

REFORM 02001123

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

historic name: **Sorricks-Oster Store**

other name/site number: **Ohio Historic Inventory SUM-1529-19**

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2. Location

street & number: **7846 Main Street**

not for publication: **N/A**

city/town: **Clinton**

vicinity:

state: OH county: **Summit**

code: **153**

zip code: **44216**

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this   x   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   x   meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Barbara Paven <sup>Dept. Head</sup> Planning, Inventory August 15, 2002  
Signature of certifying official    Registration    Date

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

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4. National Park Service Certification

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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

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Ownership of Property: **Private**

Category of Property: Building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____ <u>1</u> _____	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
_____ <u>1</u> _____	_____ 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: Commercial  
Domestic

Sub: Department Store  
Single dwelling

Current : Vacant/Not in use

Sub:

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Greek Revival

Other Description: Front Gabled

Materials: foundation Sandstone roof: Asphalt  
walls Wood clapboard 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: Criterion A & C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Commerce  
Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1846-1884

Significant Dates: Historic 1846, 1859

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.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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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: .25

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

- 1) 17 446970 4530620 3)
2) 4)

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet. Summit County  
Pumroy Lot 22.

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

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

Name/Title: Sam Tamburro, Historian for the Village of Clinton

Organization: NPS/ Cuyahoga Valley NP Date: 11 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

**Figure 4** Second floor plan

Photographs

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Sorricks-Oster Store  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description**

The Sorrick-Oster Store<sup>1</sup> is located in the Village of Clinton at 7846 Main Street on Lot 22. The store is situated on the south side of Main Street in the commercial area of the village. The site includes several mature trees. A two-story house is situated to the west of the Oster Store. A small, one-story house is sited on the lot along the east side of the store. Directly to the north of the store is the Limbach Block building.

Built circa 1846, the store is a front-gabled, two-story, wood-frame, high-style Greek Revival (photo 1). The store contains an approximately 25 foot, rectangular, gabled-roof addition along the south elevation of the building (photo 2). The addition, which is slightly lower than the main section, was likely added shortly after the original construction. The original section of the store includes a central chimney and an additional center chimney is located at the southern end of the addition.

The façade of the Oster Store contains a recessed central doorway with a narrow transom and a four-light sidelight. The front door appears to date from the late-nineteenth century and has a sunburst pattern in its bottom panel (photo 1). Four Doric pilasters support a full-length entablature across the front façade which serves as a visual separation for the first and second floor. There are two large 8/8 double-hung sash windows in the first story that flank the recessed doorway. These windows appear to have replaced an earlier, larger set of display lights.

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<sup>1</sup> Referred to hereafter as Oster Store.

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Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description (continued)**

The second story contains two 6/6 double-hung sash windows. The gable front is also adorned with cornice returns, characteristic of the Greek Revival style (photo 1 and 9).

The Oster Store is covered with clapboard siding with end boards and the roof is clad with asphalt tab shingles and tar paper. Windows along the west, south, and east elevations are combination of 6/6, 2/2, and 1/1 double-hung sash and the fenestration pattern is asymmetrical (photo 2). All of the windows have plain surrounds (photo 3).

There are two doors located along the east elevation of the store. The southern most door contains a small shed roof porch that is supported by squared columns. The porch entry is decorated with a saw tooth treatment and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The entryway includes a 4 light transom and a 6 panel door with a wooden screen door (photo 6). The northern door contains a small gable-roof portico (photo 8).

The rear (south) section of the building contains a gravel driveway/ramp that leads from an alleyway to 2 large metal basement doors that appear to be newer (photo 5). Near the basement doors, portions of the sandstone block foundation are exposed. The south elevation also has four 1/1 double-hung sash windows with plain surrounds. There is a door located on the west end of the elevation. The door has a significant drop off and it appears that stairs may have once existed (photo 5).

The interior of the building contains a full basement. The basement floor is poured concrete and the foundation is constructed of cut sandstone block.

