

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 20 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Hunt/Wilke Farm

other name/site number: NPS Tract #121-05, List of Classified Structures,
HS-569-572

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2. Location

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street & number: 2049 Bolanz Road

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Cuyahoga Falls

vicinity: x

state: OH county: Summit

code: 153

zip code: 44264

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: public-Federal

Category of Property: Building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
__3__	__1__	buildings
____	____	sites
____	____	structures
____	____	objects
__3__	__1__	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: __0__

Name of related multiple property listing: Agricultural Resources of Cuyahoga Valley

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Barbara Paven _____ 12-21-92
Signature of certifying official Date
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Edmund Kearns _____ 1/22/93
Signature of commenting or other official Date
Chief Historian National Park Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification
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I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register _____ Beth L. Savage 3/12/93
_____ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register _____
_____ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register _____
- removed from the National Register _____
- other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

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6. Function or Use
=====

Historic: Domestic_____ Sub: single dwelling_____
Agriculture/Subsistence_____ processing_____
Current : Vacant/Not in Use_____ Sub: _____

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7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

Late Victorian_____

Other Description: Other: Hall and Parlor_____

Materials: foundation Sandstone_ roof metal_____
walls wood_____ other asphalt_____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance
=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally .

Applicable National Register Criteria: A and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A_____

Areas of Significance: Agriculture_____
Architecture_____

Period(s) of Significance: 1880-1910_____

Significant Dates : 1880, 1905

Significant Person(s): N/A_____

Cultural Affiliation: N/A_____

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
=====
X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area

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10. Geographical Data
=====
Acreage of Property: 3.9_____

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	17	452000	4561080	B	17	452044	4561100
C	17	452080	4560980	D	17	452000	4560980

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.
Beginning at Point A on the sketch map, proceed northerly a distance of 400 feet to Point B; thence northeasterly along tree line and Furnace Run Creek a distance of 110 feet, to Point C; thence southeasterly along tree line 250 feet to Point D; then south a distance of 200 feet to Point E; then proceed west to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.
The nominated property contains the buildings and acreage that are historically associated with the agricultural practices of the farm, and that continue to retain historic integrity.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Jeff Winstel, Historian / Paulette Oswick, Historical Architect/
Melinda Campbell, Historian

Organization: NPS/ Cuyahoga Valley NRA _____ Date: 5/92 _____

Street & Number: 15610 Vaughn Road _____ Telephone: 216/526-5256 _____

City or Town: Brecksville _____ State: OH_ ZIP: 44114 _____

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Hunt/Wilke Farm

Page 1

Hunt/Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

The Hunt/Wilke farm is situated on Bolanz Road, in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The farmhouse and outbuildings are set amidst cottonwood trees beside an unwatered portion of the Ohio & Erie Canal. This portion of the canal is among the contributing resources included in the Ohio & Erie Canal Thematic Group listing entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. The canal, which forms the west boundary of the Hunt property, has not been used since operation ceased in 1913.

The farm house and outbuildings are situated at the intersection of Bolanz Road and the Ohio & Erie Canal remains. The nominated property is surrounded by farm fields to the south and east. In back of the farm buildings, on the north part of the property, are fields with moderate woody growth. A section of Furnace Run and the ruins of the canal aqueduct are visible from the northwest corner of the nominated lands. Resources within the Hunt farm which contribute to the historic cultural landscape consist of three buildings: the house, garage, and privy. The barn is the former Botzum School which has been reconstructed and moved. The majority of the farm fields historically associated with the farm have reverted to woodland. A small portion of this land that is scrub and located directly behind the farmstead is included in the boundary. Because of its size it is not considered a contributing site, but does add to the integrity of setting.

The Hunt house, built in 1880, is situated approximately fifty feet east of the canal and faces south to Bolanz Road. The ground plan of the one-and-a-half story core is rectangular and the roof form is a side gable of shallow pitch. The orientation of the facade is parallel to the axis of the roof. The fenestration is regular and balanced with the exception of a door in the eastern bay; trim is simple and unadorned. The focal point of the house is a one-story porch which extends the length of the facade. The dropped, shed roof of the porch is supported by turned spindle posts, and the floor is constructed of concrete on a sandstone base.

Appended to the rear (north) of the house is a full-width addition that creates a saltbox amendment to the roof. A lean-to addition has been appended to the east gable wall and a modern concrete block chimney has been added to the west gable wall.

The wood frame residence is sheathed in six-inch wide, horizontal weatherboard siding, with the exception of the north wall of the east

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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

addition which features vertical siding. Beneath the core and the rear (north) addition, is a basement with a dirt floor. The foundation is a combination of sandstone, concrete blocks, and rubble.

