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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Historic Northwest District, Delaware, Ohio

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For more than 50 years the northwest quadrant of the city of Delaware, Ohio has been referred to as the "Historic Northwest District." This district is being nominated under criterion A and C as a well preserved nineteenth and early twentieth century neighborhood whose development is a reflection of the prosperity and influence of its residents from 1840 to 1940. Areas of significance that apply to criterion "A" include community planning and development, commerce, industry, law, health and medicine, politics and government, education, agriculture and social history. Criterion "C" is being applied for architecture due to the area's rich architectural quality and diversity which reflects all phases of its development.

This nomination was based on 158 Ohio Inventories assembled in 1976 by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission; from 1978 through 1980 by the Ohio State University Architecture Class 605, and in 1980 and 1981 by the Ohio Historic Preservation Regional Office. In 1990-1992 these surveys were updated and expanded to include subtypes, past owners and building materials by the Delaware Preservation Coalition under the direction of Sandra Davies, Ohio Historic Preservation Office Regional Coordinator for the Central South-Central region of Ohio. The current number of inventories for the district is 489.

Community Planning and Development

The Northwest District of Delaware Ohio was one of the first settlements in Delaware County. By an act of the State Legislature entitled "An Act Establishing the County of Delaware", February 2, 1808, Delaware County was severed from Franklin County to the south with Section 5 setting the town of Delaware as the temporary seat of justice for the newly formed county. On May 9, 1808 the city platt was officially recorded with county seat status given permanently to the newly founded city.

To understand Delaware's development and its place historically, it is first important to understand its inception. Colonel Moses Byxbe, a wealthy entrepreneur, left Lenox, Massachusetts in 1804 at the age of forty eight. Byxbe owned a large portion of what is now Berkshire township. He brought with him two men, Azariah Root, surveyor, and Doctor Reuben Lamb. After arriving in Worthington in August of 1804, the colonel directed Root to cut a trail north to Berkshire and also to platt the town. In 1805 Root also surveyed a road through dense forest to Granville, another early settlement in Licking County to the east of Delaware. All early county roads were surveyed by Root. In 1808 Byxbe, for unknown reasons, sold all of his interest in Berkshire Corners and bought 8000 acres of a 16,000 acre parcel in and around what is now the city of Delaware from Judge Henry Baldwin. Byxbe not only managed his share of the parcel but also Judge Baldwin's remaining 8,000 acres. Not content with the way the area had been platted, he and surveyor Root replatted the town on the west side of the Olentangy River using a rectilinear grid system. Taking full advantage of the river's possibilities he platted 186 lots, each 6 1/4 rods wide by 12 1/2 rods deep, and eight streets. The north and south streets were named Henry, (Sandusky), Union, Franklin, Washington and Liberty. Those running east to west were North, (Central), Winter and William. All streets were four rods wide with the exception of the commercial district, Sandusky and William, which were six rods. At the

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William and Sandusky corner he located the town's largest store and established the center and heart of the city in the commercial district. His son-in-law L. H. Cowels, lawyer and state senator, was placed in charge of the store. Colonel Byxbe chose a parcel of land in the northeast quadrant of the city, which was closer to the river, for the construction of the first home in the area.

Perhaps Colonel Byxbe's greatest asset was his tremendous power of persuasion. It is evident from the early list of settlers that his business prowess coupled with his vast real estate holdings was hardly a match for most men. Lots were sold for as little as \$30.00, with deferred payment available, to those Byxbe thought would help build the town and its possibility of becoming the state capitol. To others he priced the land far beyond their means and the lot's worth. For instance, in 1812 lots 67 and 91 (whose only outlet was on the river rendering it nearly valueless) were sold for \$500.00. A year earlier lots 19 and 30 on Washington St., a more desirable location, sold to Jacob Drake for \$100.00 and in 1812 Drake bought adjoining northern lots 3 and 14 for \$60.00. In 1813 prime commercial lot #47 on North Sandusky St., between William and Winter, was sold for \$50.00. In this manner Byxbe was able to entice some of the finest families from the states of Delaware, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Pennsylvania to settle the area. Almost without exception these lawyers, businessmen, physicians, educators, politicians and industrialists chose the northwest section of the city for their homes. It was originally intended that Abraham St. (Hill St.) would be the main thoroughfare while East William St. and the south should furnish sites for "the residences of Delaware's aristocratic citizens."¹ As early as 1809 Outlot # 45 in the Northwest District was sold for one of Delaware's first homes, business houses took possession of Sandusky St. between William and Central Ave. The first addition to the town was made by Judge T. W. Powell, 128-30-32 North Sandusky St., in the southern part of the city. Because of the residents' marked preference for the Northwest District the tax burdens on the unprofitable, relatively flat southern lots soon made them impossible to sell; eventually they were subdivided into 100 lots. As a result, the city's only concentration of high style Victorian homes reflective of its residents occurred in the gently rolling hills to the northwest of the commercial district listed on the National Register of Historic Places, (12-17-82). These Northwest residents were chiefly responsible for the construction of this business district.

