



THE NETWORK AN E-NEWSLETTER FOR OHIO'S CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Ohio Historic
Preservation Office
Ohio Historical Society

January / February 2009

Springboro, Ohio's 31st Certified Local Government

by Dan Boron, Planning Consultant, City of Springboro

Abolitionist stronghold, way station on the Underground Railroad or centerpiece of a growing suburb are all terms that could accurately describe Springboro, Ohio's 31st Certified Local Government (CLG).

Founded in 1815 by Jonathan Wright, a surveyor and distant relative of the Wright Brothers, *Springborough*, was platted along a major east-west transportation corridor, today's SR 73. A devout Quaker community, the town became a destination for Northeastern Quakers seeking suitable farmland and Southern Quakers seeking an area where slavery was not an accepted way of life.

For the town's first five decades, because of Quaker influences and proximity along a north-south corridor connecting to Canada, Springboro became a haven along the Underground Railroad. It is estimated that 4,000 former slaves were helped to freedom through 27 documented sites in the town and surrounding area.



Aron Wright (Wright-Doyle) House

Trade along the corridor prompted the town to become a blacksmithing, carriage and harness-making center in the antebellum period. Transportation advancements, first a canal along the Great Miami and later railroad lines through Franklin to the west and Waynesville to the east, led to a one-hundred year period where the town's population remained static. Being bypassed economically relieved the town's core of

commercial development pressure and the seven-block long 19th Century Old Springboro Preservation District remains largely intact on the now bustling SR 74I corridor.

While historic preservation district language had existed in the city codebook since 1972, the community's rapid growth, particularly following the completion of a nearby interchange on Interstate 75, resulted in a call to preserve the area's historical legacy. In 1992 the Springboro Area Historical Society was established; in 1997 the City of Springboro Architectural Review Board (ARB) was created by City Council to protect and preserve historic structures and resources in the community.

The Historical Society, an independent non-profit organization, manages an annual holiday festival, publishes historic books, operates a museum and conducts tours. Through the work of the ARB and City staff Springboro became Ohio's 31st CLG in October 1998. CLG grants have been used to leverage private funds to



South Main Street streetscape

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Springboro, Ohio's 31st CLG</i>	1
<i>Mark Your Calendar</i>	1
<i>Model Historic Preservation Ordinance Online</i>	2
<i>Documenting Your Historic Properties in the Computer Age</i>	2
<i>Olmsted Falls and Toledo's Old West End Neighborhood Join Preserve America Roster</i>	4
<i>Certified Local Government Grants</i>	4
<i>Introducing the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions</i>	5
<i>Brookfield Township and Elyria Receive Certificates</i>	5

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

March 1-4, 2009
National Main Street Conference
Chicago, IL
contact: www.conference.mainstreet.org

May 5-7, 2009
Statewide Preservation and Revitalization Conference
Cleveland, OH
contact: www.heritageohio.org

October 13-17, 2009
National Preservation Conference
Nashville, Tennessee
Contact: conference@nthp.org
or call 1-800-944-6847

(Continued from page 1)

preserve protected properties, establish design standards for these properties and most recently convert the standards into a user-friendly PDF format for distribution by CD or through the City's website.

Almost immediately the ARB set to work on preserving a threatened 1850s mansion and formulated a stronger historic preservation code. In 2000 the ARB adopted a design manual to guide preservation of protected properties and formally established the Old Springboro Historic Preservation District, a collection of 91 structures and properties that includes a significant number of antebellum structures. In 2001 four other stand-alone landmarks were created by the ARB and City Council including the oldest structure in Warren County, the 1798 Null log home.

The preservation infrastructure created between 1997 and 2001, including participation in the CLG program, has enhanced awareness of Springboro's history and helped preserve its historic resources.



550 South Main Street, former 1919 Ford Motor service garage; currently The Garage youth center, an excellent example of adaptive use.

Model Historic Preservation Ordinance Online

Does your historic preservation ordinance need revised or updated? If so, you may want to review the Model Historic Preservation Ordinance now available on our website www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres.

Both a web version and a word version for downloading and printing are available.

