

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received NOV 17 1986  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Alexander, Dr. William S., House

and or common The Alexander House

2. Location

street & number 22 N. College Ave. not for publication

city, town Oxford vicinity of

state Ohio code 039 county Butler code 017

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Geraldine del Greco

street & number 22 N. College Ave.

city, town Oxford vicinity of state Ohio 45056

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Butler County Administration Building

street & number 130 High St.

city, town Hamilton state Ohio

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Ohio Historic Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1977 federal  state county local

depository for survey records Ohio Historic Preservation Office

city, town Columbus state Ohio

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This stately old house and accompanying carriage house are situated on a rectangular-shaped lot facing east, along a major artery of access to the City of Oxford and located within the "Mile Square" district of the city. These two buildings were erected on that site 117 years ago in 1869 by John M. Shera, local resident. The house extends two stories with stone foundations, including a basement, and solid brick exterior walls and interior bearing walls. The style was essentially a traditional Greek Revival/Italianate and ell-shaped. In approximately 1880 an addition was made to the south elevation filling in the ell and adding a two story porch with classical columns and a second floor balcony, thus giving the house its present rectangular shape. About 1900 the front and side porches were added in the Classical Revival style. The carriage house to the rear of the property remained unaltered. In 1954 a second alteration occurred when the owners converted this 12 room single family dwelling into 4 three-room apartments. The only changes to the exterior that occurred were the removal of a small second floor balcony centered over the front porch and the addition of a small, open lattice-work shed at the rear. The interior features remained essentially unchanged; primarily the room functions changed with the addition of kitchens, baths and partition walls. The condition of the house is good and it appears very much as it has for more than 100 years. The carriage house, however, is in poor condition due to neglect and the ravages of time.

The lumber and bricks used in the construction of the house came from the farm of the builder, John M. Shera. Well preserved wooden cornices and brackets adorn the house below the roof line. A wooden frieze with a different motif continues below the roof line of the front porch. Louvered wooden shutters graced each side of the double-hung 2/2 sash windows on the exterior throughout. Two remain in a permanently closed position on the first and second floor interior rooms on the north side of the house, since the windows behind them were removed and the spaces bricked in at some previously unknown date.

Facing front and east, the main entrance has a handsome paneled door with etched transom and sidelights. There are two additional full-length windows to each side of this entrance. On the second floor there is an identical arrangement of windows plus a fifth, or center window, directly above the main entrance. The impression is one of total symmetry. Framing this frontal presentation is an expansive, full-facade, one-story porch supported by four Doric columns. Surrounding the lower perimeter of the porch to a height of 30 inches is an ornamental balustrade. The same balustrade motif was originally repeated on the balcony that existed earlier over the front porch. The approach to this imposing facade is by a semi-circular walk from the sidewalk, curving gracefully to the two-step porch and returning again to the sidewalk. The radius of this sweep is 18 feet. At the end of the walk and closer to the curb was once a mounting block and hitching post. Both are extant though not in their original locations.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Alexander, Dr. William S., House, Oxford, Butler County, Ohio

Continuation sheet

Item number

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The roof is gabled and constructed of multi-colored geometrically-patterned slate. The roof of the porch at the front is of the same material and construction. The roof of the addition or in-fill, dating from the 1880 period, has a built-up roof that is almost flat except for a slight pitch. Gutters are of the built-in box variety. Projecting upward from the slate roof are three chimneys; two on the north and south elevations respectively, services the four fireplaces located on the first and second floors of the interior rooms of the house. The third chimney, toward the rear, or west, serviced the central heating system.

As stated earlier, the original house was traditional Greek Revival/Italianate in style. An 1880s addition, which was the in-fill of the ell and on the south elevation of the house away from the street, has 3 impressive Doric Columns dominating a two-story porch with a second floor balcony that repeats the motif found at the front of the house. It has a balustrade with handsome corner posts with finials like the front balcony that was removed in 1954. There is a continuity of decoration and motifs despite the two different styles. This side porch has an entry situated between the second and third columns.

The 1954 remodeling did not appreciably alter the exterior of the house other than the removal of the front balcony mentioned earlier. The interior changes were not as drastic as one might suppose, considering a 12 room single-family dwelling was altered into 4 three-room apartments. Some partition walls were erected to accommodate kitchens and baths, but the essence of the house remained intact.

