UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Five of the nominated buildings are presently on the Register. All were presented as endangered. New federal guidelines have led to the nomination of all of the remaining structures of the Anna Dean Farm as a thematic district. It is felt that this will be the best way to preserve the remaining structures. The nomination is intended to replace the five individual nominations now on the Register.

The Anna Dean Farm once encompassed 3,500 acres, had 102 structures, 2,000 acres of which were surrounded by a concrete and frame fence. O. C. Barber sought to make it a model of efficient, modern farming. There were fifteen different farm departments. each with its own staff of professionals. There was a cattle department - both dairy and meat cattle - for which prize animanls were sought and bred; a stable for show horses; a complete dairy; a flour mill; greenhouses for flowers, fruits, and vegtables; a piggery; a large poultry complex; an apiary; and all the support facilities for growing field crops.

All of the frame structures are gone and only eleven of the twenty-three concrete and brick structures remain. The most awesome of the Anna-Dean structures are, unfortunately, among those lost. The 40 room mansion, the 800 foot long cow barn, the "U" shaped horse barn, the aviary, the conservatory, and nearly all of the manager's houses, gatehouses, and carriage houses, and the vast gardens, miniature forests, ponds, and fields are all being filled in by modern, urban development. By looking from the mansion site, one can envision the grandeur of the Anna Dean Farm, for here and there are scattered the remains - eleven structures, 17 acres of greenhouse, and portions of walls, dams, and other structures.

Located near the center of the Anna Dean Farm, where the greatest concentration of structures remain, is Barn No. 1. (NR). It was the first of the silo barns and the first structure to be built on the Anna Dean Farm. Completed in 1909, it measures 285' x 125'. It is made of concrete block and red brick, reinforced with steel, as are most of the remaining structures. Typical of all farm buildings, it is a combination of French Colonial and O. C. Barber's own design. Three silos, two on the west side and one on the east are major features of the barn's design. The west towers are 40' high and 30' apart, between them is a two-story living area for farm workers. living area has a large, central wall dormer. The east tower is 60' high and is located, visually, between the two west towers. It has a gracefully arcaded upper portion. All towers have conical, red tile roofs and bracketed cornices. The tower grouping is located 92 feet from the north end and 122' from the south end. portion is a projecting 3-bay section, 44' wide with a hipped tile roof and central wall dormer. There is a full basement. Both east and west facades have regularly spaced brick panels, 10 feet from the ground to the roofline. Beneath each panel is a door and window grouping to permit removal of the cattle and circulation of fresh Both ends have large sets of doors to permit loading of hay to the loft. The red tile, gable roof has a 40° angle and 6 dormers on each side. There are four, evenly spaced cupolas on the ridgeline.

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(NR)

Just 200' east of Barn No. 1 is the Creamery. Also completed in 1909, the Creamery has a long, rectangular section running east-west and a smaller, square section on the southwest side which housed the dairy kepper. The creamery proper contains two rooms, one for bottling and one for distribution. The west end has large doors through which milk trucks were loaded. This the the only Barber building which used varying shades of red brick as a design element. The living area has 12 rooms on two floors. The two dairy rooms are one-story and are connected by a large set of interior doors. The creamery portion has groupings of three sets of double hung windows, mounted on separate tracks, eight feet high. There is a basement under the living area only. The roof of the creamery is hipped, covered with red tile. There are two dormers on the east side, above the living quarters. On the north side, above the living quarters, is a skylight and a brick chimney.

The Machine Barn and Colt Barn are the sole survivors of the east side of the farm. Nearby once stood a large horse barn, the mansion, an apiary, carriage house, and gatehouse - all surmounted by formal garden, grazing land, and small forest. This area of the farm is covered by a small shopping center and single family housing (Austin Estates). A wooded area still exists to the south of the colt barn, but this, too, is slated for development. Along Austin Drive portions of the fence can be found. The Colt Barn measures 40' x 95', the smallest of the Anna Dean Barns. The familiar concrete and red brick construction has denticulated cornices and the usual, red tile roof. It is steel reinforced. Eighteen doors on the first floor lead into metal stalls. The second story has pairs of small, rectangular windows on the east and west facades. There are six gabled dormer windows. The north and south ends each have two windows and a set of large double doors in each story. There are two cupolas near the peak. The center bay, both north and south sides, extends above the side bays.

