NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ault-Weygang Farm
other names/site number Weygang Farm (Way-315-11; WAY-316-11)

2. Location

street & number 15090 Back Massillon Road n/a □ not for publication
city or town Orrville vicinity
state Ohio code OH county Wayne code 169 zip code 44667

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant □ nationally □ statewide □ locally. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Barbara Faworn Dept. Head Planning Inventor
Signature of certifying official Registration Date October 12, 2001
Ohio Historic Preservation Office -- OH SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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 Keeper Date of Action
5. Classification

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<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
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<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)</td>
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<td>☑ district</td>
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<tr>
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Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

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7. Description

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<td></td>
<td>walls sandstone, wood</td>
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<td>other metal, wood</td>
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Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☐ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or a grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

Period of Significance
c. 1827-1951

Significant Dates
c. 1827, ca. 1914-1917

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Orrville Cast Stone Company, Orrville, OH

Chicago House Wrecking Co., Chicago, IL

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Primary location of additional data
☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of repository: Ohio Historical Society
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 91.3 acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
1 17 439360 4525580
2 17 440500 4525570
3 17 440500 4524900
4 17 439350 4524910

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) see continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert J. Weygandt – Owner, and Steve C. Gordon, Ohio Historic Preservation Office
organization _______________________________ date March-August 2001
street & number 15090 Back Massillon Road telephone (330)-683-6886
city or town Orrville state OH zip code 44667

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Robert & Susan Weygandt
street & number 15090 Back Massillon Road telephone (330)-683-6886
city or town Orrville state OH zip code 44667

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Located three miles northeast of Orrville and one mile south of Marshallville in rural Wayne County, Ohio, the Ault-Weygandt Farmstead consists of a mail order house (1914) a Sweitzer barn (ca. 1827), corn crib (ca. 1890), animal shelter/chicken coop (ca. 1890) and a three bay steel-sided garage (1979). The nominated area includes all but eight acres of the historic 99 acre tract owned by Frederick and Mary Ault. The overall topography of the farm is rolling and cultivated with a small woodlot; approximately 82 acres have consistently been used for farming operations (Photo #1). Currently most of the tillable acreage is leased to a cousin of the Weygandt family who resides on an adjacent farm. All of the resources are contributing elements to the nomination with the exception of the recently constructed garage.

The farmstead is situated approximately 100 feet north of Back Massillon Road. Most of the associated farmland consists of Canfield silt loam with a 0-2% slope. The north fork of Newman Creek drains the western side of the farm and flows generally from northwest to south-southeast. Oriented to the south, the farmstead is laid out in a variant of the courtyard plan [Figure 1].\(^1\) The house sits in a grove of mature hardwood trees that includes a 150-year-old Austrian pine tree designated by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources as the largest of its kind in Ohio (Supplemental Photo #4). Together the four structures physically represent the growth and prosperity of a northeastern Ohio farming operation. The Weygandt family has farmed the nominated acreage for five generations (Photos #20-22).

Weygandt Farmhouse (WAY-315-11):

According to oral tradition based on family papers, the interior woodwork and fittings of the farmhouse are part of "a package home ordered from the Chicago House Wrecking Company in 1914."\(^2\) It was built immediately north of the site of a Federal style I-house demolished after damage incurred by a windstorm (Supplemental photo #14). The house, completed in 1917, is distinguished by its unique cast concrete wall treatment fabricated by the Orrville Cast Stone Company (Photos #2-7; 22; Supplemental photos #2-3). Machines for manufacturing this type of early decorative concrete block were then coming into vogue in Ohio [Figure 2]. Resembling smooth ashlarsandstone, the cast blocks are accented by reddish tinted quoins, lintels, and sills. This variegation carries through on the porch wall and foundation. The blocks are laid in stretcher bond pattern with occasional interstices of Queens closures (Photo #7). Mortar joints are original and exhibit a pink hue. Windows are one-over-one and have been replaced with vinyl sashes on the west elevation. The overall affect of the house is that of solidity and variegation.

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\(^1\) Glassie, "Delaware Valley Folk Building," pp. 413-415.