Upon entering the front door, one is immediately confronted with a dominant open stairway of wood with an imposing fluted newel post. About two-thirds of the way up, there is a landing where the stairway sweeps broadly and continues in the opposite direction where it terminates in a large upper hallway. A feeling of expansiveness prevails with eleven foot ceilings. Each of the four front rooms, both up and down, have fireplaces with painted wooden decorative mantels. Other wood trim includes casings, headers, baseboards and some interior partial window shutters, all of simple design and painted. There are numerous paneled wooden doors, some with transoms. Some are painted, others are stained. On the first floor there is one set of pocket doors. The floors are of wood of various quality, type and condition. Some can be restored to their original beauty.

The space below the house is part basement and part crawl space. The former being used primarily for housing the mechanical operations (furnace, oil tank, water heaters, meters, etc.) and some storage. The attic is accessible by a ladder through a small trapdoor opening in the upstairs hallway. It is not used for anything.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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Alexander, Dr. William S., House, Oxford, Butler County, Ohio

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

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3

Street exposure of the house are north and east. Behind the house and to the rear of the property stands the carriage house. Once used to stable horses and at least one carriage, it is only used for storage at present. It is of frame construction with stone foundation (no basement) a side-gabled salt-box roof of shingles. The condition is very poor.

Landscaping is minimal with grass yards, a few shrubs and some mature trees.  
\*\*\*\*\*

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) medicine
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1869; 1895-1917 Builder/Architect unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Alexander House is significant under criteria A, B, and C. It was associated with two important local physicians and community leaders, Dr. Herschel Hinkley and Dr. William Alexander. In the days before hospitals and clinics, the doctors office was a haven for the small town's ill and injured. However, not only were these doctors important in the social well-being of Oxford at the turn-of-the-century, but both were involved in the operation of Miami University. They represent therefore, an earlier example of the "town-gown" cooperation that has long been a constant issue in this and other small Ohio college communities. Architecturally the house is a well-preserved example of an I-house, with transitional Greek Revival/Italianate styling. While this styling is not uncommon in this area, it is the two-story side portico which clearly distinguishes this house from others in Oxford.

In 1867 Inlot 176 was acquired by John M. Shera, a local farmer, who built a traditional Greek Revival/Italianate style house on it in 1869. In 1888 Dr. Herschel D. Hinkley and his wife bought the house from the Shera family. In 1895 Dr. Hinkley sold the house and his medical practice to Dr. William S. Alexander. Dr. Alexander lived in and used the house for his practice until his death in 1917. In 1954 the descendents of Dr. Alexander divided the interior of the house into four apartments, as described in Section 7 of this application.

Dr. Herschel D. Hinkley was already a respected member of the community in Oxford before taking up residence at 22 N. College Avenue. While living there, Dr. Hinkley was appointed to a 9 year term on the Miami University Board of Trustees. He was offered the Chair of Surgery at Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery in 1894, which he accepted. That same year he was awarded an honorary degree by Miami University. Sometime after Dr. William S. Alexander took up residence at the College Avenue address, he became active in the Oxford community. In 1905 he was elected to the Oxford Village Council where he served for four consecutive 2-year terms under two administrations. In the teens, Dr. Alexander was appointed by the Miami University Board of Trustees to serve as physician to men. The house remained in the Alexander family until it was sold on February 5, 1985 to the present owner.

The basic architecture of the house is typical of the mid-to-late 19th century residential properties in southwest Ohio, a five-bay I-house. The primary stylistic character of the original house is found at the cornice, and the mixture of brackets, modillions and cornice returns is the primary reason for categorizing it as a transitional Greek Revival/Italianate building. The Alexander House is a particularly well preserved example of this period in Oxford where the overwhelming need for temporary rental housing frequently resulted in major remodeling of residences of this era. By far the most distinguished element of the architecture is the two-story side portico constructed about the turn-of-the-century. This feature is found nowhere else in the city.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Smith Library of Regional History, Oxford; Butler County Records and Deeds; Oxford Cemetery Records; Ohio Bureau of Vital Statistics; Federal Census Records; Miami University Bulletin; Oxford City Council Minutes; Oxford Press; Hamilton Weekly Telegraph; Hamilton Evening Journal; Letters and memorabilia from the Alexander family (Smith Library).