200' northeast of the Colt Barn is the Machine Barn, also of concrete and brick with tile roof and denticulated cornice. It measures 70' x 120' and, here, the red brick is laid in a diamond pattern - the only reminder that the Diamond Match Company fortune built the estate. The first floor has eight sets of large double doors on the north and south sides. On the west end a concrete ramp leads up to the large, second-story, double door. There is a stepped gable on this end. Rectangular, double-hung windows surround the second story. It is one of few Barber structures which is not symmetrical.

Located toward the west end of the farm and surrounded on three sides by fields is the Piggery. This was the last of the Anna Dean buildings to be completed. It is about 300' long and has a north-south axis, built of concrete and brick and roofed with red tile. It is two stories high and is composed of three, evenly spaced portions connected by long recessed passageways. The three main sections have concrete block first floors and brick second floors; the passageways (sties) have brick first floors trimmed with concrete block and concrete second floors -















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the only Barber building to have this arrangement of building materials. Fortyeight doors lead to individual sties. Beside each door is a window. The roof above the long sections and end sections is gabled, the center section has a mansard roof and two chimneys. Each of the three larger sections has a cupola, each of the long sections has five air vents. The north-south ends and the east side of the center section each have large sets of doors for hay loading. The west side of the center portion was a residence for the swineherd. A large metal storage shed and a concrete loading dock have been added on the southwest and northwest sides.

South of the Piggery is what remains of the Poultry Complex. Set in a field, it is imposed upon by a multiple-family, two story, appartment complex to the north. and small, single family, units to the south. Five buildings remain - the Brooder Barn, the Poultry Manager's Home, the Poultry Office, the remains of the old Brooder House, a Feed House, and a Smoke House. Gone are the duck barns and ponds, the extensive chicken coops, the pigeon coops, and the Barber Hotel. On the west side of 2ND Street are the Brooder Barn and the Poultry Manager's Home. The Brooder Barn is brick and concrete with red tile roof, rather plain in comparison to other Barber barns. It is 175' long, and is comprised of a gable roofed, rectangular center section with its ridgeline running east-west and two, long rectangular wings with ridgelines running north-south. The north and south wings are two stories high and housed the brooders. The center section is 2 1/2 stories and served as boiler room and living quarters. Doors on both the north and south ends have been altered. There are 15 windows on each side of each wing. The Poultry Manager's House is quite altered. Built of concreteblock, it is now covered with aluminum siding and the hip roof with asphalt shingles. New windows and a one-story porch have also been added.

On the east side of 2ND Street is the Poultry Office, a Smokehouse, the remains of the Old Brooder House and the Feed Room. The Poultry Office is a rather plain, 2-1/2 story structure. Cement block on the lower level and red brick trimmed with cement block on the 2ND are in keeping with the Barber style as is the red tile roof with its single dormers on the north and south sides. A porch has been added to the south side. Some lower floor windows have been altered also. To the east of the office (now a residence) runs a concrete wall, 8' high and 50' long which intersects the Feed Room. This is all that remains of the Old Brooder House. The roof and southern side, which was wood, is in ruins. The hen houses which ran 550 feet north and south from the poultry office are completely gone. The two story feed room is completely concrete block, rectangular and very plain. Windows run along the north and south sides; the western end contains two doors (one led to the old brood house); there is a semi-circular window in each of the gable ends. The east end has a date stone," OCB, 1910." The roof is red shingles, the original ones. To the east of the feed room is a 50' section of concrete wall which was part of the Pigeon Coops. The Smoke House is a rectangular, brick building, very similar in















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in size, shape, and fenestration to the feed house.

The Greenhouse Complex, originally used for the production of flowers and fruits, still covered six acres and is located north of Barn No. 1. The twenty individual, rectangular, glass greenhouses are intact, as is the large, 2-1/2 story concrete block and red brick boiler house. The office-boiler house is a large, square structure with one-bay, projecting, gable roofed, wall dormers on the east and west ends. The major portion of the structure is covered by a red-tiled, hip roof. East of the greenhouse is the remnant of a gate and a 5' high stone wall running along the east boundary of the complex. Within this wall is the Barber crest in concrete and red brick, and remnants of a dam. The Perennial Greenhouses, all eleven acres, are still extant on Snyder Ave. in the southwest portion of the Anna Dean Farm. The greenhouses are intact, but no concrete or brick outbuildings are extant. All greenhouses are owned by Yoder Brothers, growers of carnations.

















PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

—PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 —1700-1799 —1800-1899 X.1900-	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC XAGRICULTURE XARCHITECTURE ART COMMERCECOMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	RELIGION
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SPECIFIC DATES

1905-1915

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Michael Alexander/ O. C. Barber

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Anna Dean Farm was a once outstanding complex of well-designed, functional buildings, the dream of one man to achieve "America's Finest Farm". The vastness of Ohio Columbus Barber's achievement, the unique architectural design of the buildings, their scale, the attention to the finest detail, the enormity of the produce and livestock of the farm, and the completeness of the farm as a "city within its walls" are unrivaled. The farm operated only a few years, until Barber's death in 1920, but during that time it truly reflected the power of O. C. Barber, the enormity of his fortune, and his unique, self-centered personality and will-power. His accomplishment can never be duplicated. All that remains of a 3,500 acre complex are a handful of buildings, most of these built in brick and stone, and the original 17 acres of greenhouse. The area once encompassed by the Anna Dean fence is now covered by urban development - housing and shopping centers - and the remaining structures are threatened by decay and demolition. A strong local preservation effort hopes to save the remaining structures and to find adaptive uses for them. Those that remain were not the most outstanding of the Anna Dean buildings, they are lost forever, but do serve as evidence of the outstanding existence of the Anna Dean Farm and its founder, Ohio Columbus Barber. It is likely that when they are lost, one of Ohio's most fascinating stories will be lost too.

Born in Middlebury, Ohio in 1841, Ohio Columbus Barber, at age 20, became a partner in his father's Akron-based match factory. A few years later, O. C. was president and had merged his company with 28 other match companies to form the \$18,000,000 Diamond Match Company with O. C. as its president. He built factories in England, Germany, Switzerland, Africa, Brazil, and across the United States. Barber was an astute businessman and his enterprises made millions for him. His great fortune was due, in part, to the fact that he paid the lowes wages in Akron - \$1.21/day - yet got top dollar for his products. Other businesses included interests in a tire business, a steel company, a tile and sewer pipe company, and a railroad. He was founder and president of the Akron City Hospital, president of the First National Bank of Akron, and president of the Akron Chamber of Commerce.

O. C., who because of a federal tax of 1¢ per 100 matches (his company produced six billion a year) had ignored a local city tax, was sued by the city of Akron in 1894 for \$163,992 in back taxes. Outraged, Barber called in town promoter Michael Alexander and with other backers, laid out a new city near New Portage, and with characteristic modesty, named it Barberton. His business operations were based there. By 1899 Barber decided to abandon Akron altogether and again called on Michael Alexander to lay out a farm for him on 3,500 acres southeast of Barberton. Construction began on the Anna Dean Farm, so named for his daughter, Anna, and his son-in-law, Dean,

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and continued until 1915. When completed there were 102 buildings (23 of brick and stone construction) including the forty room mansion and 17 acres of greenhouse space. The investment was more than 3 million dollars. By 1915 the farm employed 300 workers and could produce 600 acres of corn, 300 acres of wheat, 450 acres of oats, barley, and rye, and 1,000 acres of alfalfa. There were thousands of fruit trees, acres of vegtables, 600 cattle, a complete dairy, 20,000 chickens, 25,000 squabs, 100,000 ducks, and hundreds of pigs and horses, all surrounded by a four rail-steel reinforced concrete fence. O. C. was an advocate of scientific farming and toward this pursuit purchased steam tractors, incubators, trucks, and a wide assortment of gadgets that cost ten times their worth.

Barber succeeded in his dream of achieving one of America's finest farms. turreted barns and mansion were the finest in Ohio - reflecting the architecture and ideas on farming that Barber perceived during his numerous trips to Europe. Barber modestly wrote of his accomplishments by saying: "From the standpoints of both efficiency and architectural beauty, they (the farm buildings) are unsurpassed by those on any farm in the world. The heavy red tile roofs with graceful dormer windows and ventilator cupolas, the superstructure of rich, warm-tinted brick, and the foundations and towers of light colored concrete block construction are uniform...from the manor house to the smallest gate lodge."

Servicibility and uniqueness were both in Barber's thoughts when he designed his famous farm. Concerning his barns he is quoted as saying: " The object of the buildings on any farm is two-fold. First they must meet those needs for which they are designed and constructed; secondly, they must convey to the world outside a just and favorable impression of the purpose, extent, permanence, and dignity of the whole establishement. (They) must provide adequate shelter for animals both from storm and excessive sunlight, from extremes of heat and cold and should be attractive. Barns, like houses, can be built along pleasing, well-proportioned liens; should harmonize in both color and design with the other units of the farm group; should reflect the characteristics of the locality - either in its lines or in the utilization of native farm-gathered timer or stone; and should be a source of pride and joy." One of the most outstanding of these barns was barn #3 (demolished) which was 800' long, 40' wide, 3 stories high in the wings with a 5 story center section. It had two water tanks, each of which held 20,000 gallons of water and two silos, each holding 1,000 tons of grain and could house 600 cattle.

