

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Ohio	
COUNTY: Hamilton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-1139, 0039	DATE 11/10/90



1. NAME	
COMMON: Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House (State Memorial)	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2950 Gilbert Avenue, @ Foraker Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Cincinnati			
STATE: Ohio	CODE: 039	COUNTY: Hamilton	CODE: 061

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____
Comments _____ _____			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: State of Ohio			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Columbus	STATE: Ohio	CODE: 039	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: The Ohio Historical Society			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1982 Velma Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Columbus	STATE: Ohio	CODE: 039	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Ohio Historic Survey, Phase I: "Ohio Historic Landmarks"			
DATE OF SURVEY: February, 1967 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Ohio Historical Society			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1982 Velma Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Columbus	STATE: Ohio	CODE: 039	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Ohio	COUNTY: Hamilton	ENTRY NUMBER 70-1139, 0039	DATE 11/10/90
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a simple 2-story brick structure with gabled roof, single chimney at either end and a 3-part front facade. Originally there was a 2-story veranda at the rear. The interior arrangement consisted of a central hall with one room to each side.

The appearance of the house has been altered considerably over the years. A bay window has been added to one side, a late Classic Revival porch has been built at the front and a large wing erected at the rear. The first floor presently contains seven major rooms.

The structure was strengthened and repaired by The Ohio Historical Society, and the building is now open to the public as a museum of the work of Harriet Beecher Stowe and of the role of the Negro in American history. The Cincinnati organizations and individuals interested in the preservation of the home as a museum and The Ohio Historical Society were responsible for installing the exhibits. One room is devoted to the Beecher family and Cincinnati, and the others to the contributions of the Negro to American life, the African background of the Negro and the life of the Negro in America both before and after the Civil War.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

early 1830's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☐ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☒ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☒ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1832 Dr. Lyman Beecher, Presbyterian minister and the country's leading Biblical authority, came from the East to head Lane Seminary in Cincinnati. His daughters, Catherine and Harriet, made the trip also. They occupied the seminary president's house on Gilbert Ave. Harriet, at the suggestion of her sister, was working on a Geography for Children when she came to Cincinnati. It became her first published writing, with Catherine as co-author, early in 1833. In 2-1/2 years the book had sold 100,000 copies. About the time Geography appeared, the two sisters opened the Western Female Seminary at the corner of Fourth and Sycamore Streets. They gave it up in 1835 when Harriet became engaged to Calvin Stowe.

Meanwhile, Harriet's writing career had begun in earnest. She had won a prize for "A New England Sketch" published in James Hall's Western Monthly Magazine in April, 1834. Her literary production was curtailed for several years after her marriage to Stowe, professor of Biblical literature at Lane Seminary in January, 1836. The Stowes lived in a home near the seminary in Walnut Hills and left Cincinnati in 1850 when Calvin accepted a professorship at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.

In Cincinnati Harriet received her education in the evils of Negro slavery: she helped a servant-girl escape, visited the Ripley, Ohio home of the abolitionist Rev. John Rankin, observed mass hysteria in the riots against James G. Birney and his antislavery Philanthropist in 1836 and journeyed to Kentucky where she saw first-hand the workings of the plantation system and Negro slavery. She met Dr. Gamaliel Bailey, who gave up his medical career to help Birney in publishing Philanthropist. After the riots Bailey ran the paper until 1847, when he became editor of National Era, a new antislavery weekly from Washington, D.C. It was her friend Bailey who was to present Uncle Tom's Cabin to the world in 1851-52. Harriet wrote her famous novel while living in Brunswick. Intending to write sketches for 3 or 4 issues of National Era, she produced instead 40 installments of the book. Early in 1852 Uncle Tom's Cabin appeared in book form and sold 50,000 copies in two months. The book brought Harriet fame and fortune, and her influence both in the literary and political fields was great. She died in 1896 at 85.

The house in which Harriet spent much of her years in Cincinnati was her father's residence as president of Lane Seminary. After Rev. Beecher left it in 1850 to return East, it became the home of the Rev. Joseph G. Monfort, one of the noted leaders of the antislavery movement within the Presbyterian church. In 1943 the house was purchased by the Harriet Beecher Stowe Home Memorial Association, which gave the property in 1945 to the State of Ohio.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rodabaugh, James H. Article in "Museum Echoes" Magazine, January, 1956. Published by The Ohio Historical Society.

"Stowe House" State Memorial pamphlet, published by The Ohio Historical Society.

Wilson, Forrest. Crusader in Crinoline: The Life of Harriet Beecher Stowe. J. B. Lippincott Co, 1941.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	0 1 "	0 1 "		N 39° 7' 59 "	W 84° 29' 15 "	
NE	0 1 "	0 1 "				
SE	0 1 "	0 1 "				
SW	0 1 "	0 1 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 (city lot)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Judith Kitchen		DATE: 3/15/71
ORGANIZATION: The Ohio Historical Society		
STREET AND NUMBER: 1982 Velma Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Columbus	STATE: Ohio	CODE: 039

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Daniel R. Porter

Title

Liaison Officer - Ohio

Date

7 April 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

11/10/70

ATTEST:

William J. Smith
Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UTM
16/717160
4334340
CD



STOWE
HOUSE

NPS Number 70-11-39-0039

Title: Stowe, Harriet,
Beecher, House

Loc. Hamilton Co., Ohio
West (front) facade

①

A-44

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

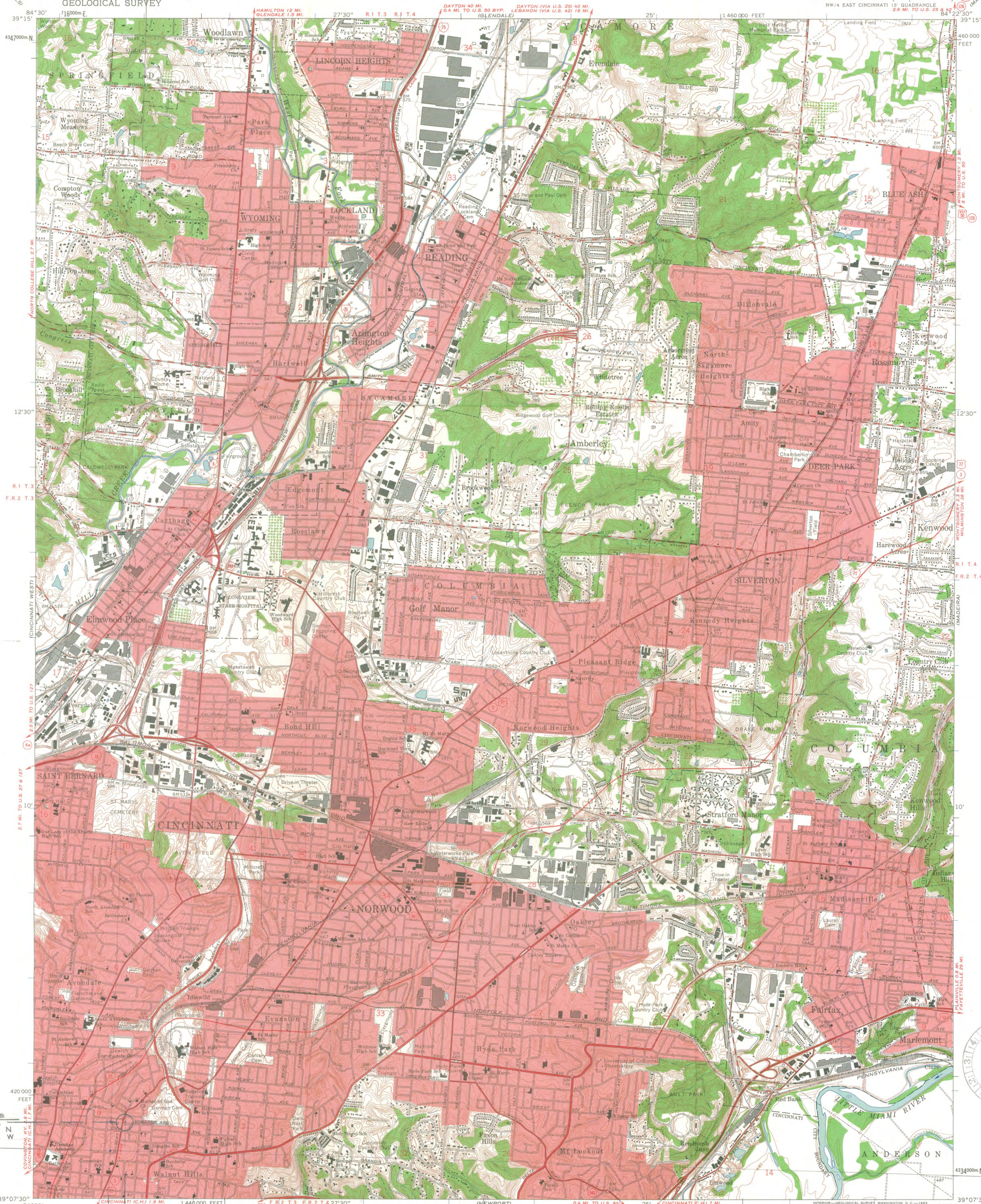
Hamilton Co

Harriet Beecher Stowe House
2950 Gilbert Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

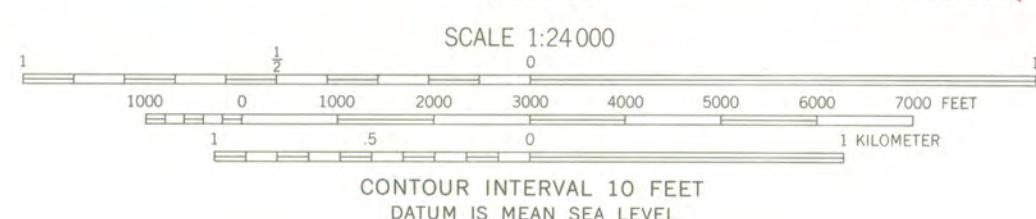
M 06/25/14

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CINCINNATI EAST QUADRANGLE
OHIO—HAMILTON CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and City of Cincinnati
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1949 and in part by City of Cincinnati
Field checked 1953. Revised 1961
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Ohio coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Area east of the Little Miami River lies within the Virginia Military
District. Area west of the Little Miami River lies within the Between
the Miamis. Land lines based on the Great Miami River Base. Dotted
land lines established by private subdivision of the Symmes Purchase



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

CINCINNATI EAST, OHIO
NW/4 EAST CINCINNATI 15' QUADRANGLE
N3907.5—W8422.5/7.5

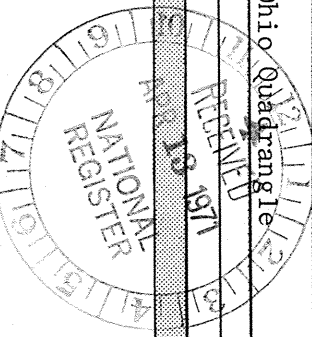
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME	STATE		Ohio	
COMMON:	COUNTY		Hamilton	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Stone, Harriet Beecher, House (S. East, Newcastle)			
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:	2950 Gilbert Avenue, @ Foraker Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN:	Cincinnati			
STATE:	OHIO	CODE	COUNTY:	Hamilton
3. MAP REFERENCE	CODE 001			
SOURCE:	U.S.G.S. Cincinnati East, Ohio Quadrangle			
SCALE:	1" = 2000'			
DATE:	1961			
4. REQUIREMENTS				
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS				
1. Property boundaries where required.				
2. North arrow.				
3. Latitude and longitude reference.				