\(^2\) Donald Weygandt, Personal Interview, 12 June 2001.
Ault-Weygandt Farm  
Wayne County, Ohio

Stylistically the house exhibits a combination of late vernacular Queen Anne and Colonial Revival architectural details. The shingle wall surfaces in the boxed roof gables and porch gablet suggest Queen Anne influences while the simple porch posts and rectangular door and window bays have subtle Colonial Revival influences. A pair of “basket handle” openings distinguish the porch railing, and a cast concrete ball and pedestal adorns the railing at the edge of the porch entrance (Photo #6). Another identical element originally located on the porch railing was moved and is now found immediately south of the metal garage. These elements were the trademark of the Orrville Cast Stone Company. The house rests on a rock-faced concrete block foundation with a sandstone water table.

House Interior:

Built on a side hallway plan, the house features a handsomely paneled staircase with a square newel post and turned spindles (Supplemental Photo #8; floor plan). Between the front parlor and the entrance hall is a trabeated passage supported by simple Doric posts (Supplemental Photo #7). Pocket doors between the front parlor and the dining room were removed to the attic, but the door between the dining room and the stairhall remains in situ. The painted wood finishes are generally simple in design as are the fittings and hardware. The wood floors are soft pine with hardwood borders. The interior walls employ 2 1/2” x 4 1/2” wood studs nailed to the hollow concrete blocks.

Alterations:

In 1985 new vinyl windows and screens replaced sixteen of the original twenty-one wooden sash windows. The large transomed windows on the front (south) and east elevations and front entrance are original. A 14’ x 18’ single story frame addition and deck were built in 1992 to the rear, replacing a small rear porch (Photo #5). Portions of the sandstone foundation were used to support the addition. The dirt floor in the basement (fruit cellar) was cemented and a smooth block shower and sink area were constructed in the 1960s. Around 1985 a sandstone chimney was removed when the house was converted to gas heat.

Ault-Weygandt Barn (WAY-316-11):

The centerpiece of the Ault-Weygandt Farmstead is the Sweitzer barn located northwest of the house (Photos #8-9). Measuring 40’ x 100’, the five-bay basement barn was built in two stages. The 20’ wide western-most bay, probably built before 1870 as a wagon shed, has a grade entrance on the north elevation and rests on stone piers along the west elevation/gable end (Photo #17). Each of the barn’s five bays is roughly 20’ wide.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

The original 40’ x 80’ barn is a classic Sweitzer type with the characteristic asymmetrical gable-end silhouette, lower forebay and upper wagon ramp entrance (Photo #9). All structural members in the barn are hand-hewn except for the knee braces and rafters, which are sawn. Characteristic of the courtyard plan, the forebay faces south, maximizing exposure to the sun while shielding livestock from the harsh north winds. The forebay is 9’ deep and is supported by heavy forebay beams under the forebay sill that extend back over the front stable wall. Two posts were later added to support the eastern end of the forebay (Photo #10). The entire barn rests on a dry mortared coursed sandstone masonry foundation.

The basement joists are partially hewn (top and bottom), 9’ x 14’, scarf jointed, and notched into the sills. There are no massive summer beams extending the length of the basement, rather there are shorter beams lap-jointed at the posts. Access between the stable and the barnyard is through doors in the walls below the forebay (Photo #11). A chestnut wood feed bunk used to feed grain to the horses, located just inside the eastern-most basement bay, was hewn from a single log (Photo #12). The foundation at the southeast corner of the barn is angled at the inside corner and may be a variation of the Pennsylvania Peilereck, an L shaped corner pier. 3 Hinges on the basement door are hand wrought iron and measure 27”. The forebay foundation exhibits brick nogging (Photo #13).

The heavy timber frame is remarkably intact. Roman numerals, or "marriage marks" at the joints indicate the scribe rule, rather than square rule method was used to fabricate most of the barn frame (Photo #14). Posts, girts, purlins and tie beams are all hand hewn. Principal purlin posts are vertical and all wind braces are sawn 4”x 4” scantlings. There are no principal rafters; all common rafters appear to be original and are sawn with 36” centers. A hay track manufactured by the F. E. Myers Co., Ashland, Ohio was added ca. 1880-1900.

