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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The eastern portion of the township, where it borders on the Scioto River, has high hills and bluffs. These extend up nearly all of the small runs that empty into the Scioto. The remaining area is generally flat and suitable for farming. The soil is mostly clay. Earliest settlements were made along the Scioto River on the site of the present town of Dublin. Development throughout the township has always been sparse. The only town to develop was Dublin. The rest of the land was, and is, farmland. Land usage has changed little over the years, though recent land developers are viewing the area with an eye toward housing and industrial development. Much of the area is now within the loop of expressway around Columbus. The major types of resources are a) buildings pre-1860, buildings post-1860, c) miscellaneous farm structures and d) stone walls and bridges.

Early maps of the area differ little from those of today. The town of Dublin is little changed in use, though many of the earliest buildings are gone. South of the town, along the river, there are many new buildings, including housing subdivisions. Generally, the farms are now smaller.

The buildings throughout are small in scale, mostly residential, commercial, or residence=turned\_commercial. There are elements of Greek revival and Italianate modes, but generally the structures are vernacular. Stone, brick and frame are all building materials. The stone walls give some continuity in the eastern part of the township; many of these are quite early, the work of the first settlers, and today the pride of local residents.

In town the buildings are closely related; the remaining buildings are widely scattered over the township. The only major change over time has been modern housing subdivisions between the once large farms and residences along the river north and south of town. The character of the area remains rural though it is only a few miles from the state capital and Ohio State University. The majority of structures are residential. Only 10% of the recorded structures serve a commercial use.

### Buildings pre-1860

A number of early buildings were constructed of the much-acclaimed limestone, a cheap and readily available building material. The <u>Tuller House</u> (63 S. High)\* and the <u>Buckley House</u> (126 S. High)\* are very similar buildings. One-story high with 3-bay facades, the uncoursed stone walls are relieved by simple windows and recessed center entrances. The Tuller House shows a bit more of the Greek revival influence with its box cornices and returns. The 1845 <u>Dublin Christian Church</u> (53 N. High) had a similar appearance before an unfortunate frame porch was added. More substantial stone homes are seen in the <u>Old Stone Tavern Hotel</u> of Eluid Sells (83 S. Riverview), the <u>Hutchinson Hotel</u> (6 S. High)\*, the <u>Albert Chapman Residence</u> (37 S. Riverview), the <u>William Henry Sells House</u> (6028 Dublin Rd.), and the <u>James Davis</u> <u>House</u> (5707 Dublin Rd.). These are characterized by coursed stone walls with large cut stone quoins. All are simple rectangular boxes and date from 1824-1850. They are all associated with prominent township families. The <u>Orange Davis House</u> (75 S. High)\* is a very early building which was updated in the <u>1890's</u>

### \*included in Dublin High St. District

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Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



Historic Resources of Washington Towhship, Franklin County, Ohio

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

with a frame addition to the front. The addition is a good local example of the use of late Italianate features. The Zenas Hutchinson House<sup>30</sup> (16 N. High)\* is also early. Dormers have been added and it is no longer a residence.

Three brick structures are of note for their architecture and for their association with historic families. The <u>Eli Pinney House</u> (109 S. Riverview) has elements of the simplicity of the Greek revival style. Originally built in 1827 by Charles Sells, the second story was added in 1842. The entry porch is a more recent addition. The <u>Benjamin Sells House</u> (4586 Hayden Run Road) and the Anson Davis House (4900 Hayden Run Road) were built in the 1840's with 1850's kitchen additions. Both are well-cared for and represent the handsome farmhouses which were typical for the area.

