2020

Heritage Corridors of Bath Corridor Management Plan (CMP)

Ohio Department of Transportation

Submitted ***July 2019***



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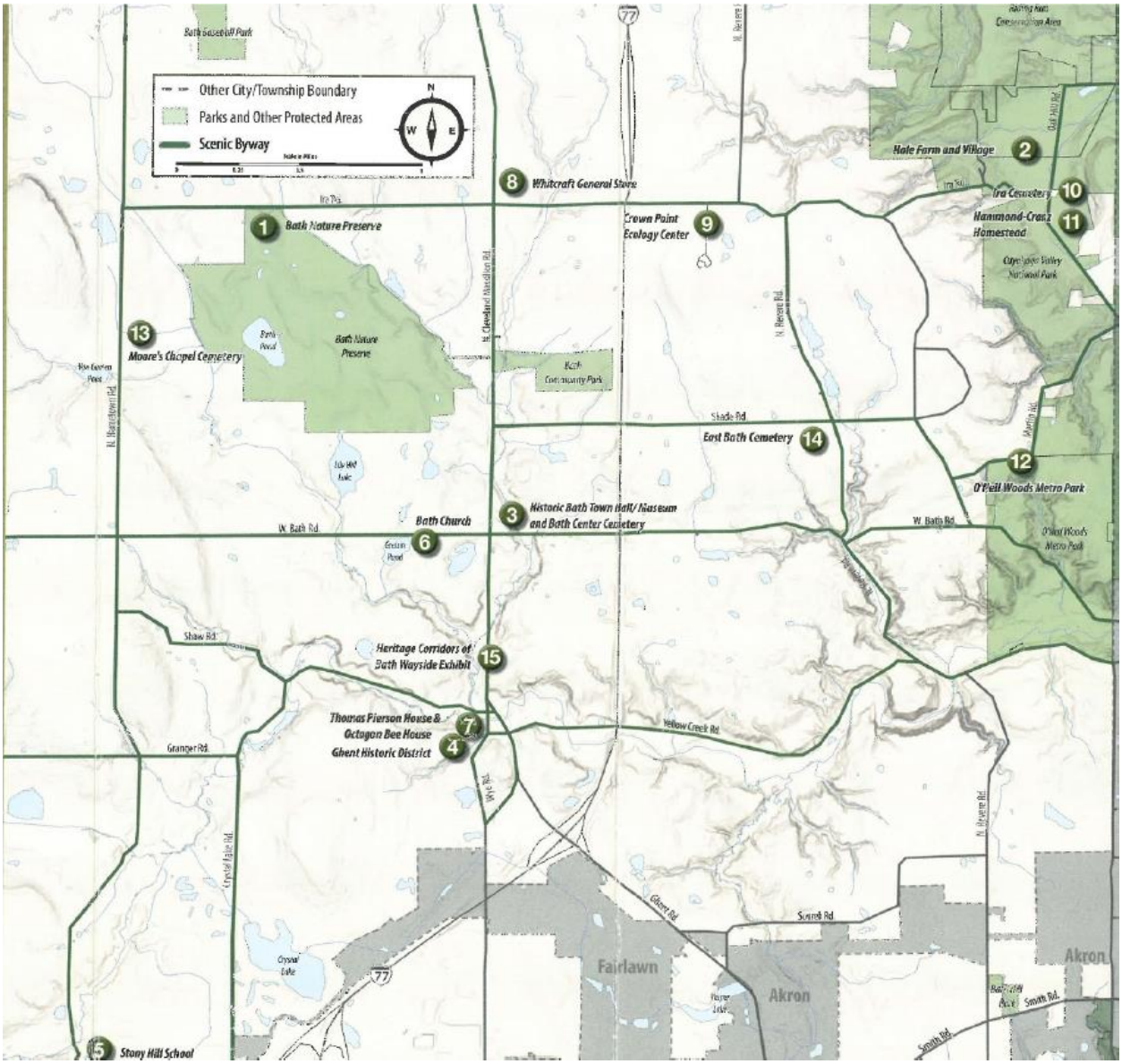
I. INTRODUCTION AND MAP

A. Byway Introduction

The Heritage Corridors of Bath is the story of Ohio's Western Reserve. Early nineteenth century settlers from Connecticut built homes and mills and established farms and hamlets reminiscent of their New England origins. The byway passes through these hamlets, traverses' streams, weaves along hillsides and offers vistas across farmland dotted with barns.

