

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Ref# 76001535

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

1-1-76

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Twinsburg Institute

AND/OR COMMON

Twinsburg Historical Society

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 8996 Darrow Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Twinsburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

14 - John Seiberling

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Twinsburg Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER 8996 Darrow Road

CITY, TOWN

Twinsburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Ohio 44087

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Summit County Building

STREET & NUMBER 72 South High Street

CITY, TOWN

Akron

STATE

Ohio

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

This is a large one-story building of sandstone construction. The stonework is of squared rubble, some vermiculated and some rock-faced. The jambs of the openings are large vertical slabs and square blocks. The building is unusually long for its height, having seven bays on the side elevations. This is due to the fact that it was originally a two-story building. The second story was removed around 1920 and a new roof added. The present roof has a plain eaves line with no cornice or frieze.

On the narrow end facing east there are three openings on the ground floor. The center one is a door and the other two are windows which were formerly doors. The two second-story windows on the east end were formerly full height, as can be seen from the wooden lintels and the different stonework above the openings.

On the west end a one-story addition of cement block was erected around 1920 to provide a kitchen. At the same time most of the window openings were made smaller by filling in the lower half with masonry. The interior is one large room, used for exhibit space and meetings.

B 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1866-1867 1867-1895 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Samuel Bissell

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was the last building of an important educational institution and virtually a one-man school in Summit County which lasted over half a century. It is also an unusual example of vernacular stone construction.

The founder and mainstay of the Twinsburg Institute was Samuel Bissell. Born in 1797 in Middlefield, Massachusetts, he was brought to Ohio with his parents in 1806. At an early age he decided to get an education and was tutored in Aurora. In 1816 he went back to Massachusetts, determined to enter college. After making up the necessary work he was admitted to Yale and graduated in 1823. He then studied theology and became a minister.

In 1826 he returned to Aurora and taught at nearby Western Reserve College in Hudson. In 1828 he became pastor at the Congregational Church in Twinsburg. He soon began a school in a nearby log house. In 1837 he built his own school house, in which he taught for 29 years.

By 1848 four buildings were in use, and there were 300 students and seven teachers and assistants. The Institute never received a charter or any public funds. The tuition was very low, so that all could attend. Many Indians of the Seneca, Ottawa and Potawatomi tribes were among the students. A range of courses was taught including classical and modern languages and constituting the complete classical curriculum of mid-nineteenth century education.

At the onset of the Civil War, there were financial difficulties, and some of the buildings were sold to pay debts of around \$6,000. Then Samuel Bissell began all over again, erecting the present stone building in 1866-1867. Although he was 70 years old, the manual labor was largely done by himself. In an account of 1881, Bissell was still teaching at the age of 84, and 6,000 students had attended the Institute.

With Bissell's death at the age of 98 the Institute passed out of existence. The stone building was acquired by the Twinsburg Grange in 1920, and in 1964 it was transferred to the Twinsburg Historical Society.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

William H. Perrin, History of Summit County (Chicago, 1881), 656-659, 1040.
Twinsburg Historical Society, History of Twinsburg (Twinsburg, 1967), 12, 56.
Lena M. Carter, Centennial History of Twinsburg, Ohio (Twinsburg, 1917),
44-64.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1 | 7 | | 4 | 6 | 3 | | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | | 1 | 0 | 0 |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Eric Johannesen, Preservationist

ORGANIZATION Western Reserve Historical Society

DATE June 1975

STREET & NUMBER 10825 East Boulevard

TELEPHONE 216-721-5722

CITY OR TOWN Cleveland

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

TITLE S.H.P.O.

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Twinsburg Institute

AND/OR COMMON Twinsburg Historical Society

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Twinsburg VICINITY OF COUNTY Summit STATE Ohio

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT E. Johannesen DATE OF PHOTO June 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT Western Reserve Historical Society

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET PHOTO NO.
East facade, looking west. 1

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT E. Johannesen DATE OF PHOTO June 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT Western Reserve Historical Society

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET PHOTO NO.
South elevation, looking northwest. 2

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Twinsburg Institute

AND/OR COMMON Twinsburg Historical Society

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Twinsburg VICINITY OF COUNTY Ashtabula STATE Ohio

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Centennial History of Twinsburg, Ohio DATE OF PHOTO 1917
NEGATIVE FILED AT (1917), facing 167.