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2023

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Harriet Beecher Stowe House Amendment (Additional Documentation)

Other names/site number: The Edgemont Inn

Name of related multiple property listing:

Twentieth-Century African American Civil Rights Movement in Ohio

2. Location

Street & number: 2950 Gilbert Avenue

City or town: Cincinnati State: OH County: Hamilton

Not For Publication: ☐ NA Vicinity: ☐ NA

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B C D

DSHPO/Dept. Head for Inventory & Registration June 26, 2023	
Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection</u>	Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

Harriet Beecher Stowe House
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☒ other (explain:) Additional Documentation accepted

Lisa Delino
Signature of the Keeper

8/11/2023
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☐
Public – Local ☐
Public – State ☒
Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☒
District ☐
Site ☐
Structure ☐
Object ☐

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY

EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Wood, Stone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn is a two-story brick center-hall plan house with stone foundation, early 19th century classical features including a trabeated main entrance with multi-paned sidelights and transom, paired multi-paned windows with flat stone lintels and wood brackets along the roofline cornice. The house is of common bond painted brick. The original house exhibited an L-shaped plan with the side gable front section and an ell extending along the north side from the rear of the house. Later 20th century additions were constructed along the south side filling in the ell shape at the rear of the house. All floor plan changes and additions to the house were made in the early 1900s. In 1969, major renovation took place on the house. The work consisted of updates to the masonry, carpentry, Landscaping, painting, and drainage. The property is currently undergoing an historic investigation, repair and restoration project.

The property is in Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio in the Walnut Hills neighborhood at the southwest corner of Gilbert and Foraker Avenues. It is the westerly section of Lot 239 of the Lane Seminary Subdivision. The house itself sits on a large hill above the passing sidewalk on Gilbert Ave. The parking lot to the site is located to the rear of the house. To the north of the house there is a small, wooded area with a few park benches and a small path for walking. The property is bounded on the south and west sides by a mortared stone wall approximately five feet high above the sidewalk at street level. From the top of the wall, the site slopes up approximately eight feet to the base of the foundation. The height from the grade at the foundation to the finish floor of the house is approximately three feet.

The Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn retains historic integrity reflecting the 1936-1952 significant period of its history through its location and setting in Walnut Hills neighborhood. The design of the house reflects the original plan and early 20th century side and

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rear additions to the house reflecting its overall appearance and spaces used during the Edgemont Inn period of significance. Specific interior spaces and finishes displaying original and early 20th century materials and workmanship remain to interpret the property's use as the Edgemont Inn. The overall feeling and association of the property reflecting both the period associated with it as the home of the Beecher family and its later significant period as the Edgemont Inn and Tavern remain.

While no archaeological investigation has taken place on the Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn property specifically focusing on the period of significance of the Edgemont Inn, there is yet the potential for archaeological resources associated with the Inn. Non-invasive geophysical archaeological survey conducted in 2019 located 22 subsurface anomalies of archaeological interest, proving the archaeological potential at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn property. This 2019 field investigation focused on identifying potential resources relating to the period of significance for the Beecher Stowe House (Burks, Snider, and Corkum 2020). That work has clearly shown the archaeological potential at this property, revealing the locations of possible below ground archaeological features from 19th and early 20th century activities, such as cisterns, wells, privies, and remains of other structures, along with evidence of fence lines and/or paddocks. Additional historic research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may locate archaeological resources that have yet to be identified. As such, archaeological deposits on this property could contain information that would enhance the understanding and interpretation of the daily lives of those that lived and stayed here and augment the significance of the property for the periods of significance for both the Harriet Beecher Stowe House and the Edgemont Inn. It is recommended that archaeological survey continue to be performed prior to any land alteration activities on the property.

Narrative Description

Updated Description

In 2020, following the recommendations of the *Harriet Beecher Stowe House Historic Structure Report*, changes were made to the exterior of the Beecher/Stowe House to more accurately reflect the period of occupancy by the Beecher Family, established as 1833 to 1851. The recommendations were based on documentary and physical evidence, which is described in the Historic Structure Report.

Built in 1832-33 the Stowe house is a two-story brick center-hall plan house with stone foundation, early 19th century classical features including a trabeated main entrance with multi-paned sidelights and transom, multi-paned double-hung painted wood windows with flat stone lintels, projected eave and unadorned frieze.

The house walls are common bond brick, which is painted. Openings in these walls have flat jack-arches at the window and door heads and cut stone sills. The footprint of the home is very irregular reflecting later additions. The floor plan arrangement consists of the original "L-shaped" main house and service wing, with a later addition that fills the space created by the original plan.

Harriet Beecher Stowe House

Name of Property

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The original construction is two stories with three bays across the front of the house both on the first and second floors. The windows on the front (west side) of the house are Palladian style with a six-over-six double-hung window in the center, flanked by two-over-two double-hung sidelights. The original portion is painted soft yellow, and the trim is white. All the windows on the original portion of the house have painted louvered shutters that are dark green.

When the house was originally listed in the National Register, a Colonial Revival style porch extended across the front elevation of the house. The double hung windows were paired within the openings and divided six-over-four. The front elevation and porch had been painted white. The eaves have been modified since the previous nomination. Previously they were extended and supported by decorative brackets and frieze. The chimneys are now reduced in height and not as elaborately detailed.

The front door has eight panels, with a four-pane transom. The sidelights have four panes above a sill and recessed panel, in a typical Classical-revival configuration. The roof of the front block is a low-sloped gable running parallel to the main facade that terminates on each end at flush brick chimneys.

The main block on the right (south) side of the original house has two double-hung windows, one on each floor, the second aligned directly over the one on the first floor. The sashes are six-over-six, similar to the center windows on the main façade. There is a side door with transom, similar in configuration to the front door, except without sidelights. Previously there was no side door and in its place was a six-over-four double-hung window.

The left (north) side of the original house is composed of three sections. A gabled section that extends to the south and contains the entrance, and two extensions to the east, that are perpendicular to the front block. The gabled section has a flush chimney and six-over-six double hung windows. Much like the south side, the first floor and second floor windows align vertically. The section directly east of the main block has four double-hung windows, with six-over-six lites. Evenly spaced on this section of the house, the two upper windows align with the two lower ones. This section has two brick chimneys. Previously, a two-story angled bay was located here. The rear section, which is the furthest east, has two, six-over-six double hung windows, which align vertically between the first and second floors. The windows are newly installed in openings that had been previously infilled. A metal fire escape has been removed. In this section, there is also a six-panel wood door that is painted dark green. There is a single chimney in this section.

The later addition is located to the east of the main block on the south side of the house. There is a side entrance with a paneled door, painted green, flanked by sidelights made up of three lites over a single panel and sill. The entrance has a projected canopy with a low-sloped gabled roof, supported on each side by molded brackets. Directly above this entrance is a Palladian window with transom. The center sash is divided into 3 x 5 panes. The horizontal transom is 7 x 3 panes.

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Continuing on this elevation to the south of the side entrance, there are two double-hung windows on the second floor, nine-over-four lites. On the first floor, three nine-over-four double hung windows are grouped together, divided by mullions. The extended soffit has a molded eave and a flat cornice with molded brackets.

On the interior, changes have been made to the finishes of the original Beecher/Stowe House, but the basic arrangement of the floor plan has not changed since the original nomination. The most apparent changes to the plan are in the main, center entrance hall. Large flanking openings have been narrowed to the original single-door widths. A switchback stair is being built based on evidence discovered in the wood floor. An elaborate plaster cornice was removed from the entrance hall and two flanking formal rooms, and fragments of Greek-revival wallpaper were found, which will be duplicated and installed.

Beyond the front hall, there is a second stair that was built as part of an addition in 1908. It is part of the side entrance construction. It is a single switch-back stair that terminates on the first floor with a curving bottom tread and wood newel post. The floor in this section is narrow-strip overlaid flooring with accented darker stain. The flooring, stair, moldings, windows, and doors in this stair hall all are original to the addition and existed during the time the house was used as the Edgemont Inn.

Beyond this side stair is the room that may have been the Dining Room, based on the high wood paneled wainscoting, fireplace, and coffered ceiling. It is the most elaborately detailed room in the house and completely intact. Doors are five horizontal recessed panels, stacked vertically. All the woodwork in the room is stained a dark walnut color. The doors and windows have wide flat casing, and the head of the windows and doors have a backband molding cap.

On the second floor, the room directly above the Dining Room is a simply finished room with two double-hung windows that are original. There is a fireplace with ceramic tile firebox surround. The firebox is flanked by disengaged turned columns with rectangular capitals that support a simple mantel with molded edge.

Beyond the room, through a door on the left of the fireplace, is a bathroom. It has white hexagonal tiles for the flooring. The tiled wainscoting is capped by a molded tile course. Above the wainscoting, the plaster field is painted. The toilet fixtures are original and are white porcelain. The sink is mounted on a pedestal.

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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.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Ethnic: Black

Social History

Period of Significance

1936-1952

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Harriet Beecher Stowe House

Name of Property

Hamilton County, Ohio

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Harriet Beecher Stowe House was listed in the National Register in 1970 at the state level of significance under National Register Criterion B for association with American author Harriet Beecher Stowe, whose famed book, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, first published in 1852 significantly raised awareness of the evils and injustices of slavery. The Beecher family association with the property dates from 1833 through 1851. The amendment to the National Register nomination provides additional documentation supporting the local significance of the property under National Register Criterion A for its twentieth century role in Cincinnati's social, African American, and civil rights history, functioning as a boarding house and tavern known as the Edgemont Inn, a property listed in the *Negro Motorist Green Book*. The expanded Period of Significance is 1936-1952 reflecting the historic period associated with the Edgemont Inn and including the earliest efforts to recognize the history of the house and preserve it as a historic site and museum.

The Harriet Beecher Stowe House-Edgemont Inn's twentieth century history is significant within the historic context of Civil Rights and Public Accommodation, 1884-1970 and meets registration requirements outlined in the Twentieth-Century African American Civil Rights Movement in Ohio Multiple Property Documentation cover (MC100004231).

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Additional Documentation Amendment to the Harriet Beecher Stowe House

The Edgemont Inn at 2950 Gilbert Avenue in Cincinnati, Ohio, is significant for its contribution to Cincinnati's social, African American, and civil rights history. Most well-known as the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, the house as the Edgemont Inn served as a boarding home and tavern in Cincinnati from the 1930s until 1952. The Edgemont Inn also reflects the historic importance of the *Negro Motorist Green Book*¹, a travel guide for African Americans to find safe and welcoming places that served African Americans during the segregation era in America. Through examining the Edgemont Inn as a Green Book site, it adds to a better understanding of African American lives and experiences in Cincinnati.

