

Ref: 74001628

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Ohio
COUNTY:	Summit
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	8-13-74

1. NAME

COMMON: The Palmer House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Plank House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 9370 Olde Eight Road

CITY OR TOWN: Northfield Center CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 22- Charles Vanik

STATE: Ohio CODE: 039 COUNTY: Summit CODE: 153

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Northfield Center Township

STREET AND NUMBER: ~~Olde Eight Road and Aurora Road~~ P.O. Box 274

CITY OR TOWN: Northfield Center STATE: Ohio CODE: 44067 039

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Summit County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: 209 S. High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Akron STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Ohio

COUNTY: Summit

ENTRY NUMBER:

DATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The 1½ story frame Palmer House is gable roofed and rests on a stone foundation. The most important element of the house is its construction. It is constructed of vertical chestnut planks running from floor to roof and varying in width from 18" to 30" and all 3" thick. The house is covered with narrow clapboard. Floors are 1-1/8" thick plank and the structural beams are hand hewn.

The main entrance is centrally placed on the east end of the building and is flanked by single windows. There are two small windows in the gable. Many additions and alterations have been made including an entrance and a dormer on the south facade. The dormer has three windows and the entry is flanked by two windows on either side and has a small raised stoop protected by a bracketed hood. All windows are presently one over one.

The house was moved by the school board in 1915, and at that time an L-shaped portion of the structure was removed from the north side. It is likely that the Palmer House will be moved again soon to a town park since the school board needs the land for further expansion. It will be permanently leased to the Northfield Historical Society and maintained as a museum.

Only by removing the siding and plaster will original and altered fenestration, as well as other structural questions about the house, be answered.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1852

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which the Palmer House sits was purchased from the Connecticut Land Company by Hezekiah and Abigail Palmer who came to Northfield from New York state about 1819. William Palmer, a son, purchased the land from his parents and built the house in 1852. The house and land remained in the Palmer name until 1903. In 1915 the property was bought by the Northfield Board of Education. The house was then moved from the south side of the 35 acre lot to the north side. The house was used as offices by the Board until 1954, then converted into a library and used as such until 1965. The Historical Society of Olde Northfield leased the house from the Board and began restoring it to house their exhibits.

While completing repairs in 1965, it was discovered that the house, which was the first frame dwelling in Northfield, was built of "plank wall" construction. There are few other known buildings employing this construction technique in Ohio, and of those, the Palmer House is the only one using vertical, rather than horizontal, planks. The Rufus Putnam house in Marietta also used plank wall construction: four inch poplar planks mortised and pinned to vertical posts placed at the corners. Plank construction was used in many late 18th century military forts in Ohio and in some domestic buildings, especially in New England. These examples are all of horizontal, not vertical, planks. It is not known how many other vertical plank wall structures there are in Ohio, but for the present, the Palmer House is somewhat unique.

The origin of horizontal plank wall construction is unclear. An article in a 1971 issue of the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians call plank wall construction the only indigenous Canadian construction technique. It is still widely used in Quebec today. It is not stated, however, when the method first came into use in Canada. Plank wall construction in Ohio may be attributed to itinerant Canadian carpenters, or may be just a coincidental experiment in construction by local carpenters. In either case,

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Portrait and Biographical Record" Portage and Summit Counties.
 A. W. Bowen & Co., Publishers, 1898.
 Ritchie, T. "Plankwall Framing, a Modern Wall Construction with an
 Ancient History." Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians.
 March 1971, Vol. XXX, No. 1.
 Hutslar, Donald A. "The Log Architecture of Ohio." Ohio History.
 Vol 80, 1971, numbers 3 & 4, pg. 183.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	41°	18'	55"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	81°	32'	22"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than one**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. J. H. Marcum, President

ORGANIZATION: **Historical Society of Olde Northfield** DATE: **March 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
9370 Olde Eight Road

CITY OR TOWN: **Northfield Center** 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 State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Ohio	
COUNTY	Summit	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

(Number all entries)

The Palmer House

8. Significance (cont.)

few examples of this method of construction are evident in Ohio and for that reason the Palmer House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Ohio	
COUNTY	
Summit	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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COMMON: The Palmer House
AND/OR HISTORIC: Plank House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
9370 Olde Eight Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Northfield Center

STATE: Ohio	CODE 039	COUNTY: Summit	CODE 53
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Francis Murphey

DATE OF PHOTO: May 1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Olde Northfield Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

South (dormer) and east facades.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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COUNTY			
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CITY OR TOWN:			
Northfield Center			
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:
Ohio		039	Summit
			CODE
			153
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Olde Northfield Historical Society	
DATE OF PHOTO:		same May 1973	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Olde Northfield Historical Society	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
"Cutout" in south wall showing upright chestnut planks and lath and plaster forming interior wall.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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Ohio		039	Summit
			CODE
			153
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Francis Murphey	
DATE OF PHOTO:		May 1973	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Olde Northfield Historical Center	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
North and east (front) facade.			

