAME / TITLE David R. Bush, Regional Archaeologist
ORGANIZATION OHPO, Regional Office, Cleveland Museum of Natural History
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CITY OR TOWN Cleveland
STATE Ohio

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATES:
NATIONAL _ STATE _ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

SIGNATURE [Signature]

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer
DATE Sept. 21, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST: [Signature]
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE 4-13-78