

City of Green

Historic Preservation Commission

PO Box 278 Green, OH 44232-0278

Telephone: 330-896-6614

Fax: 330-896-6606

Application for Historic Designation

- ☒ Individual Landmark ☐ List of more than 5 individual properties – *complete a form for each property*
☐ Historic District – *include site plan indicating limits of proposed District*

Submittals

It is important that applicant conduct research, and submit as much information as possible to support the request. These documents and photos will become part of the HPC files for the property, and cannot be returned.

- Photos of all sides of house and property, and a straight-on street view.
Digital photographs – 2 photos per page
Photographs – must be in plastic 8.5 x 11 covers or jackets
Historical photos, as available.
- Documentation of age, i.e. deed, transfer, or documentation from a recognized source, Census information, maps, county histories, Stark County property records (prior to 1840) or Summit County property records.
- Known history of home and ownership, and supporting documents or information, published history, family histories & records

Or District Boundary Description: _____

Designation desired:	<input type="checkbox"/> External only	<input type="checkbox"/> External & Internal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External & Specific / Limited Internal
Designation initiated by:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property Owner <input type="checkbox"/> HPC <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Property owner(s):	Glenn and Becky Witsaman		Date Submitted: [REDACTED]
Property owner mailing:	3431 Greensburg Road	City State ZIP	North Canton, OH 44720
Property owner phone:	[REDACTED]	mail:	
Designated Representative, <i>as applic</i> :	Glenn Witsaman		
Representative mailing:	City State ZIP		

Specific Information:

Date constructed or established: ~1885	Date owner acquired: 1983
Architectural Style: Gable Front Frame Cottage original, if known _____	
Current Use: Private Residence	Use Change Proposed? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
Original location? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <i>If 'no', explain original location in accompanying documentation.</i>	
Preservation, Restoration, or Reconstruction performed? <i>Explain in accompanying documentation.</i>	
Burial site located on the property? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> yes, provide known facts	
Attach documentation to support request / historical significance.	
<i>Property owner understands, and agrees, that should the subject property become a designated landmark or a property located within a recognized Historical District, any and all alterations to the property will be subject to review and approval of the HPC and/or an HPC-authorized agent or consultant</i>	
[REDACTED]	

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Exterior Photographs

Aultman Schoolhouse – circa 1923



Front View





Back View



Foundation Block Detail

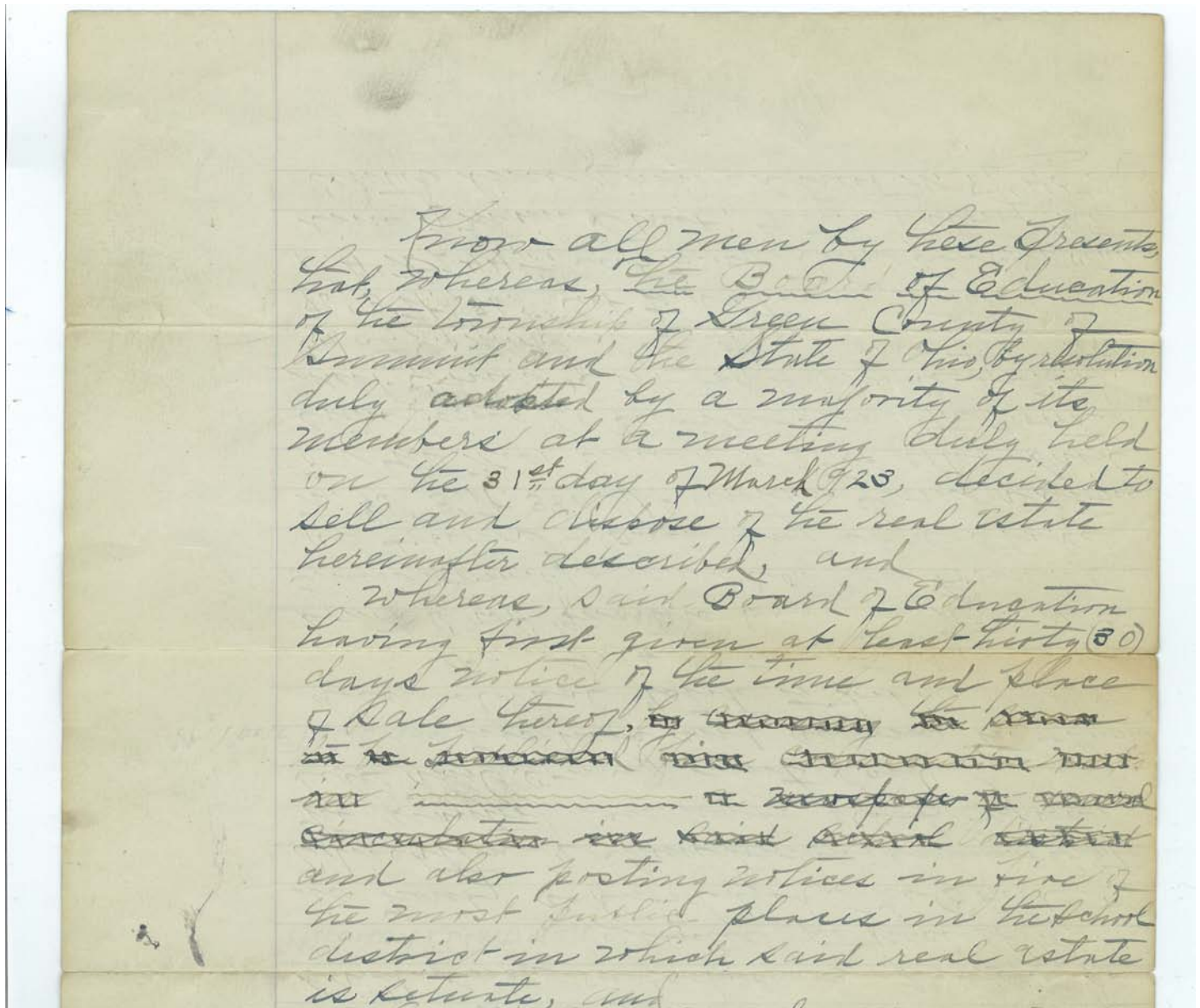


Side Views



Documentation of Age

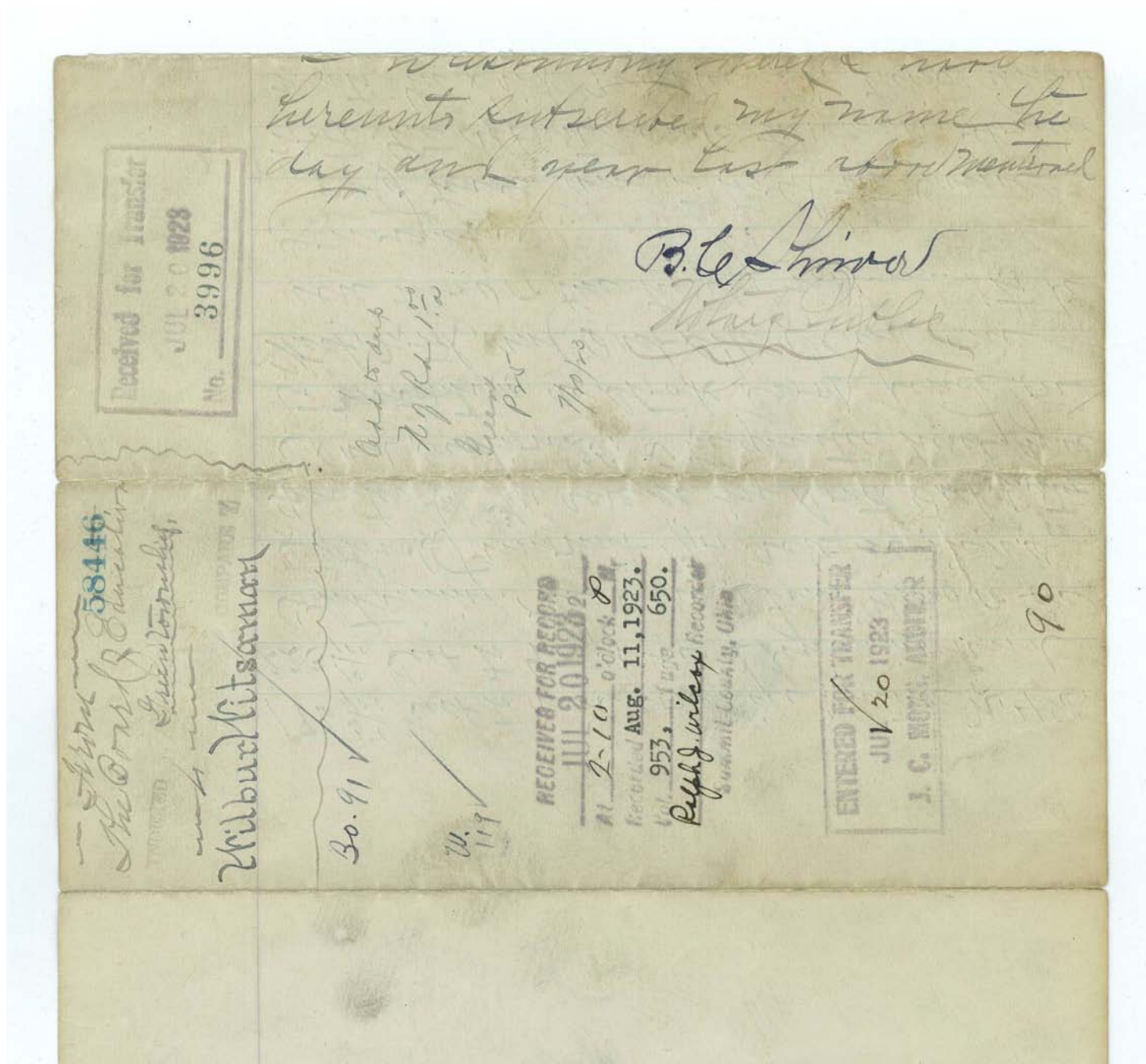
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days notice of the time and place
of sale thereof, by causing the same
to be printed in the Standard and
in the Standard and Standard and
Standard and Standard and Standard
and also posting notices in five of
the most public places in the school
district in which said real estate
is situate, and
Whereas on the 26th day May A. D. 1923
said Board of Education did, in pursuance
of said notice, expose said real estate
for sale at public auction at the
door of the School House on said
real estate, and the same was there

