

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

8.21.

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 22 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV - 6 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME Fredericktown Multiple Resource Area
 HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON
 Historic Resources of Fredericktown (partial inventory: historic and architectural properties)

2 LOCATION
 STREET & NUMBER the incorporation limits of Fredericktown
 CITY, TOWN Fredericktown VICINITY OF _____ NOT FOR PUBLICATION _____
 STATE Ohio CODE 039 COUNTY Knox CODE 083
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 17

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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
 NAME multiple ownership
 STREET & NUMBER _____
 CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____
 VICINITY OF _____

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Knox County Courthouse
 STREET & NUMBER High Street
 CITY, TOWN Mount Vernon, STATE Ohio

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE Ohio Historic Inventory
 DATE December 1978 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Ohio Historic Preservation Office
 CITY, TOWN Columbus STATE Ohio

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fredericktown is a village of about two thousand people located on the west bank of the Kokosing River in northwestern Knox County, about seven miles northwest of Mount Vernon. It is situated on a plateau above an "S" curve in the north branch of the Kokosing River and spreads out to the west and south away from the river. The river and low lying areas form a distinct eastern boundary, and gravel mounds, which are part of a glacial moraine, bound the village on its northern end.

The original plan of the village is a square grid system with two major streets intersecting in a public square at the town's center. Main Street, or old Route 13, is the major north-south street and Sandusky Street, or State Route 95, is the major east-west street. Two secondary north-south streets are to the east and to the west of Main Street and three secondary east-west streets are to the north and to the south of Sandusky Street. Subsequent growth has created new streets to the south and northwest of the original village. Winding its way from north to south along the east end of Fredericktown is the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. This is a secondary single track line that connects Sandusky and Marietta. Fredericktown is also the point of intersection of a number of roads, which fan out in all directions, making it an important trade center for the surrounding rural townships.

The historic resources of Fredericktown consist primarily of mid to late nineteenth century buildings. The central business area, located on Main Street between the public square and Mill Street, is largely Italianate in character. Two story brick structures, with large plate glass storefronts and elaborate cornices, dominate the downtown. Several Greek Revival commercial structures still exist in the southern end of the downtown. They are simple wood frame house-like structures with characteristic simple massive cornices and pilasters. The largest commercial structure is located on the northeast corner of Main and College Streets, the old Davis and Dague Grocery store.²¹ It is a two story brick structure whose first floor has large plate glass windows separated by ornate cast iron columns. The upper floors have paired windows grouped by round arches. The greater height and high degree of ornament give the old grocery store prominence.

Surrounding the downtown are older residential buildings. Many Greek Revival houses still exist. The most spectacular of these is the S.S. Tuttle House.²² It features a central two story section with a projecting pediment supported by four large doric columns. Flanking the main section are two symmetrical one story wings with front porches supported by smaller columns. The Sprague House²³ is a beautifully preserved Greek Revival building similar in plan to the Tuttle House, with a central two story section flanked by lateral one story wings. Its recessed front porch has four square columns supporting the second floor which extends over the porch. The Elias Delashment House²⁴ is nearly identical to the Sprague House except it lacks flanking one story wings. It has recently been carefully restored. Several other significant Greek Revival houses are part of Fredericktown's historic resources. They range from small one story cottages to large two story farmhouses. The old Methodist church,²⁵ now the public library, is a large brick Greek Revival building, a major visual landmark in town.

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Historic Resources of Fredericktown
Fredericktown, Knox County, Ohio

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The early gothic revival is reflected in two historic buildings, both on High Street, the Henry Cassell House² and a brick cottage⁴ to the south. Italianate residences are plentiful in Fredericktown and only a few prime examples have been selected for this nomination. The John Beers House²³ is an impressive brick structure with arches window openings, stone lintels and bracketed eaves. The Hosack House¹³ shows the transition from Greek Revival to the Italianate style. The commercial block on the northwest corner of Main and College streets is a good example of commercial Italianate architecture with its elaborate window mouldings and robust cornice. Fredericktown has a large and very prominent example of the Queen Anne style of architecture, the Wilson S. Cummings House.¹⁷ Set on a small hill on a prominent corner lot, the Cummings House is the largest and most ornate house in the village. Twentieth century styles are not well represented in Fredericktown, except in the newer parts of town, where bungalow residences and small Neoclassical houses can be found.

Commercial buildings comprise about twenty-five percent of Fredericktown's built environment with the remainder devoted to residences. With the exception of a few church buildings, no architecturally significant public buildings are present in the community. The houses are, for the most part, on relatively small lots that have an abundance of shade trees and shrubbery.