## 10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Oxford

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	6	9	3	8	1	0	4	3	7	5	7	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Corner Inlot 176. Bounded 182.7 ft. on the north by Church St., 82.60 ft. on the east by College Ave., 182.70 ft. on the south by the adjoining property, 82.60 ft. on the west by an alleyway.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Geraldine del Greco, owner

organization

date April 16, 1986

street & number 22 N. College Ave.

telephone (513) 523-1200

city or town Oxford

state Ohio 45056

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*W. Ray Luce*

title

*SHPO*

date 10/30/86

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

86003498

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Alexander, Dr. William S., House  
Butler County  
OHIO

Substantive Review

Working No. NOV 17 1986

Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Due: 12/18/86 - 1/1/87

Action:  ACCEPT

RETURN 12-30-86

REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Building is significant for architecture and for association with two important doctors - nomination must be returned for technical reason noted below. - also - see note on reverse*

Recom./Criteria Return  
Reviewer Patricia Andrus  
Discipline Historian  
Date 12/30/86  
\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership \_\_\_\_\_ Status Accessible Present Use \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Acquisition \_\_\_\_\_

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

*Note: the form selects criteria A, B, C - yet only architecture is picked as an area of significance - the areas of significance of the Doctors should also be selected (medicine)*

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Patrick Andrews Date 12/30/86 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **NOV 17 1986**  
date entered **MAR 18 1987**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Alexander, Dr. William S., House

and or common The Alexander House

**2. Location**

street & number 22 N. College Ave. \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Oxford \_\_\_ vicinity of

state Ohio code 039 county Butler code 017

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ no	___ industrial
	N/A		___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			___ religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Geraldine del Greco

street & number 22 N. College Ave.

city, town Oxford \_\_\_ vicinity of state Ohio 45056

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Butler County Administration Building

street & number 130 High St.

city, town Hamilton state Ohio

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Ohio Historic Inventory has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date 1977 \_\_\_ 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

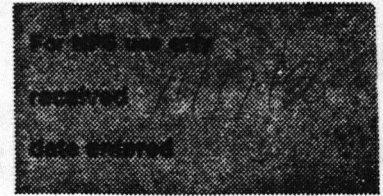
This stately old house and accompanying carriage house are situated on a rectangular-shaped lot facing east, along a major artery of access to the City of Oxford and located within the "Mile Square" district of the city. These two buildings were erected on that site 117 years ago in 1869 by John M. Shera, local resident. The house extends two stories with stone foundations, including a basement, and solid brick exterior walls and interior bearing walls. The style was essentially a traditional Greek Revival/Italianate and ell-shaped. In approximately 1880 an addition was made to the south elevation filling in the ell and adding a two story porch with classical columns and a second floor balcony, thus giving the house its present rectangular shape. About 1900 the front and side porches were added in the Classical Revival style. The carriage house to the rear of the property remained unaltered. In 1954 a second alteration occurred when the owners converted this 12-room single family dwelling into 4 three-room apartments. The only changes to the exterior that occurred were the removal of a small second floor balcony centered over the front porch and the addition of a small, open lattice-work shed at the rear. The interior features remained essentially unchanged; primarily the room functions changed with the addition of kitchens, baths and partition walls. The condition of the house is good and it appears very much as it has for more than 100 years. The carriage house, however, is in poor condition due to neglect and the ravages of time.

The lumber and bricks used in the construction of the house came from the farm of the builder, John M. Shera. Well preserved wooden cornices and brackets adorn the house below the roof line. A wooden frieze with a different motif continues below the roof line of the front porch. Louvered wooden shutters graced each side of the double-hung 2/2 sash windows on the exterior throughout. Two remain in a permanently closed position on the first and second floor interior rooms on the north side of the house, since the windows behind them were removed and the spaces bricked in at some previously unknown date.

Facing front and east, the main entrance has a handsome paneled door with etched transom and sidelights. There are two additional full-length windows to each side of this entrance. On the second floor there is an identical arrangement of windows plus a fifth, or center window, directly above the main entrance. The impression is one of total symmetry. Framing this frontal presentation is an expansive, full-facade, one-story porch supported by four Doric columns. Surrounding the lower perimeter of the porch to a height of 30 inches is an ornamental balustrade. The same balustrade motif was originally repeated on the balcony that existed earlier over the front porch. The approach to this imposing facade is by a semi-circular walk from the sidewalk, curving gracefully to the two-step porch and returning again to the sidewalk. The radius of this sweep is 18 feet. At the end of the walk and closer to the curb was once a mounting block and hitching post. Both are extant though not in their original locations.

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Alexander, Dr. William S., House, Oxford, Butler County, Ohio



Continuation sheet

Item number

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The roof is gabled and constructed of multi-colored geometrically-patterned slate. The roof of the porch at the front is of the same material and construction. The roof of the addition or in-fill, dating from the 1880 period, has a built-up roof that is almost flat except for a slight pitch. Gutters are of the built-in box variety. Projecting upward from the slate roof are three chimneys; two on the north and south elevations respectively, services the four fireplaces located on the first and second floors of the interior rooms of the house. The third chimney, toward the rear, or west, serviced the central heating system.