The house is unoccupied and the National Park Service has undertaken stabilization measures in an effort to protect the remaining sound historic fabric and to prevent further deterioration. The roof, believed to have been originally covered with sawn wooden shingles, has been secured with corrugated metal sheeting as an interim measure. Wire mesh has been installed in the window openings to increase ventilation.

Approximately 100 feet east of the house is a twenty-four by twenty-seven-foot, one-and-a-half story barn, with a rubble concrete foundation and gravel floor. This building is constructed of machine-sawn, horizontal clapboard siding. The gable roof is presently covered with hexagonal asphalt shingles. The window surrounds are rectangular; the openings are secured with wire mesh and some have been boarded as a stabilization measure. On the south eave wall of the barn is a hinged double door. The barn, which was the Botzum schoolhouse, is considered noncontributing.

Ten feet south of the barn is an eighteen by twenty-one-foot wood frame garage, with a rubble concrete foundation and floor. Across the west gable wall are two double hinged doors with glazed upper panels. The garage is covered with six-inch wide horizontal drop siding. The gabled-roof has hexagonal asphalt shingles.

Approximately ten feet north of the barn is a four-by-four-foot wood frame privy. It has a gable roof covered with composition sheeting.

While a number of the accompanying photographs were taken in June of 1987 and March of 1990, recent site inspection verifies that they represent the current condition of the property.

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Section number 8 Hunt/Wilke Farm Page 3
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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

The Hunt/Wilke Farm is being nominated under Criterion A for association with the historic agricultural practices of the Cuyahoga Valley. The farm is also significant under Criterion C, containing buildings that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.

Historical Background

Like all of the lands in the Cuyahoga Valley, the Hunt farm, located in Lot WR15 of what was Northampton Township (now incorporated as Cuyahoga Falls), was originally owned by investors in the Connecticut Land Company. This particular parcel was owned by Ephraim Root, of Hartford, Connecticut, who in 1817 had \$31,000 invested in Western Reserve lands. In 1852, his brother James had power of attorney for this particular lot, and sold 43 acres to Abriel Waite. Waite operated a successful dairy, which in 1870 produced 5000 pounds of cheese and 500 pounds of butter. He also grew a good deal of corn, wheat, oats, and vegetables, and he maintained beehives.¹

Three years previously, in 1867, he sold part of his farm to 43-year-old Ohioan, Martha E. Hunt. Hunt had a 52-year-old husband named Norman, and had given birth to thirteen children. Nine lived at home.²

The house and possibly a barn were built on the property circa 1880, as evidenced by a doubling of the tax rate for the farm for that year, while the tax rates for surrounding farms on Northampton Township Lot WR15 were only increased by thirty percent.³ The location of the house the Hunts lived in from 1867, when they purchased the property, to 1880, when they built their new house, is unknown. The Hunt family was, however, living and farming in the township during this period.⁴

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Section number 8 Hunt/Wilke Farm Page 4
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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

Between 1880 and 1890, Martha and Norman Hunt both died, leaving the property to their thirteen children. In 1890, the heirs purchased an additional 0.68 acres of land for the small farm. The Hunts retained joint ownership of the property until 1905, when Russell W. Hunt, acting as executor to the Hunt estate, sold the farm to August Wilke.⁵

August Wilke and his wife, Johanna, were both farmers who had immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1875. When they purchased the Hunt farm they were both 61 years old.⁶ August Wilke died in 1910, leaving the farm to his wife. She, however, conveyed the farm to her son, Frederick Wilke, who, in turn, conveyed it to Manda Stull.⁷ During Stull's ownership, she increased the farm to approximately 34 contiguous acres.

Whether Manda Stull lived on the Hunt farm herself is uncertain. She died in 1969, in Akron. When she died, she owned two tracts of land in Boston Township in addition to the Hunt farm. After Stull's death, it took six years for the property to be legally transferred to her heirs, Helyn M. Tooth and James D. Fieldler.⁸

They sold the additional acres purchased by their mother, and when the Park Service acquired the farm in 1977, it consisted of the original lands which were owned by the Hunt family.

Criterion A: Agriculture

The agricultural production of the nominated Hunt farm is not known. The U.S. Census Products of Agriculture for 1880 is not available for Summit County. This record does, however, list Norman Hunt's farm for 1870. Although this is not the nominated property, it is possible that his farming practices were similar.

The major product of the small, 29 acre, Norman Hunt farm was grain. In 1869, according to the census records, the farm produced 70 bushels of winter wheat, 300 bushels of Indian corn, and 280 bushels of oats. Additional products included molasses and maple sugar.

