United States Department of the Interior

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OMB No. 1024-0018

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: Cuvahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Other names/site number: N/A Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing 2. Location Street & number: 2091-2250 Front Street; 111-245 Portage Trail; 138 Stow Ave.; 2035 Oldetown Loop; 2044-2220 2nd Street; 2055-2253 3rd Street State: OH County: Summit City or town: Cuvahoga Falls Not For Publication: Vicinity: n/a n/a 3.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 \underline{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 X local statewide Applicable National Register Criteria: XA D B X C **DSHPO Inventory & Registration** Signature of certifying official/Title: Date Ohio Historic Preservation Office/Ohio History Connection State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government In my opinion, the property _____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of commenting official: Date State or Federal agency/bureau Title : or Tribal Government

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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

X

____ removed from the National Register

____ other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

nany boxes as apply.)	
cal	
ate	

Public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)	
District	X
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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Number of Resources within Property

Contributing <u>40</u>	Noncontributing <u>8</u>	buildings
0	0	sites
0		structures
0	<u> 0 </u>	objects
40	10	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register <u>0</u>

6. Function or Use Historic Functions

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business; Professional; Financial Institution; Specialty Store; Department Store; Restaurant; Warehouse DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling SOCIAL: Meeting Hall GOVERNMENT: Post Office RELIGION: Religious Facility LANDSCAPE: Park, Parking Lot RELIGION: Religious Facility RECREATION AND CULTURE: Theater INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: Communications Facility

Current Functions

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business; Professional; Financial Institution; Specialty Store; Department Store; Restaurant DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling SOCIAL: Meeting Hall GOVERNMENT: Post Office RELIGION: Religious Facility LANDSCAPE: Park, Parking Lot RELIGION: Religious Facility INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: Communications Facility

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7. Description

Architectural Classification <u>MID-19th CENTURY</u> <u>LATE VICTORIAN</u> <u>LATE 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS</u> <u>LATE 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVALS</u> <u>MODERN MOVEMENT</u>

Materials:

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

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is located along the Cuyahoga River in Summit County, five miles north of the City of Akron along State Route 8, with a population of approximately 50,000 people.¹ The District is situated along the main historic commercial north-south corridor of Front Street and east-west corridor of Portage Trail, between Church Square at 3rd Street and the Cuyahoga River located to the east. It encompasses 20.44 acres with 40 contributing resources representing the period of significance dating from 1836 to 1954, and 10 noncontributing resources. In 1977, Front Street (between Broad Blvd. and Oakwood Drive) was converted to a pedestrian mall. Landscaped areas and walkways were designed to create an improved shopping district with two municipal parking decks constructed in 1977 and 1979. In 2017-2018, the failed pedestrian mall was transformed back to the historic configuration with two-way vehicular traffic re-instated. Contemporary and compatible hardscape and landscape amenities were added including curb cuts, sidewalk and pavers, street lighting, street trees and planting beds to stimulate historic downtown commercial activity. Portage Trail is a busy fourlane street intersecting with Front Street and travelling over the Cuyahoga River and Route 8, connecting the downtown commercial district with the mixed commercial and residential neighborhood to the east. Portage Trial is lined with concrete sidewalks abutting commercial buildings on both sides of the street with on-street parallel parking and street lighting.

The Historic District is composed primarily of masonry commercial buildings of one to threestories in height with a sprinkling of religious, civic, private and institutional buildings. Late Gothic Revival and Neoclassical church buildings are situated on Church Square, platted as Public Square and located at Portage Trail between 2nd and 3rd Streets. The religious institutions

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates, Cuyahoga Falls, July 1, 2016.

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are set back from the street in a park setting with intertwining paths. The north end of the district is bordered by Stow Avenue and east end bordered by Riverfront Parkway travelling along the west bank of the Cuyahoga River. Two historic wood frame residential dwellings are situated at the west boundary of the district along 3rd Street marking the transition to historically residential areas to the west. Both houses represent owners employed at Front Street businesses within walking distance of their homes. The south boundary abuts buildings and structures built outside the period of significance including a large festival area along the river on Front Street.

The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District has retained its commercial character representing the American downtown tradition. Connecticut Western Reserve pioneers were attracted to the water power of the Cuyahoga River and founded the town of Cuyahoga Falls along its banks. They platted the Public Square uphill and to the west of the river; the area in between developed as a centralized commercial district, where the majority of business was conducted and the center of community activity. The surge in the automobile and rubber industry during the Progressive years and corresponding increase in population fueled growth of the downtown commercial district. The result was expansion to the west along Portage Trail from Front Street with new commercial construction and conversion of two existing houses to commercial use. In addition, Front Street was re-developed with masonry buildings replacing wood framed buildings. Residential neighborhoods extended to the north, south and west. (Historic Images, Figures 2,4a,4b,5) The district boundary is determined by representative architecture which retains historic integrity.

Narrative Description

Building types demonstrated in the historic downtown are predominantly brick one-part and two-part commercial with Romanesque Revival, Mediterranean, Neoclassical, and Colonial Revival styles from the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century. The two-part commercial building was most often commercial storefront use on the first floor and office or residential use on the second floor, allowing the owner to live close to his/her place of business.² Mid-century commercial buildings designed in the International style are concentrated on Front Street. Two noncontributing municipal parking structures are located at 2nd, Stow Avenue and Front Street, and 2nd Street at Oldetown Loop with paved parking lots intermingled throughout the District. The 10 noncontributing buildings and structures in the district were built outside the period of significance or lack historic integrity. Noncontributing resources lacking historic integrity were determined to be noncontributing by exhibiting a loss of character defining features, scale and massing making the historic elements, type and style non-identifiable.

² Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street*. Preservation Press, 1987.

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The following describes resources located in the district. All properties below contribute to the significance of the district unless otherwise noted as non-contributing.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Cuyahoga Falls–2249-2253 3rd Street (Photo 1) The 1929-30 Late Gothic Revival style masonry church is composed of blond brick with limestone accents. The 1931 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows an L-shaped plan, which has been altered with 1962 and 1980 educational wing additions spanning to the rear east. Stone stairs with center rail lead from the sidewalk at 3rd Street to the two-story façade at the west elevation. The entry is comprised of paired double doors with transom at the first floor and lancet arch with tracery windows at the second story gable end, both with limestone surround. The five-bay north elevation is comprised of Tudor arch windows with tracery and stainedglass, and three-story bell tower with entry at the corner of the L-plan. The south elevation mimics the north elevation with a two-story section in lieu of the bell tower. To the east of the Sanctuary are the later 1980 front gable addition and 1962 New Formalism style addition. The 1962 addition faces 2nd Street at the rear elevation with a double door and contemporary flower pattern stained glass window.

First United Methodist Church of Cuyahoga Falls – 245 Portage Trail (Photo 2)

The 1922 Neoclassical church sanctuary located at the corner of Portage Trail and 3rd Street is defined by the portico composed of four large Doric Columns supporting an entablature carved with "METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH" and a large pediment with oculus. The 1/1 double hung windows have stone carved surrounds which include back bend trim. The Tudor arch windows along 3rd Street have panel tracery with protective glazing and stained-glass. To the east of the 1922 Sanctuary is the bell tower and then the 1953 Educational Building designed by architect, Charles Bolton. In 1965, a Colonial Revival Sanctuary with dominant cupola feature was designed by architect Stewart Roberts.

St. John's Episcopal Chruch – 2220 2nd Street (Photo 3) (Historic Images, Figure 12)

The Late Gothic Revival style masonry church was constructed in 1908-09. The one-story projecting bay with lancet arch entry leading into the narthex was added in 1958. The brick is a slightly different color and blend. The entry is comprised of a metal and glass door assembly with stone surround and crenulated parapet with pin mounted St. John's Episcopal metal letters. The original façade is visible at the second floor and is composed of a large lancet arch Late 14th century style tracery stained-glass window with paired louvered lancet openings. The crenulated parapet has a stone cross at the gable end. West and east elevations are delineated by brick and stone buttresses dividing lancet arch Late 14th century style tracery stained-glass windows. A two-story bell tower on the west elevation was renovated in 1980. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate the 2nd Street entrance as the original church entry.

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John Brainard House - 2119 3rd Street (Photo 5)

The modest one and one-half-story 1853 Greek Revival style house is constructed on a sandstone foundation, relocated from the lot to the north between 1882 and 1915. The three-bay north elevation façade is asymmetrical with a centered single door with entablature supported by pilasters, and two 2/2 double hung sash in the north bay. A one-story partial front porch was removed after 1958. The three-bay west elevation facing 3rd Street is composed of 2/2 double hung sash with cornice return at the roof line. An Italianate style bay window with wide eaves and double brackets is located at the third bay. An attached garage is on the south elevation. The house is the only example of Greek Revival style architecture identified within the Historic District.

All Paper Inc. Warehouse – 230 Portage Trial 2055 3rd Street (Photo 4)

The 1948 commercial warehouse is composed of red brick and reinforced concrete construction. The nine-bay façade consists of book-end projecting bays that serve as entrances with replacement doors within in-filled spaces. Three multi-pane glazed dock doors are recessed from the end bays along with raised entrances with concrete steps and divided by a pair of multi-paned casement windows. A concrete ramp is at the central dock bay. Fabric awnings are at the end and central bays. The second-floor fenestration consists of 1/1 double hung windows at the central and end bays. The remaining bays have paired 1/1 double hung windows. The parapet is capped with stone coping. The remaining elevations are parged with a stucco-like material. A few windows are located on the second floor of the west elevation at the rear. The rear fenestration is composed of square multi-paned windows on the first floor and 1/1 double hung on the second floor. The building is set back to the rear of the Henry Plum and Bert H. Smith Houses 220-234 Portage Trail (#9) with asphalt parking lots adjacent on all elevations. The building is accessed from Portage Trail by a paved driveway and parking area to the west side of 220-234 Portage Trail leading to the building. A curb cut and paved driveway from 3rd Street provides secondary access.

William H. Stillwell House – 2055 3rd Street (Photo 6)

The ca. 1914 two and one-half story Homestead type wood frame house is constructed on a sandstone foundation. Steps lead from the sidewalk to a full width hipped roof front porch with apron supported by tapered square wood columns resting on brick piers. The porch rail is unique with a hand rail supported by square pickets resting on a solid paneled board. The porch covers an off-center single door at the first bay and trio of 1/1 double hung sash at the second bay. The front steps appear to be later replacements. Two single 1/1 double hung replacement sash are located at the second floor, and trio of 6 pane sash at the gable end. The house has been aluminum sided in a clapboard style. The gable roof has exposed rafter tails. A variety of

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sash types are interspersed on the north and south elevations. A one-story enclosed partial porch with single door is on the rear east elevation.

Wayne Agency Co. Building – 2044 2nd Street (Photo 7)

The one-part commercial brick building (#7) was constructed in 1950. The two-bay façade rests on a concrete base and consists of picture window with concrete sill and a projecting back lit blade sign advertising "Wayne Agency" at the southeast corner. The north bay is defined by a recessed single door entry with a decorative concrete surround accented by a clock at the entablature. The south elevation is comprised of seven bays, with a picture window at the eastern most bay that has a metal awning. A change in brick color is noted at the eastern bays of the north elevation and south elevation. The remaining fenestration is a combination of metal sash, four smaller fixed sash with two larger sash with operating center sash. Similar metal windows of the smaller size are in the six bays on the north elevation. The rear west elevation is comprised of a center door with in-filled transom and wood canopy above, flanked by metal windows divided horizontally in a louvre style. The building is set back from the city sidewalk with a concrete pad at the front entry, and landscaped area of low standing bushes and perennial plantings. A grass strip with bushes and paved driveway runs along the north side of the building separating it from the United States Post Office – Cuyahoga Falls, 2054 2nd Street (#8). The building is situated along the south boundary of the Historic District with asphalt parking areas located to the south and rear west on the lot. A hipped roof wood frame and CMU detached 1940 garage (#7a) is located at the rear southwest corner of the lot.

United States Post Office – Cuyahoga Falls - 2054 2nd Street (Photo 7)

The 1939 one-story Colonial Revival style post office building was designed by Public Works Architect Louis A. Simon. The building is rectangular in shape with a three-bay projecting pedimented center resting on stone base. Double staircases with metal rail lead from the sidewalk to double doors. Fluted Doric columns in antis supporting an entablature with sculpted eagle at the transom. "United States Post Office" is inscribed in metal letters at the cornice. Double hung 9/9 sash with stone sills and lintels covered by storm windows flank the entry. Two recessed bays are symmetrically located with double hung 9/9 sash with stone sills and lintels covered by storm windows flanking the projecting center bays. Decorative metal railings rest on the curb of the basement light wells. The standing seam metal roof is accented by a louvered cupola with metal roof and weathervane. The simple cornice wraps to the north and south elevations with three bays of the 9/9 sash and storms. A louvered lunette vent is centered on at the gable. The rear west elevation is comprised of a one-story flat roof wing with a raised covered concrete dock and ramp. A stairwell, leading to the basement, runs along the south elevation of the rear wing and at the northeast corner of the north elevation. Basement light

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wells are located on the north elevation with pipe railing. The rear wing fenestration is a combination of the 9/9 sash and storm, glass block infill and partially louvred in-fill.

Henry Plum and Bert H. Smith Houses – 220-234 Portage Trail (Photo 9)

The ca. 1836 two-story painted brick Henry Plum House (#9) was adapted for office use in 1970. The five-bay façade includes a one-story enclosed porch with a single door facing west and a large multi-paned picture windows with stone sills. A painted wood cornice separates the first and second floors. Italianate style elements are exhibited at the second floor with five single segmental arched windows with stone sills and brick lintels, and bracketed wide eaves below a hipped roof. An unpainted brick addition to the rear evokes elements of the New Formalism style with a smooth wall surface accented by elongated two-story framed openings creating spaced arches.

An one-story brick hyphen was added in circa 1977 connecting the Henry Plum House at 226 Portage Trail (to the west) and 1977 New Formalism style addition at 234 Portage Trail (to the south), to the 1915 American Foursquare type Smith House at 220 Portage Trail (to the east).

The 1915 Bert H. Smith House (#9a) has been moderately altered from its original appearance. The main single door is within an enclosed partial front porch at the west façade. Single 3/1 picture windows flanked by 3/1 double hung sash with stone sills and brick lintels are located at the first and second floor. Wood shingled gable roof dormers with a triad of 1/1 double hung windows are located at the hipped roof. The east elevation is defined by a projecting wood shingled bay with single 3/1 picture window flanked by 3/1 double hung sash at the first and second floor in alignment with the gable roof dormer. The projecting bay is flanked by two single 3/1 windows at each floor to the north and paired 1/1 windows at each floor to the south, both with stone sills and brick lintels. A wood shingled wing is set back along the east elevation with double hung sash at the first and second floor, with a rear entry from the parking lot. A sidewalk leads to the main entry from a paved driveway along the west side of the building accessing a parking area to the rear (south) on the lot.

American Telephone and Telegraph Company Office and Exchange Building – 208 Portage Trail (Photo 8)

The 1922 Commercial Style three-story building is composed of red brick with Neo-Classical stone elements. The seven-bay façade fenestration pattern remains, with stone accents exhibited including keystones, stringcourses and inset cut stone. The central recessed entrance is articulated with a stone surround. A herringbone brick pattern with intermittent stone accent tiles and a stone stringcourse divide the second and third floors. A second decorative stone band is at the crenulated stone parapet. A bas-relief stone plaque with floral pattern is located in

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the center of the parapet. The stone stringcourse wraps the west elevation with arch topped fenestration. Window openings have been in-filled with brick with the occasional louver and panel assembly. Remaining windows are replacement. On the east elevation the façade details wrap and repeat. Two additions occur at the rear. The first occurred in 1953 and is delineated at the chimney. Another addition occurred after 1958. The fenestration is simpler in design with openings a combination of in-filled and glazed. The stone stringcourse, simpler in design, continues along the east elevation at the third floor and the parapet. The building abuts the city sidewalk and is located at the southwest corner of Portage Trail and 2nd Street.

