

DRIAPSA CENTENNIAL FARM, POTTS HILL EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY
4511 Potts Hill Road
Bainbridge
Ross County
Ohio

HALS OH-7
HALS OH-7

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS
FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

DRIAPSA CENTENNIAL FARM POTTS HILL EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

HALS NO. OH-07

- Location: 4511 Potts Hill Road
Bainbridge, Paxton Township, Ross County, Ohio
5 miles east of Bainbridge; 4 miles east of Pike Lake State Park; and 6 miles west of Nipgen
- Longitude: 39.200200, Latitude: -83.217850, at center of the Driapsa house (Google Earth, Simple Cylindrical Projection, WGS84)
- Owner: Esther Driapsa Knapp
- Occupant: Esther Driapsa Knapp
- Use: Rural Farm Residence
- Significance: The Driapsa farm is a mosaic of small-scale gardens, orchards, hay fields, and woodlands that have evolved under the care and management of members of the Driapsa family beginning one hundred years ago with Emil and Helen Driapsa. The farm has survived as a result of long-term continuous domestic, agricultural, economic and ecological activity. Economic trends in contemporary society have rendered hill farms less productive and they are becoming rare leaving remaining ones as valuable examples of their type.¹ As such, small family farms are an endangered element of the American cultural landscape² and their significance in local, state, and national economic and social history is increasing.
- This 68-acre hilltop farm vernacular rural landscape has provided sustenance, retreat, recreation and creative expression to members of the Driapsa family for more than one hundred years from the beginning early in the twentieth century to the present. The farm is a composite of resources, both cultural and natural, and comprised of buildings, structures and objects together with the landscape and its features constitutes a cohesive district.
- The farm is associated with the Western Slovak diaspora, social coherence within the local immigrant community, and emotional and social pull between ties with the ancestral home and allegiance to the adopted homeland. The

¹ Jana Špulerová, Marta Dobrovodská, Juraj Lieskovský, Andrej Bača, Andrej Halabuk, František Kohút, Matej Mojses, Pavol Kenderessy, Veronika Piscová, Peter Barančok, Katarína Gerhátová, Ján Krajčí, Martin Boltžiar. Inventory and Classification of Historical Structures of the Agricultural Landscape in Slovakia. *Ekológia* (Bratislava). Vol. 30, No. 2, p. 157–170, 2011. http://147.213.211.222/sites/default/files/Ekologia2_11_01spulerova.pdf

² Kevin Coleman. Place Types: Farmstead. <http://www.horizonview.net/~ihs/Places/Places.html>

Driapsa farm is the only continuously occupied property remaining from the Potts Hill European Community historic period. The farm has continued in the family for one hundred years and is a significant remnant of the Potts Hill European Community. The farm preserves a vestige of the social, economic and historic contributions made by the greater community of European Immigrants to the United States and their contributions to the multiplicity of American society.

The farm is associated with the Northwest Territory, the Virginia Military District and the long period of settlement and development of the Paint Valley, from native wilderness to the present that is part of the larger story of westward expansion of the United States.

Description: The Driapsa farm is a concentration of historic sites, buildings, structures, objects and cultural landscape that are united through one hundred years of continuous occupation and physical development.

As the name hill farm implies, a large proportion of the land is steep hillside unsuitable for the type of agriculture typically associated with fertile bottom lands which support the large agricultural estates in the sparsely populated Paint Valley only two miles distance.

There many small hill farms surrounding the Paint Valley. The soils on the hilltops and hillside terraces are very suitable for small scale crop agriculture, orchards, pasturage and woodlands and have long supported those crops.

Emil and Helen Driapsa immigrated to the United States with experience and knowledge carried from their old country enabling them to prosper as owners of a hill farm.³ Their farm was within a community of European immigrants who shared similar values and appreciation for their adopted country and possessed that particular experience, knowledge and desire that enabled them to succeed on these hill farms.

As in Central Europe this was an ancient land long occupied before they arrived early in the twentieth century.⁴ From prehistoric times others have treasured the Paint Valley and its surrounding heights. It was first the ceremonial landscape of

³ Isaac J. Finley and Rufus Putnam. Pioneer Record and Reminiscences of the Early Settlers and Settlement of Ross County, Ohio. (Cincinnati: Robert Clark & Co., 1871), 7.

⁴ Henry Holcomb Bennett (Ed.). History of Paxton Township, Ross County, Ohio. (Madison, Wisconsin: Selwyn A. Brant, Publisher, 1902.) <http://history.rays-place.com/oh/ross/paxton.htm>

the builders of large earthen geometrical works aligned with the cosmos, and later the ferociously protected hunting grounds of American Indians. Daniel Boone and other explorers from small European communities along the Atlantic seaboard penetrated the dense woodlands of the Paint Valley and coveted it as their own possession. Other followed possessing land grant payments for service in the Revolutionary War. Thomas Jefferson and the U.S. Congress in the Age of Enlightenment proposed to develop this wilderness of the Northwest Territory rationally as grid of ranges, townships and sections established by mathematical land survey. Unlike the rest of Ohio, this Virginia Military District followed the ancient survey method of metes and bounds resulting in a patchwork of land parcels that created a landscape resembling Colonial America and Europe. The Paint Valley bottomland was parceled out from the original land grants as large rural estates that continues even today to be sparsely populated. The surrounding hills offered smaller parcels of land and opportunity for many.

Emil and Helen Driapsa, husband and wife, acquired their 68 acre farm in 1914, overlooking the Horseshoe Bend of the beautiful Paint Valley. Their farm was in a rural community of European immigrants, which they helped establish. In 2014, their farm was officially recognized as a Centennial Farm by the State of Ohio Department of Agriculture.⁵

History:

Ancient Ohio

Long before Europeans and early American citizens moved into the area of the present day Ohio, an ancient civilization known as the Hopewell Tradition flourished between 300 BC and 600 AD. Primarily in southern Ohio and along the western edge of the Appalachian plateau they built geometric structures of stone and earth of a massive scale to create defensive lines and ceremonial burial complexes, some apparently aligned to celestial phenomena.

Ohio's earliest inhabitants preceded the Hopewell Tradition. They were Paleo-Indian and Archaic People who arrived some 12,000 years ago following the retreat of the ice sheet of the Glacial Episode northward.

People of the Adena Tradition followed about 1,000 B.C. These agriculturalists constructed thousands of small burial and effigy mounds. The Hopewell followed them about 100 B.C. and lived primarily in the Scioto Valley of southern Ohio. About 300 A.D. their record vanishes as they were succeeded by the Fort Ancient People.

The American Indians of Ohio are known from the early and mid-eighteenth century history. Their late arrival contrasts with neighboring states. The fierce Iroquois claimed sovereignty for nearly three-quarters of a century and Ohio

⁵ Ohio Department of Agriculture. Century Farm and Bicentennial Farm Program.
http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/cent_farms/

remained their largely uninhabited hunting grounds. Many Indian tribes had some presence in Ohio, but only the Miami, Wyandot, Mingo, Delaware, Shawnee, and Ottawa maintained villages. The Shawnee established villages in the Scioto Valley during the mid-eighteenth century. Explorer Daniel Boone invaded their hunting grounds and stirred up unsettled conditions until the Treaty of Greenville of 1795 removed the Indians to Ohio's northwest quadrant.

France claimed authority over the Ohio country but never occupied the land. Great Britain defeated France in the French and Indian War (1754-63) and dominated the Ohio country afterwards until ceding the land to the United States in the Peace of Paris in 1763. Several states had claims on the land based on colonial charters. Virginia offered its western lands to Congress, paving the way to establish the first public domain in the United States.

The Northwest Territory

The Territory Northwest of the River Ohio, commonly known as the Northwest Territory, was established on July 13, 1787 and later divided into the states of Ohio (1803), Indiana (1816), Illinois (1818), Michigan (1837), Wisconsin (1848), and Minnesota (1858).

Thomas Jefferson proposed to layout the region in a rational rectangular form for the orderly survey, sale, and settlement of the public domain. Congress enacted the Northwest Land Ordinance of 1785 to divide the land into ranges of six-mile square townships subdivided into 36 one-mile square sections. Each range, township and section was numbered in a regular, consistent sequence of survey lines running north and south, intersecting at right angles with east-west lines.

The Ordinance outlined how the region would progress from wilderness through statehood in a process of practical steps. It also enumerated civil rights essential to a free people. "There had never been anything like it in the history of the world. Scholars have ranked the Northwest Ordinance with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution as a document fundamental to the emergence of the American republic."⁶ The Northwest Territory ceased to exist on March 1, 1803 when Ohio became a state.⁷

The Virginia Military District

In 1852 Virginia ceded all its unclaimed lands west of the Appalachian Mountain Range to the federal government, which in turn ceded the land to Ohio in 1875,⁸ except for approximately 4.2 million acres north of the Ohio River between the Little Miami and Scioto Rivers held in reserve by Virginia to satisfy its military bounty warrants issued as compensation to veterans of the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783) with grants of unclaimed land.

⁶ Wikipedia. Northwest Ordinance. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest_Ordinance

⁷ Wikipedia. Northwest Territory. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northwest_Territory

⁸ Family Search. Ohio Land and Property, http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Ohio_Land_and_Property

Beginning in the late 18th century Revolutionary War Veterans from Virginia crossed the Appalachian frontier to settle in the Virginia Military District. An act of the Virginia General Assembly passed on June 22, 1779 established the Virginia Land Office to award land grants to Virginians for their service in the Revolutionary War military. The bounty land system was an enticement for undergoing longer military service. The Virginia Military District was surveyed in 1787 in what is now Clermont County and the first patent for district land was issued in 1796.

Virginia military land grants varied in size from 100 acres to an enlisted private up to 15,000 acres to a Major General. George Washington was eligible to receive land in the district but never applied for a patent.⁹ The amount increased when the veteran served more than six years. To qualify for bounty land a soldier was required to serve for at least three years continuously in Continental Army.

Claiming land by a warrant involved sending the warrant to the principal surveyor in the district, who assigned the warrant to a deputy surveyor to make a boundary survey and general written description of the claim. Following acceptance of the survey by the principal surveyor the warrant was sent to the federal government and a U.S. Patent was issued. For their services the deputy surveyors could be paid in cash, which was scarce on the Ohio frontier, and in lieu of cash they often received 20% to 50% of the acres surveyed.

The process of obtaining bounty lands was lengthy and in many cases land speculators acquired the right to the land from the veteran or his heirs.^{10 11} The first owners may not have been from Virginia and may not have been soldiers since warrants could be legally inherited, sold and assigned. Surveyors could acquire large estates by taking a share of land surveyed as compensation. There was a brisk trade in land warrants and usually to land speculators at substantially discounted prices. Ultimately some 25 individuals controlled about 1,035,408 acres within the district.

The Virginia Military District consists of twenty-three Ohio counties and is the only district in Ohio that was not originally surveyed on the rectangular system. The original surveys used "Metes and Bounds" which was the standard practice of surveying in Virginia and throughout the original thirteen colonies as well as in Europe. The more than 16,125 indiscriminate land claims defined by metes and bounds surveys in the Virginia Military District is of a patchwork of land

⁹ Virginia Military District, http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Virginia_Military_District?rec=817

¹⁰ Library of Virginia, "About the Revolutionary War Bounty Warrants," <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/opac/bountyabout.htm>

¹¹ George W. Knepper, "Official Ohio Lands Book. Columbus," Ohio Auditor of State. <https://ohioauditor.gov/publications/OhioLandsBook.pdf>

holdings that rely upon natural corner monuments of rocks and trees combined with directions and distances to define parcel boundaries that give the landscape its distinctive characteristics.

Ross County

Ross County was Shawnee Indian territory and there were skirmishes until General Anthony Wayne won the Battle of Fallen Timbers on August 20, 1794 and The Treaty of Greenville in the following year secured most of Ohio for settlement. Ross County was formed during the territorial period of Ohio and organized on August 20, 1798, with its seat at Chillicothe. Five years later in 1803 the new State of Ohio was established. Still largely a wilderness, some areas would remain so until after the Civil War.