At the immediate northwest corner of the commercial district a small parcel of land was originally set aside for a cemetery and religious purposes. Although a few graves were dug in the courthouse square by 1812 the site had been abandoned for that purpose. A new government area was plotted immediately to the north of the original plot. The first courthouse and the jail were completed c. 1814 making this parcel of land the center of county government for over 175 years. The Delaware County Courthouse (NR listed 5/22/73), the Delaware Sheriff's residence and Jail (NR listed 06/06/90) and the Carnegie Library (NR listed 01/11/83) provide a smooth transition between the residential district and the commercial area. Immediately to the

¹History of Delaware County and Ohio, O. L. Baskin and Co., 1880, p. 322

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north of the library, North Sandusky St. narrows to four rods wide with spacious tree lawns planned to promote a more residential feeling.

It would be difficult to pinpoint an industrial or commercial period of explosive growth since the town grew steadily from its inception and county seat status in 1808 until the 1920's. Many people, businesses, institutions and industries contributed to this predictable growth. No official population records were kept for the city in 1808, but in that same year 32 residences were counted and 32 votes cast. By 1816 Delaware's population topped 150 people and 50 houses. In 1830 the census gave the population of the city as 532 people; in 1840, 898; in 1850, 2,074; in 1860, 3,889; in 1870, 6,000; in 1885, 9,000; and in 1895 the population topped 10,000 people. By 1923 18,000 people resided in the city.

An article appearing in the Delaware Gazette of July 26, 1872 put the number of buildings in the city at 1,289, of which 786 were frame, 488 were brick and 16 were stone. Sandusky St. contained 2 stone, 98 brick and 116 frame buildings, some of which were commercial. Franklin St. was listed at 44 brick and 39 frame; Washington St. as 16 brick and 39 frame; Liberty St. at 30 brick and 55 frame; Lincoln Ave. at 12 brick and 4 frame; North St. (Central Ave.) at 3 stone, 97 brick and 28 frame and Winter St. at 5 stone, 45 brick and 63 frame.

The early development of roads and services to the city is sketchy. But one of the first orders of business transacted by the County Commissioners was the passing of an ordinance for laying a road through the county. Approximately 1825 the Sandusky and Columbus turnpike road was chartered, over an existing military road. This particular road was not a success despite much celebration and a large grant from the government. Many years after being referred to as the worst road in the county a new company was formed, the road was improved and later became a free road. Roads had improved sufficiently by 1826 for the Ohio Stagecoach Co. to provide regular service to Delaware. The earliest record of paved roads in the city occurs in 1829 with an ordinance requiring the paving of main streets was enacted. In 1842 a comprehensive plan for grading the city was approved. This enabled engineers to grade the land for maximum water runoff and also to level some of the areas higher hills. By 1852 most major streets had received an upgrade.

Many early attempts at constructing bridges were short lived. Most were either washed away by heavy floods or simply fell down. Ferries were ineffective most of the year due to heavy rains and winter runoff. By 1868 Judge Hosea Williams secured the necessary capital to erect the first successful free open wooden bridge over the Olentangy River. Public hay scales were provided by the city in 1835. Hay scales were vital to the fair weighing and pricing of hay and grain in early Ohio. Delaware Gaslight and Coal Co. provided the city with natural gas in 1860. In 1894 Col. James M. Crawford, 177 North Sandusky St., completed The Delaware Electric Street Railway Company. The sections included the North Belt Line, The South Belt Line, an east-west line between the Hocking Valley and the Big Four stations and a line to Greenwood Lake, a fashionable resort. The line ran for thirty-two years.

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The first railroad built in Ohio was the Sandusky and Mansfield road between 1830 and 1835. The Cleveland and Columbus Railroad passed a few miles to the east of the city. It was not until an eight mile curve was added by the newly formed Three C.'s and an I that the city received regular north-south service. This occurred in 1852, and was provided by The Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis railroad, commonly referred to as the "Bee Line," and called the "Three C.'s and an I." for short. Judge Hosea Williams was named director of the railroad at its inception. Through buy-outs and agreements with other railroads travel was made possible to Lake Erie (Cleveland), Columbus, Cincinnati and on to Indianapolis. Early in 1854 The Springfield, Delaware & Mt. Vernon Railroad, The S. & D. for short, was completed connecting Marysville, Delaware, Mount Vernon and Loudonville (east-west). Mr. H. G. Andrews, 56 North Franklin, was the first director of the S. & D., a position he held for many years. On May 13, 1852 the Democratic Standard, an early Delaware newspaper, reported Mr. J. Murry, employed to construct cars for the railroad, was visiting Delaware to secure subscriptions for the construction of buildings to manufacture railroad cars, shops, offices and a depot in the city. The subscriptions were raised and the city became the railroads central point and the headquarters for their production of railroad cars. The headquarters employed three hundred and twenty five men as well as trainmen and railroad personnel who lived in the city. The Columbus and Toledo Railroad first ran through Delaware in 1877. This route was an important carrier of mail and freight. Judge John D. VanDeman was the Director of the C&T Railroad at its inception and served in the position for a number of years. In 1893 the Columbus and Sandusky Short Line was the last railroad to be built in Delaware.