The hay mow and granaries are accessed by a wide ramp along the north elevation. Among the many distinctive features of this barn are the twin sets of original hinged doors that provide access to the two middle bays of the upper floor (Photo #15). Both center bays functioned as threshing and machinery floors; the adjacent bays served as mows for the storage of hay and straw. Both sets of doors feature mortise and tenon framing with heavy splines on the hinge side of each door (Photo #16). The easternmost set of doors provide access to the original threshing bay, which still retains its wooden threshing floor boards fastened with hardwood pins/dowels. Nails were not employed since horse’s hooves and shoes might cause sparks if nail heads were present. The random-width boards appear to be white oak 15”-18” in width.

3 Ensminger, Pennsylvania Barns, p. 121.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

The conventional framing system consists of 9” x 11” main and corner posts, 9” x 9 1/2” aisle posts and 6” x 6” girts. Intermediate posts range from 8 1/2” x 8 1/2” to 8 1/2” x 10.” The aisle posts support the tie beams and are pinned directly below the purlins. Eave plates, each member measuring 40’ in length, are square lapped at the middle bay. The sawn pole rafters appear to be approximately 4” x 4.” Purlins extend the length of the barn. There is a scaffold beam on the third bent and a “fishbellied” or swell beam just above the bay opening along the north elevation at the ramp.

The third bay houses two, 20’ long windlasses or rack lifters with wheels measuring 9’in diameter (Supplemental photo #12). The windlasses were used for raising the wagons to unload heavy sheaves of wheat and loose hay. This was a common practice prior to the development of the steam threshers and roof mounted hay tracks. The current owners have replaced the heavy rope used to operate the windlasses. At the rear (south side) of the fourth bay is a set of granaries with their original binboards. The granary is partitioned from the west haymow bay along the south or warmest and driest side of the barn. Grain was blown or scooped into separate “rodent-proof” bins for feeding horses or eventual transport to the local mill. These grain bins are among the most extensive and intact observed on an Ohio barn.

The westernmost bay appears to have been added although the heavy hand hewn framing and way it is mortised into the original barn frame suggest it is of mid-19th century provenance (Photo #17). The west sill beam is 14” x 8” and the short posts below the girt are 18” x 10.” The floor plate supporting the western end of the original barn frame is 13” x 14” and 33’ long. There are no floorboards in this bay. A canted corn crib was later added to the interior of the west wall.

Along the north elevation the ends of the tie beams are exposed and the rafter tails are visible on the north elevation. The roof of the westernmost bay is covered with slate while a form of “asbestos slate” was added to the remainder of the barn roof ca. 1925. Rough sawn poplar siding was installed on the south side of the barn frame in 1995. The east and west gable ends retain their original wood siding while the siding on the north elevation was removed, reversed and painted in the 1930s. A 40’ x 70’ concrete feedlot was poured along the south side of the barn in 1988.

Corncrib:

Paralleling the east elevation of the barn, the corncrib is a 5’ x 28’ wood frame structure with vertical board sides, standing seam metal gabled roof, and a hinged scooping door on the south gable end. There are a series of hinged doors along the east elevation. The crib rests on wooden piers (Photo #18).
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Animal Shelter/Chicken Coop:

Located 50′ south of the barn, the animal shelter/chicken coop is a 16′ x 20′ 6″ single story, timber frame structure with a shed roof. It is divided into four interior bays and rests on a brick foundation (Photo #19).

Garage/Shop:

This three bay, corrugated steel, gable roof building was constructed in 1979. It is a non-contributing resource (Photo #5).

Non-extant Structures:

Several structures once associated with the farmstead no longer remain. A shop building, chicken coop, smokehouse and privy have been removed since the 1950s (see farmstead plan).

Rural Landscape:

As noted earlier, the farmstead includes several mature sugar maples and an Austrian pine tree. The southeast corner of the farmyard is marked by an ancient lilac bush, while Black Willows mark the southwest corner of the property along the creek bottom. The fields remain in a rotation of small grains, cover crops and pasture. The original woodlot is located at the northeast corner of the farm along Coal Bank Road. Fallow fields and wooded fencerows occupy the land south of CR 29. Two small ranch type houses were built by the Weygandt family in the 1960s west of the farm along the north side of CR 19. These houses are not included in this nomination. No prehistoric sites have been formally recorded on the property. 4

4 Ohio Archaeological Inventory, Ohio Historic Preservation Office.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Figure 1.
A typical courtyard plan farm, Wayne County, Ohio, 1873.
Location of house, forebay, barn, driveway, and fields nearly identical to
Ault-Weygandt Farm.
Are You Interested in a Simple, Durable Machine Making Blocks For Any Purpose

THE U. S. STANDARD
Concrete Building Block Machine

You are considering the purchase of a concrete block machine. You want a machine that will do all kinds of work, or whatever may be needed for your purpose. You want to pay a reasonable price, but you want to get your money's worth. Those are important considerations. Now we have the machine. We want to prove to you that we have it. Don't you think you owe it to yourself to give us the chance to prove it?