In 1793 Nathaniel Massie led an expedition into the Virginia Military District and tried unsuccessfully to establish the first settlement in the Scioto Valley. He succeeded the following year in establishing Chillicothe at the confluence of Paint Creek and the Scioto River. Massie offered donation lots to the first one hundred settlers and sold bottom land for one to two dollars per acre. By the winter of 1796, the town had stores, taverns and shops and became the center of land speculation in the Virginia Military District. Massie established a dozen other towns during the next decade.¹² Chillicothe grew quickly and became a center of political life in the Northwest Territory. In 1806 Chillicothe was named the first capital of Ohio, which it remained until 1811.¹³

Massie was one of the first federally appointed deputy surveyors to work in the Virginia Military District and he became a large landholder by locating military land warrants by survey and receiving land surveyed in payment. Massie was among the most successful surveyors. By 1800 he owned more than 75,000 acres and was by far the largest single land owner.

He surveyed many of the earliest land claims in the region and laid out many early communities in Ohio. He encouraged settlement by offering free lots to first comers. In this fashion, he established Manchester (1792), the District's first real town, Chillicothe (1796), which became the center of the Northwest Territory government, and Bainbridge (1798), where he established his own large estate.

Massie attracted talented and influential newcomers to Chillicothe and served as mentor to young promising men and future political leaders in Ohio like Thomas Worthington, Edward Tiffin and Michael Baldwin. Worthington, an antislavery Jeffersonian, arrived in Chillicothe in 1796. Tiffin, a successful doctor and

¹² Jonathan J. Bean. "Marketing the great American commodity: Nathaniel Massie and Land Speculation on the Ohio Frontier, 1783 – 1813." Ohio History Journal. Ohio Historical Society. Volume 103/Summer-Autumn 1994), 152 - 169.

¹³ Ibid.

Methodist deacon, settled in Chillicothe with a letter of recommendation from George Washington. Tiffin freed his slaves in 1798. Massie also freed his slaves, as did all other slave owners when they came into Ohio. Many fugitive African American slaves crossed into Ohio on the Underground Railroad to freedom.¹⁴

Paxton Township

Paxton Township was organized in March 1799. It originally included all of Ross County west of the Scioto River and portions of Fayette and Highland Counties. Early culture and commerce in Paxton Township were influenced by wealthy Virginia land-owners, whose large landed estates produced cattle, pigs, and corn in abundance.¹⁵

Henry Holcomb Bennett described Paxton Township in 1902 as “one of the most fertile and wealthy townships of the county.... It is one of the most picturesquely beautiful in outline, historically interesting in the details of its civil existence, and prosperous in its material development. It is a combination of wild, natural scenery with unsurpassed fertility.”¹⁶

The Paint Valley

Centered on the Paint Valley, transplanted Virginia plantation society became an aristocracy living in mansions on large rural estates, raising corn, tobacco, hogs, and cattle. They were surrounded by farmers of small parcels on the uplands living in houses built of logs.

Before Early American settlement the Paint Valley was favored by the ancient Hopewell people, as is evidenced by the many ceremonial and burial mound complexes they constructed in the valley. The valley was later furiously guarded by the Shawnee Indians. The last Indian battle in Paint Valley was fought by Nathaniel Massie with the Shawnees in 1795 at Reeves Crossing a short distance from the Seip Mound Earthworks, when the survey party came on to the Indian camp at this point.

The ancient Seip Mound Earthworks, now included in the Hopewell Cultural National Historical Park, were part of the ceremonial heartland of the Hopewell Culture. In 2008, Seip Mound Complex and eight other Ohio earthworks were selected by the United States Department of the Interior for inclusion on the list of sites to be submitted to United Nations, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

¹⁴ Hubert Wilhelm, “Ohio Settlement Series: Log Cabins & Castles,” Ohio Landscape Productions.
<http://www.ohiolandscape.org>

¹⁵ Dave Yost, “Along the Ohio Trail, A Short History of Ohio Lands,”
<https://ohioauditor.gov/publications/AlongTheOhioTrail.pdf>

¹⁶ Ibid, Bennett.

(UNESCO) for inscription on the prestigious World Heritage List.¹⁷ The principal mound (now reconstructed) is 240 feet long and 160 feet wide and 30 feet high. It is near the center of a 1,500 foot diameter circular earthen berm, the second largest of the known Hopewell circles, enclosing seventeen acres. At one time the enclosure was 50 feet wide at the base and 10 feet high, but now it is barely visible.¹⁸

Archeologist Gerard Fowke and the Ohio Archeological and Historical Museum excavated Seip Mound in 1925. The New York Times described the dig as unearthing a “Royal Tomb... of an almost forgotten age.... Skeletal remains were wrapped in pearls, and surrounded by ornaments of copper, silver and tortoise shell and with copper helmets on the skulls....” From that excavation Paint Valley became known as the “Valley of the Kings.”

Wild game abounded in the Paint Valley, such as bear, wolves, deer and wild turkeys and other smaller animals. The wide valley of Paint Creek and its large tributary streams composed of a rich and dark loamy soil deposited by glaciers have long been celebrated for their fertility. Early settlers described the bottom land generally covered by an ancient forest of black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and other trees that favor deep rich soil.

Some areas of the valley bottom were destitute of forests, and formed natural prairies, which furnished pasture in summer and hay in winter for the livestock of the settlers. The outer edges of the prairies were fringed with the plum tree (*Prunus Americana*), red and blackhaw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), mulberry (*Morus alba*) and crab apples (*Malus coronaria*).¹⁹

Countless ancient projectile points have been found. A beautiful point was found by Doris Driapsa in a clearing two miles south of the Seip Earthworks, across Paint Creek, on Potts Hill at an area known as the “Flats” on the Driapsa farm.

Copperas Mountain is a 300 feet high vertical cliff facing west and served as a

¹⁷ Sites included are Fort Ancient, the Newark Earthworks, Seip Earthworks, Hopewell Earthworks, Mound City Group Earthworks, Hopeton Earthworks, High Bank Earthworks, and Spruce Hill Earthworks. National Park Service, “Hopewell Culture,” <http://www.nps.gov/hocu/historyculture/places.htm>

¹⁸ For a detailed description of the Seip Complex see William C. Mills, “Explorations of the Seip Mound,” in *Certain Mounds and Village Sites in Ohio*, Volume 2, Part 1, (Columbus, Ohio: F. J. Hker Printing Company, 1909). <https://ia902608.us.archive.org/3/items/certainmoundsoh21millrich/certainmoundsoh21millrich.pdf>. Mills describes the artifacts uncovered in this monument representing the highest level of culture reached by the Hopewell Tradition.

¹⁹David Meade Massie. Nathaniel Massie, a pioneer of Ohio. A sketch of his life and selections from his correspondence. (Cincinnati, The R. Clarke Company, 1896), 61. <https://archive.org/details/nathanielmassiep01mass>

sun-dial for farmers within view of it. When the sun is shining, and anyone able to read the shadows can tell with near accuracy the time of day from the face of the mountain.

Geodes found within the scale cliffs of this mountain have long been collected. Small ones make excellent pestles. Large geodes were used locally in historic times for decorating walks to residences, placed on either side about ten feet apart.

The mountain looms up and can be seen for miles from the west. It derives its name from the copperas found along the face of the cliff. It is climbed by many people for taking in the fine view of the surrounding country from the top.

The level portions of the uplands surrounding the valley are very suitable for row crops and orchards where covered by silt-loam soils and underlain with clay.

The steep hillsides are heavily covered with the globally significant Appalachian mixed mesophytic deciduous hardwood forest. Rocky slopes with numerous irregularities in depth of soil contribute to the diversity of the forest. Sheltered coves support tulip poplar and basswood. Steep north facing ravines spared from glacial activity provide refuge for relic northern plant species. The driest slopes support oak-hickory forest. Cool, damp exposures support beech and maple. The hillside soils are mixtures of decaying rock fragments and humus, and supplied with water and good internal drainage are exceptionally rich in plant and animal diversity.²⁰

Human influence on the forest has a long history extending back to when Native Americans cleared large areas for ceremonial complexes and set the woodlands on fire to increase game populations. Early settlers accelerated the clearing of the bottomland forests for farmland. Livestock grazed on the uplands, and the hills were extensively logged and cut over except for the most inaccessible land. The American chestnut blight (*Cyphonectria parasitica*) introduced in the early 20th century caused widespread death of the previously dominant tree species by 1930. Dutch elm disease (*Ceratoeystis ulmi*) similarly decimated forest dynamics and reduced the rich species composition of the original old growth forest.²¹

The Paint Valley is now mostly cleared of forests to make way for agriculture, but the hillsides remain as one of the most biologically diverse temperate regions in the world. As many as thirty canopy tree species may be found at a single site composed of various compositions of yellow poplar tuliptree (*Liriodendron*

²⁰ Sampson, Homer C., "Mixed Mesophytic Forest Community of Northeastern Ohio," *Ohio Journal of Science*. v30 n5 (September, 1930), 358-367. <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/2473>

²¹ Cathryn H. Greenberg, Donald E. McLeod, and David L. Loftis, "An Old-Growth Definition for Agriculture Forest Service Western and Mixed Mesophytic Forests," United States Department of Agriculture. Forest Service. Southern Research Station. General Technical Report SRS-16.

tulipifera), American basswood (*Tilia americana* var. *heterophylla*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), yellow buckeye (*Aesculus flava*), red oak (*Quercus rubra*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), mockernut hickory (*Carya alba*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*) beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) slippery elm (*Ulmus serotina*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*) green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*). This mixed forest type developed primarily on moderately moist mesic north and east facing slopes, coves and ravines with rich fertile conditions, but also occurs on west and south facing slopes where moisture and sheltered positions moisture permits mesic conditions.

An interesting geological phenomenon occurs in the Paint Valley. The valley is the boundary between two distinct physiographic regions divided along a northeast-southwest line extending from Cincinnati to Cleveland. Each region is distinguished by topographical relief and elevation. The north side of the valley was overrun by glaciation but the south side was not. The unglaciated hills to the south are high and rugged, while the glaciated hills on the north are lower with a softer terrain.

The southern hills untouched by glaciers except for aeolian soils deposited on some northern slopes feature deep cut valleys, high flat topped hills with level terraces between steep slopes, and winding streams in deeply valleys between distinct hills. Sandstone bedrock resistant to erosion has formed cliffs, gorges and waterfalls. The old residual soils developed from bedrock and are thin, leached and acidic.

The glacially modified northern hills are rounded with broad valleys filled with deposits of ground moraines, kames, eskers and outwash plains. Evidence of past glaciation includes bogs, large polished boulders and cobbles, sand and gravel deposits and relatively young soils formed from glacial outwash materials.

The deep rich soils of the Paint Valley bottoms were scraped off the Canadian Shield, transported by the ice sheet and deposited in the Paint Valley as the ice retreated. Paint Valley was a glacial basin. The shoreline of the glacial Lake Bainbridge is visible in the southern hills high above the valley on the upper reaches of Little Copperas Mountain.

The cavern system and deep gorges in the Seven Caves Region (now Arc of Appalachia Nature Sanctuary) were eroded from solid dolomite bedrock by flowing water issuing from the glacier. Relict plant species survive in sheltered, shaded, cool moist microclimates within the deep dolomite valley of Rocky Fork Creek, a tributary of Paint Creek.

During the Civil War only one advance into Ohio was made by the Confederate

Army. General John H. Morgan crossed the Ohio River into Indiana and then rode with his cavalry into Ohio north of Cincinnati. "Morgan's Raiders," as they were known, traversed the southern portion of the state, passing near present-day Pike Lake State Park.²²

The climate of Ross County is humid continental reflecting the mid-latitude and eastern location. Large seasonal temperature changes are common, with January averaging 32 degrees Fahrenheit and July averaging 75 degrees. Precipitation occurs year-round with higher precipitation falling during the summer and yearly average of 40 inches. Autumn is relatively dry. The hill and valley topography create variability in weather, with summer fog in the lower valley, and heavier snowfall occurs on the hilltops. The growing season is 120 days.

The unglaciated Appalachian plateau is the most important forest region of Ohio. The mixed metaphysic forest supports a highly varied flora and fauna, and is known for its variety of ferns, mosses, lichens and fungi. The wildflowers are diverse, creating spectacular displays--spring through autumn.

Recreational hunting and fishing are significant. Principal game fish is black bass followed by walleyed pike, Ohio muskellunge, white bass, perch, saugers, bluegills, rock bass, and channel catfish. Indigenous animals include the cottontail rabbit, white-tailed deer, quail, ruffed grouse, gray squirrel, and wild turkey. The black bear population is increasing. Ring-necked pheasant and Hungarian partridge have been introduced. The wide distribution of raccoon, muskrat, mink, opossum, and weasel allows continued trapping in this rural area. Eastern and southern

Corn was and has continued to be the most important crop in the Paint Valley, followed by cattle. Other important farm commodities are hogs, soybeans, wheat, and hay.

