Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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#### SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS 1 NAME HISTORIC Abraham Ulyatt /House AND/OR COMMON Bessie Birth House 2 LOCATION STREET & NUMBER 6579 Canal Road NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CITY, TOWN Valley View 23 VICINITY OF CODE 039 COUNTY STATE CODE Ohio Cuyahoga 035 **3** CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS **PRESENT USE** DISTRICT XOCCUPIED PUBLIC \_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_MUSEUM X BUILDING(S) \_X RIVATE \_\_\_UNOCCUPIED \_\_COMMERCIAL \_\_\_PARK \_\_\_STRUCTURE вотн WORK IN PROGRESS X PRIVATE RESIDENCE \_\_EDUCATIONAL \_\_\_SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE \_\_ENTERTAINMENT \_\_\_RELIGIOUS \_\_OBJECT ....IN PROCESS \_\_\_YES: RESTRICTED \_\_\_GOVERNMENT -SCIENTIFIC BEING CONSIDERED \_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED \_\_INDUSTRIAL \_\_TRANSPORTATION XNO \_\_MILITARY \_\_OTHER: **OWNER OF PROPERTY** Bessie E. Birth NAME STREET & NUMBER 6579 Canal Road CITY, TOWN STATE Valley View Ohio VICINITY OF LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Cuyahoga County Administration Building STREET & NUMBER 1219 Ontario CITY, TOWN STATE Cleveland Ohio **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** TITLE Ohio Historic Inventory DATE 3/76 \_\_FEDERAL XSTATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Center SURVEY RECORDS STATE CITY, TOWN Columbus Ohio



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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Abraham Ulyatt House is a one-and-one-half-story rectangular sandstone house in the Greek Revival style. The house has a five-bay facade with a central entrance. It has a wide, plain frieze and a gable roof with gable returns. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house is constructed of plain ashlar sandstone and has a cut stone water table with beveled edge. The house is built into the side of a hill over a spring, traces of which still may be seen in the basement. The windows are double-hung, with 6/6 lights, and have dressed stone sills and lintels.

The facade features tooled stone with margins. The entrance originally had a transom and flanking pilasters. According to the present owner, the pilasters became loose and fell off sometime during the early 1900s and were never replaced; the present red brick was used to fill the void and to close up the transom light.<sup>1</sup> Above this is a projecting molded cornice set beneath a projecting stone lintel. In relief are simplified acroteria flanking a central gable. Flanking the door are paired double-hung windows with 6/6 lights that are connected by a continuous lintel. The windows are set within round arch The round arches contain voussoirs with projecting recesses. There are smooth stone transoms. The windows are keystones. divided by stone pilasters. The pilasters have been chiseled with an ashlar pattern to give the appearance of having been laid individually with mortar.

Curiously, the top third of the rear (east) wall is made of clapboard siding; one can only speculate that the builder had to finish the house with wood in the least conspicuous place. The south elevation features a central door flanked by windows. Irregular stonework above the door and windows indicates that, the present owner claims, there once was a porch that extended the full width of this wall.

Four tie rods have been installed to stabilize the house. The original front door surround, as mentioned, has been replaced with brick. The interior end chimneys were removed in 1942 when a furnace with a central chimney was installed. Storm windows have been added and the original doors have been replaced.

Inside, the Ulyatt House features a central hall plan with two rooms on each side. There are two bedrooms upstairs. The interior has been extensively remodeled.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Interview with Bessie E. Birth, Valley View, Ohio, 28 March 1978.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1 8/10	BUILDER/ARC	HITEOT	

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1849

The Abraham Ulyatt House is important as one of the few stone houses still extant in this section of the Cuyahoga Valley. "Aside from the agricultural pursuits which engage a majority of the township, the chief industry of Independence is the quarrying of stone," Crisfield Johnson wrote in 1879. The Ulyatt House, built in 1849, is a good example of the Greek Revival style interpreted in sandstone. Its location on a hillside overlooking a well-preserved section of the Ohio and Erie Canal contributes to the physical and historical integrity of the property.

The design of the facade is especially notable for its originality. The windows are recessed within round arches that contain voussoirs and projecting keystones. Pilasters dividing the windows are chiseled with an ashlar pattern to give the effect of individual stones laid with mortar. Such features suggest that the house was designed by a person with considerable talent and imagination.

The Ulyatt House is an anomaly, however, for while the facade is quite refined--even elegant--the rest of the house is rather crude. The rear and side walls suggest a rustic stone cabin. One-third of the rear wall is finished with clapboard siding instead of stone. The stonework beneath the half-story windows in the south wall is rough and irregular. There was once a porch here, and the stone may have been covered (with stucco, for example), or the builder may have intended eventually to construct an addition to the house.