1833-1851: Summary of Significance during Harriet Beecher Stowe Period of Significance

Constructed in 1832-1833 on property associated with the Lane Seminary in the Walnut Hills neighborhood of Cincinnati, the house was the home of Lyman Beecher and members of his family from 1833 through 1851. The house's significance during that period is that it is the only

¹ The official title of the Victor Green's travel guide series is *Negro Motorist Green Book* but is often referred to as the Green Book.

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Hamilton County, Ohio

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remaining property associated with Harriet Beecher Stowe's life in Cincinnati and her experiences during that time directly contributing to her writing the seminal novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Additionally, the house is associated with Harriet's father, Lyman Beecher's career with the Lane Seminary, in particular the 1834 Lane Seminary debates on slavery and abolition, and with her sister, Catherine Beecher whose 1830-1840s books about women's education, housekeeping, domestic economy, and abolition were highly influential nationwide.²

1865-1944: Post Harriet Beecher Stowe Period of Significance – Monfort Family Ownership, Edgemont Inn History

The Harriet Beecher Stowe House continued to be a site and catalyst of nationwide change during uncertain times. When the Beecher family moved out in the mid-19th century, a series of occupants including seminary faculty lived in the house, with Reverend Joseph G. Monfort becoming the owner of the house in 1865. Monfort was a notable anti-slavery leader within the Presbyterian Church and in Cincinnati at large. The house on Gilbert Street stayed in the Monfort's family possession through the mid-twentieth century until the Harriet Beecher Stowe House Association purchased the home in 1944. When Mary E. Monfort, the last Monfort to live in the home, moved out, but still owned the house and rented it. During this period of renting, the house was called the Edgemont Inn, a listed Green Book boarding home and tavern.

The History of The Green Book

During the twentieth century, America experienced a new and exciting innovation in the automobile and its industry. Many Americans purchased automobiles, had the opportunity to experience the freedom of the open road, and had the opportunity to explore the United States due to increasing availability of automobiles. White American travelers had the privilege to freely explore the country in their new automobile. For African American travelers, they did not experience the freedom to explore America without facing racial discrimination.

Victor Hugo Green believed that while racism and discrimination against African Americans continued to be a national problem, he sought ways to relieve some of African Americans negative, and at times, dangerous experience while traveling throughout America. Green created the renowned "Negro Travel Guide." Victor Green's travel guides in the twentieth century allow readers to experience a different story from the normal lens of African Americans. Due to legal segregation (de jure segregation), separation that was mandated by what were known as Jim Crow laws and enforced by the government, and other official entities, African Americans needed travel guidance to maneuver through Jim Crow America. African Americans living in Jim Crow America knew the seriousness of "traveling while black." African Americans in the early and mid-twentieth century experienced violence at the hands of white supremacist groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan, local white vigilantes, lynch mobs, other groups and organizations. Historians have countlessly debunked the notion that racism and Jim Crow laws only existed in

² Daniel Kroll and Benjamin Ross. Harriet Beecher Stowe Historic Structures Report. Columbus, OH: Ohio History Connection, 2017, pages 7, 8, 17-31.

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the American South, documenting that it was a serious problem in northern and western states too.

Victor H. Green was a postal worker in Harlem, New York in the early and mid-twentieth century. Living in Jim Crow America, he witnessed and experienced racism and discrimination due to his skin color. Living in his own community in Harlem, New York, Green realized that African Americans were denied access to hotels, restaurants, and other establishments. In reaction to this and his firsthand knowledge of racism and discrimination, in 1936, Green created the first Negro Motorist Green Book. This first edition listed establishments, hotels, restaurants, recreational and cultural centers, and other businesses where African Americans were welcomed in New York. In 1936, the Green Book was only a local publication for Metropolitan New York, the response for copies was so great it was turned into a national issue in 1937 to cover the United States.³

Although Victor H. Green's travel guides had a positive response from the African American community in New York and created travel guides that included all 50 states, Green expressed,

There will be a day sometime in the near future when this guide will not have to be published. That is when we as a race will have equal opportunities and privileges in the United States. It will be a great day for us to suspend this publication for then we can go wherever we please, and without embarrassment. But until that time comes we shall continue to publish this information for your convenience each year.⁴

Green acknowledged that hopefully in the future of America, African Americans could enjoy the same opportunities that their white counterparts experience without the racism, discrimination, and violence while traveling the United States. Green recognizes that until that day comes, he will continue publishing the travel guides for African Americans to make their trips more enjoyable and safer.

Throughout the existence of the Green Book, Victor H. Green listed roughly 9,500 places in the travel guide where African Americans could travel. Today, only a third of these physical places are still standing.⁵ It is imperative to acknowledge the Green Book sites that are extant and revere what they mean. In the 1940 edition of the Negro Motorist Green Book states:

The idea of The Green Book is to give the Motorist and Tourist a Guide not only of the Hotel and Tourist Homes in all the large cities, but other classifications that will be found

³ Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "The Negro Motorist Green Book: 1948" New York Public Library Digital Collections, Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/6fa574f0-893f-0132-1035-58d385a7bbd0>

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Yoruba Richen, "The Green Book: Guide to Freedom," Smithsonian Channel, Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://www.smithsonianchannel.com/episodes/b9hxyg/the-green-book-guide-to-freedom-the-green-book-guide-to-freedom-ep-1>

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useful wherever he may be. Also, facts and information that the Negro Motorist can use and depend upon.⁶

1936-1952: Significance of the Edgemont Inn as a Green Book Site and role in local African American social history and civil rights activities

The Edgemont Inn is a significant example of the few Green Book sites that still exist in Cincinnati and more broadly in Ohio. First listed in the 1939 edition of *The Negro Motorist Green Book* as a tavern and boarding house where African Americans were accepted to lodge and enjoy the tavern. Moreover, the Edgemont Inn is centered in the heart of a historic African American business district.

The city of Cincinnati has a rich and interesting history of vibrant African American communities. The Edgemont Inn was situated in the heart of Walnut Hills, one of the oldest hilltop communities in Cincinnati. Reverend James Kemper established Walnut Hills in the late eighteenth century, however, Walnut Hills became well known when Lyman Beecher founded Lane Seminary in 1829, and during this same time began the growth of African Americans moving to Walnut Hills. Walnut Hills from the nineteenth century had an integrated and diverse demographics, but in the mid twentieth century Walnut Hills had a prosperous black community and a thriving Black Business district.

In Walnut Hills black business district, there were small “mom and pop” retail businesses that served African American residents of Walnut Hills and there were other well-known black businesses such as the Manse Hotel (NR MP100004232), owned by African American Horace Sudduth and serving a broader clientele. The Manse Hotel was also listed in the *Negro Motorist Green Book* as a hotel where African Americans could stay, feel safe and welcomed in the twentieth century. Organizations like the Cincinnati Federation of Colored Women’s Club were also located in the heart of Walnut Hills.

According to the Walnut Hills Historical Society, in the mid twentieth century there were countless black owned businesses in Walnut Hills that served not only the local black residents, but also different racial and ethnic groups. In addition to the Manse Hotel and the Federation of the Colored Women’s Club, there were beauty shops, barbershops, restaurants, and drug stores. tailors, savings and loans, and automotive businesses.⁷ Residents of the boarding house at the Edgemont Inn had the opportunity to explore these neighborhood businesses in the Black Business district just minutes from where they resided.

During the early and mid-nineteenth century, America continued to grapple with racial inequality and racial discrimination. During this time, African Americans nationwide experienced Jim

⁶ Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "The Negro Motorist Green Book: 1940" New York Public Library Digital Collections, Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/6fa574f0-893f-0132-1035-58d385a7bbd0>

⁷ Walnut Hills Historical Society, “Walnut Hills Stories,” Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://walnuthillstories.org/tag/black-business-district/>

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Crow Laws, state and local statutes that legalized racial segregation, the struggle for equality, employment, and affordable housing opportunities. According to scholar Richard Rothstein, the American government approved of housing racial discrimination and segregation specifically targeting African Americans.⁸ African Americans experienced redlining, (a discriminatory practice that denied African Americans access to mortgages and other financial loans) numerous times while trying to find housing for their families. These acts of housing discrimination and other oppressive measure led many African American to look within the African American community for help, protection, and guidance.

Prior to the official Green Book being recognized as a traveling guide and highlighting businesses for African Americans to travel to, the Edgemont Inn and its managers opened its doors to black organizations for meetings, gatherings, political rallies, and social events. In 1936, the Cincinnati Branch of the National Association of College Women, (known today as The National Association of University Women) an African American women's organization comprised of graduates founded to raise the standards of African American colleges, held a "Bridge Party" at the Edgemont Inn at 1 o'clock in the afternoon of February 12th to commemorate President Lincoln's birthday.⁹ It can be argued that the African American women of this organization celebrated Lincoln's birthday because he was the United States President signing into law the Emancipation Proclamation, a government document freeing enslaved African Americans in the America South from bondage. The Edgemont Inn and prior uses when Harriet Beecher Stowe and family resided there, the house always had ties to anti-slavery debates and speaking out against racial discrimination.

In addition to the bridge party held at the Edgemont in February of 1936, in the spring of that same year, the National Association of College Women also held its thirteenth annual convention meeting and luncheon at the Edgemont Inn.¹⁰ The organization goals are not only to highlight African American women's education, but also to further discuss women issues in society and how to solve these critical issues. The use of the Edgemont Inn for events and meetings such as these examples demonstrates the importance of progressive thinking and supporting that claim by allowing African American women to hold this luncheon and meeting there. Furthermore, also supporting educated African American women, not typical for the time because most African Americans and more specifically, African American women were not educated and held low paying domestic jobs.

Like the National Association of College Women, in 1936, Cincinnati's chapter of The National Dental Association, an African American association that promoted oral health equity among people of color by harnessing the collective power of its members, advocating for the needs of and mentoring dental students of color, and raising the profile of the profession¹¹, held their

⁸ Richard Rothstein, *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* (New York: Liveright Publishing Company, 2017).

⁹ "Bridge Party Today," *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, February 12, 1936. Page 11.

¹⁰ "Negro Women to Convene: National Association of College Graduates to Meet in City," *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, April 7, 1936, page 10.

¹¹ National Dental Association Mission, National Dental Association, <https://ndaonline.org/about-nda/>

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meeting at the Edgemont Inn. At this meeting, the executives of the association planned their twenty- third convention and discussed its potential location at the University of Cincinnati.¹²

The National Association of College Women and The National Dental Association, both are two African American organizations that utilized the Edgemont Inn as a safe place and welcoming place where African Americans were accepted. The Edgemont Inn permitted both African American organizations to utilize this space during a time when other places and businesses in Cincinnati continued to discriminate against African Americans. The Edgemont Inn again reveals the importance of nondiscriminatory practices and accepted African American organizations and their goals and provided a space for them to combat and speak boldly without being condemned on sensitive topics such as racial and gender issues.