138 Stow Avenue Building – 138 Stow Avenue - Noncontributing

The 1963 one-story brick office building was constructed outside the period of significance and is noncontributing to the District. Contemporary concrete steps and ADA ramp with black aluminum spindle rail constructed in July 2014 lead to the glazed storefront entry.³ Full glazing composes the remainder of the façade to the west. Vertical fixed pane windows are symmetrically placed along the west and rear south elevations. A brick in-filled drive-thru window is situated along east elevation. All windows appear to be replacement. The building does not exhibit a defined type or style. It is located on the southeast corner of Stow Ave and 2nd Street along the north boundary of the Historic District, with a parking lot to the south and east.

Westfield Bank – 140 Portage Trail (Photo 12) - Noncontributing

The Westfield Bank is comprised of ca. 1946 bank portion and adjoining 1920 portion situated at the southeast corner of Portage Trail and 2nd Street. Character defining details are obscured by aluminum siding applied after 1967.⁴ Windows appear to be replacement. The building is noncontributing to the District due to alterations outside the period of significance.

Municipal Parking Garage – 2035 Oldetown Loop - Noncontributing

The 1977 municipal parking garage is noncontributing to the District due to construction outside the period of significance. The one-story concrete and brick structure provides for covered parking on the first floor and open parking on the roof deck. The garage fronts 2nd Street with entry from 2nd Street and Oldetown Loop. It is situated to the rear of commercial buildings along Front Street, with Oldetown Loop surrounding the structure to the north and east with Holloway Court to the south along the south boundary of the Historic District.

Hachtel Building– 149 Portage Trail (Photo 10) (Historic Images, Figures 13, 18)

The 1915 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor has a central 6/6 double hung window where a door may have been. A trio of 6/6 double hung

³ Google Maps, 138 Stow Avenue.

⁴ Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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windows flank the central bay. Second floor windows are paired 1/1 double hung windows with brick surrounds and stone sills. The raised parapet is the most distinguishing feature with the name "HACHTEL" and the year "1915" integrated into the brick work. The parapet projects out from the façade and rests on stepped banding. The west elevation consists of 1/1 double hung windows with brick surrounds on the second floor and the main entry to the building at the southwest corner. Windows appear to be replacements. The rear has a central entrance and an overhang supported by chamfered posts resting on concrete plinths. Windows are bricked in except for a single 1/1 double hung on the second floor. The building is located at the northeast corner of Portage Trail and 2nd Street, and adjacent to the Bauman Block, 139-143 Portage trail (#15) to the east. A paved drive is to the north leading to the rear (north) parking lot.

Bauman Block – 139-143 Portage Trail (Photo 10) (Historic Images, Figures 13,16,18)

The two-part Commercial red brick Bauman Block is comprised of the 1916 Cuyahoga Falls Reporter portion and 1926 general office portion. Both portions were constructed under ownership of Edward Bauman, editor of the Cuyahoga Falls Reporter newspaper. The 1926 west side of the block, which housed several doctors' offices, exhibits a traditional wood storefront with transom and double door recessed entries. The 1916 east side, which housed the Cuyahoga Falls Reporter printing office, exhibits a recessed storefront with picture window and paneled columns supporting the second floor. Central 1/1 double hung windows have a wood infill panel at the second floors of each building. Windows have stone sills and brick lintels and appear to be replacements. The stone parapet is pedimented with a stone framed brick panel with diamond stone accents. Diamond stone accents are also between the first and second floors. The I.O.O.F. Building, 133 Portage Trail (#16) is adjacent to the east. To the west is the Hachtel Building, 149 Portage Trail (#14). A public parking area is to the north of the building.

I.O.O.F. Building-133 Portage Trail (Photo 10) (Historic Images, Figures 13,16,18)

The 1916 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor has aluminum glass double doors flanked by sidelights. The flanking storefront areas have three 1/1 double hung replacement windows set within an insulated paneling system. The upper floor window openings are in-filled with shutters. It is unknown if windows remain. The stone parapet is the most distinguishing feature with the name "IOOF" and the year "1916" integrated into the stone work. The windows have stone sills and brick surrounds. The building is adjacent to the Bauman Block, 139-143 Portage Trail (#15) to the west. The Snook Building, 129 Portage Trail (#17) is adjacent to the east. A public parking area is to the north of the building.

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Snook Building – 129 Portage Trail (Photos 10,11) (Historic Images, Figures 16,18)

The 1918 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor has an aluminum glass storefront system resting on a brick base with a single door. The corbeled raised parapet is the most distinguishing feature with the name "SNOOK" and the year "1918" integrated into the brick work. The three, second story 1/1 replacement windows have continuous stone sills and lintels. The building is adjacent to the I.O.O.F. Building, 133 Portage Trail (#16) to the west. The Porter Building, 127 Portage Trail (#18) is adjacent to the east. The building has a one-story rear portion. The rear of the building has a small area of landscaping before abutting the sidewalk path leading to Front Street.

Porter Building – 127 Portage Trail (Photo 11) (Historic Images, Figures 16,18)

The 1918 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor has an aluminum glass storefront system resting on a brick base with a single recessed door. The corbeled raised parapet is the most distinguishing feature with a panel of a turned brick pattern. The name "PORTER" and the year "1918" are integrated into the brick work. The three second story 1/1 replacement windows have stone sills and brick lintels. The building is adjacent to the Snook Building, 129 Portage Trail (#31) to the west. The Fox Building, 123 Portage Trail (#29) is adjacent to the east. The building has a one-story rear portion. The rear of the building abuts the sidewalk path leading to Front Street.

Fox Building- 123 Portage Trail (Photo 11) (Historic Images, Figures 14,18)

The 1915 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor is recessed with wood frame storefronts consisting of two large single paned windows with a single entry. A second entry is located along the east wall within the recessed area of the storefront. The most distinguishing feature is the bay window on the second floor, which is covered by a modern frame shed roof. The raised parapet has the name "FOX" and the year "1915" integrated into the brick work. The building is adjacent to the Porter Building, 127 Portage Trail (#18) to the west. The Smith Building, 119 Portage Trail (#20) is adjacent to the east. A built-up landscape of railroad ties and shrubbery conceal the basement level at the rear with first floor entry. The second floor has a covered porch with double hung windows and an entry. A paved parking lot is at the rear (north).

Smith Building – 119 Portage Trail (Photo 11) (Historic Images, Figures 14,18)

The 1915 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor is recessed with wood frame storefronts consisting of two large single paned windows with a single entry. The corbeled raised parapet is the most distinguishing feature with stone accents and a herringbone spandrel panel. The name "SMITH" and the year "1915" are integrated into

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the brick work. The three, second story 1/1 replacement windows have stone sills and brick lintels. The building is adjacent to the Fox Building, 123 Portage Trail (#19) to the west. The Hedden Building, 111 Portage Trail (#21) is adjacent to the east. The rear has a paneled door at the basement level which is covered with the first-floor porch. The first floor has a rear entry. The second floor has a covered porch with double hung windows and an entry. A paved parking lot is at the rear (north).

Hedden Building– 111 Portage Trail (Photo 11) (Historic Images, Figures 14,18)

The 1915 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor is recessed with wood frame storefronts consisting of four paneled doors and paired 6/6 double hung windows. The corbeled raised parapet is the most distinguishing feature with stone and tile accents. The name "HEDDEN" and the year "1915" are integrated into the brickwork. The windows have stone sills and brick lintels. The Smith Building, 119 Portage Trial (#20) is adjacent to the west. The rear has an aluminum double door at the basement level which is covered with a lean-to structure with a corrugated metal roof. The first-floor rear windows are either completely boarded in or partially with a smaller window within the opening. The second-floor windows are composed of a trio flanking single 1/1 double hung windows. An exposed metal stair is located along the east elevation. A paved driveway is to the east that leads to the rear (north) parking lot.

Senich Building- 120 Portage Trail (Photo 12)

The 1929 two-part commercial building is composed of red brick blended with tan and black brick. Glazed tile accents and a bracketed mansard-style roof with central pediment are exhibited on the facade. The first floor has a modified storefront with T1-11 siding and single pane glazing with recessed entry. The second-floor windows are paired 1/1 double hung windows with brick sills and lintels. The building is adjacent to the Wild Building, 116 Portage Trail (#23) to the east. The name "SENICH" and the year "1929" are carved into a stone element at the roof. The west elevation has only a single door at the south west corner on the first floor and five 1/1 double hung windows on the second. The rear of the building is defined by an entry to the first floor with a covered fabric awning. The second floor has 1/1 double hung windows. An alley separates the building from the noncontributing Westfield Bank Building, 140 Portage Trail (#12) to the west.

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Wild Building – 116 Portage Trail (Photo 12)

The 1928 two-part commercial building is composed of painted brick. The first floor has a modified storefront with T1-11 siding and single pane glazing and recessed entry. The second-floor windows are paired 1/1 double hung windows with stone sills and brick lintels. The building is adjacent to the Senich Building, 120 Portage Trail (#22) to the west. The parapet is

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the most distinguishing feature with the name "WILD" and the year "1928" integrated into the brick work. The east elevation is covered in rough stucco-like material. The rear of the building is defined by an entry to the first floor with a covered fabric awning. The second floor has 1/1 double hung windows. A landscaped city park is adjacent to the east.

Falls Laundry Building–2164 Front Street (Photo 20)

The 1910 two-part commercial masonry building is comprised of blond brick. The one-bay façade consists of a single storefront with aluminum and glass assembly resting on a painted stone and concrete knee wall, with recessed off-center single door. A sign board is located above within a brick rounded frame with rectangular stone accents. A second-floor picture window with sash horns and leaded Luxfer glass in the fixed upper sash is flanked by smaller windows of the same style set within a recessed brick arch frame with decorative keystone. The windows rest on stone sills supported by stone brackets. The keystone ties into a dentilled band at the parapet. The brick facade exterior has square stone accents at the outer vertical edges of the first floor and second floor above the arched window. The building is adjacent to the 2146-2162 Front Street Block (#25) to the south. The north elevation wall is parged with a cementitious material. A large painted sign advertising *Metropolis Popcorn* consumes 1/3 of the upper portion of the wall. The stepped parapet is finished with camel back terra cotta coping. The rear three-bay elevation has a single door with transom and two in-filled window openings at the first floor; 1/1 sash and an in-filled door opening with transom are on the second floor. To the north is a grass lawn with bus shelter connected to a landscaped city park separating the building from Portage Trail.

2146-2162 Front Street Block (Photo 20) (Historic Images, Figure 20)

The 1922 two-part commercial block is red brick construction comprised of the Wayne Agency Co. 2146-2152 Front Street to the south and the Roth Provision Co., 2156-2162 Front Street to the north. Historic images show the four storefronts have recently been reinstated after removal of a mansard roof concealing the north upper portion of the building. The first floor is composed of aluminum and glass assembly storefronts with recessed single door entry. Two recessed single door entries provide second floor access to the south and north portions of the building. Second-floor picture windows with multi-pane upper sash flanked by 9/1 windows compose the two bays to the south, with tripartite replacement windows at the two bays to the north. Windows have stone sills with brick lintels with square stone accents at upper corners. A stone capped raised parapet is flat at the first and fourth bays, and pedimented in shape at the second and third bays. Crenulations with rectangular stone accents shape the parapet. The block is adjacent to the Falls Savings & Loan Association Bank, 2140 Front Street (#26) to the south and the Falls Laundry Building, 2164 Front Street (#24) to the north. The west elevation fronts Oldetown Loop with parking at the rear entry.

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Falls Savings & Loan Association Building – 2140 Front Street (Photo 20) (Historic Images, Figure 20)

The two-part commercial Falls Savings & Loan Association Bank building designed in the International style was constructed in 1949, incorporating an earlier 1919 bank building located on the north portion of the lot. In 1949, the organization doubled its space by purchasing a lot to the south, constructing an addition and remodeling the façade in the International style.⁵ At the same time, the bank added its unique "Time and Temperature" clock and message board,⁶ which appears in Historic Image, Figure 20 but no longer remains. The present three-bay 1949 façade is comprised of limestone and granite. The south bay consists of a projecting three-story geometric cube of eight picture windows and recessed entry with limestone surround. The middle bay is divided into two double strands of ribbon picture windows supported by a granite knee wall and divided by a limestone spandrel with limestone capping the windows to the roof line. The north bay is comprised of granite with a recessed entry at the first floor. The building is adjacent to the Acme Supermarket Building No. 8, 2128 Front Street (#27) to the south and the 2146-2162 Front Street Block (#25) to the north. The west elevation fronts Oldetown Loop with parking at the rear entry.

Acme Supermarket No. 8 Building– 2128 Front Street (Photo 21) (Historic Images, Figure 22)

The 1939 one-part commercial building is comprised of painted brick. The two-bay facade consists of a first-floor recessed entry at the south bay which is marked by an overhead arched metal grille and hinged gate. The north bay is composed of a ribbon of aluminum and glass windows resting on a brick knee-wall. A fabric awning runs the width of the building below a stepped parapet. Historic images show the storefront has been altered from a central recessed entry with flanking storefronts. The building is adjacent to the Falls Savings & Loan Association Bank Building, 2140 Front Street (#26) to the north and the F.W. Woolworth Co. Building, 2114 Front Street (#28) to the south. The rear (west) elevation fronts Oldetown Loop with parking at the rear entry.

F.W. Woolworth Co. Building – 2114 Front Street (Photo 21,22) (Historic Images, Figure 22)

The 1954 International style influenced three-story four-bay building is composed of brick. A two-bay recessed double door glass and aluminum storefront assembly is flanked by cornered glass display windows. A red monogram "W" and "Woolworth's" is inlaid in terrazzo at the

⁵ *175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987*. Cuyahoga Falls: 175 Anniversary Commerative Book Committee, 1987, 64; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1948, 1958.

⁶ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 64.

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main entry. The second and third floors are comprised of blond brick, each defined by ribbons of four 12/12 replacement sash framed by stone bands with inlaid red brick. Historic images show the front gable roof was a later addition. The north and south elevations are painted CMU at the second and third floors. The building is one of the tallest in the Historic District.

2104 Front Street Building – 2104 Front Street (Photo 22) - Noncontributing

The 1947 building is noncontributing to the District due to alterations that occurred outside the period of significance obscuring character defining features. The façade is clad in aluminum siding above an exposed foundation with cementitious coating. A central recessed replacement paired door entry is flanked by shuttered replacement picture windows. Brown asphalt shingles extend through the second floor with exposed cementitious coating parapet with metal cap. The south elevation is exposed at the second floor and exhibits painted manufactured cast stone block with evidence of repair with brick patches and caulking in cracks. The north elevation is adjacent to the F.W. Woolworth Co. Building – 2114 Front Street (#28).

Kippy Sandwich Shop – 2100 Front Street (Photo 22)

The 1939 one-part commercial brick building was originally designed in the Art Deco style. The three-bay façade was altered in 1948 with Colonial Revival style elements including a window-shaped copper roof over a trio of 6/6 double hung sash at the first bay, central paneled door with broken pediment and engaged fluted pilasters, and two 8/8 double hung sash at the end bay. A sign board is located above the fenestration. The parapet has stone coping. The building is adjacent to the noncontributing 2104 Front Street building (#29) to the north. The south elevation is painted masonry with painted CMU at the parapet. The rear of the building has a 1948 addition finished with vinyl siding. The building is located at the south boundary of the Historic District. A brick walkway and concrete stair adjacent to the south lead to Oldetown Loop to the west and separate the building from a City of Cuyahoga Falls parking garage and office building to the south outside of the Historic District.

Comstock Building - 2091 Front Street (Photo 23) (Historic Images, Figures 8,9)

The 1874 two-part commercial building is the oldest commercial building in the Historic District. It was originally designed in the Romanesque Revival style. The first-floor arcade was composed of quoined stone piers at the ends with cast-iron decorative columns, which have been replaced with brick arches. The multi-paned windows and recessed entrance was removed in the1970s to create an open arcade. The second-floor arched fenestration with stone sills and a stone band remains intact except for replacement aluminum double hung window sash. The corbelled parapet is also original. The building is adjacent to the Jones Building, 2097 Front Street (#32) to the north and a narrow alley to the south separates the building from a 2003 mixed-use building, which is outside of the nomination boundary. The south and east

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elevations is covered in a cementitious coating. Windows on the rear (east elevation) have been in-filled with a combination of CMU, wood paneling, and brick. Two top floor windows have replacement sash that do not fit the opening along with a door that is accessed by a fire escape. A single man door is also located at the ground level. The building is located at the southeast boundary of the Historic District. To the south is a 2003 mixed use building owned by the City of Cuyahoga Falls as part of the Falls River Square Festival and Special Event Site located outside the Historic District.