In addition to the model ordinance language, information includes:

- the constitutional basis for effective historic preservation legislation
- the definition of a historic preservation ordinance
- the purpose of an ordinance
- identification and description of the components of a good ordinance
- a bibliography of local historic preservation legislation

To access the ordinance just click on Certified Local Governments. Your comments or suggestions about the ordinance are welcome.

Documenting Your Historic Properties in the Computer Age

One of the basic requirements of the Certified Local Governments (CLG) program is to maintain a procedure by which historic properties can be surveyed and recorded, designated locally and nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Ohio Historic Inventory (OHI) aids local communities in developing and maintaining an accurate and continuing record of architectural resources such as: buildings, structures, sites, and objects. Since 1974, over 95,000 Ohio properties have been included in the OHI.

The Ohio Historic Inventory Form gives a complete but succinct description and history of a building, site, structure, or object. It is divided into six basic categories: *Identification, Location, Background, Architectural Data,*

Additional Information, and Photographic Documentation. The Ohio Historic Inventory form does not automatically nominate or indicate acceptance of a property to the National Register of Historic Places. The form is not intended to be the complete story on a given property; it is an inventory.

Getting Started

OHI forms may be completed for individual buildings, structures or sites; or larger scale survey projects can collect data from specific geographical areas or based on broad themes. For in-depth guidance on carrying out survey projects, see our publication *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*, available from the Ohio Histori-

(Continued from page 2)

cal Society's Ohio History Store.

It is strongly suggested that groups or agencies planning to conduct a history-architecture survey contact Lisa Ruppel, survey and National Register manager at the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) in advance to discuss the project and determine which of the following formats of OHI submission will best meet the needs of the project and OHPO.

There are a variety of tools available to record historic properties for inclusion in the Ohio Historic Inventory.

I-Form

I-Form is an Internet based application created to facilitate the completion and submission of Ohio Historic Inventory and Ohio Archaeological Inventory forms online. By utilizing I-Form, property data is incorporated directly into the master OHI database without having to manually enter data from paper forms.

The Ohio Historic Preservation Office requests that professional consultants use the I-Form when submitting inventory forms for surveys funded with CLG grants and most Section 106 compliance projects. Non-professionals may use I-Form after becoming familiar with the OHI form and once they are comfortable with using I-Form. Training on the use of I-Form is available from the OHPO.

Interactive PDF Form

The interactive PDF version of the OHI form is recommended for small survey projects, submission of single forms, and any volunteer or avocational survey work. The interactive PDF has dropdown menu choices to auto complete fields and offers handy field definition



I-Form

windows. Adobe Acrobat (not the free Reader version), will allow each form to be saved as a pdf file and even allow correctly formatted maps and images to be added directly to the form. Those files can then be burned to a CD and sent via mail to the OHPO for processing and review. Adobe Acrobat is not required to use the interactive PDF. The form will still function normally using Acrobat

Reader, the free PDF reader from Adobe. However, Adobe Reader will not be able to save the information inputted into the form. The forms must be printed individually upon completion on acid free paper and then submitted to OHPO via postal mail.

Contact OHPO at the contact information listed below if you wish to utilize the interactive electronic PDF version of the OHI.

Original Paper OHI Form

Paper form submissions are still an acceptable, but more rarely used, form of submission. Blank OHI forms can be requested from OHPO at the contact information listed below.

Accessing Existing Ohio Historic Inventory Forms

Agencies and applicants undertaking publicly funded projects of all types often need to search the Ohio Historic Inventory to determine if properties have been recorded and may be considered historic. The master files of both paper and electronic versions of all OHI forms are maintained in Columbus by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. The paper files are available to researchers free of charge.

All existing forms in the inventory are available as PDFs and can be provided upon request for \$.50 per form, plus tax. PDF files will be emailed if they comprise less than 3MB; otherwise they will be burned to a CD and mailed for an additional \$2.50 per CD. To order PDFs, please provide our office with a list or table of the specific site numbers requested. Orders can be placed via email to ohpo@ohiohistory.org or by calling the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at 614-298-2000. Requests for PDFs will be filled in the order received, generally within 5 business days. Requests for information on culturally sensitive properties will be

(Continued on page 4)



Original OHI Form

(Continued from page 3)

processed in accordance with relevant policies and regulations.

