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.

Signature of commenting official: Date
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
_State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Barbar Power DSHPO for Inventory & Registration 12/27/2017
Applicable National Register Criteria: X ABCD
nationalstatewide _X_local
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:
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.
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A
2. Location Street & number: _320 South Court Street City or town: _Medina State: _OH County: _Medina
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing
N/A
Other names/site number: <u>Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Feed Mill & Warehouse</u> Name of related multiple property listing:

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Name of Property	Medina County, Oh County and State
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:)	9
Patrick Andrew Signature of the Keeper	2 14/2018 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)	* 5
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

edina Farmers Exchange Co.		Medina County, OH
me of Property		County and State
Number of Resources within Pr	operty	
(Do not include previously listed		
Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instruction COMMERCE/TRADE	s.)	
Current Functions		
(Enter categories from instruction	s.)	
VACANT/NOT IN USE		

M	ledina F	armers	Exchang	ge Co.	
•	j				

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE __

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: <u>Reinforced Concrete</u>, <u>Glazed and Terra Cotta</u> Block, Brick,

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The 1935 three-story fireproof reinforced concrete and masonry Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building is located at 320 South Court Street, in the city of Medina. The building is on Medina County parcel #028-19D-01-115 composed of approximately 1.078 acres. It is directly adjacent to the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway; the northern portion of the parcel has an easement with the Railway. The building is situated one block south of the Medina Public Square, on the east side of South Court Street. Broadway Street is to the east with a channelized section of Champion Creek abutting the Railway. Medina is the County seat of Medina County and historically situated at the cross roads of State Route 42 connecting Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati, with Route 18 connecting Youngstown, Pittsburgh and Akron to the west. The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. was formed in 1904 to serve the thriving agricultural community of Medina County. The Exchange provided a place for farmers to trade, sell agricultural products, and purchase related supplies and services. The existing fireproof reinforced concrete and masonry building replaced two previous buildings, both destroyed by fires.

Narrative Description

EXTERIOR (Photos 1- 10)

The 1935 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building is fireproof construction of reinforced form poured concrete structural frame with brick exterior and glazed and structural terra cotta block and brick interior. The three-story building was constructed by Clement Company, Medina contractors. It is rectangular in plan and utilitarian in design, finished with a veneer of russets, grays, and beige blend wire-cut bricks. The building is divided into two equal sections, five by

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

four bays each separated by a fire wall with fire doors, in an effort to compartmentalize the building to prevent future fire disasters. A one-bay four-story addition was added at the east end sometime between 1940 and 1952, providing additional square footage and a second elevator. The construction type of the building is concrete masonry units, gray on the interior with a row of brick delineated at every third course with poured concrete floors. The floor and roofing system are metal trusses and concrete decking. The exterior is finished with brick to match the rest of the building. A one-story retail addition was added to the South Court Street (west) elevation ca. 1946.

The south elevation serves as the primary elevation for business operations. The nine-bay south elevation is defined by a concrete loading dock covered by suspended metal canopy. Concrete stairs with pipe railing provide access to the shallow deck at both the east and west ends. Wider stairs, perpendicular to the dock, lead to the westernmost set of paired doors at the third bay. The elevated dock reveals ground level windows at the east end. A vehicular scale is located on the parking lot near the east end. The first-floor fenestration is composed of six paired metal sliding doors with 6-pane lite in the upper half. A bricked-in man door opening is located at the second bay. The second and third floor fenestration is composed of nine-bays of six-pane steel industrial style sash with brick sills. The first four bays towards the west of the second floor have been replaced with double hung vinyl windows. Structural hoist beam, grain elevators and roof bin equipment were added to the building in the 1970-80s, mounted at the second and third floors above the canopy and roof for the purpose of mixing and delivering customized feed for horses, cows, hogs, birds, zoo and laboratory animals. At the same time, a pole barn was added to the east of the building.

The west elevation, facing South Court Street, is comprised of an elevated one-story retail addition with vertical wood-plank cladding and wood-shingled Mansard roof. A central recessed single metal door is flanked by "Medina Farmers Exchange" signage with logo flush mounted in white letters to the north, and four side-by-side display windows to the south. The addition was added to the building ca. 1946 as a "front porch with a large window display area." The original storefront of five bays of picture window with central raised recessed entrance was altered down to the brick piers. They are evident on the interior. The entry stairs appear to be in the original location, which had brick sidewalls and pipe railing. By 1963, it had been refurbished with storefront windows resting on a knee-wall. In 1969-70, it was further updated to its present appearance, "a hard board cedar siding was put on the front and sides of the main building...shingles were added to the front canopy and windows removed..." (Historic Images, Figures 8,10). The 1969-70 wood alteration to the one-story retail addition was a distinct

¹ Medina County Gazette, 16 April 1985.

² Medina County Gazette, 23 January 1970.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH

County and State

departure from the original fireproof intent of the building. The five-bay second and third floor fenestration is composed of steel industrial style sash with brick sills—ten-bays of six-pane sash at the second floor and five-bays of nine-pane sash at the third floor. Five of the sash on the second floor (south end) have been replaced with vinyl double hung sash.

The north elevation, adjacent to the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad tracks, consists of a concrete loading dock with remnants of a suspended metal canopy, two clay-tile grain silos and metal hoppers. A ground floor entry at the last bay below the one-story retail addition leads to the ground floor. The front area housed a small restaurant. The window fenestration consists of three-pane steel industrial style sash at the ground floor, brick infilled openings at the first floor, and six bays of six-pane steel industrial style sash on upper floors running between the third bay to the silos. The eighth (eastern) bay has paired metal sliding doors at each level.

The east elevation is composed of loading dock with concrete ramp covered by a suspended metal canopy. A partial one-story addition, with a north and east wall, is constructed of corrugated metal and abuts the loading ramp. Two sliding metal fire doors are located at the first floor level. Fenestration at the upper floors is composed of steel industrial style, nine-pane and six pane sash.

The flat roof is finished with camel back terra cotta coping at the parapet. The elevator penthouses extend beyond the roof edge and are visible from the north elevation. Metal additions have been added at the glazed concrete block penthouse, both at the south wall and at the roof. They are composed of wood frame and metal siding. The intertwined letters "F" & "E" have been painted on the penthouse roof addition, representing the Medina Farmers Exchange Co. logo. Varying designs of bins and grain elevators have been added over the years. The lack of maintenance to the grain elevator, bins, and hoppers has caused a high degree of failure to the existing flat roof membrane and interior water infiltration is evident throughout the building. However, the form poured concrete structure is in relatively good condition.