In 2000, the Bath Scenic Byway Task Force received designation from the Ohio Department of Transportation for 34.5 miles of scenic and historic byway along twelve roads, now known as the Heritage Corridors of Bath. A Corridor Management Plan was published in 2001. Subsequently new roads and sections of previously designated roads were added to the byway resulting in a total of 39 miles of byway that now includes fourteen roads. A Corridor Management Plan Addendum was published in 2007.

B. Byway Route Map



1. Bath Nature Preserve
2. Hale Farm and Village
3. Historic Bath Town Hall/Museum
11. Hammond-Cranz Homestead
4. Ghent Historic District
5. Stony Hill School
6. Bath Church
7. Thomas Pierson House and Octagon Bee House
8. Whitcraft General Store
9. Crown Point Ecology Center
10. Ira Cemetery
11. Hammond-Cranz Homestead
12. O'Neil Woods Metro Park
13. Moore's Chapel Cemetery
14. East Bath Center Cemetery
15. Heritage Corridors of Bath Wayside Exhibit

II. BYWAY STRATEGIC PLAN: VISION, MISSION, GOALS AND ACTIONS

A. Vision and Mission

Vision:

The vision of the corridor is to protect the scenic rural views that have come to characterize Bath Township for future generations. And by also promoting and preserving our unique heritage as part of the Western Reserve, we wish to provide an enriching and pleasurable experience for those who travel the byway.

Mission:

1. To preserve and enhance the rural character, scenic beauty and historic legacy of the Heritage Corridors for future generations.

2. To enhance the appearance of the Cleveland-Massillon Road corridor and, the character of the hamlets of Ghent, Bath Center and Hammond's Corners.

3. To guide future development so that it preserves natural areas, protects view sheds and riparian corridors and creates an architectural and landscape image in concert with the rural character of Bath.

4. To promote the preservation of rural landscape features on both public and private property.

5. To encourage the enjoyment and safe use of the corridors by pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians and motorized travelers.

B. Accomplishments since last CMP

New accomplishments include:

- Installation of Ohio Historical Marker at Bath Center Cemetery and Historic Town Hall
- Book published on Century Homes of Bath, 2018
- Installation of landscaping and planting improvements at the Wayside Exhibit to add beautification from 2016 through 2021.
- Bicentennial Celebration in 2018.
- The purchase of land, and the development of the Wayside Exhibit. The exhibit permanently houses information boards with unique attributes of the byway and the history of Bath in 2014-2016.
- Bath Art Festival, 2017.

Previous and ongoing accomplishments include:

- An annual “Barn Social” to highlight the historic barns within the Heritage Corridors, 2002-ongoing.
- Annual historic tours through the corridors, which began in 2006.
- Updated brochures, pamphlets and maps to locate corridor roadways within the township, 2002 and 2016.
- Installation of Ohio Historical Markers at the Ira Cemetery, 2012, Moore’s Chapel Cemetery, 2011, and the Old Woolen Mill, 2000.
- Establishment of historic tours throughout the corridors in 2006.

- The Summit County Astronomy's Club addition of the celestial observatory at the Bath Nature Preserve in 2017-ongoing.
- Road Rally with Bath Business Association.
- Installation of heritage gateway signs placed at each of three hamlets.
- Replacement of eroding hillside at Bath Elementary School. The replacement includes a barn stone retaining wall and landscaping in 2002.
- Review of the Wye Road Bridge design in Ghent with a heritage style design that permits views of the stream, 2003-2004.
- Planting of trees at Hammond's Corners, reestablishing the leafy atmosphere of a crossroads hamlet, 2004.
- Facilitated the formation of the Bath Business Association in 2002.
- The 2010 designation on the National Register of Historic Places for the Ghent Historic District.
- Cemetery enhancements:
    - Moore's Chapel, 2002, 2003 and 2006
    - Ira Cemetery, 2006
    - Bath Center Cemetery, 2000, 2001 and 2018
    - Stony Hill Cemetery, 2008
    - East Bath Cemetery, 2008