To give housing opportunities to African Americans and other people who wanted to reside at the Edgemont Inn, the manager at the Edgemont Inn advertised “rooming houses” as early as 1936 in *The Cincinnati Post*, a local newspaper.¹³ The newspaper lists “Edgemont Inn at 2950 Gilbert Ave.”¹⁴

While the Edgemont Inn has a history of accepting African Americans and African American organizations, the Edgemont Inn was officially listed in the Green Book in 1939 as a tavern and a boarding house for African Americans. In the 1939 edition of the Green Book, it also highlights approximately 34 other places in Cincinnati where African Americans could travel and feel welcomed. Within those 34 places, 14 of those places are taverns.¹⁵ The Edgemont Inn stands apart from the other listed taverns because it still exists, and also, the Edgemont Inn has dual uses as a tavern and also a boarding home to African Americans. Over the next several years, the list continued to grow for the city of Cincinnati and the Edgemont Inn continued to be listed in the Green Book travel guide to represent and showcase the acceptance and approval of African Americans to their establishment.

Analyzing the 1940 Census Data, supports the fact that African Americans lived at the Edgemont Inn and in some cases for many years. According to the 1940 Census Data, the Edgemont Inn had 19 residents, which all were African Americans. The Edgemont Inn also had 12 rooms for the 19 residents, some of which were relatives, to lodge and stay at an “affordable rate (figure 01). While the Edgemont Inn accepted African Americans to lodge there, Cincinnati had a history of housing discrimination.¹⁶ In the 1930s, the new Federal Housing Administration, which provided federal loans to home buyers in Cincinnati upheld housing segregation and

¹²“Dental Meeting Planned,” *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, February 23, 1936, page 30.

¹³ “Rooming Houses,” *The Cincinnati Post*, November 10, 1936, page 24.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "The Negro Motorist Green Book: 1939" New York Public Library Digital Collections, Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/6fa574f0-893f-0132-1035-58d385a7bbd0>

¹⁶ See article: Charles F. Casey- Leinger, “Going Home: The Struggle for Fair Housing in Cincinnati 1900 to 2007,” Accessed January 4, 2023, <http://homecincy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Going-Home-2008.pdf>

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redlining practices that limited opportunities to African Americans to obtain bank loans to purchase houses.¹⁷

The 1940 Census Data for the Edgemont Inn at 2590 Gilbert Avenue, lists John Stewart, a 79-year-old, African American male as the head of household, and lives at the Edgemont Inn with his wife, Carrie Stewart, a 70-year-old, African American woman. Following the head of household couple, Thomas Bacon, a 47-year-old, African American man, who has a “x” by his name as the “person furnishing information” which reveals Bacon and his wife, Irene Bacon, a 48-year-old African American woman, are the renters of the Edgemont Inn from the Monfort family and the couple operating the boarding house.

Following the two couples there are 15 other African Americans, men, women, and children who resides at the Edgemont Inn. The addition 15 African Americans residing at the Edgemont Inn are: Marshall George, 37, Earl Williams, 43, Georgia A. Williams, 27, John Penn, 5, Charles Williams, [10/12], Earl Williams, Jr, 2, James Knight, 27, John Minor, 41, [Chaples] Chenault, 46, Singleton Davis, 35, Allen R. Hawkins, 40, Myrtle A. [Croones], 46, Thomas Greer, 36, Lewis Sadler, 40, Roosevelt Hayes, 23 (figure 01).

The Census Data reveals that all 19 residents are African American because for “color of race” all 19 residents identify as “Negro” in the spaces provided (Figure 01). In addition to their race, the residents also state their place of birth, occupation and their job industry, education, and other personal information. The Census Data discloses that most of the African Americans residing at the Edgemont Inn were not born in Cincinnati, Ohio. The residents are from states from border states and southern states such as Kentucky, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina (figure 01). This reveals that the residents and their families participated in the Great Migration of the twentieth century.

During the early twentieth century, thousands of African Americans participated in the Great Migration, where African American migrants migrated to northern cities like Cincinnati for better housing, economic, and social opportunities. The Great Migration happened in different phases from the 1900s roughly until the mid-twentieth century. Most importantly, African Americans took advantage of the Great Migration to escape the violence that they experienced from white southern Americans. These white southerners did not accept the fact that African Americans were no longer enslaved and did not consider African Americans as “equal.”¹⁸

Living in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Census data lists the residents’ employment status. Most of the African Americans living at the Edgemont Inn worked in low paying and domestic jobs. Due to racial barriers and discrimination, and the lack of education, many African Americans worked in menial jobs. In northern cities, African Americans generally held better economic position than their southern peers. Still, their options were limited. Common occupations for men were

¹⁷ Dan Horn, “Segregation in Cincinnati’s Neighborhoods: A Brief History,” *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, February 23, 2022. Also see: Richard Rothstein, *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* (New York: Liveright Publishing Company, 2017).

¹⁸ Isabel Wilkerson, *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration* (New York: Vintage Books, 2010).

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janitors, servants, and waiters. African American women were housekeepers, servants, laundresses, and waitresses.¹⁹ This reflects the information provided from the 1940 Census data. The residents at the Edgemont Inn list their job occupations as: janitor, cook, laundress, porter, laborer, mechanic, chauffeur, and baker to mention a few (figure 01). These jobs gave the residents the financial opportunity to stay at the Edgemont Inn for years until they moved.

The Census Data also unveils that most of the families residing at the Edgemont Inn lived there since 1935 and possibly earlier. (Figure 01). This demonstrates that the Edgemont Inn has a prior history of nondiscriminatory practices in relation to African Americans and their lodging.

Sources state Mrs. that Irene Bacon, the wife of Thomas Bacon, operated and managed the Edgemont Inn boarding home. In 1942, an unfortunate and terrifying event happened at the Edgemont Inn. *The Cincinnati Post* reveals:

A room in a house once occupied by Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was damaged by fire Wednesday. The room is in the Edgemont Inn, 2950 Gilbert Avenue, operated by Mrs. Irene Bacon. Marshal William Cunningham said fire started among floorboards and filled the room with smoke. Earl Williams, 4, Negro, who was in the room with his brother, William Williams, 3, opened windows and prevented the boys from being overcome by smoke. Mrs. Bacon said the fire, which caused damaged of \$100, damaged a platform where Mrs. Stowe gathered material for her famous book.²⁰

The fire took place in the attic, on the third floor of the Edgemont Inn, where the two boys and their family resided. Fortunately, the fire in the attic did not harm the two boys. The remnants of the house fire in the attic remains present today. As stated previously, *The Cincinnati Post* reveals that Mrs. Irene Bacon managed the Edgemont Inn's boarding home.²¹ Analyzing the Green Book sites in Ohio and specifically Cincinnati, mostly African American women managed and operated boarding homes and tourist homes.²²

Mrs. Irene Bacon operated the Edgemont Inn and participated in political matters in Cincinnati with various political meetings and rallies held at the Edgemont Inn. Mrs. Bacon, a committee leader of the Women's Committee, a committee that helped Edward H. McReynolds, a Negro Charter Candidate, with his political race. A.L. Hinson, McReynolds' campaign manager, selected Mrs. Irene Bacon and other important African American women to administer McReynolds' political agenda.²³

¹⁹ Library of Congress, "America at Work," Accessed December 15, 2022,

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/america-at-work-and-leisure-1894-to-1915/articles-and-essays/america-at-work/>

²⁰ "Blaze Damages Old Stowe Home," *The Cincinnati Post*, April 22, 1942, page 1.

²¹ As stated previously, the 1940 Census Data deems John Stewart as head of household, however, Mrs. Irene Bacon operated and managed the Edgemont Inn.

²² Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "The Negro Motorist Green Book" New York Public Library Digital Collections, Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/6fa574f0-893f-0132-1035-58d385a7bbd0>.

²³ "The Political Parade: McReynolds Women's Campaign Committee Selected," *The Cincinnati Post*, September 16, 1941, page 17.

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A few weeks after McReynolds chose his women's committee, they scheduled a political meeting and rally at the Edgemont Inn. The *Cincinnati Post* reveals:

Laurent Lowenberg, and Edward H. McReynolds, Charter Council candidates, will address the Ninth Ward Democratic Club Friday night at Edgemont Inn, Gilbert Avenue and Foraker Street. They also addressed joint meetings of the 17th and 18th Ward Democratic Clubs Thursday Night.²⁴

The Edgemont Inn continued its momentum with providing a space for candidates to share their political agenda in relation to World War II to an African American audience and African American political members at the Edgemont Inn. In August of 1942, a political rally took place at the Edgemont Inn to discuss matters about World War II. John M. Baker, a white Democratic candidate, for the First District Congressional nomination, addressed and spoke with "the Ninth Ward Colored Democratic Club at Edgemont Inn."²⁵ Baker rejected and spoke against Charles H. Elston, a United States Representative from Ohio, and his ideology on approving on the Guam Naval Base. Baker rejected this bill because it would "rob and cheat labor of every decent measure earned by workingmen over a long period of year."²⁶ Baker expressed this concern to the Ninth Colored Democratic Club at the Edgemont Inn. This political meeting demonstrates how the Edgemont Inn fostered an integrated place where a white political leader had the opportunity to have conversations with black political leaders to discuss matters surrounding labor and World War II.

Important conversations surrounding race politics and World War II also took place at the Edgemont Inn. Equal rights and opportunities for African Americans to participate in World War II continued to be a sensitive discussion in politics, government, largely around the nation. Congress members and officials made it their mission to travel around the country to give political talks about equal opportunity. Congress officials and politicians declared that African Americans called to defend and protect the United States should be given the same equal protection and benefits as their white counterparts. The Democratic Party made it their mission to make this statement a vote. *The Cincinnati Enquirer* exposes:

It appears the Democratic vote drive is off to a good start and asserted that during the next two weeks there should "be maintained a direct-to-the-people appeal that will be presented on the basis of common sense rather than stimulation of bias or prejudice." A meeting of the Negro Democratic organizations of the county will be held at 6 o'clock tonight at the Edgemont Hotel, Gilbert Avenue and Foraker Street, under auspices of the Hamilton County Council of Democratic Clubs, Robert G. McIntosh, Chairmen of the Democratic Speakers' Bureau, announced yesterday.²⁷

This newspaper article not only represents high political officials making it their mission to fight to give African Americans the same equal rights as white soldiers fighting in the war but

²⁴ *The Cincinnati Post*, September 26, 1941, page 28 and *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, September 27, 1941, page 16.

²⁵ "Congressman Is Rapped For War Measure Votes," *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, August 1, 1942, page 7.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ "Pledges Equal Right," *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, October 18, 1942, page 3.

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highlights the Edgemont Inn and its physical space that represents equality. Black and white political officials used this space to discuss pertinent racial issues.

Moreover, The Edgemont Inn represents a space where not only African Americans had the opportunity to convene and discuss political matters, but in addition, could discuss political issues with white politicians too without backlash. Mrs. Irene Bacon operated the boarding house, and approved of political meetings and rallies, because she was a part of the larger conversation surrounding black politics.