The Northwest District has remained an area of stable well-cared for residences. The City did not suffer a decline common to many small towns across America for several reasons. Geographically Delaware's twenty-five mile distance from Columbus, the closest major city, kept the larger city's influence to a minimum. Secondly the large downtown offered a wide variety of merchandise and services making travel unnecessary. Another contributing factor is the areas desirable architecture itself. The district has remained "the" area to live in having no other comparable area in the city, so much so that it is often times referred to as "the fashionable Northwest District". Today this rectilinear plan, often called a "walking neighborhood", of straight streets and wide treelawns remains one of the most effective tools in promoting a sense of community in the district. Presently the residents are showing signs of concern in such areas as building materials, historic paint choices and zoning laws aimed at protecting the historic areas of the city.

Industry

Many northwest residents have contributed to the success of the area in the manufacturing and selling of a variety of goods worldwide. There is no doubt that the Olentangy River played an important part in the location of the city and also in Delaware's history of manufacturing. Water was an essential element of early power. The first flax mills in the area were built in 1855 by Judge Thomas W. Powell in Stratford. When the

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venture failed due to the heavy cost of shipping the business was changed to cotton baling. In 1870, 182 persons were employed drawing \$4,000 per month. Later the Delaware Chair Factory used these buildings for their factories. In 1850 Judge Hosea Williams, 23 North Washington (now demolished), and H. G. Andrews laid out 17 lots on the west banks of the Olentangy River originally to serve as housing for employees of the mills. In 1839 the Judge and Caleb Howard opened a paper mill on this site, now known as Stratford. Howard soon sold his interest to H. G. Andrews. By 1840 the firm had extensive accounts with the State of Ohio. The Judge is responsible for the construction of the Williams Block on North Sandusky St., (N. R. 12/17/82)), from which he managed his vast real estate holdings. The city's Opera House was located on the upper floor of this building and was so desirable that it attracted many world renowned artists away from Columbus.

J. A. Barnes, 59 Griswold St., was an attorney, but in 1862 chose instead manufacturing. He bought the idea of extracting oil from flax from a county resident. He refined the original method by employing a series of levers and built a far reaching and lucrative oil business from it.

Colonel James M. Crawford II helped to organize the Mineral Springs and Sanatorium Co. on South Sandusky St. The "healing" properties of these waters brought thousands of people from across the state for the advantages of the mineral baths and sulphur spring. White Sulphur Springs soon became one of Ohio's largest health resorts. Mansion House, the hotel for White Sulphur Springs, was later to become Ohio Wesleyan University's first campus building. The Colonel also organized the first official military unit accepted by the Governor for service in the Civil War.

A. Lybrand Sr., 56 North Franklin St., gave up his second term as Congressman to found the Delaware Chair Factory, one of the Delaware's and Ohio's most important and successful industries and ultimately one of the leading manufactories of Ohio. In 1880 the factory employed 125 people who produced a unique double caned seat that was marketed worldwide. His sons Archibald Jr., 102 North Washington St., and Robert G., 260 North Franklin St. inherited the business at his retirement.

Brothers W. C. and Leonard L. Dennison, 56 West Winter St. formed a partnership in 1877 to manufacture small drain tiles. In 1890 they formed a corporation, The Delaware Clay Manufacturing Co., that added all sizes of tiles as well as brick tiles, drain tiles, hollow tile and fireproofing materials. The fireproofing portion of the business was sold to a third brother, J. F. at this time. The demand for hollow brick was great enough to keep the company in business until 1967 when it was sold to an Arkansas holding company. These three brothers along with C. E. and F. E. Cook also started The Cook Motor Company. New auto features were developed such as connecting rods, cushion valves and jump sparks. The firm is now known as Dennison Engineering Division of American Brake Shoe Co. and is still located in Delaware.

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In 1873 T. C. O'Kane, 59 North Washington St., formed a company with L. S. Wells to sell books, stationery and wallpaper. It was at this time that he compiled and published six Sunday school hymn books which sold over 600,000 copies making these hymnals the most popular singing-books sold to date in the United States.

Mr. George Campbell, 190 West Winter St., was responsible for the commercialization of the Delaware Grape. From his nursery and greenhouses located on the property he was successful in marketing the award winning grape world-wide for prices ranging from one dollar to five dollars a vine.

In 1867 Max Frank, 76 North Franklin St., opened a gentleman's furnishing store at 23 North Sandusky. His sons continued the family business and c. 1900 built the Frank Block (NR listed 12/17/82) on North Sandusky St. The home is still owned by his descendent, Harry Frank.

Although the Northwest District spawned other numerous industries, these had the most impact on Delaware, the state, and at times, America's economy.

Commerce

Delaware's early banks, since 1845, played an essential role in the city's growth. Unlike many precarious banks in early settlements, Delaware's history of banking was stable. Early volatile banks often paralyzed city businesses and industries in which they were located. By 1867 three strong banks, with no funds forfeited, had been established in the city.

In June of 1845 Judge Hosea Williams organized and served as President of Delaware's first State chartered bank, The Delaware County Branch of the State Chartered Bank of Ohio. This bank was one of eight branch establishments in the state. Upon expiration of the state charter in 1865, the newly established national bank charter was obtained forming Delaware County National Bank. The Judges grandson, William Little of 148 North Washington St., became President of Delaware County Bank and later founder and President of Dime Savings of Columbus, Ohio. In 1905 the name was changed to Delaware National Bank. In 1931 the bank was liquidated and merged with a new bank; The Delaware County National Bank.

