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National Park Service  
Cultural Landscapes Inventory  
2012



Welton Farm (112-65)  
Cuyahoga Valley National Park

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## **Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan**

### **Inventory Summary**

#### **The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:**

##### **CLI General Information:**

###### **Purpose and Goals of the CLI**

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

###### **Scope of the CLI**

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

**Inventory Unit Description:**

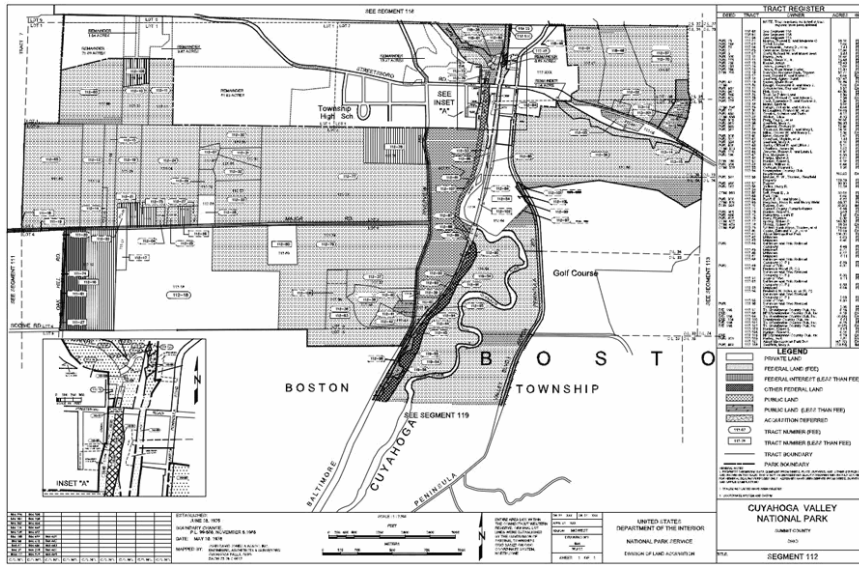
The Allen Welton Farm is located 2485 Major Road (Tract # 112-65) in Boston Township, Ohio. In 1979, the property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its agricultural and architectural significance. However, the nomination did not address the remnant historic landscape elements of the farmstead. The National Register boundary for the Welton Farmstead consists of approximately three acres of property containing a house, a barn, and a milk house. For the purpose of the CLI, the boundary includes the original plot lines of approximately 65 acres that borders Major Road to the south.

The site historically provided both a residence and a farmstead for its owners. The Welton House was constructed in 1854 by Allen Welton, a settler from New York State. The house was remodeled in the 1950s, and a one-and-a-half story addition was added along the north side of the house. The raised bank barn was built around the time of the house and is characteristic of significant agricultural building features common throughout the Cuyahoga Valley. The milk house, situated near Major Road, was added to the farmstead around 1940.

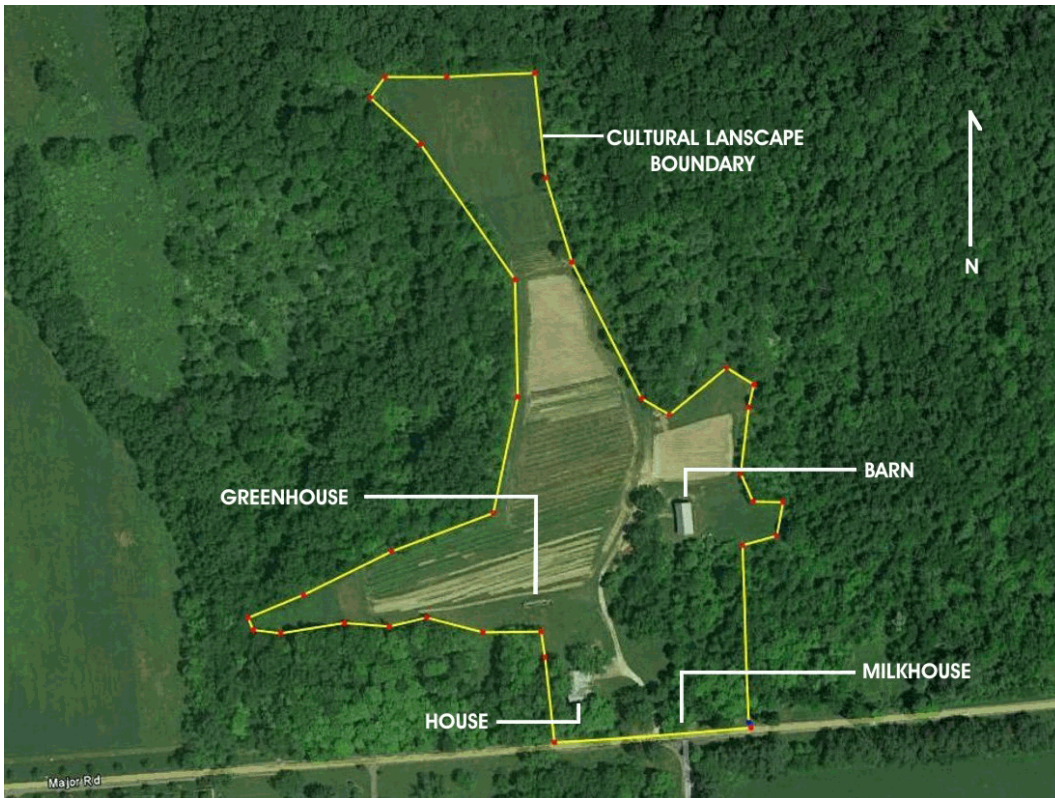
The house is set back from the road approximately 70 feet and a gravel driveway provides access to the property on the east side of the house. The barn is located approximately 350 feet northeast of the house and is accessed by a dirt driveway. The west, north, and east sides of the property are encompassed by an encroaching forest, creating a tree line delineation around the remaining agricultural fields. There are several trees and shrubs throughout the curtilage of the house. The trees, mostly oaks and maples, appear to be the result of natural succession, with little deliberate plantings. There is a rhododendron along the east elevation of the house. Historically, the northern portion of the property was used for crop production and pasture lands.