Jones Building - 2097 Front Street (Photo 23)

The 1901 Romanesque Revival style two-part commercial brick building has had minor storefront alterations. Fluted Tuscan columns support the second floor, which appear to have been added at a later date.⁷ The storefront is a replacement assembly of paired double doors with transom above. A recessed entry provides access to the first-floor retail. A single aluminum half-light door with transom accesses the upper floor. The second floor maintains the stone banding above the sign board. Two paired double hung 9/9 sash make up the second-floor fenestration. A corbelled arch defines the second floor along with a corbeled parapet with stone coping. The word "Jones" is carved in bas-relief into a stone plaque and centrally placed with the arch. The building is adjacent to the Comstock Building, 2091 Front St. (#31) to the south and the Alhambra Arcade, 2101 Front St. (#33) to the north. The two-story rear elevation is painted brick with two single door entries at the first floor from the parking lot and a large picture window at the south bay. A fire-escape with ladder are located at the north bay.

Alhambra Arcade – 2101 Front Street (Photo 23) (Historic Images, Figure 19a, 19b)

The Alhambra Arcade was constructed in 1903 as a two-part commercial brick building. The three-bay façade was originally defined by a central open arcade, flanked by storefronts, leading to a movie theater at the rear. Historic photos show the building was altered circa 1945 incorporating a Romanesque Revival style building adjacent to the north. It was refaced with smooth limestone block, steel sash windows and vitrolite sign board which no longer remains at the second floor, evoking the International style. "ALHAMBRA" is engraved in limestone below the parapet. The interior was redesigned as an arcade of retail spaces and the movie theater was removed. The building was altered in the 1970s with a contemporary integral patterned wall which was removed in 2017 leaving metal framing, restoring the ca.1945 appearance at the upper floor. The noncontributing 2115 Front Street Building (#34) is adjacent to the north. The Jones Building, 2097 Front Street (#32) is adjacent to the south.

⁷ Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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2115 Front Street Building – 2115 Front Street (Photo 23) (Historic Images, Figure 19a, 19b) - Noncontributing

The ca. 1917 commercial building is noncontributing to the District due to alterations that occurred outside the period of significance. Historic images show the building with first floor storefront and upper floor covered with a smooth material in the 1940s with four symmetrical window openings, and in 1968 with batten board. The existing building façade does not retain character defining features of the 1940 and 1968 building. It had been refaced with yellow and red brick with altered fenestration and arched openings extending into the second floor at the first and second bays with recessed windows and entry. Alterations likely occurred in the 1970s. The building is flanked by the Roethig Building, 2121 Front Street (#35) to the north, and the Alhambra Arcade, 2101 Front Street (#33) to the south.

Roethig Building - 2121 Front Street – (Photo 24)

The ca. 1889 Romanesque Revival style two-part commercial building was altered in the 1970's with two contemporary storefronts of red brick with concrete transom at the first floor. A center recessed entry with concrete lintel and corbelled arch accesses the second floor. The second floor three-bay façade is defined by a trio of paired arcades and replacement paired 1/1 double hung sash with rusticated stone lintel and stone course sill. The parapet is corbelled brick with raised sign block and a central stone panel with the word "Roethig" carved in stone bas relief. The Roethig Building is adjacent to the noncontributing Cuyahoga Falls Savings Bank to the north at 2131 Front Street (#36) and the noncontributing 2115 Front Street Building (#34) to the south.

Cuyahoga Falls Savings Bank – 2131 Front Street (Photo 24) (Historic Images, Figure 23) Noncontributing

The 1915 Cuyahoga Falls Savings Bank Building was constructed in the Neoclassical style with a two-story portico defined by monumental Tuscan limestone columns in antis with entablature. Historic images show the columns were removed, portico was infilled with stone and glass ca. 1947. The façade was altered again in the 1970s when the portico area was infilled with red brick with corbelling details significantly altering character defining features. The first floor has a recessed central aluminum and glass door, marked by a suspended iron and metal sculpture. A bank deposit box is located to the south of the entry. A trio of 1/1 sash are centered on the second floor. The stone work surrounding the infill may be from the original façade. An artistic sculptured canopy hangs above the main entry. Remnants of brick from a demolished building remain at the north façade. The north elevation is a blank wall with stucco-like material. The rear of the building is composed of stucco wall finish with lower level entry and upper floors comprised of a combination of 1/1 sash. The building is adjacent to the Roethig Building to the south at 2121 Front Street (#35). A parking area is located to the north

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and east. A concrete stair with wood rail provides access from the lower parking area to the mall on the north side of the building.

2205 Front Street Building – 2205 Front Street (Photo 19)– Noncontributing

The 1953 one-part commercial building is noncontributing to the District due to alterations that occurred after 1987, ⁸ outside the period of significance. Character defining features have been obscured at the façade composed of stone like material with central double arches resting on brick piers with recessed paired entry doors flanked by quads of fixed pane windows above a knee-wall. The first bay is comprised of a single door recessed entry with entablature. A raised stepped signboard rests at the brick parapet. The building is flanked by the Tifft Building, 2215 Front Street (#38) to the east and Portage Trail to the south.

Tifft Building – 2215 Front St. (Photos 18,19) (Historic Images, Figure 17)

The 1908 two-part commercial masonry building exhibits elements of the Mediterranean style. The first-floor façade is comprised of two stucco storefronts which were altered after 1949. Central side-by-side entrances are treated with a blind arch trimmed in wood above. Display windows, which are trimmed in wood, are flanked to the north by a recessed double door entrance accessed by concrete steps; and to the south by a picture window. A dentilated stone course defines the three-bay second floor level composed of blond brick. The central bay has paired 1/1 double hung windows resting on stone sills with canted brick infill blind arch and secondary segmented arch above. Wood bay windows with central pediment at the roof supported by brackets flank the central bay. The parapet is highly decorative with brick corbelling and a raised center piece. The north elevation is a solid stucco wall with no fenestration facing a vacant lot with grass lawn and stone stairs leading to Riverfront Parkway. Adjacent to the south is the noncontributing 2205 Front Street Building (#37). The rear of the building is painted brick with fenestration composed of a combination of infilled openings and replacement 8/12 double hung sash. The first floor has doors at slightly different floor heights. A fire-escape accesses the first and second floors. The basement elevation is concealed by shrubbery.

Kroger Grocery & Baking Co. Building – 2225 Front St. (Photo 18) -Noncontributing

The ca. 1917 commercial brick building is noncontributing to the District due to alterations that occurred outside the period of significance. The building was likely altered in the 1970s at the façade with a two-story brick facing with one bay at the first floor comprised of a brick framed segmental arch recessed entry. Ten (10) horizontal metal light fixtures are mounted along the south edge of the façade. The exposed south elevation has a failing cementitious coating, leaving areas of exposed red brick. Character defining features of the ca. 1917 building have

⁸ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 43.

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been significantly altered. Adjacent to the north is Levinson's Store at 2231 - 2235 Front Street (#40). The rear of the building has been covered in vinyl siding. A metal fire-escape allows access from the basement level to both the first and second floors.

Levinson's Store Building – 2231-2235 Front Street (Photo 17,18)

The ca. 1930 two-part commercial building is constructed of blond brick. The storefront is comprised of aluminum and glass system with double doors resting on a terrazzo base. The storefront is wrapped in brick. The second floor is defined by a spandrel of brick laid in a basket weave pattern and protruding stone stringcourse. Five deep set multi-pane casement windows with stone sills are evenly spaced at the second floor, one of which is 1/1 double hung replacement sash. A "Levinson's Uniforms Mens Wear" neon blade sign vertically spans the second floor to the parapet. Three stone cartouches are located at the raised stone capped parapet. A one-story north wing with altered storefront was constructed between 1931 and 1948, with north elevation composed of painted terra cotta fire block facing stairs covered with a fabric awning leading to Riverfront Parkway to the rear of the property. Adjacent to the south is the noncontributing Kroger Grocery & Baking Co. Building, 2225 Front Street (#39).

2237-2239 Front Street Building – 2237-2239 Front Street (Photo 16, 17)

The 1930 two-part commercial building is composed of a blend of red, tan, and black brick with glazed tile accents and mansard-style rolled terra cotta tile roof with central pediment, suggesting the Mediterranean style. The aluminum and glass storefront assembly with off center recessed entry and wood sign board is located within a brick frame with glazed tile accents. Another recessed entry with second floor access is located at the northern bay. Three windows at the second floor are replacement sliding sash with brick sills and lintels. The south elevation is composed of a simulated divided lite display window on the first floor, with replacement sliding sash windows with brick sills and lintels on the second floor. The rear of the building is three-stories in height with two overhead paneled aluminum garage doors at the lower level. The first and second floor windows are replacement. A metal fire-escape access is located at the second floor. Adjacent to the north is the Kanecky Building, 2241 Front Street (#42). To the south are stairs covered with a fabric awning leading to Riverfront Parkway to the rear of the property.

Kanecky Building – 2241 Front Street (Photo 16) (Historic Images, Figure 11)

The ca. 1900 two-part commercial building is red brick construction. The storefront is comprised of display window with wood bulkhead and off-center recessed entry with multipaned transom framed in brick. The second floor has three 1/1 double hung windows with stone sills and brick lintels replacing an earlier trio of double hung windows. The raised corbelled parapet has a cast stone cornice with metal cap. The north elevation continues the

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same brick as the façade with no fenestration at the first-floor level. The second-floor level has 1/1 double hung windows; one at the front bay and two towards the rear. The rear of the building is covered in vinyl siding with two sliding glass doors at the lower level, rectangular bay window at the first-floor level with a deck at the second-floor level. To the north of the building is a fenced concrete walkway leading to the rear of 2251 Front Street overlooking Riverfront Parkway. Adjacent to the south is the 2237-2239 Front Street Building (#41). The building is located at the northeast boundary of the Historic District.

Fox-Buick Sales Co. Building –2250 Front Street (Photo 15)

The 1916 two-part commercial red brick building is designed in the Commercial style. The three-bay façade consists of storefronts, flanking a center brick framed arch with recessed double door aluminum assembly. Storefronts are aluminum and glass assembly with a ribbon of brick framed display windows with transoms and stone sills. Alternating triple and paired 1/1 double hung sash comprise the second floor below a corbelled parapet. A storefront of similar design is on the north elevation at the east corner. The remaining elevation has brick in-filled openings on the first floor with a garage door in-filled at the last bay with a recessed man door. The second floor has four 1/1 double hung sash spaced along the elevation. The building is adjacent to the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #918, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 2244 Front Street (#44) to the south. The rear elevation is five-bays of replacement windows at the first-floor level. The building is located on the northwest corner of Front Street and Stow Avenue along the north boundary of the Historic District.

Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge #918 -Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie – 2244 Front Street (Photo 15) (Historic Images, Figure 21)

The 1951 two-part commercial brick, steel, and concrete building is designed in the International Style. The five-bay façade is comprised of three center bays framed by a stone band. A thin vertical light band or sliver window is set into the southern bay. The northern most bay has a recessed single door with stone surround which is capped with a domed fabric awning. The remaining aluminum replacement windows on the first floor are fixed and divided with 4 panes at the top 1/3 and rectangular at the bottom 2/3, varying in panes to fit the opening. The second-floor aluminum windows are divided horizontally into four panes, in a louver style. All windows have stone sills. The roof is gabled altered from a flat roof, date unknown. The rear west elevation is composed of in-filled large window openings resting on painted brick knee walls. A small gap separates the south elevation from the noncontributing 1979 Municipal Parking Garage, 2310 2nd Street (#45) to the south. Adjacent to the north is the Fox-Buick Sales Co. building, 2250 Front Street (#43). A surface parking lot is located at the rear west elevation with entry from 2nd Street and Stow Avenue.

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Municipal Parking Garage – 2310-18 2nd Street (Photo 15) - Noncontributing

The 1979 municipal parking garage is noncontributing to the District due to construction outside the period of significance. The Brutalist style one-to two-story concrete structure provides for covered parking on the first and second floors with open parking on the roof deck. The garage fronts Front Street with vehicular entry from 2nd Street and Stow Avenue. Circular concrete stairs supported by piers lead into the garage from Front Street. The structure is adjacent to the Falls Theater, 2218 Front Street (#46) to the south. To the north is the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge #918 - Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 2244 Front Street (#44).

Falls Theater– 2218 Front Street (Photo 14) (Historic Images, Figures 15,17)

The 1924 Mediterranean style red brick mixed-use theater, retail, and apartment building was designed by Cleveland architect Sigmund Braverman. The five-bay façade is faced with Artstone, pre-cast concrete material imitating natural stone at the first floor. A central recessed aluminum door replacement system with vitrolite walls was installed in 1936. Remnants of a suspended canopy supported by chains is affixed to the second floor. Flanking the central entry are obscured off-center single doors with transom storefronts. The second floor is composed of red brick with terra cotta roof tiles supported by wood brackets. Three central recessed bays of paired 6/1 windows flanking a single 6/1 window rest on stone sills. End bays are defined by 3/1 sash with blind segmental arch transom and stone cap and flanking raised stone capped piers with vertical raised stone pattern. The building is adjacent to the 2210-2214 Front Street Building (#47) to the south. To the north is the noncontributing Municipal Parking Garage, 2035 2310-18 Second Street (#45).

2210-2214 Front Street Building - 2210-2214 Front Street (Photo 13) - Noncontributing

The 1980 mixed-use retail and apartment building is noncontributing to the District due to construction outside the period of significance. The three-story white brick building is composed of four bays with two central storefronts. Upper floors apartments are comprised of two central balconies flanked by tripartite windows at end bays. The 2202 Front Street Building (#48) is adjacent to the south. To the north is an alley and stairs leading to a municipal parking lot fronting 2nd Street, and separating the building from the Falls Theater, 2218 Front Street (#46) to the north.

2202 Front Street Building-2202 Front Street (Photo 13)

The one-part commercial building comprised of orange brick was built in ca. 1945 as a block of four storefronts with chamfered corner facing the intersection of Portage Trail and Front Street. The single bay south elevation at Portage Trail consists of solid brick wall to the west and single door storefront with transom at the chamfered corner with a stepped parapet. The three-bay east elevation consists of aluminum and glass storefronts resting on a brick base. Side-by-side

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recessed single doors with transom mark entries at the southern two storefront bays, with the northern most storefront comprised of a recessed single door with transom flanked by display windows. The building is adjacent to the 2210-2214 Front Street Building (#47) to the north. The rear, west elevation, is composed of painted common brick and structural terra cotta capped with camel back terra cotta coping. A concrete driveway to the west separates the building from the Hedden Building at 111 Portage Trail (#21).

Integrity

The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District maintains historic architectural integrity. This is exhibited by the range of buildings types including commercial, religious, post office, and domestic which represent social, economic and commercial growth and development of the community from 1836 to 1954. Period stylistic influences include Late Gothic Revival and Neoclassical represented by the church buildings situated on Church Square. Building types demonstrate predominantly two-part brick commercial buildings with Romanesque Revival, Mediterranean, Neoclassical, Colonial Revival, and International styles from the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century. Historic architectural integrity is further demonstrated through the retention of historic architectural elements, fabric, materials, and craftsmanship; with first floor commercial storefronts demonstrating common alterations over time. A 1970s pedestrian mall was removed in 2017-18 and Front Street reinstated as a vehicular two-lane street, returning the historic appearance. The streetscape includes on-street parallel parking, concrete sidewalks abutting buildings and street lighting. Historic buildings on Front Street and Portage Trail maintain their historic setting, feeling, and design associated with the historic character as noted in historic images of the buildings in their historic setting and within the District.