The Honorable John D. VanDeman, 19 Woodlawn, organized the first Building and Loan Association in Ohio with assets of two million dollars. Judge VanDeman was also known in Ohio as a crusader in favor of face value money and spoke across the country for the newly formed Republican party's anti-slavery stance and face value money. Mr. VanDeman was also named Director of the First National Bank, served two terms as Prosecuting Attorney and four terms as Mayor.

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In December of 1867, The Deposit Banking Company was formed by H. W. Pumphrey, 60 Griswold, with capital of \$25,000.00. In 1890 it became a state chartered bank and was liquidated in 1932.

In 1834 Abram Thomson, state senator and representative of 138 North Sandusky St., became sole owner and editor of what is today one of the oldest family owned newspapers in America, The Delaware Gazette, (founded in 1819). Mr. Thomson continued as editor for sixty-two years after which his son Henry Clay, 148 North Washington, continued operation.

Health and Medicine

Delaware's physicians also contributed to the broader pattern of both local and state history. Yale educated Dr. James Hills, 127 North Franklin St., was one of the city's early physicians locating in Delaware in 1822. Dr. Hills was part owner of The Ohio State Journal, a leading medical publication at the time. His son Dr. Ralph Hills, 62 Griswold and 127 North Franklin St., specialized in mental disorders. The younger Dr. Hills made his home Delaware but for brief periods of time would relocate to further his career. The first period was shortly after he graduated from medical school in 1827. At the request of his uncle, Dr. Ely Todd superintendent of a large hospital for the insane in Hartford, Conn., Dr. Hills took a position at the asylum. After his brief tenure the doctor returned to Delaware to practice. In 1854 he founded and edited the first medical weekly in the west, The Counselor. His unique and innovative approach to care for the insane won him an eight year tenure at the Central Ohio Lunatic Asylum in Columbus where he greatly improved the facility's conditions. After returning to Delaware he accepted a position to plan and supervise the construction of America's largest asylum in Weston, West Virginia in 1860, a position he held for ten years. The doctor then returned to Delaware to continue his practice and contributions to numerous medical periodicals. Dr. Hills also dabbled as an inventor and patented a widespread means of fireproofing which was used in the Delaware County Courthouse.

Dr. John Little, 130 North Washington St. (demolished 1960's) was a noted physician in the field of poisons in both Delaware and Columbus. In 1873 he delivered a paper to the Ohio State Medical Society on the antidotal properties of belladonna in opium poisoning. This paper was an extremely important study in the days when opium was used extensively for medicinal purposes and became the leading reference at the time.

Dr. Silas W. Fowler, 118 North Franklin, practiced medicine in Delaware from 1871 to 1907. On two separate occasions the doctor represented the State of Ohio at the International Medical Convention and twice published articles from his lectures at the insistence of the Society. Dr. Fowler is also responsible for documenting the lives and practices of Delaware's early physicians.

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There is no doubt the Northwest's physicians furthered health care in America. Their numerous contributions to periodicals, medical conventions and societies were for many years considered the definitive authority on their respective subjects.

Politics and Government

Throughout history the Northwest District has been most remembered for its outstanding contributions to American Law. Perhaps no other group from the area has more greatly influenced the history of America. These men are responsible for landmark decisions, precedent setting standards, future politicians and judges and the shaping of some of Americas brightest legal minds.

Judge Thomas W. Powell, 128-30-32 North Sandusky St., was a State Representative, State Senator and a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1875. Judge Powell wrote two important documents concerning law in America, Analysis of American Law and Appellate Jurisdiction. These two documents were used throughout Ohio as definitive works on the subjects. The Judge also wrote The History of the Ancient Britons in 1875-77. This book was accepted as an authoritative work on the early British. Judge Powell is most remembered for his invaluable instruction to recent members of the bar. Under his tutelage several important men rose to prominence, among them are the Honorable C. Sweetser, Congressman 1849-1853, Edward Jones Esq., prosecuting attorney, the Honorable T. C. Jones, the Honorable Royal T. Wheeler, Chief Justice of Texas, and General J. S. Jones of the 45th. Congress.

Although Judge Thomas Clive Jones, 133 North Washington St., was a member of the Senate his contributions to agriculture are most significant. The many bills he authored and successfully passed through the house and senate were the first of their kind to deal with the importation of cattle to America. With these bills it was possible to keep diseased European cattle from contaminating pure-bred American cattle strains. The Judge was also a member of the State Board of Agriculture.

Other early politicians included Colonel James W. Crawford, 177 North Sandusky St. After the War of 1812 the Colonel was named Senator from Delaware, Marion and Crawford counties. Colonel Crawford successfully argued a case resulting in a landmark decision by the State Supreme Court whereby cities and towns could be held responsible for ensuing damage caused by city employees. This precedence setting law was used by a number of states afterward.