The Green Book listed the Edgemont Inn from 1939 until 1952. Shortly after the political meetings held at the Edgemont, conversations started to arise about saving the historic house and converting it into a historic memorial due to fear of the history and the house would not survive. As previously stated, the Monfort family purchased the home shortly after the Beecher's moved out. The last Monfort, Mary E. Monfort moved out in the early 1930s. In the winter of 1943, The Harriet Beecher Stowe Memorial Association, a group of diverse people from various races, backgrounds, and gender, raised money to purchase the home from Mary E. Monfort for 8,500 dollars.²⁸

After the Harriet Beecher Stowe Memorial Association purchased the home from Mary E. Monfort in December of 1943, the Association held a celebration event the Harriet Beecher Stowe house in the Taft Auditorium in downtown Cincinnati to commemorate not only the successful purchase of the home, but to honor Harriet Beecher Stowe and family, and to honor the legacy of what the house represents.

The historic house always represented equal opportunities for both white and African Americans, women's rights, and integration. The Harriet Beecher Stowe Memorial Association had the opportunity to have Ms. Marian Anderson, renowned African American opera singer and civil rights activist who also had the privilege to sing on the Lincoln Memorial steps, to not sing at the Harriet Beecher Stowe memorial, but gave a powerful and moving speech to the audience in the auditorium. Most important, Ms. Marian Anderson gave her speech to an integrated audience in the Taft Auditorium filled with esteemed people from the community, politicians, and councilmen.

Other speakers were George W.B. Conrad, Negro attorney and President and honorary chairman of the Harriet Beecher Stowe Home Association; Miss Sadie Samuels, Recording Secretary of the association, who was instrumental in raising the money with which the home was purchased a month ago; Dr. Claude D. Courter, Superintendent of Cincinnati schools; Alfred M. Cohen, member of the Board of Trustees; Rev. N.H. Burroughs of Christ Church; William A.A. Castellina, director of civil affairs, Chamber of Commerce; Miss Olive Kackley, radio artist; Theodore M. Berry, President of the Cincinnati Branch, NAACP, and Rev. B.F. Redi, Zion Baptist Church.²⁹

²⁸ "Real Estate Transfers," *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, December 28, 1943, page 12.

²⁹ "Noted Singer Is Speaker At Jubilee In Celebration of Walnut Hills Memorial," *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, January 22, 1944, page 2.

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In 1945 the Harriet Beecher Stowe Memorial Association adopted a plan to create a shrine and museum making the house and property a cultural center. The Harriet Beecher Stowe Memorial Association transferred the property to the Ohio Historical Society (Ohio History Connection) in 1946 with a dedication ceremony for the new state historic site on June 14, 1949. During this transition period the house continued to serve as a boarding house and tavern, remaining listed in the Green Book through 1952. The January 1956 issue of *Museum Echoes*, the monthly newsletter of the Ohio Historical Society, featured the Harriet Beecher Stowe House as the front cover picture and was the main article in the newsletter. The article gave the history of property, described the exhibits and collection items in the museum, and stated the museum was open free to the public. This information supports that during the early 1950s the work was undertaken to convert the property into a museum with some overlap of its boarding house and tavern use through 1952.³⁰

Conclusion

Victor H. Green's The Negro Traveler's Green Book became a staple in African Americans' lives in early twentieth century through the mid-twentieth century. Specifically in Ohio, the Green Book listed Cincinnati's Edgemont Inn, boarding house and tavern, from 1936-1952³¹ except for 1942-1946, Victor H. Green paused Green Book publishing during these years due to War World II.

During Jim Crow America, the Edgemont Inn from its inception represents a safe place that welcomes African Americans to its establishment as a boarding home and tavern without experiencing discrimination due to their race. Centered in the heart of Walnut Hills' African American business district, African Americans used the Edgemont Inn to hold various functions such as social events, political meetings and rallies and opened its doors to African American organizations such as the National Association of College Women, and the National Dental Association.

During the period of the Green Book publishing, the Edgemont Inn continued its momentum to welcome African Americans to rent rooms when other housing establishments banned or discriminated against African Americans due to their race. Records reveals that countless African Americans, some who participated in the Great Migration of the twentieth century, resided at the Edgemont Inn for numerous years.

Without the aid of Victor H. Green's strategic and innovative Green Book travel guides, countless African Americans, including Cincinnatians, would have never been exposed to different sites and businesses that allowed African Americans to experience safe lodging,

³⁰ James H. Rodabaugh, "Harriet Beecher Stowe House," *Museum Echoes*, Columbus, OH: Ohio Historical Society, Vol. 29, No. 1, January 1956, pages 3-6.

³¹ See Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "The Negro Motorist Green Book: 1939-1950" New York Public Library Digital Collections, Accessed December 16, 2022, <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/6fa574f0-893f-0132-1035-58d385a7bbd0>

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restaurants, retail shopping, bars and taverns, gas stations, and other businesses that Americans indulged in.

Although the 1952 edition of the Green Book travel guide marks the last time the Edgemont Inn is listed in the book, it does not mean the history and conversations around civil rights and race relations in relation to the Edgemont Inn ceased. In recent times, the Edgemont Inn, now called by its original name, the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, continues to tell this shared story of how this historic house represents dual periods of significance, the Harriet Beecher Stowe period, and the Edgemont Inn period. Construction is underway at the historic home to physically represent both time periods.

Furthermore, in 2021, Ohio's State Historic Preservation Office, a division of the Ohio History Connection, received an Underrepresented Community Grant from the National Park Service (P21AP11726-00), a grant that aims to diversify National Register nominations and to encourage National Register nominations from underrepresented communities, to amend the Harriet Beecher Stowe House nomination to include imperative information about the dual usage of the property and to illumination African American history. The Edgemont Inn symbolizes the efforts of telling a more shared and inclusive story.

Lastly, due to the scarcity of existing Green Book sites in the twenty-first century, the Edgemont Inn demonstrates a place that helps to uncover how African Americans used this space during segregation in America. This Green Book site aided affordable housing to African American families, welcomed African American organizations to host social events and welcomed politicians and organization to host political events.

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“Negro Women to Convene: National Association of College Graduates to Meet in City.” *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, April 7, 1936.

“Noted Singer Is Speaker At Jubilee In Celebration of Walnut Hills Memorial.” *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, January 22, 1944.

“Pledges Equal Right.” *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, October 18, 1942.

“Real Estate Transfers.” *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, December 28, 194.

Harriet Beecher Stowe House
Name of Property

Hamilton County, Ohio
County and State

Richen, Yoruba. "The Green Book: Guide to Freedom." Accessed December 16, 2022.
<https://www.smithsonianchannel.com/episodes/b9hxyg/the-green-book-guide-to-freedom-the-green-book-guide-to-freedom-ep-1>

"Rooming Houses." *The Cincinnati Post*, November 10, 1936.

Rodabaugh, James H. Article in "Museum Echoes" Magazine, January 1956. Published by The Ohio Historical Society.

Rothstein, Richard. *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*. New York: Liveright Publishing Company, 2017.

"Stowe House" State Memorial Pamphlet, published by the Ohio Historical Society.

The New York Public Library. "The Negro Motorist Green Book." New York Public Library Digital Collections. Accessed December 16, 2022,
<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/6fa574f0-893f-0132-1035-58d385a7bbd0>

"The Political Parade: McReynolds Women's Campaign Committee Selected." *The Cincinnati Post*, September 16, 1941.

Walnut Hills Historical Society. "Walnut Hills Stories." Accessed December 16, 2022,
<https://walnuthillstories.org/tag/black-business-district/>

Wilkerson, Isabel. *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*. New York: Vintage Books, 2010.

Wilson, Forest. *Crusader in Crinoline: The Life of Harriet Beecher Stowe*. J.B. Lippincott Co, 1941.

Young Armstead, Myra B. "Revisiting Hotels and Other Lodgings: American Tourist Spaces Through the Lens of Black Pleasure-Travelers, 1880-1950." *Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Arts* 25(2005):136-159. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40007722>

Harriet Beecher Stowe House
Name of Property

Hamilton County, Ohio
County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ 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 # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other
Name of repository: Ohio History Connection

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data Acreage of Property less than one

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 39.133145 Longitude: -84.487370

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Nominated property consists of parcel 065-0003-0034-90, as recorded by the Hamilton County Auditor, State of Ohio. See Boundary Map (Figure 5). Auditor website accessed February 22, 2023.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Stowe House and the Edgemont Inn. The National Register amendment does not add any additional land or resources to the existing nomination.

Harriet Beecher Stowe House
Name of Property

Hamilton County, Ohio
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Diamond Crowder, Underrepresented Communities Survey/National Register Manager

organization: State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection

street & number: 800 E. 17th Avenue

city or town: Columbus state: Ohio zip code: 43211

e-mail dcrowder@ohiohistory.org

telephone: 614-298-2000

date: _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs ADD SOME CURRENT IMAGES

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn

City or Vicinity: Cincinnati

County: Hamilton

State: Ohio

Photographer: Diamond Crowder, Fred Smith, Sara Vandembark

Date Photographed: 2017-2022

Harriet Beecher Stowe House

Name of Property

Hamilton County, Ohio

County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

(See continuation sheet for floor plan and photos)

1 of 12. West façade showing original Harriet Beecher Stowe portion of house, looking northeast

2 of 12. South elevation showing 20th century addition and side entrance, looking north.

3 of 12. East (rear) elevation showing original ell and 20th century addition, looking northwest.

4 of 12. North elevation, looking southwest.