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

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- 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.) Community Planning and Development Architecture

Period of Significance

1836-1954

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Architects:

Bolton, Charles Braverman, Sigmund Roberts, Stewart Simon, Louis

Builders: Archie B. Symes Construction Mosteller, Zenas

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District is significant at the local level under Criteria A and C in the areas of Community Planning & Development and Architecture, as representative of the main street tradition demonstrating a centralized commercial district along the Cuyahoga River, where the majority of business was conducted and the center of community activity. Connecticut Western Reserve pioneers were attracted to the water power of the Cuyahoga River and founded the town of Cuyahoga Falls along its banks. They platted the Public Square on Portage Trail uphill and to the west of the river; the area along the main street of Front Street and extending along Portage Trail developed as the commercial center for trading, selling, and purchasing of goods. The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District exhibits a distinctive collection of historic resources whose components may lack individual distinction but together demonstrate development of the community with historic architectural styles and types spanning the nineteenth to mid-twentieth century.

The **period of significance begins in 1836** with the incorporation of the village of Cuyahoga Falls and **ends in 1954** when downtown growth along Front Street and Portage Trail halted. The decentralization of the historic downtown during the post-World War II economic boom, due in part to the popularity of the automobile, relocated retail to the outskirts. The State Road Shopping Center, built from 1954-55, was one of the first shopping centers in the area. Portage Trail was widened to accommodate the increased traffic flow. Construction in the downtown Historic District remained stagnant with construction of one building in 1963 on Stow Ave., which no longer retains architectural integrity. The next significant stage of construction included two municipal parking decks, constructed in 1977 and 1979, which are outside of the National Register 50-year rule. Contributing historic resources retaining historic and architectural integrity constructed within the period of significance represent the growth and prosperity of the Cuyahoga Falls historic downtown commercial center.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Town building preoccupied a large portion of the westward moving populace in the settlement of America. Many Americans shared the dream that their own communities would one day emerge as great urban centers with the size and extent of the community's commercial buildings serving as an index to its achievements and potential. The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District is representative of Connecticut Western Reserve pioneers who sought out settlement along the banks of powerful rivers allowing operation of their manufacturing facilities and mills. From its inception, the main street in towns and cities has been a creation of downtown centralization serving as a magnet for commerce and fortified by such forces of concentration as the railroad and streetcar. Businesses were intentionally clustered in more or less central districts, which in Cuyahoga Falls emanated from the mills along the river. This core was not

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only instrumental in giving the town an identity, but it provided a focus for its activities. By the turn of the twentieth century in America, downtown and Main Street had become a densely packed intermingling of buildings, buggies, trolleys, and people - the civic and commercial heart of the American city. Increases in population, industrialization, and the corresponding demand for more commercial facilities prompted lateral expansion along not only the spine of main street, but along connecting side streets and arteries creating downtown commercial districts.⁹

This pattern of economic growth, commercial and community development within Cuyahoga Falls during the period of significance is demonstrated by the Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District. The city plan is predominantly a grid pattern emanating from the historic commercial downtown with the north-south corridor of Front Street running parallel and to the west of the Cuyahoga River and the intersecting east-west corridor of Portage Trail. The historic Public Square on Portage Trail between 2nd and 3rd Streets is now known as Church Square with three churches clustered in the park-like setting. The topography of the area rises gently in elevation from either side of the river, which is a deep Cuyahoga River gorge and scenic waterfalls falling approximately 200 ft. over a distance of two and one-half miles across stratified rock.¹⁰ Buildings within the proposed district represent downtown historic development from Public Square to Front Street and along Portage Trail beginning in the early nineteenth century which expanded west along Portage Trail.

Formation of Cuyahoga Falls Settlement 1800-1845

Cuyahoga Falls was founded in 1812 as the town of Manchester, part of four townships (Stow, Northampton, Tallmadge, and Portage) located in the Connecticut Western Reserve.¹¹ Native American populations including the Seneca, Delaware, Mingo, and Ottawa nations had occupied the Cuyahoga River Valley. They traveled using the approximately eight-mile length of the Portage Path to transport their canoes overland between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas Rivers. Native Americans travelled by water from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, except for this small section.¹² The rushing water and falls of the Cuyahoga River later attracted early nineteenth century settlers from New England to the Connecticut Western Reserve, who saw the potential of river power for manufacturing. The city garnered its name

⁹ Longstreth, 12-15.

¹⁰ Howe, Henry. *Howe's Historical Collections of Ohio*. Norwalk, Ohio: The Lansing Printing Company, Public Printers, 1896, 645-46.; Cuyahoga Falls, U.S. Elevation Map. Available at <u>http://www.floodmap.net/Elevation/ElevationMap/?gi=5151613.</u>

¹¹ Seguin, Marilyn and Scott. Images of America Cuyahoga Falls Ohio. Chicago: Arcadia, 2000.

¹² Portage Path. Ohio History Central. Available at http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Portage_Path

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from the Cuyahoga River and the series of waterfalls which flow through the city and into Lake Erie.

Early forefathers of Cuyahoga Falls included William Wetmore (1771-1827) of Middletown Connecticut, who was appointed land agent by Joshua Stow. Stow was commissary manager and part of the Moses Cleaveland survey team to the mouth of the Cuyahoga River at Lake Erie. He founded Stow by purchasing the entire five-mile square of Stow Township as an investment. William Wetmore moved to Cuyahoga Falls in 1804 becoming one of the original proprietors. Wetmore and Stow owned 210 acres, the southern border of which was Portage Path, renamed Portage Trail, and began developing Cuyahoga Falls in 1825. Wetmore's sons William Jr. and Henry supervised thirty men who constructed a dam, gristmill, sawmill, paper, and linseed mills. Other pioneers included: the first Mayor Henry Newberry; Elisha Noyes Sill who was married to Henry Newberry's daughter Elizabeth and involved with his father-in-law in various manufacturing and development enterprises, also organizing the National Bank of Cuyahoga Falls¹³; and Judge Richardson who laid out the first town plat in 1826. Mills continued to be built along the river including the Turner, Vaughn & Taylor Company at Front and Broad Streets.¹⁴ Henry Newberry advertised water power for sale in Cuyahoga Falls stating in 1830:

The subscriber offers for sale the very important Water Power of the Cuyahoga at Cuyahoga Falls

The location of this water power is, probably, not excelled by any on the waters of Lake Erie. It is at the point where the waters of the Cuyahoga leave the higher level of the surrounding country, and descend into the valley of the Cuyahoga with a rapid fall of about 220 feet...To those of you who know the scarcity of good water power in this part of the state, it will be unnecessary to say anything of the importance of this...The Cuyahoga, as measured by engineers of the state yields from 1000 to 5000 feet of water per minute in the driest season of the year and for nine months twice or three times that quantity and during six months will probably yield five times the stated quantity...There is in the immediate vicinity every resource for building such as stone, lime and timber, and also an inexhaustible quantity of mineral coal of the best quality." Henry Newberry, Cuyahoga Falls, 1830¹⁵ (Historic Images, Figure 6)

¹³ Obituary Record of Graduates of Yale College, deceased from June 1870 to June 1880. Presented at the Annual Meeting of Alumni. New Haven: Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor, 1880.

¹⁴ Vogenitz, Carolyn. Cuyahoga Falls Then & Now. Akron: Waterside Publishing, 2002, 32.

¹⁵ Heintz, Calvin W. "*The Coppacaw Story*" *A History of Cuyahoga Falls*. Cuyahoga Falls Sesquicentennial 1812-1962, 20.

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In 1834, Joshua Stow donated a parcel of land in the center of town at Portage Trail between 2nd and 3rd Streets as the Public Square. The town was officially incorporated in 1836 with a population of 375 people. The east side of Front Street became established as the commercial district to the north and south of Portage Trail along the west bank of the Cuyahoga River. Streets emanated from Front Street and Portage Trail following the topography in a grid pattern. Residential houses were built close to places of business. Indicative of the potential of the area, national industrialist and Cuyahoga Falls resident Ezra Comstock stated in 1836 that "I don't think much of Chicago; the falls is a much better business place and it always will be."¹⁶ At the time, the village had two small paper mills, a flour mill, two sawmills, a pump-making establishment, a tilt-hammer, axe and scythe factory, a woolen mill, a chair factory, a lumber-finishing mill, a furnace and foundry plant, and an engineering and machine shop.¹⁷

The Ohio & Erie Canal was constructed crossing through Northampton Township between Cleveland and the center of Akron, a few miles to the west of Cuyahoga Falls. In 1837, Dr. Eliakim Crosby of Akron proposed to create a water transportation route known as Chuckery Race between Cuyahoga Falls and North Akron. His project was not financially successful; however, remnants of Chuckery Race remain (NR# 72001047).

Summit County was formed in 1840 by combining 16 separate townships (ten from Portage, two from Stark, and four from Medina) with a population of 22,560, according to the U.S. Census. Cuyahoga Falls campaigned to become the Summit county seat but lost out by election to Akron in 1842.¹⁸ Cuyahoga Falls flourished with a commercial center developing along Front Street with industrial mills along the banks of the river to the rear, despite missing out on the Ohio Erie Canal and as the county seat. Many of the resources within the nominated district have replaced earlier buildings constructed during this time period along Front Street.

Joshua Stow encouraged the building of churches in the local Public Square of Cuyahoga Falls by offering the Episcopalian and Methodist congregations \$250 each and a prime location for the construction of their church buildings.¹⁹ The first religious meeting was held at the home of William Wetmore in 1818 and continued among neighbors with visiting circuit riders. In 1830, the group organized as St. John's Episcopal Church, constructing their first church building on Public Square in 1835-36. Public Square was rededicated as Church Park or Church Square. The First Methodist Church followed with a building on the square to the west in 1840. St. John's Episcopal and the First Methodist Churches can be seen in an early rendering by Henry Howe in 1846. (Historic Images, Figure 7) The First Christian Church of Cuyahoga Falls

¹⁶ Heintz, 22.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Vogenitz, 31.

¹⁹ Vogenitz, 180.

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would be the third church to build on the square to the north in 1885.²⁰ These first church buildings were demolished and replaced with the current larger buildings to accommodate growing congregations.

The earliest extant building within the Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District constructed during the Settlement years (1800-1845) is the **ca. 1836 C. Henry Plum House, 220-234 Portage Trail (#9)**. Henry Plum purchased the property in 1844. He was born in 1814 in Middleton, Connecticut to parents of English descent. He married Nancy North Plum in 1835 and moved to Ohio in 1836-37 settling in Monroe Falls where he established a shoe business. He came to Cuyahoga Falls where he acquired his house on Portage Trail across from Church Square. He conducted his shoe business on Front Street for almost 40 years. He died in 1903 at the age of 90 years as a highly-regarded citizen of the community and a founder of the Republican Party in Ohio.²¹ The house is representative of the Connecticut Western Reserve origins of Cuyahoga Falls with owners emigrating from Connecticut. It demonstrates early residential houses on Portage Trail located between 2nd and 3rd Street in the downtown area close to the commercial and industrial districts along Front Street and C. Henry Plum's place of employment.

Pre-Civil War (1845-1860) and Civil War (1861-1865)

An 1856 Map of Cuyahoga Falls shows an established town with mills along the Cuyahoga River with commercial buildings to the west of the river on the east side of Front Street between Broad Blvd. and Stow Ave. (Historic Images, Figure 1) The 1856 business directory lists 20 merchants and professionals on Front Street including: dry goods; hardware; druggist; variety store; boots, shoes, and leather; watch maker and jeweler; tailor; stoves and tin ware; saddles, harnesses, and trunks; livery stables; meat market; book binder; two (2) physicians; attorney; dentist; photographer; insurance company; and banker.

Between the Pre-Civil War and Civil War years of 1840 to 1865, one (1) contributing building remains within the Historic District. The **1853 John Brainard House**, **2119 3rd Street House** (#4) was home to John H. Brainard. He was born in New York in 1811, married Caroline Holt in 1845 and worked as a local book maker, likely for the book binding shop on Front Street located a short walk from his home.²²

²⁰ Vogenitz, 164, 167, 180; Heintz, 15.

 ²¹ A Portrait and Biographical Record of Portage and Summit Counties, Ohio. Logansport, Indiana: A. W. Bowen & Co, 1898; Ohio Find a Grave Index 1787-2012. Available at Ancestry.com; U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Myers, Sharon Moreland. The First 105 Buildings in Cuyahoga Falls (Still Standing) And A Brief History, In Honor of the City's Bicentennial 2012. Cuyahoga Falls, 2012.

²² U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Ohio Find a Grave Index 1787-2012; Cuyahoga Falls, 1856

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Post-Civil War (1865-1875) and Industrialization (1875-1900)

The Post-Civil War and Industrialization years saw continued commercial and industrial growth. The east side of Front Street to the north of Portage Trail and south to Broad Blvd. was characterized by a dense configuration of commercial buildings with mills to the rear along the length of the river; and residential dwellings on the west side of the street. Portage Trail showed commercial development at the intersection of Front Street with the Clifford Inn (American House, Perry House) on the northwest corner, Loomis Hardware on the northeast corner, and the *Cuyahoga Falls Repeater* and *Western Reserve Farmer* offices on the southwest corner. O.B. Beebe & Co. Dry Goods occupied the southeast corner. St. John's Episcopal Church and First United Methodist Church fronted Portage Trail at Church Square. The remainder of Portage Trail remained largely residential in character. (Historic Images, Figure 2)

The 1889 N.H. Burch & Co.'s Directory of Cuyahoga Falls described Cuyahoga Falls as,

... the most picturesquely located spot in Summit County, possessing more natural advantages for the manufacturer, and more points of interest for the tourist and pleasure seeker than any other point in the State is located on the C. A. & C. and P. & W. R.Rs., 4 ¹/₂ miles from Akron and 8 from Hudson. It is quite an important station upon both roads, and is easily accessible from all points through connections made with other roads.

The 1889 Directory noted that Cuyahoga Falls had a number of "pleasure resorts" frequented by tourists. The most popular picnic areas were the High Bridge Glens and Caves, Gaylord's Grove, Big Falls and Old Maid's Kitchen cavern, Silver Lake, and Stow Pond. Small steamers with buses and carriages brought excursionists to and from the different resorts.

The Cuyahoga River continued to attract and retain a strong manufacturing base with companies including: Sewer Pipe & Hollow Brick & Tile Works of Camp & Thompson; Rivet Works of the Falls Rivet & Machine Co.; the American Foundry & Machine Co.; the Pearl Flouring Mills of Howe & Co.; the Falls Hollow Staybolt Co.; the Cuyahoga Paper Co.; the Tannery of C. Kittelberger; the stoneware factory of Thomas Bros.; the Variety Iron Works of Turner, Vaughn & Taylor; the carriage factories of Wm. Blong and John Clayton; and W.F. Holloway, manufacturer of the Holloway Reading Stand and Dictionary Holder.

Business Directory.

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Capital invested in manufacturing establishments was \$150,000 with value of annual product at \$175,000 in 1888. The *Cuyahoga Falls Reporter* and *Western Reserve Farmer* were published by E.O. Knox as "one of the best and liveliest weeklies in the state" and the only newspaper. Cuyahoga Falls was connected by telephone with Akron, Hudson, Kent, Cleveland, and other points; with offices of Western Union Telegraph Co., Adams' Express Co., and American Express Co. located in the town. Fraternal organizations and societies numbered twelve.²³ In 1890, the town population was 2,624 people.²⁴ An 1891 Map of Cuyahoga Falls shows a well-developed town with three bridges crossing the Cuyahoga River at Portage Trail, Broad Blvd., and to the south at Prospect Street connecting the east and west sides of town. (Historic Images, Figure 3)

Thomas Walsh (1858-1937) was born in Cuyahoga Falls and credited with building the Akron & Cuyahoga Falls Rapid Transit Company, beginning in 1895.²⁵ The Akron, Bedford and Cleveland railroad, known as the Alphabet Railroad, was at the time of its completion in 1895 the longest electrified rail line in the world running from Akron through the towns of Stow, Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson, Brandywine, Macedonia, Northfield, Bedford, Warrensville Heights, Shaker Heights and to Cleveland. In 1899, the ABC railroad merged with several other railroads to become the Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company to which operated the passenger line until 1932.²⁶ It traveled through the Historic District along Portage Trail and south on Front Street connecting to the broader rail system and allowing passenger transport to towns between Akron and Cleveland. ²⁷

During the Post-Civil War (1865-1875) and Industrialization (1875-1900) years, two (2) contributing buildings were constructed within the Historic District. Earlier wood frame buildings began to be replaced with brick buildings. The **1874 Comstock Building, 2091 Front Street (#31)** and **ca. 1889 Roethig Building, 2121 Front Street (#35)** are both two-part commercial masonry buildings designed in the Romanesque Revival style located on Front Street, south of Portage Trail. The 1874 **Comstock Building, 2091 Front Street (#31)** is the oldest commercial building in the Historic District replacing an earlier Comstock building lost to fire.²⁸ The Samuel Comstock general store sold dry goods including: hats, caps, fancy goods,

²³ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory, 1889. Available at *Ancestry.com*.

