



GRAY & PAPE, INC.
ARCHAEOLOGY · HISTORY · HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Project No. 09-22901

Final Report

Ohio Modern: Preserving Our Recent Past Statewide Historic Context

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ABSTRACT

Gray & Pape, Inc., contracted with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office of the Ohio Historical Society to develop a statewide historic context document outlining the important social, political, and economic trends that shaped land use decisions, architectural styles, property types, and building technology in Ohio associated with the recent past (1940-1970). The time period begins with World War II and the massive socioeconomic transformations that occurred. The events of the war years set into motion trends and patterns of historical development that shaped Ohio for the next three decades. The time period ends at 1970, as the early 1970s marked a period of transition for Ohio that included deindustrialization, assumption of new responsibilities by state and local government, and demographic and socioeconomic trends as the state's metropolitan areas grew and the population transitioned from rural to suburban settings. During this project, Gray & Pape, Inc., established significant themes and identified important property types and examples of the work of seminal architects, builders, and developers in Ohio's recent past.

The historic context document follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Preservation Planning (developing historic contexts). The project uses relevant guidance provided in the following National Register of Historic Places Bulletins: *Historic Residential Suburbs: Guidelines for Evaluation and Documentation for the National Register of Historic Places*, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, and *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*. All Gray & Pape, Inc., personnel involved with this project meet federal professional qualification standards as published in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 48 FR 44716, in the areas of History and Architectural History.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Gray & Pape, Inc. (Gray & Pape), contracted with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) of the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) to develop a statewide historic context document outlining the important social, political, and economic trends that shaped land use decisions, architectural styles, property types, and building technology in Ohio associated with the recent past (1940-1970). The time period begins with the years immediately leading up to World War II. The events of the war years set into motion massive socioeconomic transformations, trends and patterns of historical development that shaped Ohio for the next three decades. The time period ends at 1970; the early 1970s marked a period of transition for Ohio that included deindustrialization, assumption of new responsibilities by state and local government, and demographic and socioeconomic trends as the state's metropolitan areas grew and the population transitioned from rural to suburban settings. During this project, Gray & Pape established significant themes and identified important property types and examples of the work of seminal architects, builders, and developers in Ohio's recent past.

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1.1 Organization

This report is organized in eight sections as well as eleven appendices. Section 1.0 presents introductory material for the project. Section 2.0 provides the research design, research questions, and archival research methods used during the course of this project. A statewide historic context for Ohio's recent past (1940-1970) architecture is contained in Section 3.0. A discussion of design trends, construction methods and materials, resource types and discussion of a selected list of Ohio architects, builders and developers associated with Ohio's recent past is provided in Section 4.0. Methods for identification, evaluation, documentation, and NRHP registration of Ohio's recent past resources are presented in Section 5.0. Section 6.0 contains recommendations for future research, survey needs, and potential NRHP nominations. References cited are included in Section 7.0, while Section 8.0 includes a bibliography of resources for Ohio's recent past.

Appendix A contains all of the figures prepared for the report, while Appendix B includes plates. In Appendix C, Gray & Pape presents a list of architect-designed Ohio resources from the recent past (1940-1970); the list also includes a small number of resources from ca. 1970-1980 to aid in tracking trends in subsequent architectural design. Appendix D is a

compilation of recent past architectural resources that are listed in local architectural guides and inventories, included on various Internet sites, and identified by way of this project's online survey. Gray & Pape consulted every issue of *Ohio Architect* magazine published between 1954 and 1970 to compile a list of Ohio buildings that warranted editorial mention and/or that received an award for design; these findings are presented in Appendix E. An excerpt of ODOT's Historic Bridge Inventory of Ohio bridges, featuring only those built between ca. 1940 and 1980, is found in Appendix F. The American Institute of Architects (AIA) historical directories of American architects practicing in Ohio in 1956, 1962, and 1972 are provided in Appendix G, along with rosters of architects practicing in Ohio as published in 1954 and 1964 by the monthly publication *Ohio Architect*. Appendix H provides in tabular format the results of an online survey undertaken as part of the project. Appendix I lists the historic preservation organizations, historical societies, municipal and county planning agencies, and university architecture and historic preservation departments contacted by Gray & Pape to request their input in identifying design trends, resource types, architects, and architectural styles in Ohio dating from the recent past (1940-1970), as well as to participate in the online survey. A summary of the oral history interviews conducted during the course of this project is included in Appendix J.

1.2 Acknowledgements

Archival research for this phase of the project began in November 2009 and continued throughout the project. Architectural Historians Don Burden, Meghan Hesse, Jennifer Mastri, and Doug Owen, as well as Principal Investigator Brandon McCuin, contributed to the research tasks and assisted with preparing the historic context. Lena L. Sweeten McDonald acted as Senior Principal Investigator and oversaw all aspects of the report's preparation. Patrick W. O'Bannon served as the Project Manager. Julisa Melendez undertook technical editing for the context report. Ruth G. Myers prepared all of the GIS datasets and mapping included in the report. Carly Meyer was responsible for the report's graphics. Donna M. DeBlasio, Ph.D., director of the Center for Historic Preservation at Youngstown State University, conducted the oral history interviews for this project.