UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME
HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
10340 Riverview Road
CITY, TOWN
Brecksville
STATE
Ohio

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
-X DISTRICT
-X BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP
-PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION
-IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS
-X OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE

PRESENT USE
- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

4 AGENCY
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
U. S. Department of the Interior,
National Park Service, Midwest Region
STREET & NUMBER
1709 Jackson Street
CITY, TOWN
Omaha
STATE
Nebraska

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Cuyahoga County Administration Building
STREET & NUMBER
1219 Ontario
CITY, TOWN
Cleveland
STATE
Ohio

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
Ohio Historic Inventory
DATE
5/76
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Center
CITY, TOWN
Columbus
STATE
Ohio
Situated on the western rim of the Cuyahoga Valley, the Jonas Coonrad House is a traditional brick farmhouse built in 1875. The house has a plain ashlar sandstone foundation with a cut stone water table, and there is a basement. The two-story main block is three bays wide with gable end facing the road. The front entrance is on the left side. A lower two-story wing projects from the rear of the main block, and there is a one-story ell on the north side. The red brick is laid in stretcher bond, and the house features tooled stone sills and lintels. The front entrance features a stilted rectangular lintel over a transom light. The paneled front door has a single round-arch light and is reminiscent of the Second Empire style. The house has large double-hung windows, with 2/2 lights, and there is an oculus window in the gable.

A screened porch has been added on the south side, and the outside end chimneys on the north and south walls probably were added when the house was made into two apartments in 1954. Although the original eleven-room house has been divided, an inspection of the first-floor apartment shows that much of what appears to be the original moldings are still intact.

Although not part of this nomination, there is a large gable-roofed bank barn with vertical siding, built in 1913, as well as several sheds and garages of more recent construction. The original Coonrad barn burned down, and a cheese factory known to have stood to the north of the house during the late nineteenth century is no longer extant. A spring-fed pond created during the 1960s is situated at the foot of the hill between the house and the road.

*Please note the revision of this paragraph on Page 2 Item Number 7.*
SIGNIFICANCE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PERIOD
PREHISTORIC
1400-1499
1500-1599
1600-1699
1700-1799
1800-1899
1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE
ART
COMMERCE
COMMUNICATIONS
COMMUNITY PLANNING
CONSERVATION
ECONOMICS
EDUCATION
ENGINEERING
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
INDUSTRY
INVENTION
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LAW
LITERATURE
MILITARY
MUSIC
PHILOSOPHY
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
RELIGION
SCIENCE
SCULPTURE
THEATER
TRANSPORTATION
OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES
1875

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jonas Coonrad House is significant for its historic associations with Brecksville township and agricultural development in the Cuyahoga River Valley. "Dairying largely engages the attention of the people . . .," Crisfield Johnson wrote about Brecksville in 1879.1 This brick farmhouse was built in 1875 for Jonas Coonrad, who operated a substantial dairy farm and cheese factory on the property. Architecturally, the Coonrad House is important as one of the finest late-nineteenth-century residences in the Cuyahoga Valley.

History

Jonas Coonrad was born in 1836 in Rensselaer County, New York.2 He was the son of Jacob Coonrad, a farmer and carpenter, and Mary Wager. At the age of eighteen, he learned the trade of molder in the Wager stove foundry at Troy, New York. Three years later, about 1857, he emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio, where he worked as a clerk in the grocery store on Pearl Street kept by his older brother, Jeremiah.3 After two years he went to Quincy, Illinois, and worked for seven years in a stove foundry. In the autumn of 1865, he married Catherine Morten, the daughter of David and Susannah McKay Morten. (Catherine had been born in Brecksville township, on the same farm which she and her husband would later purchase.)

In 1866, the Coonrads returned to Cleveland, and Jonas entered the grocery business with his brother. A year and a half later, he


2The biographical information on the Coonrads is taken largely from Memorial Record of the County of Cuyahoga and City of Cleveland, Ohio (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1894), p. 732. Some of the birth and death dates given were supplied by The Western Reserve Historical Society, comp., "Cuyahoga County Cemetery Inscriptions," 2 vols. (Typescript, 1934), 1:60.

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**


Memorial Record of the County of Cuyahoga and City of Cleveland, Ohio. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1894.