As stated earlier, the original house was traditional Greek Revival/Italianate in style. An 1880s addition, which was the in-fill of the ell and on the south elevation of the house away from the street, has 3 impressive Doric Columns dominating a two-story porch with a second floor balcony that repeats the motif found at the front of the house. It has a balustrade with handsome corner posts with finials like the front balcony that was removed in 1954. There is a continuity of decoration and motifs despite the two different styles. This side porch has an entry situated between the second and third columns.

The 1954 remodeling did not appreciably alter the exterior of the house other than the removal of the front balcony mentioned earlier. The interior changes were not as drastic as one might suppose, considering a 12 room single-family dwelling was altered into 4 three-room apartments. Some partition walls were erected to accommodate kitchens and baths, but the essence of the house remained intact.

Upon entering the front door, one is immediately confronted with a dominant open stairway of wood with an imposing fluted newel post. About two-thirds of the way up, there is a landing where the stairway sweeps broadly and continues in the opposite direction where it terminates in a large upper hallway. A feeling of expansiveness prevails with eleven foot ceilings. Each of the four front rooms, both up and down, have fireplaces with painted wooden decorative mantels. Other wood trim includes casings, headers, baseboards and some interior partial window shutters, all of simple design and painted. There are numerous paneled wooden doors, some with transoms. Some are painted, others are stained. On the first floor there is one set of pocket doors. The floors are of wood of various quality, type and condition. Some can be restored to their original beauty.

The space below the house is part basement and part crawl space. The former being used primarily for housing the mechanical operations (furnace, oil tank, water heaters, meters, etc.) and some storage. The attic is accessible by a ladder through a small trapdoor opening in the upstairs hallway. It is not used for anything.

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Street exposure of the house are north and east. Behind the house and to the rear of the property stands the carriage house. Once used to stable horses and at least one carriage, it is only used for storage at present. It is of frame construction with stone foundation (no basement) a side-gabled salt-box roof of shingles. The condition is very poor.

Landscaping is minimal with grass yards, a few shrubs and some mature trees.  
\*\*\*\*\*

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) medicine

**Specific dates** 1869; 1895-1917 **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Alexander House is significant under criteria A, B, and C. It was associated with two important local physicians and community leaders, Dr. Herschel Hinkley and Dr. William Alexander. In the days before hospitals and clinics, the doctors office was a haven for the small town's ill and injured. However, not only were these doctors important in the social well-being of Oxford at the turn-of-the-century, but both were involved in the operation of Miami University. They represent therefore, an earlier example of the "town-gown" cooperation that has long been a constant issue in this and other small Ohio college communities. Architecturally the house is a well-preserved example of an I-house, with transitional Greek Revival/Italianate styling. While this styling is not uncommon in this area, it is the two-story side portico which clearly distinguishes this house from others in Oxford.

In 1867 Inlot 176 was acquired by John M. Shera, a local farmer, who built a traditional Greek Revival/Italianate style house on it in 1869. In 1888 Dr. Herschel D. Hinkley and his wife bought the house from the Shera family. In 1895 Dr. Hinkley sold the house and his medical practice to Dr. William S. Alexander. Dr. Alexander lived in and used the house for his practice until his death in 1917. In 1954 the descendents of Dr. Alexander divided the interior of the house into four apartments, as described in Section 7 of this application.

Dr. Herschel D. Hinkley was already a respected member of the community in Oxford before taking up residence at 22 N. College Avenue. While living there, Dr. Hinkley was appointed to a 9 year term on the Miami University Board of Trustees. He was offered the Chair of Surgery at Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery in 1894, which he accepted. That same year he was awarded an honorary degree by Miami University. Sometime after Dr. William S. Alexander took up residence at the College Avenue address, he became active in the Oxford community. In 1905 he was elected to the Oxford Village Council where he served for four consecutive 2-year terms under two administrations. In the teens, Dr. Alexander was appointed by the Miami University Board of Trustees to serve as physician to men. The house remained in the Alexander family until it was sold on February 5, 1985 to the present owner.

The basic architecture of the house is typical of the mid-to-late 19th century residential properties in southwest Ohio, a five-bay I-house. The primary stylistic character of the original house is found at the cornice, and the mixture of brackets, modillions and cornice returns is the primary reason for categorizing it as a transitional Greek Revival/Italianate building. The Alexander House is a particularly well preserved example of this period in Oxford where the overwhelming need for temporary rental housing frequently resulted in major remodeling of residences of this era. By far the most distinguished element of the architecture is the two-story side portico constructed about the turn-of-the-century. This feature is found nowhere else in the city.