The period of significance for the Welton Farm's landscape begins in 1852 when the barn was constructed and extends to 1945 when the property ceased operating as a dairy farm. The property retains a moderate level of integrity and is in good condition. As part of the Countryside Initiative Program, the farm has been rehabilitated and assigned to a long-term lessee to actively and routinely maintain the property and return it to agricultural use. The farm is representative of a dairying operation during the canal era in which agricultural production expanded in the mid to late 19th century.

Site Plan



Cuyahoga Valley Tract Map. The Welton Farm Tract #112-65 is on the left side



*Welton Farm Site Plan, with boundaries as defined by the 2008 SHPO Consensus DOE (based on Google Earth satellite imagery)*

**Property Level and CLI Numbers**

<b>Inventory Unit Name:</b>	Welton Farm (112-65)
<b>Property Level:</b>	Component Landscape
<b>CLI Identification Number:</b>	975277
<b>Parent Landscape:</b>	500928

**Park Information**

<b>Park Name and Alpha Code:</b>	Cuyahoga Valley National Park -CUVA
<b>Park Organization Code:</b>	6160
<b>Park Administrative Unit:</b>	Cuyahoga Valley National Park

## Concurrence Status

**Inventory Status:** Complete

### Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Park historian Sam Tamburro completed the CLI for use by the park. The park then requested the data be ammended for the inventory database. Intern Kim Shafer completed the data entry and the park reviewed and concurred with the final product. In May 2011, Landscape Historian Dan Jackson conducted a site for landscape documentation. Jackson and NCPE Intern Danielle Meiners then updated data for the CLI. The park reviewed and provided concurrence for the updated record on 2/29/2012.

### Concurrence Status:

<b>Park Superintendent Concurrence:</b>	Yes
<b>Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:</b>	02/29/2012
<b>National Register Concurrence:</b>	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
<b>Date of Concurrence Determination:</b>	09/28/2006

### Concurrence Graphic Information:



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK  
15610 VAUGHN ROAD  
BRECKSVILLE, OHIO 44141-3097

IN REPLY REFER TO: L30

**Date:** August 4, 2006

**To:** Regional Director, Midwest Region

**From:** Superintendent, Cuyahoga Valley National Park

**Subject:** Cultural Landscapes Inventory for the Welton Farm and List of Classified Structures Single Entry Reports

As you requested, the park has reviewed the attached CLI and LCS reports. Our comments are marked directly in the documents in red.

Overall, the park concurs with the findings of the reports. However, the park does recommend that some of the conditions and management categories be revised.

Specifically, the park recommends that the condition of the Welton Farm be upgraded to "good" in the CLI. Between 2002 and 2006, the park improved the condition of this property by rehabilitating the house, garage, and barn structures as well as clearing the north field. As of May 2006, the park has assigned the property to a long-term lessee in the Countryside Initiative Program. Thus, it is actively and routinely being maintained. In addition, the lessee has begun to plant the field returning it to agricultural use.

The park also recommends that the management category for the Welton Farm CLI be changed to "Should Be Preserved and Maintained" as the property meets the noted criteria of 1) being listed on the National Register, 2) being compatible with the park's legislated significance and, 3) having a continuing purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use.

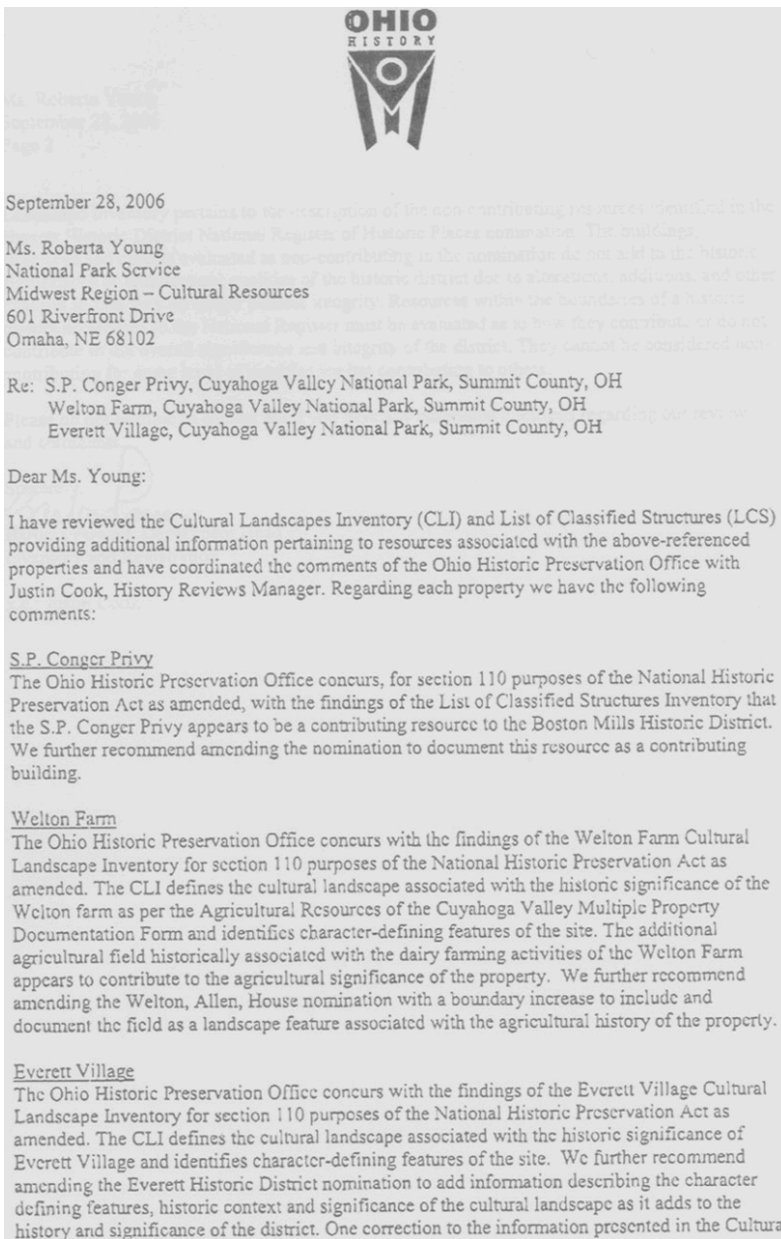
In reviewing the single entry LCS reports, it was unclear as to how the preparer differentiated between "Should be Preserved and Maintained" and "Must be Preserved and Maintained" when categorizing the management of the various canal features. It seems that all of the features contribute to the significance of the Ohio & Erie Canal and have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Thus, for consistency, the park recommends that all features be categorized as "Must be Preserved and Maintained." This would change the management category for the following LCS reports: Lock 24, Brandywine Creek Culvert, Goose Pond Weir, Hooker's Run Flood Gate, Bolanz Floodgate, and Peninsula Feeder Complex.