John J. Davis
University } ss.

On the 7th day of July A.D. 1923 personally
appeared before me a Notary Public in and
for said County of Erie, William Carr
its President and Jay M. Thorne its Clerk and
Secretary, respectively of the Board of Education
of the Township of Franklin County, Pennsylvania
State of Ohio and acknowledged the
execution of the foregoing instrument,
and that the same is their voluntary act
and deed on behalf of said Board of Education,
and the Township and Corporate act
and deed of said Board of Education,



then publicly sold and struck off
to Wilbur Witsaman for the sum of
Eight hundred ^{and no} forty (\$840) he being the highest
and best bidder thereof.

Now, therefore, in consideration of
the premises and in consideration of
said sum \$840⁰⁰ dollars paid by said
Wilbur Witsaman grantee, the receipt of which
is hereby acknowledged, The Board of
Education of Green Township Summit County
the grantor, does hereby grant, bargain,
sell and convey unto said
Wilbur Witsaman his heirs and assigns, the following
described real estate to wit:

Being part of the North East and
South East quarters of section Number 25-
Green Township Summit Co., Ohio, bounded
as follows:- Beginning at a stake
N. 76° 3' W. 380 feet distant from a stone
on the West line of a 20 ft alley, said
stone being 20 feet West from the North
West-corner of Lot No. 4 made for W.S.
and D.C. ...

West-Corner of Lot No. 4 made for N.E.
and D.J. Smith in Aultman, O; thence north
 $86^{\circ}3'N. 186.5^{\circ}$ feet to a stake; thence
 $S. 4^{\circ}N. 244\frac{1}{100}$ feet to an iron pin in center
line of main street; thence along the
center line of main street N. $87^{\circ}45'8''$

$186\frac{5}{100}$ feet to an iron pipe; thence N. $4^{\circ}E.$
 $223\frac{1}{100}$ feet to the place of beginning and
containing one acre of land more or less
of which amount $7\frac{3}{100}$ acre is in N.E.
Quarter and $2\frac{3}{100}$ acre is in South East Quarter
of said Section 25; The grantee hereby agrees
to maintain a stock proof fence on

to maintain a stock cross fence on
West, north, and East side of said one
acre road or lane hereby intended to be
conveyed.

To have and to hold the same
with the appurtenances thereunto belonging
unto the said grantee, his heirs and assigns

forever but Subject to all legal mortgages.

In Witness Whereof, said Board of Education
of the Township of Green County of Summit
State of Ohio, has caused this name to be
subscribed by William J. Carr, its
President, Jay M. Shriver, its Clerk and
Secretary, this 7th day of July A.D. 1928.

The Board of Education of
Green Township, Summit Co. Ohio
By Wm J. Carr, President
Jay M. Shriver Clerk & Secretary



Witness
my hand

Wm J. Carr.
Jay M. Shriver

Exhibit 2: Summit County Recorders Office Deed Book 277, Page 91, copy of the deed indicating transfer of property including the property of the subject designation from D.J. and W.S. Smith and Wives to the Board of Education of Green Township dated August 2, 1901.

No. <u>23280</u>		91
<u>D. J. and W. S. Smith</u> <u>and wives</u> <u>to</u> <u>Board of Education of</u> <u>Green Township Summit</u> <u>Co. O.</u>	<p>Know all Men by these Presents, That <u>W. S. Smith and D. J. Smith</u> and their wives <u>Elizabeth Hand and Ida M. Smith</u>, the Grantor, for the consideration of <u>Two Hundred and fifty</u> Dollars (\$ <u>250.00</u>) received to <u>our</u> full satisfaction of <u>the Board of Education of Green Township Summit County Ohio</u> the Grantee, do give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Grantee, its heirs and assigns, the following described premises, situated in the Township of <u>Green</u> County of Summit, and State of Ohio, and known as</p> <p><u>Being part the North East and South East quarters of Section Number 25 Green Tp. Summit Co. O. Bounded as follows: Beginning at a stake N. 86° 3' W. 38.0 feet distant from a stone in the West line of a 20 ft. alley, said stone being 20 ft. West from the North West corner of lot No 4 made for W. S. and D. J. Smith in Aultman Ohio; thence N. 86° 3' W. 186.5 ft. to a stake; thence S. 4° W. 274.100 ft. to an Iron pin in center line of Main Street; thence along the center line of Main Street N. 87° 45' E. 186.750 ft. to an Iron pin; thence N. 4° E. 223.100 feet to the place of beginning and containing One acre of land of which amount 750 acres are in N. E. quarter and 250 acres are in South East quarter of said Sec. 25. The Grantor hereby agrees to build and maintain a Stock proof fence on West North and East side of said one acre</u></p>	

Book 277 and Page 91 -- Notes:

be the same more or less, but subject to all legal highways.
To Have and to Hold the above granted and bargained premises, with the appurtenances thereunto belong-
ing, unto the said Grantee, its heirs and assigns forever. And Wm. L. Smith said husband
the said Grantor, do for his eldest and our heirs, executors and administrators, covenant with the said
Grantee, it heirs and assigns, that at and until the ensembling of these presents we are well seized of
the above described premises, as a good and indefeasible estate in fee simple, and have good right to bargain and
sell the same in manner and form as above written, and that the same are free from all incumbrances whatsoever

and that He will warrant and defend said premises with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, to the said
Grantee, its heirs and assigns forever against all lawful claims and demands whatsoever

And I the said Elizabeth H. Smith wife of W. L. Smith and I do M. Smith
wife of said W. L. Smith do hereby remise, release and forever quit-claim unto the said
Grantee, and its heirs and assigns, all our right and title of dower in the above described premises.

In Witness Whereof, we hereunto set our hand and seal, the 22
August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one

Signed, Sealed, Acknowledged and Delivered in Presence of

A. L. Weaver
C. C. Foster

W. L. Smith [SEAL]
Edo M. Smith [SEAL]
Daniel J. Smith [SEAL]
Elizabeth H. Smith [SEAL]

The State of Ohio, Summit County, ss.

Before me, a Justice of the Peace in and for said county, personally appeared the above named
W. L. Smith, Edo M. Smith, Daniel J. Smith and Elizabeth H. Smith who acknowledged
that they did sign and seal the foregoing instrument and that the same is their free act and deed.

I Further Certify, that I did examine the said
separate and apart from he said husband, and did then and there make known to he the contents of
the foregoing instrument, and upon that examination he declared that he did voluntarily sign, seal and
acknowledge the same, and that he still satisfied therewith.