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Just drop a postal card to us asking for our literature and mentioning the name of this paper and you will receive a book giving a fund of valuable information on the concrete business, how to make all kinds of blocks with various mixtures, colors, etc. Write today for book M.

The Ashland Steel Range & Mfg. Co.
ASHLAND, OHIO
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Sketch Map 1950

[Diagram showing the layout of the Ault-Weygandt Farm with labeled structures and features such as barn, corn crib, feed and water area, small animal shelter, cistern, garage, garden, buggy shed, wind pump & cistern, small porch, shallow well, chicken house, smoke house, outhouse, house, and county road 29.]
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Sketch Map 2000

- Barn
- Forebay
- Feedlot
- Small Animal Shelter
- Pool
- Deck
- Addition
- House
- Garage
- Addition
- Porch
- Flower Garden
- Flower and Vegetable Garden
- Pine Trees
- County Road 29
Ault-Wegandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

House and Shop, looking east, 1916
Ault-Wegandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Top Left: Donald E. Weygandt, 1940

Top Right: Weygandt House, 1920. (Donald M. Weygandt in center)

Bottom Right: House and shed, 1940. Donald Weygandt on left.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Located in the fertile, well-drained uplands of Wayne County, Ohio, the Ault-Weygandt Farm is significant under Criterion A as it represents the evolution of 175 years of agricultural production and practices in northeastern Ohio. From its origins within the context of Ohio’s early wheat and dairy belt, through its long period as a diversified farm, to construction of the early 20th century “modern” farmhouse, the Ault-Weygandt Farm is an important manifestation of local agricultural traditions. The first phase, embodied in the ca. 1827 scribe rule, Sweitzer barn, represents the apogee of horse-powered agricultural production in Ohio. The latter phase, handsomely exemplified by the 1914 mail order farmhouse, illustrates the early 20th century trend in architectural design towards simplicity, functionality and modern home economy. Under Criterion C, the barn is singularly important as a vestige of scribe rule, timber frame construction in Ohio, while the concrete block farmhouse is a fine and intact example of a manufactured mail order house complete with “modern” amenities. All four surviving farm buildings are cultural artifacts of change and continuity in Wayne County’s agricultural economy. To this day Wayne County ranks among Ohio’s foremost agricultural counties, leading the state in hay, oats and milk cow production. Surprisingly, however, there is only one working farm in Wayne County presently listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

AGRICULTURAL CONTEXT:

Stark, Tuscarawas and Wayne counties constituted the first wheat belt west of Pennsylvania and New York’s Genesee Valley. By the late 1820s and 1830s these three counties had become Ohio’s agricultural “breadbasket” [Figure 3]. The opening of a regional canal system, especially the Ohio and Erie and later the Welland Canals, facilitated the concentration of wheat growing in Ohio’s “Backbone Counties.” Grain production was the chief occupation of Wayne County farmers, and during the antebellum era, Wayne County consistently ranked among Ohio’s leading producers of oats and wheat. In 1850 Wayne and Stark counties were Ohio’s top two wheat producing counties, respectively, while Ohio in 1850 was the nation’s second greatest wheat producing state.

From 1840 to 1860 Wayne County was also Ohio’s leading source of horses at a time when Ohio led or ranked second nationally in the number of horses. Before the Civil War horses were the farmer’s “power generators,” and until the advent of steam threshers they were commonly used to power grain separators and threshing machinery. The Ault-Weygandt Barn was built before the age of machinery, when farmers relied exclusively on horses and men’s backs for power. Until the 1840s hay was still cut with a scythe and stacked on large haystacks or on wagons for stacking in the barn haymow, and wheat was flailed and winnowed by hand or by horse’s hooves. Windlasses were frequently used to

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5 Clark, American Family Home, p. 147.
7 Deer Lick Farm, West Salem vicinity (NR, 1986).
8 Jones, Agriculture in Ohio, p. 61.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

raise the wagonloads of loose or bundled hay so it could be more easily stacked high in the mow. They were also used to temporarily stack sheaves of wheat and rye in the barn “overbay.”