Tourism has long been an economic generator for Ross County. There are many recreation areas, state and local parks, historic sites and natural attractions offering both summer and winter activities.²³

Bainbridge

athaniel Massie opened the Paint Valley to settlement in 1790 when the region was still occupied by Shawnee Indians. In 1800 he built a comfortable frontier mansion at a superior location twenty miles west of Chillicothe in the upper Paint Valley on a 1,290 acre estate at the Falls of Paint Creek. He established at

²² <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/pikelake#history>

²³ This sketch was adapted from Lyle S. Evans (ed.). A Standard History of Ross County, Ohio. An Authentic Narrative of the Past, with Particular Attention to the Modern Era in the Commercial, Industrial, Civic and Social Development. Volume II. (Chicago" Lewis Publishing Company, 1917.)

these waterfalls an iron furnace, brick kiln, saw mill, distillery, and grist mill. He surveyed the surrounding land and sold large parcels for settlement. He built his house high and dry on a low terrace at the base of a north facing hill overlooking the rich Paint Creek flood plain and cleared the bottomland of trees for farming.²⁴ Massie freed his slaves when he came into Ohio, as did all others coming into the region. African American freedmen continued to serve Massie and lived in small cabins behind his big house.²⁵ Massie died on November 3, 1813 and was buried on his estate.

Massie laid out the village of Bainbridge at the southeast corner of his large estate in 1798 to persuade artisans, tradesmen and merchants to move into the upper Paint Valley to establish the business center of successful agricultural enterprises in one of the most fertile and beautiful regions of America. The town plat was recorded at Ross County Courthouse in Chillicothe in June 1806.²⁶ Massie's town plan specified that all streets were 60 feet wide and alleys 16 1/2 feet. He named the original streets 1st Street (later renamed Main Street), 2nd Street and the crossing streets Mountain Street, Quarry Street, and Short Street (later extended and renamed Maple Street). The plan called for sixty-five town lots measuring 132 feet by 66 feet.²⁷ In the 1840's the village was enlarged by several platted additions. By 1847 the village had grown to 80 dwellings. Many sturdy stone and brick antebellum houses built in Bainbridge are still occupied.

One of the earliest dwellings in the township was built in 1805 by William Kent for Nathan Reeves at Reeves' Crossing along Paint Creek east of Bainbridge on the west side of Paint Creek opposite Seip Earthworks. Massie sold a thousand acre parcel to Reeves in 1795. Reeves moved his family there in 1800. Kent cleared forty acres for a cornfield. He built a fine house for Reeves of perfectly dressed ashlar sandstone. The house was completed in 1805 to the architectural design of Benjamin Latrobe, one of the first formally trained professional architects in the United States. Using the local sandstone again, Latrobe designed the Adena mansion at Chillicothe on the 2,000 acre hilltop estate of Ohio's sixth governor and one of the state's first United States Senators, Thomas Worthington. Latrobe also served as the second Architect of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.²⁸

An English traveler in 1807 described the Reeves mansion as "charmingly situated near the bank of Paint Creek, and ... the best I have seen since I entered

²⁴ Doris Driapsa, "Yule Spirit Prevails at the Nathaniel Massie House," *Chillicothe Gazette*, December 23, 1968.

²⁵ A group of children playing in a dead Elm tree in the woods, the limb I sat on broke off and hurled me to the ground I fractured both bones in my wrist upon impact. The kids led me to the cabin deep in the woods, where Mrs. Nelson cared for me until the automobile arrived and carried me out the long dirt road and on to the hospital.

²⁶ Nancy Baum. History of Bainbridge. (Bainbridge, Ohio: Bainbridge Historical Society, 1994) 13.

²⁷ Ibid: 28.

²⁸ Ibid: 19.

the state of Ohio, it being spacious, of two lofty stories, and well-built with very handsome stone. It is surrounded on all sides by a noble and well improved farm, which nine years ago ... was a wilderness.”²⁹

Brothers Robert and Thomas Dill purchased 1,000 acres within the Horseshoe Bend of Paint Creek opposite the Reeves farm. Coming from Pennsylvania via Kentucky in 1800 the Dill brothers settled on the tract of land located under the warrant of Thomas Peyton that embraced the whole of "horseshoe bend." Nearby was the home of Christian Platter who located there in 1800 and established the first saw mill in Paint Valley.

The Horse Shoe Bend of Paint Creek is formed where the south flowing Paint Creek strikes the base of little Copperas Mountain which turns the stream ninety degrees east for more than a mile where it strikes the base of Copperas Mountain which turns the stream ninety degrees north for more than a mile to turn east again and through the Paint Valley to join the Scioto River at Chillicothe. Within the Horseshoe Bend are 1,200 acres of the most fertile land in Paxton Township.

Virginian John Blackstone to the Paint Valley in 1802 and settled on a two hundred acre farm near Copperas Mountain. The vertical rise of Little Copperas Mountain is slightly less. The two soaring cliffs bookend the Horseshoe Bend. The ancient Seip Earth works lay between the cliffs, from where “iron and sulphur chemical runoff gives the surface waters of Paint Creek rainbow hues.”

By the beginning of the Civil War Brothers Richard and Aaron Seymour owned most of Paint Valley on both sides of Paint Creek east of Bainbridge from Reeve’s Crossing to Potts Hill and half way up Potts Hill on the south. Like other Virginians coming into Ohio, Seymour freed his slaves and they remained with him as servants. Seymour held horse races on an oval track in front of his house and the African American freedmen served as jockeys. The faded indentation of the race track remains today. Both Seymour brothers were sympathetic to the Confederacy and invested money in the war, which stripped much of their wealth.³⁰

Jonathan Taylor lived near the Sulphur Springs at the bottom of Potts Hill west

²⁹ Fortesque Cumings. “Cumings's Tour to the Western Country (1807-1809),” in Reuben Gold Thwaites (ed.), Early Western Travels, 1748-1846. A Series of Annotated Reprints of some of the best and rarest contemporary volumes of travel, descriptive of the Aborigines and Social and Economic Conditions in the Middle and Far West, during the Period of Early American Settlement, Vol. IV, (Cleveland, Ohio): The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1904 pp. 212 & 213. Dr. Fortesque Cumings was an Englishman traveling from Ellis Ferry (Aberdeen, Ohio) along Zane’s Trace to Chillicothe, cited in Nancy Baum. History of Bainbridge. Bainbridge Historical Society. 1994: 31. For a reprinted copy see https://archive.org/stream/cumingstourtowes00cumirich/cumingstourtowes00cumirich_djvu.txt

³⁰ W.W. Williams. History of Ross and Highland Counties, Ohio: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches. 1880 P. 329, cited in Nancy Baum. History of Bainbridge. Bainbridge Historical Society. 1994: 61.

of the Reeves farm, where a perennially flowing spring of sulphur water issued out from the base of the hill. The water was used for medicinal purposes.

Dr. Cumings described the Paint Valley bottomlands surrounding Bainbridge as “being sparsely populated along the roads,” because all of the bottomland generally “belongs to wealthy proprietors, who either hold them at a very high price, or will not divide them into convenient sized farms.”³¹ The same holds true today and the whole of the Paint Valley remains held as sparsely populated large farm estates.

In 1940 Dr. Robert Larrimer described the Paint Valley as he recalled it from his youth: “Amidst picturesque scenery one heard the busy hum of the saw, millstone and trip hammers. The land was farmed. The mill work was carried on by 100 men. The wooded hills were full of giant trees. Logs were brought by a wagon drawn by three yoke of oxen, each yoke paired in size and color; in the same manner wheat was brought to the grist mill and iron ore to the foundry.”³²

“(T)he hardwood timber of the hills always was a source of profit to Paxton Township residents for almost 200 years from when the first pioneers entered beautiful Paint Valley.”³³

The other principal rural industry around Bainbridge is agriculture. Farming started with an ax, hoe and other hand implements. Horse drawn plows, hay rakes, cultivators and corn planters were used to do the work until tractors came into use during the First World War. Harvesting corn took a tremendous amount of work until the corn picker came into use about 1940. Until then corn was cut by hand and bound into shocks in the field to dry and shucked by hand.

Wheat also was cut by hand and whaled with a fork to separate the grain from the straw. In the Paint Valley after the threshing machine was invented the man that owned the steam engine and the thresher travelled from farm to farm. All the participating farmers helped each other until the entire valley was finished.

The Springfield, Jackson and Pomeroy Railroad through the Paint Valley was completed on July 13, 1878, with the ceremonial final spike driven into the track at Dill Station on the Dill Farm in the Horseshoe Bend area four miles east of Bainbridge. The railroad provided transportation in and out of the Paint Valley and it was an economic boon to the hill families who picked and sold fruit for a living. In July 1883, for example, over 8,000 bushels of blackberries were shipped out of Bainbridge. Families could make \$4.00 to \$5.00 a day selling the

³¹ Ibid.

³² Dr. Robert Larrimer letter from the Columbus Sunday Dispatch, January 14, 1949, cited in Nancy Baum. History of Bainbridge. Bainbridge Historical Society. 1994: 27.

³³ Ibid, Baum: 157.

highly prized berries.³⁴

Financial difficulties resulted in the railroad was bought and sold and finally forced it into receivership in 1914. Henry Ford bought the railroad in 1920 and “introduced many new ideas: nicely painted buildings, polished engines and well-kept flower beds around the stations....” The flower beds at the Bainbridge station were said to be “the show place in the town.” Ford sold the railroad in 1929.³⁵

Western Slovak Diaspora

The Slovak Republic was a part of the Upper Kingdom of Hungary (1000–1918) for almost 1000 years, becoming a part of the Austro-Hungarian and Habsburg Empire. A sovereign state since only 1993, this modern small developed nation is located in the heart of the European continent at the geographical center of Europe, between the Danube River on the south and the high Tatra range of the Carpathian Mountains on the north. It is bordered on the west by the Czech Republic and Austria, on the north by Poland, on the east by Ukraine and on the south by Hungary.

Between 1880 and the mid-1920s, driven by economic hardship and political persecution approximately 500,000 Slovaks -- 20 percent or one-fifth of the Slovak population of Upper Hungary -- immigrated to the United States during the Western Slovak Diaspora.³⁶ Many left to escape Magyarization, the program which closed Slovak schools and banned the Slovak language.³⁷ Most Slovak emigrants before World War I left rural areas and an agrarian heritage for economic reasons. Single men came for jobs with expectations to return home after four or five years with money to purchase land.

Letters from relatives and friends often contained money to pay debts along with descriptions of the benefits of American life as compared to Hungary. The prosperity found in the United States enticed others to emigrate. American agents seeking employees presented positive pictures of life in the American mills and mines. Steamship lines encouraged emigration to profit in the large scale migration.³⁸

³⁴ Scott D. Trostel, “Summit Hill, the Balloon Route over the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad,” In Pat Best, Ohio Railroad Heritage Series. Cam-Tech Publishing 1987: 8.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Slovak Diaspora. <http://www.slovakia.org/sk-american.htm>

³⁷ Slovaks reconnect with their heritage. <http://old.post-gazette.com/magazine/20010520slovaksmag2.asp>

³⁸ Gregory C. Ference. Slovak Immigration to the United States in Light of American, Czech, and Slovak History. http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/history/full-text/Czech_04%20_Slovak_Immig.pdf

More than 60 percent of the emigrants before World War I returned to the old country at least once.³⁹ Many purchased steamship tickets to bring family members to America, where they tended to settle in communities of their co-nationals, mainly in the Mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes regions, with more than half first going to Pennsylvania, where they took jobs in steel mills and coal mines before moving on to Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin, looking for a better life.

The Potts Hill European Community

A community of European immigrants was clustered together on eight farms covering more than 500 acres at the top of Potts Hill in Paxton Township, Ross County, Ohio early in the twentieth century. They had emigrated from Russia, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, France, and elsewhere with hopes of finding more opportunity and a better life than was then possible in the Old Country.