United States Senator Frank Bartlett Willis, 123 North Franklin St. (NR listed 01/28/88), and 260 North Franklin St., was born in Delaware Co. in 1871. The Senator was elected governor of Ohio in 1914. In 1928 minutes before announcing his bid for Presidency of the United States he collapsed at Gray's Chapel (NR listed 03/18/85) and died. The governors popularity was so great that he received over 70,000 votes posthumously.

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Education

It is a fact that early schools in Ohio were begun at about the same time the settlers arrived in the principal settlements. Money for books, remuneration for teachers and public school funds were non-existent. Early schools were held in private homes by subscription, approximately \$1.00 to \$1.50 per student up to \$3.00 if the teacher was "educated". The first recorded school in the Northwest District was taught by Russell E. Post in 1817 in a building on West Winter St. As with all early schools it was short-lived. A few more followed in the city until in 1821 when Miss Sophia Moore built a house at 15 North Franklin St. as an orphans' home and school. The school, not exclusively a charitable endeavor, was attended by many residents' children. This school continued under other teachers for a number of years.

The "school law" of 1825 established a system of lower school grades thereby offsetting growing private educations. This law established a tax of one-half mill on the dollar. It was not enough to keep the schools operating for the required length of time, most often for less than half of the year. At this time \$20.00 per month was drawn from public funds, gained by public voluntary subscriptions, to pay a city teacher. Under the terms of the contract with the teacher, when the funds were exhausted, the building was granted with no encumbrances to the teacher to be used as a private school for the remainder of the school year. Under this law the first public school building was erected on the corner of West Winter and North Franklin Streets and another on North Franklin St. at the corner of the court-house lot. Miss Eliza Thompson and afterwards Mrs. William Carson, were the first women to teach in the Delaware City School system. Although Mrs. Carson taught many of Delaware's young students, her most famous pupil was future president Rutherford B. Hayes.

Delaware was formed into one district when the 1847 State Legislature passed the "Akron Law" establishing Union schools with graded classes. Under this new law no person could teach that had not been examined by a board of examiners set up in each union. The excellence of education increased to the point that tuition to private schools ceased except in the areas of denominational and expensive select schools and the numbers of unfit teachers was drastically reduced. The North School, 248 North Washington, was built in 1869 and the High School on West Winter Street in 1883.

Before 1850 the income of the Delaware Board of Education had established itself sufficiently to sustain the schools for nine months with a summer recess. That coupled with the compulsory education law of March 20, 1877 part established the system used today.

Education in the city was primarily the concern of the Northwest residents. Many of these residents originated in the populated New England states where they benefited from the value of formal education. Early schools, buildings and land in Northwest section were for the most part patronized, built, and donated by these Northwest residents.

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Delaware's educational history took an interesting turn toward the middle of the nineteenth century. In the 1830's Judge Powell drew the plans and supervised the construction of Mansion House. This hotel was built to accommodate the great influx of people drawn to the city's fashionable White Sulphur Springs resort. The springs consisted of "healing" mineral baths and spring waters which the Indians had called "Medicine Waters". However the resort was short lived, and in 1841 citizens of the city persuaded ministers of the two Methodists conferences to accept the site for a new college. The abandoned building and grounds were purchased from Judge Powell for ten thousand dollars, a fraction of their value. The population of the city at the time was 893 but 200 citizens raised \$9,000.00 with the remaining \$1,000.00 donated by Rev. Adam Poe and the two conferences. On March 7, 1842, Ohio Wesleyan University was granted a state charter. Mansion House was renamed Elliot Hall, (N.R. 04-23-73), and became the college's first campus building. Tuitions were sold in five year lots for \$100.00. In two years they had raised \$30,000.00. Enrollment stood at six hundred students by the early 1850's.

A meeting at the home of Dr. Ralph Hills in April of 1853 resulted in the idea for Ohio Wesleyan Female College. Twenty subscribers decided to purchase the William Little mansion at the end of West Winter St. and seven surrounding acres for this college. The college was an instant success. Four men served briefly as presidents with Rev. Park Donelson assuming the position in 1856. It was under his tutelage that Monnett Hall was built.

The beginning of Ohio Wesleyan University and later Ohio Wesleyan Female College brought more influential people to the area. As well as educators and scholars, many Doctors and Lawyers chose the city and the Northwest District for its potential to educate their sons and daughters. Many prominent families chose to reside in the Northwest District for the duration of their children's education while others of influence boarded their sons with the "right" families in the Northwest section.

The Northwest District was also home to the majority of educators for the college. Among those early teachers were Rev. Park Donelson, 120 West Winter St., first President of the female college until 1873, Frank M. Davis, 94 West Winter St., instructor of violin, piano and orchestra instruments, John H. Grove, 151 West Winter St., was responsible for Latin and principal academics and Samuel Blakslee, 101 North Washington St., director of the music department including instrumental and vocal. Prof. Grove also published a work of Latin elements which was used in schools throughout the country. Language, Literature and Latin was handled by Rev. Wm. F. Whitlock, 294 North Sandusky St. who was also principal of city schools in 1857.