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Sorricks-Oster Store  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Description** (continued)

The interior framing of the store reveals that the structure was built in three sections. The front section is framed with post-and-beam construction. Historically, this section served as the storefront. A back interior wall separates the storefront from the remainder of the building. The ceiling of the storefront is clad with wood tongue-and-groove paneling.

The back section of the store, historically used for storage and a living quarters, is constructed with balloon framing.

The interior of the store has plain-faced wood door and window surrounds, and all of the doors within the store are three paneled. The Oster Store's floor plan retains integrity of design as a storefront and the current floor plan is consistent with the historic massing of the building.



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Sorricks-Oster Store  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Photographs**

The following information is the same for all photographs.

Name of Property: Oster Store  
County and State: Summit County, Ohio  
Photographer: Sam Tamburro  
Date of Photograph: March, 1999\*  
Location of Negatives: Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area

1. Façade elevation, facing south.
2. West elevation, facing east.
3. Northwest elevation, facing east.
4. Northeast elevation, facing south west.
5. South elevation, facing north.
6. West door, facing east.
7. Sandstone foundation.
8. Southeast elevation, facing northwest.
9. Cornice return, north elevation, facing south.

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\* A recent visit in January 2002 to the property confirms that the photographs accurately represent the appearance of the Sorrick-Oster Store.

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Sorrick-Oster Store  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Statement of Significance**

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

The Oster Store is significant under Criterion A for its association with the commercial development of the Village of Clinton during its Canal Era. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the store maintained a retail function. During the operation of the Ohio & Erie (O&E) Canal, Clinton was home to several provisioning and grocery stores that catered to canal boat passengers and captains. The 1909 fire destroyed many of Clinton's canal-era commercial structures. Presently, the Oster Store is the only canal-era commercial building extant in the village.

The store is also significant under Criterion C for representing a building that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The Oster Store is a front-gabled Greek Revival, a building type identified in the Clinton MPD as significant.

The Greek Revival style is indicative of the influence of the opening of the O&E Canal on the growth of the community. The front-gable Greek Revival is strongly associated with the Northeast Ohio building tradition. These building styles were extended into the Clinton area, which is south of the Western Reserve's boundary, in part, by the construction of the O&E Canal.

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Sorrick-Oster Store  
Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Background**

Like all the land in Franklin Township (Summit County), the U.S. Government originally owned Pumroy Lot 22. Thus, the entire township was designated the Congress Lands. With the completion of the Ohio & Erie Canal in 1832, the land directly east of the canal channel (present day Clinton) became a prime area of commercial development.

In 1837, William and Francis Pumroy purchased a large parcel of land in Section 35 of Franklin Township east of the Ohio & Erie Canal and south of the Village of Orradeen, which was founded in 1835. The brothers named the area the Village of Pumroy, divided it into approximately 70 lots and quickly began to sell property.

In 1844, William Pumroy sold lot 22 to Solomon Sorrick and two years later Sorrick built a frame structure on the site that is the current building.<sup>2</sup> Sorrick, a local grain merchant and co-owner of the Clinton Roller Mill, owned the store for six years, subsequently selling the property to Lewis Waggoner in 1853. The following year, Henry Oster purchased the store from Waggoner.

According to the 1856 Matthews and Taintor map of Summit County, Henry Oster owned Lot 22 and operated a "grocerie (sic) & provisions" shop.<sup>3</sup> During the first half the nineteenth century, the Village of Clinton served as a major grain and coal shipping port on the Ohio & Erie Canal and the town was home to several

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<sup>2</sup> 1846 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates.

<sup>3</sup> 1856 Matthews & Taintor, Map of Summit County, Ohio.

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Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Historical Background (continued)**

provisioning stores. According to Samuel Lane's Akron and Summit County, the Oster grocery store also functioned as a saloon.<sup>4</sup>

From 1859 to 1860 the tax valuation of the store increased from \$395 to \$570, suggesting that the south addition was added during this time.