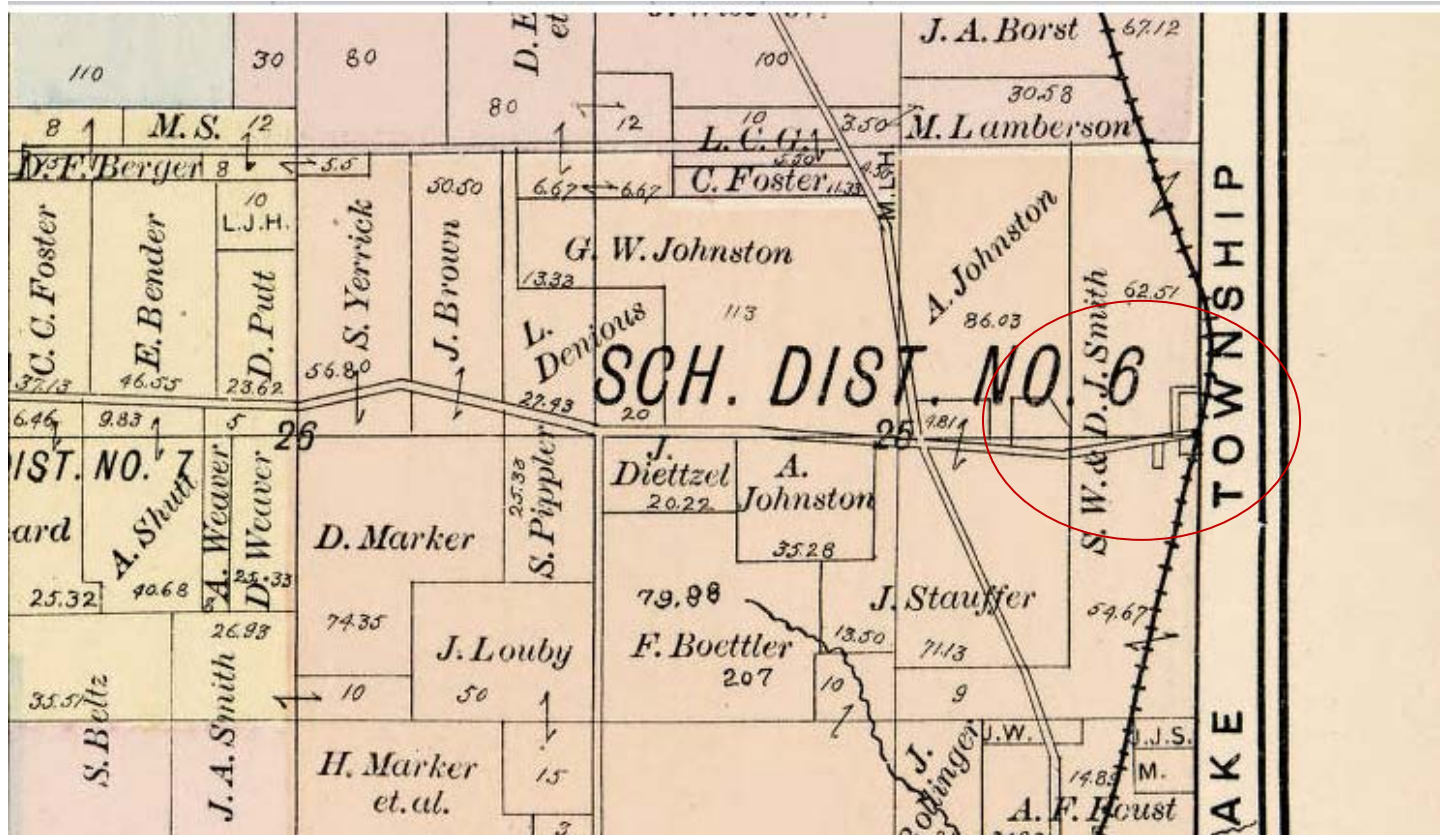
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal, Indiana O
this 22 day of August A. D. 1901

Transferred Sept 31st 1901
Received Sept 31st 1901, at 10:00 M.
Recorded Sept 7th 1901
W. Alling Justice of the Peace
C. C. Foster
RECORDED.

**Exhibit 3: 1874 Map and Atlas of Summit County, Map of Green Township, Tackabury,
Mead & Moffet, Philadelphia 1874.**

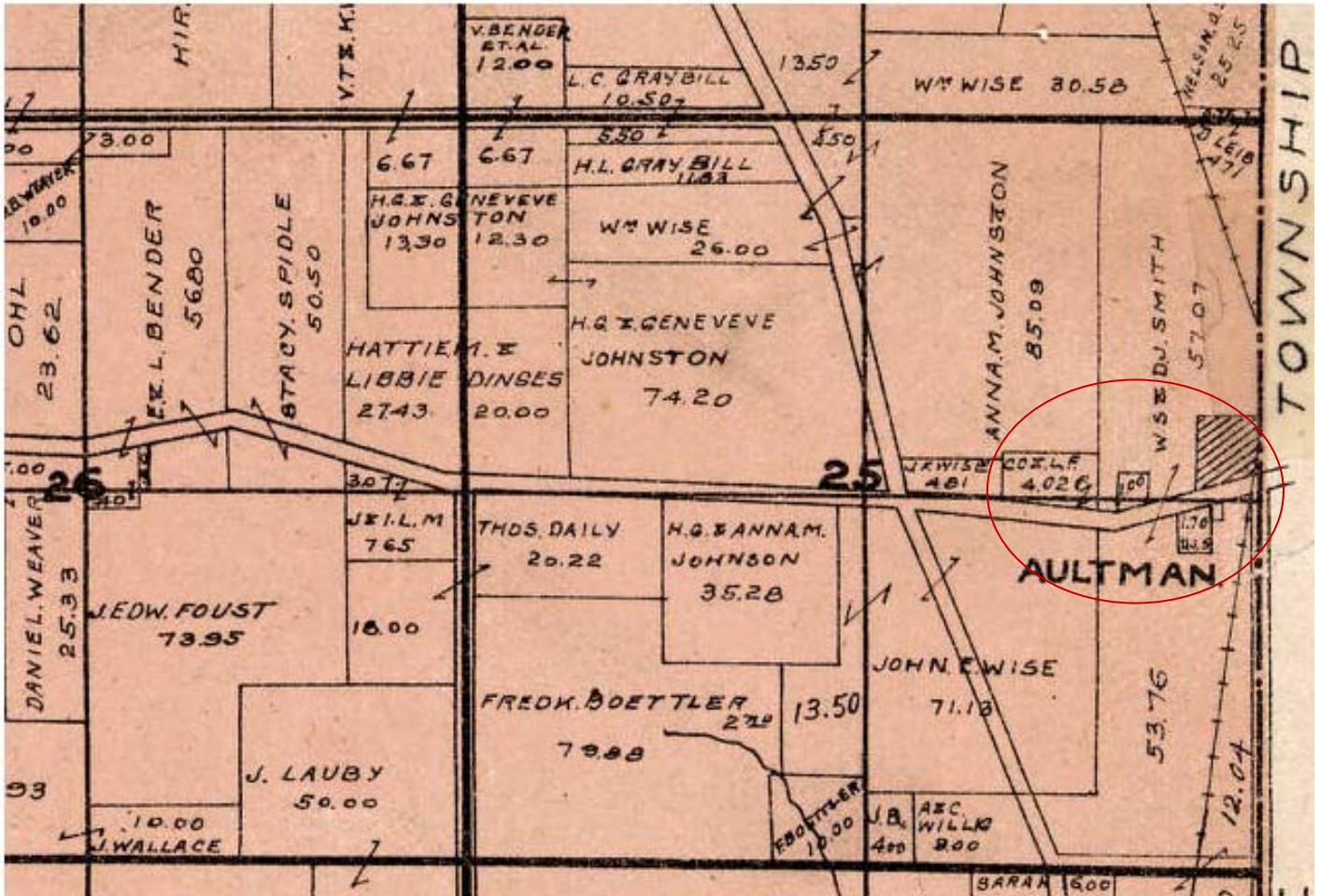


Exhibit 4: 1891 Illustrated Summit County Map, Akron Map & Atlas



Submittal Addendum to HPC Application for Historic Designation
Aultman Schoolhouse, 3431 Greensburg Road, North Canton, Ohio 44720
Owners: Glenn & Becky Witsaman

Exhibit 5: 1910 Atlas and Combined Geograpy of Summit County, The Rectigraph Abstract and Title Company, Akron, Ohio 1910



Documentation to Support Historical Significance

The property of the subject designation is part of a large tract of land of approximately 100 acres owned by Samuel Smith. On March 5, 1856, this property was transferred to Wilson J. and Daniel J. Smith (see Summit County Recorder's Office Deed Book 62, pages 46-47). The Smith family operated a coal bank on a portion of the property in the South East Quarter Section of Section 25. The coal bank location is indicated clearly in the 1874 Map & Atlas. Reference to the coal bank of Smith, Borst & Co. is also made at page 88 of the *Guide Book for Tourists' and Travelers over the Valley Railway from Cleveland to Canton, Ohio, John S. Reese, Kent, Ohio 1880*. It should be noted that Smith family leased another portion of this larger tract of land to the United Evangelical Church. This land was described as a beautiful grove near Aultman on the Valley Railroad, nine miles north of Canton. See *The Evangelical Church in Ohio, Roy B. Leedy, Cleveland 1959, at pg. 234*. The Smith family deeded the subject property 1 acre parcel to the Board of Education for \$250 in 1901.

The date of construction of Aultman Schoolhouse remains unknown. In fact, as will be detailed below, there is conflicting evidence indicating construction after 1901 or between 1880-90.