Fraternalities also chose the Northwest District. By converting several of the areas larger homes many of them were saved from destruction, a common fate for such structures. These Fraternalities are Beta Theta Pi (the V. T. Hills home on 52 West Lincoln), Phi Delta Theta (the Little home at 130 North Washington), Phi Gamma Delta (the Hills home at 135 North Franklin), Chi Phi (the Clauson home at 216 North Franklin),

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Phi Epsilon (the Little home at 23 North Washington), Sigma Phi Epsilon (the Jones home at 133 Washington), Delta Alpha Phi (the Vogte-Shur home at 219 North Sandusky), Theta Delta Psi (229 Sandusky St. and 449 North Sandusky St.), Kappa Delta Alpha (293 North Sandusky St.-now closed), Beta Sigma Tau (60 Griswold) and Kappa Sigma (229 North Sandusky). The fraternities also have an area for the construction of buildings designed specifically as fraternity houses, Delta Tau Delta at North Franklin, Alpha Tau Omega at 290 North Sandusky, Alpha Sigma Phi at 121 North Washington and Phi Chi at 36 Griswold.

Ohio Wesleyan's 150 year influence on the city's culture, prosperity and growth is immeasurable. The influx of educators and students have helped to provide Delaware an enlightenment and distinction in many other small towns.

Many Northwest residents contributed in innumerable ways to further education in the city. As well as the educational benefits of professors and teachers were those who gave by other means. Captain Velorus T. Jones and his wife Amelia Sanborn Hills, 52 West Lincoln, made several contributions to education. The Captain and his sister-in-law Anna Sanborn Clason, 216 North Franklin (Chi Phi), donated the funds necessary for the construction of O.W.U.'s music center Sanborn Hall (NR listed (03/18/85). The Captain donated two thousand dollars to secure a six thousand dollar Carnegie grant for the County Library, which was spearheaded by T. C. Jones, on North Sandusky St., (N.R. listed 01/11/83).

Local History

A petition to establish a home for "unprotected girls" was brought before the State General Assembly by a group of concerned county residents. On May 5, 1869 the General Assembly acted upon the petition by approving the institution and appointing a board. The site was to be the deserted resort White Sulphur Fountain on the Scioto River south of the city. Professor Merrick of Ohio Wesleyan University and Abram Thomson were appointed to the board. Their duties included organizing and operating the home for the State of Ohio. The school officially opened in 1869 under the name Reform School for Girls but was changed in 1872 to the Girls Industrial School.

Shortly after the school's inception, a number of Northwest residents were responsible for its operation. Abram Thomson, 138 North Sandusky St., State Senator and Representative, was appointed to the position by Governor Hayes in 1869. In 1877 Dr. Ralph Hills was appointed superintendent largely for his past work and compassion with the insane. Colonel James M. Crawford II, 177 North Sandusky St., was also appointed to head the Girls Industrial School where he introduced a more Christian approach to the women's

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Prison reformer A. G. Byers, 22 West Lincoln, wrote America's Crime Cradles, County and City Jails in 1867. In this paper he stressed the need to separate prisoners from each other, referring to existing jails as seminaries for crime. This paper increased attention to prison conditions and the buildings themselves, no doubt influencing Governor Rutherford B. Hayes, a Delaware native, during his term of 1868-1872. The Governor began an ambitious program of institutional reform which was reflected in a variety of state and county buildings designed specifically to address various social needs. In 1878 Delaware's newly built County Jail and Sheriff's Residence emulated Byers ideas.

Sidney Moore Jr., 109 North Sandusky St. (now demolished), was president of the Delaware Branch of the State Chartered Bank of Ohio in 1883 but is well remembered for his numerous charitable projects. One of those projects was a substantial sum of money for a home for elderly women. The Sara Moore home, named after his second wife, was his contribution. Mr. Moore also gave a large amount of money to build the Masonic Temple on William St. just outside the district boundaries. A children's home for orphans was started in 1881 by Mrs. Abram Thomson. Several buildings were utilized at various times and eventually the Children's Home of Delaware was located at 5 Mason Ct., formerly North Franklin Ave.

Delaware's social conscience has had far reaching effects. The Girls Industrial School, now Scioto Village, and the Sara Moore Home are still in existence. The Children's Home of Delaware has been relocated but is still operating.

Agriculture

Delaware County Agricultural Society was formed in June of 1833 after an act of the State of Ohio Legislature encouraged the organization of societies in several Ohio counties. The society continued for a number of years and was re-organized in 1848. The first agricultural county fair was held in September of that year.

Short horned cattle were first brought into Ohio as early as 1810. Delaware's first blooded cattle were brought into the county by Judge Hosea Williams and Wilder Joy in 1826. These were short horned cattle and would prove to make Delaware a leader in the state for its breeding program. The Judge formed a partnership with his sons-in-law Chauncey Hills, 135 North Franklin, and Thomas Clive Jones which produced a fine strain of short horned cattle. The three men increased a small parcel of land to the 400 acre farm Crystal Springs, administering the property from their homes in the district. This farm was responsible for many prized short horned cattle which were sold to English royalty and throughout the world; (the cost to England alone being \$30,000.00). Hills also wrote many articles on cattle raising and breeding for the Country Gentleman and other such publications.

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Chauncey's son Fred, same address, carried on the family tradition of breeding short horned cattle at Crystal Springs, but improved the strain by introducing blooded stock from Europe. At this time he also introduced Shropshire Sheep to the county. He was also owner of Greenwood Lake, a fashionable resort.

