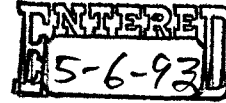


OHPO Copy

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



#93000405

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Seiberling, Charles Willard, House  
other names/site number Tri-Acre, SUM-155-12, Unity Church

2. Location

street & number 1075 West Market Street N/A  not for publication  
city, town Akron N/A  vicinity  
state Ohio code OH county Summit code 153 zip code 44313

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	1	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	1	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	2	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		_____ objects
			0 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
*Barbara Paver* Signature of certifying official Date 4-1-93  
Ohio Historic Preservation Office  
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

5. National Park Service Certification

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 the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof slate

other wood

steel

stone

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Charles W. Seiberling House was built in 1913 as the residence for one of Akron's most prominent industrialists. It is located in the Highland Park area on Akron's west side, where many of the city's industrialists and leaders built their mansions during the early 20th-century era of Akron's great rubber boom.

Rectangular in plan, the massive 2-1/2 story house was constructed of red brick, laid in a double-runner Flemish bond pattern, over a steel frame. A basically symmetrical facade displays a central trabeated entry with Tuscan pilasters and columns supporting a classical pediment. The paired entry doors, originally recessed, were replaced in the 1960s and are to be restored to their original appearance in 1993. Double-hung 8/8 windows with shutters are evenly spaced along the facade. Side-gabled 2-1/2 story wings extend from both ends of the house; both wings are set back, with single story sections extending forward to the main facade. The truncated side-gable slate roof of the main block supports three evenly spaced round arch dormers and terminates in a pair of prominent bridge chimneys, with single dormers over the wings. Wide box eaves are denticulated, and the roof is surmounted by cresting. A large, gabled central bay projects from the rear facade and features a distinctive port-cochere, supported by Tuscan columns, over the rear entry.

The interior of the Seiberling House is also distinctive, retaining most of its original character and detail with oak and walnut floors and mahogany trim. Seventeen of the original eighteen fireplaces still remain, along with wainscoting, panel doors, staircases, molded plaster ceilings, and crown moldings. The "woven linen" carving over the fireplace in the Tudor style den was reportedly executed by the same artist employed for similar work at Stan Hywet, the National Historic Landmark residence of Charles' brother Frank. Pedestal sinks, tubs, tilework, and other fittings have been preserved in the bathrooms. The third floor servants' quarters also retain a high degree of integrity, displaying maple floors, original fireplace, and built-in drawers and cupboards.

Other than the front doors, the only notable alterations have been an addition to the east wing (date unknown, but early) that is barely discernible, and the brick infill of a portion of the one-story "garden room" on the west wing. A fountain at the rear of this room was also removed, but the marble floor does remain.

The driveway entrance off Maplewood Avenue is demarcated by stone-capped brick walls terminating in two piers topped with decorative stone urns. (contributing structure)

 See continuation sheet

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

 nationally  statewide  locallyApplicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Industry

Period of Significance

1913-1922

Significant Dates

1913

1922

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Seiberling, Charles Willard

Architect/Builder

Child, Edward S.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Charles W. Seiberling House is significant under Criterion B for its association with Charles Seiberling, one of Akron's foremost industrialists and civic leaders; and under Criterion C as an outstanding example of the Georgian Revival style of architecture.

Following college at Oberlin, Charles W. Seiberling (born Jan. 26, 1861) entered working life in several of his father's companies, becoming superintendant of the J.F. Seiberling Co. in 1883 and continuing in that position until 1895. In 1898, with his brother Frank, Charles was co-founder of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, serving as vice-president until 1921 and forming a highly successful business partnership of lifetime duration with Frank. Under their control, Goodyear was developed into the world's largest manufacturer of auto tires and other rubber products. However, as a result of an economic downturn in 1920, the Seiberlings were forced to resign from Goodyear in 1921. They immediately founded the Seiberling Rubber Company, a smaller specialty manufacturer. As vice-president and treasurer, Charles was instrumental in that company's success as well, and served until his death in 1946. He was also president of the Thomas Phillips Company a manufacturer of flour sacks, and of the Seiberling Latex Products Co., as well as a director of both the Citizens Savings & Loan Co. and the Macedonia-Northfield Banking Company.