Deed research indicates that the Board of Education received title to the property in 1901. Additionally, the Atlas from 1891 indicates that this property was part of School District No. 6. The schoolhouse for District 6 is indicated on land owned by Frederick Boettler in the North West Quarter Section of Section 36. This first District 6 schoolhouse (not the subject property) may have been known as the Lauby schoolhouse. No schoolhouse is indicated at the location of the subject property in the 1891 Atlas. *These facts seem to indicate the schoolhouse was constructed after 1891, possibly after the deed transfer in 1901.*

The construction style, siding, and foundation material as shown in the photo circa 1923 indicate that the schoolhouse was built prior to 1901. The schoolhouse was probably built to service the expanding population in the Aultman area. The population of the Aultman area was growing from 1870-1890 during the tile manufacturing boom and after construction of the Aultman Railroad Station circa 1878. *These facts indicate a construction prior to 1901, probably between 1880-1890.*

The Witsaman Family

Wilbur Witsaman and Anna Marie Yenny were elementary school classmates at Aultman School. Both the Witsaman and Yenny families had lived in the Aultman area (Summit and Stark Counties) for several generations (see family tree next attached). Wilbur's father, Oscar Homer Witsaman, worked in the brickyard at Aultman. Anna Marie's father, Yost Yenny, had a celery farm on Wise Road.

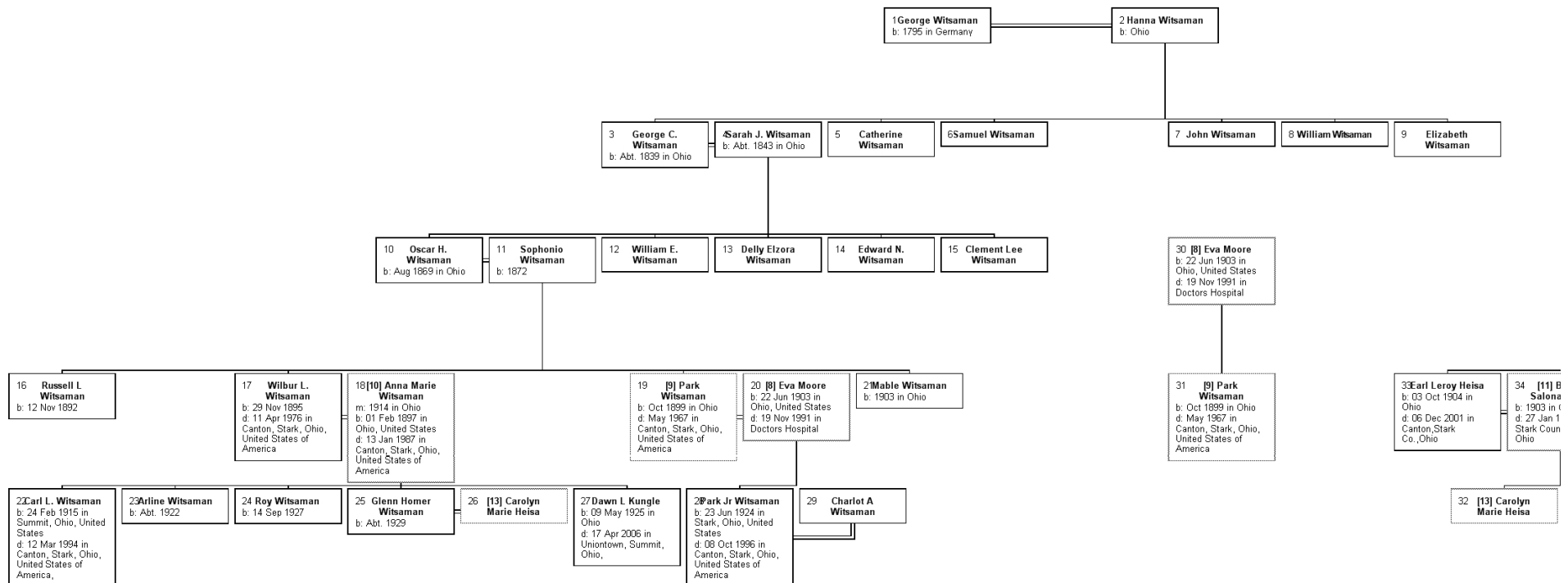
In 1914 Wilbur and Anna Marie were married. In 1923 Wilbur and Anna Marie Witsaman purchased the schoolhouse from the Board of Education of the Township of Green and converted the schoolhouse into a craftsman or bungalow/cottage-style home. According to the Witsaman Family, Wilbur and Anna Witsaman moved to the schoolhouse with a horse and buggy from Anna's sister's home (Leah) on the south side of Greensburg Road.

Wilbur and Anna Marie had five children, Carl L., Arline, Roy, Glenn Homer, and Dawn. Glenn Homer Witsaman married Carolyn Marie Heisa. Carolyn's ancestors, the Heisa, Nevel, Sweigert, and Tritt families have also been in Stark and Summit Counties for several generations.

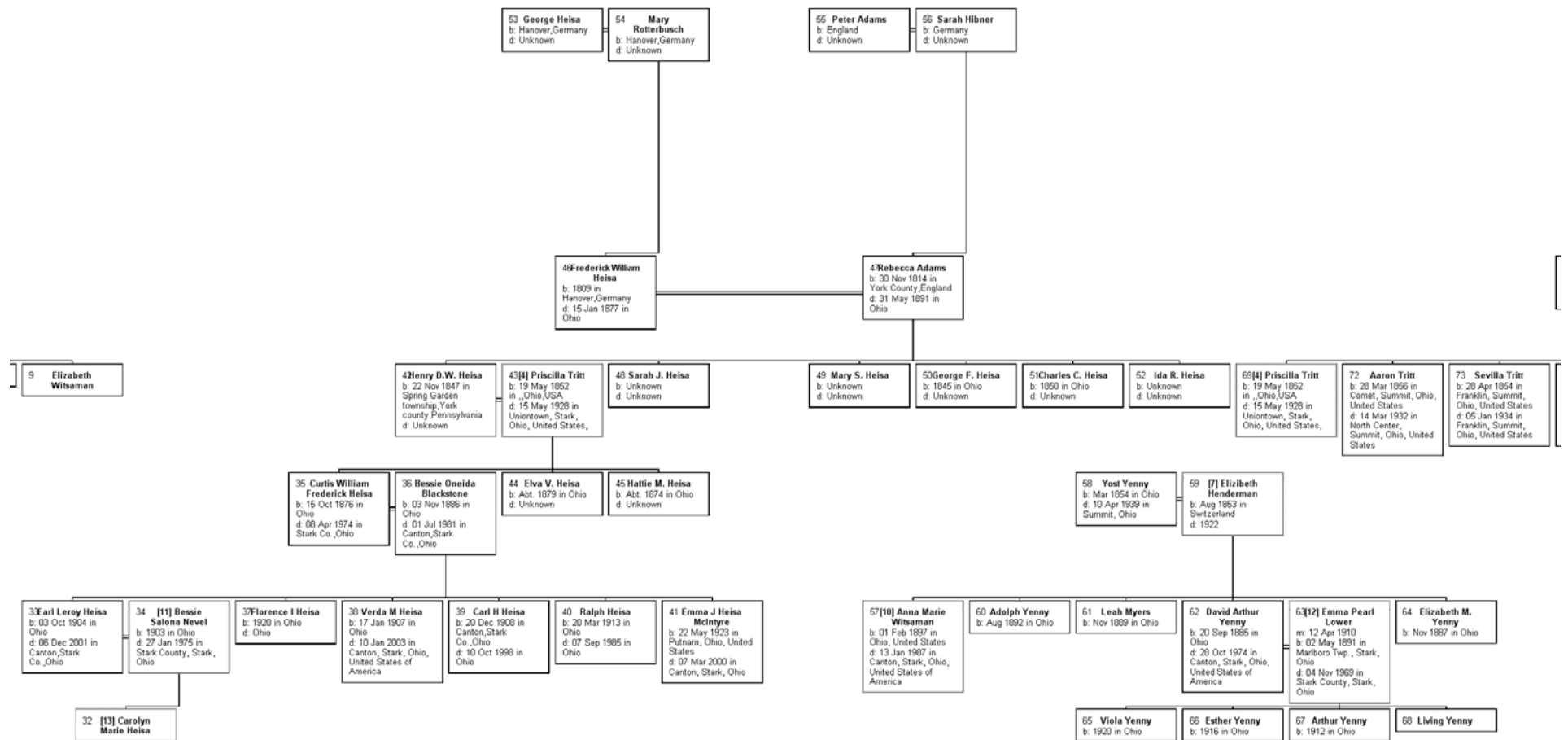
Upon the death of Wilbur Witsaman on April 11, 1976, the property was transferred to Glenn Leroy Witsaman, the son of Glenn Homer Witsaman and Carolyn Marie Heisa, and the grandson of Wilbur and Anna Marie Witsaman. Glenn Leroy Witsaman is married to Rebecca B. (Stadelman) Witsaman. Rebecca's ancestors, the Rider Family, has been residing in Stark County since at least the 1880's (see attached tree).

Glenn Leroy Witsaman and his wife Rebecca B. Witsaman continue to reside in the subject property and maintain the property in a state as it was remodeled by Glenn Witsaman's grandparents in the 1920's.