Rubens son, Captain Velorus T. Hills was president of Delaware County Bank, part owner of the family paper company in Stratford, and manager of his father's grocery business on South Sandusky St. In the family tradition he was a noted breeder of Red Polled Cattle on his three farms. His numerous articles on breeding appeared in The Breeders Gazette, making him a noted authority on the subject.

Blooded horses were introduced in the Western Reserve as early as 1825 where they were bred with the Amish and Mennonite's strain of draft horses, the Norman. Amongst the earliest breeders of the Percheron-Norman draft horse were the Covell brothers Manley; 98 West Winter St. and L. S., 94 West Winter St. By 1850 there were over seven hundred Percherons and a Percheron Breeder's Association of ninety members in the county. Delaware soon led the nation in the breeding of the horse and won international recognition for its efforts. The popularity of the breed did not diminish with the invention of the tractor. A humorous article appeared in the Breeders' Gazette of December 17, 1914 citing the incredible numbers of these horses brought to W. E. Pritchard to judge. The enthusiasm for the breed continued into 1928 when three county breeders were awarded 27 ribbons at the Chicago Livestock Show.

Mr. Abram Thomson is noted in many horticultural journals as the hybridizer of the Delaware Grape. The fruit was found growing in the county in 1850 and was named for the town. In 1853 Mr. Thomson sent a specimen to Maj. Barry editor of the magazine Horticulturist, where it was met with much enthusiasm and rated superior to all others. Soon afterward the Massachusetts Horticultural Society awarded Thomson a medal for his work. Through Thomsons efforts George Campbell, an avid horticulturist with extensive greenhouses on West Winter St., was able to build a lucrative business from the fruit resulting in thousands of vines sold worldwide.

Architecture - Criterion "C"

The Northwest's architecture reflects over one hundred years of changing American tastes. As a result a wide diversity of examples can be found, from the earliest, the Federal style home of Judge Henry VanDeman at 6 Darlington, (NR listed 05/31/84) built between 1826 and 1836, and the Greek Revival Andrews-Lybrand home at 56 North Franklin c. 1840; to the modern Craftsman style, c. 1915, at 272 North Franklin and the French Eclectic style Russell home at 153 North Washington, c. 1930. Nearly without exception Delaware's leading businessmen, educators, lawyers, physicians and industrialists chose this area for the construction of a wide variety of high style residences whose diversity has not been reproduced elsewhere in the city. Because these professional men were leaders in the community and had the means to produce high style residences the area was soon referred to as the "fashionable" Northwest District.

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The area includes Federal, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Folk Victorian, Stick, Queen Anne, Richardsonian Romanesque and Shingle. Early twentieth century styles include Craftsman, Prairie, Mission Tudor and Colonial Revival.

It is difficult to comprehend how a relatively small area can contain the variety of examples found here from over 100 years of architectural history. It is even more difficult to understand why this small area was chosen over undeveloped lots immediately to the north and west. Still as the town prospered many residents continued to choose the area.

Property within the district was acquired by various means. Dr. John Little and his wife Caroline used their adjoining property for the construction of the homes at 140 and 148 North Washington. These homes were built for family members in 1884. In 1885 the Queen Anne home at 135 North Franklin was constructed after the Gothic Cottage to its north was slid down a hill to its present location making room for the larger structure. The massive logs necessary for the move remain under the house. The property for the Queen Anne home at 284 North Franklin was bought from an adjacent property owner. To construct the Fraternity House at 163 North Franklin, an earlier structure was demolished. By these means, new lots were created from the original Northwest section, filling the demand for the area into the twentieth century.

Only 5% of the available resources in the district are Gothic Revival style. All subtypes are located in the district. The picturesque Hill's residence at 141 North Franklin with its steeply pitched roof, board and batten siding and lancet windows is representative of the District's "cottage style" Gothic Revivals. The asymmetrical Sanborn Home at 216 North Franklin is an imposing three story residence representative of the High Style Gothic Revival. Two unusual types can be found in the magnificent Norman Gothic Revival home located at 190 West Winter St., c. 1850, and the Polychrome Gothic Revival Sears home at 283 North Franklin.

By far the most significant number (35%) of architectural styles is the mid to late Italianates, 1850-1885. The asymmetrically massed home at 120 West Winter and the Vogte-Shur home at 219 North Sandusky St. are two outstanding examples of Italianate styles commonly built in the area. High style elements such as elaborate cornices, highly detailed hoodmolds and elaborate porches are common. The simple hipped roof, urban lot Italianates located at 84 and 94 West Winter exhibit common Italianate elements but lack the panel friezes, ornate hoodmolds and elaborate porches common on the high style.

A fitting comparison isn't possible for the District's Second Empire style as it contains few. The Powell home at 52 West Winter is a large Second Empire style ornamented with multi-colored slate shingles, highly decorative cast iron porches and matching fence. The smaller Second Empire home at 111 North Franklin lacks these high style elements but is towered.