Another important branch of Wayne County’s agriculture has been its dairy industry. In 1859 Wayne County was one of five Ohio counties with butter production exceeding 1 million pounds. The agricultural census returns for 1880 indicate the Ault-Weygandt Farm was producing 1,000 pounds of butter annually [Figure 4]. The farm remained a diversified operation well up into the mid-20th century as the Weygandts raised row crops along with chickens, hogs, and beef and dairy cows. Their first tractor, a Farmall H with rubber tires, was purchased in 1941. Although Wayne County’s once richly diversified farm operations have shifted more toward a monocultural economy, traditional land use patterns and field locations have remained relatively intact. Today the land is used more intensively for livestock pasturage and single crop production.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The Ault-Weygandt Barn, built ca. 1827 by Frederick Ault and enlarged by John Shaffer ca. 1870, is an important vestige of scribe rule construction employed on a Sweitzer barn. Early 19th century Ohio barn builders cut each tenon to fit a specific mortise in the framing member, a technique later historians define as the scribe rule method. “Marriage marks,” or Roman numerals, were used to show which members were to be joined together (Photo #14). This practice differed from the later square rule, which was based on a system of interchangeable parts. Timbers in a square rule barn are more uniform in size, and each mortise is cut to more precise dimensions.

The Sweitzer configuration traces its American cultural hearth to Pennsylvania and Maryland, with antecedents in Swiss cantons. Wayne County is located in the heart of the Midwest's greatest concentration of Sweitzer barns. The larger, two story barn plan, observed one Ohio writer in 1852,

...Is intended to afford the most convenient and expeditious mode of storing away hay and grain, threshing, feeding and stabling cattle and horses, and the saving of manure, and stands on a small knoll or elevation of land, the summit of which was taken for the passage or main entry from north to south.

The original Federal style, Flemish bond brick farmhouse, built ca. 1823 by Fred and Mary Ault, was damaged by a windstorm in 1913. It was replaced by what was then considered a modern mail order farmhouse with indoor plumbing, central steam heat and a DELCO plant. According to one historian, the simplicity afforded by concrete

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11 *Ohio Cultivator*, p. 22.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

houses was seen as an antidote to the complexities and excesses of older Victorian structures. Another historian noted:

Probably no 20-year period has seen greater improvement in the facilities for farm life than from 1910-1930… In 1930 nearly 30 per cent of the farms in the State reported running water in the house, and 25 per cent reported the dwelling to be lighted by electricity.13

The simple, crisp lines and modern comforts of the new concrete farmhouse no doubt appealed to Elroy C. Weygandt.

FARM AND FAMILY HISTORY:

Frederick and Mary Ault moved from Washington County, Pennsylvania and settled on land located in Section 9, Baughman Township in 1819. There they built a Federal style brick I House ca. 1823 followed by the Sweitzer barn ca.1827. In 1826 Ault’s farm holdings in Section 9 had grown to 220 acres.

In 1860 Wayne County was Ohio’s leader in horses and oat production, and of all Ohio counties it ranked second in butter and hay output and the total number of “improved” farm acreage. In terms of cash value of farms Wayne County was fourth in the state, and of the 2668 farms enumerated in the county in 1860, 1292, or 48 percent, were between 50 and 100 acres.14

Frederick and Mary Ault sold 99 acres in the southeast corner of Section 9 in 1835 to Jacob Staman for $5,000. Jacob Staman [sometimes spelled Starman] could not be located in the 1850 or 1860 federal population census. By 1873 John Shaffer (1823-1907) is shown as the owner of the entire sec of Section 9 and an adjoining 55 acres [Figure 5]. The 1880 census records indicate John Shaffer, his wife Frances Shaffer (1831-1883), and their seven children were residing on the farm. Based on the agricultural census returns, Shaffer’s farm ranked among the most diversified and productive operations in this section of Baughman Township [Figure 4]. The Shaffer family continued to operate the farm until John’s death in 1906. The farm was subsequently sold in 1908 to Elroy Clifton, or “E.C” (1867-1922) and Ada Shaffer Weygandt (1870-19??), who married in 1891 and subsequently resided on the farm. The Weygandt family had settled Wayne County in 1824 and in 1863 moved to the family farm ½ mile to the east in Section 10, Baughman Township. E. C. Weygandt’s uncle, Carl V. Weygandt, served as Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court from 1933-1963, the longest term of any Ohio Justice. E. C. Weygandt, a Baughman Township trustee and active member of the Baughman Grange, died in his home in January 1922.15