Almost nothing is known about Abraham Ulyatt.<sup>2</sup> Deeds show that he assembled the land on which he built the house in 1841 and 1842. The land was purchased from Asa and Betsey Hoit.3 The tax duplicate shows that he built the house in 1849, the assessed value for Ulyatt's land in Lot #9 "E of Canal E of River" having risen from \$332 for 1848

<sup>1</sup><u>History of Cuyahoga County, Ohio</u> (Cleveland: D. W. Ensign, 1879), p. 463.

<sup>2</sup>The Ulyatt name is variously spelled, "Ulyett" and "Uylett" being the most common variations. One map shows the name as "Wylett."

<sup>3</sup>Cuyahoga County, Ohio, <u>Deeds</u>, Vol. 30, pp. 287, 676.

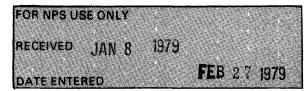
## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cleveland, Ohio. Cuyahoga County Archives. Cuyahoga County Tax Maps (1860, 1870, 1880).

Cleveland, Ohio. The Western Reserve Historical Society. Cuyahoga County Tax Duplicate (1848, 1849).

NAME / TITLE       Carol Poh Miller, Historic Preservation Consultant         ORGANIZATION Under contract with the Ohio Historic DATE       DATE         Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society       8 June 1978         STREET & NUMBER       TELEPHONE         1260 Granger Avenue       216/226-8236         CITY OR TOWN       STATE         Cleveland       Ohio <b>12 STATE HISTORIC PRESER VATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION</b> THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:         NATIONAL       STATE         As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), 1         hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.         STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE       I2/8/N8         TITLE       DATE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
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### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



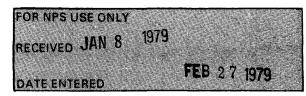
Abraham Ulyatt House, Valley View, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The Ulyatt House is located in a section of Valley View that still has a rural character. It is built on a steep hillside facing the Ohio and Erie Canal, still in an excellent state of preservation at this point. The property is densely wooded.

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



Abraham Ulyatt House, Valley View, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

to \$582 for 1849. The house was constructed on a parcel of twentyfive acres. Ulyatt's total land holdings then equalled  $57\frac{1}{2}$  acres, on both east and west sides of the Ohio Canal.

On July 3, 1850, Abraham Ulyatt married Mary Daveson.<sup>4</sup> Curiously, Ulyatt does not appear in the census records for that year, nor is he in the 1860 census. There is a "Jane Ulyatt," age forty-five, listed in the 1860 census and, in 1862, there was a mortgage foreclosure hearing against Jane Ulyatt for the Abraham Ulyatt farm.<sup>5</sup> Thus Abraham Ulyatt had died or left Independence by this year.

The Ulyatt property was offered for sale at public auction in 1862. Harvey Green purchased it for \$1667.<sup>6</sup> The 1870 tax map for Cuyahoga County shows that George Duncan owned the property that year. The 1874 county atlas gives the name "Jac. Keifer," with fifty acres of land.<sup>7</sup> The name "J. Schroeder" appears on the tax map for 1880; this map shows that a barn had been built immediately south of the house. The "Josephine Schroeder" name appears in the county atlases for 1892 and 1903.<sup>8</sup> The property subsequently went to George William Beyerle and, in 1939, the house and a small portion of the original Ulyatt property was sold to Bessie E. Birth, who has resided in the house since that date.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>4</sup>The Western Reserve Historical Society, comp., "Cuyahoga County Marriage Records," 11 vols. (Typescript, 1935), 5:145.

<sup>5</sup>Cuyahoga County, Ohio, <u>Deeds</u>, Vol. 113, pp. 628-629.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid.

<sup>7</sup>D. J. Lake, <u>Atlas of Cuyahoga County, Ohio</u> (Philadelphia: Titus, Simmons & Titus, 1874; reprint ed., Evansville, Ind.: Unigraphic, Inc., 1976), p. 185.

<sup>8</sup><u>Atlas of Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland, Ohio</u> (Chicago: Geo. F. Cram & Co., Publishers, 1892), p. 105; and <u>Maps of Cuyahoga</u> <u>County Outside of Cleveland</u> (n.p.: H. B. Stranahan & Co., 1903), p. 32.

<sup>9</sup>Mrs. Birth purchased the house on a land installment contract, and the deed was not recorded until 1943.