

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Ohio</b>
COUNTY: <b>Washington</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>OCT 3 1973</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**First Unitarian ~~Universalist~~ Church of Marietta**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**First Unitarian Church of Marietta**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**232 Third Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Marietta**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**10**

CLARENCE E. MILLER

STATE: **Ohio** CODE: **039** COUNTY: **Washington** CODE: **167**

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

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**First Unitarian Universalist Church of Marietta**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**232 Third Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Marietta**

STATE:  
**Ohio**

CODE:  
**039**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Washington County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Put and Third Streets**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Marietta**

STATE:  
**Ohio**

CODE:  
**039**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

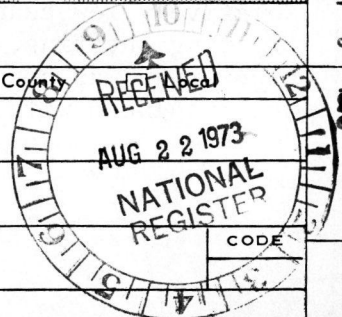
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Ohio**

COUNTY: **Washington**

ENTRY NUMBER: **103**

DATE: **OCT 3 1973**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Unitarian Church of Marietta is a brick and stone Gothic Revival structure, 3 bays by 5 bays, measuring 80 feet long and 50 feet wide. Clay for the handmade bricks came from the Indian walls which led down to the Muskingum River. The elevation and drawings were done by John M. Slocomb of Boston. The stonework of the foundation and the coping was done by N.S. Alcock and the brickwork of the main building by William Kexal.

The stone basement walls are partly above grade. The west (front) facade has a central arched and panelled double door. Simple stone steps lead to the entrance. Above the entrance is a large, Gothic-arched tracery window with stained glass. The three bays are separated by square buttresses. To the right of the entrance the two buttresses continue above the roofline and end in small turrets capped with finials. Between the buttresses are a small arched window on the lower level, and a larger arched window directly above it on the second level. The left side is identical on the first two levels, but the buttresses continue, embracing a square bell tower which rises 85'. Each corner of the bell tower ends with small turrets with finials. Between the turrets of the tower are battlements. Louvered, arched openings are employed on each side of the tower. There is a 1100 pound bell made by Meneely & Sons of New York in the tower.

The south and north facades are divided into five bays each, with each bay separated by square buttresses which also end above the roofline in small turrets with finials. On the north facade there is a small door in the first bay, or tower section. Above the door is a Gothic-arched window. The other bays each have tall, arched windows with tracery and stained glass. All along the gable roofline are battlements.

Just inside and to the left in the base of the bell tower is a small gallery for pictures and displays. To the right is a winding staircase ascending to the choir loft and another to the basement. The audience room is twenty feet high with panel ceiling with heavy pendants grained in imitation oak. Above the altar hangs a mural by Sala Bosworth depicting Christ Weeping Over Jerusalem. It is a copy of one painted by Charles Eastlake. To the right of the altar is a screen containing sections from the Scriptures in illuminated lettering and to the left of the altar is the pipe organ.

Relatively few changes have been made since the time of Nahum Ward. Lighting, heating, and plumbing have necessarily been modernized. The pipe organ was completely rebuilt and, in 1925, the existing glass panes were replaced with more elaborate stained glass windows.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                        |                                       |                                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1855-1857**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____                                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |                                                         |                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |                                                 |                                                         |                                                |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1811 Nahum Ward came from Shrewsbury, Massachusetts to settle permanently in Marietta, Ohio. He rapidly bought up land - about 37 thousand acres - which he sold to men of lesser means in small farm lots, allowing each to make payment for the land in installments as they could.

Having been an adherent of the Unitarian Church, he set about founding a church of that faith in Marietta in 1855. It was called the First Unitarian Church of Marietta. The church, begun in July 1855 and dedicated in June 1857, was erected at Mr. Ward's own expense. He later turned the ownership of the church over to the Board of Trustees.

Nahum Ward was one of the most popular men who lived in Marietta; a man of strength and solidarity. In 1845 he was elected mayor, a position he retained for many years. It was after his election that the first extensive improvements in Marietta were made. Sidewalks and shade trees were introduced along the streets. Through various channels, religious and secular, private and public, he contributed aid to individuals and to causes. He died in April 1860. Mrs. Harriet Ward, wife of Nahum, left a large sum to the church after her death in 1872.

