Hale, Jonathan, Homestead

2686 Oak Hill Road

3. CLASSIFICATION

- CATEGORY (Check One)
  - District
  - Site
  - Structure
  - Object

- OWNERSHIP
  - Public
  - Private
  - Both

- STATUS
  - Occupied
  - Unoccupied
  - Preservation work in progress

- ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
  - Yes:
  - Restricted
  - Unrestricted
  - No

- PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
  - Agricultural
  - Commercial
  - Educational
  - Entertainment
  - Government
  - Industrial
  - Military
  - Museum
  - Park
  - Private Residence
  - Religious
  - Scientific
  - Transportation
  - Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

- OWNER'S NAME: Western Reserve Historical Society
- STREET AND NUMBER: 10825 East Boulevard
- CITY OR TOWN: Cleveland
- STATE: Ohio
- CODE: 039

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

- COUNCOURSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC;
  - Summit County Courthouse, Office of the County Recorder
- STREET AND NUMBER: 209 South High Street
- CITY OR TOWN: Akron
- STATE: Ohio
- CODE: 039

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey (P. 299)
- DATE OF SURVEY: 1936
- DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress
- STREET AND NUMBER: Washington
- STATE: D.C.
- CODE: 011
The Jonathan Hale House now consists of four major parts: a) original three-story block, built 1825, b) story and a half living room, built about 1830, to the rear of the main block, c) two wings, each one and a half stories to the west of the living room, built about 1840.

Main block: constructed mostly by the settler, Jonathan Hale, and his sons from materials on the property, it is 18 feet east to west and 38 feet north to south. The gable roof has a chimney at both north and south ends. The block is backed into a hill to the west, making the front wall three stories high and the rear wall two stories high. Exterior walls and chimneys are brick; interior partitions and floor and roof are wood. At the gable ends, the brick walls are continued above the roof surfaces, creating two step gables with brick copings. On both front and rear walls there exists modillioned wood eave trim, Federal in style. There are five bays across the front; the windows are double hung. The main floor has a centrally-placed door with apparently original iron latch. At this entrance an existing small wood one-story porch replaces a previous porch built in the late 1840's. The original soft brick exterior has been largely replaced after 1938. Common bond with header courses every seventh course has been used throughout, except on the front wall where Flemish bond with two belt courses formed by projecting bricks in running bond is used. Simple keystones exist over window openings.

The interior of the main block has undergone changes. The ground floor is now one large farm-type kitchen. There are two rebuilt fireplaces at the north and south ends, only the mantels are original. East and west doors are original. A root cellar to the west of this room now forms the basement for the first addition.

The main floor is divided into two rooms with an enclosed stair, rising east to west to the top floor. The north room is a formal parlor with exterior door; the south end was possibly a formal dining room. On the top floor it is believed there were several small bedrooms, the plan of the floor below not being repeated originally. All of the fireplaces (4) were rebuilt after 1938. Most of the interior trim and woodwork is not original.

The first addition (1830) was the living room (21' x 21') built to the west of the main block, four steps lower than the main floor of the house. The addition is one-story with a small attic and basement. The first floor is supported with exposed joists and beams. The second addition (20' x 30") built in the 1840's was a wooden one-story with attic structure built to the south of the ground floor of the main block. It was later moved to the West of the living room addition and a similar addition, for storing wood or coal with a corn room over, was built to the north of this house two parallel rearmost wings.

The floor plans of these additions were altered shortly after 1938 and prior to the acquisition by the Western Reserve Historical Society. They were temporarily used for administrative purposes.
The significance of the Jonathan Hale Homestead lies in the fact that it is a pioneer Western Reserve homestead which, with its unusual brick house, has survived in excellent condition with few major changes. It bespeaks the life and livelihood of a pioneer family whose accounts, letters, diaries and other papers are preserved and available to the public.

It is located in the Hale Farm and Village Museum in Bath, Ohio, a museum of The Western Reserve Historical Society. The other seven buildings, moved to this site from various locations, are not being considered with this application.

Because the entire property remained in the hands of the same family from its settlement in 1810 until 1956 when it became a museum, the Jonathan Hale House (and its immediate surroundings) shelter many of the family's records and tangible belongings, constituting a visual history of architecture, interior design, and artifacts spanning fifteen decades.
Butler, Margaret Manor, A Pictorial History of the Western Reserve, 1796 to 1830, 1963, Library of Congress (63-19645) Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio, WRHS Publication #117.

Campen, Richard N., Architecture of the Western Reserve, 1800-1900, 1791 Press of Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, p 164


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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<thead>
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<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY
OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 and 1/2 acres

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

State: 
Code: 
County:

State: 
Code: 
County:

State: 
Code: 
County:

State: 
Code: 
County:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Charles D. Willits, Architecture

ORGANIZATION
The Western Reserve Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
10825 East Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN:
Cleveland

STATE
Ohio

CODE
039

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [x] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name: Darnell R. Hirst
Title: State Liaison Officer
Date: 22 December 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 4/23/73