The rapid industrialization of the United States at the end of the nineteenth- and beginning of the twentieth centuries needed workers. Reports of workers earning good wages spread across the European countries encouraged others to leave their homeland for the Promised Land of America. “Imagine the tears [of joy and sadness] filling their eyes they passed the beautiful Statue of Liberty and entered Ellis Island to be processed for entrance into the United States and a new life.” Some came to join relatives and all came to work and to be free. Agents for coal miners, steel mills, factories, maids and housekeepers for the wealthy went to Ellis Island to hire on the spot. A dollar a day was considered a very good wage at that time because in their homelands one was lucky to even have a job. Many immigrants came to United States with nothing but their clothes, not able to read, write or speak English. With hard work and good money management they acquired their own properties. They were offered nothing but the opportunity to become an American and they expected nothing in return from the government other than the freedom to succeed. They considered it an honor and privilege to be able to live in the United States.⁴⁰

This rural community of kindred people of European immigrants on Potts Hill was a social network that helped them adapt to their new homeland, preserve their culture, and study together to become citizens of their adopted homeland.

The Driapsa farm alone survives from that rural community. In 2014 it became a centennial farm – being in the Driapsa family for 100 years. The farm conveys the rich history and the rural life of this farming community in the early- to mid-twentieth century, where vegetable growing and the production of farm animals were both important subsistence and market commodities.

³⁹ Immigration in America. <http://immigrationinamerica.org/455-czech-and-slovakian-immigrants.html>

⁴⁰ Paragraph contributed by Esther Driapsa Knapp.

Emil and Helen Driapsa emigrated from the Austro-Hungarian Empire and acquired their farm within the community of European emigrants including John and Eva Eiring, Henry and Elizabeth Eiring, Elizabeth Wisemantle, Adam Metzger, Elizabeth Kottos, Andy and Nellie Saling, Joseph and Wilma Vitek, George Delackas, Tony Prince, Gabriel Kirsch, Leon Perry, Carl and Elizabeth Fuecht, and John Wurzbach.

Joseph and Wilma Vitek bought a 45 acre farm on Potts Hill. Joseph was from Yugoslavia. Wilma was Emil Driapsa's niece. Her mother was Emil's sister. He helped bring her to the United States from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Wilma was known as Big Wilma. Her daughter was known as Little Wilma. Wilma's son was named Albert. Big Wilma's husband left the family while they were living on Potts Hill. She sold the farm in 1917 and moved to Columbus, Ohio, for better opportunities, where she married again and ran a restaurant/bar.

Andie and Nellie Saling emigrated from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Nellie was Emil Driapsa's niece. Her mother was Emil's sister. He helped bring her to the United States. In January 1915 they bought a 60 acre farm on Potts Hill. They sold the farm in 1917 and moved to Columbus, Ohio, for better opportunities. Today the farm is the Don Campbell property and the house is gone.

Elizabeth Wesemandle emigrated from Germany and bought her 39 acre farm on Potts Hill from Leon Perry in 1938. Perry was an emigrant from France. Mrs. Wesemandle was a widow and left the farm to her son, John. Adam Metzger, an emigrant from Germany, lived on the farm. He taught Esther Driapsa how to use garlic as a preventive medicine, which he raised a lot of in his garden. Esther recalled the many good times shared between this family and the Driapsa family.

Elizabeth Kottos is included in this immigrant community. She did not live within this small area, but was definitely a part of it. She lived on a farm near the hamlet of Nipgen six miles east of the Potts Hill European Community and later moved to the village of Bainbridge five miles west. She emigrated from the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1907, leaving her small son behind with relatives in Budapest, with plans to bring him to the United States. He did not come to America.⁴¹ She cooked such wonderful meals and was as one of the Driapsa family.⁴²

John Wurzbach emigrated from Germany in 1913 at age 17, as a stowaway on a ship.⁴³ In 1942 he bought the Neil Waddell farm and apple orchard on Potts Hill.

⁴¹ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa, by email, November 4, 2014.

⁴² Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa.

⁴³ 1930 U.S. Census. Courtesy Diana Driapsa Bouille.

He baled hay and straw for a living. He married Daisy Campbell and they raised their family on the farm. The farm was sold in 1964.

Gariel Kirsch emigrated from Budapest, Hungary, in 1911. He settled his family on a 60 acre Potts Hill farm on Mitchell Road.

John Eiring and Henry Eiring were brothers. They bought adjoining farms on Eiring Road, now called Ewing Road. John was the older brother.

John Eiring and his wife Eva emigrated from Budapest, Hungary. They acquired a 35.5 acre farm on Potts Hill in 1919. They had no children. Esther Driapsa was at the Eiring home when Eva died. Then John became ill, and he moved in with his brother Henry and family.”⁴⁴ He sold his farm to Carl and Elizabeth Faught. Elizabeth was Henry’s daughter. She was born in Budapest and married Carl Fauecht, who was born in Germany.

Henry Eiring and his wife Elizabeth emigrated from Budapest, Hungary. They acquired the 128 acre farm adjacent to his brother John’s farm in 1922 and raised their family there. A part of the farm extends into Pike County.

Esther recalls how it was customary to eat a meal when visiting a neighboring family, and “oh, what wonderful meals were eaten at the two Eiring homes.

“During the summer evenings my Mother and I walked to their home to visit. Such good times, good food, cider, hot sausage, and a warm welcome; it was a treat. My Father used their press to make cider with the apples we raised on our farm. We hauled those apples in our horse driven wagon. Some of the cider was allowed to turn to vinegar. My husband and I later bought the cider press and had it restored.”⁴⁵

Betsy and Ramie Pierson currently live on the Henry Eiring place. The old buildings were torn down and replaced with a new log cabin.⁴⁶

George Delackas emigrated from Russia and bought a 40 acre farm on Potts Hill in 1922 for \$1,200. A part of the farm extends into Pike County. He lived alone as a bachelor for many years. He loved to go to the Driapsa home to eat and in exchange he allowed them pick pears, mulberries and other fruit from his farm.⁴⁷ Tony Prince, an emigrant from Poland, lived on the farm, owning no property of his own on Potts Hill.

⁴⁴ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa, by email, August 27, 2014.

⁴⁵ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa, by email, 2014.

⁴⁶ Esther Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 7, 2014.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

From dawn to dusk the families worked raising food and in the evenings they visited each other. Many hours went into education preparing them for the exam to become an American citizen.

Each of the farms had large gardens, with a cellar full of many kinds of fruits, grapes, canned potatoes and sauerkraut. The smoke houses were full of bacon, hams, and hot sausage. Chicken houses were full of chickens, which provided eggs every day, chicken noodle soup through the week, and a meal of chicken every Sunday. A cow was kept for milk, cream and butter. Any leftover eggs, cream and butter was sold to the country peddler who came by every week or delivered to a small country store in exchange for flour, sugar, salt, and coffee.⁴⁸

Letters received from the homeland were read and re-read every day, with tears flowing. Even as it was a privilege to live in this country they missed relatives and friends who remained in Europe.

These European immigrant families lived on separate farms but as an intertwined community spread out across a radius of a mile and half. They helped each other, giving support and companionship and enjoying a common European heritage. Each worked his own land as there were very few jobs off the farm for income, and helped their neighbors as needed. They visited in the evenings after work and mostly in the summertime. No one thought anything difficult in walking the distance. There were no telephones, no automobiles, no radios and no televisions. Socializing with neighbors was the entertainment and enjoyment.⁴⁹

Today, this small community of European immigrants exists only in memory. All the houses are gone, either burned or torn down, except the Driapsa house. Esther recently received visitors from members of two families of the old European community stop by to say "Hello" -- the Steels and Ben Neighborgal. Mr. Neiborgal commented that he had worked on the farm for Joseph Driapsa. The Neiborgals had lived in the Cunningham home on property now occupied by Ethel Paugh. Mrs. Cunningham was a widow. Helen and Esther visited her many times. Her yard was full of flowers. Esther wonders if some of the flowers are still there. In those days of old people on Potts Hill had no money to buy flowers. The women traded among themselves. Esther has beds of her Mother's flowers to this day.

Emil Driapsa was born on September 16, 1881, in Felso Szbadi⁵⁰ (Upper Hungary, which is the present-day Slovak Republic).⁵¹ Felso Szbadi (now Horna

⁴⁸ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, 2014.

⁴⁹ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, 2014.

⁵⁰ In the historical records, the village was first mentioned in 1406 (Superior Lehota) as belonging to the castle of Slovenská Ľupča.

LeHota)^{52 53 54} is a village and municipality in Brezno District, located in the Hron River valley of the present day Low Tatras National Park⁵⁵ in the Banská Bystrica Region of central Slovakia.⁵⁶ Emil's mother died when he was 12 years old.⁵⁷ He immigrated to the United States of America at the age of 26, departing January 12, 1907, from the port city of Bremen, Germany, on the steamship Yorck, arriving January 24 in New York City.⁵⁸

At the end of the long transatlantic voyage, Emil passed through the Ellis Island immigration station for processing his entry into the United States. He was sponsored by his two brothers, George (Juraj) and Michael, and traveled to McKees Rock, Pennsylvania, where they were already working at a factory.

It is not known for certain why Emil emigrated, other than he was a part of the Western Slovak diaspora. The highest emigration was from the northern, mostly Slovak inhabited areas. Emigration from the rural areas was mostly for economic reasons. In 1910, Slovaks were primarily employed in the rural occupations of agriculture, forestry and fishing.⁵⁹ Industrialization had bypassed them.

Political unrest led to the decision of some to emigrate from Upper Hungary (present-day Slovakia: Horné Uhorsko)⁶⁰ due to Magyarization policies in the late 19th and early 20th centuries created to make Hungarian the dominant language and culture. The process culminated in 1907 when all school children were forced to read, write and count in Hungarian for the first four years of their

⁵¹ Settlements of East Slovakia Horna Lehota (Felsőzabadi).

http://www.iabsi.com/gen/public/settlements/SL_Horna_Lehota.htm

⁵² In the nineteenth century the adjacent larger town of Brezno five miles to the east was described as almost purely a Slovak culture and one of the centers of the Slovak national movement with the aim of fostering a national identity among the Slovak people under Hungarian control and oppression of Magyarization. Rural areas were less affected by Magyarization than were the larger industrial towns where Hungarian conformity to Hungarian national identity was enforced through aggression and discrimination. Wikipedia. Brezno.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brezno>. See also Slovakia.org, The Guide to the Slovak Republic.

<http://www.slovakia.org/> and Wikipedia. Magyarization. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magyarization>

⁵³ The Habsburgs ruled the Duchy of Austria for over 600 years, until 1918. Wikipedia. House of Hapsburg.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/House_of_Habsburg

⁵⁴ In historical records, the village was first mentioned in 1406 (Superior Lehota). It belonged to the castle of Slovenská Ľupča. Wikipedia. Horná Lehota, Brezno District.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horn%C3%A1_Lehota,_Brezno_District

⁵⁵ The park was established in 1978.

⁵⁶ Wikipedia, "Horná Lehota, Brezno District," http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horn%C3%A1_Lehota,_Brezno_District

⁵⁷ Mihaly Skultety and Maria Skultety were the parents of Emil's mother.

⁵⁸ According to John J. Hosmanek, Editor. "Slovak Immigrants to Wisconsin." Selected Papers from the 2003 SVU North American Conference, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 26-28 June 2003. "Bremen was the port of debarkation for the majority of Slovaks because the Hungarian government had granted a monopoly to the Cunard Line there."

http://svu2000.org/conferences/2003_iowa/04.pdf

⁵⁹ Wikipedia, "Hungarophobia," <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hungarophobia>

⁶⁰ Wikipedia, "Upper Hungary," http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Upper_Hungary

education. From 1909 religion also had to be taught in Hungarian. Three million Slovaks had emigrated by 1914.⁶¹ By 1919 anti-Hungarian sentiment and hatred was retaliated in the burning of Hungarian books and destruction of statues and monuments representing Austria-Hungary. The statue of Ferenc Rákóczi was pulled down in Brezno, only five miles from Felso Szbadi.⁶²

Emil re-crossed the Atlantic to return to Europe upon the death of his father Michal Driapsa (date unknown). He sailed to the United States the second time, accompanied by his niece Petronella (Nellie) Saling (daughter of Anna Driapsa who was Emil's sister) and her three year old daughter Irena. Petronella joined her husband Andrew Saling in the United States, at McKees Rock, Pennsylvania, where he worked with Emil. They departed on January 30, 1909, from the port city of Bremen, Germany, on the steamship Scharnhorst, arriving February 13 in New York City.