After Barber died in 1920, Mrs. Barber auctioned off the Anna Dean Farm's livestock to pay the debt's O. C. had left, for none of his farm enterprises, except the dairy, ever made any money. He had willed the farm to the Western Reserve College as the "Ohio Columbus Barber Agricultural and Horticultural College", but it was refused by them because of the many liens on the property and the cost it would be to run the farm. The farm was divided and little by little has fallen away.

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1952 barn #3 burned; in 1967 barn #2 burned (both fires were termed arson); in 1965 the mansion was razed after the city refused to buy it for \$1.00 and taxes; in 1970 the last gatehouse was destroyed to make room for a bank, and, finally, in 1973 after the city had bid for the land for a park site and lost, the carriage house and apiary were torn down by their owners. Today 13 structures remain.

Barn No. 1 (NR) was the first structure to be completed. It was finished in 1909 and was over 300 feet long. The barn is presently unused and has survived a recent turmoil involving its being destroyed by the owners to make way for a senior citizen's high-rise under the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's F.H.A. #236 program. It is hoped to soon have a restaurant and shops in the building. The Barberton Historical Society has headed a drive to save the barn and hopes to be able to buy it.

Also completed in 1909 was the Creamery (NR). This wasthe only Anna Dean enterprise ever to turn a profit and was the longest-running of the Anna Dean companies. In the east room of the Creamery the milk was poured into a large holding vat, a conveyor moved milk bottles past the nozzle of the vat where the bottles were stopped and filled, the bottles then moved by conveyor to workers who capped them and sent them on their way to milk wagons and trucks. The Creamery was also threatened by the project which involved barn #1.

The Colt Barn (NR) was completed in 1910. This housed colt's and Barber's prize horses. Austin Estates, a nearby housing development, threatens to overtake the Colt Barn.

Completed in 1911, the Machine Barn (NR) was a vital structure on the farm. Barber invested heavily in "modern" farm equipment and all of it was housed here. It was designed so that even the largest piece of machinery could be driven up the ramp to the second floor service area. The Machine Barn is also threatened by the Austin Estates Development area.

The Piggery (NR) was the last of the 23 farm buildings to be completed (1915). When the farm was opened to the public, the Piggery was dubbed the "PORK PALACE". In 1916 all of Barber's stock were stricken with cholera and were slaughtered. Thereafter, Barber kept horses in the Piggery. In 1921 a group of WWI veterans organized Troop F of the 107th Cavalry and headquartered at the Piggery where they sponsored many horse shows. The troop remained at the Piggery until 1939.

The Poultry Department was another of the Anna Dean Departments. It consisted of eight buildings and at their maximum capacity accommodated a vast array of chickens, pigeons, turkeys, and ducks. The complex consisted of the Poultry Office where business transactions took place; behind this was the Brooder Rouse which was used from 1910 to 1913 when the Brooder Barn was built. The old brooder house was

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connected to the poultry office by a feed room. There was a Pigeon Loft, the Barber Hotel (for visitors and workers), and the Poultry Manager's Home. The poultry complex, supposedly a model of efficient chicken farming, limped along economically until Barber's death in 1920.

There were two sets of greenhouses on the farm, one centrally located for growing flowers and fruits and another located on the southwest corner of the farm for growing vegtables. The Fruit and Flower Greenhouses covered 6 acres and consisted of over 20 individual greenhouses, a brick office-heating plant, and a gardener's cottage. An abundance of roses, carnations, and orchids grew along with grapes, peaches, nectarines, melons, banana trees, figs, and ferns. The purpose of these greenhouses was to provide a steady supply of cut flowers and hot house fruits and to provide a surplus to be sold. The Perennial Gardens covered over 11 acres and produced thousands of tons of vegtables, mostly to be sold. A unique drainage system was installed. Under every portion ran lines of 3" porous drain tile - about 45 miles of it - to drain the soil of excess moisture or to carry water, if necessary, to the roots by subirrigation. Once a year these lines were used to carry live steam to every foot of soil to sterilize and destroy every vestige of disease. The same lines could carry liquid fertilizer to feed roots. Nearby the central greenhouses is the remnant of a dam which was an instrumental part of the irrigation system for the greenhouse.