A Universalist Church predated the Unitarian in Marietta. In 1869, the two merged but nearly a century passed before the name was changed (in 1967) to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Marietta.

Many noted people have presented addresses at the Unitarian pulpit. Among these are Ralph Waldo Emerson, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Edward Everett Hale, Mary A. Livermore, Lucretia Mott, and William Howard Taft.

Located in the heart of Marietta, the church is one of Marietta's most important architectural landmarks. It is one of the oldest remaining churches in the area and was among the first churches built west of the Allegheny Mountains that were designed in the Gothic Revival style. It is an excellent example of Gothic Revival architecture. The Church is also important as a community center as it houses meetings of various community groups. Local citizens are proud of the Church, which they call an "architectural jewel."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

History of Marietta, edited and compiled by Martin R. Andrews. Biographical Publishing Company, Illinois, 1902, Vol. I, pp. 395-396 and Vol. II, pp. 890-892.

Williams' History of Washington County, Ohio. Cleveland, Ohio, 1881. pp. 364, 476, 479.

H13 17 / 4362830 460900

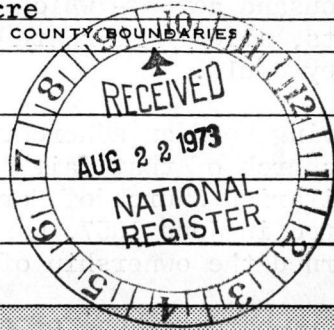
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	39	24	58
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	81	27	12
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Laszlo G. Koe-Krompecher, Assistant Professor of Architecture

ORGANIZATION: School of Architecture, Design and Planning DATE: March 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Ohio University

CITY OR TOWN: Athens STATE: Ohio CODE: 039

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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: Daniel R. [Signature]

Title: Ohio State Parks Pres. Off.

Date: 16 August 1973

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

Robert A. Utley  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/3/73

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 9/20/73

PROPERTY

First Unitarian Universalist Church STATE Ohio  
of Marietta

WORKING NUMBER

7.2.73 3227

TECH REVIEW

Photos 2

Maps 1

CONTROL REVIEW

cm  
7-10-  
73

OK

HISTORIAN

is this bldg. original to 1855-1857 - I still  
do not see reason to make an exception to  
criteria for this church.

Reject  
AHL  
7/10/73

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

I agree there isn't much information  
on the form but I think we ought to give them a  
chance.

Return  
KHC  
7/13/73

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Register entry \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back 7.27.73

Re-submit 8.22.73

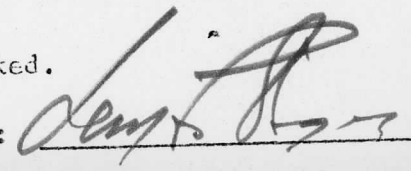
Entered OCT 3 1973

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

- 1. Name. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Location. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Classification. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Owner of Property. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Location of Legal Description. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. Representation in Existing Surveys. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Description. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. Statement of Significance. Although Architecture is checked as an area of significance it is not supported in the statement. Please expand the statement to include the significance of the architecture, and the place the church has held in the life of the community.
- 9. Bibliography. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Geographical Data.
  - a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Acreage. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Form Prepared By. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. Certification. \_\_\_\_\_
- Photographic Coverage. \_\_\_\_\_
- Map Coverage. \_\_\_\_\_
- Other. \_\_\_\_\_

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked.