Please feel free to contact me at 440-546-5900 or Historical Landscape Architect, Darlene Kelbach, at 440-546-5983 if you would like to discuss any comments further.

John P. Debo, Jr.

*Superintendent concurrence letter for CLI/LCS 8/4/06.*





*SHPO concurrence letter 9/28/06.*

Welton Farm (112-65)  
Cuyahoga Valley National Park

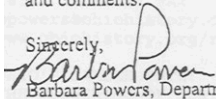
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Ms. Roberta Young  
September 28, 2006  
Page 2

Landscape Inventory pertains to the description of the non-contributing resources identified in the Everett Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination. The buildings, structures and objects evaluated as non-contributing in the nomination do not add to the historic significance or architectural qualities of the historic district due to alterations, additions, and other changes so that they no longer possess integrity. Resources within the boundaries of a historic district nominated to the National Register must be evaluated as to how they contribute or do not contribute to the overall significance and integrity of the district. They cannot be considered non-contributing for some areas of significance but contributing to others.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any additional questions regarding our review and comments.

Sincerely,



Barbara Powers, Department Head  
Inventory and Registration

x.c.: Justin Cook

9/28/2006 SHPO Concurrence, page 2

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK  
15610 Vaughn Road  
Brecksville, OH 44141

H3023 (MWR/CR-HAL)

February 29, 2012

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Midwest Region Office  
Attention: Associate Regional Director, Cultural Resources

From: Superintendent, Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Subject: Cultural Landscapes Inventories for Vaughn Farm and Welton Farm

This memorandum serves as general concurrence provided to the Cultural Landscapes Inventories (CLI) for Vaughn Farm and Welton Farm. Darlene Kelbach, Historical Landscape Architect reviewed the updated CLI documents and concurs with the general findings. The CLI documents for both properties accurately reflect the current conditions of "Good" and the management categories of "Should Be Preserved and Maintained."

We understand that the information in the CLI database can be amended by contacting the CLI coordinator and requesting an update

/s/ 

*Park Concurrence 2/29/2012*

**Revisions Impacting Change in Concurrence:** Other

**Revision Date:** 08/04/2006

**Revision Narrative:**

Park changes added

## Geographic Information & Location Map

**Inventory Unit Boundary Description:**

The National Register boundary for the Welton Farm does not include the agricultural fields historically associated with the farm. The early focus of National Register nominations in the park centered on the built environment often neglecting historical landscape elements like fields, pastures, and small-scale objects. The boundaries may need to be re-evaluated to determine whether the fields north of the house contribute to the overall site. With the property being included as part of the Countryside Initiative Program, the fields are back in agricultural production, providing more landscape integrity to the site.

For the purposes of the CLI, the landscape boundaries include the original 65 acres of Tract 112-65. This includes the farmstead and associated outbuildings, fields associated with past agricultural use, along with a pond associated with orchard farming.

**State and County:**

**State:** OH

**County:** Summit County

**Size (Acres):** 65.00

**Location Map:**



*USGS Map showing the location of the Welton Farm, tract 112-65*

**Regional Context:**

**Type of Context:** Cultural

**Description:**

The landscape of the Cuyahoga Valley is representative of general agricultural patterns across the Midwestern Frontier. Rich floodplains straddle a waterway, the Cuyahoga River. The river, which attracted many settlers, later provided a means for farmers to get their produce to market. The cities of Cleveland and Akron sprang up on the northern and southern ends of the valley. As these cities grew in population, farmers in the Cuyahoga Valley adapted to meet the changing demands of these urban centers.

The Ohio & Erie Canal, which was completed between Cleveland and Akron in 1827 and extended to the Ohio River five years later, brought changes to the farmers' lives and agricultural practices of the Cuyahoga Valley. As Charles William Burkett noted in 1900, this was when the "real agriculture" began, for "accessibility to market induced every landowner to pay greater attention to the cultivation of the soil." The canal thus made it worthwhile for farmers to reduce their production of corn, while increasing production of wheat, a crop which required greater care. They also began to raise cattle, which had to be milked daily and housed in the winter, instead of swine, which could run free. The promise of profits became a more realizable dream.

At first, local farmers were recruited to work on the canal. Soon, however, Irish laborers from the East replaced the inexperienced farmers, who then profited by providing the canal workers with the necessities of life. One Brecksville farmer sold 4,000 bushels of potatoes to the Irishmen. The Irish canal workers who came to the valley changed the demographic character of the previously New England population, since many of them remained as permanent settlers when the canal was completed. The canal also provided an easier passage for future settlers, who had previously come on foot or in wagons across primitive turnpikes. Germans came at this time as well, seeking jobs in the growing cities. Many of these Germans, also, would eventually find themselves tilling the soils of the Cuyahoga Valley.

The canal also spurred the growth of farm-related industry in these towns. Cheese factories, which used milk curd from local dairy farms, began to spring up along the canal in the late 1840s, and the number of grain mills also increased. Private homes were built and small towns grew within proximity to the canal. An indirect impact of the canal was the formation in 1840 of Summit County from townships previously belonging to Portage, Medina, and Stark counties. The new county, with Akron as the county seat, provided political cohesiveness for the lands bordering the canal south of Cuyahoga County.

While the canal provided a successful means of transportation during the mid 19th century, the arrival of the railroad enhanced that success and eventually replaced the canal as the main mode of transportation. The Valley Railway was completed in 1880 and was faster and cheaper than the canal. The railroad boosted the agricultural industry, making farming more profitable by supplying links for both freight and passengers between Cleveland and Akron and to agricultural

markets to the east. The increase in agricultural production in the valley marked a shift to scientific farming in Ohio.

The closing of the canal in the early twentieth century marked the end of an era of agriculture in the Cuyahoga Valley. Farmers moved to the cities in search of higher wages as farming became more profitable elsewhere in the country.