²⁴ Howe, 646.

²⁵ Akron Transit History. Available at www.chicagorailfan.com/akrhist.html.

²⁶ Akron to Cleveland, *The Alphabet Railroad*. Available at ttp://www.abandonedrails.com/Alphabet Railroad; Toman, James A. and Hays, Blaine S. *Horse Trails to Regional Rails. The Story of Public Transit in Greater Cleveland*. Kent: The Kent State University Press, 1996.

²⁷ Toman, James A. and Hays, Blaine S.,151.

²⁸ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 20.

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groceries, crockery, and hardware.²⁹ Samuel Comstock was born in New York in 1805 and came to Cuyahoga Falls with his brother Ezra in ca. 1836. Ezra Starr Comstock was a prominent citizen and a Front Street banker.³⁰ By 1889, Towler & Inskeep operated as dry goods merchants in the Comstock Building with the Knights of Pythias fraternal organization Pavonia Lodge No. 301, occupying the second floor.³¹ The ca. 1889 **Roethig Building, 2121 Front Street (#35)** is where the Roethig brothers, William and Edward, ran a provisions store with brother Alfred as salesman advertising in the 1891 City Directory as a "Meat market, dealers in choice meats, fish etc." on Front Street. Raymond "Casey" Jones later bought the building and re-established Jones Confectionary after his father closed the business in the Jones Building at 2097 Front Street. Jones Confectionary supplied the ice cream for Silver Lake Amusement Park. The building remained under the ownership of the Jones family until 1980. ³²

Progressive Years – World War I (1900-1918)

Cuyahoga Falls at the turn of the twentieth century and entry into the Progressive years shows industrial development along the Cuyahoga River gorge to the east of the Historic District and downtown commercial development along Front Street. During World War I, the automobile and corresponding rubber industry was an economic boom to Cuyahoga Falls. The Summit County area was profoundly affected as rubber shops and mold plants necessary for the manufacture of tires sprang up in the area. Cuyahoga Falls residents went to work for the B.F. Goodrich Company, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, and Firestone Tire & Rubber Company in Akron, considered the "giants" of the industry. In Cuyahoga Falls, the Falls Rubber Company, Marathon Rubber Company, and Eclat Rubber Company, as well as mold plants, gas stations, auto accessory manufacturers, and stores were established. Between 1910 and 1920 with the surge in the automobile and rubber industry, the population grew 153% from 4,020 people to 10,200 people elevating Cuyahoga Falls to city status. Commercial growth was demonstrated by redevelopment on Front Street, replacing wood framed buildings; and, expansion to the west along the north side of Portage Trail from Front Street to accommodate growing demand. (Historic Images, Figures 4a,4b,10) Two-part commercial buildings were built on the north side of Portage Trail with storefronts on the first floor and either professional office, commercial or residential units on the second floor. The buildings are characteristically adjacent to the sidewalk with smaller frontage and larger depth creating a rectangular building

²⁹ Combination Atlas Map of Summit County, Ohio. Philadelphia: Tackabury, Mead & Moffett, 1874.

³⁰ U.S. Federal Population Census Records.

³¹ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory, 1889.

³² U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories.

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form. Building materials are brick and building height is consistently two-stories reflecting an overall simplicity and practicality of construction of the early twentieth century.³³

Between 1900 and 1918, twenty-one (21) buildings were constructed within the Historic District. Buildings include eighteen (18) contributing buildings; and three (3) non-contributing buildings including the **1915 Cuyahoga Falls Savings Bank Building (#36), ca. 1917 2115 Front Street Building (#34),** and **ca. 1917 Kroger Grocery & Baking Co. Building (#39)**. Businesses within these two-part commercial buildings were comprised of basic needs goods and services to serve the rapidly expanding population and entry of the automobile as an accessible mode of transportation. A bank and new church were constructed, and two houses on Portage Trail were converted to commercial use. Businesses included grocery, meat market, bakery, pharmacy, barber, cigar, clothing, dry goods, confectionary, restaurant, laundry, jewelry, shoes, realty firm, printer, newspaper publisher, and auto sales & service. Upper floors included residential, professional and commercial offices, and fraternal meeting hall. Entertainment was offered with an arcade movie theater and bowling alley. The redevelopment of Front Street and expansion along Portage Trail are further described as follows:

Two-Part Commercial, Front Street

At the turn of the twentieth century, commercial growth was demonstrated by construction of sturdy two-part commercial type masonry buildings along Front Street. The earliest representative building during the Progressive era within the district is the brick **ca. 1900 Kanecky Building, 2241 Front Street (#42)** at the north end of Front Street housing the grocery business of John Kanecky in the first floor storefront, with a practical second floor residence.³⁴ At the south end of the district on Front Street, the brick **1901 Frank A. Jones Building, 2097 Front Street (#32)** is where Frank A. Jones operated a confectionary business with his son Raymond, known as "F.A. Jones & Son".³⁵ A few years later and next door to the north, the brick **1903 Alhambra Arcade, 2101 Front Street (#33)** was constructed housing the Alhambra movie theater along with a haberdasher and confectioner in the north and south storefronts. The building was altered by owner Frederick Rudolf Hale in ca. 1945 when it was redesigned as an arcade of retail spaces and the movie theater was removed.³⁶ In 1908, the

³³ U.S. Population Census 1910, 1920.

³⁴ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1918, 1922, 1924.

³⁵ Later in 1946, Kippy's Restaurant moved into the building. Kippy's was a popular local restaurant founded in Akron, becoming a regional chain and remained in the building for 38 years until 1984. Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory,1918; Kippy's Restaurant, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society. Available at <u>http://cuyahogafallshistory.com/2013/03/kippys-restaurant/</u>.

³⁶ The building remained a center of activity when in 1950-1960, the Hale Arcade and Hale Lanes Bowling operated in the building. Other businesses included Modern Way Driving School, Falls Credit Bureau, Maria's Fine Foods, Roger's Jewelry, Falls Restaurant, Falls Music Center, Wiener Shoe Store, Falls Pharmacy, with various professional and medical offices on the second floor

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brick George C. Tifft Co. Building, 2215 Front Street (#38), was constructed at the north end of Front Street in the district. George and his son Charles operated the George C. Tifft Co., with a saloon and pool hall with residential apartments on the second floor. In 1918, businesses occupying the building included Frank S. Bales cigars, Henry B. Hill who continued the saloon business, and Ralph W. Murphy lunch room.³⁷ The brick 1910 Falls Laundry Building, 2164 Front Street (#24) to the south of Portage Trail was home to a Chinese hand laundry in 1916.³⁸ The 1922 City Directory lists Falls Laundry as the storefront tenant and Dr. Nathaniel G. Oatis, dentist with a practice, likely on the second floor. Serving the needs of automobile owners was the brick 1916 Fox-Buick Sales Co. Building, 2250 Front Street (#43) constructed under the ownership of Frank E. Fox and located at the intersection of Front Street and Stow Avenue.³⁹ Fox was proprietor of the Fox-Buick Sales Co. providing "Automobiles and Supplies, Repairing and Livery." In 1920, Fox advertised "Buick and Dodge Brothers Passenger Cars; GMC Motor Trucks." In 1922, a print shop was operating on the second floor providing additional income.⁴⁰

Two-Part Commercial, Portage Trail

As property became available,⁴¹ commercial development expanded along the north side of Portage Trail extending west from Front Street to 2nd Avenue with construction of eight (8) twopart brick commercial buildings between 1915 and 1918 rounding out the city block. The brick 1915 Hachtel Building, 149 Portage Trail (#14) owned by John M. Hachtel was constructed on vacant land at the intersection of Portage Trail and 2nd Avenue across from the Church Square. Hachtel was born in Germany in ca.1852, immigrating to America in 1863 and was in the real estate business. In 1918, commercial tenants in the building included the bakery of Eugene Spoeradle at the east storefront with his residence on the second floor. The west storefront was occupied by a restaurant and confectionary shop, replaced by the office of the Northern Ohio Power & Light Co. as tenant in 1926 with residences on the second floor.⁴² In the same year of 1915, the brick Fox Building, 123 Portage Trail (#19) owned by Frank E. Fox was built to the east. Fox operated an auto repair business in the building and was proprietor of Fox-Buick Sales Co. at 2250 Front Street (#43). In addition, he was in the real estate and insurance business. In 1918, (John H.) Sherer's Garage was at this address offering auto "Repairs, Tires and Accessories...All Repair Work Promptly and Efficiently Done." Auto services continued in 1921 with Overland-Akron Motor Mart Co. as tenant.⁴³ The brick Smith

³⁷ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1908, 1910, 1918; Ohio Find a Grave Index 1787-2012.

³⁸ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1916.

³⁹ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1917, 1918,1920, 1922; Vogenitz.

⁴⁰ The building was more recently the studio of well-known portrait artist Jack Richard, who died in 2014.

⁴¹ G.M. Hopkins Map, 1915.

⁴² U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1918.

⁴³ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1918,1920,1926.

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Building – 119 Portage Trail (#20) was the third building constructed along the north side of Portage Trail in 1915, adjacent to the east of the Fox Building. Dr. Floyd D. Smith had his physician's office in the building in 1918.⁴⁴ The Fred G. Zeller plumbing and heating business operated in the Smith Building in 1918 offering gas and electric fixtures, and electrical work of all kinds. The second floor provided two residential units. Adjacent to the east is the brick Hedden Building, 111 Portage Trail (#21), the fourth building constructed along the north side of Portage Trail in 1915. The building was owned by Ralph C. Hedden, president of the Cuyahoga Falls realty firm, The Wild-Hedden Company. In 1918, tenants included a dry goods business in the west storefront by George Sager, who also resided on the second floor. The east storefront included the milliner business and barbershop. A physician's office and residence were also located on the second floor. By 1926, The Wild Realty Construction Company and Cuyahoga Valley Savings and Loan Company were located in the western portion of the building. Wild Realty Construction advertised as selling general insurance and "Homes Built to Suit Purchasers," with C.C. Crumrine as president and C.A. Wild as Vice President. Crumrine and Wild served as officers of the Savings and Loan Company founded in 1923, along with C.R. Snook. The Falls News Publishing Co. began operating in the basement of the building in 1931.45

Construction along the north side of Portage Trail continued in 1916 with the brick **Bauman Block, 139-143 Portage Trail (#15)** owned by Edward H. Bauman. Bauman was publisher of the *Cuyahoga Falls Reporter* newspaper, which commenced operation in Cuyahoga Falls in 1870. Edward Bauman remained publisher of the newspaper until his death in 1932. Thereafter, his son William Edward Bauman took over the business and continued to operate in the building until at least ca. 1970. The 1918 Cuyahoga Falls Directory lists a grocer as tenant and later upstairs doctor office tenants. Edward H. Bauman expanded his business to the west in 1926, with second floor doctor office tenants.⁴⁶ The brick **I.O.O.F. Building, 133-137 Portage Trail (#16)** was constructed to the east of the Bauman Block (#16) in the same year of 1916. The building housed the Howard Lodge No. 62 Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) fraternal organization, instituted in Cuyahoga Falls on March 12, 1846. In 1881, members numbered 73 with meetings held in the Loomis Block, L.W. Loomis Hardware Co. at the northeast corner of Front and Portage Streets. By 1908 Rebecca Lodge I.O.O.F., Elm was established in addition to the Howard Lodge. I.O.O.F. members built the dedicated Lodge at

⁴⁴ Dr. Smith was the son of Harvey Smith, a pioneer in homeopathic medicine. Dr. Floyd Smith graduated from the Cleveland Medical College in 1896 at age 20 years. His residence was around the corner at 14 (2212) Front Street (demolished).

⁴⁵ U.S. Census Records, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory, 1918.

⁴⁶ Ohio Find a Grave Index 1787-2012; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1889,1918,1920, 1926; 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987; "Cuyahoga Falls Reporter," Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society; Perrin; Royer, Earl & Alice. OHI SUM-00805-08, 1982.
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133 Portage Trail in 1916. A bowling alley and barber were located in the basement. Commercial storefront tenants in 1918 included Falls Pharmacy and the Cut Rate Store. ⁴⁷

The brick **Snook Building, 129 Portage Trail (#17)** and **Porter Building, 127 Portage Trail (#18)** were constructed in 1918, to the east of the **1916 I.O.O.F. Building, (#16).** Charles R. Snook was Vice President of the Cuyahoga Savings and Loan Co. by 1926 and also operated a meat and grocery business in the 1928 Wild Building, 116 Portage Trail (#23). Tenants in the Snook Building included Alonzo & Parez Gonzales who operated a billiards business, and the Foster & Eddy laundry. Furnished rooms were offered on the second floor. In 1926, W.A. Bergan & Sons "dealers in seeds, flour, & feed" with a warehouse and mill on East Portage occupied the storefront.⁴⁸ The Porter Building housed the insurance and real estate business of Ernest Porter with an office at 2168 Front Street, purchasing the site in 1917 from Frank E. Fox. (Edward J.) Bourman Printing Company was tenant in the building and resided on the second floor.⁴⁹

Bank

The brick **Falls Savings and Loan Association Building, 2140 Front Street (#26)** was constructed in 1919, shortly after the surge of commercial development along Portage Trail. The Falls Savings and Loan Association obtained its charter on October 2, 1888, when local resident and attorney Orlando Wilcox decided the town needed a place to save money and borrow towards home purchase. Prominent businessman raised nearly \$3,000 in capital with local merchant L.W. Loomis elected the first president. In 1919, the bank moved to 2140 Front Street, opposite the site of the original bank building. In 1949, the bank doubled its space by purchasing adjacent land and remodeled in the International style.⁵⁰

Church

Church Square between 2nd and 3rd Avenues at Portage Trail, provided a buffer between the downtown and residential sections of town. St. John's Episcopal Church was organized by the Reverends James McElroy and E.E. Lyster in 1830 with the first building a log cabin in Stow near Wetmore Park shared with several other denominations. A white frame St. John's

 ⁴⁷ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1918,1926; Perrin, William Henry. *History of Summit County: With an Outline Sketch of Ohio*. Chicago: Baslan & Battey Historical Publishers, 1881; Doyle, William B. *Centennial History of Summit County, Ohio and Representative Citizens*. Chicago: Biographical Publishing Company, 1908.

⁴⁸ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Ohio Find a Grave Index 1787-2012; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1918,1920,1926; 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987.

⁴⁹ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Ohio Find a Grave Index 1787-2012; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1918,1920,1926; In 1926, Bourman Printing was replaced by the F. W. Orth Co. printers with a doctor's office on the second floor.

⁵⁰ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 64.

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Episcopal Church was the first church building on the Church Square, built in 1835. In 1907, it was razed to make way for the **1908-09 St. John's Episcopal Church, 2220 2nd Street (#3)** church building. St. John's Episcopal Church is the home of the oldest Episcopal Church congregation in Summit County.⁵¹

Houses

Houses in the residential section of Portage Trail to the west of 2nd Avenue were converted to commercial use as the downtown district expanded. The **ca. 1836 C. Henry Plum House, 220-234 Portage Trail (#9a)** was adapted for multi-family apartment use by 1916, with a vendor in the building which continued to 1958.⁵² The **1915 Bert H. Smith House, 220 Portage Trail (#9a)** was constructed by Bert H. Smith, a laborer in the rubber industry working at the Firestone Company in Akron. The building was converted to a two-family house in 1931 during the Depression years. In 1948, a commercial storefront faced Portage Trail with a dwelling to the rear. In ca. 1977 the building became offices and was connected to the C. Henry Plum House (#9) with a hyphen building. ⁵³

The William H. Stillwell House, 2055 3rd Street (#6) was built in 1914 under the ownership of William H. and Odeyne Stillwell at the western boundary of the district. William Stillwell was employed as a sales engineer for Turner, Vaughn & Taylor on Front Street (demolished), with the house located within walking distance of his place of employment. ⁵⁴

Post-World War I & the Twenties (1918-1929)

Post-World War I and the 1920s were a time of continued growth within the district with the addition of seven buildings on Front Street and Portage Trail. As the industrial base expanded, Cuyahoga Falls continued to retain many small locally owned shops in the downtown catering to everyday needs of the community, with a chain grocery store introduced on Portage Trail.⁵⁵ Cuyahoga Falls served as a major exchange center for long distance telephone service between Chicago and New York. Commercial buildings built during this era are characteristically adjacent to the sidewalk with smaller frontage and larger depth creating a rectangular building form. Building materials are brick or masonry with building height consistently two-stories, with one three-story building filling out remaining commercial lots.