\*\*\*\*\*

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Smith Library of Regional History, Oxford; Butler County Records and Deeds; Oxford Cemetery Records Ohio Bureau of Vital Statistics; Federal Census Records; Miami University Bulletin; Oxford City Council Minutes; Oxford Press; Hamilton Weekly Telegraph; Hamilton Evening Journal; Letters and memorabilia from the Alexander family (Smith Library).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Oxford

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UTM References**

A 

1	6	6	9	3	8	1	0	4	3	7	5	7	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing							

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

Corner Inlot 176. Bounded 182.7 ft. on the north by Church St., 82.60 ft. on the east by College Ave., 182.70 ft. on the south by the adjoining property, 82.60 ft. on the west by an alleyway.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Geraldine del Greco, owner

organization  date April 16, 1986

street & number 22 N. College Ave. telephone (513) 523-1200

city or town Oxford state Ohio 45056

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature W. Ray Luce

title SHPO date 10/30/86

**For NPS use only**  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
Patricia Andrews date 3/18/87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:  date

Chief of Registration

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Alexander, Dr. William S., House  
Butler County  
OHIO

~~Substantive Review~~

Working No. 11/17/86  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88  
Date Due: 3/27/87  
Action:  ACCEPT 3-18-87  
 RETURN  
 REJECT

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*on resubmission the requested technical correction has been made and the appropriate area of significance (medicine) added*

Recom./Criteria accept A, B, C  
Reviewer Patrick Andrus  
Discipline Historian  
Date 3/18/87  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

---

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*) \_\_\_\_\_

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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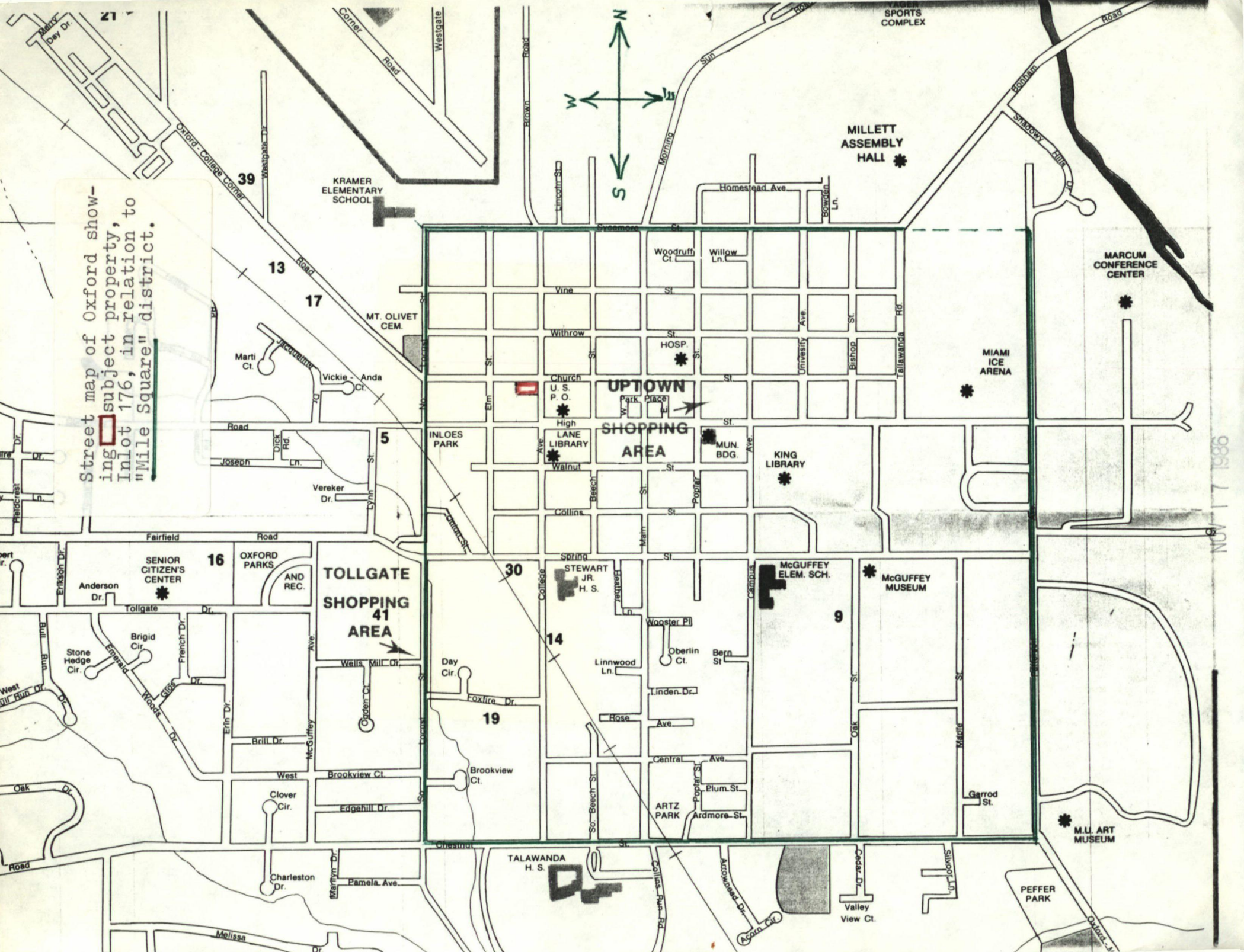
**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street map of Oxford showing subject property, in lot 176, in relation to "Mile Square" district.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio

City map of Oxford indicating  
location of subject property  
(Inlot 176) in relationship to  
the "mile Square" district.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Stuart Meck  
April 1985  
Negative with City Planning Dept.,  
City Hall, Oxford  
Front (east) and north elevations  
looking southwest. Note carriage house  
visible,



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chápman  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
July 1985  
Back view, west elevation, camera  
looking east. Dilapidated shed visible



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Stuart Meck  
April 1985  
Negative with City Planning Dept.,  
City Hall, Oxford  
7/8 view of front elevation, some  
south elevation. Camera looking east  
and north.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Frank Snyder  
Circa: Summer 1907  
Glass plate (negative) Miami Univ.  
Archives, Oxford. Copy with owner.  
3/4 view of front facade and south  
elevation looking northwest.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Front entry way, east elevation,  
Camera looking west



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Stuart Meck  
April 1985  
Negative with City Planning Dept.,  
City Hall, Oxford  
South elevation including shed from  
1954 addition. Camera facing north.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of etched glass in front entry  
sidelights from inside facing east



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of balustrade on front porch,  
facing south



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of south elevation showing  
columns, shuttered window and par-  
tial view of balcony supports.  
View faces east.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of 2nd floor balcony support  
brackets, south elevation.  
View faces east.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio

Photographer: J. Newman

April 1986

Negative with owner, G. del Greco  
Detail of upper roof line decoration  
with cornices and brackets.  
South elevation



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue. Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: J. Newman  
Negative with owner, G.del Greco  
Detail of upper roof brackets.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: J. Newman  
Negative with owner, G. del Greco  
Detail of decorative motif below  
fron porch roof line.



The Alexander House  
222 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Hitching post.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio

Photographer: Alan Chapman

July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of 2nd floor anterior room  
(N.E.) w/fireplace, door treatment,  
view of adjoining rooms.  
Facing northwest.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman

July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of fireplace; one of four,  
all very similar.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of Stairway w/ fluted newel  
post and decorative detail.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio

Photographer: Alan Chapman

July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
View from stairway landing to upper  
level hallway; front entry visible  
below. Facing east.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio

Photographer: Alan Chapman

July 1985

Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Detail of 1st door to left of front  
entry at base of stairs, newel post  
top visible. Facing south.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985