Many of the early frame buildings are in town and were simple residences. 30, 82, 87, and 91 S. High \* are all simple, 1-1/2 story houses with additions to the rear which give a "saltbox" effect. 87 S. High\* has better proportions and finer Greek revival details. Other frame structures were more substantial. These include the Holcomb Tuller Residence" (76-78 S. High)\*, a two-story building used as a hotel in the 1880's; the Giles Weaver Residence (83 S. High)\* is a handsome buildings of federal proportions, but with an "early-uped" entrance; and the Black Horse Tavern<sup>6</sup> (105-109 S. High)\*in which the windows are new, as is the siding, but the basic historic fabric could be uncovered. Eberly's tin shop A (185 S. High St.)\*, P.R. Sands Store<sup>7</sup> (48 S. High)\*, and 32 S. High\*Swere built as shops and continue that use today. The tin shop has had the first story refaced with stone from another early building which stood on N. High. The stone was put on in a modern coursing pattern. Other frame residences are the Sandy House (63 S. Riverview), the Breisford House (129 S. Riverview), and the F. Riley House (182 S. High). Built before 1850 these all have "cottage" characteristics; all have been altered over the years. South of town the early Alexander Davis Log Cabin exists (5436 Dublin) and north of town is the early home of Charles Mitchell<sup>19</sup>(6992 Dublin-Bellpoint Rd.), a fine building of federal proportions with few alterations.

#### Buildings Post-1860

In Dublin are several later 19th century structures. The smaller of these are Dr. McKitrick's Office<sup>9</sup> (22 N. High), the Blacksmith Shop of Charles Fogelsang, <sup>5</sup> (32 W. Bridge) and the Samuel Paulus House<sup>9</sup> (119 S. High), all 1-1/2 story and vernacular in character. The late 1870's -1880's saw the construction of several 2-story residences. Examples in frame construction are the Artz House<sup>9</sup> (56 N. High), the Henry Karrer House<sup>9</sup> (19 S. Riverview), and the J.G. Butler House<sup>6</sup> (35 S. High)\* 29 S. High\*3 and the J.E. Wright House<sup>9</sup> (167 S. High) are brick. <u>29 S. High</u> shows<sup>3</sup> Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



Historic Resources of Washington Township Franklin County, Ohio

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

an Italianate influence. The Wright House, no longer a farm, has good details with tall round-arched windows and twin windows in the gables. The <u>Dublin Christian Church</u> (81 W. Bridge) is a good example of the Gothic revival style. A school addition has been made on the south side.

Many brick farmhouses are scattered throughout the township. These are typically 2-story with some slight Italianate details at the cornices at least. Two of the finest are the Jacob Wilcox House (7495 Rings Road) with its impressive Eastlake porch and round-arched windows and Dunblane (8055 Dublin-Bellpoint Rd.), the home of John Dun. The symmetrical elevations are relieved by a dentiled cornice and pierced arched openings in the gable ends of Dunblane. Other farm homes are the Asher Brand Home (5381 Brand Rd.), the Myer Home (5927 Rings Rd.), 5040 Tuttle Rd., the Samuel Henry David House (5083 Rings Rd.), the Fletcher Coffman Home ( (6659 Coffman Rd.) and the Samuel Frantz Home (6152 Frantz Rd.). St. John's Lutheran Church (6135 Rings Rd. and two old schoolhouses (6273 Cosgray and 4195 Brand Rd.) are also of brick.

Interesting frame buildings are the Alexander Davis House (5436 Dublin Rd.) with charming diagonal clapboard and Eastlake style porches; 5350 Hayden Run Rd. which has very elaborate shingle patterns in the gables, the Thompson House, the only large building in the township with Queen Anne details; and the Carl Shier Farmhouse (7026 Shier-Rings Rd.) which also has Eastlake style porches.

Various farm-related buildings are found standing throughout the township. Some are still grouped as part of farm complexes, others stand alone in fields, forgotten. There are several structures in the <u>C. Leppert Farm</u>: a fine frame barn with gambrel roof, a wash house, and an early double-pen log cabin. The Carl Shier (7026 Shier Rings Rd.) farm has three barns, one of which was once the original farmhouse. There is also a double hen house. The <u>Louis Rings</u> farm (6665 Shier Rings Rd.) has an excellent 1880's barn, a carriage barn and a very large smokehouse. The <u>Benjamin Sells</u> (4586 Hayden Run Rd.) complex has three frame barns and an excellent brick wash house. There are many isolated barns. A number of these have been recorded to show the various details.