Throughout his professional life, Charles was noted for his strong belief in progressive worker relations, and he contributed significantly to humanizing the industrial workplace. During Goodyear's financial turmoil after World War I, Charles posted 22,000 shares of his own stock to protect employee stock investments, and he founded and capitalized the American Industrial Athletic Association to promote worker physical fitness. His community involvement and generosity were described as more than any other citizen in Akron (Kenfield, p. 78). He was founder of the Akron Community Chest (reportedly the third in the U.S.), and at various times was president of the Chamber of Commerce, University Club, Akron Rotary Club, Akron University Endowment Association, and the Akron Chapter of the National Aeronautical Assoc. He was also a trustee of the Akron Children's Hospital, Barberton Citizen's Hospital, YWCA, Akron Colored Community Service League, Better Akron Federation, and Springfield Lake TB Sanitorium; a vice-president and director of the Akron City Club; and a 1928 delegate to the Republican National Convention. In short, he was either an officer or member of the board of directors of virtually every public service organization in the City of Akron. Charles Seiberling "has been called the most popular Akronite . . . known to more Akron people than any other man in the city" (Kenfield, p. 78).

 See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Seiberling, Charles Willard, House, Summit Co., Ohio

Section number 8 Page 2

The Charles Seiberling House is also significant as an outstanding example of Georgian Revival design, exhibiting many of the elements that distinguish this style. The symmetrically balanced facade with multipane double-hung sash and an accented central entry typifies Georgian Revival designs. The doorway's decorative pediment supported by pilasters and columns, creating a sense of depth and relief, is a distinguishing element, as are the boxed cornice with dentils, the bay windows seen on the east and rear facades, and the flat-roofed one-story side wings. This house is reportedly the second largest mansion in Akron, behind only Frank Seiberling's Stan Hywet Hall, not of Georgian Revival influence.

Charles Seiberling lived in this house from 1913 until 1922, when he sold it to Michael O'Neal, another of Akron's leading citizens from the turn of the century. Following O'Neal's death in 1927, the O'Neal family gave the house to the Mary Knoll Brothers, a Catholic teaching order. About 1960 it was sold to the Unity Church, which held ownership until the house was purchased recently by its current owner, who has embarked on a program of restoring the house.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

- Allen, Hugh. Rubber's Home Town, New York: Stratford House, 1949.
- Grismer, Karl H. Akron and Summit County, Akron: Summit County Historical Society, 1952.
- Kenfield, Scott Dix, ed. Akron and Summit County, Ohio 1825-1928 Biographical. Chicago & Akron: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1928.
- Olin, Oscar Eugene. Akron and Environs, New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1917.
- Shiere, James H. Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens. National Historic Landmark nomination, 1981.

- Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

- Primary location of additional data:
- State historic preservation office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 3.59

UTM References

A 17 453710 4549970  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Parcel no. 67-51865, part of Lot 10 W.P.P.; Summit Co. Records, Vol. 383, p. 72. Also described in Vol. 930, p. 203, recording description and transfer of property from C.W. Seiberling to Michael O'Neal.

Property is situated on the northwest corner of W. Market Street and Maplewood Ave.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundary is based upon legally recorded lot lines and description, and includes the property historically associated with this building.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Jeffrey D. Brown/Regional Coordinator

organization Ohio Historic Preservation Office date December 3, 1992

street & number 201 3rd Street NE telephone 216-438-0404

city or town Canton state Ohio zip code 44702

AKRON WEST QUADRANGLE  
OHIO—SUMMIT CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

4766 III NW  
(HUDSON)

453

454

32°30'