5 of 12. Stairway leading to 20th century addition, looking south

6 of 12. Edgemont Inn dining room, looking southeast

7 of 12. Edgemont Inn dining room, looking south

8 of 12. Edgemont Inn interpretive signage

9 of 12. Bedroom, second floor, looking east

10 of 12. Bedroom, second floor, looking east

11 of 12. Attic level

12 of 12. Attic level

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Supplemental Materials

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House/Edgemont
Inn – Amendment (Additional
Information)

Name of Property

Hamilton, Ohio

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

[illegible]

Figure 1: Census Data from 1940, retrieved from United States Census Bureau

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Supplemental Materials

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House/Edgemont
Inn – Amendment (Additional
Information)

.....
Name of Property

Hamilton, Ohio

.....
County and State

.....
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 2: Harriet Beecher Stowe House, Cincinnati, Ohio. Historic photo taken by Federal Writer's Project, c. 1930s-40s. Front of house during its use as the Edgemont Inn, a boarding house and tavern listed in Green Book. The porch has been removed during current historic investigation, repair and restoration. Photo courtesy Ohio History Connection

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Supplemental Materials

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House/Edgemont
Inn – Amendment (Additional
Information)

Name of Property
Hamilton County, Ohio

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

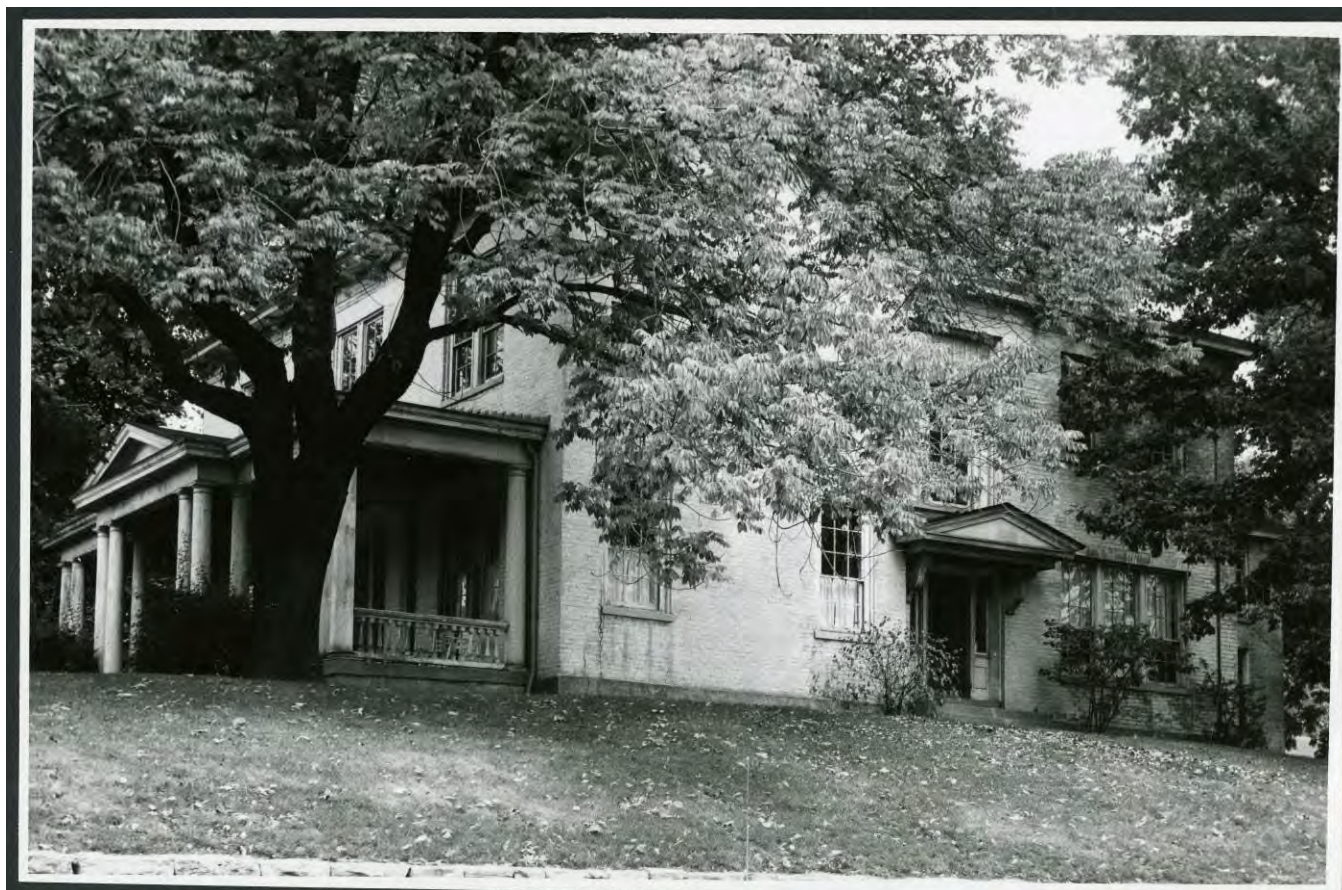


Figure 3: Harriet Beecher Stowe House, Cincinnati, Ohio. Historic image side elevation and portion of addition to rear ell. Photo c. 1930s-40s. Photo courtesy Ohio History Connection

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Supplemental Materials

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House/Edgemont
Inn – Amendment (Additional
Information)

Name of Property
Hamilton County, Ohio

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



HOME OF LYMAN BEECHER, WALNUT HILLS
Exactly as it was when he occupied it

Figure 4: Photo showing earlier appearance of the Beecher House before the addition of the 20th century front porch and the later addition to the south side of the house, c. 1887-1908. Photo courtesy Ohio History Connection. Photo source: Cincinnati Public Library

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Supplemental Materials

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House/Edgemont
Inn – Amendment (Additional
Information)

Name of Property
Hamilton County, Ohio
County and State

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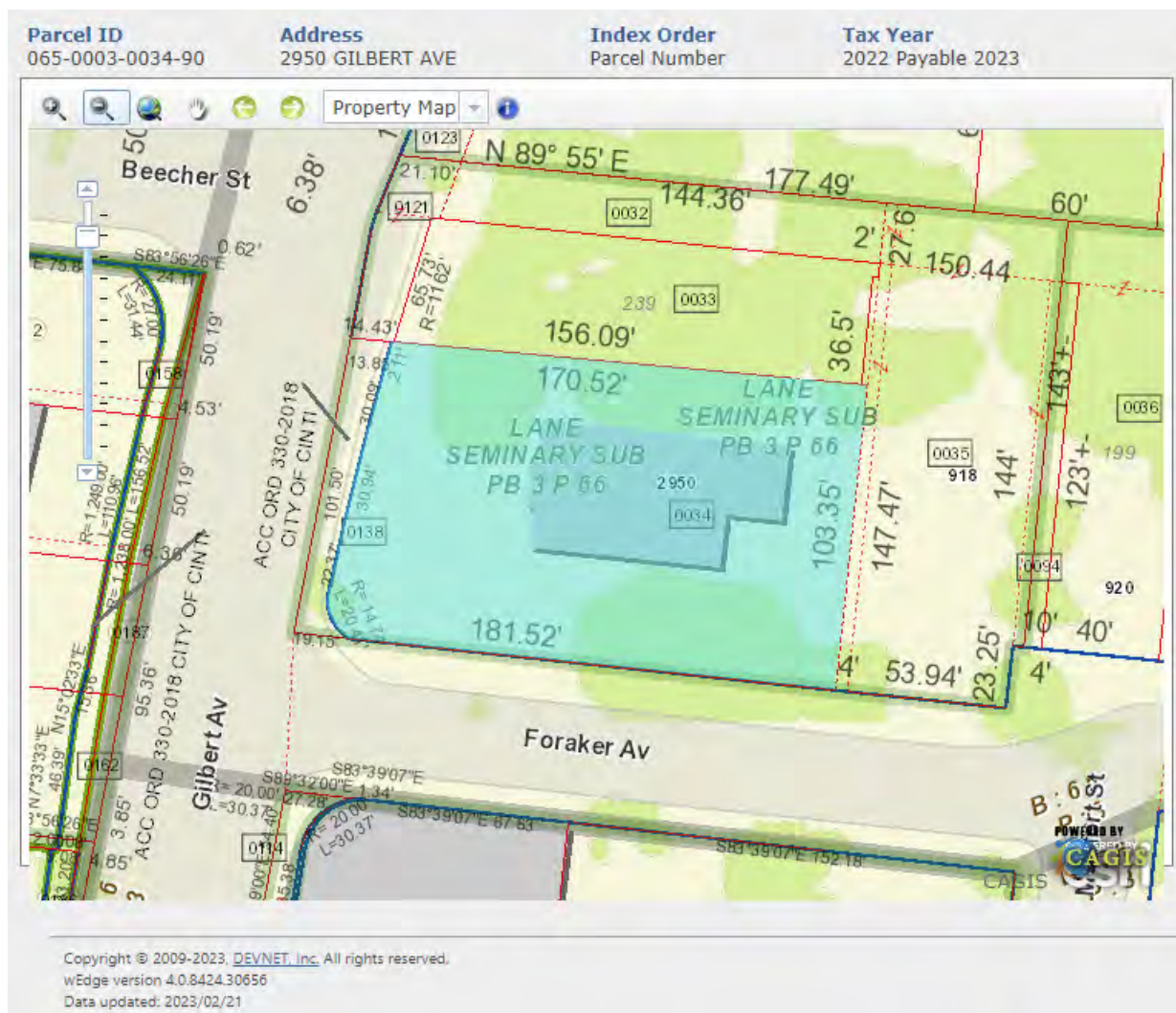


Figure 5: Parcel Map retrieved from the Hamilton County Auditor, State of Ohio on Feburary 22, 2023.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Supplemental Materials

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House/Edgemont
Inn – Amendment (Additional
Information)

Name of Property
Hamilton County, Ohio
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

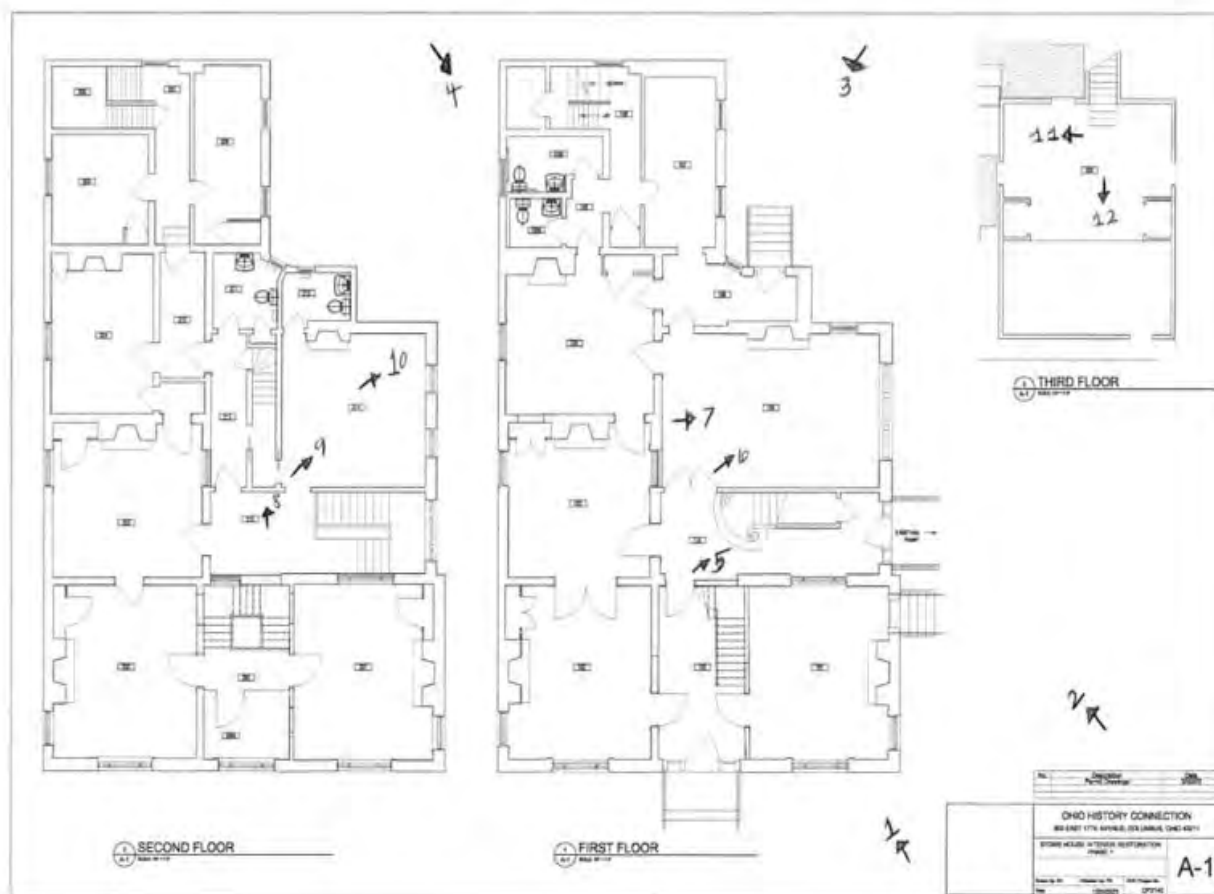


Figure : Floor Plan and Photo Key.