⁵¹ Royer, Alice. OHI SUM-00669-08, January 1982 with attached "'Year of Joy' comes to close at St. John's Church"; Vogenitz, 180.

⁵² Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. Maps 1916-58; G.M. Hopkins Maps, Cuyahoga Falls 1915,1921.

⁵³ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1915, 1917, 1928: Ohio Death Records 1908-1953.

⁵⁴ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1917, 1918.

⁵⁵ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 25.

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Between 1918 and 1929, seven (7) contributing buildings and blocks were constructed within the nominated district. Businesses within these buildings were comprised of additional basic needs goods and services including: pharmacy, beauty shop, newspaper and confectionary. The district during this era exhibits services supporting the expanding population and home building industry including mortgage loans, insurance, real estate office, furniture, and home builder. Upper floors included professional offices, and fraternal meeting hall. In addition, a theater and church were built. Representative Post World War I & the Twenties (1918-1929) era building uses are further described as follows:

Two-Part Commercial

The west side of Front Street, south of Portage Trail became available for commercial development as residential homes on large lots were sold.⁵⁶ The brick **2146-2162 Front Street Block (#25)** was constructed in 1922 on property formerly occupied by the Wetmore House. Wayne Agency Company occupied the south portion of the block, founded in 1917 by Painter C. Albertson. In 1924, Wayne Agency Company advertised business in "mortgage loans, fire insurance and real estate" with an office in the south portion of the building. It continues to operate in Cuyahoga Falls from their building located at Wayne Agency, 2044 2nd Street (#7). In 1930, Whipple Furniture operated by Charles Horton Whipple was in this south portion of the block. On the second floor, was the lodge of Knights of Pythias, Pavonia Lodge No. 301, meeting on Monday evenings. The north portion of the block was occupied by Roth Provision Co. with a doctor's office on the second floor. ⁵⁷

The north side of Portage Trail extending from Front Street to 2nd Avenue was completed when the **Bauman Block, 139-143 Portage Trail (#15)** was expanded in 1926 by owner Edward H. Bauman, likely serving as an expansion of his newspaper business, with second floor doctor office tenants.⁵⁸ In addition, the south side of Portage Trail experienced commercial expansion. The brick **1928 Wild Building, 116 Portage Trail (#23)** was constructed by owner C.A. Wild. Wild Realty Construction advertised as a general insurance business and for "Homes Built to Suit Purchasers," with C.A. Wild as Vice President and manager. Wild served as an officer of the Cuyahoga Valley Savings and Loan Company founded in 1923. In 1930, Falls Pharmacy was located in the east storefront with a dental office in the west storefront.⁵⁹ The brick **Senich Building, 120 Portage Trail (#22)** was constructed to the east the following year in 1929 by owner Dr. Andrew A. Senich. In 1930, commercial tenants included the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (A&P) grocery as one of three A&P chain stores located in Cuyahoga

⁵⁶ G. M. Hopkins Map, 1915.

⁵⁷ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1922, 1924; *Wayne Agency Company History*. Available at http://www.wayneagency.com/.

⁵⁸ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1918,1920, 1926.

⁵⁹ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1930.

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Falls in 1930, with the other two at 437 Chestnut Blvd. and 2611 Front Street (demolished). Offices in the building included: the dental office of building owner Dr. Senich, a doctor's office, an insurance office, and attorney's office.

Telephone & Telegraph Exchange

In 1922, the Ohio Telephone & Telegraph Company constructed a dedicated three-story building, one of the tallest buildings within the district, expanding commercial development on the south side of Portage Trail, west of 2^{nd} Street. (Historic Images, Figure 5) The **Ohio Bell** – **AT&T Building, 208 Portage Trail (#10)** was used by the American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) Company as an office and exchange building replacing an earlier facility on Wetmore Street. Cuyahoga Falls served as a major exchange center for long distance telephone service between Chicago and New York. The Ohio Telephone & Telegraph Company was the owner of record in 1924. Between 1927 and 1931, a Telephone & Telegraph Supply Warehouse was built on the adjacent lot to the south at 2114 (26) 2nd Street (demolished). The building remains in use as an AT&T telephone equipment building.⁶⁰

Theater

At the north end of Front Street, the **1924**, **1936** Falls Theater, **2218** Front Street (#46) was designed as a mixed-use building comprised of theater, retail storefronts including Goodyear's Beauty Shop and Cambridge Sister's Confectionary, and four second floor apartments. The theater offered both vaudeville in the earlier years, and film. It was a central part of downtown life during the Depression years.⁶¹

Church

The **First United Methodist Church** was founded in 1830 with the first meetings held in a school building on the corner of Front and Wadsworth Streets. A wood frame Methodist church was built in 1840 on Church Square and replaced by the **1922 First United Methodist Church**, **245 Portage Trail (#2).** The Church is one of the largest United Methodist congregations in Ohio and the location of the Cuyahoga Falls First United Methodist Church for over 185 years.⁶²

⁶⁰ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1926; *Telephone and Telegraph Age*, "The American Telephone and Telegraph Aerial Cable Company New York and Chicago." January 1 to December 16, 1921; Hall, Laura M. "Early Days in Cuyahoga Falls," *Long Lines* (Magazine of the AT&T Company, NY), May 1923.

⁶¹ Cuyahoga Falls City Directory, 1926; Vogenitz, 103.

⁶²175 Anniversary, 1987; First United Methodist Church. History of First Church. Available at <u>http://www.firstchurchcf.com/site.cfm/About-Us/History-of-First-Church.cfm</u>. Royer, Alice. OHI Form SUM-00668-08 and Church Diagram, January 1982: Vogenitz, 167; Seguin.

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Great Depression (1929-1940)

The 1929 Stock Market crash affected Cuyahoga Falls as it did the rest of the country. As the Depression took hold within the following years, banks failed, businesses closed and austerity became a way of life. Most companies, including the large rubber companies in Akron which employed many Cuyahoga Falls residents, laid off or reduced the hours of employees. A 1933 school operating levy did not pass causing the Cuyahoga Falls school to close six weeks before the end of the year, with children sent to Kent. Cuyahoga Falls benefited from WPA federal relief projects including installation of stone curbing, gutters, and sewer work, along with the construction of a new post office on 2nd Street and a large municipal swimming pool. ⁶³ A selfpropelled gas-electric rail-car invented in 1928 by Pullman/Electric-Motive, referred to as the Doodlebug was a unique passenger vehicle train operating from Hudson to Akron passing through Cuyahoga Falls, Stow, and Kent. One of the worst city disasters was on July 31, 1940, when the *Doodlebug* collided with a freight train and 43 passengers were killed. ⁶⁴ The Great Depression years tamed the economy of Cuyahoga Falls and downtown building tenants catered to the practical needs of the community. Commercial buildings built during this era remain characteristically adjacent to the sidewalk with smaller frontage and larger depth creating a rectangular building form. Building materials are brick with building heights of one to twostories.

Between 1929 and 1940, six (6) contributing buildings were constructed within the district. Businesses reflect the impact of the Great Depression with introduction of a general department store, restaurants, offices and a supermarket on Front Street with dedicated parking lot to the rear. A new Post Office on 2^{nd} Street extended the district south from Portage Trail and another church was constructed on Church Square. Representative Great Depression (1929-1940) era building uses are further described as follows:

The two-part commercial brick **ca. 1930 Levinson's Store Building, 2231-2235 Front Street** (#40) was owned by Solomon Levinson and constructed on the north part of Front Street. Levinson was born in Lomza, Poland in 1887, arriving to the United States in 1900. He opened his first store in Pittsburgh and later came to Cuyahoga Falls ca.1914. In 1931, he operated a clothing store at 2177 Front Street (demolished). He opened Levinson's Store at 2231 Front Street in ca. 1935 as a general store of stocked items needed from "cradle to grave," which likely catered to modest means of the Depression era. Sol Levinson retired in the mid-1970s and his son Gus took over the business. In 1985 Bill Burch became co-owner, with another store in Canton.⁶⁵ The **1930 2237-2239 Front Street Building (#41)** housed Miller Restaurant

⁶³ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 26.

⁶⁴ Vogenitz, 47-48.

⁶⁵ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1930,1931,1933,1938,1943; Vogenitz.

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as a tenant in 1931. In 1943, East Ohio Gas, The Boston Grinding Co., and Technology Inc. were located in the building.⁶⁶

The one-part commercial brick **1939** Kippy Sandwich Shop Building, **2100** Front Street (#30) housed Kippy Sandwich Shop. Kippy's, was a popular local restaurant founded in Akron, becoming a regional chain operated by Bob Heath and his mother Gail. The name Kippy came from a 1930's comic strip Skippy; the Heaths dropped the "S". The restaurant remained in the building until 1946 when it moved across the street to a larger location at the **Frank A. Jones Building, 2097 Front Street (#32)** remaining there for 38 years until 1984.⁶⁷ The Acme Supermarket No. 8 Building, 2128 Front Street (#27) constructed in 1939, was owned by the F.W. Albrecht grocery company. Frederick William Albrecht founded Acme grocery stores in Akron, Ohio, and adopted a cash only model for chain grocery stores after visiting "The Acme Stores" grocery business in Philadelphia in 1900. By the early 1930's, the company had expanded regionally to include 126 small Acme neighborhood grocery stores.⁶⁸ The new grocery store introduced a dedicated automobile parking area to the rear which may have also serviced the post office to the west across 2nd Street.

Post Office

Construction of the **1939 United States Post Office**, **2054 2**nd **Street (#8)** was funded through the New Deal Program (1933-1943) using Public Works Administration (PWA)/Works Progress Administration (WPA) money. Louis A. Simon was architect in the Office of the Supervising Architect, U.S. Department of the Treasury from 1933 until 1939 when the office moved to the PWA/WPA. During his tenure he designed and oversaw hundreds of projects including the IRS building in Washington D.C. The building remains in use as a post office.⁶⁹

Church

The 1929-30 First Christian Chruch (Disciples of Christ) 2249-2253 3rd Street (#1) is one of the oldest churches in Cuyahoga Falls founded by Anson Wheeler of Cuyahoga Falls and

⁶⁶ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1930, 1931, 1943; Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1950s, 1960s.

⁶⁷ U.S. Federal Population Census Records; Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories, 1943; Kippy's Restaurant, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society. Available at <u>http://cuyahogafallshistory.com/2013/03/kippys-restaurant/</u>.

⁶⁸Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1918, 1950's-1960's; *The Falls News*, 12 December 1941. Available at Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society: *History of the F.W. Albrecht Grocery Company*. Available at http://www.acmestores.com/company-history/.

⁶⁹Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1924; *The Living New Deal*. Available at <u>https://livingnewdeal.org/us/oh/page/2/;</u> U.S. Postal Service Historic & Architectural Significance Survey 30 June 1983. SUM-01601-08 State Historic Preservation Office; Simon, Louis A. Architect (1867-1958) Living Places. Available at http://www.livingplaces.com/people/louis-a-simon.html.

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William Southmayd of Stow, who both attended Stow Christian Church. They began the Cuyahoga Falls church by holding meetings in local homes. In 1880, Leonard Southmayd was hired as a part-time preacher with 75 members. The church received its charter in 1884. A Disciples Church building was dedicated in 1885 on Church Square. In 1929, ground broke for a new church on the northwest side of the square, which remains today. The stock market crash of October 1929 signaled the beginning of the Great Depression and bankruptcy for the church. The church became a mission of the Ohio Society and received additional help from the Summit County Disciples Union Church to finish their church building.⁷⁰

World War II and Post-World War II (1940-1954)

World War II relieved the necessity of federal relief work as manufacturers geared up for the war effort. Cuyahoga Falls women went to work in factories as men went off to war. Meat, butter, sugar, other food items, and gas were rationed. Workers carpooled or took buses to get to jobs in Akron.⁷¹ The end of the War years was marked by the baby boom with the population of Cuyahoga Falls jumping from 20,874 in 1940 to 29,706 in 1950. The downtown, centered on Front Street and Portage Trail, remained stable throughout World War II and into post-World War II. Commercial and institutional buildings built or renovated in the historic downtown during World War II & post World War II demonstrate the transition to mid-century architecture with introduction of the International and New Formalism styles.

Buildings include seven (7) contributing buildings and four (4) noncontributing buildings including: the **1946 Westfield Bank**, **140 Portage Trail (#12)**, **1947 2104 Front Street Building (#29)**, **1953 2205 Front Street Building (#37)** and **1963 138 Stow Avenue Building (#11)**. Businesses within these one-part commercial buildings were comprised of basic needs goods and services, and an insurance agency. F.W. Woolworth Co. constructed a new building on Front Street. In addition, a bank, fraternal meeting building, warehouse and educational wing addition to a church were introduced to the district. Representative World War II and Post World War II (1940-1955) building uses are further discussed as follows:

One-Part Commercial

The two-part commercial building gave way to the one-part commercial. The mobility offered by the automobile allowed for easy travel between home and place of business, and less construction costs during the Depression and Post-World War II eras. The brick one-part commercial **ca. 1945 2202 Front Street Building (#48)** is composed of storefront tenants providing basic needs and services in the 1950s and 1960s including A.J. News, AID Investments aka Aid Budget Co., Falls Cleaners, Ideal Shoe Repair, and Universal Cleaning

⁷⁰ Vogenitz; Seguin.

⁷¹ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987.

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Co.⁷² The brick one-part commercial **1950 Wayne Agency Building, 2044 2nd Street (#7)** extended the downtown district further south along 2nd Avenue, located to the south of the Post Office (#8). The building housed the family insurance business which was founded in 1917 with offices in the 2146 – 2162 Front Street Block (#25). Donald S. Albertson succeeded his father Painter as president in 1942. The business continues to operate in the 2nd Street building as an insurance company.⁷³

Five and Dime Store

The **1954 F.W. Woolworth Co. Building, 2114 Front Street (#28)** was the new home of the F. W. Woolworth's five and dime store, which had been previously located across the street at 2081 Front Street (demolished). The F.W. Woolworth's store employed the International style on many Woolworth buildings constructed during the same time period.⁷⁴

Bank

The 1919, 1949 Falls Savings and Loan Association Bank, 2140 Front Street (#26) was expanded and remodeled in 1949 in the International style.⁷⁵

Warehouse

The **1948** All Paper Inc. Warehouse, 230 Portage Trail (#5) was originally constructed as a bottle warehouse, as part of a commercial store and residential property fronting Portage Trail at the same address, now demolished. In 1958, it was used as a wholesale paper warehouse. All Paper Inc., operated by President and Treasurer, A.L. Gleason and incorporated in 1946, was located in the front building and likely used the building as a warehouse.⁷⁶

Fraternal Building

The **1928**, **1951** Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #918, Fraternal Order of Eagle Aerie, 2244 **Front Street (#44)** was home to the Loyal Order of Moose fraternal and service organization in 1928. The Order was founded in 1888 with early lodges in Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Indiana. Between 1931 and 1948, the Fraternal Order of Eagles (F.O.E.) acquired the building, adding a front International style two-story addition in 1951. F.O.E. lodges are known as "aeries." The

⁷² Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1950s, 1960s.

⁷³ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1924; *Wayne Agency Co.*, Our Company History. Available at http://www.wayneagency.com/.

⁷⁴ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1918, 1950's -1960's.

⁷⁵ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1950's-1960's; 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987; Falls Savings and Loan Association. National Information Center of the Federal Reserve System.