The Ohio and Erie Canal was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 at a state level of significance. Six miles of the northern section were designated a National Historic Landmark in 1982. When the National Park Service acquired Cuyahoga Valley land in the 1970s, very few families were still farming. Older homes and barns had deteriorated and were either removed or replaced by more modern structures. Fields were left fallow and were soon overgrown and allowed successional growth to take over. However, several small farms that remain in the valley provide a glimpse of the old agricultural landscape. In an attempt to preserve the historic setting, the National Park Service leases fields to farmers with the long term goal of returning more historic farmland to the Cuyahoga Valley.

**Type of Context:** Physiographic

**Description:**

The Cuyahoga River valley is contained in the modern political boundaries of Summit and Cuyahoga counties, which are located in the northeastern part of Ohio in what was historically the Connecticut Western Reserve. Summit County lies directly south of Cuyahoga County, which is bounded on the north by Lake Erie. The Cuyahoga River, which has been vital to the development of the area, flows west into central Summit County and turns north at Akron, then flows to Cleveland and into Lake Erie. The river cuts through both counties in a north/south line, forming a deep valley which rises to rolling plateaus to the east and west. Eight miles south of the river in Summit County, the Tuscarawas River enters the county from the east and turns south to eventually connect with the Muskingum. The lands in this southern part of Summit County are broader and flatter than those farther north, and have traditionally been devoted to wheat cultivation.

Geologically, the Cuyahoga River Valley is located on the Appalachian Plateau's western edge. Glacial deposits of varying depths now cover the plateau, which is principally made up of sandstone and shale sedimentary rocks. Sharon conglomerate, the most recent Paleozoic rocks of the Pennsylvanian age, is well represented in the valley. It makes up the cliffs of Boston and Ritchie Ledges, and is prominently exposed in Virginia Kendall Park. Topographic features common in Ohio, such as hills, streams, and chiseled ravines were created when rivers, such as the Cuyahoga, carved out deep and steep-sided valleys. When the glacier receded (13,000 BC), coarse debris, including sand, gravel, and clay remained in a half-mile wide valley marked with unstable slopes from 200 to 400 feet high. Soil conditions, sand and clay, along with a frequency of flooding, resulted in a poor ability to bear loads, but good potential for agricultural pursuits. Slope instability is one of the valley's cardinal attributes, and also has much to do with limiting its economic development.

The valley walls were heavily forested, as was much of the land beyond the floodplain. It is the flora that makes the valley unique as a transition between the mountain and prairie physiographic zones. Only isolated examples of pre-settlement vegetation remain today, since trees were cut extensively during the construction of the canal and railroad. A study concluded that three types of forest predominated. A mixed mesophytic forest occupied the valley floor; a mixed oak forest in the north central, southeastern, and southwestern sectors of the park, and a beech forest in the northeast quadrant.

The remainder of the two counties have supported a variety of crops--mainly wheat, corn, oats, and potatoes. The majority of the dairy and sheep farms were located on the upland plateaus, which contained soils suitable for pasture land. The sandy soils along Lake Erie to the north once supported one of the largest grape productions in the state of Ohio, producing more than 12 million pounds in 1910. The region has also supported a variety of orchard products, including apples, peaches, and strawberries.

**Type of Context:** Political

**Description:**

The following is a synopsis from the "Historic Resource Study" by Dr. Nick Scratish (1985), "A Green Shrouded Miracle, An Administrative History" by Ron Cockrell (1992), and National Register Multi Property Documentation, "Agricultural Resources of the Cuyahoga Valley" (1993).

The four states of New York, Virginia, Massachusetts and Connecticut, claimed territory west of Pennsylvania. Their claims were founded on royal charters established by England's Stuart kings. Some of these territories overlapped and many disputes resulted. The only way to settle these disputes was for all four states to cede the land to the United States government. Connecticut was the last to cede in 1876, but they reserved a 120-mile strip south of Lake Erie for themselves. It was not until 1795 that Connecticut appointed a commission to administer the sale of these lands called the Western Reserve. The purchasers organized and formed the Connecticut Land Company. In 1796, the Land Company secured an agreement for the land east of the river from the Indians and divided up the lots among the purchasers. Purchasers received, by lot, at least 160 acres of prime land as the basis of their investment. When land of uneven quality was graded, average townships were cut into lots to compensate the purchasers of the land in less attractive townships. In 1805, the Indians also ceded rights to the lands west of the river, and these lands were divided up the same way. Civil government was long in coming to the Reserve. Cuyahoga County was born in 1807 and county officers were appointed in 1810. The years from 1817-25 were ones of rapid growth in Ohio.

The Ohio and Erie Canal had an enormous impact on farming in the valley. Canal building in the United States reached a feverish pace after the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825. Ohio was interested in this mode of transportation due to the high freight charges farmers faced to get their crops to market. In 1822, the governor of Ohio appointed a commission to identify potential canal routes. The Ohio legislature authorized the construction of the "Ohio and Erie Canal" (Cleveland to Portsmouth) and the "Miami Canal" (Cincinnati to Dayton) in 1825. From

Cleveland, the Ohio and Erie Canal route proceeded south along the Cuyahoga River over the Portage Summit (Akron) to the Tuscarawas, west to Licking, then to the Scioto at Columbus, and finally south to the Ohio River at Portsmouth for a total of 308 miles. The first link of the canal opened in 1827 and the entire canal was completed in 1832. Living standards improved and settlers poured into Ohio. Many farmers in the valley began dairy farming, as their milk could be quickly brought to market.

Unfortunately, the success of the canal was short-lived as railroads began to eat away at the canal revenues in the 1850s. By 1856, canals operated in the red. In the Cuyahoga Valley, topographic differences temporarily made railroad construction difficult, but a desire for cheaply transported iron ore from Canton prompted construction in 1873. The Valley Railroad was completed in 1880 and it paralleled the west bank of the Cuyahoga River and the canal. With this new transportation system in place, the subsistence lifestyle disappeared. Farmers stripped most of the valley of its heavy forest cover to till the rich soil and benefit from the fruits of a market economy. The decline in farming in the valley can be partially attributed to the massive changes in American farming following World War Two.

The Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area was established on June 26, 1975, and is managed by the National Park Service in cooperation with Cleveland Metroparks and Summit County Metroparks. The park encompasses approximately 33,000 acres between Cleveland and Akron allong 22 miles of the Cuyahoga River. Although agriculture historically occupied most of the valley floor throughout the park, a very few percentage of farms still exist today. However, sections of the park remain as privately owned residences. In addition, the National Park Service leases some land in the park for agricultural use in hopes to restore most of the area to its historic usage.

## Management Information

### General Management Information

**Management Category:** Should be Preserved and Maintained

**Management Category Date:** 02/29/2012

#### Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Welton Farm Tract #112-65 property meets the noted criteria of

- 1) being listed on the National Register
- 2) being compatible with the park's legislated significance and
- 3) having a continuing purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use.



## Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

### Management Agreement:

**Type of Agreement:** Lease

**Expiration Date:** 5/8/2066

### Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Through the Countryside Initiative program, Daniel and Michele Greenfield lease the property from the National Park Service as the Greenfield Berry Farm.

### NPS Legal Interest:

**Type of Interest:** Fee Simple

## Adjacent Lands Information

**Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?** Yes

### Adjacent Lands Description:

The National Register boundary for the Welton Farm does not include the agricultural fields historically associated with the farm. The early focus of National Register nominations in the park centered on the built environment often neglecting historical landscape elements like fields, pastures, and small-scale objects. The boundaries may need to be re-evaluated to determine whether the fields north of the house contribute to the overall site. With the property being included as part of the Countryside Initiative Program, the fields are back in agricultural production, providing more landscape integrity to the site.

## National Register Information

### Existing National Register Status

#### National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

#### National Register Explanatory Narrative:

House entered on NR 5/7/1979  
Ag MPD 3/12/1993 (Revised 2006)

#### Existing NRIS Information:

<b>Name in National Register:</b>	Welton, Allen, House
<b>NRIS Number:</b>	79000314

### National Register Eligibility

**National Register Concurrence:** Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

**Contributing/Individual:** Individual

**National Register Classification:** Site

**Significance Level:** Local

**Significance Criteria:** A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

**Significance Criteria:** C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

#### Period of Significance:

**Time Period:** 1852 - 1945

**Historic Context Theme:** Developing the American Economy

**Subtheme:** Agriculture

**Facet:** Farming For Local Markets (Dairying, Fruits, And Vegetables)

**Time Period:** 1827 - 1850

**Historic Context Theme:** Developing the American Economy

**Subtheme:** Shipping and Transportation by Water

**Facet:** Canals

**Other Facet:** Canal Era and Agricultural Expansion Period

**Area of Significance:**

**Area of Significance Category:**

Agriculture

**Area of Significance Subcategory:**

Market Farming

**Statement of Significance:**

The Allen Welton Farmstead is significant under Criterion A for its association with the agricultural movement in the 19th century as farming progressed into a science due to technological and transportation innovations and under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a rural farmstead in the Cuyahoga Valley. The period of significance for the Welton Farm according to the National Register Nomination begins in 1852 when the barn and farmhouse was constructed on the property and extends to 1945 when the property ceased operating as a dairy farm. The property is consistent with property types, significant agricultural associations, and registration requirements described in the Agriculture Resources of the Cuyahoga Valley Multiple Property Documentation Form.

The canal opened up more markets for the area's agricultural products in small towns like Peninsula and Boston, larger ones like Cleveland and Akron, and far-off cities along the Great Lakes and the Erie Canal. Prior to the construction of the canal, farmers had to take their produce by wagon to the mouth of the Cuyahoga River to be shipped to larger markets. The trip by wagon had been expensive and slow and often, a farmer's produce would spoil on the way, or, since boat schedules were irregular, the produce would rot while left on shore waiting for a delayed boat. In addition, goods shipped along the unreliable river had been charged high freight rates, which meant that the farmer received a low price for his goods. Wheat, which brought the farmer fifteen cents per bushel during earlier pioneer days, thus brought him a dollar per bushel when the canal was completed. As a result, proximity to the canal was crucial in order to gain greater profits from this improved transportation network.

The canal changed the landscape as well, as it attracted additional settlers and industry to the area. As farmers became more prosperous, they were able to replace their original farmhouses with wood-frame structures derived from the styles with which they were familiar from their previous homes back east. Only a few built houses out of brick and fewer still built them of stone. Houses from this era that reflect the New England heritage of the Valley include the New England One-and-a-Half type. The Welton House is a One-and-a-Half type that is characterized by a side gable orientation, symmetrical facade arrangement, five bays, and modest Greek Revival elements. This type was common in the 19th century in Connecticut's Western Reserve and Firelands regions of Ohio.

A barn type associated with this period and reflecting the need to house livestock as agricultural advancements improved is the Raised Bank Barn, which combined the function of crop storage and animal shelter. These barns are usually banked into a hill or have an earthen ramp located on the side to provide access to the second floor. This barn type continued to be popular in Ohio throughout the 19th century. During this time, barns were usually constructed on-site by the farmer or by local builders and these mortise and tenon, braced framed structures were constructed with either the Scribe or Square Rule method. A Scribe Rule barn is one where each framing piece is fitted to the piece it joins. Square

Rule barns were constructed of framing that was laid out and cut, and not assembled until the barn was raised.

The Welton farm housed a large dairying operation and cheese factory that demonstrated the shift from subsistence farming to market farming that occurred in the Cuyahoga Valley after the opening of the Ohio & Erie Canal in 1827. As technology improved, farmers could switch their crops to more profitable products. The Welton property maintains a high degree of historical integrity. Although the only buildings that remain on the property are the house, the bank barn, and the milk house which was constructed around 1940, the Welton Farmstead provides insight to a working agricultural farm that was common throughout the 19th century. The buildings maintain integrity in design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association even though the house was remodeled in the 1950s and an addition was added, it does not diminish its overall integrity. The landscape as a whole maintains integrity due to its setting, feeling and association as a farmstead indicative within the rural boundaries of the Cuyahoga Valley.