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12 Clark, American Family Home, p. 147.
13 Falconer, Twenty Years Ohio Agriculture, p. 12.
14 Eighth Census, Agriculture.
15 Powell, p. 77.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

After the old brick farmhouse partially collapsed during a windstorm in 1913, E.C. and Ada Weygandt built the concrete block house which has remained the principal family residence on the farm. The 1920 Census indicates Elroy C., Ada, their son Vernon, and daughter Dorothy were living on the farm. In 1922 E. C. Weygandt died and the farm passed on to their son Donald Merton Weygandt (1896-1969), who married Elizabeth McKee in 1922. Their son, Donald Elroy Weygandt, was born in the farmhouse in 1929. The farm has subsequently passed on to the current owners and residents, Robert (1954— ) and Susan Weygandt. They have two children, Steven and Amy Weygandt.

According to Donald Elroy Weygandt, who currently resides with his wife in a house immediately west of the farm, the house was shipped in 1914 by flatcar from the Chicago House Wrecking Company’s plant to nearby Burton, Ohio. From Burton the pre-cut materials were transported by horse and wagon to the farm where construction of the house would continue until 1917. The Orrville Cast Stone Co. furnished the block for the house, which cost nearly $6,000. The Weygandts paid an additional $150 for wiring the house, with electricity provided by a DELCO plant. In 1918, discharged from service in WW I, Donald Merton Weygandt got off the train in Marshallville and walked the last stretch of his long overseas journey to the farm. Recalling the half-completed house when he left for the War, the first thing Donald Weygandt did upon entering the house was turn on the light switch.

The Ault-Weygandt Farm possesses architectural significance by virtue of its intact field patterns, most of which have remained unchanged since the 19th century, and its four surviving buildings and farms structures that represent nearly 175 years of continuous farming in Wayne County. During the period from 1840-1920, the population of Wayne County increased slowly from 35,808 to 41,346, suggesting there were relatively few physical changes occurring on the rural landscape. Today Wayne County is fortunate to still have a remarkable collection of farmsteads, and the Ault-Weygandt Farm is one of the more intact, working historic farms prevalent in the county.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Figure 3.
Ohio’s Early Breadbasket
Source: Map of Indiana and Ohio, 1831.
Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

1880 U.S. Census of Agriculture-Wayne County-Baughman Twp.

District 224, Page 10, June 1880, John Shaffer

1 owner of farm
117 acres tilled, 25 acres meadow, pasture & orchard
32 acres woodland and forest, 44 other acres "unimproved"
$15,120-Value of farm, including land, fences, buildings.

Products 1879:
- Hay - 40 acres, Clover - 2 acres, Grass - 7 acres, Horses - 9, Milk Cows - 8
- Other cattle - 20, Butter - 1,000 #
- Sheep on hand in 1880 - 220
- Lambs dropped - 35
- Fleece Spring 1880 - 138
- Swine - 40
- Barnyard Chickens - 75, Eggs - 100 dozen
- 19 acres Corn - 500 bushels
- Oats 22 (?) acres - 833 bushels
- Wheat 28 acres - 519 bushels
- Potatoes 1 acre - 100 bushels
- Apples 4 acres - 55 bearing trees
- Vineyard 1 acre
- 60 cords Wood - value $775

Figure 4.
1880 Agricultural Census
Ault-Wegandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Figure 5.
John Shaffer, owner Ault-Wegandt Farm, 1873
Source: Caldwell's Atlas Wayne County, 1873
Ault-Wegandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

Major Bibliographical References


The Barn Consultant. 2 (May-June 2000).


Ohio Architect and Builder (May 1906).

Ohio Cultivator 8 (April 15, 1852).