⁷⁶ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directories 1950-51.

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F.O.E. is an international fraternal organization founded in 1898. The F.O.E. continue to occupy the building.⁷⁷

Church

The 1922 First United Methodist Church of Cuyahoga Falls, 245 Portage Trail (#2) added a large 1953 Educational Building to accommodate the needs of the congregation.⁷⁸

The Later Years

By the 1950s, a profound shift occurred in the design of American commercial architecture. New development was based on the premise that existing patterns were outmoded. Dense building and community development oriented to the street and packed into small blocks arranged on an orthogonal grid was now considered a relic of the past. The automobile as a forefront figure in the American mindset placed buildings within the context of a parking lot and the garage became a significant architectural feature of residential homes.⁷⁹

In the 1950s, the downtown felt the impact with the redistribution of shopping through consumer mobility of automobile transportation to shopping centers and malls on the outskirts. Change came with the introduction of retail stores situated along State Road and on both sides of Portage Trail located about 1.5 miles west of the historic downtown.⁸⁰ The State Road Shopping Center built from 1954-55 was one of the first shopping centers in the area and included a bank, drug, shoe, children's clothing, automobile accessories, and grocery stores, as well as a theater and other businesses. Portage Trail (Northampton Avenue) was widened in 1955 for easier access to State Road. Summit Mall located at West Market Street in Akron was built in 1965 with Halle Brothers Company as the anchor store.

By 1966, Cuyahoga Falls had reached a population of approximately 53,000 people. The Mayor's Report of 1966 describes the change in commerce within the city:

Cuyahoga Falls has seen many changes in business patterns and will see many more in the future. As recently as 1950, Front Street in Cuyahoga Falls was the dominant business area. Now it shares that honor with State Road which is almost completely commercial from the High Level Bridge to Graham Road. Portage Trial, which many remember as a residential street, now is practically all business from Front Street to the

⁷⁷ Akron, Cuyahoga Falls City Directory 1927,1928; *Moose International*. Available at http://www.mooseintl.org/public/Area/History.asp; *Fraternal Order of Eagles*. Available at http://www.foe.com/about.aspx.

⁷⁸ Royer, Alice. OHI SUM-00668-08 and Church Diagram, January 1982.

⁷⁹ Longstreth,126.

⁸⁰ 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 27.

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State Road. There are substantial neighborhood shopping centers on E. Bailey Road, and on Hudson Drive-the shopping area known to old timers as "Silver Lake Junction." Front Street has become "automobile row" with every new car dealer in the city located on South Front and North Front.⁸¹

The automobile dominated the historic downtown district on Front Street. The city worked to adapt to the changes brought about by the automobile as the primary mode of transportation. The auto and rubber industries boosted the city's economy while at the same time dramatically altered the design and landscape of the downtown with the growth of the automobile and rubber industry. By 1966, the historic downtown area of Cuyahoga Falls had declined with many stores empty. City Council authorized the city into contract with the U.S. government in November 1966 for joint participation of the Urban Renewal of downtown with \$4.9M in capital improvement and Community Development Block Grant funds and \$11.5M in Housing and Urban Renewal development funds. These agreements resulted in the acquisition by the city of parcels and buildings in the "blighted" downtown area. The U.S. government made certain loans and grants to the city to complete renewal of designated areas. The Front and Center Urban Renewal area spanned almost 33.9 acres.⁸²

Sewers, streets, parking decks, and parking lots were constructed. New parking garages, noncontributing to the district, were constructed including the 2310-18 Second Street Municipal Parking Garage, (#45) with 135 spaces on Front Street and a new Municipal Parking Garage, 2035 OldeTown Loop (#13) with 256 spaces on 2nd Street. A vehicular circulation system was developed to separate local and regional traffic flow.

By 1972, a section of the State Route 8 Freeway opened between Front Street and Graham Road in Cuyahoga Falls and Stow with a connecting section opening in 1974. Within the boundary of the nominated district, Front Street between Broad Blvd. and Oakwood Drive was converted to a pedestrian mall completed in 1977. Landscaped areas and walkways were designed to create an improved shopping district.⁸³ In 1969, the City Natatorium first opened, later demolished for a new building in 2004 on the same site at Stow Avenue and 4th Street. In addition, a new library opened in 1970 at the corner of 3rd Street and Broad Blvd. with parking off Second Street. The **1980 2210-2214 Front Street Building (#47)** is noncontributing.

⁸¹ City of Cuyahoga Falls, History, Mayor's Report, June 1966. Available at Akron-Summit County Public Library.

⁸² 175th Cuyahoga Falls 1812-1987, 31; Anderson, Michael G. ed. Urban Revitalization Successful Projects in Ohio. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Economic Planning Assistance; and Department of Housing and Urban Development, Comprehensive Planning Assistance, June 1979. Available at Akron-Summit County Public Library.

⁸³ Anderson, unnumbered.

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In 1985, a referendum merger between the City and North Hampton Township was approved by voters adding 11,520 acres or 18 square miles of largely open land to the city for development.⁸⁴ In 1987, the Front Street mall name was changed to "Riverfront Center." The Falls River Square Festival and Special event site was opened by the City on the south end of Riverfront Center on Front Street along the river at the south boundary and outside of the Historic District. In 1989, Falls Towne Center was constructed across from the event area on the northwest corner of Front Street and Broad Blvd. with 50,000 sq. ft. of office space. The clock tower at Front Street and Broad Blvd. was installed in 1995.

The historic commercial downtown was again revitalized with the 2017-18 Downtown Street Transformation Project which removed the pedestrian mall and reinstated two-way vehicular traffic on Front Street between Broad and Oakwood Avenue in 2018 to stimulate downtown commercial activity. The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District remains and retains representative buildings of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Conclusion

The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District is significant under Criterion A as representative of the main street tradition with the essential core of downtown development along Front Street and Portage Trail. It is also significant under Criterion C as representing a range of architectural styles and types representing a significant and distinguishable entity. The district developed with lot configuration determining form. The high density commercial lots were most often rectangular in shape with less frontage and more elongated depth. Commercial functions dominated street frontage, distinct from the character of neighboring residential development. Local style influences, construction materials and ornamentation resulted in a practical and utilitarian architectural dialect.⁸⁵ During the twentieth century brick construction replaced wood frame buildings with a few early wood frame single family dwellings remaining within the Historic District. The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District maintains the historic downtown core and demonstrates the development of the downtown from 1836 – 1954.

⁸⁴ Vogenitz, 54.

⁸⁵ Longstreth, 16.

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National Register Nominations

Chuckery Race, Cuyahoga River (NR# 72001047).

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Name of Property Summit, OH County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- X 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
- X_Other

Name of repository: Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 20.44 acres

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:Longitude:2. Latitude:Longitude:3. Latitude:Longitude:4. Latitude:Longitude:

Or

Summit, OH County and State

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

X NAD 1927 or	NAD 1983	
1. Zone: 17	Easting: 459244	Northing: 4553956
2. Zone: 17	Easting: 459541	Northing: 4553928
3. Zone: 17	Easting: 459520	Northing: 4553610
4. Zone: 17	Easting: 459208	Northing: 4553634

Verbal Boundary Description

See attached Additional Documents: Location Map. The boundary of the Historic District follows the perimeter of associated resource Summit County parcels.

Boundary Justification

The nominated boundary includes the property historically associated with the downtown development along Front Street, Portage Trail and neighboring commercial streets. The Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District maintains historic architectural integrity which is exhibited by architectural styles and types of commercial buildings and includes civic, institutional, and other building types which span from 1836-1954. Historic architectural integrity is demonstrated through the retention of historic architectural elements, fabric, materials, and craftsmanship.

Summit, OH County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title:	Wendy Naylor and Diana Wellman				
organization:	Naylor Wellman, LLC,				
street & number:	<u>92 East Washington Street</u>				
city or town:	<u>Chagrin Falls</u> state: <u>OH</u> zip code: <u>44022</u>				
e-mail:	naylor@naylorwellman.com; wellman@naylorwellman.com				
telephone:	<u>440-247-8319</u>				
date:	<u>April 6, 2018</u>				

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.)

See attached Continuation Sheet Additional Documentation - Location & Boundary Map

Photographs
Photo LogCuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic DistrictName of Property:Cuyahoga FallsCity or Vicinity:Cuyahoga FallsCounty:SummitPhotographer:Wendy Naylor

Date Photographed: December 2017

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

1 of 25

Summit, OH County and State

1. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0001), First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Cuyahoga Falls (#1), camera direction NE.

2. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District _0002), First United Methodist Church (#2), camera direction NE.

3. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0003), St. John's Episcopal Church (#3), camera direction NW.

4. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0004), All Paper Inc. Warehouse (#5), camera direction S.

5. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0005), 3rd Street, camera direction NE.

6. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0006), William H. Stillwell House (#6) camera direction NE.

7. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0007), 2nd Street, camera direction NW.

8. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0008), Ohio Bell-AT&T Building (#10) camera direction SW.

9. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0009), Portage Trail from 3rd Street, camera direction SE.

10. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0010), Portage Trail from 2nd Street, camera direction NE.

11. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0011), Portage Trail, camera direction NW.

12. (OH Cuyahoga Falls Historic District 0012), Portage Trail, camera direction SW.

13. (OH Cuyahoga Falls Historic District 0013), Front Street, camera direction NW.

14. (OH Cuyahoga Falls Historic District 0014), Falls Theater (#46), camera direction NW.

15. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0015), Fox-Buick Sales Co. Building (#43), Loyal Order of Moose #918, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie (#44), camera direction SW.

16. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0016), Kanecky Building (#42), 2237-2239 Front Street Building (#41), camera direction SE.

17. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0017), Front Street, camera direction NE.

Summit, OH County and State

- 18. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0018), Front Street, camera direction SE.
- 19. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0019), Front Street, camera direction NE.
- 20. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0020), Front Street, camera direction NW.
- 21. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0021), Front Street, camera direction SW.
- 22. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0022), Front Street, camera direction NW.
- 23. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0023), Front Street, camera direction NE.
- 24. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0024), Front Street, camera direction SE.
- 25. (OH_Cuyahoga Falls Historic District_0025), Front Street, camera direction SE.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

CUYAHOGA FALLS DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

CUYAHOGA FALLS DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

CUYAHOGA FALLS DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

Page

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Section Number: Additional Documentation – Master List

Map No.	C/NC	Address	Historic Name	Year Built	Architect (A)/ Builder (B)	Style/Type
	С	2249-2253 3rd St.	First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Cuyahoga Falls	1929-1930, additions in 1962, 1980	N/A	Late Gothic Revival/ New Formalism
2	С	245 Portage Trail	First United Methodist Church	1922; 1953, 1965 additions	(A)1953-Chas. Bolton; 1965- Stewart Roberts	NeoClassical/ Colonial Revival
3	С	2220 2nd St.	St. John's Episcopal Church	1908-1909; alterations 1958, 1980	N/A	Late Gothic Revival
4	С	2119 3rd St.	John Brainard House	1853	N/A	Greek Revival
5	С	230 Portage Trail	All Paper Inc. Warehouse	1948	N/A	Warehouse
6	С	2055 3rd St.	William H. Stillwell House	ca. 1914	N/A	Homestead
(7,7a)	С	2044 2nd St.	Wayne Agency Co.Building	1950	N/A	One-Part Commercial
8	С	2054 2nd St.	United States Post Office, Cuyahoga Falls	1939	(A)Louis A. Simon	Colonial Revival/ Post Office
9, 9a	С	220-234 Portage Trail	C. Henry Plum House - Bert H. Smith House	Plum-ca. 1836, 1970 addition, 1977 offices adjoined; Smith 1915	N/A	Italianate/ New Formalism; Vernaular/American Foursquare
10	С	208 Portage Trail	Ohio Bell-AT&T Building	1922; 1953 addition and addition after 1953	N/A	NeoClassical/ Commericial
11	NC	138 Stow Ave.	138 Stow Avenue Building	1963	N/A	None
12	NC	140 Portage Trail	Westfield Bank	ca. 1946, 1920	N/A	None
13	NC	2035 Oldetown Loop	2035 Oldetown Loop Municipal Parking Garage	1977	N/A	None
14	С	149 Portage Trail	Hachtel Building	1915	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
15	С	139 -143 Portage Trail	Bauman Block	1916, 1926	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
16	С	133 Portage Trail	I.O.O.F Building	1916	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
17	С	129 Portage Trail	Snook Building	1918	N/A	Two-Part Commercial

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Section Number: Additional Documentation – Master List

Map No.	C/NC	Address	Historic Name	Year Built	Architect (A)/ Builder (B)	Style/Type
18	С	127 Portage Trail	Porter Building	1918	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
19	С	123 Portage Trail	Fox Building	1915	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
20	С	119 Portage Trail	Smith Building	1915	N/A	Vernacular/ Two-Part Commercial
21	С	111 Portage Trail	Hedden Building	1915	N/A	Vernacular/ Two-Part Commercial
22	С	120 Portage Trail	Senich Building	1929	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
23	С	116 Portage Trail	Wild Building	1928	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
24	С	2164 Front St.	Falls Laundry Building	1910	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
25	С	2146-2162 Front St.	2146-2162 Front Street Block	1922	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
26	С	2140 Front St.	Falls Savings and Loan Association Bank	1919, significantly altered 1949	N/A	International/ Bank
27	С	2128 Front St.	Acme Supermarket No. 8 Building	1939	N/A	None/ One-Part Commercial
28	С	2114 Front St.	F.W. Woolworth Co. Building	1954	N/A	International
29	NC	2104 Front St.	2104 Front Street Building	1947	N/A	None
30	С	2100 Front St.	Kippy Sandwich Shop Building	1939, addition 1948	N/A	Colonial Revival/ One- Part Commercial
31	С	2091 Front St.	Comstock Building	1874	N/A	Romanesque Revival/ Two-Part Commercial
32	С	2097 Front St.	Frank A. Jones Building	1901	N/A	Romanesque Revival/ Two-Part Commercial
33	С	2101 Front St.	Alhambra Arcade	1903, altered ca. 1945	N/A	None
34	NC	2115 Front St.	2115 Front Street Building	ca. 1917	N/A	None

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Section Number: Additional Documentation – Master List

Map No.	C/NC	Address	Historic Name	Year Built	Architect (A)/ Builder (B)	Style/Type
35	С	2121 Front St.	Roethig Building	1889, altered 1970s	N/A	Romanesque Revival/ Two-Part Commercial
36	NC	2131 Front St.	Cuyahoga Falls Savings Bank Building	1915, altered 1947, 1970s	N/A	None/Bank
37	NC	2205 Front St.	2205 Front Street Building	1953	N/A	None
38	С	2215 Front St.	George C. Tifft Co. Building	1908	N/A	Mediterranean Elements/Two-Part Commercial
39	NC	2225 Front St.	Kroger Grocery & Baking Co. Building	ca. 1917	N/A	None
40	С	2231-2235 Front St.	Levinson's Store Building	ca. 1930	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
41	С	2237-2239 Front St.	2237-2239 Front Street Building	1930	N/A	Me dite rrane an Ele me nts/ Two-Part Comme rcial
42	С	2241 Front St.	Kanecky Bulding	ca. 1900	N/A	Two-Part Commercial
43	С	2250 Front St.	Fox-Buick Sales Co. Building	1916	N/A	Commercial/ Two-Part Commercial
44	С	2244 Front St.	Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #918, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie	1928, significantly altered 1951	N/A	Inte rnational/ Frate rnal
45	NC	2210 Second St.	2210 Second Street Municipal Parking Garage	1979	N/A	None
46	С	2218 Front St.	Falls Theater	1924, alt.1936	(A) Sigmund Braverman	Me dite rrane an Ele me nts/ Two-Part Comme rcial
47	NC	2210-2214 Front St.	2210-2214 Front Street Building	1980	N/A	None
48	С	2202 Front St.	2202 Front Street Building	ca. 1945	N/A	One-Part Commercial

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Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 1. Map of Summit County, Ohio, Cuyahoga Falls, 1856 Area of Historic District outlined in black

Source: Map of Summit County, Ohio, Cuyahoga Falls. Philadelphia: Matthews & Taintor, 1856.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

Section Number: Additional Documentation – Historic Images Page 2



Figure 2. Downtown Cuyahoga Falls, Intersection of Front Street and Portage Trail, 1882

Source: Panoramic View of Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County 1882. Madison: Ruger & Stoner, 1882. Available at Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation – Historic Images

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 3. Map of Cuyahoga Falls, 1891 Area of Historic District and bridges over Cuyahoga River outlined in black Source: Map of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 1891. Akron: Akron Map & Atlas Co., 1891. Available at Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation – Historic Images



Figure 4a. North of Portage Trail, 1921; Historic District outlined in black



Figure 4b. South of Portage Trail, 1921; Historic District outlined in black

Source: G. M. Hopkins Map, 1921. Available at Map Collection, Cleveland Public Library.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Cuyahoga Falls Downtown **Historic District** Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 6. "Ravine at Cuyahoga Falls", 1846

Source: Howe, Henry. Howe's Historical Collections of Ohio. Norwalk, Ohio: The Lansing Printing Company, Public Printers, 1896, 647

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number: Additional Documentation – Historic Images



Figure 7. Cuyahoga Falls, 1846

Source: Howe, Henry. Howe's Historical Collections of Ohio. Norwalk, Ohio: The Lansing Printing Company, Public Printers, 1896, 647

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 8. Comstock Building, 2091 Front Street (#31), Historic Image 1874

Source: Combination Atlas Map of Summit County, Ohio. Philadelphia: Tackabury, Mead & Moffett, 1874.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 9. Comstock Building, 2091 Front Street (#31), Photo ca. 1895

Source: Seguin, Marilyn and Scott. Images of America Cuyahoga Falls. Chicago: Arcadia Publishing, 2000; Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio



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Figure 10. View of Front Street looking north to Portage Trail, Postcard 1907

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society; Summit Memory. Available at http://summitmemory.org.
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Figure 11. ca. 1900 Kanecky Building, 2241 Front Street (#42), Photo ca. 1912

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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Figure 12. 1908-1909 St. John's Episcopal Church, 2220 2nd Street (#3), Postcard 1919

Source: Summit Memory. Available at http://summitmemory.org.