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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

The flat, valley bottom lands with their rich soils were used primarily for this type of crop production. The upland areas did not contain soils that were as rich, and were often used as pasture lands needed for dairying operations. The 1870 census records indicate only 1 "milch cow" and no dairy products. It is reasonable to assume that the 1870 Hunt Farm, like the 1880 Hunt Farm, was located in the flat, river bottom lands, and the 1880 Hunt Farm, like the 1870 farm, focused on grain production.

Criterion C: Architecture

The Hunt Farm buildings contain the distinctive characteristics of construction practices associated with the agricultural development of Cuyahoga Valley. The spatial relationship between the buildings and the contributing field convey the sense of a functionally related unit.

The farmhouse evidences features associated with several vernacular building traditions. Vernacular architecture is not restricted by the confines of stylistic correctness. The resulting buildings are products of construction methods handed down through the generations, or, as is the case with the Hunt house, a mixture of accepted building practices and available materials.

The rear addition gives the house a saltbox roof profile. Given the break in the roof pitch, however, this cannot be thought of as a true saltbox. The wood trim and clapboard profile match, but the clapboards themselves do not line up, indicating that this was a later addition. The floor plan of the core structure is similar to that of a hall-and-parlor vernacular house type. The first floor consists of a hall, used as a general eating and living space, and a smaller more formal parlor space. Hall and Parlor houses were often built with rear shed additions. The front porch's turned spindle posts is consistent with the mass-milled and readily obtainable porch detailing associated with the Folk Victorian style.

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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
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Summit County

The barn's unusual massing and fenestration pattern reflect the structure's former function as the Botzum Schoolhouse. William J. Fiedler purchased the schoolhouse in the 1930s for \$110. He dismantled the structure and moved it to his farm where it was reassembled. The structure is considered noncontributing.

The two remaining contributing buildings are much more standard building types. The garage structure, c. 1900, is constructed of machine milled, drop siding, characteristic of late 19th century outbuildings, and contains the set of double doors associated with this building type. Garages constructed prior to 1930 tended not to reflect the design of the house. Garages located on farms were often converted sheds or barns, as the construction date for this structure indicates. The small, gable-roofed, vertical plank structure with its single door and gable vent hole is clearly the farm's privy. This nearly ubiquitous building type was a necessity prior to the convenience of indoor plumbing.

Historic Integrity

The nominated property has a high degree of integrity. None of the buildings have been altered in any significant way. They evidence important materials and design features along with original craftsmanship. All of the buildings are in their original location. The surrounding setting is rural, giving the nominated property integrity of feeling and association. The period of significance for the property reflects the period when the farmstead was owned and occupied by people farming the land.

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Section number 8 Hunt/Wilke Farm Page 7
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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

Endnotes

1. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Agricultural Census Schedules, 1870.
2. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Population Census Schedules, 1870, 1880; Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 336, pp. 47-53.
3. Summit County, Tax Auditor's Records, 1857-1885.
4. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Population Census Schedules, 1870, 1880.
5. Ibid, 1880; Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 336, pp. 47-53.
6. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Population Census Schedules, 1900.
7. Summit County Recorder, Wills, Vol. 405, p. 107; Probate Records, Case 11275; Deeds, Vol. 428, p. 637.
8. Summit County Recorder, Deeds, Vol. 6019, p. 3.

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Section number 9 Hunt/Wilke Farm Page 8
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Hunt/ Wilke Farm
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Summit County

Item 9: Major Bibliographical References

Noble, Allen G. Wood, Brick & Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape, volume 2: Farms and Farm Structures. Amherst, The University of Massachusetts Press, 1984.

Summit County. Tax Auditor's Records, 1857-1885.

Summit County Recorder. Deeds. Volumes 71, 316, 336, 637, 858, 5688, 6019.

_____. Probate Records. Case 11275.

_____. Wills. Volume 405.

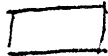
U. S. Bureau of the Census. Agricultural Census Schedules, 1870.