SIGNED: 

PROPERTY First Unitarian ~~Universalist~~ Church STATE Ohio  
of Marietta

WORKING NUMBER 7.2 73.3227

TECH REVIEW  
Photos 2  
Maps 1

Washington

CONTROL REVIEW  
CM  
8-22-73

HISTORIAN  
if OK by Architectural Hist. I can accept + ~~not~~ still not very impressed border line on criteria as a church  
OK  
Accept  
AMC  
8/22/73

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN  
Local arch. signif. Pretty early for area.  
Accept  
KHC  
8/24/73

ARCHEOLOGIST  
Accept 8-24-73  
C. Shull

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER  
Accept  
Register 9/20/73

National Register write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register entry 11-6-73

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_  
Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered OCT 3 1973



(1.)  
NPS Number Oct. 3, 1973

Title: Frist Unitarian

Church of Marietta

Loc. Washington Co., Ohio

Interior, view of

the altar

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**



SPEED  
LIMIT  
25

CITY  
TRAFFIC  
POLICE  
OFFICE  
100 N. 3rd St.  
COLUMBIA, MO.  
M. V. 100-1000

NPS Number Oct. 3, 1973

Title: Frist Unitarian

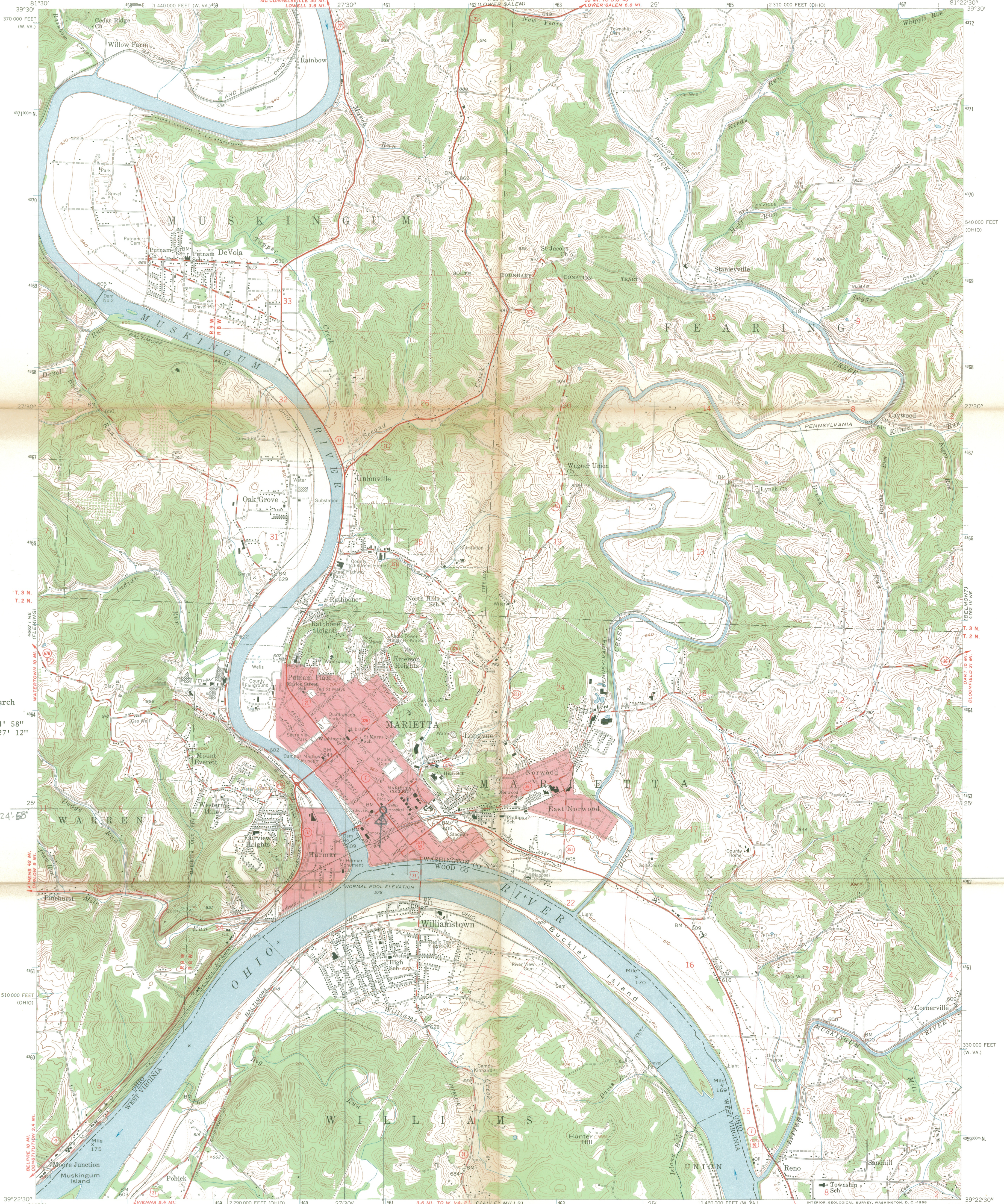
Church of Marietta

Loc. Washington Co., Ohio

front (west) facade

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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