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Figure 13. Portage Trial looking east towards Front Street from 2nd Street, Photo ca. 1927 1915 Hachtel Building, 149 Portage Trail (#14); 1916,1926 Bauman Block, 139-143 Portage Trail (#15); 1916 I.O.O.F. Building, 133-137 Portage Trial (#16),

Source: Seguin, Marilyn and Scott. Images *of America Cuyahoga Falls*. Chicago: Arcadia Publishing, 2000, 74.; Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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Figure 14. North side Portage Trail, Photo undated

1915 Fox Building, 123 Portage Trail (#19); 1915 Smith Building, 119 Portage Trail (#20); and, 1915 Hedden Building, 111 Portage Trail (#21),

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 15: 1924 Falls Theater, 2218 Front Street (#46), Photo ca. 1935

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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#16 #15 #17 #18

Figure 16. North Side Portage Trail facing northeast from 2nd Street, Photo 1943 1916,1926 Bauman Block, 139-143 Portage Trail (#15); 1916 I.O.O.F. Building, 133-137 Portage Trial (#16); 1918 Snook Building, 129 Portage Trail (#17); and, 1918 Porter Building, 127 Portage Trail (#18),

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown

Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio





Figure 17. Front Street looking north towards Stow Ave., Photo 1949 1908 George C. Tifft Building, 2215 Front Street (#38), Falls Theater, 2218 Front Street (#46),

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society

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Figure 18. Portage Trail, Intersection with 2nd Street, facing northeast, Photo 1967

1915 Hachtel Building, 149 Portage Trail (#14); 1916,1926 Bauman Block,
139-143 Portage Trail (#15); 1916 I.O.O.F. Building,133-137 Portage Trial (#16);
1918 Snook Building, 129 Portage Trail (#17); 1918 Porter Building,
127 Portage Trail (#18), 1915 Fox Building, 123 Portage Trail (#19); 1915 Smith
Building, 119 Portage Trail (#20); and, 1915 Hedden Building, 111 Portage Trail (#21),

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society

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Figure 19a. 1903, 1945 Alhambra Arcade, 2101 Front Street (#33), noncontributing 2115 Front Street Building (#34), Photo 1940s.



Figure 19b. 1903, 1945 Alhambra Arcade, 2101 Front Street (#33), Photo 1968.

Source: City of Cuyahoga Falls; Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 20. 1922 2146-2162 Front Street Block (#25); 1919, 1949 Falls Savings and Loan Association Building, 2140 Front Street (#26), Photo 1968

Source: City of Cuyahoga Falls; Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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Figure 21. 1928, 1951 Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #918, Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 2244 Front Street (#44), Photo 1968

Source: City of Cuyahoga Falls; Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

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Figure 22. 1954 F. W. Woolworth Co. Building, 2114 Front Street (#28), 1939 Acme Supermarket No. 8 Building, 2128 Front Street (#27), Photo 1968

Source: City of Cuyahoga Falls; Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Figure 23. Cuyahoga Falls Savings Bank Building, 2131 Front Street (#36), Photo undated

Source: Photo Collection and Archives, Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society.

Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Summit County, Ohio

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination					
Property Name:	Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District					
Multiple Name:						
State & County:	OHIO, Summit					
Date Recei 7/23/201		f Pending List: /16/2018	Date of 16th Day: 8/31/2018	Date of 45th Day: 9/6/2018	Date of Weekly List:	
Reference number:	SG100002881					
Nominator:	State					
Reason For Review						
Appea	Appeal		NL	Text/I	Data Issue	
SHPO Request		Lar	ndscape	Photo)	
Waiver		Na	tional	Map/i	Boundary	
Resubmission		Mo	bile Resource	Perio	d	
X Other		TC	P	Less	than 50 years	
		CL	G			
X Accept	Return	nR	eject9/6/	2018 Date		
Abstract/Summary Comments:	AOS: Commun	ty Planning and	Development, Archi	tecture; POS: 1836	-1954, LOS: local	
Recommendation/ Criteria	NR Criteria A &	с.				
Reviewer Lisa De	eline		Discipline	Historian		
Telephone (202)3	54-2239		Date	9/4/1	8	
DOCUMENTATION	: see attache	d comments : No	see attached S	LR : No		

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







CENTRAL OFFICE 18 N. Forge Street

Akron, OH 44304-1317 Phone: 330-762-0591 Fax: 330-762-2242 www.cgfs.org

June 15, 2018

Ohio History Connection 800 E. 17th Ave. Columbus, OH 4321-2474

Dear Sir or Madame:

Subject: Cuyahoga Falls Downton Historic District, 2100 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County

Child Guidance & Family Solutions received your letter dated April 20, 2018, informing us of your consideration of our building at 2100 Front Street in Cuyahoga Falls to be listed on in the National **Register of Historic Places.**

At this time, we would like to have our consideration withdrawn. It is an honor to be considered for the listing. Our agency may consider this opportunity at a later date. Thank you for considering our building.

Sincerely,

atrice Watson

Patrick Watson, CFO **Child Guidance & Family Solutions**

An affiliated agency of the County of Summit Alchohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board. Accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.



FRONT STREET 2100 Front Street Mall Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-3220 330-928-2042

NORTH SUMMIT 2305 E. Aurora Road A-12 Twinsburg, OH 44087-1940 330-425-7111 Akron: 330-798-8010

SOUTHEAST SUMMIT

87 N. Canton Road Akron, OH 44305-3838 330-733-7993

SOUTHWEST SUMMIT

524 W. Park Avenue Barberton, OH 44203-2516 330-753-1096

FISCAL

87 N. Canton Road Akron, OH 44305-3838 330-794-4254

DEVELOPMENT

18 N. Forge Street Akron, OH 44304-1317 330-384-2882

STATE OF OHIO) SS:) COUNTY OF SUMMIT)

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared the abovenamed Child Guidance & Family Solutions, a non-profit corporation formed pursuant to the laws of the State of Ohio, by Patrick Watson, its Chief Financial Officer, known to me, who acknowledged that he did sign the foregoing letter and that the same is the free act and deed of said company and the free act and deed of his individual and as such company officer.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand and official Seal at Akron, Ohio, on June 6, 2018.

May Benn

Rainy Boucher

Notary Public My commission expires: September 16, 2020



RAINY RAE GATES BOUCHER

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF OHIO

My Commission Expires September 16, 2020



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>July 19 2018</u> For nomination of the <u>Cuyahoga Fails</u> to the National Register of Historic Places: <u>Downtown H.A.</u> Summ, + County, Olt

	Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form					
1	PaperPDF					
	Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document					
	Paper PDF					
	Multiple Property Nomination form					
-	Paper PDF					
V	Photographs					
1	PrintsTIFFs					
~	CD with electronic images					
/						
V	Original USGS map(s)					
/	PaperDigital					
~	Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)					
1	PaperPDF					
<u></u>	Piece(s) of correspondence					
	PaperPDF					
	Other					

COMMENTS:

	Please provide a substantive review of this nomination				
V	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67				
	The enclosed owner objection(s) do Constitute a majority of property owners Other:	do not			
	Ouler				





July 19, 2018

Julie Ernstein, Acting Chief, 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. Ernstein:

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

NEW NOMINATION The Astrup Company Building Knights of Pythias Hall Hartman Hotel Provident Savings Bank & Trust Co. The Boss Manufacturing Company Lavin, Carl and Audrey, House Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District COUNTY Cuyahoga Darke Franklin Hamilton Hancock Stark Summit

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination and additional information to the National Register of Historic Places for all of the submissions listed above.

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,

Barbara Power

Lox A. Logan, Jr. Executive Director and CEO State Historic Preservation Officer Ohio History Connection

Enclosures



April 20, 2018

Mr. Daniel B. Delahaye United States Postal Service Federal Preservation Officer 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Room 6670 Washington, DC 20260-1862

Dear Mr. Delahaye:

SUBJECT: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District, 2054 2nd St., Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County

We are pleased to inform you that the property, listed above, is being considered by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, the Federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition for and assists in preserving our nation's heritage.

National Register listing provides recognition of the property's historic importance and assures protective review of Federal projects that might adversely affect the historic character of the property. If the property is listed in the National Register, certain Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.

Listing in the National Register does not mean that limitations will be placed on the property by the Federal government. Public visitation rights are not required of owners.

You are invited to attend the Advisory Board meeting at which comments on the nomination will be considered. The Board will meet on **Friday**, **June 22**, **2018** at 10:00 a.m., at the **Ohio History Center**, Cardinal Classroom, 800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus.

We welcome any comments regarding the nomination of this property. Owners of a private property objecting to the listing of their property in the National Register of Historic Places must submit a notarized letter of objection to the Ohio Historic Preservation Office by the date of the Board meeting stated above. If an individual owner of a private property objects, the nominated property will not be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

In nominations with multiple ownership of a single private property or for private properties included within a historic district nomination, the nomination will not be listed if a majority of private property owners object to listing the nomination. Nominations not listed in the National Register due to owner objection will receive a Determination of Eligibility by the National Park Service.

Mr. Daniel B. Delahaye United States Postal Service April 20, 2018 Page 2

Please RSVP your attendance by contacting Tina Harrah at (614) 298-2019 or <u>tharrah@ohiohistory.org</u> by **June 18, 2018**. Lunch can be ordered through our office, please request details when you rsvp.

Attached you will find a fact sheet that explains, in greater detail, the results of listing in the National Register, and information which describes the rights and procedures by which an owner may comment on, or object to, listing in the National Register.

An agenda will be posted on our web site three weeks prior to the meeting. You can view it at <u>http://www.ohiohistory.org/OHSPABmeetings</u> or contact us for a hard copy.

Although a staff member will present your nomination, you are encouraged to attend the meeting. The board typically has questions about nominated properties. Your presence and ability to answer questions can make a significant difference at the board meeting.

Please contact Susan Tietz at 614-298-2000 or at <u>stietz@ohiohistory.org</u> if you have any questions about this nomination prior to the Advisory Board meeting. Please note that local and state officials in your area are also being notified of the nomination for any comments they wish to express.

Sincerely,

lusm M Se

Susan M. Tietz National Register Survey Manager Inventory and Registration

SMT:tch

Enclosure(s)

Copy: Wendy Hoge Naylor and Diana Wellman, Form Preparers Mayor Don Walters, City of Cuyahoga Falls Deborah Sanborn, Certified Local Government Contact Senator Vernon Sykes, District #28 Representative Anthony DeVitis, District #36 NEFCO Regional Planning and Development Organization Erica Schneider, Ohio Department of Transportation

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2474 • 614.297.2300 • ohiohistory.org

Susan Tietz

From:	Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC <daniel.b.delahaye@usps.gov></daniel.b.delahaye@usps.gov>
Sent:	Friday, June 8, 2018 11:50 AM
То:	Susan Tietz
Subject:	RE: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

Got it. Thanks!

Daniel

From: Susan Tietz [mailto:stietz@ohiohistory.org]
Sent: Friday, June 08, 2018 10:33 AM
To: Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC <Daniel.B.Delahaye@usps.gov>
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

Hi Daniel,

Attached are the images for the Cuyahoga Falls Historic District (Summit County, Ohio). Thank you for reviewing and responding to the nomination. I anticipate some edits to the current draft nomination before it is sent to NPS, so will provide the final draft to you upon completion. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Susie

From: Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC [mailto:Daniel.B.Delahaye@usps.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 4:33 PM
To: Susan Tietz
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

Susan,

I was able to review the draft and have no comments. I uploaded the draft document to our USPS database and will upload the photos when you have an opportunity to forward them. Later this week is fine.

Would you please send me the final document for our records, or a note stating there were no changes made to the draft?

Let me know if you need my sign-off.

Thanks again for your time and assistance.

Daniel

From: Susan Tietz [mailto:stietz@ohiohistory.org]
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2018 4:04 PM
To: Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC <<u>Daniel.B.Delahaye@usps.gov</u>>
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

Okay, Daniel-let's see if our email will allow us to send the nomination as a pdf... sometimes this is tricky too!! I might have to work out sending the nomination photographs on Wednesday-I am working from home today and will be out on a site visit most of tomorrow. Would that be okay? I think I should be able to pdf the images as well, but might not be able to do that from here. Susie

From: Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC [mailto:Daniel.B.Delahaye@usps.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 3:22 PM
To: Susan Tietz
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

First, call me Daniel.

Thank you so much for the link; but, I can't open DropBox on my desktop. Is there a workaround?

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

V/r,

Daniel

From: Susan Tietz [mailto:stietz@ohiohistory.org]
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2018 2:54 PM
To: Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC <<u>Daniel.B.Delahaye@usps.gov</u>>
Subject: RE: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

Hello, Mr. Delahaye,

Below is a link to dropbox which contains all of the nominations to be presented at the June Ohio Historic Sites Preservation Advisory Board meeting on June 22nd, including the Cuyahoga Falls Historic District nomination. The Cuyahoga Falls Historic District folder contains a pdf of the nomination and the nomination photographs. If you have any problems accessing the nomination or if you have any questions that I might be able to help with, please let me know. Thank you for your interest in this nomination.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zrap3chlnmm1dsi/AADsjjHiiNeuveQEP5Y8QWvIa?dl=0

Sincerely,

Susie Tietz

Susan Tietz | National Register and Inventory Manager for Inventory & Registration Ohio History Connection | 800 E. 17th Ave. Columbus, OH 43211-2474 p. 614.298.2000 | f. 614.298.2037 | <u>stietz@ohiohistory.org</u>

fB

The Ohio History Connection's <u>mission</u> is to spark discovery of Ohio's stories. Embrace the present, share the past and transform the future.

From: Delahaye, Daniel B - Washington, DC [mailto:Daniel.B.Delahaye@usps.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 2:21 PM
To: Susan Tietz
Subject: Cuyahoga Falls Downtown Historic District Nomination

Good afternoon, Ms. Tietz.

USPS owns the property at 2054 2nd St., Cuyahoga Falls, which is included in the forthcoming NRHP nomination.

Would you please send me a draft for review or direct me to a location on your website where I can locate a draft copy?

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very respectfully,

Daniel Delahaye Federal Preservation Officer

USPS Facilities HQ 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Rm. 6670 Washington DC 20260-1862 (202) 268-2782 daniel.b.delahaye@usps.gov