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET PHOTO NO.
Original two-story structure in 1917. 3

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Twinsburg Institute

AND/OR COMMON Twinsburg Historical Society

2 LOCATION

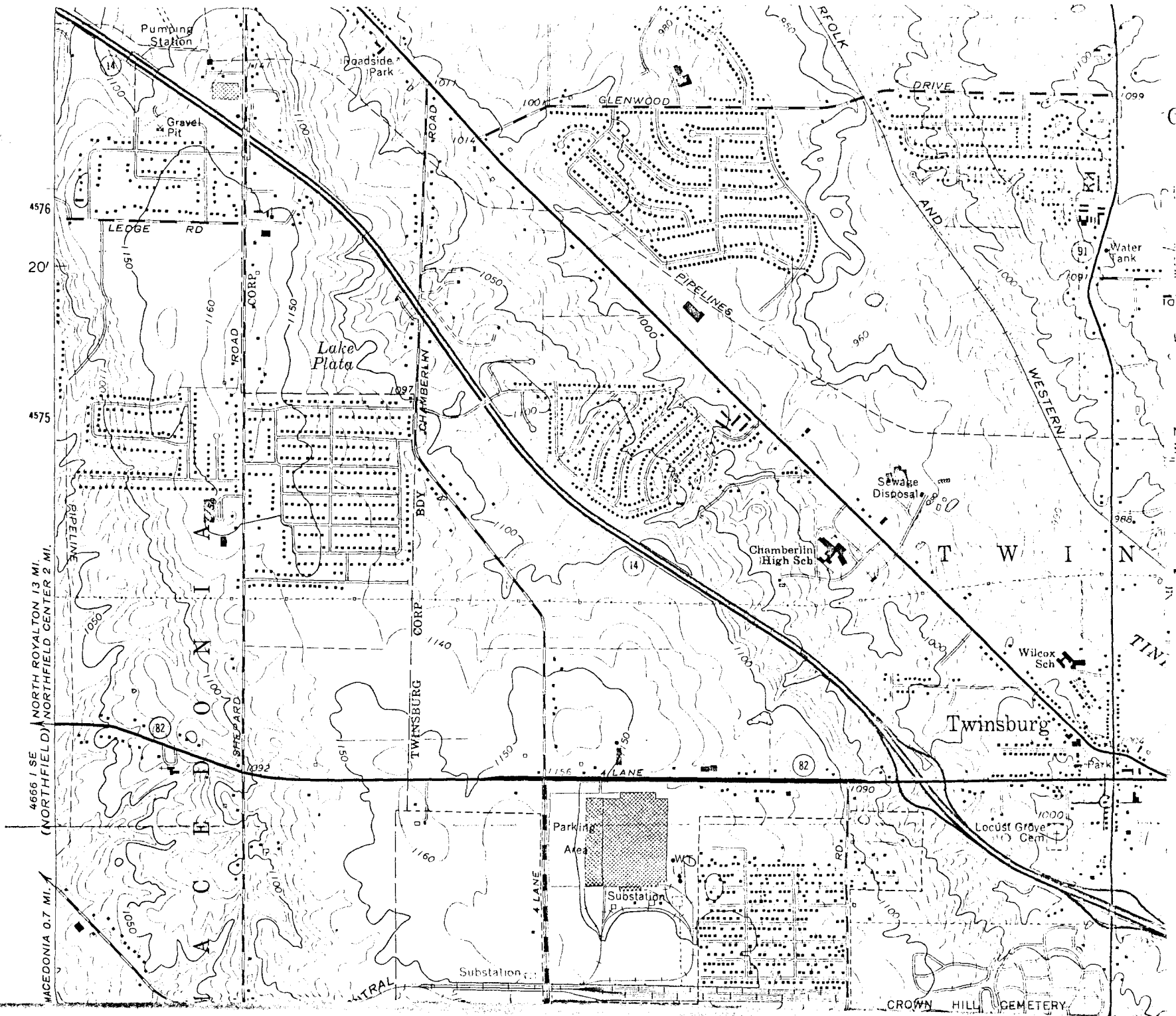
CITY, TOWN Twinsburg VICINITY OF COUNTY Summit STATE Ohio

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S. Twinsburg Quadrangle
SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
 2. NORTH ARROW
 3. UTM REFERENCES



4666 1 SE NORTH ROYALTON 13 MI.
(NORTHFIELD) NORTHFIELD CENTER 2 MI.
MACEDONIA 0.7 MI.

Twinsburg
Institute
7 463/100 East
4573/100 North

January 26, 1976

Twinsberg Historical Society
9886 Darrow Road
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087


Gentlemen:

I am pleased to inform you that the Twinsburg Institute, 9886 Darrow Road, Twinsburg, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

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

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Smith
Director, Ohio Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Officer

THS;jp
enclosure

X.c: Mayor of Twinsburg
Eric Johannesen, Western Reserve Historical Society

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: Twinsburg Institute

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 _____