Henry Oster ran the store until his death in 1864, leaving the business to his son Charles. Shortly after inheriting the store, Charles was convicted of manslaughter after beating to death a customer who refused to pay on his delinquent account. Charles served a two-year prison term, but retained ownership of the store.<sup>5</sup>

Charles remained the proprietor of the store until circa 1884 when John J. Hiltbrand purchased the building and operated a harness shop on the site.<sup>6</sup> The 1885-86 Akron City Directory lists J.J. Hiltbrand as "a manufacturer of fine harnesses, and all kinds of horse furnishing goods."<sup>7</sup>

In 1900, Alice Brown retained ownership of the store. According to the Clinton Story, Brown operated a millinery shop out of the building in the early twentieth century.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Samuel Lane, Fifty Years and Over, Akron and Summit County, (Akron, OH: Beacon Job Department, 1892), 762.

<sup>5</sup> For additional information regarding the Oster-Kernan Homicide see Lane, Fifty Years and Over, 792-793.

<sup>6</sup> Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates, 1883.

<sup>7</sup> Akron City Directory, (Akron, OH: N.H. Burch & Company, 1886),

<sup>8</sup> Sandra Walsh Dreurey, The Clinton Story, (Clinton, OH: Clinton Historical Society, 1991), 121.

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Village of Clinton  
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**Historical Background (continued)**

A 1927 Sanborn Insurance Map indicates that the store contained a wrap-around porch on the south and part of the east elevation. The map also notes that lot 21 contained a dwelling and a store was situated on lot 23. The house to the west of the store is still extant, the store on lot 23 no longer exists and a modest ranch house is now situated on the lot.

The Sanborn Map also denotes that an automobile garage was located on the southeast portion of lot 22, adjacent to the alleyway. The garage no longer exists and there is no remnant foundation present on its former site.

The building has had a series of owners in the twentieth century and has functioned as both a store and a residence. Dreurey notes that William Klein rented the building for a post office.<sup>9</sup> Later, George and Helen Walsh rented the building and opened a grocery store, living on the second floor. Currently, Rodney and Susan Funk own the store, and the building is being rehabilitated.

**Criterion A: Commerce:**

The Oster Store is significant under Criterion A: Commerce for its association with the commercial development of the Village of Clinton during the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. As the Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of Clinton/Warwick Multiple Property Documentation Form notes, during the mid-nineteenth century, Clinton was a bustling canal town with several provision and grocery stores servicing boatman and travelers on the Ohio & Erie Canal. In the 1850s, Clinton maintained four provision stores, one hotel/tavern, and three

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<sup>9</sup> Dreurey, The Clinton Story, 14.

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Village of Clinton  
Summit County, Ohio

**Criterion A: Commerce: (continued)**

warehouses. An 1856 Matthews & Taintor map of Summit County lists the following businesses in the Village of Clinton: John Price, General Merchandise & Coal Merchant, Dr. W.S. Hand, General Merchandise, L. Wagner Shoe and Boot Manufacturer, H. Oster Groceries & Provision. Clearly, the Oster Store was an important part of the business landscape in Clinton during the nineteenth century. Moreover, the Oster Store is the only extant example of a Canal-Era commercial building in the Clinton area. The Fire of 1909, which is discussed in the Clinton MPD, destroyed most of the wood-framed Canal-Era commercial buildings in the village.

**Criterion C: Architecture:**

The Oster Store contains significantly distinct characteristics of construction practices associated with the Village of Clinton's "Canal Era" as defined by the Canal, Railroad, and Industrial Resources of Clinton/Warwick Multiple Property Documentation Form.

The Oster Store retains significant architectural elements of the Greek Revival style, a building style directly associated with Clinton's "Canal Era." The building contains classic Greek entablatures and bold cornice returns. In addition, the store has 4 detailed Doric pilasters situated along the façade with an entablature extending the length of the building that creates the "Greek Temple" effect. The Doric pilasters are bowed near the base, creating the illusion of bearing weight, which is indicative of their design quality. The central doorway flanked by two large windows is also characteristic of Greek Revival commercial buildings. Moreover, the store's shallow setback from the street suggests its commercial utility.