INTERIOR (Photos 11-34)

The fireproof building is designed to accommodate both retail and feed mill operations. The building is divided into two sections via a fire wall. The west half consists of four by five bays with exposed concrete columns. The east half is divided into similar bay division but the central bays have three grain elevator shafts composed of both form poured concrete and structural terra cotta. The perimeter interior walls are a combination of glazed terra cotta, glazed fire block and brick. There are two form poured concrete stairs in each half, both surrounded by a combination of both fire block and glazed structural terra cotta. The form poured concrete stair in the west

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

section is located at the second bay, the east stair is along the east wall at the center bay. There are two freight elevators in the building, one located along the north wall at the firewall, and the other in the post 1940s addition, also along the north wall.

The ground level is composed of concrete floors and columns with structural terra cotta and brick walls, and exposed form poured concrete ceiling. A ground floor entry leads into an elevated bay under the first-floor retail. It is only half the width of the west elevation and housed the Medina's Farmers Exchange Restaurant from the 1950s through the 1970s. The area had finished plaster on walls and ceilings. First floor entry on the south primary elevation leads to a large open room interior with retail entry to the west with interior stairs leading from South Court Street. The west half of the building, used for a retail shop, has brick walls and columns enclosed with clear finish pine paneling and/or painted gypsum board covered with peg board. Floors are concrete and vinyl tile. The form poured concrete ceiling has a suspended acoustic tile assembly in the west area and mounted fluorescent lights in the east area. Upper floors are composed of an open floor plan with exposed masonry walls, concrete floors, columns and metal decking ceiling. Sliding fire doors located at the firewall separate the east and west sections. Floor penetrations are exhibited throughout, cut for the installation of varying grain elevators over the years. These in recent years have allowed water to infiltrate the building. A small office, renovated in the early 1980s, is located in the southwest corner of the second floor. It is finished with carpeting, faux wooden paneling, and acoustic tile ceiling. The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. continued to occupy the building until 2016.

INTEGRITY

The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building demonstrates some deterioration and minor modifications yet it is in good condition maintaining a significant level of historic architectural integrity. This is exhibited in both exterior and interior architectural elements of the fireproof reinforced concrete and masonry building. The fireproof component was the most important component for construction of the facility in 1935, with the loss of two buildings in the first thirty years of the organization. The steel industrial style sash, reinforced form poured concrete structure, fire block, glazed block and brick, a center firewall, and fire-doors were all attempts to prevent future fires and loses. Loading docks and sliding paired doors accommodating the feed mill operations remain intact on the north, south, and rear elevations. The 1969-70 wood alteration to the one-story retail addition added a combustible component to the material and fabric of the fireproof building. This alteration is deteriorating and in poor condition. On the interior exposed structural elements demonstrate the retention of historic fabric, materials, and craftsmanship, representing the manufacturing aspects for mill use and fireproof construction. The lack of decoration and finished wall surface on upper floors demonstrates that the space was employed for feed mill operation and to store products before and after processing. The first-

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.	Medina County, OH
Name of Property	County and State

floor retail addition, demonstrates the retail component necessary to encompass the agricultural trades. The building remains in its historic location and the architectural language retain the historic feeling and association as noted in historic images of the building in its original historic setting.

Medina Name of I	ners Exchange Co. ty	Medina County, OF County and State
8.	ement of Significance	
	ble National Register Criteria " in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for	or National Register
X	A. Property is associated with events that have made a significa broad patterns of our history.	nt contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in	our past.
	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, portion construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose conditional distinction.	high artistic values,
	 Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information import history. 	tant in prehistory or
	Considerations "in all the boxes that apply.)	
	A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purpose	es
	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 p	ast 50 years

Nedina Farmers Exchange Co.
lame of Property
Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
COMMERCE
AGRICULTURE
Daviad of Significance
Period of Significance 1935-1968
1733-1708

Significant Dates
Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
Cultural Affiliation
Cultural Alimation

Architect/Builder
Clement Company, contractor

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building is being nominated **under Criterion A in the area of Commerce** as representative of a "farmers exchange," offering dependable goods and services tailored to the needs of the farmer. The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. formed in 1904 to provide a centralized location for farmers to trade, purchase farm related supplies, and sell their agricultural products. The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. was uniquely tailored to the needs of the regional agricultural community essential to the economy of Medina County food supply. The current building was built in 1935, after fires destroyed two previous buildings on the site.

The period of significance begins in 1935 with construction of the Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building and continues to **1968** based on National Register fifty-year guidelines.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. was established in 1904 at the turn of the twentieth century and the beginning of the Progressive years as America was undergoing rapid urbanization and industrialization. Agriculture's paradigm was changing from widespread subsistence farming of the nineteenth century to a system of farming to providing food for newly urbanized areas.³ During the first two decades of the twentieth century, American farmers enjoyed economic growth and prosperity with the years 1909 to 1914 referred to as the Golden Age of Agriculture in the United States. Increased prices for farm products and increased farmland values raised the purchasing power of farmers above many other U.S. workers.⁴ Farmers Exchanges became established as a business model to support the needs of the agricultural community by offering a reliable source of goods and services, as well as often paying cash to buy grain from farmers which was combined or milled at on-site grain elevators. Exchanges were independent companies distinguished from "Cooperatives," where farmers bought stock in the cooperative company to combine their ownership interests and achieve a common goal such as marketing their product, purchasing common equipment and supplies or building a grain elevator to mill their product.⁵ Research did not reveal the history or number of extant non-cooperative Farmers Exchange businesses in Ohio before 1968 other than: the Medina Farmers Exchange Co., the

³ From the Golden Age to the Great Depression: 1900-1929. Government Publishing Office, Congressional Documents. Available at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/GPO-CDOC-105sdoc24/html/ch3.html

⁴ Hanes, Richard C. and Sharon M. Hanes. "Farm Relief 1929-1941." Historic Events for Students: The Great Depression, Vol. 2, Gale, 2002, pp. 1-20. World History in Context.

