**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Wallace Farm

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
8230 Brandywine Road

CITY, TOWN  
Northfield Ctr. X

STATE  
Ohio

VICINITY OF  
039

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
14

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)  
Department of the Interior  
United States National Park Service  
Midwest Region

STREET & NUMBER  
1709 Jackson Street

CITY, TOWN  
Omaha

STATE  
Nebraska

VICINITY OF  
68102

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Summit County Auditor's Office

STREET & NUMBER  
175 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN  
Akron

STATE  
Ohio

VICINITY OF  
44308

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
List of Classified Structures, National Park Service, Midwest Region, March 23, 1981

DATE  
March 23, 1981

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Midwest Region  
Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area

CITY, TOWN  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

STATE  
Nebraska

DATE ENTERED  
MAR 21 1985

FOR NPS USE ONLY
Overlooking the impressive 63-foot high waterfall on Brandywine Creek, the James W. Wallace House and Barn remain an imposing testament to the early 19th century foresight and entrepreneurship of George Wallace and his two sons, James W. and George Y. Wallace. The 20th century mill ruin, along the south side of Brandywine Creek, is a gentle reminder of the earlier 19th century grist mill and the disastrous 1843 flood of the area. The tranquil scene established by the abandoned 20th century roadway, resting on early 19th century quarried stone bridge abutments, sharply contrasts with the hurried pace along Interstate 271 in the background.

Atop a small hillside, across Interstate 271 from the Wallace Farm, the Lemoin House offers mute testimony to the now extinct mid-19th century industrial village of Brandywine -- a community economically controlled by and through the James W. Wallace House and its occupants.

At the height of the village's economic prosperity, James W. Wallace was also operating an 830-acre farmstead, part of which is now outside the legislative boundaries of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area. All 45.5 nominated acres, which include the site of the original George Wallace house and store, are within the park boundaries and represent the nucleus of the James W. Wallace farm.

James Wallace House

Situated on a gently sloping hillside, approximately 100 yards north of the 63-foot high waterfall on Brandywine Creek, is the James W. Wallace House. It is an irregularly shaped wood-frame residence constructed in the Greek Revival style, popular throughout the country during the middle part of the nineteenth century. (Two subsequent additions were constructed during the mid-nineteenth century and another in the early 20th century.) The entire structure is covered with horizontal clapboard. It has a gable roof which is believed to have been covered with sawn wood shingles. There is a full basement under the entire structure, and the foundation of the house consists of large blocks of coursed sandstone which, most likely, were quarried on the property. All windows are six over six, double-hung sashes, with six-pane "eyebrow" windows just below the roof overhang.

The Wallace House consists of two basic components: a 1 1/2 story antebellum Greek Revival styled rear wing and a much plainer 2-story mid-19th century block to the front. It is speculated that the Greek Revival portion was the George Wallace House and store whose original site to the east across Brandywine Road is included in the nomination. It is believed that these structures were moved about 1850 and incorporated into the construction of the new house for James Wallace. Lending credence to this supposition is the formal quality of the central entrance with transom and sidelights on this wing which now faces to the rear of the property. In addition, the multiple entrances in the gable end of the wing are suggestive of a combined residential/commercial usage. It is also felt that a porch built at this time on the northwest corner of the building was enclosed during the 20th century.
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD                      AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW
---PREHISTORIC              _ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
---1400-1499                _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
---1500-1599                _AGRICULTURE
---1600-1699                _ARCHITECTURE
---1700-1799                _ART
---1800-1899                _COMMERCCE
---1900                      _COMMUNICATIONS
---                          _COMMUNITY PLANNING
---                          _CONSERVATION
---                          _ENGINEERING
---                          _EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
---                          _INVENTION
---                          _INDUSTRY
---                          _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
---                          _LAW
---                          _LITERATURE
---                          _MILITARY
---                          _MUSIC
---                          _PHILOSOPHY
---                          _POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
---                          _RELIGION
---                          _SCIENCE
---                          _SCULPTURE
---                          _SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
---                          _THEATER
---                          _TRANSPORTATION
---                          OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES  c. 1850                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT  unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James Wallace House and Barn are significant under criterion B for their association with the activities of the Wallace family, who as land speculators, farmers and industrialists were highly instrumental in increasing the population and economic base of the Cuyahoga River Valley. Furthermore although the house appears to be a modest 19th century residence, it possesses certain distinctive characteristics of a period of construction. Specifically the large smooth face ashlar foundation blocks and stone porch are handsomely crafted and laid up and believed to be unique in the Valley. It is interesting to note that this particular foundation technique is found on other antebellum residences in Ohio built by New England settlers and may represent a distinctive regional attribute.