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**Criterion C: Architecture (continued)**

The Greek Revival style is strongly associated with Ohio's Western Reserve "New England Extended" building tradition. As settlers migrated to Northeastern Ohio from New York and New England they transported the Greek Revival style to the Western Reserve.<sup>10</sup> However, as the Clinton MPD indicates, a majority of the settlers in the Clinton area migrated from the Pennsylvania region and were German/Pennsylvania Dutch. Additionally, the Clinton area was initially part of the Congress Lands. The predominance of Greek Revival, Canal-Era buildings demonstrates the significant impact the opening of the Ohio & Erie Canal had on the development of the Village of Clinton.

Nearly all of the extant canal era structures are Greek Revival and were built after the opening of the O&E Canal in 1827. The built environment strongly suggests that the canal transported ideas and traditions as well as passengers and freight.

The Village of Clinton is a direct result of the opening of the O&E Canal and the Oster Store is an example of this development. Solomon Sorrick, the original owner of the Oster Store, co-owned the only grain mill in the village. Economic studies have indicated that over 70 percent of all of the grain shipped on

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<sup>10</sup> Talbot Hamlin, Greek Revival Architecture in America: Being an Account of Important trends in American Architecture and American Life prior to the War between the States, (New York: Dover Publications, 1964), 280.

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**Criterion C: Architecture (continued)**

the O&E Canal received at the Port of Cleveland originated from the Tuscarawas Valley.<sup>11</sup> It is quite possible that Sorrick's choice of a Greek Revival commercial building resulted from his business interactions and connections with the "New England Extended" Western Reserve culture.

**Historical Integrity**

The historical integrity of the Oster Store is well preserved. The nominated building has a high degree of integrity of design and still retains its defining features. The store's entablatures, cornice returns, pilasters, end boards, massing and fenestration, retain significant integrity of materials and workmanship. The building is in the same location it was during its period of significance (1846-1884), experienced no significant alterations to its profile and its effective in communicating it is historic function as a store. The small town commercial setting surrounding the nominated property provides integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

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<sup>11</sup> Ronald E. Shaw, Canals for a Nation: The Canal Era in the United States, 1790-1860, (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 1990), 133.



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**Major Bibliographic References**

Akron City Directory. Akron, OH: N.H. Burch & Company, 1886.

Dreurey, Sandra Walsh. The Clinton Story. Clinton, OH: Clinton Historical Society, 1991.

Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America: Being an Account of Important trends in American Architecture and American Life prior to the War between the States. New York: Dover Publications, 1964.

Lane, Samuel. Fifty Years and Over, Akron and Summit County. Akron, OH: Beacon Job Department, 1892.

Matthews & Taintor. Map of Summit County, Ohio. 1856.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. (New York: Knopf, 1997).

Shaw, Ronald E. Canals for a Nation: The Canal Era in the United States, 1790-1860. Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 1990.