⁵ Ingraham, Charles H. ed. "Putting It All Together" A History of Agricultural Cooperatives Compiled from the Files of Dr. George F. Henning. Columbus: The Ohio State University, 1980.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co	Medina	Farmers	Exchange	Co
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Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

subject of this nomination established in 1904; the Carrolton Farmers Exchange established in 1920 at 2014 Second Street NW, Carrollton, Ohio; and, the Delaware Farmers Exchange, 19 Lake Street, Delaware, Ohio established in the 1920s-30s.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. is established in 1904

On April 1, 1904, six enterprising men gathered in the director's room of Medina's Savings Deposit Bank with \$20,000 in capital to establish a company to "deal with the farmers of Medina County to buy their products from them, and to sell to them the things which they need." They included E. Brenner, W.D. Wise, A.T. Spitzer, C.E. Hoover, F.W. Woods, and S.J. Swain who served as the first president. In 1904, the first Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building was constructed on the site. The building was described as a two-story frame building 40 x 100 feet with a basement under the entire building, and included a warehouse, elevator, and mill. (Historic Images, Figures 5) An electric motor was used for operation of the mill and elevator, with a second electric motor utilized for propulsion of the freight elevator conveying material from the basement to different stories within the building.⁸ In addition, several other storage buildings were constructed (demolished). In 1910, the business included "general warehouse business, dealing in all kinds of grain, seeds, hay, straw, flour, feed, fertilizer, farm implements, machinery and the operation of an elevator and feed mill." At the same time, the Farmers Exchange offered the only mill that would grind the farmer's wheat into his own flour to take home as the product of his own fields with an option for payment by toll with one-tenth of the flour taken in as payment for grinding.¹⁰

The Medina Farmers Exchange building is partially located on the property of the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway; an easement was acquired when the building was constructed. A railway spur allowed it "to receive large quantities of grain and feed directly from the freight cars and to ship many bushels of wheat to various portions of the country." In 1910, it was reported that the Medina Farmers Exchange Co. handled thousands of bushels and tons of feed annually, the major portion of which went to Virginia, West Virginia, and other southern points. This included about 60,000 bushels of wheat per year, 20,000 bushels of corn, and 25,000 bushels of oats and other grain. In addition, the company manufactured many tons of feed annually, including approximately 50 tons of dairy feed. The company sold large quantities of Snow Flake brand flour, both wholesale and retail. They sold the Deering and International companies' farm

⁶ Medina County Gazette, 30 January 1949; Medina Sentinel, 15 July 1910.

⁷ *Medina Sentinel*, 15 July 1910; Schapiro, Eleanor Iler, *Historical Highlights of Medina*. Medina: Alfred Meyers Lithographers, Inc., 1966, 69-71.

⁸ Medina Sentinel, 15 July 1910.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Medina County Gazette, 30 January 1949.

¹¹ Medina Sentinel, 15 July 1910.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

machinery, supplying a large territory. Officers and directors of the company were prominent businessmen including: I.H. Rickard, president; A.T. Spitzer, vice president; C.E. Hoover, secretary and treasurer; and, F.W. Woods, counsel. The business was described in the local newspaper in 1910, "[t]his progressive business concern has prepared itself to handle the productions of the farm at the highest market price and supply the farmers with the best of machinery, farming utensils of all kinds, fertilizers, feed stuff, flour, grain of all kinds and almost everything they can utilize at reasonable prices." In 1911, the Exchange expanded acquiring the Wood Company grain elevator located across South Court Street (demolished). 13

In December 1915, the 1904 Medina Farmers Exchange building was lost due to highly combustible mill dust catching fire. ¹⁴ The company promptly opened their building across South Court Street (demolished) to continue operations. ¹⁵ A new building was built on the site in 1916 to keep up with business. (Historic Images, Figure 6)

In 1916, more than 91% of Medina County was composed of farms with 74% under cultivation consisting of 3,159 farms in an area of 435 square miles. The largest single crop was oats, followed closely by corn, wheat, and potatoes. Farmers were the most prosperous citizens of the county and the Medina Farmers Exchange offered goods and services to the thriving market with the motto "A SQUARE DEAL TO ALL". In 1916 they advertised as dealers in flour, feed, grain, hay and straw with full grinding available at all times, specialties including Snow Flake Flour, Unicorn, and Distillers' Grains. A full line of farm implements offered: Deering Binders and Mowers; I.H.C. Manure Spreaders; Superior Grain Drills; Dain, New Deere and Keystone Hay Loaders; Iron Age and Evans Potato Planters; Champion and Reuther Potato Diggers; Little Willie, Ohio and Kraus Cultivators; Studebaker Wagons; Louden Hay Tools and Litter Carriers; Riding and Walking Plows; Sure Drop Corn Planters; and Tillage Tools. Additional items listed for sale were: American Field and Poultry Fence, a full line of commercial fertilizers, and sewer pipe and drain tile. 18

The company expanded in 1918 with construction of a garage on South Court Street, likely at the southwest corner of Mill Street at 307-323 South Court Street. ¹⁹ The Medina Farmers Exchange

¹³ Schapiro, 70; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

¹² Ibid.

¹⁴ Medina County Gazette, 30 January 1949; Plain Dealer 18 December 1915.

¹⁵ *Medina Sentinel*, 24 December 1915.

¹⁶ The Farm Journal Directory of Medina County Ohio. Philadelphia; Wilmer Atkinson Company, 1916. Available at https://archive.org/details/farmjournaldirec00unse, 5-6.

¹⁷ The Farm Journal Directory of Medina County Ohio, 173.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Schapiro, 70.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.	
Name of Property	

Medina County, OH
County and State

Co. enjoyed the prosperity of the Progressive years, offering the agricultural community expanding markets beyond subsistence farming.

Post-World War I, Depression Years and Decline in Agricultural Demand

During World War I, the U.S. government encouraged greater farm production to make up for European shortages and help in the war effort. To meet this demand, farmers purchased more land, livestock, and new equipment. They often borrowed money to make these purchases. Unexpectedly, the demand for U.S. farm produce fell after 1919 when European farmers began producing again, leaving U.S. farmers with substantially less income. Demand for produce dropped dramatically in 1918 at the end of World War I and continued dropping during the 1920s, although other areas of the American economy prospered. Surpluses of key crops mounted, causing produce prices to plummet. In addition, the increased mechanization of farming made the typical small family farm less able to compete with larger commercial operations. Technological advances encouraged small farms to consolidate, resulting in fewer but larger more efficient farms. President Roosevelt's administration offered relief programs under the New Deal, placing a high priority on federal assistance to the farmer under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933. In 1933, Congress passed the Farm Credit Act, making loans available to farmers and creating a banking system for farming cooperatives. Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act, aimed at increasing the prices of agricultural products by reducing production. The Commodity Credit Corporation was created to help farmers market their produce to gain year-round price stability and minimize price changes from year to year. The U.S. Supreme Court in 1936 ruled the 1933 Agricultural Act unconstitutional, due to provisions for taxing food processing businesses. The Act was revised and expanded by Congress in 1938 becoming the foundation for U.S. agricultural policy for the remainder of the twentieth century. As the United States entered World War II, increased demand for farm products was restored ending agricultural economic strife.²⁰