The James W. Wallace House and Barn, Historic Structures No. 461 and 498, both built about 1850, and the village of Brandywine were significant to northeastern Ohio because they represented one of the earliest industrial developments in the Cuyahoga River valley. For over a half century (1814-1870s), the services provided by the Brandywine mills, which were owned and operated by the Wallace family, were highly instrumental in increasing the population and economy of the valley. All 45.5 nominated acres are within the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area boundaries, and all were part of the 830-acre James W. Wallace farmstead.

James W. Wallace was born in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1803 and was the eldest son of George and Harriet Menough Wallace. At that time, George Wallace was working as a sawyer for his father-in-law, Samuel Menough (Perrin page 960).

By 1808 the George Wallace family had moved into the Burton, Ohio, area of Geauga County, where he soon became a land speculator -- a trait which he instilled into his two eldest sons, James W. Wallace and George Y. Wallace. In 1815, when he sold the last of his Geauga County acreage, George Wallace has used the land for 7 years and had a net profit of over $400,00 (Deeds Bolume A/B pages 467, 468, and 483, and Volume C page 167, plus Volume D page 283). The attorney for all these deed transactions was Simon Perkins, later a General in the War of 1812 and the future "founding father" of Akron, Ohio.

James W. and George Y. Wallace lived in Cleveland from 1810 to 1820, where their father owned and operated the first hotel, was elected as the first city tax assessor, served as a Justice of the Peace, helped establish the first school, and the first bank in the city (Pioneer families page 114). During these 10 years the two brothers met and established a lasting friendship with Alfred Kelly, later Acting Commissioner in Residence of the Ohio and Erie Canal Commission.
See attached sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

E 17 454500 4569390

See attached sheet — Continuation Sheet, Item 10, page 2

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Chester V. Hamilton, Historian
Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area

DATE: February 23, 1984

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

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_, _State_, _Local_.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

DATE: May 9, 1985

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE: 6/22/85
A major element of the Wallace House is the store porch on the south side in the corner formed by the old wing and the 1850 block. It features large rectangular stone blocks for foundation, steps and floor, and is believed to be unusual for the Cuyahoga River Valley in the county.

James Wallace Barn

Approximately twenty feet west of the James W. Wallace house is a 16 X 32 foot two-story barn. The barn is constructed of 8 X 8-inch hand-hewn oak framing and is covered with 4-inch wide poplar clapboard siding. The foundation is of course-cut sandstone, mixed with broken sandstone pieces and rubble, which was laid on, or just below, ground level. The gable roof is covered with sawn wood shingles, nailed onto 4 X 4-inch hand-hewn oak rafters.

In addition to the James W. Wallace house and barn, there is only one other structure within the nominated area. Approximately 100 feet due west of the house is a 30 X 78 foot concrete block workshop built upon the ruins of a mid-19th century bank barn. The northern wall is embedded into the hillside and the entire wall is constructed of coursed quarried sandstone approximately 7-foot high. According to the January, 1984, interview with Mr. Harry L. Huntsman, this concrete block building was built by the Champion Electric Company soon after the August, 1937, destruction of their mill along the south side of Brandywine Creek. He further stated than an "old barn" had fallen down many years earlier and was slowly decaying when the mill burned. According to Mr. Huntsman, the construction workers burned all the timbers and "cleaned up" the areas before constructing the concrete block building. This concrete block building is non-contributing to the historical setting.

Also included in the nominated area are several foundations. A large barn was located to the rear of the house and is shown in one of the historic photos. A U-shaped outline of sandstone blocks now remains. In addition the site of the George Wallace complex is included which consists of three foundations for a house, barn and store. The store foundation of the mill ruins is located on the south side of the creek just below an impressive 63' waterfall.