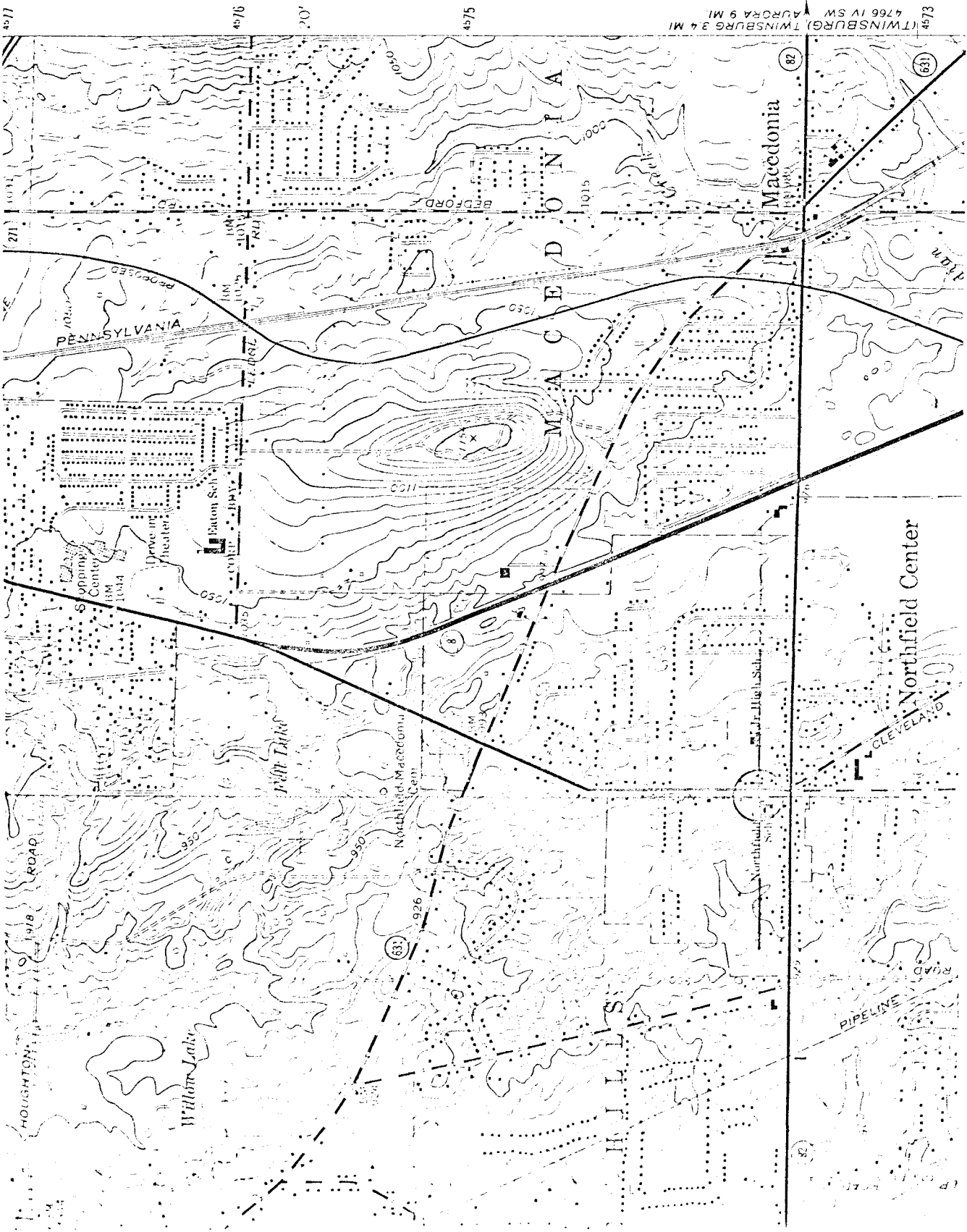
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
The Palmer House	Plank House	

2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Ohio	Summit	Northfield Center

3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S.G.S. 7.5' North- field Quadrangle	1963	1:24000