Brothers Fred and Albert Snyder came to the Medina Farmers Exchange Co. a few years after its founding—Fred in 1908, and Albert in 1909. Albert became president in 1927 and continued until his death in 1960, leading the company through the Depression years. Fred, along with his wife Freda, served as office clerk, treasurer, general manager, and director until his death in 1956. It was reported that during the Depression years, "many a child was kept warmly clad and dry-shod because Fred Snyder had set up credit at a local shoe store, and no red tape was needed to get a child shoes and galoshes" ²¹ Despite hardship, the company took over the O.C. Shepard Company at 23 Public Square in Medina in 1932 to house expanding operational needs. A flour mill (demolished) was erected in 1932 and a store building in 1934, likely across from the

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²⁰ Hanes, 1-20.

²¹ Medina County Gazette, 30 January 1949; Medina County Gazette, 15 February 1956.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

Medina Farmers Exchange building at 307-323 South Court Street. The company advertised production of "Medina Quality Feeds" as a brand name of the company.²² In addition, the company continued to publish the *Medina Trading Post* newspaper from its opening in 1904 until April 1964 with distribution of 14,000 copies per edition. The paper was issued bi-weekly free of charge to its readers containing information related to farming and classified ads.²³

The Depression years were not without incident, and on June 6, 1935, a second fire destroyed the 1916 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building. The company continued operation in temporary offices directly across the street, re-opening the day after the fire. Dealers in the community lent their manufacturing facilities for use by the Medina Farmers Exchange including The Medina Farm Bureau, The Lodi Equity, and R.O. Bowman. This allowed the Farmers Exchange to continuously operate and serve customers while constructing a new building on the site.²⁴ The *Medina County Gazette* reported that,

... the new building will be a three-story brick and concrete structure. The plans are to make the building as nearly fireproof as modern construction methods allow. The floors will be concrete, the walls brick and concrete and the roof concrete. The building will be completed in four months. According to Fred Snyder, the company will replace completely the equipment destroyed by fire....²⁵

The building opened for business on Saturday, November 30, 1935, with thousands of people in attendance as the largest crowd ever at such an event in Medina. More than 100 congratulatory floral arrangements were displayed and two orchestras played continuously throughout the afternoon to provide dance music for the crowds. Motion pictures were screened continuously for entertainment with gifts of roses for the women, cigars for the men and balloons for the children. (Historic Images, Figure 7) The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. remained central to the community and agricultural life of Medina County.

Post - World War II and the Sixties

The post-World War II years brought renewed prosperity to agriculture and farming in Medina The 1948 Medina City Directory recognized Medina as traditionally an agricultural community with the introduction of several large industries including: A. I. Root Company, suppliers of bee supplies and beeswax candles; Permold Company which moved to Medina in 1940 from

²² Medina Trading Post. Medina: Medina Farmers Exchange Co., 7 June 1935; Schapiro, 70.

²³ Schapiro, 70; *Medina County Gazette*, 11 March 1981.

²⁴ Medina Trading Post. Medina: Medina Farmers Exchange Co., 7 June 1935.

²⁵ Medina County Gazette, 23 July 1935.

²⁶ Medina County Gazette, 3 December 1935; Medina Sentinel, 5 December 1935; Medina County Gazette, 23 July 1935.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

Cleveland, makers of aluminum castings; Moncrief furnace and allied units produced at the Henry Furnace Company; and Dolly Madison brand pickles and salad dressings, produced and bottled in Medina by the H.W. Madison Company.

The 1950 census showed the population exceeding 5,000 with Medina becoming a statutory city in 1952. Between 1950 and 1960, Medina experienced a dramatic shift in its economic base with more than 20 new industrial plants locating in the city creating investment and new jobs. Medina's industrial growth was largely due to the formation of an Industrial Development Committee by the Medina Chamber of Commerce in 1952. Under the initiative of this committee, a 6,000 acre industrial site was laid out on the southwest edge of the city. Water and sewer lines were installed, and railroads and public utilities added to support development activities. Medina was marketing itself as an industrial center "[w]ith the availability of a skilled and productive workforce and a most favorable industrial climate established in the State of Ohio, the Medina area offers an unmistakable appeal as an industrial location." A corresponding housing boom aided in transforming the area. This introduced the suburban homeowner as a new customer for the Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

In 1949, the Medina Farmers Exchange Co. expanded with 200 feet of frontage on both sides of South Court Street extending to South Broadway on the east and to South Elmwood on the west. The pressure of suburban growth resulted in new merchandising and remodeling of the store. A retail addition with entry and display window facing South Court Street was added to the main building ca. 1946, housing an appliance center serving the expanding housing market. In addition, a farm machinery building on South Elmwood was purchased by the Farmers Exchange in 1947 serving the farming community. With the death of Fred and Albert Snyder, Hugh Lucas became the fourth president of the Company in 1961. In 1964, the Farmers Exchange constructed a separate General Electric Appliance Center building to the south across the parking lot from the main building. The west elevation one-story retail store was used to sell feed. Lucas added a new nursery center selling trees, shrubs and plants, continuing to capitalize on the many new suburban homes being constructed in and around Medina.

By 1963, the Farmers Exchange one-story addition had been updated with storefront windows, and was further updated in 1969-70 (Historic Images, Figure 8-10). It was reported that the addition would continue as a retail feed store with the addition of a new "Boots and Saddles"

²⁷ Schapiro, 84-85.

²⁸ Medina Sentinel, 30 January 1949.

²⁹ Medina City Directory, 1963.

³⁰ Medina County Gazette, 23 January 1970.

³¹ Medina County Gazette, 23 March 1979.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

Shoppe."³² President and owner, Hugh Lucas, stated that "Not only will we be taking care of the outside of the horse, but our feed line, which has been the center of our business, will also handle the inner horse with oats, hay, Medina quality horse feed, Omalene, and we're also Medina County's largest Farnam (horse care product) center."³³ Lucas served as president until his death in 1973 (Historic Images, Figure 11).