## Chronology & Physical History

### Cultural Landscape Type and Use

**Cultural Landscape Type:** Vernacular

**Current and Historic Use/Function:**

**Primary Historic Function:** Agricultural Field

**Primary Current Use:** Domestic (Residential)-Other

**Other Use/Function**

FC26

**Other Type of Use or Function**

Historic

**Current and Historic Names:**

**Name**

Welton Farm Tract #112-65

Harpham Farm

**Type of Name**

Both Current And Historic

Historic

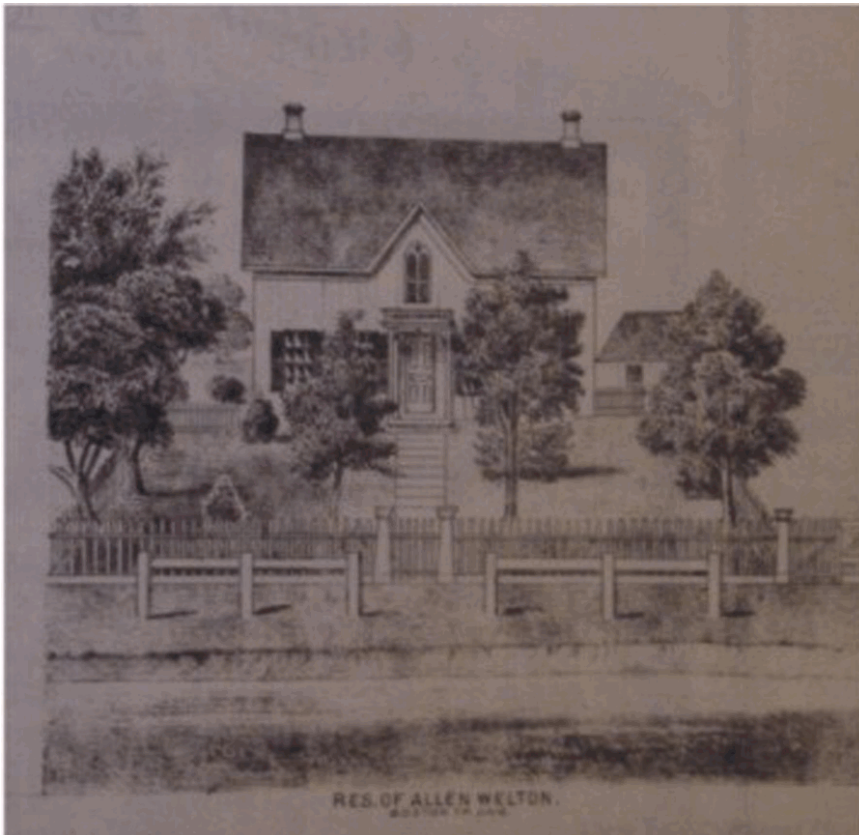
**Ethnographic Study Conducted:**

No Survey Conducted

**Physical History:**

1852-1945: The Weltons Farm the Land

In 1846, Allen Welton purchased 125 acres of land from Z. Tomlinson and W. Warner. He cleared and cultivated the land, and by 1852, he increased his holdings to 284 acres on both the north and south sides of Major Road. In 1852, Welton had built a barn worth \$200. Two years later, the Gothic Revival house was added to the property. Welton was a prominent farmer and dairyman in Boston Township. A local history remembers Welton's activity in the following quote. "He was a man of many practical ideas and began making cheese at home, the industry soon growing to such proportions that he built a cheese factory, which was the first one in Summit County, and later opened another in Bath, which his son Frank helped him to conduct." Welton was member of the Ohio Dairymen's Association and he served as a county commissioner and township trustee. He was also active in his church, founding the Congregational Sunday School. Allen Welton died on April 3, 1878. His wife Louisa continued to live on the farm. Their daughter, Cora Welton, married Walter Hunt and they also lived on the Welton farmstead and continued the dairying operation until approximately 1945 when they sold the property.



*Allen Welton House circa 1874 (1874 Combination Atlas Map of Summit County)*



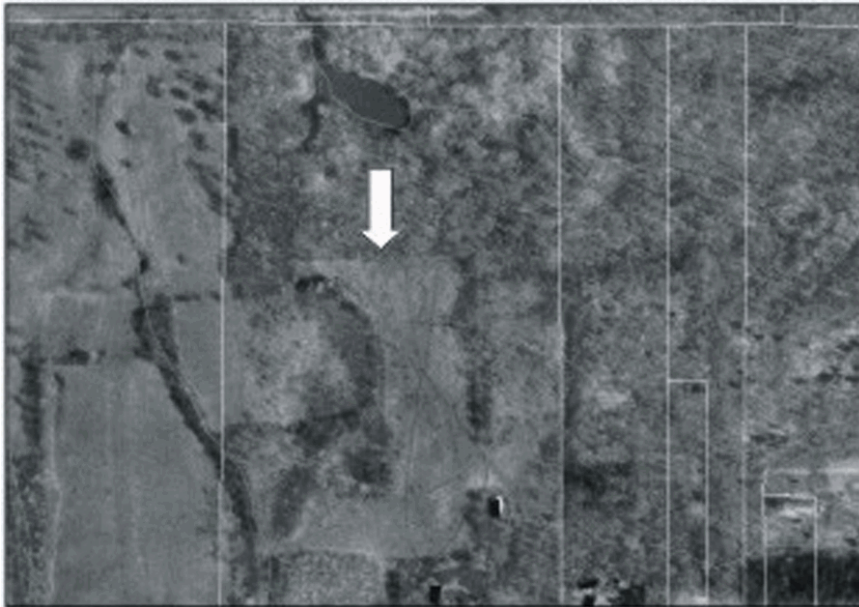
*1938 aerial photograph of the Welton Farm*

#### 1945-1980: Decline and Suburbanization

Around 1945, Harry and Nancy Weld Harpham purchased the Welton Farmstead. Although they kept a small component of agriculture on the land, the function of the property as a dairy operation ceased. Like many farms in the Cuyahoga Valley, the Welton Farm operation declined throughout the 20th century. The increased mobility provided by the automobile threatened to suburbanize the valley as populations increased in Cleveland and Akron. This suburbanization peaked in the 1950s and 1960s, however, failed to gain a firm foothold in the Cuyahoga Valley. The area's unstable glacial slopes and wet, clay soils have helped to buffer the valley from extensive development. Virtually no landscape remains untouched from modernization, however, and the Cuyahoga Valley is no exception. Some industrial and commercial properties appeared in the valley, as well as utility power lines, cellular towers, and Interstate highways.