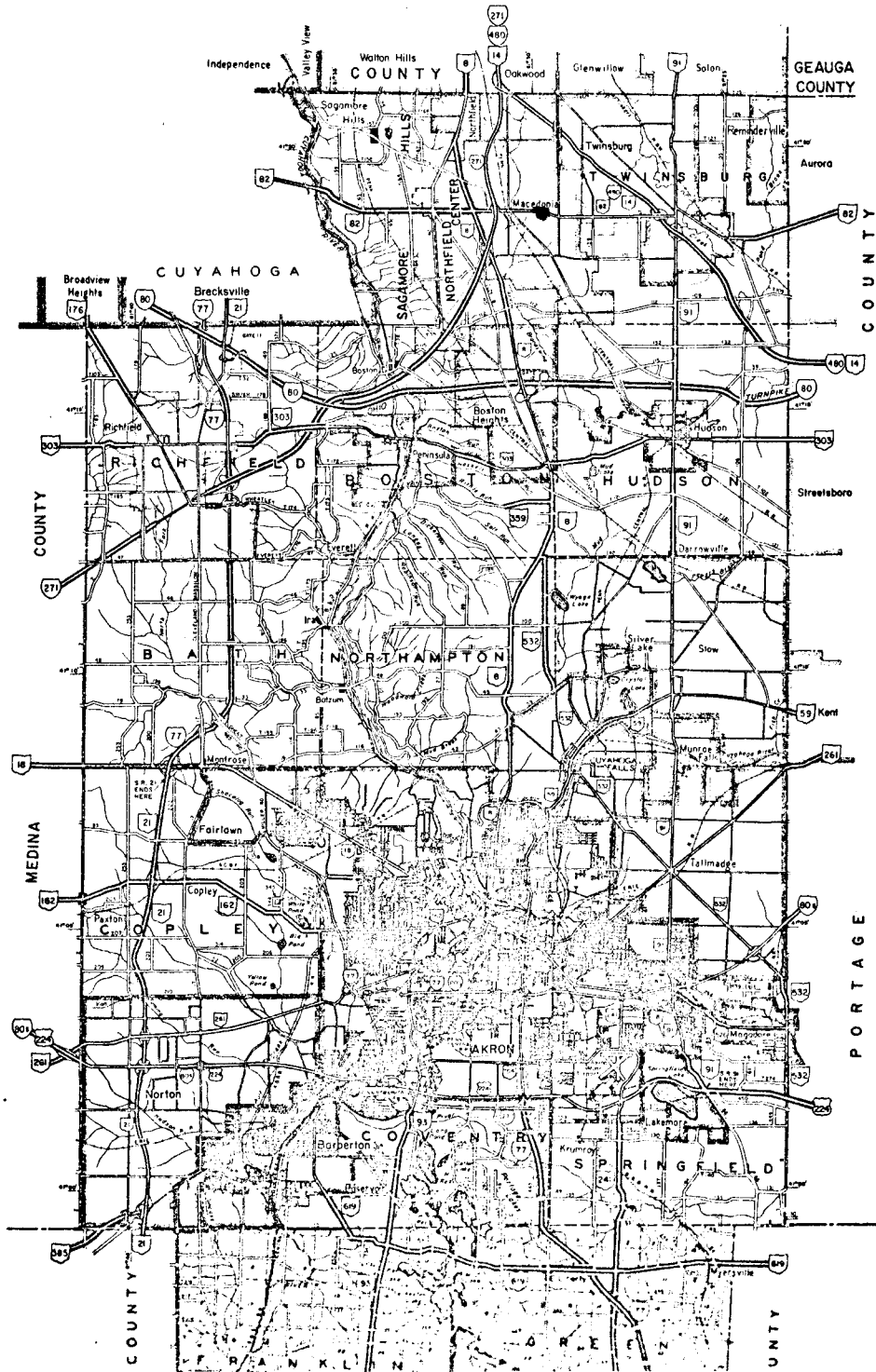
REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.