In the 1970-80s the company added equipment bins to the building to expand their feed supply business which included food for horses, cows, hogs, and birds, as well as animals at the Cleveland zoo. The company produced animal feed by custom mixing a selection of grains housed in bins on the roof of the three-story Farmers Exchange building. President Charles Ream stated that "the drab bricks that make up its [the Farmer's Exchange] walls and support structures were used for their strength, architectural consultants have told Ream. 'They said we couldn't put enough bins on top to hurt this place.""³⁴ In 1985, Ream reported that the Medina Farmers Exchange had adapted and grown with sales of \$4 million with a second store in Broadview Heights. The business had product lines including paint, garden equipment, and home appliances. Ream continued to make changes inline with the community's transformation from farming to suburbia, but 50% of its business remained agricultural based, geared to grain and horse farmers. ³⁵

Conclusion

The Medina County Agricultural 2012 Census shows that Medina County remains an important agricultural producer with \$60.5M in market value of products sold from farm crop and livestock sales. Agriculture continues as a major industry not only for Medina County, but as the largest sector of the economy of the State of Ohio.³⁶ The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. business model of providing supplies and services uniquely tailored to the needs of the regional agricultural community adjusted to the changing economy by offering additional products for the Post-World War II suburban homeowner while continuing to serve the agricultural community. The Medina Farmers Exchange Co. building is recognized as a "community icon" serving the agricultural community of Medina County and the State of Ohio for 112 years until its closing in 2016. The Medina Exchange Co. Warehouse continues to operate at 650 West Smith Road, Medina.

³² Medina County Gazette, 6 January 1970.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ Medina County Gazette, 16 April 1985.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Sporleder, Thomas L., OHFOOD Model, Ohio State University.

Medina	Farmers	Exchange	Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Primary

Medina City Directories. Medina County Library.

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Secondary

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Schapiro, Eleanor Iler, *Historical Highlights of Medina*. Medina: Alfred Meyers Lithographers, Inc., 1966.

dina Farmers Exchange Co. ne of Property		Medina County, OH County and State	
те от Ргорегцу		County and State	
Previous documentation o	n file (NPS):		
V maliminamy datamain	stion of individual listing (26 CED 6)	7) has been measurated	
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ation of individual listing (36 CFR 6'	7) has been requested	
previously listed in the	•		
	eligible by the National Register		
designated a National			
•	American Buildings Survey #		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	American Engineering Record #		
recorded by Historic A	American Landscape Survey #		
Primary location of additi			
State Historic Preserva	ation Office		
Other State agency			
Federal agency			
Local government			
University			
X Other			
10. Geographical Data			
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property1.	078 acres		
Use either the UTM system	or latitude/longitude coordinates		
Latitude/Longitude Coord Datum if other than WGS84 (enter coordinates to 6 decir	l:		
1. Latitude:	Longitude:		
2. Latitude:	Longitude:		
3. Latitude:	Longitude:		
4. Latitude:	Longitude:		
Or			

May 8, 2017

date:

Medina Farmers Excha	ange Co.		Medina County, OH County and State	
UTM Reference Datum (indicated	es d on USGS map):			
x NAD 1927	or NAD 1983			
1. Zone: 17	Easting: 427492	Northing: 45	553941	
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:		
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:		
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:		
Ohio. The bound	property is situated in the Cillary of the historic Medina Fatoric	armers Exchange Co. buildi	ing follows Medina	
Boundary Justification The nominated boundary includes the property parcels historically associated with the building.				
11. Form Prepared By				
name/title: organization: street & number: city or town:	Chagrin Falls	state: <u>OH</u> zi	p code: 44022	
e-mail: telephone:	naylor@naylorwellman.com 440-247-8319	n; weiiman@naylorwellman.	.com	

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.	

Name of Property

Medina County, OH
County and State

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

Photo Log

Name of Property: Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

City or Vicinity: Medina

County: Medina State: Ohio

Photographer: Diana Wellman, Wendy Naylor

Date Photographed: April, August 2017

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

1 of 34

- 1. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0001): West elevation, camera direction E.
- 2. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0002): West and South elevation, camera direction NE.
- 3. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0003): South Dock, camera direction N.
- 4. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0004): South Dock, camera direction NW.
- 5. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0005): South Dock, camera direction NW.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.

Name of Property

Medina County, OH

County and State

- 6. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0006): South Dock, camera direction N.
- 7. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0007): South Dock, camera direction NW.
- 8. (OH Medina Medina Farmers Exchange Co. 0008): East Elevation, camera direction NW.
- 9. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0009): East Elevation, camera direction SW.
- 10. (OH Medina Medina Farmers Exchange Co. 0010): North Elevation, camera direction SW.
- 11. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0011): North Elevation, camera direction SE.
- 12. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0012): Ground Floor, west section, north side, camera direction SE.
- 13. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0013): Ground Floor, west section, north side, camera direction E.
- 14. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0014): First Floor, retail space, west section, camera direction E.
- 15. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0015): First Floor, retail space, west section, camera direction SW.
- 16. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0016): First Floor, paired sliding doors, camera direction S.
- 17. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0017): First Floor, north fire-doors and elevator, camera direction E.
- 18. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0018): First Floor, east section, north side, camera direction E.
- 19. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0019): First Floor, post 1940 addition/elevator, camera direction E.
- 20. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0020): First Floor, post 1940 addition, camera direction S.
- 21. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0021): First Floor, east section, south side, camera direction NW.
- 22. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0022): Second Floor, west side, camera direction SE.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co.	Medina County, OH
Name of Property	County and State

- 23. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0023): Second Floor, west side, camera direction SW.
- 24. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0024): Second Floor, west stair, camera direction N.
- 25. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0025): Second Floor, west stair, camera direction E.
- 26. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0026): Second Floor, east stair, camera direction E.
- 27. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0027): Second Floor, east section, north side, camera direction E.
- 28. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0028): Second Floor, east section, north side, camera direction W.
- 29. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0029): Second Floor, post 1940 addition, camera direction N.
- 30. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0030): Second Floor, east section, south side, camera direction E.
- 31. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0031): Third Floor, west section, camera direction NE.
- 32. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0032): Third Floor, post 1940 addition, camera direction S.
- 33. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0033): Third Floor, west section, camera direction NW.
- 34. (OH_Medina_Medina Farmers Exchange Co._0034): Third Floor, west section, camera direction NW.