3rd generation Monforts

- 1828 - at the death of Francis Monfort, House passed to his daughters Mary and Adelaide
- 1829 - a group of African Americans wanted to purchase the House, present it as a social center and community house
- Effort could not find sufficient funding



Harriet Beecher
Stowe House

"writing the next chapter together"

Edgemont Inn Boarding House

*If these walls could talk
They would tell you that...*

- I remember when the Edgemont Inn was more than the lively tavern downstairs.
- Rooms like this one served as small apartments for individuals, couples, and even a family – mom, dad, 3 small kids.
- In 1940 there were 19 residents living in this old house – and with only 2 bathrooms on this floor. Just one was big enough for a bathtub. Imagine all the jockeying when everybody was getting ready each morning.
- The biggest commotion, though, came that day when the two little Williams boys set a fire. My walls are lucky to have escaped from that fiasco (The attic closet was not as fortunate.).

"Two children, Earl Williams, 4 years old, and William Williams, 3, living on the third floor, admitted that they stuffed lighted matches under the floor, police said. Their mother rescued them after detecting the blaze."

- Cincinnati Enquirer, April 23, 1942









National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

Advanced notation

Hamilton

Stowe House

Ohio

4/13/71

70.11.39.0039 11/10/70

7/15/71

70000497

4/15/71

Assume this is site in state most associated with her productive life.

OK March 5/29/71

Should we know exact number of years she resided there? (4)

3 March
OK 5/35/71

Uncle Tom's Cabin seems to have been written elsewhere and the form is not clear in answering the question of rel. to most productive period. These questions will have to be answered B.L. 6/14/71

I think the form is pretty clear on role of the house vis a vis the author's productive period - she lived there but made trips around to see slavery system. This may not constitute significance enough, but the fact remains she was influenced by what she saw in the area, and if this was her base of operation, and if the only site in Ohio where she lived, then I would say OK. Chambers 6-14-71

KEEPER

OK Wm 4/29/71

CHIEF, CAHP

OK
CD 6/15/71

5.26.70.36

Note: Keeper disapproves requesting state to substantiate further that this is Ohio site most closely associated. 6/23/71 PH



Stone House
Hermiston Co., Ohio

(30)

NOV 27 1970

H30-HR

Hon. Stephen M. Young
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Young:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Ohio and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator William B. Saxbe and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

NOV 10 1970

cc: Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society,
Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211

Duplicate letter sent to: Hon. William B. Saxbe
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

10/27/70 SMarusina:na

cc: Director, Northeast Region
LL: Mr. Melvin
T
HR

11/27/70

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

OHIO

Amana	Ross County, Ohio
Big Bottom	Morgan County, Ohio
Buckeye Furnace	Jackson County, Ohio
Buffington Island	Meigs County, Ohio
Campbell Mound	Franklin County, Ohio
Putnam House	Washington County, Ohio
Ohio Co. Land Office	Washington County, Ohio
Flint Ridge	Licking County, Ohio
Fort Amanda Site	Auglaize County, Ohio
Fort Hill	Highland County, Ohio
Fort Jefferson Site	Darke County, Ohio
Fort Laurens Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Fort Recovery Site	Mercer County, Ohio
Fort St. Clair Site	Preble County, Ohio
Friends (Quaker) Meeting House	Jefferson County, Ohio
Glenower	Warren County, Ohio
Gradedbitten Massacre Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Ranby House	Franklin County, Ohio
William H. Harrison Tomb	Hamilton County, Ohio
Indian Hill	Wyandot County, Ohio
Lee Petroglyph	Jackson County, Ohio
McCook House	Carroll County, Ohio
William McKinley Tomb	Stark County, Ohio
Miamishury Mound	Montgomery County, Ohio
Our House	Gallia County, Ohio
Rankin House	Brown County, Ohio
Schoenbrunn Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Seip Mound	Ross County, Ohio
W. F. Snyder, Jr. Steamboat	Washington County, Ohio
Stowe House	Hamilton County, Ohio
Tarleton Cross Mound	Fairfield County, Ohio

20
H30-HR

NOV 10 1970

Mr. Daniel R. Porter
Director
The Ohio Historical Society
Ohio Historical Center
Columbus, Ohio 43211

Dear Mr. Porter:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Stephen M. Young and William B. Saxbe and the appropriate Representatives have also been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed for the property owner. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology
and Historic Preservation

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

cc:
HR

10/27/70

SMarusin:naf

NOV 10 1970
BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

OHIO

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Fort Jefferson Site	Darke County, Ohio
Fort Laurens Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Fort Recovery Site	Mercer County, Ohio
Fort St. Clair Site	Preble County, Ohio
Friends (Quaker) Meeting House	Jefferson County, Ohio
Glendower	Warren County, Ohio
Gnadenhutten Massacre Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Hanby House	Franklin County, Ohio
William H. Harrison Tomb	Hamilton County, Ohio
Indian Mill	Wyandot County, Ohio
Leo Petroglyph	Jackson County, Ohio
McCook House	Carroll County, Ohio
William McKinley Tomb	Stark County, Ohio
Miamisburg Mound	Montgomery County, Ohio
Our House	Gallia County, Ohio
Rankin House	Brown County, Ohio
Schoenbrunn Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Seip Mound	Ross County, Ohio
<u>W. P. Snyder, Jr. Steamboat</u>	Washington County, Ohio
Stowe House	Hamilton County, Ohio
Tarlton Cross Mound	Fairfield County, Ohio

M30-NR

NOV 27 1970

an
Hamilton Co., OH
5 Max
11/10/70
Council 11-10
Jensen 11/23
Parker 11-24
Eaton 11/24

Hon. Robert Taft, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Taft:

We are pleased to inform you that Stowe House in Hamilton County,
Ohio has been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed
by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic
Preservation Program in Ohio and have been entered into the
National Register of Historic Places. Senators Stephen M.
Young and William E. Saxton have also been provided with this
information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer,
Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio
Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211, has likewise been notified.
A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosure

Entered in the National Register

NOV 10 1970

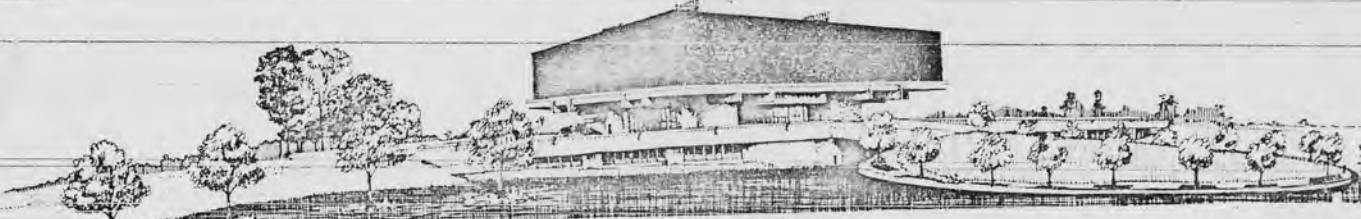
cc: Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio
Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211

cc: Director, Northeast Region

cc: Mr. Melvin

T

HR



Interstate 71 and 17th Avenue

historical society / ohio historical center / columbus, ohio 43211 / telephone (614) 469-4663

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper
National Register
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
801 - 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006



Dear Dr. Bill:

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to transmit to you herewith completed National Register of Historic Places forms and attachments for 31 state/Ohio Historical Society-owned prehistoric and historic landmarks, which State Memorials were provisionally added to the National Register November 10, 1970.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Porter
Director

DRP/eg

Encs. Completed National Register Forms for the following State Memorials:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ✓ Adena | ✓ Glendower |
| ✓ Big Bottom | ✓ Gnadenhutten Massacre site |
| ✓ Buckeye Furnace | ✓ Hanby House |
| ✓ Buffington Island | ✓ Harrison, William H., Tomb |
| ✓ Campbell Mound | ✓ Indian Mill |
| ✓ Putnam House | ✓ Leo Petroglyph |
| ✓ Ohio Company Land Office | ✓ McCook House |
| ✓ Flint Ridge | ✓ McKinley, William, Tomb |
| ✓ Fort Amanda site | ✓ Miamisburg Mound |
| ✓ Fort Hill | ✓ Our House |
| ✓ Fort Jefferson site | ✓ Rankin House |
| ✓ Fort Laurens site | ✓ Schoenbrunn site |
| ✓ Fort Recovery site | ✓ Seip Mound |
| ✓ Fort St. Clair site | ✓ W. P. Snyder, Jr., steamboat |
| ✓ Friends (Quaker) Meeting House | ✓ Stowe House |
| | ✓ Talton Cross Mound |

H30-RR

NOV 27 1970

Hon. Stephen M. Young
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Young:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Ohio and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator William B. Saxbe and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

NOV 10 1970

Entered in the National Register _____

cc: Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society,
Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211

Duplicate letter sent to: Hon. William B. Saxbe
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

10/27/70 SMarusin:naf

cc: Director, Northeast Region
LL: Mr. Melvin

HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

OHIO

Adena	Ross County, Ohio
Big Bottom	Morgan County, Ohio
Buckeye Furnace	Jackson County, Ohio
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Gnadenhutten Massacre Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Hanby House	Franklin County, Ohio
William H. Harrison Tomb	Hamilton County, Ohio
Indian Mill	Wyandot County, Ohio
Leo Petroglyph	Jackson County, Ohio
McCook House	Carroll County, Ohio
William McKinley Tomb	Stark County, Ohio
Miamisburg Mound	Montgomery County, Ohio
Our House	Gallia County, Ohio
Rankin House	Brown County, Ohio
Schoenbrunn Site	Tuscarawas County, Ohio
Seip Mound	Ross County, Ohio
W. P. Snyder, Jr. Steamboat	Washington County, Ohio
<u>Stowe House</u>	Hamilton County, Ohio
Tarlton Cross Mound	Fairfield County, Ohio

H30-HR

NOV 27 1970

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House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Taft:

We are pleased to inform you that Stowe House in Hamilton County, Ohio has been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Ohio and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Stephen M. Young and William B. Saxbe have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosure

NOV 10 1970

Entered in the National Register

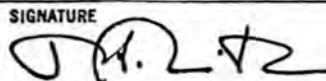
cc: Mr. Daniel R. Porter, Director, The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio
Historical Center, Columbus, Ohio 43211

cc: Director, Northeast Region

LL: Mr. Melvin

T

HR

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE			2. APPLICANT'S APPLICATION	a. NUMBER	3. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER	NUMBER
1. TYPE OF ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> PREAPPLICATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPLICATION (Mark appropriate box) <input type="checkbox"/> NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt) <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION			b. DATE Year month day 19 78 8 15	b. DATE Year month day ASSIGNED 19 77 8 24	02-006-0046	
4. LEGAL APPLICANT/RECIPIENT a. Applicant Name : State of Ohio b. Organization Unit : Ohio Historical Society c. Street/P.O. Box : 1982 Velma Avenue d. City : Columbus e. County : f. State : Ohio g. ZIP Code: h. Contact Person (Name & telephone No.) : Thomas H. Smith, SHPO, 614-466-1500			5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 31-4389673W			6. PROGRAM (From Federal Catalog) a. NUMBER : 1 5 • 9 0 4 b. TITLE : Historic Preservation
7. TITLE AND DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT Harriet Beecher Stowe House Development (rehabilitation), Cincinnati, Hamilton County. Interior and exterior rehabilitation of this historically significant early 1830's home of the author of Uncle Tom's Cabin. Building will be used as a year-round museum and community center.			8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT A-State B-Interstate C-Substate D-District E-City F-School District G-Special Purpose District H-Community Action Agency I-Higher Educational Institution J-Indian Tribe K-Other (Specify): Enter appropriate letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A			9. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE A-Basic Grant B-Supplemental Grant C-Loan D-Insurance E-Other Enter appropriate letter(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A
10. AREA OF PROJECT IMPACT (Names of cities, counties, States, etc.) multi-state			11. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITING 6,500,000			12. TYPE OF APPLICATION A-New B-Renewal C-Revision D-Continuation E-Augmentation Enter appropriate letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A
13. PROPOSED FUNDING a. FEDERAL \$ 10,000 .00 b. APPLICANT 53,000 .00 c. STATE .00 d. LOCAL .00 e. OTHER .00 f. TOTAL \$ 63,000 .00			14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF: a. APPLICANT 12 b. PROJECT 1 16. PROJECT START DATE Year month day 19 78 9 11 17. PROJECT DURATION 8/31/79 months 18. ESTIMATED DATE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL AGENCY Year month day 19 78 8 15			15. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 13c or 12c) A-Increase Dollars B-Decrease Dollars C-Increase Duration D-Decrease Duration E-Cancellation F-Other (Specify): Enter appropriate letter(s) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
20. FEDERAL AGENCY TO RECEIVE REQUEST (Name, City, State, ZIP code) Heritage Cons. & Rec. Serv., Dept. Interior, Wash., D.C. 20240			21. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
22. THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT a. To the best of my knowledge and belief, data in this preapplication/application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is approved. b. If required by OMB Circular A-95 this application was submitted, pursuant to instructions therein, to appropriate clearinghouses and all responses are attached: (1) Ohio State Clearinghouse (2) (3)			No response attached <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
23. CERTIFYING REPRESENTATIVE a. TYPED NAME AND TITLE SHPO and Thomas H. Smith, Director			b. SIGNATURE 			c. DATE SIGNED Year month day 19 78 8 15
24. AGENCY NAME Dept. of Interior			25. APPLICATION RECEIVED Year month day 19 78 8 22			
26. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT HCRS			27. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Grants Adm. Div.			28. FEDERAL APPLICATION IDENTIFICATION
29. ADDRESS Wash., D.C.			30. FEDERAL GRANT IDENTIFICATION 39-8B26			
31. ACTION TAKEN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. AWARDED <input type="checkbox"/> b. REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> c. RETURNED FOR AMENDMENT <input type="checkbox"/> d. DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> e. WITHDRAWN			32. FUNDING a. FEDERAL \$ 10,000 .00 b. APPLICANT 53,000 .00 c. STATE .00 d. LOCAL .00 e. OTHER .00 f. TOTAL \$ 63,000 .00			33. ACTION DATE Year month day 19 78-9-18 34. CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Name and telephone number) Stephen D. Newman 202 523-5472
35. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION a. In taking above action, any comments received from clearinghouses were considered. If agency response is due under provisions of Part 1, OMB Circular A-95, it has been or is being made. b. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.) Same as #35			36. STARTING DATE Year month day 19 78 9 1 37. ENDING DATE Year month day 19 79 9 31 38. REMARKS ADDED <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

AUG 22 1978 lab



June 27, 2023

Joy Beasley, Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed please find one National Register nomination for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submission.

NOMINATION

**Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn
Amendment**

COUNTY

Hamilton

The enclosed PDFs contain the true and correct copy of the information to the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Harriet Beecher Stowe/Edgemont Inn Amendment.

The Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn Amendment is prepared as a product funded by NPS Underrepresented Communities Grant P21AP11726-00. This final nomination addresses NPS review comments of a draft nomination received by SHPO in May 2023 (Underrepresented Community Grants Program Draft Nomination Review Form, dated 5/22/23).

The submission includes: 1 PDF of nomination and supplemental materials; 1 PDF correspondence including Transmittal letter only and zip folder of current TIFF images.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact Barbara Powers, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer/Department Head for Inventory & Registration in the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office at bpowers@ohiohistory.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Powers".

For --

Mary Beth Hirsch
Interim Director
State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection

Enclosures

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211
(614)-298-2000

☒ X Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
 _____ Paper ☒ X PDF
 _____ Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document
 _____ Paper _____ PDF
 _____ Multiple Property Nomination form
 _____ Paper _____ PDF
☒ X Photographs
 _____ Prints ☒ X TIFFs/JPEGs _____ PDF (current images)
☒ X Zip folder with electronic images
 _____ Original USGS map(s)
 _____ Paper _____ Digital _____ PDF
☒ X Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)
 _____ Paper ☒ X PDF
☒ X Piece(s) of correspondence = National Register Transmittal Letter
 _____ Paper ☒ X PDF
 _____ Other

_____ Please provide a substantive review of this nomination

_____ This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67

_____ The enclosed owner objection(s) do _____ do not _____
Constitute a majority of property owners

 X Other: The Harriet Beecher Stowe House/Edgemont Inn Amendment is prepared as a product funded by NPS Underrepresented Communities Grant P21AP11726-00. This final nomination addresses NPS review comments of a draft nomination received by SHPO in May 2023 (Underrepresented Community Grants Program Draft Nomination Review Form, dated 5/22/23).

UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Draft Nomination Review Form

Grant Project Number: P21AP11726-00

Nomination Name: Harriet Beecher Stowe House (AD)

Location: 2950 Gilbert Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio

Date Received by NRHP: April 21, 2023 Date Review Completed: 05/22/23

NR Eligibility Eligible

National Register of Historic Places – Preliminary Review Comments:

This review constitutes a preliminary review of a draft nomination prepared by the Ohio SHPO in association with the Underrepresented Community Grants program. The current additional documentation clearly outlines important new aspects of the previously listed National Register property and makes an effective case for the National Register eligibility under Criterion A. Initially listed based on the house's association with renown American writer Harriet Beecher Stowe during the mid-nineteenth century, the property was later utilized as a boarding house and inn open to African Americans in an era of substantial racial segregation. Serving as home to local Black residents, an important meeting place within the local Black community, and as a recognized *Green Book* tourist accommodation, the house reflects important patterns of social history associated with twentieth century Black heritage.

The comments being provided are general in nature and do not reflect a detailed or final review of the nomination or the comments of the State Historic Preservation Office. Final consideration for listing will be completed upon modification of items noted below or by the SHPO and formal submission of the required materials to the National Park Service.

Resource Count

The Resource Count should read: 0 [The property is effectively recorded under the Contributing Resource Previously block.]

Significance

The level of significance is marked as state in keeping with the original 1970 listing, however, the current nomination clearly documents a local level of significance for the themes and periods outlined. That should be made clear in the submission. [...*nominates the property under National Register Criterion A for its twentieth century role in Cincinnati's social, African American, and civil rights history...*]

The period of significance should simply delete the 19th Century citation as too imprecise. As the Additional Documentation is focused on the twentieth century history of the property that should be reflected in the period of significance block.

The nomination discusses important functions taking place in the house as early as 1936. It is unclear then why the period of significance only starts with 1939 and the first Green Book citation. [In order to even make it into a Green Book publication the accommodation of Blacks must have dated to an earlier

point in time. The nomination makes an important case that the Green Book associations are not the sole basis for Criterion A significance. Recommend minimally 1936-1952. Additional research may refine the period even more to acknowledge later history or earlier aspects.

The current nomination presents several different aspects of local significance in association with Ethnic Heritage-Black and Social History under Criterion A. The current narrative, however, is rather disjointed in presentation jumping from Green Book connections, to boarding house use, to meeting place. As an initial draft this is fine, but the final submission should better structure the arguments to flow together seamlessly. It appears the initial intent was to nominate as a Green Book site, but in documenting the property other more compelling stories were uncovered and thrown into the case. Perhaps reformatting into a more chronological format would help. In addition, the post 1952 history of the property (post-Green Book) is left relatively undetailed. There is some mention of the intent of the new owners to both honor Beecher-Stowe and recognize African American culture, but there is not a lot of detail. It seems as if this is a rather unexplored avenue for additional research that could possibly also expand the period of significance.

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact the National Register office directly at the number or e-mail listed below.

Paul R. Lusignan

Paul R. Lusignan, Historian
(for) Keeper of the National Register
(202) 354-2229 paul_lusignan@nps.gov

S:\nr\lusi\stlpg\URC Draft Nomination Comment Form
Harriet Beecher Stowe House.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Additional Documentation	
Property Name:	Stowe, Harriet Beecher, House (Additional Documentation)	
Multiple Name:		
State & County:	OHIO, Hamilton	

Date Received: 6/27/2023 Date of Pending List: 7/14/2023 Date of 16th Day: 7/31/2023 Date of 45th Day: 8/11/2023 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:	AD70000497
Nominator:	SHPO
Reason For Review:	

 X Accept Return Reject 8/11/2023 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:	AOS: Ethnic Heritage: Black, Social History; POS: 1936 - 1952; LOS: local. The AD updates the property description and provides additional documentation supporting the local significance of the property for its twentieth century role in Cincinnati's social, African American, and civil rights history, functioning as a boarding house and tavern known as the Edgemont Inn, a property listed in the Negro Motorist Green Book. The additional Period of Significance is 1936-1952 and reflects the historic period associated with the Edgemont Inn and includes the earliest efforts to recognize the history of the house and preserve it as a historic site and museum. The AD is being nominated under the historic context of Civil Rights and Public Accommodation and meets the registration requirements outlined in the Twentieth-Century African American Civil Rights Movement in Ohio MP Cover.
Recommendation/ Criteria	NR Criterion A.

Reviewer	<u> Lisa Deline </u>	Discipline	<u> Historian </u>
Telephone	<u> (202)354-2239 </u>	Date	<u> </u>

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.