HB  
17 460990  
4362830

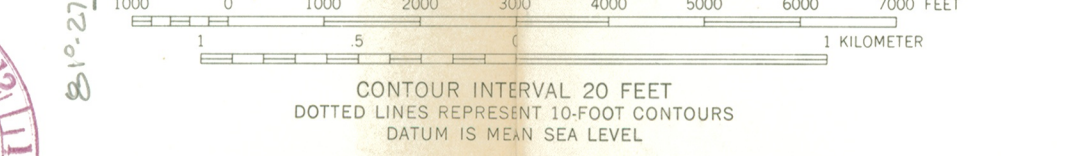
First Unitarian  
Universalist Church  
of Marietta  
Latitude: 39° 24' 58"  
Longitude: 81° 27' 12"

39° 24' 58"

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
Aerial photographs taken 1955. Field check 1957  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Ohio coordinate system, south zone,  
and West Virginia coordinate system, north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines  
visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked.  
The state boundary as shown represents the approximate position of the low  
waterline as determined from U. S. Corps of Engineers, Ohio River charts,  
surveyed 1913, and supplementary information  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Unlabeled wells are oil wells. Unchecked elevations are shown in brown  
Land lines based on the Ohio River Base. Dotted land lines established  
by private subdivision of the Ohio Company of Purchase



SCALE 1:24,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

UNITARIAN CHURCH

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



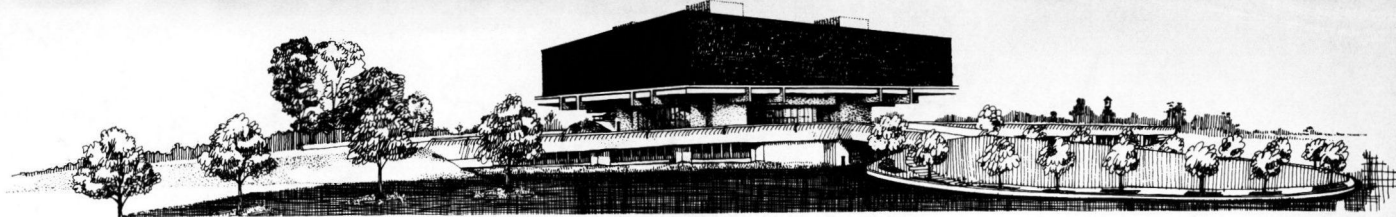
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route

MARIETTA, OHIO—W. VA.  
NW/4 MARIETTA 15' QUADRANGLE  
N 3922.5—W 8122.5/7.5

1957

AMS 4762 IV NW—SERIES V852



Interstate 71 and 17th Avenue

the ohio historical society / ohio historical center / columbus, ohio 43211 / telephone (614) 469-4663

August 17, 1973

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
Department of Interior  
National Park Service  
18th and C sts., N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Bill:

I am enclosing herewith five (5) completed National Register forms which have been approved by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Board. Owners of subject properties have been notified of our intent to register.

One enclosed application, First Unitarian Universalist Church, Marietta, Washington County, is a resubmission containing corrections.

Sincerely,

Daniel R. Porter  
Director

DRP/mu

encl: Completed National Register applications:

Old South Church, Lake County  
Horseshoe Mound, Scioto County  
West Side Market, Cuyahoga County  
Carlisle Fort, Montgomery County  
First Unitarian Universalist Church, Washington County

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE OHIO

Date Entered OCT 8 1973

Name

Location

First Unitarian Church of Marietta

Marietta  
Washington County

Also Notified

Hon. William B. Saxbe  
Hon. Robert Taft, Jr.  
Hon. Clarence E. Miller

Director, Northeast Region

PHR MMott 10/10/73

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. Daniel R. Porter  
Director  
The Ohio Historical Society  
Columbus, Ohio 43211