Several significant prehistoric sites are located in or near Fredericktown. The Rowley Mound is located on the southern edge of town on a natural rise and is plainly discernable from the road. It is between 80 and 90 feet in diameter and about 20 feet high. This mound, listed in the National Register, has been researched and traced to the Adena culture. The Braddock Mound and Works are located just east of town on the banks of the Kokosing River. It is the most outstanding and best preserved prehistoric monument in Knox County and is also one of the outstanding Adena ceremonial complexes still standing undisturbed in Ohio. The Braddock Mound and Works are also listed in the National Register. A very significant prehistoric structure, known as the Fredericktown Works, was located within the original platted village. Although it has largely been obliterated by the community, artifacts from the works have surfaced and it is possible that future archaeological work in the village could yield useful prehistorical data. East of town, near Braddock Mound, another prehistoric site was recently discovered. It consists of a circular enclosure in an open field across the road from Braddock Mound. More investigation will be required to determine its significance. North and northwest of town are other prehistoric sites that may be of significance. Fredericktown possesses a great wealth of prehistoric resources and future archaeological investigations will identify potential sites for nomination to the National Register.

The survey of historic resources was conducted by the regional preservation officer at the request of the Fredericktown Area Historical Society. A complete inspection of the village was made and potential nominations were selected on the basis of their architectural significance. At a public meeting sponsored by the historical society on

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Fredericktown, Knox County, Ohio

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November 14, 1978, historical information on the selected buildings was obtained and residents were solicited for information and suggestions on other historic properties that may be eligible for the National Register. From this information and the visual inspection, a list of twenty-four properties was prepared to represent the historic resources of Fredericktown. Consultations were held with the regional archaeologist and they visited the site to explore the area. Subsurface testing was not done at this time, but is proposed for the near future and it is expected that future National Register nominations may be obtained for sites in the vicinity of Fredericktown. However, because of the time involved and the fact that the potential sites may not lie within the village boundaries, it was decided to proceed with nominating archaeological sites separately.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" 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 various BUILDER/ARCHITECT various

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fredericktown's historic resources are composed of significant examples of nineteenth century American architecture, sites of historic and prehistoric works dating back thousands of years. The rare combination of historic and prehistoric sites and Fredericktown's predominantly nineteenth century streetscape make this a community of special historical significance.

Prehistoric occupation of this area dates back to at least 10,000 B.C. The investigations that have been made at mounds and works in and around Fredericktown point to Adena culture habitation, making this one of the most northerly sites in Ohio for Adena works, which were largely in the southern part of the state. The positioning of burial mounds and ceremonial earthworks on both sides of the Kokosing River here indicate that the Fredericktown area was probably the site of an active and fairly large prehistoric settlement. The original platted village of Fredericktown is located on the site of a large prehistoric works that consisted of a circular embankment with inside ditch and central mound. Thus the location of the present community was probably influenced by these prehistoric works.

Fredericktown was first settled in 1807. Because of its location almost directly on the intersection of four townships, the community was able to draw commerce from a broad area and preclude the establishment of major trading centers elsewhere in these four townships. Fredericktown was not incorporated as a community, however, until 1850, two years after the Sandusky and Marietta Railroad was completed through town. The railroad strengthened Fredericktown's role as a regional trading center. It reinforced the town's important north-south links to Mansfield and Mount Vernon. It was the period after the arrival of the railroad until the close of the nineteenth century that Fredericktown achieved significance, growing significantly and erecting many of the buildings that are historic landmarks today. During the past century, the village's growth and development has been slower because of its inability to compete with the larger communities in the region such as Mount Vernon and Mansfield in attracting industry and new jobs.

The historic buildings in Fredericktown have historical significance as the homes of people who played prominent roles in the town's history. The town has not, however, produced any major historic figures of statewide importance. The Sprague House was the home of Peris Sprague, an early nineteenth century state senator. The John Beers²³ House was the home of one of the town's largest landowner. Wilson S. Cummings⁷ built the large Queen Anne style house to demonstrate the many fine materials available at his local lumber yard. Dr. King⁶ was a very prominent local doctor who built the fine Greek Revival house at the corner of Main and Second streets. S.S. Tuttle² was a substantial landowner, manufacturer of windows and doors, and operator of a foundry and gristmill who built the town's finest Greek Revival mansion.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Fredericktown possesses a few important examples of church architecture. The Old Methodist Church, now the public library, is a large two story rectangular brick structure that is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture. The Presbyterian Church is the largest religious building in town, a Victorian Gothic structure built in 1885. It is significant as the home of Fredericktown's first religious body, founded in 1808.

The Fredericktown Area Historical Society is promoting the preservation of the community's historic resources. The nomination of significant historic properties to the National Register is part of a project that is to include rehabilitation of commercial buildings, including improved signage and streetscape, and owner-sponsored restoration of historic residences. This civic improvement project has the general support of the village officials and businessmen. While large parts of the community consist almost entirely of structures over fifty years of age, only a few select properties have the degree of significance to be placed in the National Register. Thus, an historic resources nomination was chosen as a means of highlighting those structures of prime significance that should receive a high priority for renovation or serve as examples of well restored buildings. These nominated properties are located throughout the community rather than in a limited concentrated sector. It is hoped that the approval of the multiple resource nomination for Fredericktown will be a valuable step in the process of revitalizing this historic village.