Emil's brother George (Juraj) also returned to Horna Lehota upon the death of their father. He returned to the United States, departing January 20, 1909, from the port city of Bremen, Germany, on the steamship Neckar, arriving February 1 in New York City. He worked, saved money and returned to Horna Lehota, where he built a house and married.

Emil left McKees Rock for a better job in Columbus, Ohio, where he was employed for two years in a factory making wheels for trains until he married Helen Kraus and moved to a farm in rural Ross County, in Paxton Township near Bainbridge, where he lived until death at the age of eighty-five.

Ilna Irena Kraus (Helen) was born April 9, 1889, in Felso Szbadi. She immigrated to the United States at the age of 21 to marry Emil Driapsa, whom she knew at Felso Szbadi and agreed to marry when he returned for his father's funeral. Helen traveled with her sister Maria Kraus first to Budapest, Hungary, staying at the home of their sister Herminka. They travelled by train to Trieste on the coast of the Adriatic Sea, boarded the steamship Ultonia, departing from the port city of Rijeka,⁶³ and arrived on April 21, 1910, in New York City.⁶⁴ The United States was a major trade partner with the Hungarian government and contracted with the British-owned Cunard Steamship Company for service from Rijeka to New York.

At the end of the long transatlantic voyage, Helen and Maria passed through the Ellis Island immigration station for processing their entry into the United States.

⁶¹ Wikipedia, "Magyarization," <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magyarization>

⁶² Wikipedia, "Slovakization," <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slovakization>

⁶³ Wikipedia, "Rijeka," <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rijeka>. Italian: Fiume; Hungarian: Fiume, German: Pflaum is the principal seaport and the third-largest city in Croatia. It is located on Kvarner Bay, an inlet of the Adriatic Sea.

⁶⁴ Diana Driapsa Bouille, documented from Latter Day Saints, Family History Search, Volume 1 1844-1913.

The sisters were sponsored by their brother Janos (John) Kraus, who paid their ship passage. From New York, they went to Bridgeport, Connecticut, where Helen worked as a maid, until she moved to Columbus, Ohio, to marry Emil.

John Kraus was born September 25, 1878, in Felso Szbadi. He came to the United States, departing in January 1909, from the port city of Bremen, Germany, arriving February 1 in New York City, traveling to Bridgeport, Connecticut, where he remained until his death on December 17, 1930.

Maria Kraus was born April 6, 1881 in Felso Szbadi, and first came to the United States in 1906, departing from the port city of Rijeka, on the steamship Ultonia, arriving in New York City on November 11, going to Bridgeport, Connecticut. Maria married Rocco Ciurleo from Cabalri, Italy (date unknown), and there remained together until her death on April 13, 1949.

Helen and Emil were married on February 17, 1912, by Pastor Charles Schaefer at the Peace Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio.⁶⁵ They worked and saved money together to buy their own land. This dream to own land was almost impossible to achieve in their homeland. They bought a 68 acre farm on Potts Hill in 1914, paying \$1,200. The forested hills of Paxton Township reminded them of the Low Tatra Mountains of their homeland and must have been comforting. The farm came with a half-century-old log cabin, stone root cellar, and a barn with ample land to produce their own food and raise a family.

They enlarged the log cabin and surrounded it with a lawn, gardens, pastures and orchards. Emil and Helen lived on Potts Hill the remainder of their lives and the farm passed on to their daughters Mary Ann and Esther and son Joseph.

1918 was an eventful year. While not yet an American citizen, Emil registered in September 1918 for the United States World War I military draft. The war ended November 1918 and he was not called up. In October the Czecho-Slovakia was proclaimed an independent state. Joseph Edward Driapsa was born in May. It also was the year of the Spanish influenza epidemic.

Emil attained United States citizenship in 1939, and Helen attained citizenship in 1941. Emil died September 19, 1966. Helen died February 1, 1979. Both Emil and Helen are buried in the Driapsa family plot in the village cemetery at Bainbridge, Ohio.

⁶⁵ 455 Clark State Road, Gahanna, Ohio 43220. It is not certain if they were married at the church or the courthouse since the marriage license was obtained the same day as marriage. Their son John was baptized at this church.

Emil and Helen purchased their farm from John Carpenter, of Hartford, Licking County, Ohio.⁶⁶ The first survey was made in June 1831 by Daniel Morgan.⁶⁷ John Mann acquired the original land grant. Mann is carved on a birch tree near the spring. It can barely be read, as that tree is old and the impression is faint. Mann sold the land to King Vince in 1866.⁶⁸

The land is in the Virginia Military District. The original warrant #6425 was issued to Lieutenant George Purcell of Virginia on December 6, 1820 for 2,666 and 2/3 acres in payment for his service in the Revolutionary War. Purcell could not use the land and the warrant was sold by his heirs. Purcell was born circa 1750 in Prince William County, Virginia, and died in November 1804 in Madison County, Kentucky.⁶⁹ He entered the Continental Army of the 13th Virginia Regiment in November 1776 and served through 1777 as an Ensign and later as a Lieutenant after being wounded in the hand in the "Battle of Germantown" on October 4, 1777 where his hand was rendered almost useless for life. He was reassigned as a recruiting officer.

The Driapsa family raised crops of strawberries and picked black raspberries for cash income. \$300 dollars a year profit was considered good yet finances had to be managed carefully for it to last through the year. In those days there were no electric, telephone, and insurance bills to pay. The main expense was real estate taxes. The half-year tax in 1933 was \$4.09. It was a lot of money at that time. When needed, a hog, calf, turkey, chicken, peaches, apples and other produce from the farm were sold for a few extra dollars.

During the Great Depression when there was not much opportunity to earn money Emil dug drainage ditches on Potts Hill Road to pay taxes. Each day working on the road earned one dollar. The work was close to the farm and Emil could walk there. Esther remembers when her father received thirty eight dollars for two weeks work, and they were so happy. It was a lot of money at that time.

During the Great Depression Emil and Helen's eldest son John worked for the Civilian Conservation Corp. federal economic relief program. John worked on construction of Pike Lake State Park and Yoctangee Park in Chillicothe. He later was sent to Idaho. A few years ago Esther was visited by a fellow who worked in Idaho with John. He commented that John would cut the boys' hair on the weekends for a quarter each. Esther still has the letter she sent to John thanking him for the five dollars he sent home to their Mother to buy Esther a new winter coat for school.

⁶⁶ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, October 26, 2014.

⁶⁷ Taken from Abstracts of Virginia Military District Withdrawals of Entries, Virginia Military District at Chillicothe, Ohio, copied from original record 5-27-1941, Series 4342 LOV 287. Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille.

⁶⁸ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 4, 2014.

⁶⁹ Daughters of the American Revolution Ancestry, Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille.

John later worked in Jacksonville, Florida, at an air field. Esther is not sure if that was with the CCC, but it is where he fell in love with airplanes. John returned home in March 1941 and encouraged his brothers Joseph and Carl to enlist. Because there was talk of war and that they would be drafted into the infantry if they did not enlist, they joined the Army Air Force. The three brothers and their sister Mary Ann served in the United States military during World War II. Staff Sergeant John Driapsa (October 22, 1912 - June 5, 1945) was a flight engineer for the B-29 Superfortress heavy bomber “Indian Maid” on a mission to bomb the city of Kobe with incendiaries. The bomber was shot down by enemy fire on June 5, 1945.⁷⁰ John went down with the bomber and his body was not recovered. His life is memorialized in Court 7, Courts of the Missing, the National Cemetery of the Pacific (the Punchbowl),⁷¹ in Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii, in a cenotaph in the Bainbridge cemetery, and awards of Purple Heart and Air Medal received by his parents.⁷²

When Helen Driapsa passed away in 1979, three of her children, son Joseph, and daughters Esther and Mary Ann managed the farm for the family. In 1980 Esther and her husband Arthur Knapp acquired the farm and by 1986 had rehabilitated the log house and made it their home. Esther lives on the farm and continues to use it in similar ways as her parents beginning one-hundred years ago.⁷³

The Driapsa Farm

The Driapsa farm is a mosaic of small-scale gardens, orchards, hay fields, and woodlands that have evolved under the continuous care and management of the Driapsa family beginning one hundred years ago with Emil and Helen Driapsa.

The farm is a composite of resources, both cultural and natural, comprised of the buildings, structures, objects and the cultural landscape constituting a cohesive historic district.

Farmyard (extant, contributing)

The farmyard consisted of the house, well, root cellar, privy, lawn, fruiting trees

⁷⁰ Wikipedia, “Bombing of Kobe in World War II,”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombing_of_Kobe_in_World_War_II. On 15 June, 1945, Kobe was bombed. Incendiaries dropped from 530 bombers destroyed 3.8 square miles of the city, and 51% of the built-up area of the city was damaged. In addition to incendiary attacks, Kobe was the target of a B-29 precision attack on industry, three mine-laying operations and one fighter-bomber sweep.

⁷¹ U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. National Cemetery Administration. National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. <http://www.cem.va.gov/CEMs/nchp/nmcp.asp>

⁷² http://www.abmc.gov/search-abmc-burials-and-memorializations/detail/WWII_149651#.VFv9GYo8LCQ and Pacific Wrecks. <http://www.pacificwrecks.com/aircraft/b-29/42-24809.html>

⁷³ First and second generation Americans can relate something of the immigrant experience -- they saw it as children.

and shrubs, gardens and landscape with functional ties to the house. The barrier fence along Potts Hill Road with a gate leading into the yard and the flower garden inside the gate are still extant.

Log House (extant, contributing)

The primary element of the farm is the log house. It is a single-family, rural residence. The house is in front of the farm complex facing southeast toward Potts Hill Road and set back 65 feet from the edge of road. The house is a log vernacular building with an irregular floor plan of 1,858 square feet of living space, including 1,478 square feet downstairs and 380 square feet upstairs.

The oldest part of the house is the 19th-century 18' x 18' one and a half story "pen" or "crib" log structure, built by King Vince in 1866. The walls are constructed of hewed chestnut logs laid horizontally with the corners joined with "V" or steeple notching. Steeple corner notching is a characteristic of authentic log construction that provides structural integrity at the corners by locking the log ends in place giving the pen rigidity and stability.⁷⁴ Chestnut trees provide long, straight, rot-resistant wood easily hewn with a broad axe on all four sides and finished inside and out with an adze into a thick hand-worked rectangular building material. The log building stands on a rubble stone foundation. All of the building material of lumber and stone was harvested on the farm.

Wood lapped siding originally covered the log walls as a moisture barrier. Emil and Helen later covered that with attractive asphalt shingle siding sometime around 1945. Arthur and Esther removed the siding down to bare logs in the mid-1980s. Esther likes the look of the logs and has them stained every four or five years to renew the moisture barrier. The original chinking between the logs was mud, and it was as hard as rocks, but some was missing. Arthur patched areas of rotted wood and re-chinked between all of the logs with cement mortar.⁷⁵

The 18' x 18' ground floor room of the log pen features a wood beamed ceiling, maple tongue-and-groove floor and plastered walls. Emil installed the maple flooring in 1933. A small staircase at the northeast corner of the living room furnishes access to the half story large room above.

It is believed there was a stone fireplace and chimney in the house, but it no longer exists and it is unknown when this element was removed. The fireplace was probably contemporary with the original cabin and used for both heat and

⁷⁴ Bruce D. Bomberger, "Preservation Brief 26, The Preservation and Repair of Historic Log Buildings," Technical Preservation Services. National Park Service. Department of the Interior. <http://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/26-log-buildings.htm>

⁷⁵ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, October 29, 2014.

cooking. It likely was eliminated and replaced with a wood stove in 1933 when the house was enlarged and remodeled throughout. When the siding was removed the location of the fireplace became evident. Arthur filled the opening with stone and mortar.

The front facade of the house contains a single central entrance door with one window above. This door is flanked (on the right side when facing the house) by a single one-over-one double-hung sash window. An open hipped roof porch supported by four 6" x 6" wood posts sheltered the entrance door from weather during the historic period. The niches that received the rafter ends are visible in the log wall. The original front porch structure was taken down to remove the old siding and replaced with a taller shed roof supported by four 4" x 4" posts.

A pair of one-over-one double hung sash windows is centered in the southwest wall. Looking out these windows from inside, one sees the exterior grade along the wall about eighteen inches above the living room floor level.