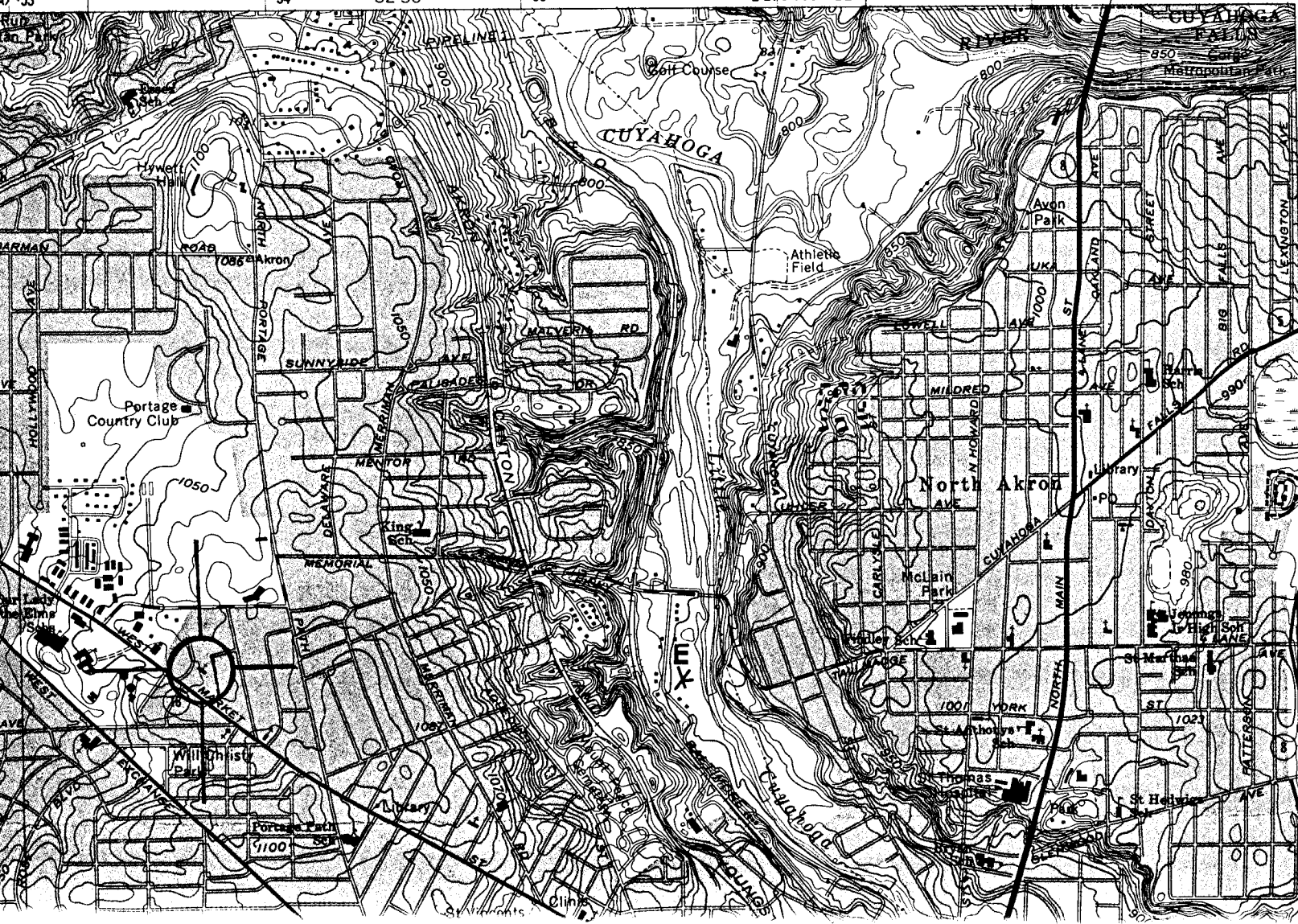
455

2 270 000 FEET

OHIO TURNPIKE 12 MI.

81°30'

41°07'30"



4552

530 000  
FEET

STOW 5 MI.

0.8 MI. TO OHIO 5

SEIBERLING,  
CHARLES VILLARD, House  
UTM 17/453710/4549970  
Akron, Summit Co.,  
OHIO

**Ohio Historic Preservation Office**

Ohio Historical Center  
1982 Velma Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211-2497  
614/297-2470  
Fax: 297-2411



**OHIO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**  
SINCE 1885

May 26, 1993

Mr. Robert W. Warther  
721 Hampton Ridge  
Akron, OH 44313

Dear Mr. Warther:

Re: Charles Willard Selberling House, 1075 West Market Street,  
Akron, Summit County, Ohio

This is to inform you that the above has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior (listed 5/6/93).

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 about the programs and services offered by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.

Sincerely,

*W. Ray Luce*  
W. Ray Luce  
State Historic Preservation Officer

WRL/JER:t1s

Enclosure

xc: Jeff Brown, Regional Coordinator, OHPO  
Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic  
State Senator Roy Ray  
State Representative Karen Doty  
ODOT

# 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: Seiberling, Charles Willard, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_