Important, too, are the stone walls. These are marked on the enclosed map. Some have been lost and others are deteriorated, but efforts are constantly being made to see that they are protected. Near the center of the town are two old cemeteries, burial places for the founding families. These also have remnant of the stone walls.

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



Historic Resources of Washington Township Franklin County, Ohio

### CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

The inventory was the result of a survey of the entire township. It was conducted in part by summer interns for the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. The survey was supervised by the Department of Architecture at Ohio State University and the architectural historian of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office. Before this nomination was undertaken the area was again surveyed by the National Register Program Manager for the Ohio Historic Preservation Office and the assistance of the Dublin Historical Society was utilized to gather further information about the structures. An archaeological survey is to be completed for the area as soon as feasible. The results of the present survey encompass all of the known historical and architectural resources.

Section 8, page 2

Among the first settlers of the township were Ludwig Sells and his sons, Samuel, Peter, Benjamin, and William from Huntingdon Co., Pennsylvania. John Sells, an elder brother of Ludwig, also came into the same neighborhood in the fall of 1808. They purchased, between them, over 800 acres. They made a large camp near the spring at Dublin bridge, where they lived some weeks until cabins could be built. The street on which they settled is now called Riverview. The township was set off in 1809. In 1820 it was established with its present boundaries. The village of Dublin was laid out by John Sells in 1818 and it soon grew to be a place of considerable business, with several stores, taverns, and a few mills. The village was platted by John Shields, an Irishman, and a good surveyor. Shields was also an itinerant minister of the Christian Church and helped establish the church there in 1810. The town was named in honor of his birthplace.

The Sells family vied for the location of the state capital in 1810. A report of the period discussing the choosing of a capital reported "the Sells brothers had only 300 acres of land to give and such neighborly encouragement as might be derived from the proximity of the grist mill and distillery belonging to John Sells and the log yard and residence of Peter Sells." Situated on the Scioto River and a small stream, Dublin had good sources of water power and a means of transporting products. Its location at the intersection of the Post Road from Franklinton and Columbus and the road west from Worthington gave Dublin easy access to other communities and a steady stream of traffic. Hence when the National Road and the Ohio Canal were completed to Columbus, the population of central Ohio swelled and

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

#### PERIOD

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

PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	X_AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<b>x_1800-1899</b>	X_COMMERCE	X_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION	$\theta = (a_0, \dots, a_n) = (a_0, \dots, a_n)$	

### SPECIFIC DATES 1820's-1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The various recorded resources tell the story of a rural township, important today for the relatively few changes it has undergone in its land use. A relatively small number of historic structures remain; many of the earliest and most historic have been lost. The township was always isolated from centers of traffic, trade, and manufacture. It never grew in commercial importance and remains mostly agricultural with the exception of the small, early town of Dublin. Like most areas near major cities, time is catching up and industry and suburbia are marching north from the state capital. These facts necessitate the recording of the remains of the township's past. A small district within the town of Dublin extends from 6 S. High to 1 S. High. This area includes many of the early homes and commercial buildings. These have been discussed in section #7 and are noted with an asteriskin that section. The small town along this street is fairly intact as a mid 1800's village. North of the district new construction has left only a hodge-podge of old buildings and poor remodelings.

Settlers arrived in the township in 1801, situating themselves near the Scioto River along an old Indian trail. The bluffs and hills along the Scioto stretched but to level farmland. A notable characteristic of the area was its limestone. The geology of the area is such that the limestone is close to the surface and is stratified in such a way that it easily breaks into layers suitable for building purposes. Many of the areas' homes were built of this stone as well as the New England style stone walls along the roads and between the fields. An advertisement stating the excellence of the limestone can be found in the <u>Columbus Gazette</u>, VII, March 10, 1818. The founder of Dublin, John Sells, stated in his advertisement "New town for sale- Dublin - the best quality of building stone, lime, and excellent clay for brick."