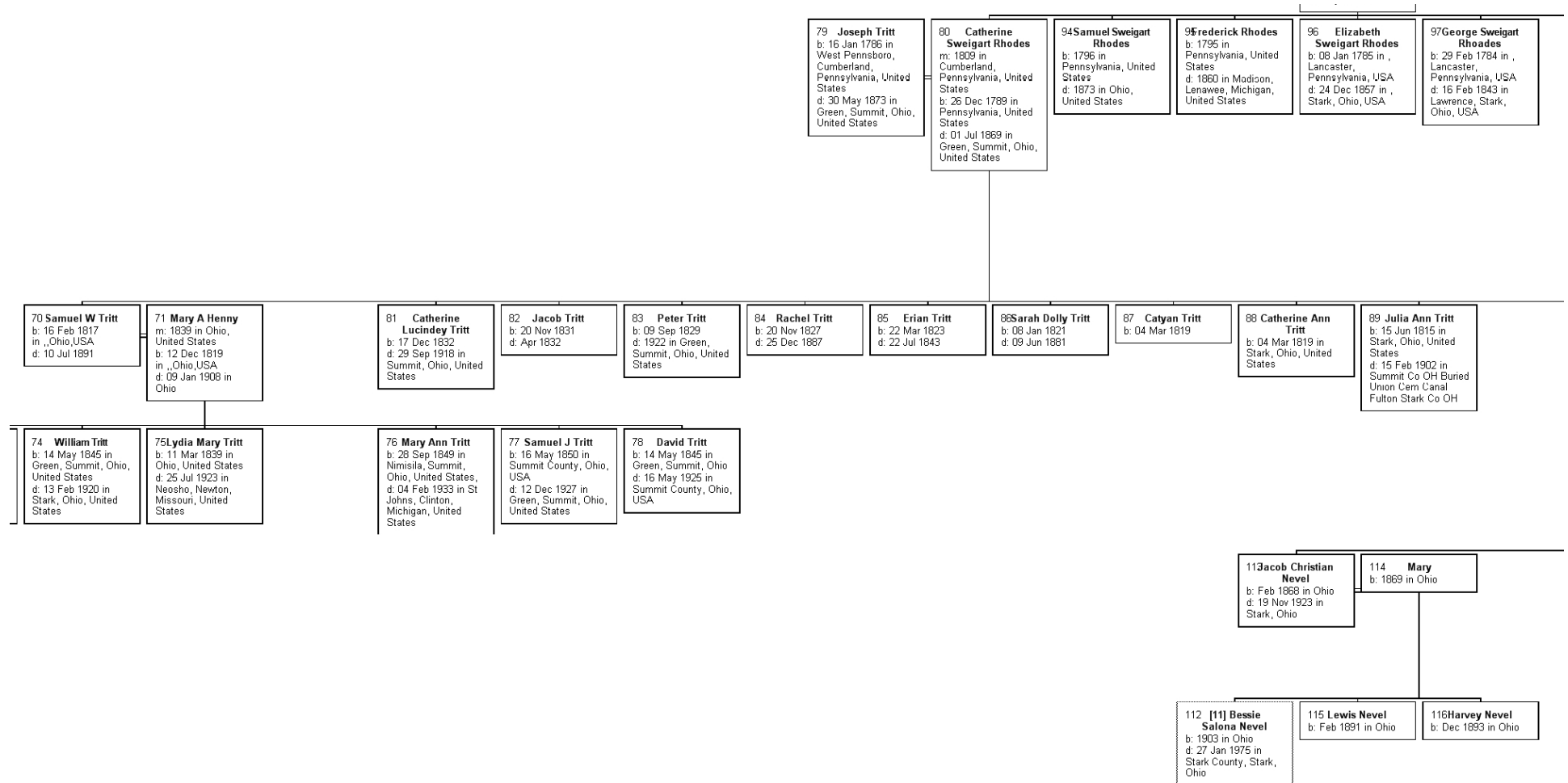
Wilbur L. & Anna Marie Witsaman Family Tree



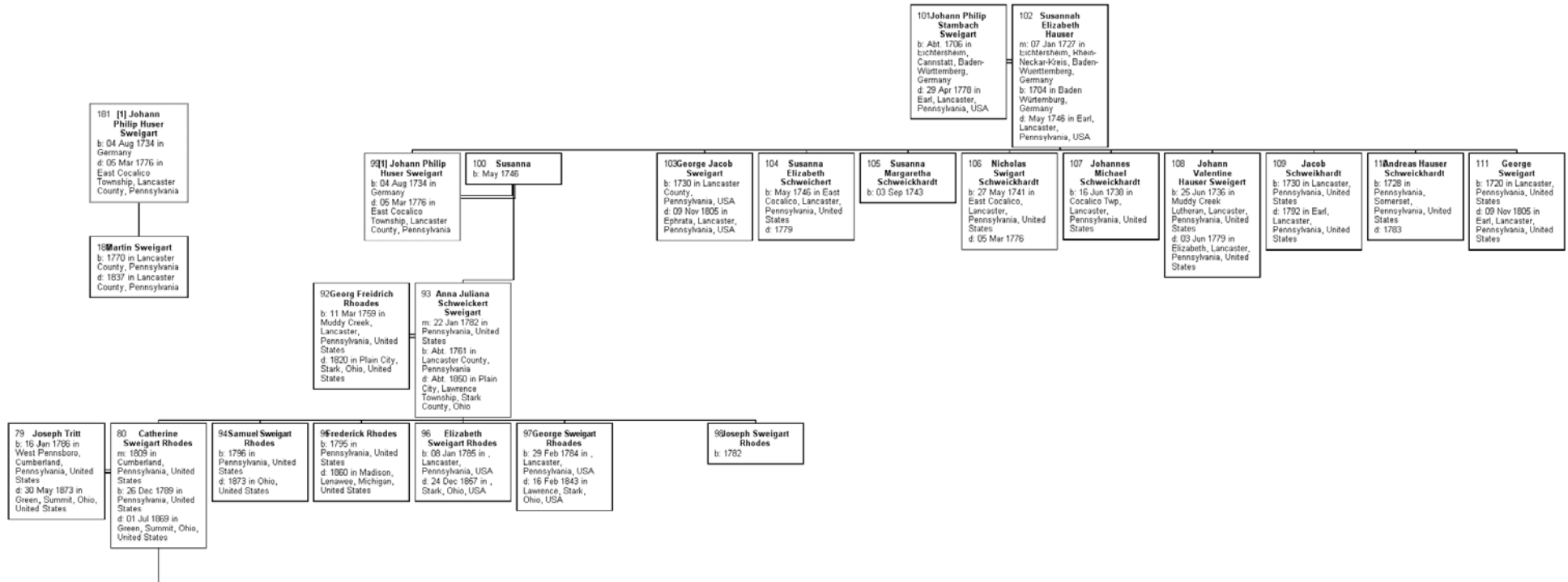
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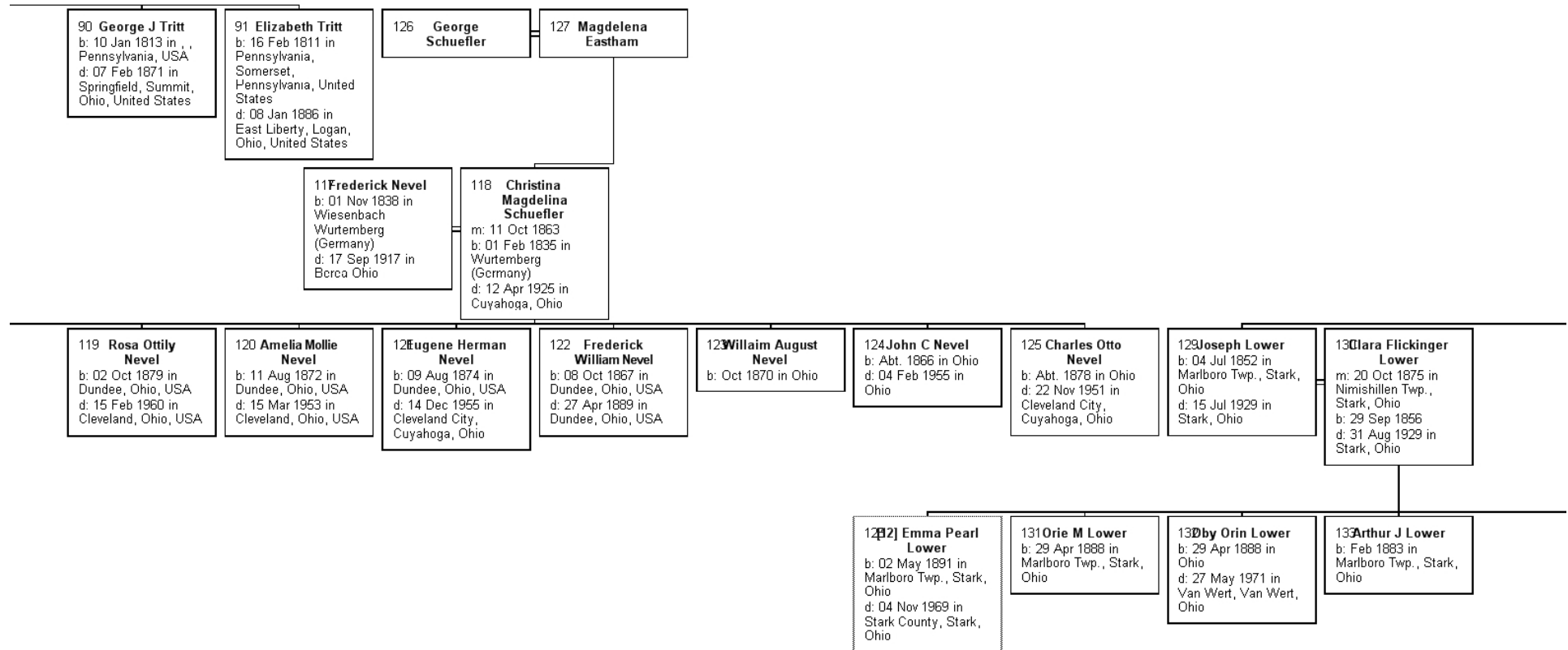
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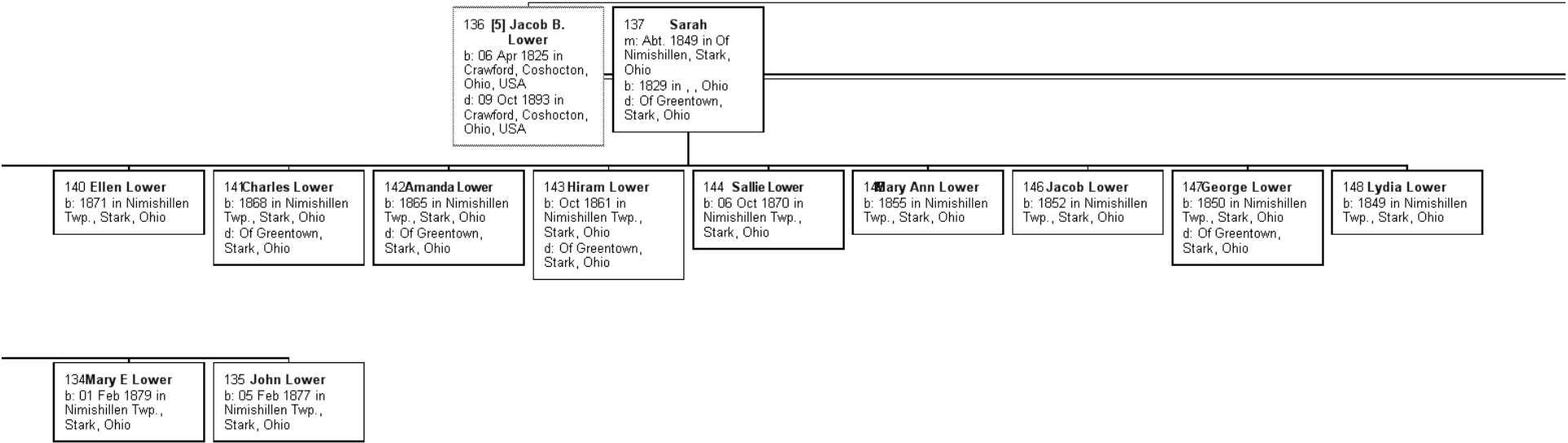