Finally two bridges are included in the nominated area. One is a 1930s concrete beam bridge that is immediately adjacent to the mill site. The stone abutments are from an earlier metal pony truss that is shown in one of the historic photos. The other bridge is a c. 1960 steel beam structure for the re-routed Brandywine Road just to the east of the old bridge site and should be considered a non-contributing element.
According to Perrin (page 960), George Wallace constructed a sawmill at the falls on Brandywine Creek as early as 1814, and by 1830 he had also built a grist mill, a woolen factory, and a distillery. All this building provided the impetus for the establishment of the village of Brandywine, which by 1825 the U.S. Postal Department had officially recognized by appointing George Wallace Sr. as the postmaster (Goosman Page 31). In 1843, a major flood seriously damaged the grist mill and destroyed the woolen factory, but the grist mill was rebuilt the following year. The sawmill and grist mill continued operating until the 20th century, but in a gradually decreasing degree. The village of Brandywine reached its zenith in 1852 when there was a total of 11 households in the village and the "Wallace Mills" were employing approximately 12 to 20 individuals (Goosman Page 103).

When the Ohio and Erie Canal construction began, James W. Wallace was 22 years of age, and through his father's past business connections with Alfred Kelly, he was able to acquire construction contracts for 11 miles of the canal near Massillon, Ohio, and the aqueduct at Roscoe. Afterwards, James W. Wallace operated a canal boat for two years, worked 5 years as a purchasing agent for a Lake Erie shipping firm in Cleveland, then he became a land agent for the Boston Land Company (Perrin Page 960). James W. Wallace married Adeline Hanchett in 1835, and two years later they moved to Boston, Ohio, where he purchased the only brick house in the village and three parcels of land totaling 160 acres (Deeds and tax auditors' records). The brick house in Boston was only two miles from the "Wallace Mills" at Brandywine.

In 1833, James W. and George Y. Wallace purchased their first land parcel -- sixty acres, including a frame house built by their uncle. (It was approximately 200 yards due east of the present James W. Wallace House.) George Y. Wallace and his wife Ellen Reynolds lived in this house until their deaths in the mid-1840s.

Using this house as a base of operation, the Wallace brothers began to expand their farming and timbering business until, by 1840, they owned approximately 710 contiguous acres and the "Wallace Mills" at the falls on Brandywine Creek. This rapid expansion must have created financial hardships for the Wallace brothers. Between 1869, when James W. Wallace sold the farm to Warrick Price, and 1982, when the property was acquired by the National Park Service, there were seven separate owners of the farmstead, and the contiguous land base of the farm had been reduced from 830 acres to 81.02 acres.
Wallace Farm, Northfield Center vic., Summit County, Ohio

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2 of 3


Bierce, Lucius V., Historical Reminiscences of Summit County, Canfield, Ohio: Canfield Publishers, 1854.

Bierce, 1800s Summit County Auditors Tax Duplicate Records, Akron, Ohio: Library Archival Services, Akron University, 302 Buchtel Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44325.


Cuyahoga County Recorders Office, location of Trumbull, Geauga, and Cuyahoga County deeds, mortgages, and conveyances, Recorder of Instruments, 1219 Ontario Street, Cleveland.


Grismer, Karl H., Akron and Summit County, Akron, Ohio: Summit County Historical Society, undated.

Historical Society of Northfield, School Board Minutes, Union School District, 1838 to 1878, Northfield, Ohio.


Kennedy, James Harrison, A History of the City of Cleveland, Cleveland: Imperial Press of Cleveland, 1896.

Lane, Samuel A., Fifty Years and Over of Akron and Summit County, Akron, Ohio: Beacon Job Department, 1892.

Ohio Historical Records Survey Project, Historical Sites of Cleveland -- Hotels and Taverns, Columbus, Ohio, August, 1942.
Wallace Farm, Northfield Center vic., Summit County, Ohio

Perrin, William H., History of Summit County, Chicago: Baskin and Battery Historical Publishers, 1881.