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

MEDINA FARMERS EXCHANGE CO.

Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

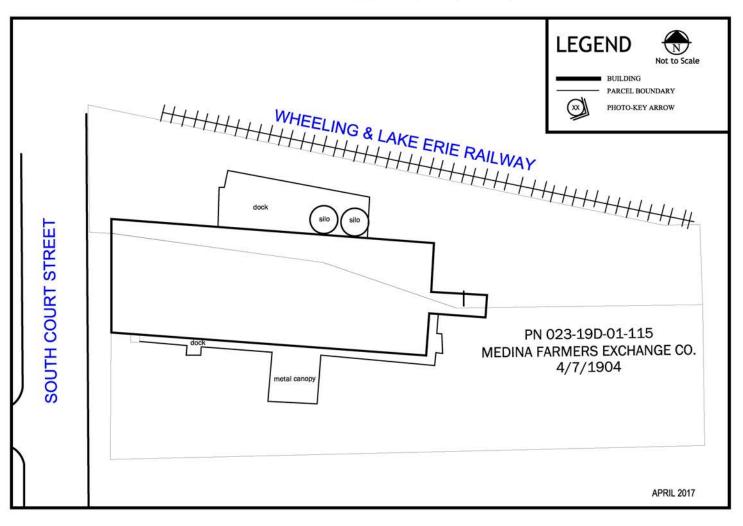
Section number Additional Documentation - Location Map Page 1







BING MAP 2017



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

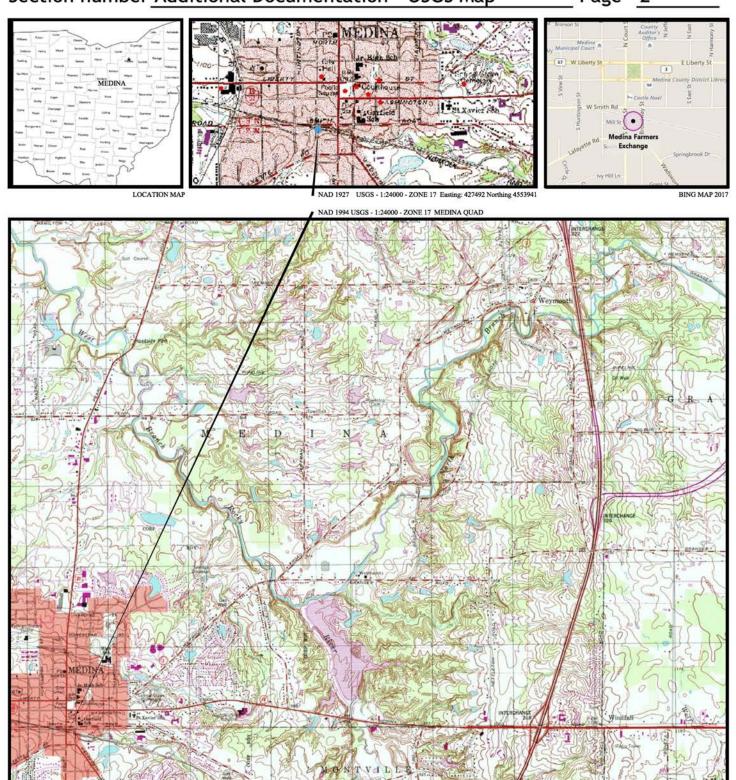
MEDINA FARMERS EXCHANGE CO.

Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation - USGS Map

Page 2



United States Department of the Interior

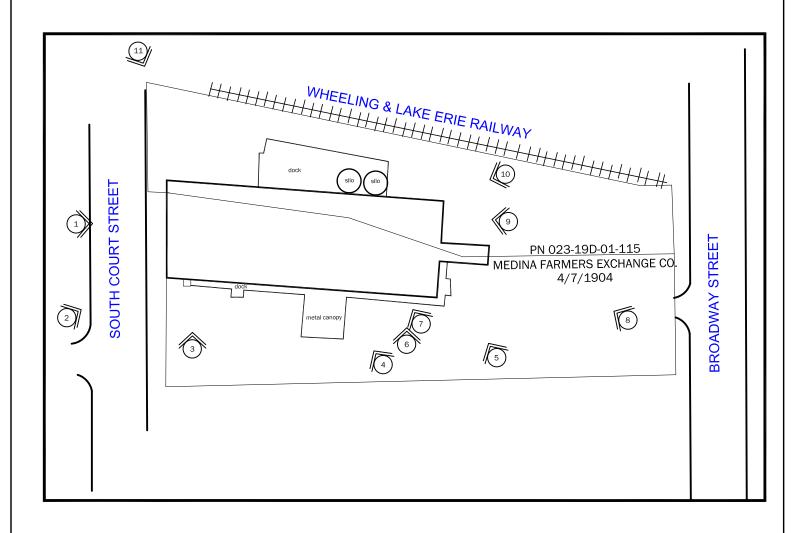
National Park Service

MEDINA FARMERS EXCHANGE CO.

Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation - PHOTO-KEY Page 3



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

MEDINA FARMERS EXCHANGE CO.

Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet



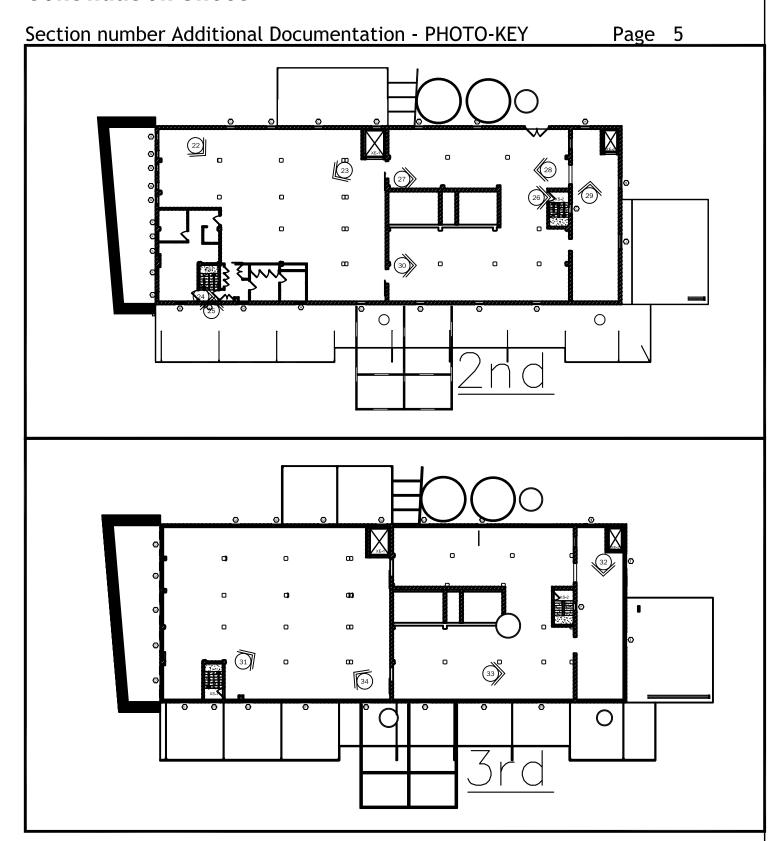
United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

MEDINA FARMERS EXCHANGE CO.

Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet



Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 1

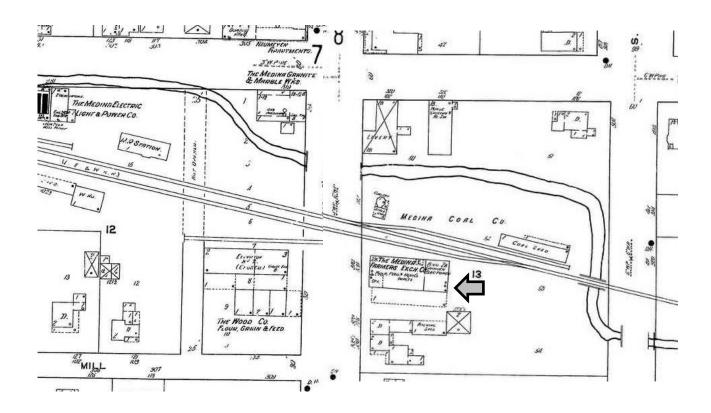


Figure 1. 1904 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building Indicated by Arrow

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 2

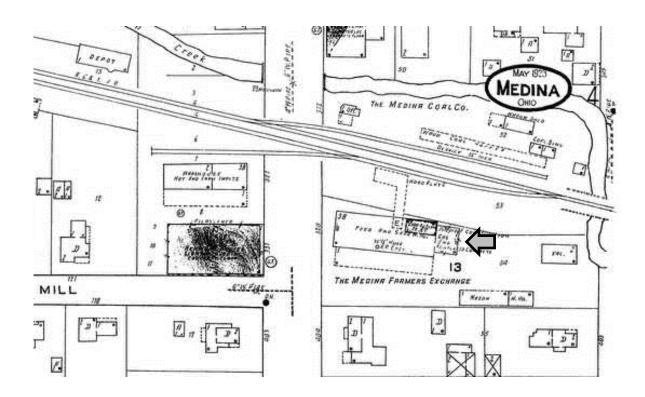


Figure 2. 1916 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building Indicated by Arrow

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 3

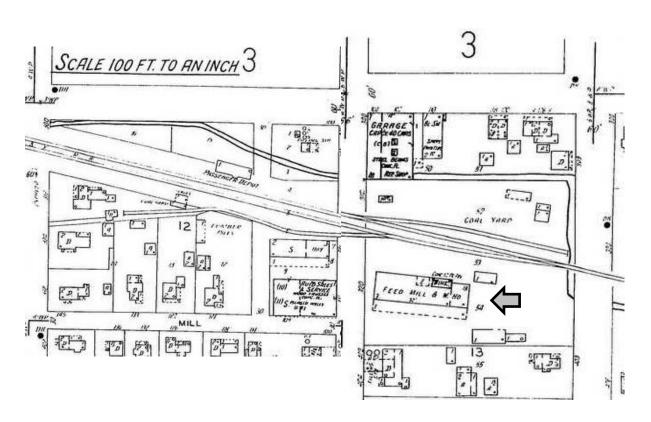


Figure 3. 1916 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building Indicated by Arrow

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 4

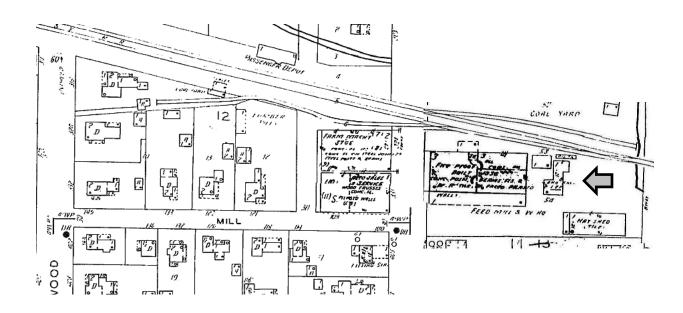


Figure 4. 1935-36 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building Indicated by Arrow

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 5

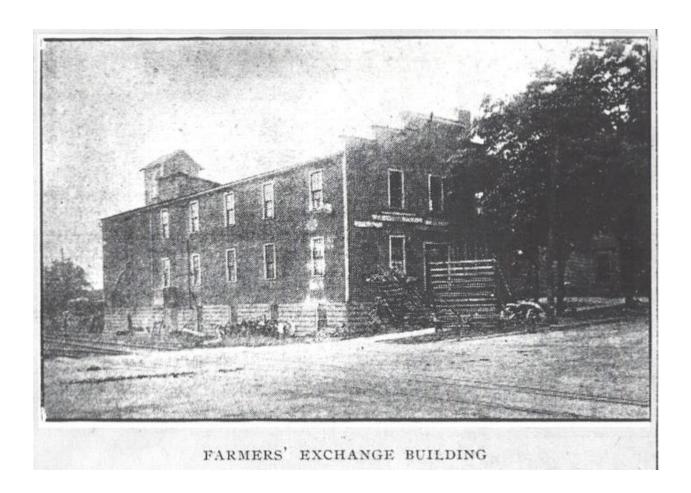


Figure 5. 1904 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building, Photo 1910 Lost to Fire in 1915.

Source: Medina Sentinel, 15 July 1910, 1.

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation—Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 6

PLANT OF THE MEDINA FARMERS EXCHANGE COMPANY WHICH BURNED THURSDAY MORNING

Figure 6. 1916 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building, Photo 1935 Lost to Fire in 1935.

