

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered 11-30-87

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Alling, Francis D., House

and or common

2. Location

street & number 323 East Avenue

N/A not for publication

city, town Tallmadge

N/A vicinity of

state Ohio

code 039

county Summit

code 153

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Donald P. and Joan M. Reisig

street & number 323 East Avenue

city, town Tallmadge

vicinity of

state Ohio

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Summit County Recorder's Office

street & number 191 South Main Street

city, town Akron

state Ohio

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Exterior:

Sitting atop a hill approximately one-half mile east of the Tallmadge Circle, the Francis D. Ailing House is one of the most imposing late-nineteenth century residential structures in Tallmadge. A two-story frame building, the Ailing House has elaborate architectural detailing in the Italianate bracketed style. Its dominate feature, however, is the tall tower at the front southwest corner, which is more characteristic to Italian Villa buildings. Rising to a height of three full stories, the tower commands an impressive view of the surrounding countryside. The structure has a setback of approximately fifty feet from East Avenue, one of the eight main arteries converging at the Tallmadge Circle, and is oriented with its front south facade towards the road. The structure was constructed in 1875.

The Ailing House has typical elements of the Italianate style. The square front block has wide projecting eaves supported by carved brackets. Between the eave brackets are molded panels, some of which have glass to light the attic space. At the front of the structure is a one-story full length porch held by chamfered posts on piers, and which are bracketed. The cornice of the porch roof has modillion blocks. A chamfered pilaster with carved head above the front porch gives visual support to the break in the eave at the tower. A two-story bay projects from the west facade of the structure. The rear portion of the east facade also projects slightly.

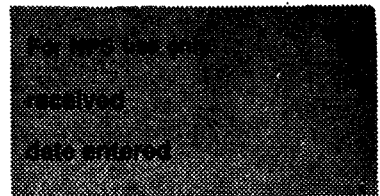
Similar to the front block, the tower also has wide projecting eaves with brackets, and which are visually supported by chamfered pilasters with brackets. On the tower at the roof level of the front block are porthole windows with molded surrounds that light the tower's stairwell. The tower is capped by a large convex mansard roof and has small two over two double hung sash windows with arched upper sash with shouldered surrounds. The tower roof is topped by a flat viewing platform with cast iron cresting.

At the rear of the front block is a one and one-half story section with a gable roof. On the east side of this section is a recessed porch. Originally the west side of the rear section also had a porch, but this has been removed and the bottom sash of this porch's windows have been walled over. At the very rear of the structure is a small one-story carriage house with hip roof.

The front block of the structure has a low pitch hip roof covered with slate. The structure is covered with shiplap siding, though the rear wall of the one and one-half story section has been covered over with asbestos shingles. The windows are two over two double hung sash with bracketed hoods and shouldered surrounds. The main entrance, which is offset on the front facade, has molded paneled double doors with hinged arched lights with iron grilles, which can be opened for ventilation. The structure has a central chimney with corbelled cap, an interior chimney on the west facade with corbelled cap, and a chimney in the center of the roof ridge of the one and one-half story section, which vents an existing smokeoven in the basement.

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Tallmadge, Summit County, Ohio
Continuation sheet Francis D. Alling House

Item number 7

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Interior:

The interior of the structure, like the exterior, is elaborately trimmed. The side hall has a winding staircase with a massive newel post with molded panels, a delicately curved rail and attenuated turned balustrades. Under the stairwell in the hall is an original built-in safe. The walls of the hall have large molded panels above the chair rail.

The finest detailed room in the house is the front parlor adjacent to the hall. In the center of the parlor ceiling is a large plaster cartouche original to the structure. The rear wall of this room is curved and has an eighteen inch picture molding conforming to the curvature. The tall windows have molded surrounds.

The room behind the hall contains a large marbelized metal mantel. A similarly treated, though smaller, mantel is in a room behind the parlor. Throughout the house are molded panel doors, molded baseboards and molded window surrounds. The large window lighting the hall stairs has a wide jamb with molded panels. The structure also contains its original hardware in working order.

Outbuildings:

There are three outbuildings on the property. A large bank barn sits at the rear of the house and was constructed in 1824. A frame necessary with a hip roof sits to the rear of the east facade of the house and was moved to the site from another Italianate structure in Tallmadge constructed by Alling. Another building, a frame garage, sits to the rear of the west facade of the house. While this building is new, it was constructed to appear as a nineteenth century carriage house and in no way detracts from the historic buildings on the site. The house and 1824 barn are considered contributing.

Contributing Buildings: 2

Non-Contributing Buildings: 2

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1875 **Builder/Architect** Francis Drake Alling

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

The Francis D. Alling House is an architecturally significant structure exhibiting outstanding design qualities in its interpretation of an Italianate residence. Constructed in 1875 by Francis D. Alling, the original occupant, the structure is also significant for its historical associations with this important local builder.