Portage County, 1800s Auditors' Reports, Kent, Ohio: American Research Center, University Archives, Kent State University.


Semon, Waldo, Interview January 4, 1984, Thirty Acres, Hudson, Ohio: former resident of Brandywine at time Interstate 271 was constructed.

Summit County Office of Deeds, Transfers, and Conveyances, Akron, Ohio: 175 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio 44308.


Whittlesey, Col. Charles, Early History of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio: Fairbanks and Bennett Co., 1867.

Wickham, Gertrude Van Resselear, Pioneer Women of the Western Reserve, Cleveland, Ohio: Cleveland Centennial Commission, 1896.

The James W. Wallace House and barn are located 2½ miles due south of the village of Northfield, Ohio, and all nominated acres are within the boundaries of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area. The land is bounded as follows: Beginning at a point in the center of the junction of Stanford Road with the western boundary of the Interstate 271 right-of-way, Northfield Township, Summit County, Ohio, head northeasterly 1300 feet along the western boundary of the Interstate 271 right-of-way to a point, then head northwesterly 450 feet along the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area eastern boundary to a point which is also 500 feet due north of the southern boundary of Northfield Township Lot 50, then head due west 2200 feet, crossing Brandywine Road, to a point which is also 500 feet due north of the southern boundary of Northfield Township Lot 60, then head due south 850 feet to a point in the center line of Stanford Road, then head easterly 1500 feet along the center line of Stanford Road to a point of beginning, thus encompassing 45.5 acres.

Determination of Boundary As shown on the attached "Location Map," the boundary of the nominated site includes that portion of the original Wallace Farm (1850 to 1869) which is visually associated with the farmstead and nearby mill sites, and lies undisturbed within the boundaries of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area. The mills predated the farmhouse by as much as 30 years, forming one of the earliest industrial centers in the Cuyahoga watershed. The site's southern boundary follows the farm's original boundary along Stanford Road, then continues east along Brandywine Creek to include the site of the (now demolished) George Y. Wallace were chosen to include and protect the woodland edge surrounding the farmstead and lower Brandywine Gorge. Archaeological testing is currently underway throughout the entire site. Full evaluation of this investigation may be several years away, at which time this nomination and its boundaries may be amended based on those findings. To delay the core of the nomination at this time puts the preservation of the farm buildings and mill ruins at risk.
Wallaee Farm, Northfield Center vic., Summit County, Ohio
1. James W. Wallace House (HS-461)
   8230 Brandywine Road
   Northfield, Ohio


3. Negative maintained by the Technical Assistance and Professional Services Division of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area.

4. Film number 16653 frame number 1 showing the northeast corner and north side of the James W. Wallace House. Photo No. 1
Wallace Farm
8230 Brandywine Rd., Northfield Center vic. Summit County, Ohio
October 1984
Photographer: Steven Elkinton
Negs: OHPO
view: concrete block building
1. C1900 view of Brandywine Mills with Wallace Farm in background.
8230 Brandywine Road
Northfield, Ohio

2. Photographed C1900 by unknown photographer

3. Negative maintained by the Technical Assistance and Professional Services Division of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area.

4. Photo No. 3 showing the 19th Century bridge and Brandywine Mills in foreground and the James W. Wallace house and the destroyed barn in background.
Brandywine Falls in 1887. Photo taken by Mr. Hilliard of Washington Street, Bedford, Ohio. Original photo furnished by Bedford Historical Society.

4 X 5 negative maintained by CUVA

1. Brandywine Mills/Wallace Farm NRHP nomination.
2. The mill and farm are located approximately 2 miles south of Northfield, Ohio.
3. Photograph taken in 1887 by Mr. Hilliard of Washington Street in Bedford, Ohio.
4. Original photograph maintained by the Bedford Historical Society, Bedford, Ohio.
5. Photo taken from just below Brandywine Creek Falls, showing the Brandywine Grist Mill along the south side of Brandywine Creek & the mill dam across the creek.
6. Photograph number 4.
Wallace Farm
8230 Brandywine Rd., Northfield Center vic.
Summit County, Ohio
October 1984
Photographer: Steven Elkinton
Negs: OHPO
view: frame barn