Source: Medina Sentinel, 7 June 1935

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation—Historic Images & Historic Maps Page 7



Figure 7. 1935 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building, Photo ca. 1940

Source: City of Medina

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

(Expires 5-31-2012)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation—Historic Images & Historic Maps Page 8



Figure 8. 1935-36 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building, Photo 1963

Source: Medina City Directory, 1963

Page 9

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation—Historic Images & Historic Maps



Figure 9. 1935-36 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building, Advertisement 1967

Source: Plain Dealer, 12 July 1967

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 10

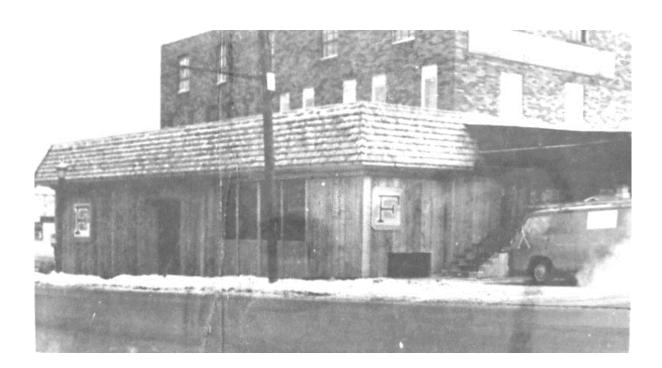


Figure 10. 1935-36 Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Building, Photo 1970

Source: Medina County Gazette 23 January 1970.

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

Medina Farmers Exchange Co. Medina County, Ohio

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation-Historic Images & Historic Maps

Page 11



Figure 11. Medina Farmers Exchange Co., 75th Anniversary Advertisement, 1979

Source: Medina County Gazette, 23 March 23, 1979.





































































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination					
Property Name:	Medina Farmers Exchange Co.					
Multiple Name:						
State & County:	OHIO, Medina					
		Date of Pending List: 1/29/2018			Date of Weekly List:	
Reference number:	er: SG100002123					
Nominator:	State					
Reason For Review						
Appeal		<u>X</u> PD	X PDIL		Text/Data Issue	
SHPO Request		Lar	Landscape		Photo	
Waiver		Nat	National		Map/Boundary	
Resubmission		Mo	Mobile Resource		Period	
Other		TC	_TCP		Less than 50 years	
		CL	3			
X Accept		ReturnRe	eject <u>2/1</u>	4/2018 Date		
Abstract/Summary Comments:						
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept, N	ational Register Criteri	a A and C.			
Reviewer Patrick	Andrus	atuck And	W/ Discipline	Historian		
Telephone (202)3	54-2218		Date	2/14/2	018	
DOCUMENTATION	: see a	ttached comments : No	see attached S	SLR : No		

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

December 5, 2017

Ohio History Connection 800 E. 17th Avenue Columbus, OH 43211-2474

To Whom it May Concern-

On behalf of Main Street Medina, please accept this letter of support to list the Medina Farmers Exchange, located at 320 South Court Street, Medina, OH on the National Register of Historic Places. This early 20th century industrial building is a key landmark in our community, and played a pivotal role in the development of Medina as a farming community. Its location adjacent to the railroad also made the Farmers Exchange a key component of building local wealth through shipping and receiving.

Historically, the Farmer's Exchange was the economic hub for rural Medina, where farmers bought and sold their tools of trade. The Exchange offered services that could change raw materials into a product by milling that could be used at home, such as milling grain into flour. The Farmer's Exchange didn't just help farmers in Medina county, it assisted farmers all over the state as well. The railroad next to the Farmer's Exchange facilitated import and export of goods that the farmers could use to sell and buy material.

This structure has played an important role in the development and building of wealth in our community, and serves as a landmark of our agrarian history. The property sits at a prominent location between our historic uptown commercial district and one of our premiere historic residential neighborhoods. By granting landmark status to the building as an outstanding, authentic, and intact early 20th century mill and granary, the Exchange would be eligible for tax and development incentives that would ensure that it continues to serve Medina, but perhaps in a different capacity.

We respectfully ask that you approve this nomination to dedicate the Medina Farmer's Exchange as a landmark building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely

Matt Wiederhold Executive Director Main Street Medina

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

The following	materials are submitted on <u>Dec. 28, 2017</u>				
For nomination	materials are submitted on <u>Dec. 28, 2017</u> on of the <u>Medina Farmers</u> to the National Register of				
Historic Places	on of the <u>Medina Farmers</u> to the National Register of s: Exchange, Medina Co, OH				
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
V	Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form				
	Paper PDF				
	Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document				
	Paper PDF				
	Multiple Property Nomination form				
	Paper PDF				
	Photographs				
	Prints TIFFs				
	CD with electronic images				
9	CD With electronic images				
1	Original USGS map(s)				
	Paper Digital				
./	Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)				
/	Paper PDF				
	Piece(s) of correspondence				
	Paper PDF				
	Other				
CON AN ACRITO					
COMMENTS:					
	Places provide a substantive review of this permination				
3	Please provide a substantive review of this nomination				
./	This property has been contified under 26 CED 67				
	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67				
	The anclosed owner objection(s) do				
-	The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not				
	Constitute a majority of property owners Other:				
	CALIFE CO.				



2018

December 28, 2017

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief, National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Mail Stop 7228 1849 C St, NW Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find seven (7) new National Register nominations for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the nomination submissions.

NEW NOMINATION
George-Caldwell-Grum Farm
Myers Daily Market
Bruce-MacBeth Engine Company
620-622 Vine Street
Chesapeake High School
Medina Farmers Exchange
Newton Falls USO Center

COUNTY
Belmont County
Clark County
Cuyahoga County
Hamilton County
Lawrence County
Medina County
Trumbull County

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nominations to the National Register of Historic Places for the following: <u>George-Caldwell-Grum Farm</u>, <u>Belmont County</u>; <u>Bruce-MacBeth Engine Company</u>, <u>Cuyahoga County</u>; <u>Medina Farmers Exchange</u>, <u>Medina County</u>; and <u>Newton Falls USO Center</u>, <u>Trumbull County</u>.

The Newton Falls USO Center nomination includes a letter from the City of Newton Falls objecting to the National Register nomination. Since this letter of objection is from a public owner and Newton Falls is not a Certified Local Government, the State Historic Preservation Office is not seeking a Determination of Eligibility for this property. The letter of objection does not prohibit the listing of the property in the National Register.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

Lox A. Logan, Jr.

Executive Director and CEO

State Historic Preservation Officer

Ohio History Connection

Enclosures