Currently there is an online subscription mapping service available on a paid basis. To learn more about this service, visit: <http://www.ohpo.org/gis/login.jsp>

If you are interested in using I-Form, the interactive PDF form, or traditional paper form for submission or have general questions about the Ohio Historic Inventory, contact Survey and National Register Manager

Lisa Ruppel at lruppel@ohiohistory.org or 614-298-2000. For information about the Ohio Archaeological Inventory, please contact the Archaeology Survey and Data Manager Brent Eberhard at beberhard@ohiohistory.org or 614-298-2000. A brief conversation can save time and efforts down the road by identifying which submission mode is best for your project.

Olmsted Falls and Toledo's Old West End Neighborhood Join Preserve America Roster

Congratulations to the Cuyahoga County community of Olmsted Falls and Toledo's Old West End neighborhood on becoming Ohio's newest Preserve America designees. They join eleven other community's including Certified Local Governments Canal Winchester, Delaware, Medina, Oberlin and the Columbus's German Village neighborhood in receiving the designation. For more

information about Olmsted Falls, see the October/November issue of *The Network*. Visit www.oldwestend.com for more information about this exciting Toledo neighborhood. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Old West End is "the largest neighborhood of restored Victorian, Edwardian and Arts and Crafts home in the United States."

Certified Local Government Grants



The restoration of Berea's Little Red School House for use by the Berea Center for Fine Arts, is being funded in part with a CLG grant.

need of rehabilitation? If so, the CLG grant may be an opportunity for you.

Each year, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office

Does your community's historic preservation ordinance need to be updated? Do you have a historic preservation plan? Is there an area of potential development or properties that should be evaluated for possible nomination to the National Register of Historic Places? Is there a key historic property that needs a physical assessment or feasibility study to determine reuse opportunities? Or is there a National Register-listed property in

passes through ten percent of its annual allocation from the federal Historic Preservation Fund to Certified Local Governments for projects that advance local historic preservation projects and priorities. CLGs are notified annually of the grant program and the amount of money we anticipate being able to pass through, based upon the annual appropriation to Ohio from the Historic Preservation Fund. We estimate that approximately \$90,000 will be available during the next funding round for CLG grants in Ohio.

Survey, planning, education, predevelopment and development projects for properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are eligible projects for funding consideration. Grants are awarded on a 70:30 matching basis; 70% of total project costs up to the awarded amount can be paid by the grant and 30% funded by local match.

The annual fact sheet, application form and guidelines for the 2009 funding round is now available on line at: www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/toolbox/clg-05.html for projects that are to begin May 1, 2009 and completed by September 30, 2010. A paper copy is also available from the OHPO office. Applications are due March 1, 2009.

Introducing the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions

The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) provides technical assistance, training, and advocacy for thousands of local design review boards and commissions.

Members of NAPC receive:

- the organizations newsletter, *The Alliance Review*
- access to NAPC-L, NAPC's Listserv
- access to the NAPC resource center
- a significant registration discount for the organizations biennial conference.

The NAPC board of directors is made up of local board and commission members from a variety of states and backgrounds. Working with their partners, the National Park Service, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Conference of State Historic Preser-

vation Officers, Preservation Action, and the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, NAPC provides a voice for local boards and commissions in Washington D.C.

For more information about NAPC and how to join the organization visit www.uga.edu/napc

WANTED
YOUR DESIGN GUIDELINES

The Owens Library at UGA's College of Environment and design, partnered with the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions now has on it's shelves 278 design guidelines from across the nation and beyond. This resource is a great addition and shows the growing importance of historic district design guidelines.

HELP US HELP YOU!
If your current design guidelines are not included in the collection, please send a copy to
NAPC at P.O. Box 1605
Athens, GA
30603

Brookfield Township and Elyria Receive Certificates

Brookfield Township and Elyria recently received certificates recognizing their designation as Certified Local Governments. Both were certified on the same day, September 23rd, 2008. If your Certified Local Government would like to be recognized with a framed certificate please contact Glenn Harper at gharper@ohiohistory.org or 614-298-2000.



OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Individual staff hours may vary)
To better serve you we recommend that you call ahead for an appointment

Publication of this newsletter has been made possible in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior's National Park Service, administered by the Ohio Historic Preservation Office of the Ohio Historical Society.

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