The exterior upper gable ends of the roof retain the original wood lap siding. The roof is surfaced with 3-V crimp metal panels. Esther had a lightening protection system installed in 1999.⁷⁶ Lightening occasionally would strike the metal roof with a ball of electricity entering one gable end window, shooting across the upstairs room and exit the opposite gable end window.⁷⁷

Emil enlarged the house in 1933 with a 36' x 18' log pen addition attached to the north wall of the original log cabin. The addition was constructed similar to the original structure, with chestnut logs laid horizontally and joined with steeple notching at the corners. The shed roof is surfaced with 5-V crimp metal panels.

The interior is divided into a large combination kitchen, dining and family room and two bedrooms. Emil was assisted by an itinerant carpenter, who during the Depression could find no other work. He stayed with the Driapsa family for one year and worked in exchange for his room and board. Each bedroom has a single one-over-one double hung sash window. The north wall of the kitchen has a pair of one-over-one double hung sash windows. The door in the east wall has a single window above and is flanked on both sides with single one-over-one double hung sash windows. The front door is 36" x 80", all of the windows are 32" x 44", and the back door is 30" x 80".

Emil installed at this time the maple flooring in the living room. He replaced all of the doors and windows in the original part of the house to match the doors and windows in the new addition. These doors and windows were ordered from the

⁷⁶ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 13, 2014.

⁷⁷ From personal experience.

Sears catalog and delivered by train to Bainbridge, where they were picked up at the station and carried by horse and wagon to the farm. An extant beautiful rectangular patterned stamped metal ceiling was installed over the kitchen / dining / family room addition at this time.

Some logs in the addition were found to be rotted during the restoration in 1999 and Esther hired Jerry and Milan from the Czech Republic to make the repairs and carry out the stone and stucco work.⁷⁸

Sons John and Joseph constructed an 18' x 15' enclosed rear porch approximately 1940.⁷⁹ Son-in-law Arthur removed the porch around 1985 and reconstructed the 2 x 4 frame structure with a combination hip roof stuccoed inside and out with three windows and a door.⁸⁰ He omitted the original door in the back wall that gave access to the well and in its place installed a single one-over-one double hung sash window. He placed a new door in the side wall giving access to the driveway. This door contains a single window above and is flanked on both sides with single one-over-one double hung sash windows. The porch serves as a summer kitchen.

Emil was ill for about a year in 1962 and as it was hard for him to go outside to use the outhouse, his son Joseph built the 15' x 12' bathroom addition onto the house. The 2 x 4 frame structure is covered by a shed roof and there is a single one-over-one double hung sash window in the wall. Son-in-law Arthur plastered inside and he and Esther installed aluminum siding on the outside walls. "It was a wonderful addition."⁸¹

There are two concrete block chimneys on the exterior. One is outside the living room and replaced some time ago the original stone fireplace and chimney. The other chimney is outside the kitchen, which for many years vented a wood stove and oven used by Helen for cooking.

Electricity was brought into the house in 1947, the year Esther graduated from high school, and she recalls it being "an amazing addition to have a light bulb in every room, refrigeration, and a radio -- things now taken for granted."⁸² After an electric stove was brought into the house Helen continued to cook using the woodstove oven.

⁷⁸ Surnames are not recalled.

⁷⁹ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 11, 2014

⁸⁰ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 12, 2014.

⁸¹ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 11, 2014.

⁸² Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 11, 2014.

Pike County Water was brought into the house in 2014. Before that the water was supplied by Mother Nature, collected in the well for domestic use and in barrels for watering the garden and flowerbeds.⁸³

During the historic period Esther carried one pail of water a day to the house for cooking and drinking from the spring down the hillside.

Well (extant, contributing)

The well of potable water is adjacent to the house. It was hand dug about twenty feet deep and four feet in diameter and lined with stone to prevent the walls from caving in as well as to capture the underground vein of water. The stones that line the well are similar to the stone used in the construction of the house foundation and the root cellar. The stone is believed to have been quarried from the rock ledge outcropping in the lower part of the farm. The hand pump was replaced with an electric water pump in the 1980s. Water from the public utility was brought into the house in 2014 and the well no longer provides drinking water to the house.

Root Cellar (extant, contributing)

This 19th-century 24' x 15' one and a half story root cellar was constructed by King Vance approximately 1866. The stone rubble walls are constructed to three-quarter height with logs above. The dirt floor is sunk one foot below the exterior ground level. The single door is located in the east gable end. The gable roof overhangs three and a half feet beyond the wall and provides a covered space above the entry door. The roof is covered with corrugated metal panels. A single window for light faces the house. Arthur covered the window over and laid a stone over the dirt floor.⁸⁴ It is located about 25 feet north of the house. The stone and wood material used to construct the building were harvested on the farm.

Privy (non-extant)

The two-hole privy served sanitary needs until the bathroom addition was built onto the house in 1962. The structure was repurposed for chemical storage for a while. It slowly sunk into obsolescence and was removed.

Gardens (extant, contributing)

Extensive gardens surrounded the house and consisted of lawn, ornamental flowering plants, fruiting shrubs and trees, large vegetable garden, perennial cultivated species of many types and a large patch of native black raspberries (*Rubus occidentalis*). There were two orchards. One was in the farmyard (extant, contributing) and the other was in the barnyard (non-extant).

⁸³ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 13, 2014.

⁸⁴ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 7, 2014.

Emil and Helen always had a large kitchen garden and Esther has kept this up. The gardens were and still are extensive.

Wild blackberries were harvested for jelly for the winter, but the semi-wild raspberries were sold for the cash crop. Emil and Helen maintained the berry patches historically and they continue to be used presently. Managed domestic patches of wild raspberries convey the significance of human interaction with natural systems for economic purposes.

Helen raised cabbage for making sauerkraut. She processed the sauerkraut in a large ceramic crock covered with a broad wood board weighed down with a rock to keep it closed. The crock was stored in the root cellar with the content used through the winter.

Emil stored apples in the root cellar for use through the winter. He made cider from the apples and allowed some to turn to vinegar for the year's supply. Apple represented several old varieties, often spotted, but always delicious.

Helen made wine from grapes and used it as a tonic, with small daily amounts consumed for health.

Italian plum trees (*Prunus domestica*) surrounded the root cellar on three sides. The spring blossoms of pink and white ornamented the yard, and the fruit was the most enjoyable late summer harvest used in canning, cooking, and eaten freshly picked from the tree.

Esther planted the spruce windbreak on the eastern border of the farmyard in 1986.

Greenhouse (non-extant)

Joseph was a great horticulturalist and gardener. He practiced the art of grafting and could make everything grow. He built the wood framed greenhouse structure with glass panel roof and walls. He raised early plants for setting out in the garden immediately after the last spring frost for early bearers. The structure was shaded by a large red mulberry tree (*Morus rubra*) with messy but delicious fruit. Joseph planted a silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) years ago near the front gate entering into the yard and it has grown into a tree of enormous girth, height and spread. He was very proud of having planted that tree and seeing it grow large.⁸⁵

Garage and Carport (extant, non-contributing)

The 10' x 12' garage with an attached 8' x 10' carport was built by Arthur and Esther Knapp in 1999.

⁸⁵ Joseph Driapsa to David Driapsa.

Chicken Coop (non-extant)

The chicken coop was partitioned with one room used by roosting chickens and the other side was a smokehouse. There were rows of nesting boxes for the chickens to lay eggs and horizontal rows of sapling trees behind the boxes for the chickens to roost when not in a nesting box. Reaching beneath the nesting chicken to remove eggs often resulted in the chicken pecking arm, which always was more startling than painful.

The floor of the chicken coop was hard packed earth. It was always dusty and dark inside. There was no artificial lighting, and the natural lighting came in as a large beam when the door was opened and as smaller rays through the spaces between the exterior board siding.

A hand-cranked corn sheller was used to remove kernels from the corn cobs. The kernels were processed through a hand-cranked grinder and cracked into small pieces for chicken feed. Esther still has all of that old equipment.⁸⁶

Farmyard (extant, contributing)

The farmyard included the barn, storage structures, objects, fenced enclosures and landscapes with functional ties to housing and feeding the livestock and storage of feed, farm implements and equipment. The composition of buildings and use of the land varied over the years as the production of corn, apples, berries, cattle, hogs and chickens varied, making a single description of the farmyard difficult.

Emil and Helen raised domestic chickens, turkeys, hogs and then beef too as refrigeration became available and milk, butter, cream, eggs, vegetables and fruit provided a variety of food for the family use and often an excess for sale.

Barn (extant, contributing)

There was originally an old log barn on the farm when Emil and Helen acquired the property. It was demolished and a new one constructed in 1938.

The new barn was a 30' x 28' one and a half story post and girt structure, covered with vertical siding, a metal roof and a rubble stone foundation. Joints between the vertical siding boards are covered with metal strips half way up the walls and left uncovered above to ventilate the loft. The floor is hard packed earth. The 2 -V crimp metal roof covering the Dutch-type roof is original. Esther has it painted periodically to protect the metal from rust. A lightening protection system was installed in 1999.⁸⁷

⁸⁶ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, October 30, 2014.

⁸⁷ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 13, 2014.

Carpenter Fred Robinette of Nipgen, five miles east, constructed the barn, taking two weeks. Mr. Robinette was paid one dollar a day for his labor and home cooked lunches prepared by Helen. John furnished Mr. Robinette transportation to and from work.

All of the wood and stone material used to construct the barn was harvested on the farm. The logs were sawed into lumber at the saw mill owned by Wilbur Jett on a neighboring farm 1/2 mile west. Mr. Jett charged six dollars to saw the logs into lumber. The stone foundations were quarried on the farm from the rock outcrop down the hill below the barn. The greatest cost was the metal roof and nails. It cost \$200 to construct the barn and it is still used for storage.⁸⁸

There was a window in the west end of the barn. The glass was broken and the surrounding boards were rotted. Arthur replaced the boards in the 1980s and eliminated the window. All four doors have been replaced. The wood siding has been painted many times to save the whole building. Like the house, there was much work to be done on the barn when Arthur and Esther acquired the farm.⁸⁹

The ground floor of the barn housed and fed a horse, dairy cow, and beef cows. Emil used a horse drawn wagon for transportation and stored the wagon and harness in the barn. The large door on rollers opened widely to bring the wagon inside. One small hinged door was used for general access, and two larger doors were used for the horse and cows. The upper floor was a large hayloft, accessed by a stairway from inside the barn. Large hinged doors in the gable ends opened to bring hay into the loft. Smaller doors in the gable ends were used for air circulation.

The barn is one of the most prominent and best-preserved examples of its type for many miles and remains a representative of "traditional" farms and the folk methods of agriculture in the early twentieth century. During the historic period and as late as the 1980s the barn was a hilltop landmark visible on the hilltop from the Paint Valley two and a half miles away. The woodland below the barn has regrown to the extent that the barn is now obscured by trees and no longer visible from the valley floor.

Feed Lot (non-extant)

There was a fenced in feed lot to the east of barn during the historic period. A fenced enclosure of a lesser extent exists there today. Currently there are no livestock on the farm.

⁸⁸ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 6, 2014.

⁸⁹ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, November 6, 2014.

Pig Pen (non-extant)

A few pigs were raised for the meat and by-products. They were kept in a fenced enclosure and provided an enclosed wood shed for shelter. The pig pen was located between the barnyard and farmyard. Pigs have to be given feed and water daily and the water came from the well at the house. For convenience the pig pen was close to the farmyard, but tucked far enough away from the house behind the chicken coop and apple orchard to not be a nuisance.

Lard was a by-product processed from the fat of the hogs butchered on the farm. A can of ten or twenty pounds lasted all year.

Turkey House (non-extant)

Helen raised chickens and turkeys. When turkeys are small, they cannot be mixed with chickens until after five pounds, and then they can mingle. Turkeys are wild by nature and do not stay with the chickens. They take off with the mother down over the hill in the morning, eating bugs, berries and whatever else and getting water at the spring or overflow, and return in the evenings to be fed corn and roost in a shelter safe from wild animal predators.

John built a turkey roosting house just below the barn. It no longer exists. The complex consisted of the shed structure, a porch and a small fenced enclosure. The roof was surfaced with 2-V crimp metal panels. The turkeys could go out onto the "porch" for sunshine and fresh air or stay inside the shelter to roost. The floor was elevated several feet above the ground and made of galvanized metal hardware cloth through which droppings would fall. The turkey house was free standing, just a little left and down from the barn, and visible from the farmyard.