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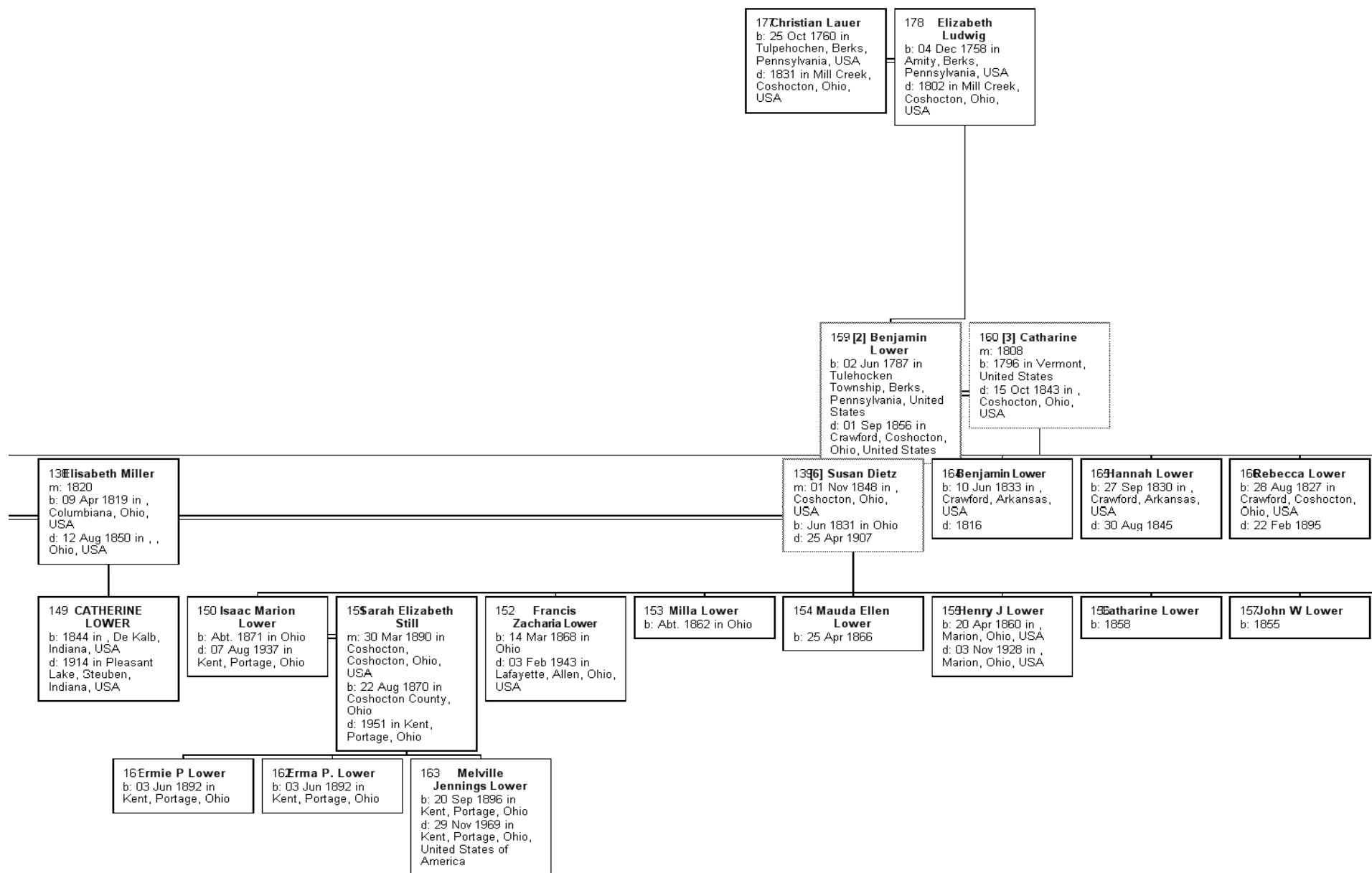


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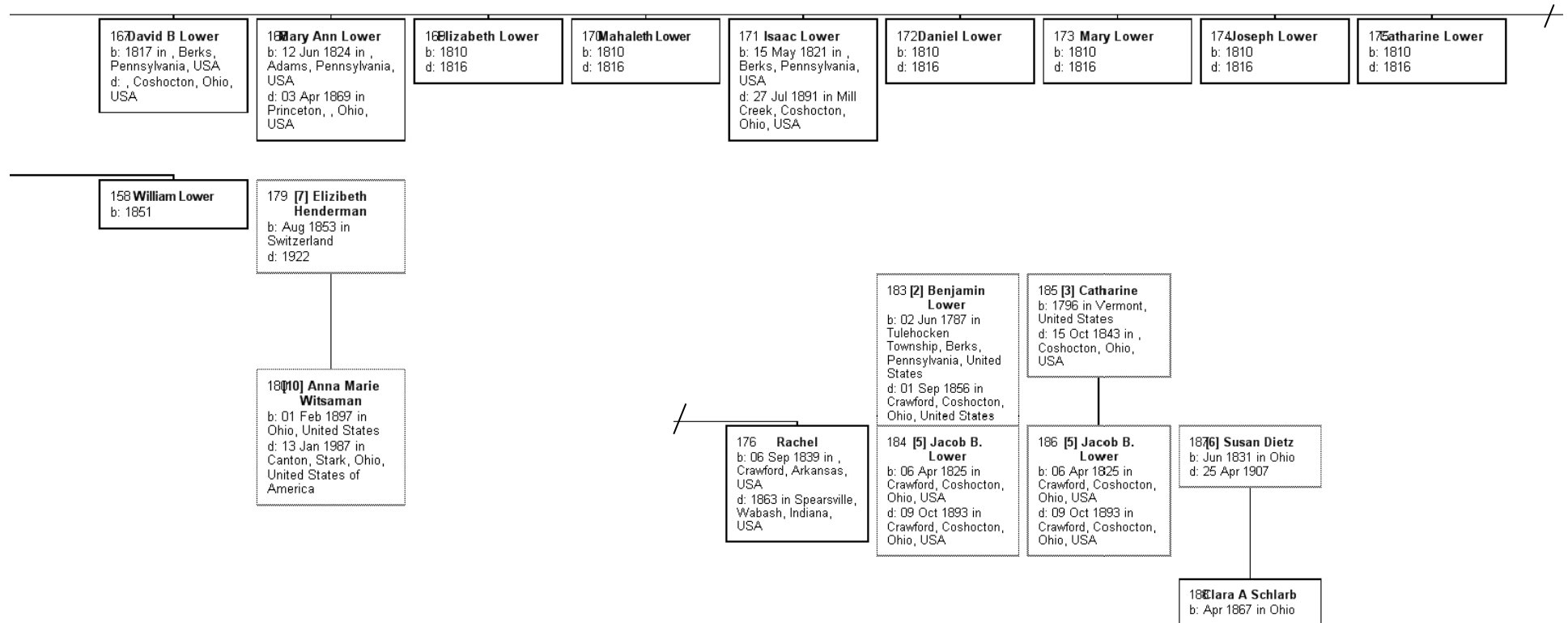