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The district contains only two late Stick styles, built in 1884, at 140 and 148 North Washington. The homes are nearly identical but a comparison can be drawn in the sizes and porches. 140 North Washington, built for Dr. Little's young daughter, follows the traditional Eastlake style porch. The larger Stick style at 148 North Washington was built for Dr. Little's eldest son and reflects his occupation, banking. Its porch is classic and restrained in design with Tuscan columns.

By the mid 1880's the more elaborate Queen Anne style gained favor in the area. 15% of the districts resources are represented by this style. The district's only Patterned Masonry Queen Anne style homes all exhibit high style elements. Two outstanding examples are the Neff home (N.R. 01/28/88) located at 123 North Franklin and the Hill residence at 135 North Franklin. Both exhibit high style elements of their subtype such as a wide variety of textures, multi-colored tiles, elaborate entablatures and complex massing. All Queen Anne subtypes can be found in the area, but the majority are Free Classic (57%). The massive brick Dennison home at 56 West Winter exhibits high style Free Classic elements including pilasters, dentils, a double columned wrap-around porch and parallel gables. 200 and 248 North Franklin are representative of the district's simpler Free Classic Queen Anne homes. These homes are considerably smaller and lack the elaborate wall decoration. The Spindlework Queen Anne homes at 188 and 255 N. Franklin show the areas wide range of interpretation. 255 North Franklin makes excessive use of decorative shingles, towers, porch ornamentation and multi-sized and shaped window frames while 188 North Franklin, approximately the same size, is limited to a more restrained treatment. Only 4% of the districts Queen Anne styles are Half-timbered; and all exhibit high style elements, the most notable being at 267 North Washington. This massive home features elaborate patterned half-timbering in the eaves and a prominent wrap-around spindlework porch.

The Folk Victorian style is also represented by 15% of the areas resources. This style remained popular in the area for over fifty years. The dominant subtype in the area, gable front and wing, was easily adapted to the narrow city lots. Representative examples can be seen in 127 and 181 North Franklin. All are similar but the range is more limited than other styles found in the area.

The District contains thirty-one Colonial Revival buildings, 9% of the total resources. Five of the nine sub-classifications can be found in the district, but hipped roof with full-width porch, 55%, and gambrel, 32%, dominate. 125 North Sandusky St. is an excellent example of the subtype with full-width porch. Details of the porch include a center projecting gable, a central second story entrance sized porch with a hipped roof and classic Tuscan columns. 116 North Sandusky lacks the complex porch, its porch is single storied and its columns are squared. The gambrel subtype found at 67 West Lincoln is a large home with decorative pierced window frames and a wide full-width porch. Part of the complicated plan of this home is the prominently placed matching two storey barn with a gambrel roof. The homes at 70 and 72 North Franklin are representative of the district's uncomplicated gambrel roof Colonial Revivals. These smaller homes lack the size and intricate window frames and porches. The districts other subtypes are all most common to small towns across America.

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Three Shingle style homes are located at 107 North Franklin, 61-61 1/2 and 130 North Liberty. The first two have gambrel roofs while the latter is side gabled. All feature similar Shingle elements such as the extensive use of shingles, only their size varies.

The District contains a single or relatively few examples of certain architectural styles. Among them is the imposing Richardsonian Romanesque Church located at 55 West Lincoln, the Norman Gothic Revival home at 190 West Winter, the massive Mission Fraternity House at 36 Griswold and the French Eclectic home at 153 North Washington.

Of the early twentieth century styles, the Craftsman influence is apparent at 295 North Washington; and the Prairie at 36-38 West Winter. The Tudor Revival homes at 163 North Franklin and 155 North Washington are examples of the range of diversity found in the area. 155 North Washington is a large frame Tudor c. 1910. Architectural features include a nearly three storey tall side gabled roof that descends to form the porch roof. 163 North Franklin is a brick clad Tudor, c.1930, with an entrance recess and metal casement windows.

The district also contains 26 vernacular homes classified as Other. 298 North Washington is an interesting example. This massive home features side gables with dissecting chimneys and a large full-width porch supported by immense columns.

Although no other area of the city contains the diversity and numbers of architectural styles found in the Northwest District, the Southwest Education District is the closest. Before the turn of the century Ohio Wesleyan University constructed a new residence for their President on Oakhill Dr., located on the far west side of the campus. It was at this time that a small number of educators and businessmen moved to this area. Still the majority of professors chose to remain in the Northwest District, whose southern most border is shared with the northern campus; as a result, only a few homes were built. These homes consist mostly of small Colonial Revival styles and simpler Queen Anne styles whose total number does not exceed twenty. The surrounding homes (approximately 60) in this area are nondescript small vernacular cottages.

The Northwest District is an important example of community planning and development. This residential district, nearly two hundred years later remains a significant extension of the downtown commercial area. These two districts form an integral bond, each being as important to the other, which is still reflected in the overall appearance and general feeling of the community. The buildings in the district reflect their owners significant contributions in the areas of commerce, industry, health and medicine, politics and government, education, social history and agriculture that have had an impact on the broad patterns of local, state and national history. The architecture of this district represents the city's most respected and influential people and reflects nearly one hundred years of American architectural styles. At this point in time little has

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changed and much of the area remains intact. The district boundaries have been drawn to reflect the original Northwest Quadrant and additional sections to the city before 1880.