

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 694495

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 8 1979  
DATE ENTERED FEB 27 1979

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

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

CITY, TOWN  
Valley View

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
23

STATE Ohio CODE 039 COUNTY Cuyahoga CODE 035

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Bessie E. Birth ✓

STREET & NUMBER  
6579 Canal Road

CITY, TOWN  
Valley View

STATE Ohio  
VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Cuyahoga County Administration Building

STREET & NUMBER  
1219 Ontario

CITY, TOWN  
Cleveland

STATE Ohio

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Ohio Historic Inventory

DATE  
3/76

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Center

CITY, TOWN  
Columbus

STATE Ohio

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

## 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 recesses. The round arches contain voussoirs with projecting keystones. There are smooth stone transoms. The windows are 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>1</sup>Interview with Bessie E. Birth, Valley View, Ohio, 28 March 1978.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1849

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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>History of Cuyahoga County, Ohio (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, Deeds, 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).

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Shaker Heights

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 448180 4581580

B               

C               

D               

E               

F               

G               

H               

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property consists of the lot identified by Cuyahoga County permanent parcel number 573-6-6. It is approximately 170 by 150 feet in size.

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Carol Poh Miller, Historic Preservation Consultant

ORGANIZATION under contract with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society DATE 8 June 1978

STREET & NUMBER 1260 Granger Avenue TELEPHONE 216/226-8236

CITY OR TOWN Cleveland STATE Ohio

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL     

STATE     

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

12/8/78

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 2.27.79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Judy B. Franklin  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 2.26.79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 8 1979
DATE ENTERED	FEB 27 1979

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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 8 1979
DATE ENTERED FEB 27 1979

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 twenty-five acres. Ulyatt's total land holdings then equalled 57½ 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, Deeds, Vol. 113, pp. 628-629.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid.

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

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