_____. Population Census Schedules, 1870, 1880, 1900.

RIVERVIEW ROAD

OHIO AND ERIE CANAL BED

HOUSE



PRIVY



BARN



GARAGE



BOLANZ ROAD



NORTH
NOT TO SCALE

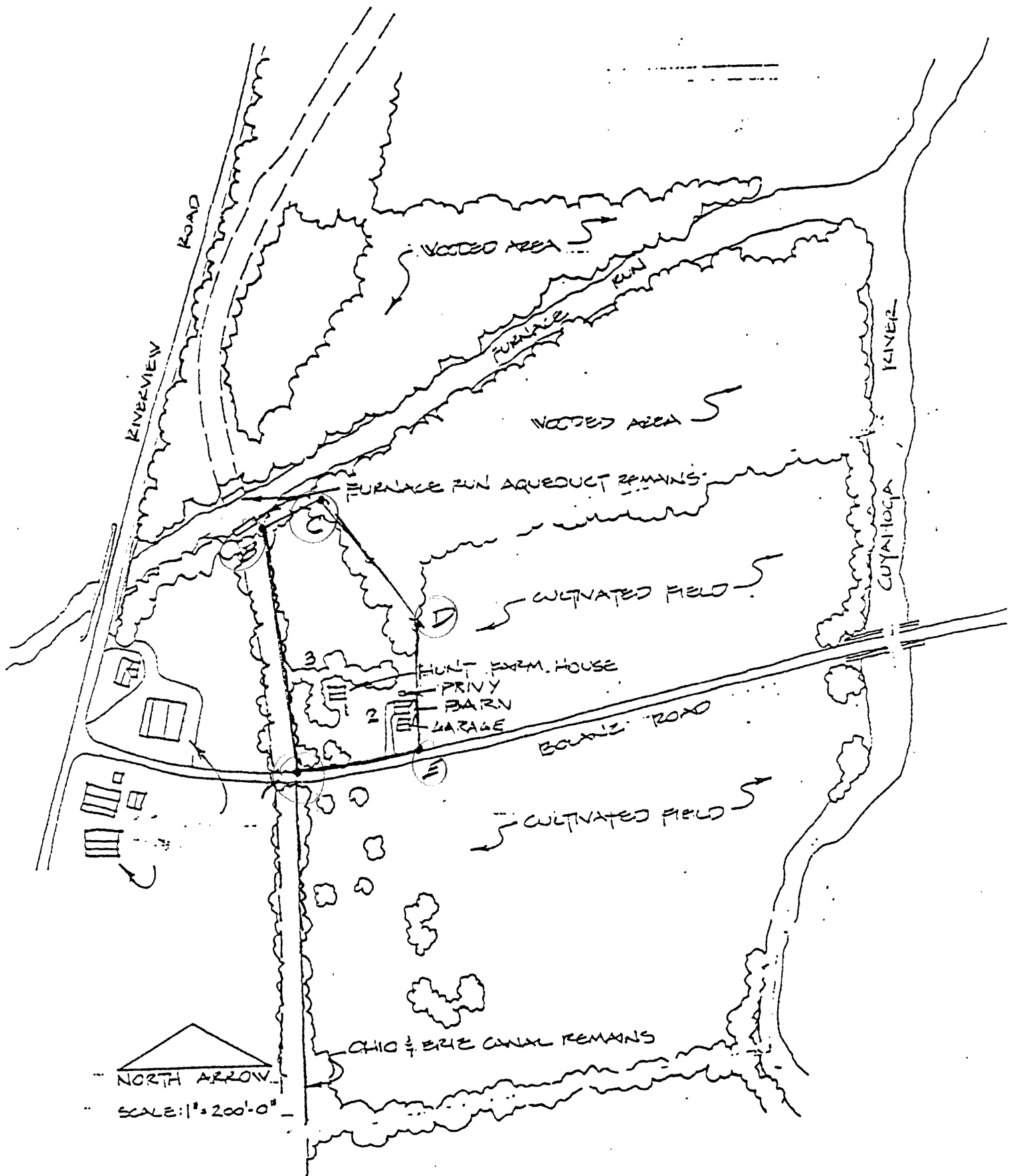
■ NONCONTRIBUTING

□ CONTRIBUTING

FARMSTEAD
SKETCH MAP

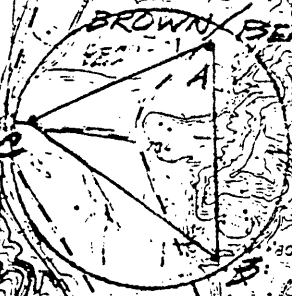
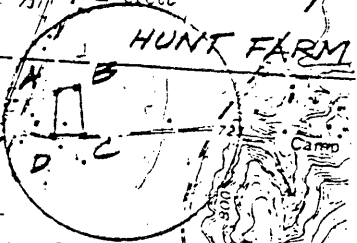
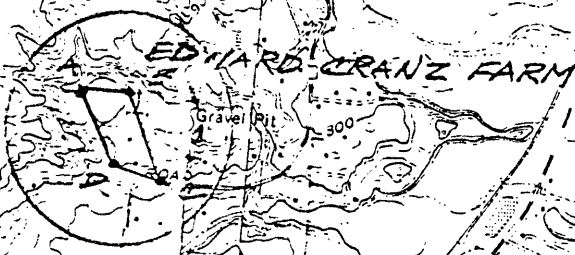
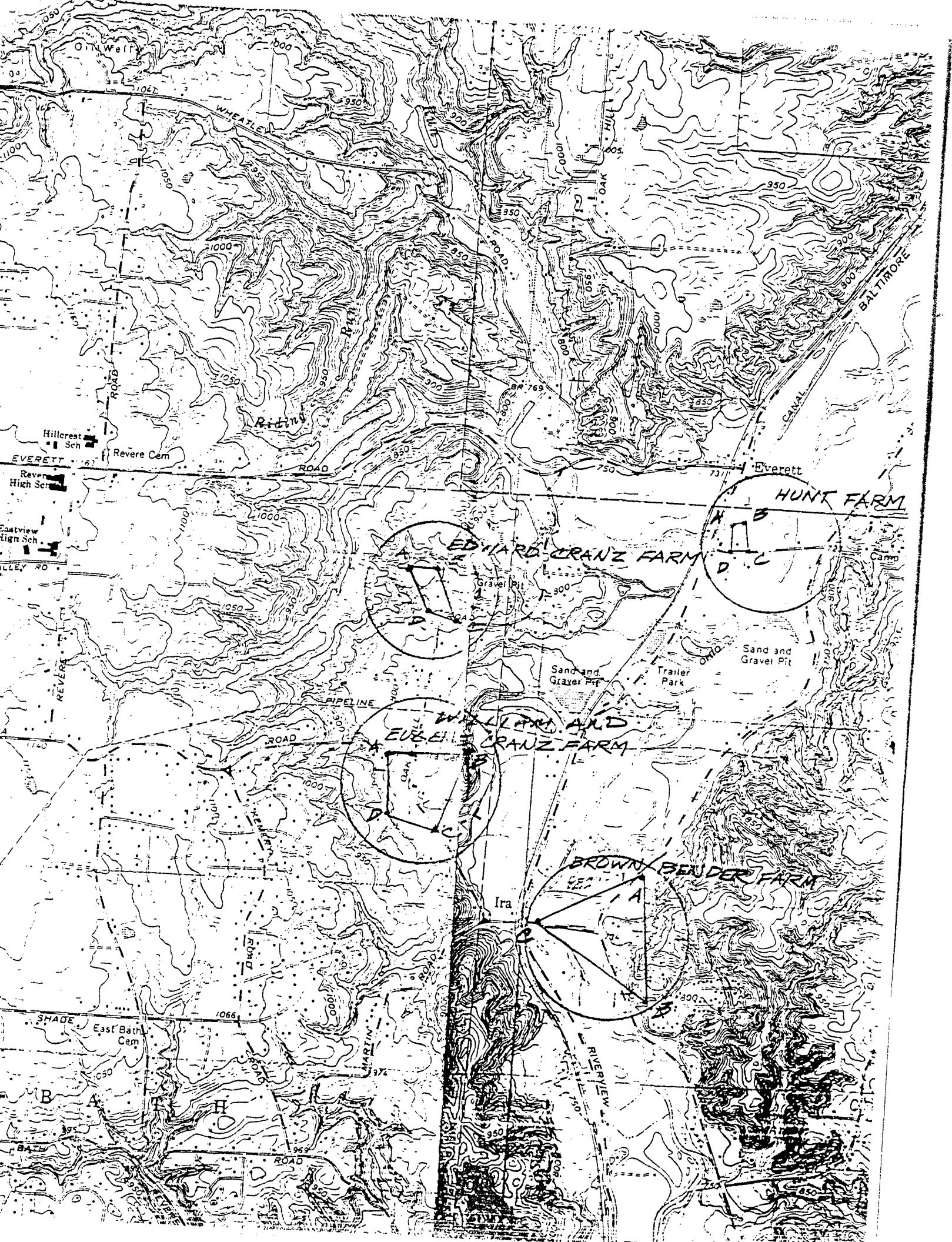
HUNT FARM
CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO
SUMMIT COUNTY
C. V. N. R. A.

JEFF WINSTEL
5/92



HUNT FARM SKETCH PLAN

CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
 DRAWN: D. THOMPSON • DATE: JULY 15, 1987 • DVG. NO. $\frac{1044}{60,217}$



Map labels include: Hillcrest Sch, Revere Cem, Sand and Gravel Pit, Trailer Park, BALTIMORE CANAL, RIVERVIEW, EAST BATH CEM, and various road names like WHEATLEY ROAD, REVERE ROAD, and SHADE ROAD. Contour lines are labeled with elevations such as 950, 1000, and 1050.