To develop, direct and control the fifteen units of the Anna Dean Farm, a separate farm administration office was set up. Each unit had an account and items were charged or credited to them. The farm department provided feed for the stock for which it was credited; the animals supply manure for the greenhouses, for which they received credit. The mansion and its grounds had separate accounts against which all purchases from other departments were charged in the same, businesslike way.

Despite the planning and pride which went into the formation of the O. C. Barber estate, the farm did not make money. The ideas were sound and much of the planning correct. But O. C. had a fatal flaw...he had to have the very best, the most advanced, the most expensive. He spent a fortune on farm equipment and experimental planting and harvesting...spending more than his crops or livestock could be sold for. The Anna Dean Farm might not have survived, even if O.C. Barber had; but the remainder of the farm marks a colorful chapter in Ohio's agricultural, architectural, and economic history.

MAJOR BIBI	LIOGRAPHIC	AL REFER	ENCES			
Davis. William. Freudenheim, Milt Akron Beacon Barber, Ohio C.	1 Journal, 1951.	arberton, Oh. Gasp Over O . , Barberton,	nio, 1891-1 O.C. Barber Ohio, The	1962. Barbert r, the Man Who e Story of an	ton Public Lil o Started A C	brary, 1963. ity",
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Key to Maps

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Existing structures (Maps A & B)

- 1. Perennial Gardens (greenhouses)
- 2. Piggery
- Brooder Barn 3.
- 4. Poultry Manager's Home
- 5. Smoke House
- Poultry Office 6.
- 7. Old Brooder House
- 8. Feed House
- 9. Greenhouses
- 10. Barn #1
- 11. Creamery
- 12. Remains of Dam Wall
- 13. Machine Barn
- 14. Colt Barn

Cement Block and Brick structures no longer existing (Map B)

- Α. Ponds
- В. Duck Barn
- С. Chicken Coops
- D. Pigeon Coops
- Ε. Barber Hotel
- F. Greenhouse Keeper's House
- G. Bull Barn
- Car Barn Η.
- Ι. Barn #3
- J. Dam
- Κ. Gate House Complex
- Pump House L.
- Μ. Gate House
- N. Formal Gardens
- 0. Mansion
- Р. Apiary
- Carriage House Q.
- R. Greenhouse
- S. Horse Barn
- Т. Barn #2





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UTM References (cont)

- A. 17 449/320 4539/160 (Perennial Gardens
- B. 17 449/810 4539/800 (Piggery)
- C. 17 440/880 4539/500 (Brooder Barn
- D. 17 449/860 4539/420 (Poultry Manager's Home)
- E. 17 449/930 4539/450 (Poultry Office)
- F. 17 449/990 4539/450 (Feed House)
- G. 17 449/995 4539/510 (Smoke House)
- H. 17 450/170 4539/740 (Greenhouse)
- I. 17 450/090 4539/520 (Barn #1)
- J. 17 450/170 4539/500 (Creamery)
- K. 17 451/320 4539/350 (Machine Barn)
- L. 17 451/300 4539/260 (Colt Barn)

Item 4 - Owners

Perennial Gardens (Greenhouses UTM A): Yoder Greenhouses, Snyder Ave., Barberton

Piggery: Alexander Naumoff, 519 Parkview Ave., Barberton Brooder Barn: L.H. Arenson, 2261 Ridgewood Rd., Akron

Poultry Manager's Home: Paul Hetrick

Poultry Office: Paul Hetrick, 139 2nd St., SE., Barberton

Feed House: Paul Hetrick, 139 2nd St., SE., Barberton

Greenhouses (UTM H): Yoder Greenhouses, Robinson Ave., Barberton

Barn #1: Mrs. Paul Pamer, 365 Portsmouth St., Barberton Creamery: Mrs. Paul Pamer, 365 Portsmouth St., Barberton Machine Barn: Robert Gormly, 640 Austin Dr., Barberton Colt Barn: Robert Gormly, 640 Austin Dr., Barberton

Office of the Mayor 576 West Park Avenue Barberton, Ohio 44203

Dear Mayor:

I am pleased to inform you that the Anna Dean Farm, Barberton, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, U.S. 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:jb enclosure

X.c: Steve Kelleher

Tom Fisher, Western Reserve Historical Society

NEFCO

THE OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The foll	owing materials are contained in this file of the National Register form to:
Name:	Anna Dean Farm
County	: Summit
X	Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
	Multiple Property Nomination form
	Photograph(s)
	Photograph(s) (copies)
	USGS map(s)
<u> </u>	USGS map(s) (copies)
<u>X</u>	Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
X	Correspondence
X	Other large way