**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>EASTING</th>
<th>NORTHING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>4,566,840</td>
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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated property consists of a rectangular lot approximately five acres in size, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the western edge of Riverview Road 500 meters southeast of the intersection of Snowville Road and Riverview Road, proceed southwest on a line parallel the north wall of the Coonrad House for 180 meters; then proceed southerly on a line parallel with Riverview Road for 150 meters; then proceed with

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
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**FORM PREPARED BY**

**NAME / TITLE**
Carol Poh Miller, Historic Preservation Consultant

**ORGANIZATION**
under contract with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society

**DATE**
8 May 1978

**ADDRESS**
1260 Granger Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

**CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

**STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

YES [X] NO [ ] NONE [ ]

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is: National [X] State [ ] Local [ ]

**STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE**

**FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE**

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**ATTEST**
William H. Bramham
7.19.79

**KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

**DATE**
7.29.78
There is a large gable-roofed bank barn with vertical siding on the south side of the house. It was built in 1913, after the original Coonrad barn, located near the road, burned down. A spring-fed pond created during the 1960s is situated at the foot of the hill between the house and the road.

These are several sheds and garages on the property. These are of recent construction and therefore are not included with this nomination.

Item Number 8 -- continued

The Jonas Coonrad House is significant for its historic associations with Brecksville township and agricultural development in the Cuyahoga River Valley. "Dairying largely engages the attention of the people," Crisfield Johnson wrote about Brecksville in 1879. This brick farmhouse was built in 1875 for Jonas Coonrad. Coonrad was the only dairy farmer listed in the "Brecksville Business Directory" published in the Cuyahoga County atlas of 1874, and it is likely that his was one of the largest dairy farms in the township. Architecturally, the Jonas Coonrad House is one of the finest nineteenth-century houses in the Cuyahoga Valley, and is included within the boundaries of the new Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area. It is one of only four early brick farmhouses in the park, and it is the only one that dates from the second half of the nineteenth century. The historical integrity of the house is excellent; Riverview Road has remained largely rural, while much of the rest of Brecksville has been developed with suburban tract houses.

Item Number 10 -- continued

Acreage of nominated property: 5

Verbal boundary description: The nominated property consists of a rectangular lot approximately 5 acres in size, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the western edge of Riverview Road 500 meters

purchased a farm of three hundred acres in the southeast corner of Brecksville township. Despite limited experience in farming, "he soon adapted himself to his new vocation and proved a success."

The Brecksville Business Directory in the Cuyahoga County atlas of 1874 lists "Jonas Coonrad, Proprietor of Cheese Factory; capacity for 500 milk cows . . . ."^ Coonrad continued in this business until about 1880, when the completion of the Valley Railroad to Cleveland made that market more accessible to the Brecksville community.

In 1875, the Coonrads built the large brick farmhouse in which they lived for the rest of their lives. Jonas and Catherine Coonrad had three children: Jessie, who married Frederick Knapp; Kittie, who was born in 1887 and died in 1912; and an infant who died in Quincy. Catherine Coonrad died sometime early in the 1890s at the age of forty-eight.^ Jonas married Lillie Johnson in 1892 and they had one child, Lida, who was born in 1896. Jonas Coonrad died in 1919, Lillie in 1927. Lida married Edward Sneider and they lived in the house until 1958, when it was sold. The Coonrad property continued to be farmed until this past year.

A memorial record published in 1894 described the Jonas Coonrad House as "an elegant brick residence, which from its superb natural elevation commands a grand view of the beautiful Cuyahoga River coursing within a short distance."^ This description still rings true today.

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^Cuyahoga County Cemetery Inscriptions" gives Catherine Coonrad's date of death as "1893?", noting that the stone is worn and thus illegible.

^Telephone conversation with Lida Coonrad Sneider, Peninsula, Ohio, 4 April 1978.

^Memorial Record of the County of Cuyahoga, p. 732.
northeast on a line parallel with the south wall of the Coonrad House to Riverview Road; then proceed north along the western edge of Riverview Road to the point of origin.
southeast of the intersection of Snowville Road and Riverview Road, proceed southwest on a line parallel with the north wall of the Coonrad House for 180 meters; then proceed southeast on a line parallel with Riverview Road for 150 meters; then proceed northeast on a line parallel with the south wall of the Coonrad House to Riverview Road; then proceed north along the western edge of Riverview Road to the point of origin.
Jonas Coonrad House
Brecksville, Ohio

Cuyahoga County

Photo by Carol Poh Miller, March 1978

Negative property of Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society

East facade looking northwest

Coonrad House photo #1 of 3

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Jonas Coonrad House
Brecksville, Ohio
Cuyahoga County

Photo by Carol Poh Miller, March 1978

Negative property of Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society

North elevation looking south
Coonrad House photo #2 of 3
Jonas Coonrad House
Brecksville, Ohio
Cuyahoga County

Photo by Carol Poh Miller, March 1978
Negative property of Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society
South facade looking northeast
Coonrad House photo #3 of 3
Jonas Coonrad House
Brecksville, Ohio
Cuyahoga County

Photo by Carol Poh Miller, March 1978
Negative: Ohio Historic Preservation Office

View showing northern elevation of barn.