Ault-Weygandt Farm  
Wayne County, Ohio

**Major Bibliographical References cont.**


*Soil Survey of Wayne County, Ohio*. USDA, SCS, 1981.

Wayne County Recorder’s Office, Wooster, Ohio.


**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

The Ault-Weygandt Farm is part of the Southwest quarter of Section Nine (9), also the East part of the Southwest Quarter of Section Nine (9), of Township Seventeen (17), Range Eleven (11), Baughman Township, Wayne County. Recorder’s Office: Volume 170, Page 0267 and Volume 573, Page 417.

**ERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:**

The boundary for the Ault-Weygandt Farm includes the farmhouse, barn, related outbuildings and agricultural landscape features and fields that have historically been associated with the farm and still maintain historic integrity.
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number ___ Photo Log ___ Page ___

Ault-Weygandt Farm
Wayne County, Ohio

For photos 1-19, the following information is the same for all photos:

Photographer: Steve C. Gordon
Address: Ohio Historic Preservation Office
567 E. Hudson Street
Columbus, Ohio 43211
Date: July 12, 2001

Photo # View

1 Ault barn and fields, looking east from Mt. Eaton Rd.
2 Weygandt House, south and east elevations, looking NW
3 Weygandt House, looking NW
4 Weygandt House and Ault barn, looking northwest
5 Weygandt House, north (rear) elevation, looking SW showing new garage
6 Weygandt House, porch detail
7 Weygandt House, masonry detail, northwest corner (image reversed in processing)
8 Ault barn, south and east elevations, looking N-NW
9 Ault barn, south and east elevations, looking NW
10 Ault barn, Forebay detail, looking east
11 Ault barn, Forebay detail and Robert Weygandt
12 Ault barn, feedbunk
13 Ault barn, south forebay wall showing brick nogging
14 Ault barn, framing detail and “marriage marks”
15 Ault barn, north and east elevations, looking SW
16 Ault barn, door detail, looking SW
17 Ault barn, north and west elevations, looking SE
18 Ault-Weygandt corn crib, looking NW
19 Ault-Weygandt chicken coop, looking NW
AULT-WEYGANDT FARM
WAYNE CO., OHIO

1/4" = 2'-SCALE
9/28/01

ADDITION

30'
SLIDING DOOR

KITCHEN

OFFICE

STAIRS DOWN
UNDERSTAIRS

DEEP CLOSET
STORAGE UNDER
LANDING

STAIRS UP

3 1/2'
PCKET DOORS

LIVING
ROOM

PARLOR ROOM

PILLARS

PORCH

PILLARS

STONE BALL

AULT/WEYGANDT FARMSTEAD HOME
LOWER ELEVATION
AULT-WEYGANDT FARM
WEYGANDT BARN
WAYNE CO.
OHIO

9/11/01
SCALE 1/8" = 1'

END BENTS

INTERIOR BENTS
February 6, 2002

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weygandt
15090 Back Massillon Road
Orville, Ohio 44667

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Weygandt:

Congratulations on the recent listing of your property into the National Register of Historic Places!

The National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior listed the Ault-Weygandt Farm, 15090 Back Massillon Road, Orville, Ohio on January 14, 2002. 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.

The Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) is available to advise you in maintaining the historic character of your property. As you know from previous mailings received from this office, there are no restrictions placed on your property following the National Register listing. However, the OHPO strongly encourages owners of historic properties to consider all options before completing work that could damage the structure or impair its historic integrity. Careful planning can facilitate the sensitive incorporation of contemporary alterations with the historic fabric. The OHPO provides free information on how to sensibly rehabilitate and repair historic properties, upon request.

Thank you for your interest in historic preservation and the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Powers
Department Head
Planning, Inventory, and Registration

Cc: Fred Cannon, Wayne County Commissioner
Richard Shisler, Baughman Township Trustee
John Gochhauer, Baughman Township Trustee
Donald Grimes, Baughman Township Trustee
Senator Ron Amstutz, District # 22
Representative James Carmichael, District # 7
Northeast Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization
Paul Graham, Ohio Department of Transportation
National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Ault-Weygandt Farm

County: Wayne

✓ Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form + an extra copy

✓ 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 excerpts from the Plain Dealer, census info

THE OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Ohio Historic Preservation Office

CES: 1/06