Prior Survey Summary

The OHPO provided a list of previously recorded OHI forms from the project era. Less than a dozen were compiled for Greene County. One hundred ninety-two OHI forms from Montgomery County have been previously completed within the project era. The majority of them are 1940s houses in Oakwood. Most properties previously recorded in Dayton are commercial buildings in the downtown core.

There are four listed National Register of Historic Places properties from the Ohio Modern Survey time period. Two of them are entertainment and recreation related: the Deeds Carillon, constructed in 1942 and listed in 2005, and the Fairborn Theatre, constructed in 1948 and listed in 2005. The Holy Cross Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church, constructed in 1965 and listed in 1991, was added to the National Register for its association with the Lithuanian community and is part of the European Ethnic Communities, Dayton Multiple Property Submission. Built in 1943, the building at 1601 W. First Street, also known as Unit III, Dayton Project was listed in 2006 for its association with military and scientific research during WWII, which led to the creation of the atom bomb.

Two properties identified during the windshield survey were included for OHI recording, even though they were National Register listed. They include the addition to the Dayton Daily News Building and the office at 1131-33 Salem Avenue. The 1956 addition to the Dayton Daily News Building is not discussed or described within the National Register nomination. It has a fairly significant presence on the streetscape and reads as an individual building. The office building at 1131-33 Salem was included within the Kenilworth Avenue Historic District. It was counted as noncontributing and stands out from the adjacent listed buildings. It was determined to record this building because it reflects the broader pattern of commercial development along Salem Avenue in the 1950s.

Research Methods

The objective of this project was to inventory and document 500 mid-20th-century properties. Inventoried properties include a mix of residential, ecclesiastical, commercial, and institutional. Sites such as drive-in theatres and objects such as neon signs were also included. Research components for the survey included field research and observation, archival research, photography, mapping, and data entry.

Because of the relatively young age of the subject properties, the Montgomery County Auditor’s website was relied upon for dating of the proposed OHI forms. Dates listed there were corroborated by additional research.