The earliest white settlers to arrive brought with them the art of building with stone. Stone farm houses and stone walls became a local tradition. Local masons passed on their trade to younger generations. Many of the early portions exist today and portions were still being built in the 1880's. Sections were rebuilt in the 1930's as a works administration project. In the last few years many sections have been lost as new roads were built, existing roads widened, new sewer lines laid, or new housing subdivisions platted.

Well into the 1850's members of the Wyandot tribe of Indians often encamped on Indian Run, which flows into the Scioto just north of the town of Dublin. A camp with Billy Wyandot at chief, made their home much of the year and parties from Upper Sandusky often traveled over the Indian trace to Franklinton, below Dublin.

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



Historic Resources of Washington Township, Franklin County, Ohio

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

Dublin, too, entered upon a quarter century of growth and prosperity. During this period the village boasted flourishing industries, producing lumber, flour, whiskey, hats, leather and chemical products. Stores and taverns also flourished. An accident of history nipped Dublin's emerging industrial and commercial growth. The railroads completely by-passed Dublin and cut her off from the late-nineteenth century's chief means of transportation. A short period of prosperity and new buildings did occur in Dublin in the 1870's and 1880's, but it was not much compared to the growth of other areas in the state. As a result, Dublin has retained much of its early-nineteenth century character. Buildings throughout the township are typical of the unpretentious homes and shops of craftsmen and businessmen. Architecturally, the buildings are significant for their typicality, rather than their uniqueness. Here and there one sees a touch of ornament, a louvered ellipse, a dentiled frieze, a pilastered facade, and some Victorian scrollwork. Practicality was valued mome than display. The homes exemplify the architectural tastes of the practical early settlers, craftsmen, and small businessmen.

The resources recorded are connected with a) the early settlers, b) later settlers arriving to farm the lands, c) the over-riding sense of the agricultural element as seen in the remaining farm structures, and d) the characteristic stone walls.

The Sells family, as already mentioned, had much to do with the settlement of the township. John Sells was responsible for building the first sawmill on Indian Run soon after 1812 (no remains) from which lumber was sent down the Scioto to Franklinton and Columbus. John also started a distillery and operated a hat factory where his sons, Charles and Eluid, worked. His son, Fletcher, was the first white child born in the township. Ludwick Sells planted the first orchard. Benjamin Sells, son of Peter, was born in 1813. In 1834 he married into another prominent area family, that of Samuel Davis of Norwich township. In 1835 he settled on a farm on the north side of Hayden Run. The farm was given to them by Samuel who designed the home for them. The house, but not the outbuildings, is on the National Register. Other buildings associated with the Sells family are the Old Stone Tavern<sup>®</sup>(83 S. Riverview); Benjamin Sells had kept the 1st tavern in 1810 at the sign of the black horse. His son kept the next tavern<sup>®</sup> under the same sign, a roomy and important Dublin meeting place (105-09 S. High); the Dr. Pinney House (109 S. Riverview) was built by Charles Sells; the Hutchinson Hotel (6 S. High) was built by John Sells for his son-in-law; and the William Henry Sells House<sup>33</sup>(6928 Dublin Rd.) along with the reconstructed cabin of Ludwig Sells.

An important event occurred in 1810 when Benjamin Sells, friend of the Wyandot chief, Leatherlips, tried to intervene to save his life. Leatherlips opposed the war councils of Tecumseh. He was accused of being a witch because of his friendship with the white man. In June of 1810 six Wyandot chiefs held council and sentenced Leatherlips to death. Benjamin offered his fine black stallion for

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his friend's life, but to no avail.

Anson Davis, son of Samuel Davis, lived in the fine brick home on Hayden Run which was built for him by his father. It is on the National Register. It was the last house Samuel planned before his death. The setting and fine interior woodwork make it one of the most handsome homes in the township. There was once a ballroom on the second floor. There is a reference in the deed to an Indian burial mound; it is not yet inventoried. Anson was a gentleman farmer, active in Franklin County politics. The original home was completed in 1848, the rear wing in 1854. Anson died in 1869. Other buildings associated with the Davis family are the Orange Davis House (75 S. High) altered extensively in the 1880's but with the original portion still intact; the Alexander Davis Cabin (ca. 1830) and the Alexander Davis House (1886) at 5436 Dublin Rd; the James Davis Farm (5707 Dublin Rd.) which was built by Miles Pinney for his daughter but later sold to James Davis; the Samuel Henry Davis House (5038 Rings Rd) built by Moses Davis for his son; and the James Davis Barn<sup>4</sup> (5707 Dublin), all that remains of an earlier farm.