#### 1980-present: NPS Ownership

The Harphams sold the property to the National Park Service in 1980, though they retained a Life Estate to reside in the house until their deaths. In the Summer of 2000, the property reverted to the management of the park. In the spring 2001, interim stabilization of the farm's buildings occurred and today the farmstead is leased through the Countryside Initiatives Program to Daniel and Michele Greenfield.



*1994 aerial photograph of the Welton farm*



*Welton House, facade elevation (Tamburro, NPS 2001)*



*Welton House, east elevation (Tamburro, NPS 2001)*



*Welton Barn, west elevation (Tamburro, NPS 2001)*





*Welton Barn, east elevation (Tamburro, NPS 2001)*



*Welton Milk House, west elevation (Tamburro, NPS 2001)*

## Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

### Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Welton Farm landscape retains the essential features associated with the period of significance. The farmstead features a loosely clustered spatial organization of farm buildings including a farmhouse, a barn, and a milk house. The historic landscape elements are judged to be moderately intact, however, much has changed around the curtilage of the house. Evaluating an 1874 illustration of the Welton House from the 1874 Combination Atlas Map of Summit County indicates that the front yard's perimeter was bounded with a picket fence, which stretched into the back yard. Two hitching posts were situated between the picket fence and Major Road.

The image also reveals that the yard appeared to have been well manicured with several trees and foundation plantings present. There is also a one-and-a-half story, gable-roofed building directly northeast of the house, which is no longer standing. A site evaluation did not reveal any foundation remnants, but an archeological investigation of that site is recommended prior to any treatment.

The vegetation around the house has grown in height and density, obstructing the view of the house from the road. From the coverage of the house in the 1874 atlas, it is clear that the Welton Farm was a "showplace" that was meant to be viewed from the road. That viewshed should be reintroduced in order to increase integrity.

Although diminished in scale, the agriculture field patterns are still evident in the landscape. Comparing the 1938 and 1994 aerial photographs of the property, the spacial organization of the landscape is still apparent.

The current cultural landscape of the Welton Farm reinforces the historic character and assists with the conveyance of the Cuyahoga Valley Historic District's significance by feeling and association. The Welton Farm cultural landscape retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials workmanship, feeling and association. The current condition of the landscape is fair to good: it exhibits some evidence of negative disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces but has also been recently cleared and planted, restoring its agricultural use. Currently, the farm is leased to local farmers to utilize the property in a fashion similar to its original use. Through the Countryside Initiatives Program, Daniel and Michele Greenfield lease the Welton property as the Greenfield Berry Farm.

<b>Aspects of Integrity:</b>	Location
	Design
	Setting
	Materials
	Workmanship
	Feeling
	Association

**Landscape Characteristic:**

**Buildings and Structures**

The Allen Welton House (HS-325) was constructed in 1854 and is a one-and-a-half story, wood frame house in the Gothic Revival Style. The core section of the house is five-bays wide by two-bays deep. The foundation is constructed of tooled, cut sandstone blocks with margins. The façade features a central entrance flanked by two pairs of windows. The steeply-pitched gable roof is parallel to the road and is intersected by a double lancet window with quatrefoil tracery. The house has wood board-and-batten siding and the windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash and have architrave trim and shutters. The front door frame has a flattened Gothic arch molding.

In 1950, the Welton House was remodeled inside and a long one-and-a-half story addition was added to the north end (rear) of the building. Akron architects Firestone & Cassidy designed the addition. Although this addition happened outside the period of significance, it does not detract from the historical integrity of the building.

The Welton Barn (HS-326) was constructed in 1852 and is a four-bay Raised Bank Barn. The barn is clad with vertical wood siding and the roof is covered with corrugated metal roofing material. The foundation is constructed of cut sandstone block and the interior framing is mortise and tenon. The Raised Bank Barn is a characteristic barn type for the Cuyahoga Valley. These barns are usually banked into a hill or have an earthen ramp located on the side to provide access to the second floor. Dairy cows were usually housed in the basement of the barn. This barn was rehabilitated by the National Park Service in the Fall of 2002.

The Welton Milk House (HS-327) is located near Major Road and is a gable-roofed, wood-framed building built around 1940. The milk house is clad with drop siding and the foundation is constructed of structural clay tile blocks. The structure is indicative of the function of the Welton Farm as a dairying operation and is an important element of the historic and cultural landscape. Although the National Register nomination considers the milk house a non-contributing resource, the structure should be treated as a contributing feature to the significance of the Welton farmstead and managed as a cultural resource. This feature was rehabilitated by the Countryside Initiative Program lessee.

The National Register nomination also mentions the existence of a privy, but this structure has not been extant since at least 2001.

**Character-defining Features:**

Feature: House

Feature Identification Number: 107829

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 11077

LCS Structure Name: Allen Welton House

LCS Structure Number: HS-325

Feature: Barn

Feature Identification Number: 107831

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 11078

LCS Structure Name: Allen Welton Barn

LCS Structure Number: HS-326

Feature: Milk House

Feature Identification Number: 107833

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 11079

LCS Structure Name: Allen Welton Milkhouse

LCS Structure Number: HS-327

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Welton House, façade elevation (Jackson 2011)*



*Welton House, east elevation (Jackson 2011)*



*Welton Barn, west elevation (Jackson 2011)*



*Welton Barn, east elevation (Jackson 2011)*



*Welton Milk House (Jackson 2011)*

### **Circulation**

The farm's circulation pattern originates from Major Road. The gravel driveway leads to the rear of the house. There is also a dirt road from the driveway just north of the milk house back to the barn and the fields. This road is overgrown with grass and is currently mowed to retain the original alignment and access.

The 1874 lithograph shows that there was a stone pathway from Major Road to the front door of the house. The pathway appears to have been removed.

In addition, a modern access road to the barn from the north side of the driveway by the garage was installed by the National Park Service in 2006. This road, compatible to the historic circulation of the site, is composed of dirt with gravel in low spots.