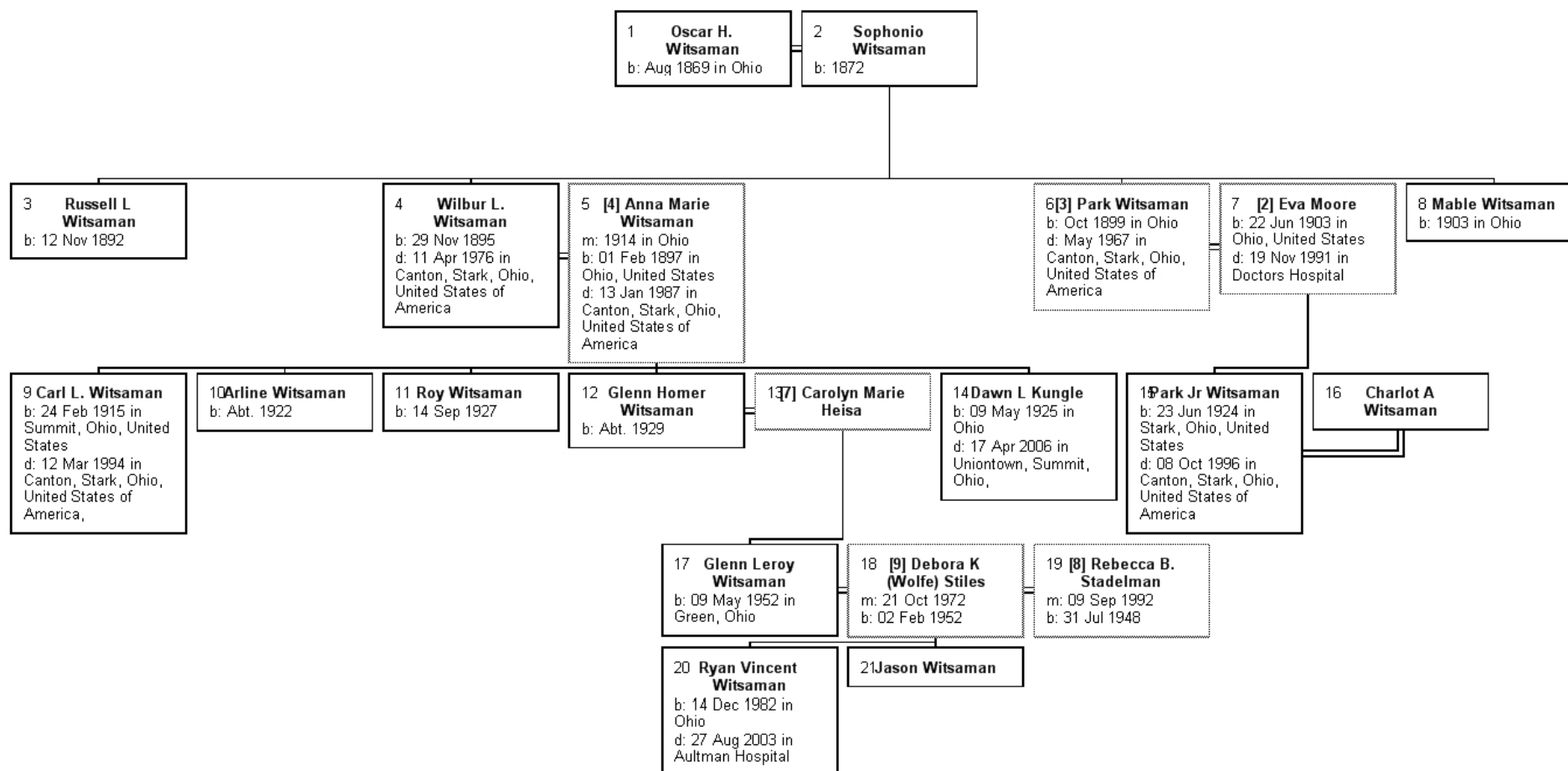
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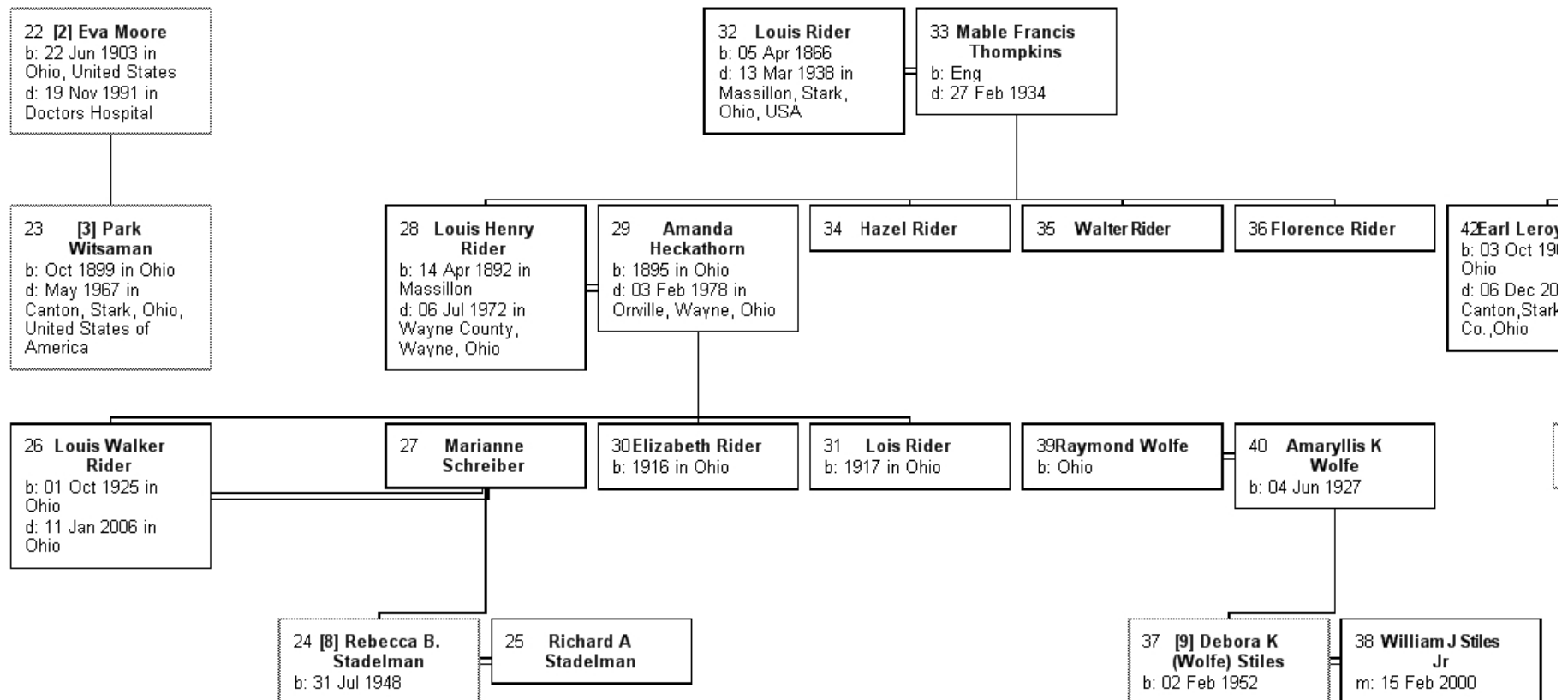