Dr. Eli Pinney's home at 109 S. Riverview was built by Charles Sells, but remodeled by Pinney ca. 1842 by the addition of a full second story and kitchen "L". Pinney was active in the Underground Railroad. It is the oldest brick (1827) in Dublin. Dr. Pinney was married to Marilla Sells. Their son, Charles, joined his father's practice. Another son, Holmes, was a druggist in Dublin.

Holcomb Tuller came to Dublin in 1832. He started an ashery producing black salts, potash for glass and lye processes, and bicarbonate of soda. Lorenzo Tuller bought an oil mill and carding mill from John Swain. They also owned a flouring mill. The small stone house at 63 S. High<sup>9</sup> was built by Horace Tuller and remains in the same family today. The Holcomb Tuller residence is at 76-78<sup>H</sup>S. High and also served as a hotel run by Holcomb.

Zenas Hutchinson was the son-in-law of John Sells. He operated the Hotel/Tavern at 6 S. High St. which was built by his father and lived in the stone home at 16 N. High. He was a justice of the peace, a charter member of the I.O.O.F. and Dublin's first mayor. He later moved to the house at 37 S. Riverview, his son lived at 129 Riverview.

Giles Weaver came to Dublin in the 1830's. He was a prominent saddlemaker and built his fine frame residence at 83 S. High<sup>2</sup> ca. 1840. The home was sold to William Davis in 1855.

George Eberly was the first blacksmith in Dublin. The home at 63 S. Riverview has been in the Eberly family for over a century. The building at 18 S. High served as his tin shop.

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The first physician to settle in Dublin was Dr. Albert Chapman who began practice there in 1821. He opened the first general store in 1832; a successful businessman, he also dealt with land and loaned money to newcomers. His home was at 37 S. **X** Riverview, later known as the Hutchinson House.

The Dublin Christian Church was organized by John Shields in 1810. In 1831 their first church was built. When they outgrew this they built a new stone church in 1844<sup>31</sup>(53 N. High:St.). This was used until 1877 when the new brick church on Bridge St.<sup>44</sup> was completed. The stone church is altered but could be restored as an excellent early building.

Charles Mitchell came from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1815. He bought over 1070 acres from the largest landowner in the township, Walter Dun. Dun's home, Dunblane, is at 8055 Dubling-Bellpoint Rd., north of Dublin. Mitchell's home was at 6992 Dublin-Bellpoint Rd! Charles Sr. died in 1823, but the family remained and Charles Jr. lived there throughout his lifetime. It is the oldest surviving frame building in the township.

Henry Coffman married Margaret Sells and settled in Dublin ca. 1820. He worked for some years in the hat shop of Eluid and Charles Sells. Later he moved to the western part of the township to a large farm. The family owned much land and today a road is named for him. The FletcherCoffman home (6659 Coffman Rd.) still stands.

The buildings mentioned above, as well as the less historic buildings inventoried, combine to record the early settlements, limited commercial development and farming nature of the township. The stone buildings and walls, various vernacular residences and remaining farm structures are all objects of concern for the newly formed Dublin Historical Society. The new organization has considerably raised the level of historic awareness and steps have been taken to gather information and records from private sources. The group hopes to buy the Black Horse Tavern, restore it and open it as a museum.

Though the concentration of buildings is greatest in the town of Dublin, early buildings are interspersed with contemporary architecture throughout the township. Many, though, have undergone substantial alteration. As part of the OHI records the historic-architectural fabric has become part of the state and federal planning processes through the state clearinghouse process.

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