### **Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Gravel drive leading towards Milk House (Jackson 2011)*



*Earthen ramp to gain access to second floor of the bank barn (Jackson 2011)*





*Wheel path leading from the barn to the fields (Jackson 2011)*



*Pathway leading to agricultural fields (Jackson 2011)*



*Gravel driveway leading up to the house (Jackson 2011)*



*Stone pathway leading from driveway to the house (Jackson 2011)*

### **Small Scale Features**

Welton Farm is an occupied and actively maintained agricultural landscape. Throughout the

farmstead, there are many farm implements and items that enhance its integrity of feeling and association as a working rural farmstead. Many small-scale features are non-contributing to the historic landscape, but do not overtly detract from the overall integrity of the property.

Other small-scale features include a mailbox, signage for the farmstead, and power lines at the edge of the property. Next to the house, there are modern HVAC and electrical meter systems. A patio area, along with a fire pit, also appear next to the house. A satellite dish is visible in the open field.

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Mailbox present at the edge of the property (Jackson 2011)*



*Signage on Major Road on the edge of the property (Jackson 2011)*



*Image of power lines present on the property (Jackson 2011)*



*Image of modern electrical and HVAC systems next to the house (Jackson 2011)*



*Image of satellite dish on the property (Jackson 2011)*



*Image of temporary greenhouse located next to the agricultural fields (Jackson 2011)*

### **Constructed Water Features**

A pond is evident in the 1930s aerial photograph and is believed to have been associated with the orchard operation on the farm during the early 20th Century. However, this feature is outside of the boundaries of the landscape determined eligible for the National Register, and so is not considered to be part of the cultural landscape.

### **Archeological Sites**

There are no known archeological sites located on the Welton property. In the summer of 2001, shovel testing and an archeological inventory was conducted at the Welton site in preparation for the property's inclusion in the Countryside Initiative Program. Historical materials were encountered near the perimeter of the house on the north and east side while no cultural material was found in the fields on the north section of the property.

Evidence of a building to the northeast of the house indicate the location of the old cheese factory on the Welton property, but remnants of this are not apparent.

### **Spatial Organization**

The farmstead's buildings are clustered adjacent to Major Road with their orientation facing the road. The 1874 Combination Atlas Map of Summit County indicates that Welton's cheese factory was also oriented toward Major Road but it is no longer extant. Agricultural fields and pasture lands are located north of the house. The barn is located north of the road with its orientation toward the east. It is likely the eastern section of the property, with its moderately sloping fields, served as the pasture. This area is currently overgrown and obscured by

vegetaion.

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*Satellite image of Welton Farmstead (Google Earth 2011)*

**Topography**

The topography of the Welton farmstead lies on varying terrain within the Cuyahoga Valley. The southern edge of the property where the outbuildings stand lie mostly on flat level terrain. The agricultural fields also are mostly flat which provide views of the rest of the property. The tree lines on both edges of the property follow areas where hills start to rise and the northern edge of the property is at the highest elevation. The property slopes uphill as you progress to the northern edge of the landscape.

**Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*View of house as treeline rises along hillside (Jackson 2011)*

### **Vegetation**

The Welton Farm is surrounded on three sides by clusters of deciduous hardwoods. The trees, mostly oaks and maples, appear to be the result of natural succession, with little deliberate plantings. The agricultural field to the north of the house is 7.6 acres of open fields of mixed grass which correlates to its historic use of crop production and pasture lands. The area around the barn and the perimeter of the field appear to be in succession. There also appears to be selected plantings around the house and along the driveway. There is a rhododendron along with east elevation of the house.

### **Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**





*View of agricultural fields (Jackson 2011)*



*Agricultural fields on the north edge of the property (Jackson 2011)*



*Vegetation surrounding the Welton House (Jackson 2011)*

### **Views and Vistas**

There are some views provided on the Welton landscape. Due to the open areas of fields used for cultivation, this provides views throughout most of the property. The most recent owner has been clearing land to restore the agricultural usage of the property, and this has provided views of the landscape.

### **Landscape Characteristic Graphics:**



*View of the Welton property from the agricultural fields (Jackson 2011)*

## Condition

### Condition Assessment and Impacts

**Condition Assessment:** Good  
**Assessment Date:** 06/14/2006  
**Condition Assessment:** Good  
**Assessment Date:** 02/29/2012

### Impacts

**Type of Impact:** Deferred Maintenance  
**External or Internal:** Internal  
  
**Type of Impact:** Exposure To Elements  
**External or Internal:** Both Internal and External

## Treatment

### Treatment

**Approved Treatment:** Rehabilitation  
**Document Date:** 07/15/2011

**Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:**  
Treatment will be determined by park management.

### Approved Treatment Costs

**Cost Date:** 07/15/2011

## Bibliography and Supplemental Information

## Bibliography

**Citation Title:** Everett Historic District Cultural Landscape Report  
**Year of Publication:** 1993  
**Citation Publisher:** National Park Service  
**Source Name:** Other

**Citation Author:** Hurt, Douglas R.  
**Citation Title:** "Dairying in Nineteenth-Century Ohio."  
**Year of Publication:** 1980  
**Source Name:** Other  
**Citation Number:** 53 (4): 387-399.  
**Citation Type:** Narrative  
**Citation Location:** Old Northwest.

**Citation Author:** Miller, Carol Poh.  
**Citation Title:** Allen Welton House National Register of Historic Places  
Nomination. Listed 5/7/1979.

**Year of Publication:** 1979  
**Source Name:** Other  
**Citation Title:** Population Schedule. 1850, 1860.

**Year of Publication:** 1850  
**Source Name:** Other  
**Citation Title:** Productions of Agriculture Schedule, 1850 & 1870  
**Year of Publication:** 1850  
**Source Name:** Other

**Citation Author:** Scrattish, Nick.  
**Citation Title:** Historic Resource Study: Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation  
Area.  
**Year of Publication:** 1985  
**Citation Publisher:** Denver, CO: National Park Service  
**Source Name:** Other

**Citation Title:** Trip Report (Cuyahoga Valley National Park, 27 August 2001)  
**Year of Publication:** 2001  
**Source Name:** Other  
**Citation Location:** Welton Historic Structure File , TAPS Division, Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

**Citation Author:** Winstel, Jeffrey.  
**Citation Title:** Agricultural Resources of the Cuyahoga Valley Multiple Property Documentation Nomination for the National Register of Historic Places.  
**Year of Publication:** 1993  
**Citation Publisher:** National Park Service  
**Source Name:** Other

### Supplemental Information

**Title:** Analysis and Evaluation Graphics