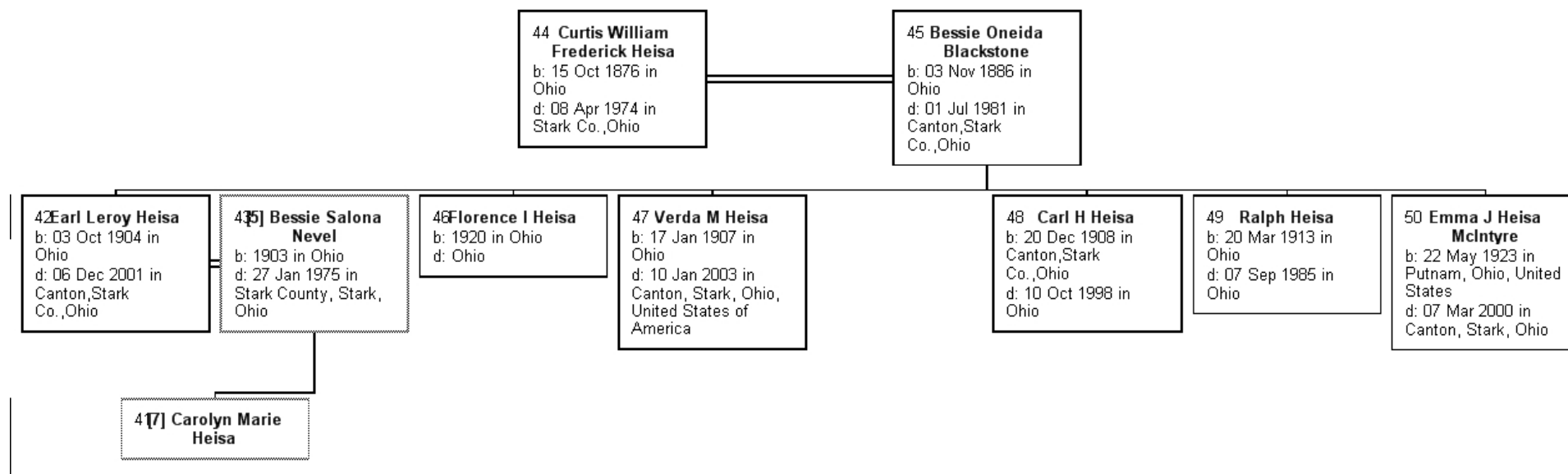
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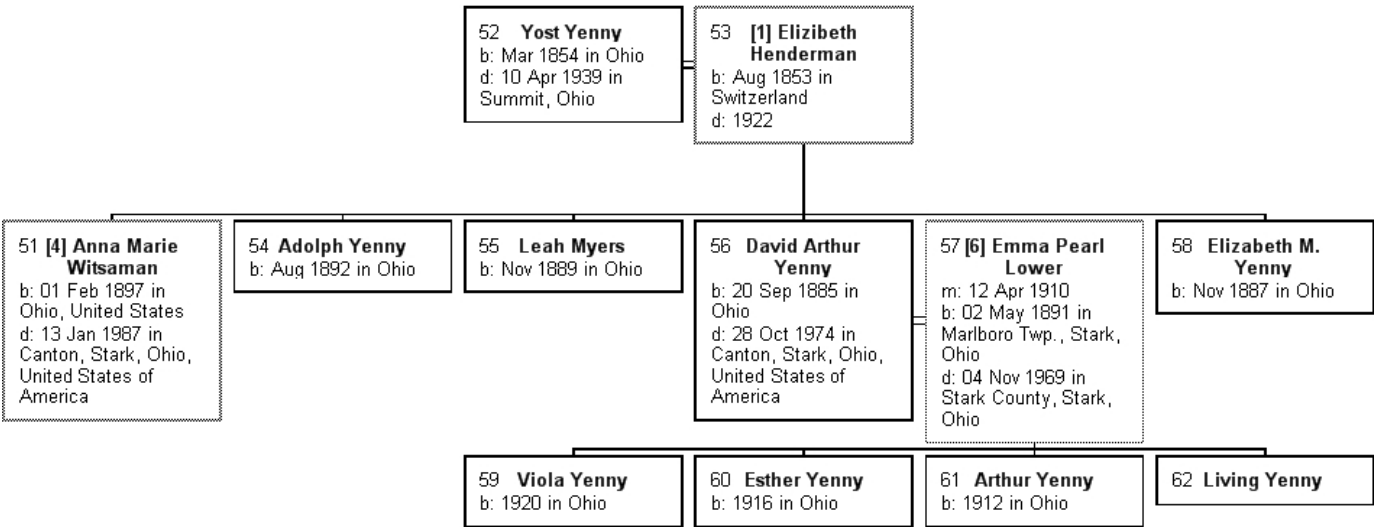


Glenn Leroy and Rebecca B. Witsaman Family Tree

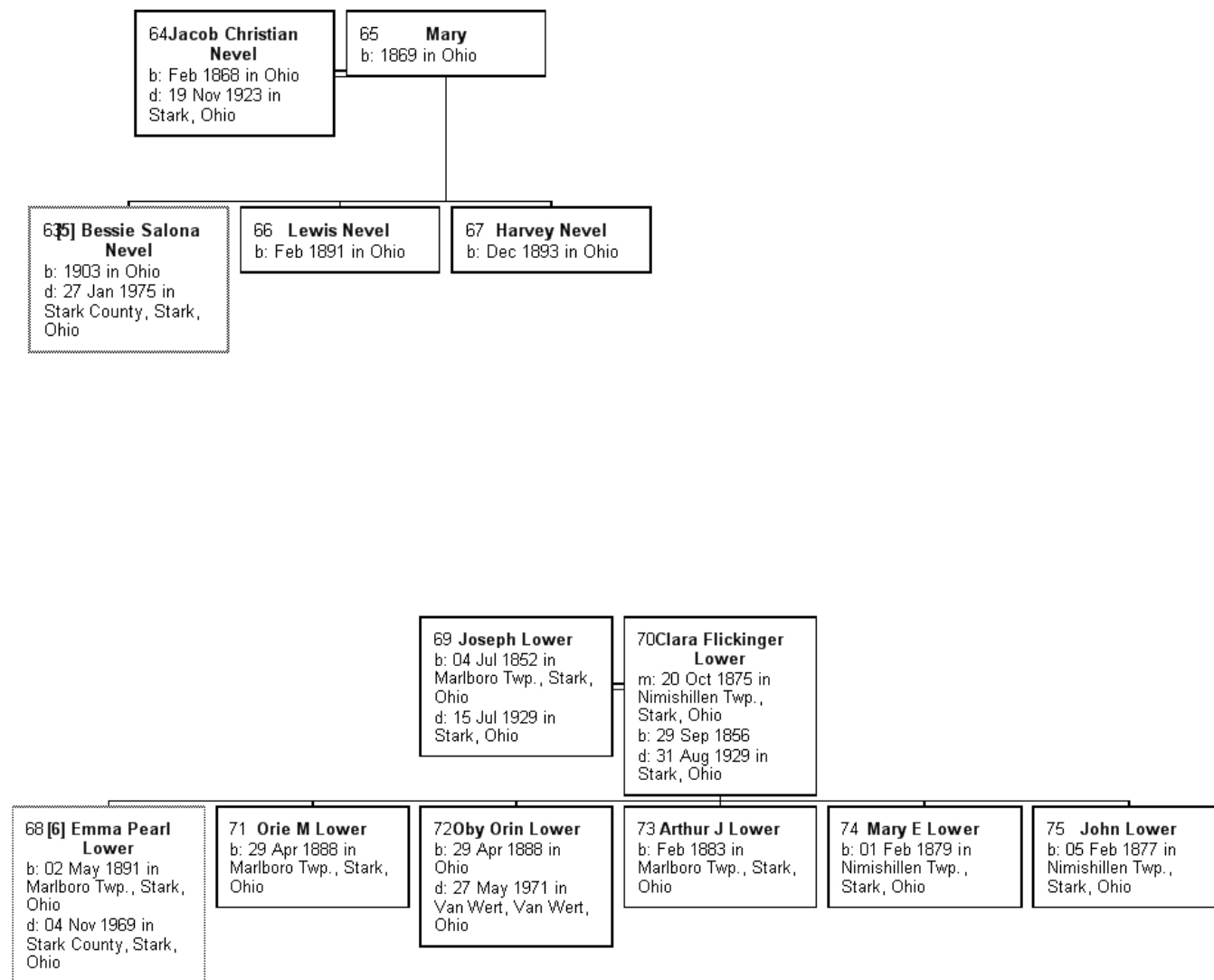








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Documentation to Support Architectural Significance

The subject property is a gable-front frame cottage with three (3) bays on the main facade. The original narrow beveled board siding is intact. While retaining the footprint and character of the original timber frame structure, the home also reflects many features typical of 1920's craftsman or cottage/bungalow style. These craftsman style elements are compatible with the original architecture of the structure. The architectural features of the property illustrate the property's two distinct histories: an 1880's schoolhouse and a 1920's homestead.

Description of Preservation, Restoration, and Reconstruction Performed

The cupola and bell have been removed. The first floor windows were reduced in size on front and side elevations to accommodate the addition of a floor for a second story inside the structure. A multi-light front door has replaced the original five-panel front door. The original small vent/window in the half story has been replaced with a larger 2-part window. A hipped roof front porch was added across the front of the property. The basement foundation has been replaced with molded concrete block. Many of these renovations are believed to have occurred circa 1923 when the property was converted to a private residence. The changes made to the home are typical of 1920's craftsman or cottage/bungalow style and are compatible with the original architecture of the structure.