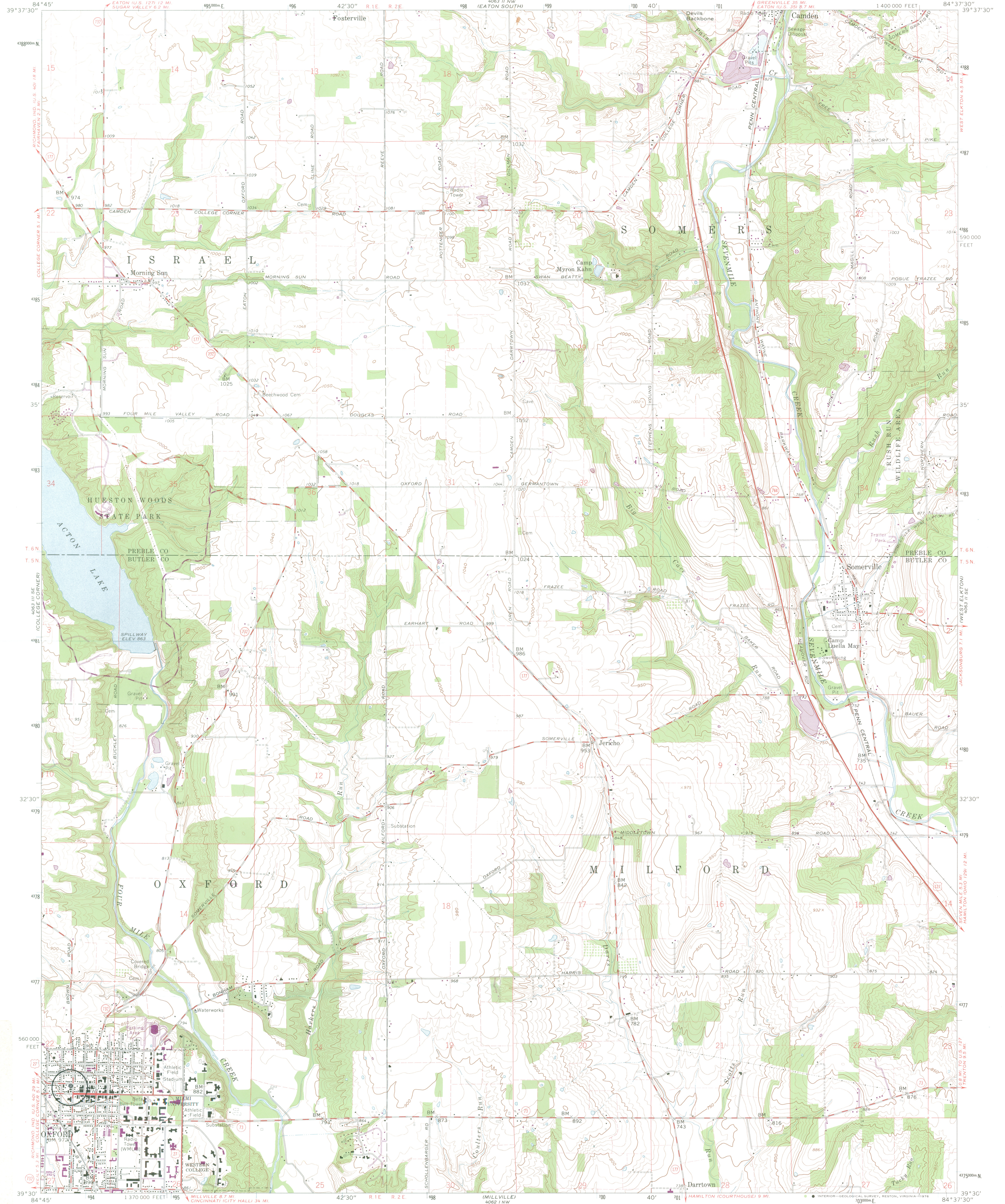
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Carriage house, rear and side view.  
Facing north east.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Carriage house, front view.  
Facing west.



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio  
Photographer: Alan Chapman  
July 1985  
Negative with Barcus & Swift, Oxford  
Carriage house, side view.  
Facing north.



Alexander, Dr. William S., House  
Oxford, Butler County, Ohio  
UTW:  
16 693810 4375720  
9861 1 1 ADN

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1959. Field checked 1961

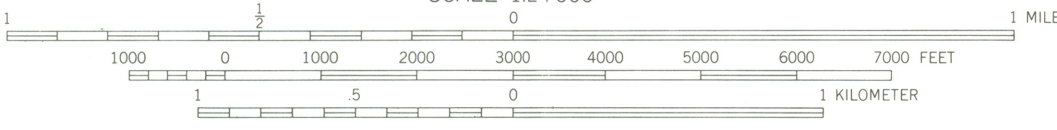
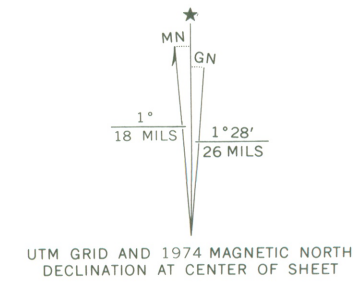
Polycyclic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000-foot grid based on Ohio coordinate system, south zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is un-checked

Entire area lies within the Miami River Survey  
Land lines based on the Great Miami River Base

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of Ohio agencies from aerial photographs taken 1974. This information not field checked.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC DATUM OF 1929



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

OXFORD, OHIO  
N3930—W8437.5/7.5

1961  
PHOTOREVISED 1974  
S 4063 II SW—SERIES V852

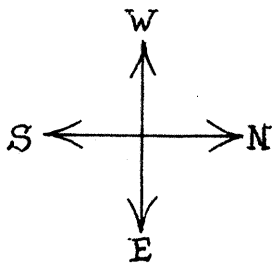
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