The Great Depression was "hard times" and with money in short supply it was hard to sell a whole turkey. Joseph came up with the idea to sell tickets for a turkey raffle, with each ticket costing a dime. Ralph Shoemaker was the winner of the raffle and for many years afterwards mentioned how pleased he was to get a whole turkey for a dime. Of course Helen made money too.⁹⁰

When Helen dressed out a turkey, all of it was not cooked for a single meal. One large turkey would make many meals. She cut the bird into parts and made turkey soup with noodles, turkey and rice and many other dishes.

Corn Crib (non-extant)

The corn crib is no longer extant. It was maybe a 12' x 8' wood structure with a metal roof and one door used to store ears of corn for chicken feed, with space inside for storing a few other things. The ears of corn were carried to chicken coop and processed into chicken feed.

⁹⁰ Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa.

Fences (mostly non-extant)

The farm was sectioned off with wood posts and barbed wire enclosures that controlled the seasonal movement of livestock.

There have been no livestock on the farm many years. Fences have deteriorated and are no longer functional. Joseph, David and Daniel re-built fences in the 1960s. Arthur and Esther rebuilt the fences again in the 1980s.

Enclosed fields were used from late spring to harvest for crops, and alternatively in winter for foraging. Animal waste is an organic fertilizer and enriches the soil.

A part of the woodland was fenced down over the hill to springs giving the livestock access to fresh water.

Grass Meadows and Hay Pastures (extant, contributing)

Enclosed pastures were used from late winter to early spring for livestock foraging. Then the livestock was removed to allow the grass to grow through the summer when it was cut for hay and dried before moving it into the barn hayloft for winter fodder. After the hay was harvested the livestock was returned to the hay pastures to graze on the stubble.

Emil maintained grass meadows extending from Potts Hill Road to the barn and continuing on down over the hill to the springs as a series of clearings in the woodlands where he cultivated grass for the livestock to graze.

Farmyard Orchard (non-extant)

Ross County is a center for fruit culture in Ohio. At one time Emil had an orchard of bearing peach trees and apples and a number of other small fruit tree, such as persimmon. He also maintained a small vineyard. The orchard behind the barn is no longer extant and the area has reverted to woodland.

Woodland (extant, contributing)

Emil and Helen allowed the woodland to be harvested in the 1940s. They sold the timber to a man from Morgantown for \$700. A sawmill was set up in the woods, where logs were sawed into boards and hauled out by truck. The woodland was harvested again in the 1960s. They sold the timber for \$2,000. No sawmill was set up at that time and the logs were hauled out by truck. Joseph enjoyed the woods and taught his sons to enjoy it too and was upset when too many trees were removed.

Appalachia is covered by a rich mesophytic forest biome⁹¹ of large deciduous trees including sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), bitternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) american beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), persimmon (*Diospyrus virginiana*), and yellow buckeye (*Aesculus flava*). Understory trees include flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), American hornbeam “musclewood” (*Carpinus caroliniana*), American hophornbeam “ironwood” (*Ostrya virginiana*), eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), wild apple (*Malus domestica*) and pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), as found growing on the farm. There are no naturally occurring evergreen trees on the farm.

Sawmill Archeological Site (non-extant)

The 1940s sawmill structure was not removed and remained as a ruin and landmark in the woods until the 1960s when the woodland was cut over again at which time the ruin associated sawdust pile were flattened by a bulldozer. It has completely disintegrated into the forest floor and would be difficult to locate.

“The Flats” (extant, contributing)

The steep slopes at the back of the farmyard lead down to a level promontory of land of about eleven acres called the “Flats” and sometimes “Sassafras Flats.” Emil farmed there, planting corn, sometimes wheat, one year it was a crop of tobacco, and a couple years it was raspberries, and it was mowed occasionally for the hay to feed livestock.

Emil used a horse to work his fields. Working the Flats required everything to be carried in and hauled out. When working the Flats he watered the horse from a hand dug rubble stone lined well in the middle of the field.

Stultz Cabin Archeological Site (Partially extant, contributing)

In 1800s the Stultz cabin was located near the center of the Flats. The occupant named Stultz lived there but never had a deed for the land. No foundations of the cabin remain. The dug well mentioned above from where Emil watered his horse is replenished by ground water. The well still exists and was restored recently by Daniel Driapsa.

⁹¹ Michael B. Lafferty (ed.) Ohio's Natural History. (Columbus: Ohio Academy of Science and Ohio Department of Natural Resources, 1979.) Also see: Wikipedia, “Appalachian mixed mesophytic forests.” http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Appalachian_mixed_mesophytic_forests

The Spring (extant, contributing)

Several natural seeps of water flow out of the ground on the lower hillsides. One spring is laid up with rubble stone forming a small grotto of perennial pool. It was used by the Driapsa family for a domestic source of fresh water for drinking and cooking. Esther recalled that it was one of her jobs every day during the summer to carry a bucket of water from the spring to the house. To this day she will not waste water. Emil fetched the water when Esther was in school. This spring flowed perennially, except during one summer of extreme drought.⁹²

On her walks to the spring Esther stopped to eat ripe wild cherries from the tree that still extant today. She also enjoyed eating “pappas” (pawpaw -- *Asimina triloba*), an astringent fruit that grows on small trees beneath the shade of larger trees. Persimmon (*Diospyrus virginiana*) is another native fruit enjoyed for its interesting taste. Like the pawpaw, persimmon is astringent when eaten unripe. One quickly learns to avoid the mouth-puckering sensation of eating unripe fruit.

A small stream spills forth from the spring and continues downhill as a braided stream collecting into a series of small pools from where forest animals drink.

Daniel has created a series of pools below the spring in recent years for a source of water from where deer will drink.

Rock Ledge Outcroppings (extant, contributing)

Flowing water emitting from seeps and small springs in the hillside combined and increased in size and intensity to cut an incised valley down to the sandstone bedrock, forming outcropping rock ledges, pools and riffles.

This incised valley and exposed rock is a culturally-significant landscape feature that existed before and during the historic period and is extant today. It is a contributing historic resource. Rubble stone harvested from this area provided good building material in the construction of the house, root cellar and barn. The incised valley affected the location, design and management of the woodland roads and fence rows.

Williamson Place Archeological Site

There was a cabin in the woods near the northeast corner of the farm on the hillside above the incised valley. This was the Williamson family home place. There was no road to this nine acre parcel; it was accessed by a footpath through the woods. The Williamson children walked the footpath to catch the school bus at the Carl Knisley place, which was not unusual. Few people had an automobile in those days. Clyde Williamson and his brother Colon were school mates with Esther and rode the school bus together to school in Bainbridge. Clyde worked

⁹² Esther Driapsa Knapp to David Driapsa by email, August 30, 2014.

for Joseph on the farm raising tomatoes. A woman lady stopped the bus one afternoon returning from school, and took the Williamson boys off to say their house had burned down. After that the family left the area. A well, Daffodils and Lilac bushes mark the spot in the woods where the house once stood.

Views and Vistas (non-extant)

From the back of the barn and down into the grass pastures on the hillside, one could look down into the Horse Shoe Bend of Paint Creek with views of the ancient Seip Mound Earthwork. The clearings have reverted to woodland and obscure the magnificent vista of the Paint Valley.

The Changing Rural Landscape

The Driapsa farm changed in several important ways after the gasoline engine came into common use. A tractor and a truck replaced animal power beginning in the 1940s. Neither Emil nor Helen ever drove a motorized vehicle. They used a horse and wagon for transportation. Ester recalls when an order of furniture for the house arrived by train at the station in Bainbridge and Emil drove his horse drawn wagon the five miles to Bainbridge and brought the merchandise home.

Joseph owned an automobile that was used extensively by the family. At one time Emil removed the rear seat to transport a calf, which was not uncommon in rural communities at that time. During World War II Esther obtained a driver's license at age fourteen so she could take her parents around. All of the other children were away and neither Emil nor Helen drove an automobile.

Horse drawn implements were used to work the fields until after Joseph returned from the war and acquired a bright red International Harvester Farmall Cub tractor.⁹³ The tractor was a greatly appreciated replacement of the horse for row crop use, cultivating, mowing and general farming purposes. Joseph attended farm school under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944⁹⁴ (The GI Bill) and brought modern scientific agricultural practices to the farm. He implemented environmentally sustainable practices such as cultivation and strawing for weed control, sowing Clover (*Trifolium* spp.), Timothy (*Phleum* spp.) and Ryegrass (*Secale* spp. and *Lolium* spp.) and plowing it into the soil as a green manure,⁹⁵ and burning the fields to recycle nutrients of potassium and phosphorus.⁹⁶ He hauled truckloads of corncobs from the grain mill in Bainbridge and plowed it under to rebuild soil where erosion had removed the surface layer. Joseph used modern fertilizers and increased crop yields exponentially. He trucked his

⁹³ Wikipedia, "Farmall Cub," http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Farmall_Cub

⁹⁴ U.S. Department of Vetern Affairs, "Education and Training: History and Timeline," <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/history.asp>

⁹⁵ Cover Crops and Green Manures. <http://www.main.org/aog/articles/grn.htm>

⁹⁶ Post-Harvest Residue Management. http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu/system/files/classes/css460-560/Chapter_6.pdf

bountiful harvests to the old farmers market in Columbus where restaurant owners eagerly bought his superior tomatoes. Emil passed away during these changes that marked the transition of the farm from a folk landscape to one characterized by modern agriculture.

Joseph ended farming in the 1970s to run his architectural restoration business that preserved many of the landmark antebellum houses in the Paint Valley.

Arthur and Esther Driapsa Knapp acquired ownership of farm in 1980 and entered a multiple-year project rehabilitating the log house for a residence and preserving the historic farm. The log house, root cellar, barn, extensive gardens and woodland framework established by Emil and Helen Driapsa in the first half of the twentieth century are extant. Fruit orchards, hay pastures and agricultural fields have diminished, while the woodland has increased. Certain folk elements such as the privy, chicken coop, turkey house and pig pen – one-time necessities – are gone and replaced with modern conveniences. The physical endurance and resonant associative historical elements make the farm unparalleled locally for the interpretation of European emigrant life during the early- to mid-twentieth century in Bainbridge, Paxton Township, Ross County, Ohio.

The farm was registered as an Ohio Centennial Farm in 2014. It has been in the family for one hundred years and is the sole remaining farm of the once vibrant Potts Hill European Community.

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Sources for Drawings

Drawing Sheet 1, Cover

Detailed Map of Ohio Counties; Photograph of Driapsa. Photographer: David Driapsa, 1986.

Drawing Sheet 2, Contextual Plan

1860 map of Paxton Township; 1875 map of Paxton Township; Google Earth aerial images; Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Virginia Military District Map; Seip Mound map: Squire, Ephraim G. and Edwin H. Davis. Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley. Smithsonian Classics of Anthropology. (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution, 1848.); United States Geological Survey Bainbridge Quadrangle, 1917; United States Geological Survey Piketon Quadrangle, 1917; United States Geological Survey Bourneville Quadrangle, 2014; United States Geological Survey Morgantown Quadrangle, 2014

Drawing Sheet 3, European Community

1860 map of Paxton Township; 1875 map of Paxton Township; Google Earth aerial images; Ross County GIS; Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Virginia Drawing Military District Map; United States Geological Survey Bainbridge Quadrangle, 1917; United States Geological Survey Piketon Quadrangle, 1917; United States Geological Survey Bainbridge Quadrangle, 1917; United States Geological Survey Piketon Quadrangle, 1917; United States Geological Survey Bourneville Quadrangle, 2014; United States Geological Survey Morgantown Quadrangle, 2014

Drawing Sheet 4, Driapsa Farm

Google Earth Aerial Images; Ross County GIS; Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Photographs: Photographers: Various unknown, various dates; United States Geological Survey Bourneville Quadrangle, 2014

Drawing Sheet 5, Driapsa Farmyard ca. 1960

1960 Aerial Photograph BCS–2EEE–276-5-21-64; United States Geological Survey Morgantown Quadrangle, 2014; Google Earth Aerial Images; Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Photographs: Photographers: Various unknown, various dates

Drawing Sheet 6, Driapsa Farmyard, 2014

Google Earth Aerial Images; Photographs; Photographer: Daniel Driapsa, 2014;
Photographs; Photographer: David Driapsa, various dates; Photographs;
Photographer: Diana Driapsa Bouille, 2014; Photographs; Photographer: Esther
Driapsa Knapp, various dates; Photographs; Photographers: Various unknown,
various dates

Drawing Sheet 7, House

Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Photographs; Photographer: Daniel Driapsa,
2014; Photographs; Photographer: David Driapsa, various dates; Photographs;
Photographer: Diana Driapsa Bouille, 2014; Photographs; Photographer: Esther
Driapsa Knapp, various dates; Photographs; Photographers: Various unknown,
various dates

Drawing Sheet 8, Barn

Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Photographs; Photographer: Daniel Driapsa,
2014; Photographs; Photographer: David Driapsa, various dates; Photographs;
Photographer: Diana Driapsa Bouille, 2014; Photographs; Photographer: Esther
Driapsa Knapp, various dates; Photographs; Photographers: Various unknown,
various dates

Drawing Sheet 9, Root Cellar

Sketch by Esther Driapsa Knapp; Photographs; Photographer: Daniel Driapsa,
2014; Photographs; Photographer: David Driapsa, various dates; Photographs;
Photographer: Diana Driapsa Bouille, 2014; Photographs; Photographer: Esther
Driapsa Knapp, various dates; Photographs; Photographers: Various unknown,
various dates

Drawing Sheet 10, Eiring Place

Sketch by Betty Eiring Huston; Photographs; Photographers: Various unknown,
various dates

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Affiliation: ASLA National Coordinator, Historic American Landscapes Survey

Completion Date: December 2, 2014.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The project was conducted by David Driapsa with Esther Driapsa Knapp and Diana Driapsa Bouille. Recording the Driapsa Farm and Potts Hill European Community was undertaken as a contribution to the Historic American Landscapes Survey.