The Palmer House

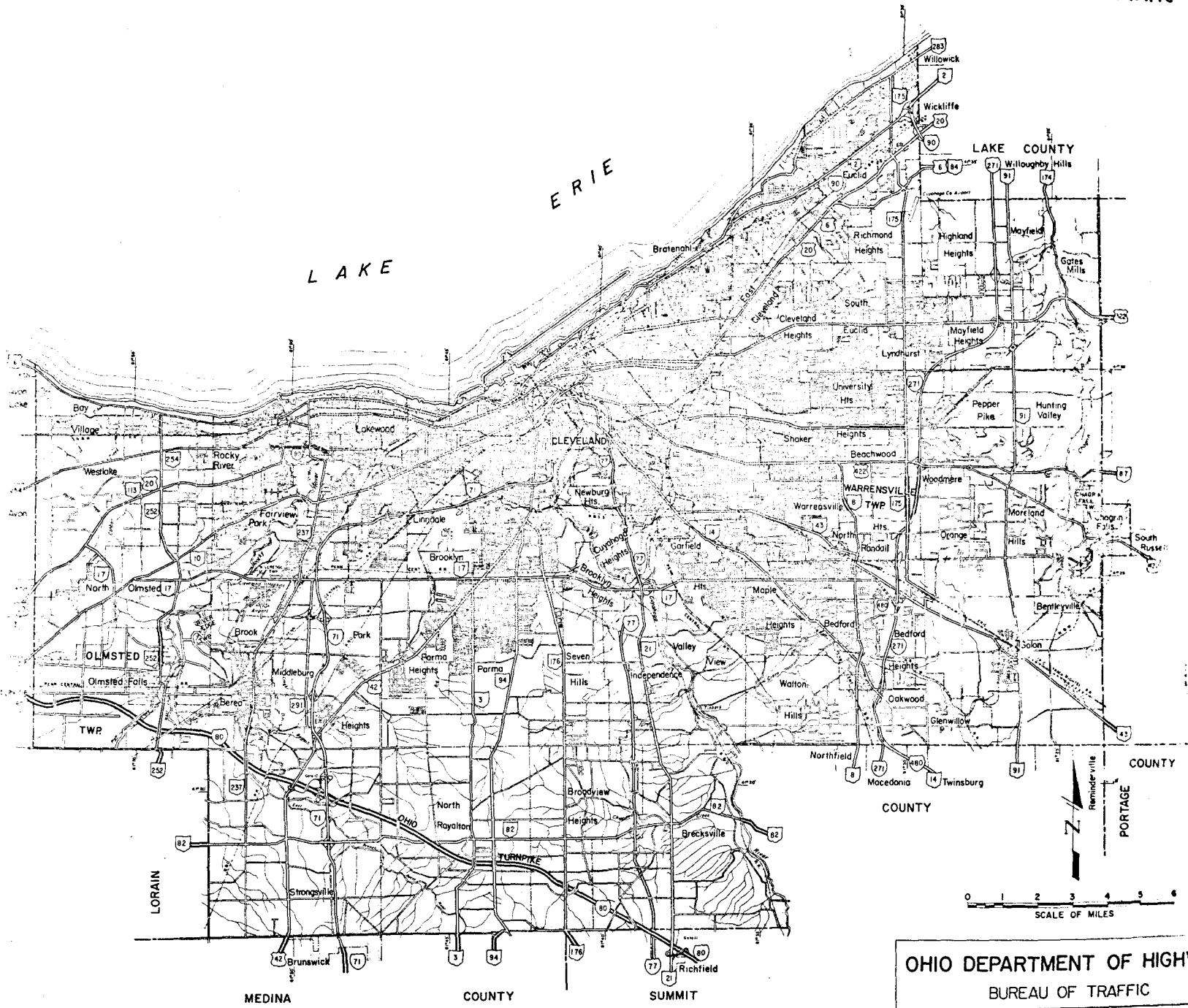
Latitude:
41° 18' 55"
Longitude:
81° 32' 22"

(TWINSBURG) TWINSBURG 3.4 MI
4766 IV SW AURORA 9 MI



SUMMIT

OHIO DE



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
 BUREAU OF TRAFFIC
 OHIO HIGHWAY MAP
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY

August 26, 1974

Superintendent
Northfield Center School District
Olde Eight Road and Aurora Road
Northfield Center, Ohio 44061

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to inform you that the Palmer House, 9370 Olde Eight Road, Northfield Center, has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior.

The nomination was made in connection with a state plan to identify and document prehistoric and historic places in Ohio which qualify for National Register status under provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. All nominations are approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board.

Enclosed is a brochure explaining the purposes and goals of the National Register of Historic Places.

Congratulations for recognizing the importance of, and the need for, the careful and sensible preservation of Ohio's landmarks. Your farsightedness will surely serve as an example to other individuals and organizations in this state.

Sincerely,

Judith Kitchen
Architectural Historian and Administrator
Historic Preservation Office

JK:dal
enclosure

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

National Register of Historic Places File Checklist

The following materials are contained in this file of the National Register form for:

Name: Palmer House

County: Summit

Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form

Multiple Property Nomination form

Photograph(s)

Photograph(s) (copies)

USGS map(s)

USGS map(s) (copies)

Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)

Correspondence

Other _____