THE ALEXANDER HOUSE  
INLOT 176

Alley

Carriage House

Adjacent  
property



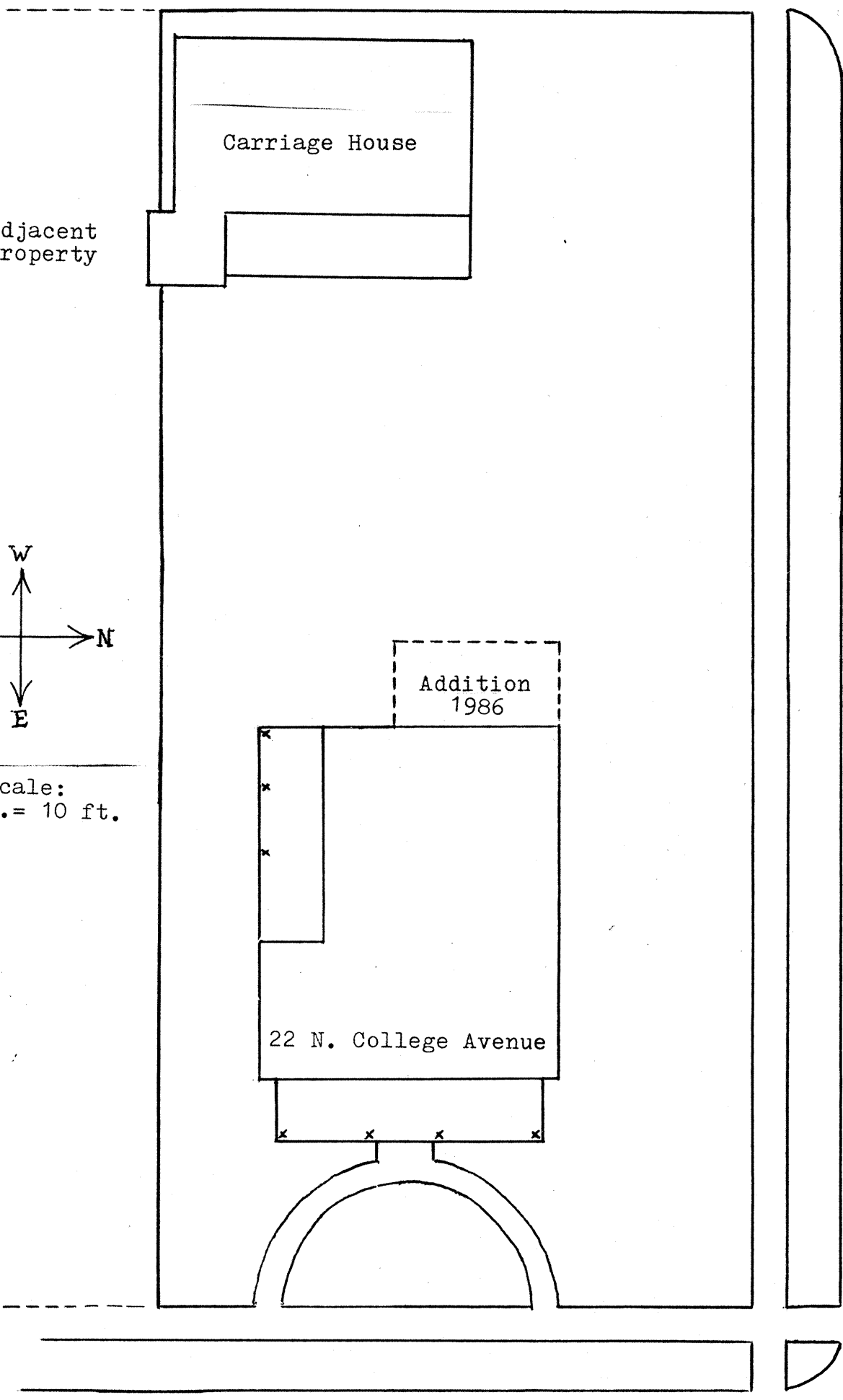
Scale:  
1/2 in. = 10 ft.

Addition  
1986

22 N. College Avenue

CHURCH STREET

COLLEGE AVENUE



The Alexander House  
22 N. College Avenue, Oxford  
Butler County, Ohio

Plot Plan of Inlot 176 and the  
location and relationship of  
the house and carriage house.

**Ohio Historic Preservation Office**

1985 Velma Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211  
614/466-1500



**OHIO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**  
SINCE 1885

November 10, 1986

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
1100 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Carol:

Enclosed are five new National Register nominations. All of the appropriate notification procedures have been followed for these new submissions. Please give a substantive review to the Hilliard Apartment Building, Cuyahoga County.

New Submissions

Alexander, Dr. William S., House  
Monnett Memorial M.E. Chapel  
Hilliard Apartment Building  
Panek Block  
Union Cemetery/Beatty Park

County  
Butler  
Crawford  
Cuyahoga  
Cuyahoga  
Jefferson

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

W. Ray Luce  
State Historic Preservation Office

WRL:bp  
Enclosures

NOV 17 1986