A family history written by Esther Driapsa Knapp in memory of her parents and neighbors inspired this project. The final written history, measured and interpretative drawings were produced by David Driapsa ASLA historical landscape architect. Diana Driapsa Bouille provided genealogical research. Esther, Diana and Daniel Driapsa provided photographs and recollections of the Driapsa farm and the Potts Hill European community. Esther provided sketches of the Driapsa farm. Betty Eiring Husted provided a sketch and photographs of her grandparent's farm, the Henry and Elizabeth Eiring place.

Project coordination was provided by the National Park Service Historic American Landscapes Survey, HALS Program Chief Paul D. Dolinsky and Landscape Architect Christopher Stevens.

Driapsa Family

Emil Driapsa (1881-1966)

Helen Driapsa (1889-1979)

John Driapsa (1912-1945)

Ellen Driapsa (1914-1983)

Katherine Driapsa (1916-1955)

Joseph Edward Driapsa (1918-2006)

Spouse: Doris Marilyn Bengé Driapsa (1931-)

Mary Ann Driapsa Nielsen (1921-)

Spouse: Arthur Nielson

Carl Driapsa (1923-1947)

Margaret Driapsa (1926-1926)

Esther Louise Driapsa Knapp (1929-)

Spouse: Arthur Knapp (1928-2004)

Potts Hill European Community Neighbors

John And Eva Eiring, Henry And Elizabeth Eiring, Elizabeth Wisemandle, Adam Metzger, Elizabeth Kottos, Andy And Ellen Saling, Joseph And Wilma Vitek, George Delackas, Tony Prince, Gabriel Kirsch, Leon Perry, Carl And Elizabeth Fuecht, and John Wurzbach.



Emil Driapsa, 1933

Photographer: Unknown

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



Helen Driapsa

Photographer: Doris Bengé Driapsa

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille



Emil and Helen Driapsa wedding photograph

Photographer: Unknown, ca. 1912

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



Children of Email and Helen Driapsa posing in the front yard of the farm

From left to right: Katherine, Esther, Mary Ann, Carl and Joseph. John and Ellen are not present. The dog's name is unknown.

Photographer: unknown, ca. early 1923s.

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



Email and Helen Driapsa children in World War II

Top left: John; top right: Joseph; bottom left: Mary Ann; bottom right: Carl

Photographers: unknown, ca. mid-1940s.

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



“A WAR OF 1941” is carved into the trunk of a beech tree below the spring

The person who carved this had the war on their mind. Maybe it was one of the Driapsa brothers thinking about what options lay ahead for him. Each generation carved on trees.

Photographer: Esther Driapsa Knapp, ca. 2014.



Helen Driapsa and Grandchildren in the farmyard

From left to right: farm house, Helen Driapsa, grandchildren John and Iva Knapp, root cellar.

Photographer: Esther Driapsa Knapp, ca. early 1960s.



Emil and Helen Driapsa with children and grandchildren on the farm in 1967

Front: John Knapp; Second Row from left to right: Daniel Driapsa, Emil Driapsa, Helen Driapsa, Iva Knapp, David Driapsa; Back Row: Mary Ann Driapsa Nielson, John Nielson, Ellen Driapsa, Carl Nielson, Esther Driapsa Knapp, Joseph Driapsa, Diana Driapsa; absent Carol Jean Driapsa.

Photographer: Doris Benge Driapsa

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille



Driapsa Place in winter

Front of the house and driveway into the farmyard.

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2012.



Driapsa Place in summer

Front of the house and flower garden.

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2013.



Driapsa House restoration

Arthur Knapp is making repairs to the historic house.

Photographer: Esther Knapp, ca. 1980s.



Driapsa Place

Front of the house and flower garden.

Photographer: Diana Driapsa Bouille, 2014.



Driapsa farm barn and horse

The Barn with workhorse named Prince. The hay is on the ground is being loaded into the hayloft and stored for winter feed.

Photographer: Esther Knapp, ca. date unknown.



Driapsa farm barn in winter

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2012.



Emil Driapsa at the barn tending to his cows

Photographer: Unknown, ca. March 1960.

Courtesy of Diane Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



Helen Driapsa and daughter Esther posing at side of the root cellar

Photographer: Unknown; date Unknown

Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



Sisters Mariska and Ilona Kraus
Maria (Marishka) seated and Helen (Ilona) standing.

Photographer: Commercial: Lechnitaky (?); date Unknown
Courtesy of Diana Driapsa Bouille and Esther Driapsa Knapp



Driapsa farm hayfield

View looking east from the house.

Photographer: Diana Driapsa Bouille, ca. 2014.



Joseph Driapsa and daughter Diana on Potts Hill farm, ca. 1954

Photographer: Unknown.



Joseph and Doris Driapsa

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 1986.



Driapsa farmyard in winter

Looking south from the barnyard into the farmyard.

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2012.



Driapsa farm: rock outcropping in the woodland

Photographer: Daniel Driapsa, 2014.



Indian artifacts

The pink chert Hopewell projectile point at top of the display was found by Doris Benge Driapsa on the level summit of “Sassafras Flats” overlooking the Seip Mound Earthworks.

David Driapsa collection. Photographer: David Driapsa, 2014.



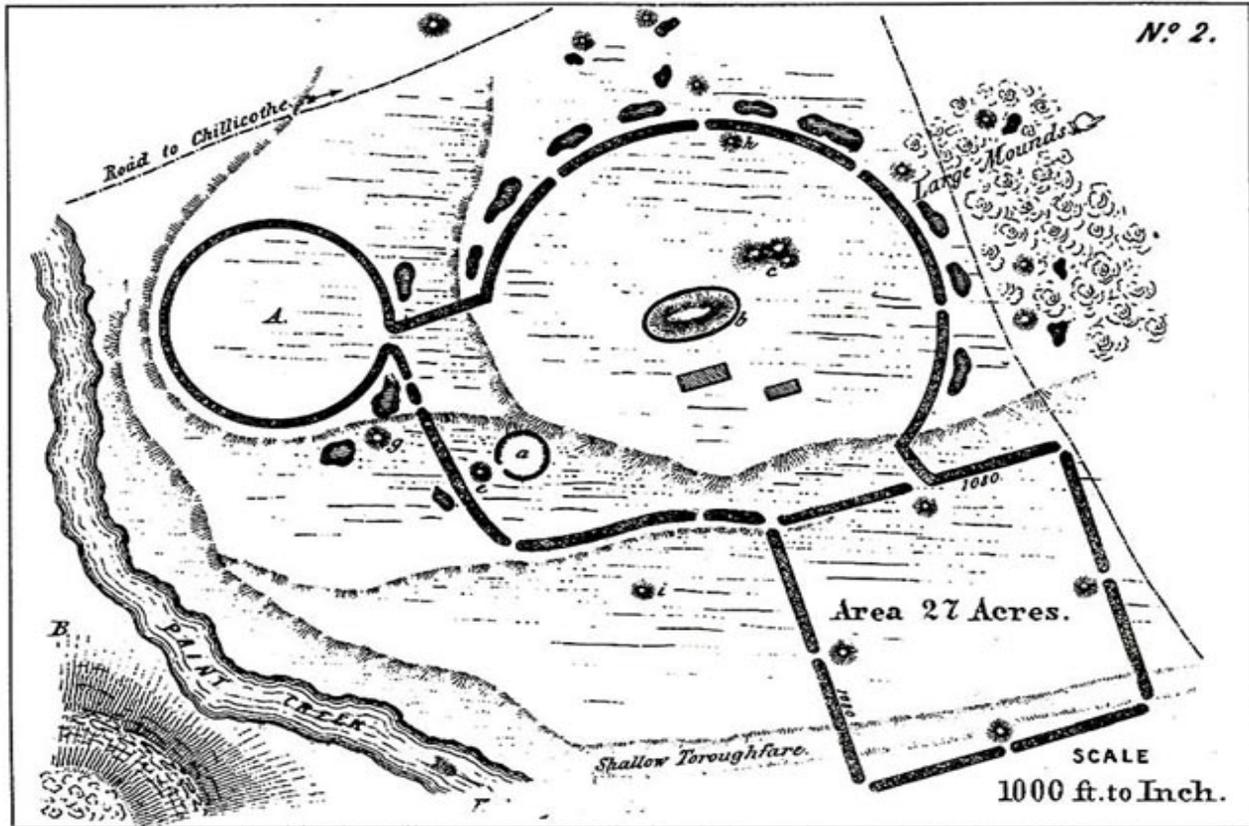
Seip Mound

Seip Earthworks Location: 83°13'8.381"W 39°14'13.517"N. Seip Mound is a monumental earthwork constructed by the Ohio Hopewell culture during the Woodland Period (1-1000 CE).⁹⁷ The mound is surrounded by a 121 acre earthwork complex of low walls and smaller mounds. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Ohio Historical Society owns the central burial complex including the reconstructed mound, remnants of three conjoined mounds, and portions of circular and square enclosures. The National Park Service owns surrounding property managed as a unit of the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park.

From the Driapsa farm on Potts Hill, one looks down into the Horseshoe Bend area of the Paint Valley and the Seip Earthworks. Likewise, from Seip mound, one looked up to the Driapsa barn rising above the crest of the Potts Hill.

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2013.

⁹⁷ United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. "Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks." <http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5243/>



Seip Earthworks

Squire and Davis (1848) map of the Seip Earthworks.

Squire, Ephraim G. and Edwin H. Davis. Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley. Smithsonian Classics of Anthropology. (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution, 1848.)



Copperas Mountain

Copperas Mountain is a prominent Paint Valley landmark near Seip Earthworks at the Horseshow Bend of Paint Creek.

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2013.



Pike Lake

Pike Lake State Park is a unit of the Ohio State Park System. The park was master planned and constructed by a workforce of the Civilian Conservation Corp as project of the Great Depression era New Deal program.

Emil Driapsa worked as a Local Experienced Man building roads to the park.

Photographer: David Driapsa, ca. 2012.



Henry and Elizabeth Eiring

Photographer: Unknown, Date unknown. Courtesy of Betty Eiring Husted, granddaughter of Henry and Elizabeth Eiring.



Eiring home place, Potts Hill

Photographer: Unknown, ca. 1950s. Courtesy of Betty Eiring Husted.



Eiring home place, Potts Hill

Twenty years after being vacated.

Photographer: Unknown, ca. 1970s. Courtesy of Betty Eiring Husted.



Barn, Eiring home place, Potts Hill

Before torn down in the 1970s.

Photographer: Unknown, ca. 1970s. Courtesy of Betty Eiring Husted.



Barn, Eiring home place, Potts Hill

Mud chinking between logs.

Photographer: Unknown, ca. 1970s. Courtesy of Betty Eiring Husted.