In 1811 Reuben and Hannah Beach purchased 570 acres of farmland from Colonel Benjamin Tallmadge, one of the original proprietors of Town 2, Range 10 of the Connecticut Western Reserve in which the village of Tallmadge was founded. In 1824 Reuben Beach constructed a house on the same site on which the Alling House now stands. The bank barn standing behind the nominated structure was built by Beach at about the same time.

Francis D. Alling purchased Beach's house in 1862 or 1864 and lived in it for approximately ten years. In 1875 Alling moved the Beach house off its foundation and constructed the nominated structure, the Alling House. Later that same year the Beach house was moved to a lot on the south side of East Avenue, across from the Alling House, where it still stands today.

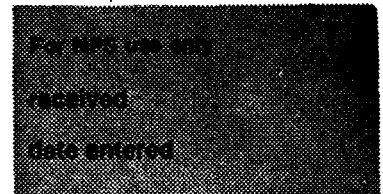
A successful builder in the community, Alling constructed for his new home a visual statement of his own craftsmanship in what was the most elaborate residence in Tallmadge at that time. While the wide eaves with carved brackets and finely detailed front porch were typical of many fine Italianate structures in the area, Alling incorporated as the central design feature of his home a distinctive two-story tower capped by a large mansard roof. Taking the fullest advantage of the sites elevation overlooking the Tallmadge commons, the tower commands an impressive view of the surrounding countryside through windows in two sides of the mansard roof and a viewing platform on top.

An emphasis on detail in the interior is immediately demonstrated as one enters the entrance hall through double doors to be met by the massive newel post of the winding stairs. Throughout the house this same attention (as exhibited in the molded panels of the hall, the plaster cartouche of the front parlor and the two marbelized mantels) is found that was normally seen only in the finer homes in more urbanized centers of that period.

Francis D. Alling was an important local contractor, who along with his brother, Winston, constructed many fine homes in and around Tallmadge in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Today at least five Italianate residences constructed by Francis D. Alling are extant in Tallmadge. Of the five, the most impressive and best preserved is this Alling House which is also the only one constructed with a tower.

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Tallmadge, Summit County, Ohio
Continuation sheet Francis D. Alling House Item number 8 Page 2

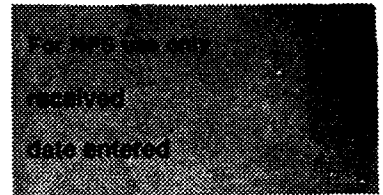
The structure remained in the Alling family until 1946, though the surrounding farmland was partitioned off over the years until only 2.5 acres of Reuben Beach's farmstead remained. By the 1960s neglect was beginning to take its toll on the structure when the present owners, Donald and Joan Reisig, purchased the house. By that time the structure had been sided over with asbestos shingles, a side porch had been taken off, and the bottom sash of the windows, at the missing porch, were walled over. Mr. Reisig, a well known restorationist in northeastern Ohio, and his wife began a careful restoration of the structure which has today resulted in the reattainment of its original grandeur.

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Tallmadge, Summit County, Ohio

Continuation sheet Francis D. Alling House Item number 10



Page 2

The Alling House sits on a rectangular lot known as all of Lot 3, the westerly 196.5 foot of Lot 4 and the westerly 12.5 feet of Lot 2 of Hill Top Acres, Tallmadge, Ohio. The southeast corner of said lot begins 135 feet west of Alling Road and has 196.5 feet fronting East Avenue and is 460 feet deep.

9. Major Bibliographical References

History of Tallmadge, Ohio: 1807-1957. Tallmadge, Ohio: Tallmadge Historical Society, 1957.
Perrin, William Henry. History of Summit County, Ohio. Chicago: Baskin & Battey, 1881.
Letter from Stella Alling Spearhawk to Joan Reisig. Undated.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property approx. 2.5 acres

Quadrangle name Akron East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>7</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Alling House sits on a rectangular lot known as all of Lot 3, the westerly 196.5 ft. of Lot 4 and the westerly 12.5 ft. of Lot 2 of Hill Top Acres, Tallmadge, Ohio.
The southeast corner of said lot begins(Continuation Sheet #2)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title C. Tim Jones, Consultant

organization _____ date March 1986.

street & number 460 Madison Street telephone (216) 297-7564

city or town Ravenna state Ohio

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature W. Ray Luce

title SHPO date 5/22/86

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

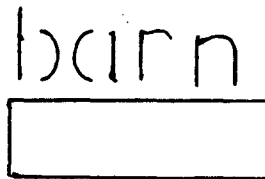
date

Chief of Registration

ALLING/REISIG HOUSE

Alling, Francis D., House, Tallmadge, Summit County, Ohio

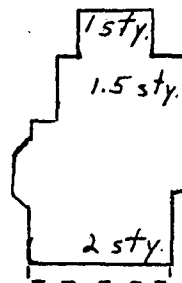
SITE PLAN



garage



house



Contributing Buildings:



Non-contributing Buildings:



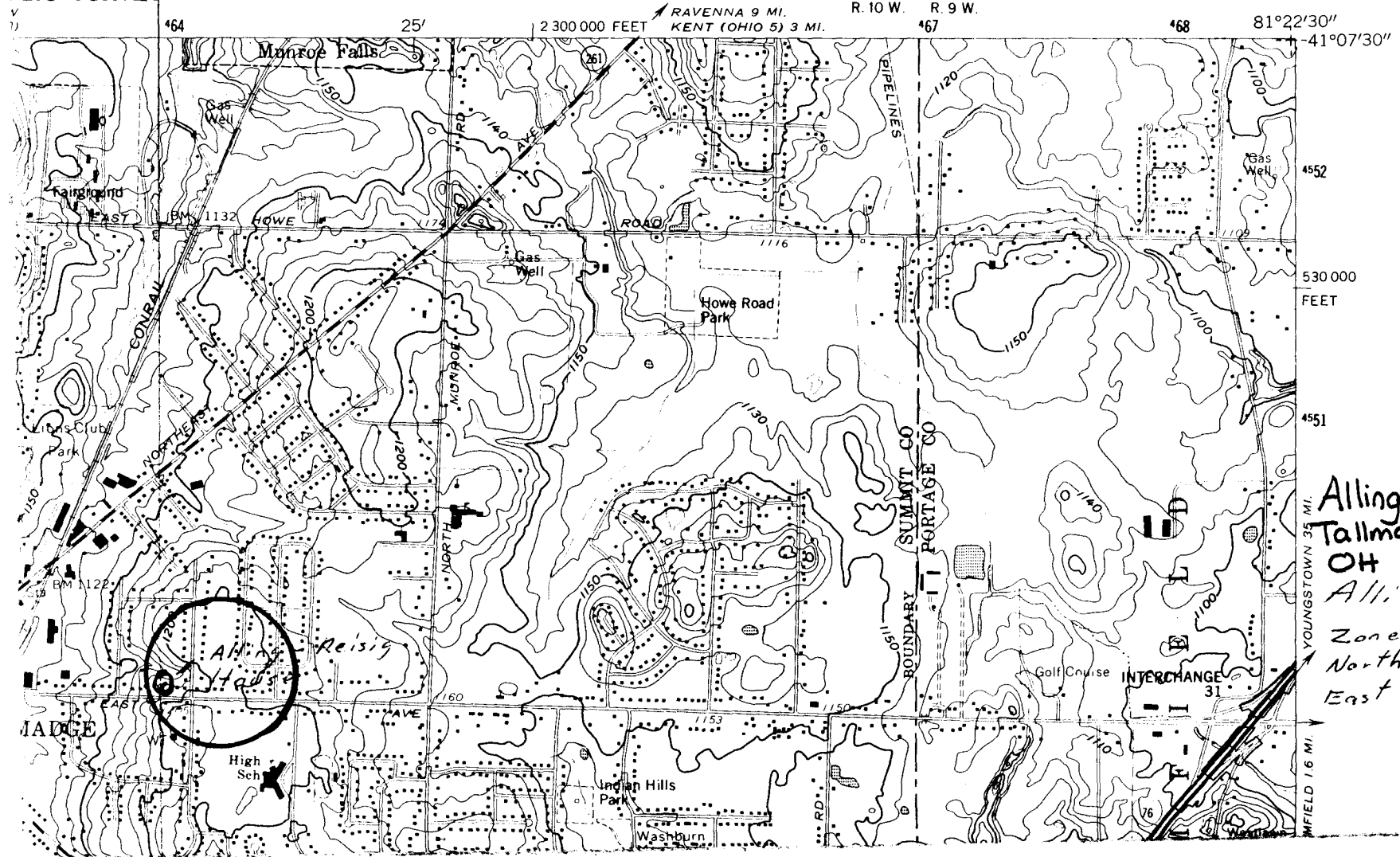
EAST AVE

no scale

OHIO
HIGHWAYS
NATURAL RESOURCES
GEOLOGIC SURVEY

AKRON EAST QUADRANGLE
OHIO
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

4766 1/3 NE
(KENT)



Alling, Francis D., House
Tallmadge, Summit Co.
OH
Alling - Reisig House
Zone - 17
North - 4549920
East - 464010

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

1985 Velma Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43211
614/297-2470



OHIO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
SINCE 1885

January 15, 1988

Donald P. and Joan M. Reisig
323 East Avenue
Tallmadge, Ohio 44278

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Reisig:

Re: Francis D. Alling House, 323 East Ave., Tallmadge,
Summit County, Ohio

We are pleased to inform you that the Francis D. Alling House nomination has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. (NR listed 11/30/87).

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

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

Sincerely,

W. Ray Luce
State Historic Preservation Officer

WRL/BAP/dh

Enclosure

x.c. Jeff Brown, Regional Coordinator
State Senator Roy L. Ray
State Representative Vernon F. Cook
Eric Johannesen, Western Reserve Historical Society
Mayor of Tallmadge
NEFCO

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: Alling, Francis D., House

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 _____