1846 Summit County Tax Auditor's Duplicates.

NORTH  
NOT TO SCALE

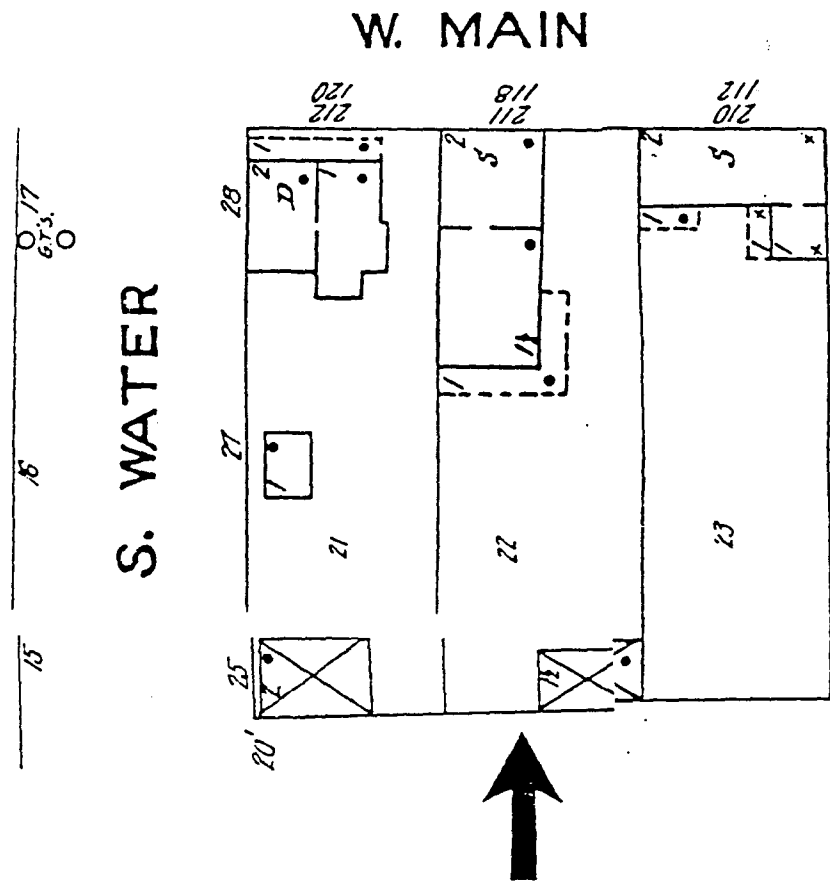
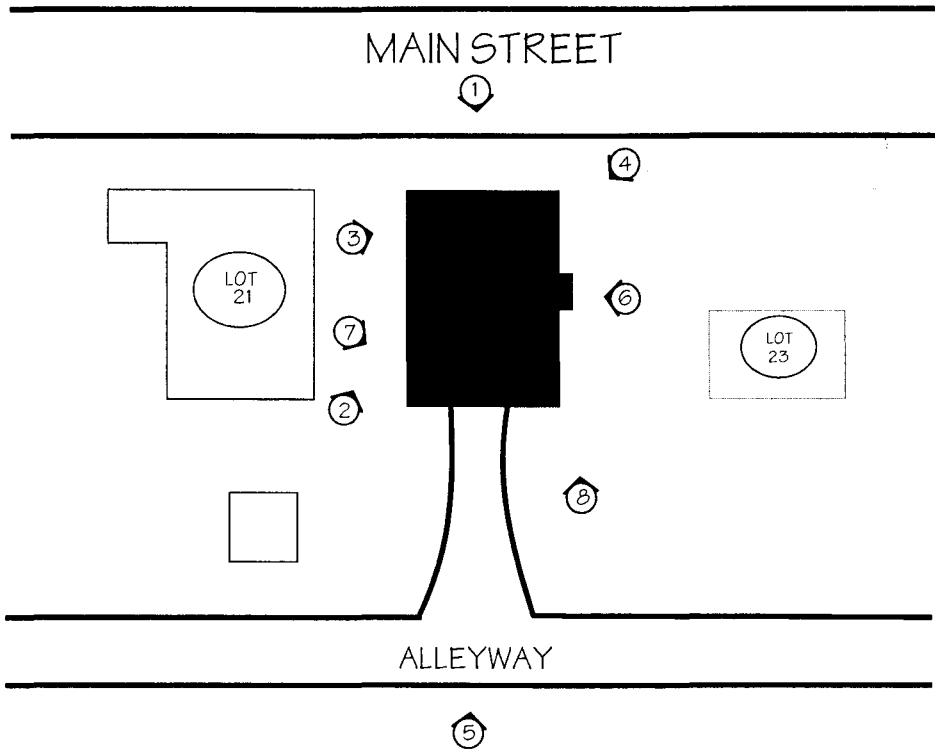
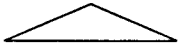


FIGURE ONE  
SANBORN MAP, 1927  
OSTER STORE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY



■ CONTRIBUTING



NORTH  
NOT TO SCALE

FIGURE TWO  
SITE AND PHOTO MAP  
SORRICK-OSTER STORE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
JAN. 2002

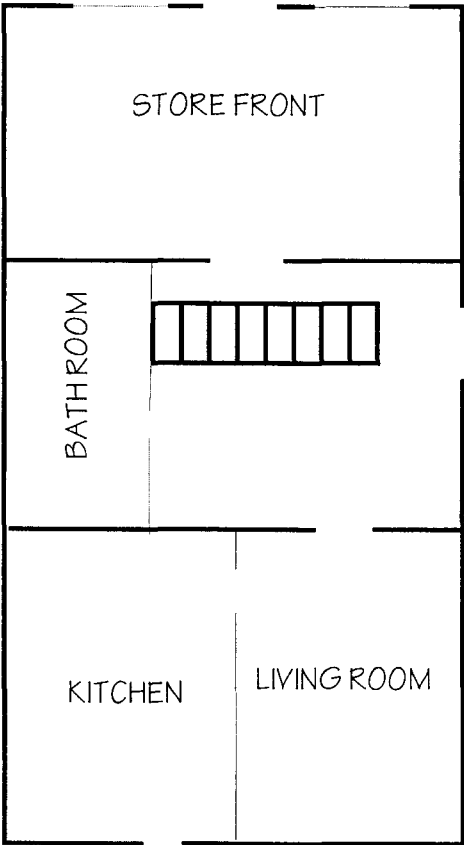


FIGURE THREE  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
SORRICK-OSTER STORE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
JAN 2002

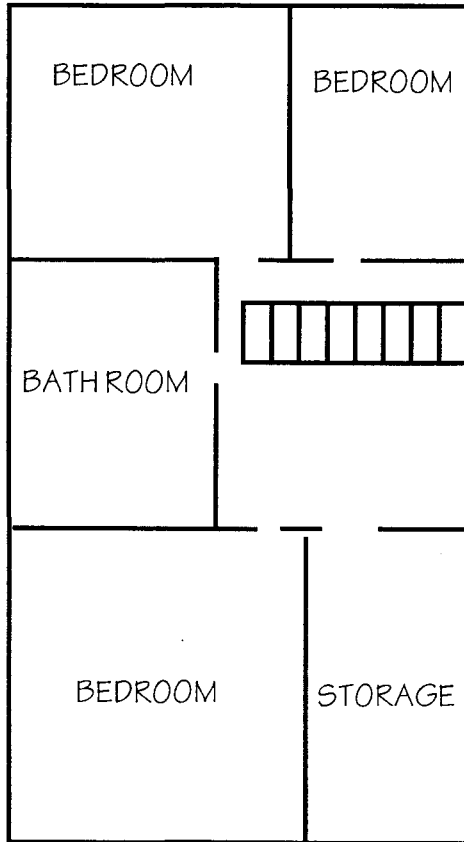


FIGURE FOUR  
SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
SORRICK-OSTER STORE  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO  
CLINTON VICINITY  
JAN 2002





Oster Store  
 Z E N  
 17-446970-4530620  
 Summit Co., OHIO

(CANAL FULTON)  
 4665 1 NE

31

30

55'

T. 2 N.

T. 1 N.

29

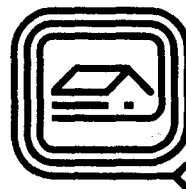
SUMMIT CO  
 STARK CO

OHIO

## Ohio Historic Preservation Office

567 East Hudson Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43211-1030  
614/ 298-2000 Fax: 614/ 298-2037

Visit us at [www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/](http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/)



OHIO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
SINCE 1885

November 5, 2002

Rodney and Susan Funk  
P.O. Box 0038  
Clinton, Ohio 44216

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Funk:

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 **Sorrick-Oster Store** at 7846 Main Street in Clinton, Ohio on October 11, 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