C. Goals, Objectives, and Action Plans

Goal I: To preserve the scenic qualities

Objective	**Person/group responsible**	**Timeline**	**Action Plan**	**Funding**
Pursue efforts to preserve green space through community education, township zoning, and appearance review boards.	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Apply for any applicable grants to preserve and create green space. • Encourage the planting of native flowering shrubs and wildflowers along hillsides, stream banks, and woods within the view shed of the byway. • Improve the landscaping at the Ira Road entrance to the Bath Nature Preserve. • Work to connect walking trails to the Ohio and Erie Towpath Trail as well as connecting walking and biking paths to the township.	TBD
Improve the viewshed of the byway by highlighting the	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Relocate overhead utility lines underground. • Assess the landscaping at the confluence of Ghent Road and Cleveland-	TBD

natural qualities of it.			Massillon Road. Work to improve the view shed at this heavily traveled entrance to the byway.	
Improve and maintain structures along the byway.	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Reassess each byway road for changes in corridor condition or view shed that have occurred since its original assessment. Revise goals and generate new projects for future improvement. • Work with the Summit County Engineer's Office to replace aging bridges with open style architecture that improves the view shed of Yellow Creek and its tributaries. Explore other ways to promote views of streams. • Encourage pedestrian scale lighting in the hamlets on Cleveland- Massillon Road.	TBD

Goal II: To preserve historic structures along the byway and area.

Objective	**Person/group responsible**	**Timeline**	**Action Plan**	**Funding**
Work to place National Register of Historic Places plaques on registered structures.	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Work to achieve National Register of Historic Places designation for the Hammond's Corners Historic District. • Explore ways to delineate the Ghent Historic District. • Encourage home and business owners to pursue National Register of Historic Places designation.	TBD
Support members on the byway that promote and preserve historic structures.	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Acknowledge home and business owners who restore and preserve historic structures. • Support byway farms, farm stands, and the Cuyahoga	N/A

			Valley National Park Countryside Conservancy.	

Goal III: Partnerships and Community

Objective	Person/group responsible	Timeline	Action Plan	Funding
Support and partner with local historic organizations, local governments, organizations, state government, and local businesses.	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Support local organizations that work to preserve historic structures and educate the community about Bath history, such as Bath Historical Society and Friends of the Regal Beagle. • Meet regularly with the Summit County Engineer's Office to review Heritage Corridors of Bath goals and discuss future road projects. • Collaborate with state byway organizations. Invite representatives from Ohio Department of Transportation to tour the byway and to share information and goals. • Develop a dialogue with byway business owners and the Bath Business Association to share concerns and discuss common goals.	TBD
Promote byway and establish online presence as well as other media platforms	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Maintain a web site to educate visitors about the scenic byway, community events, and organizations.	TBD
Increase awareness of Bath Township's history.	HCB Committee	Ongoing	• Promote tours, barn social and Bath Township museum display, exhibits, and books.	TBD

III. BYWAY ORGANIZATION: STRUCTURE, COMMITTEES, VOLUNTEERS, AND PARTNERS

A. Structure:

The Heritage Corridors of Bath committee exists to preserve the historic nature of Bath Township. The committee is organized by the township and made up of representatives, partners and stakeholders within the community.

B. Description of Current and Future Byway Committee Representatives, Partners and Stakeholders

Bath Business Association

- PO Box 422 Bath, OH 44210
- info@bathbusinessassociation.com
- https://www.bathbusinessassociation.com/

Hale Farm and Village

- 2686 Oak Hill Rd Bath, OH 44210
- 330-666-3711
- halereservations@wrhs.org
- https://www.wrhs.org/plan-your-visit/hale-farm/

Friends of Yellow Creek

- PO Box 1188 Bath, OH 44210
- 330-666-4007
- friends@yellowcreekwatershed.org
- https://www.yellowcreekwatershed.org/

Bath Township Historical Society

- 1241 N Cleveland Massillon Rd Akron, OH 44333
- 330-666-4791
- bathhistoricalsociety@roadrunner.com
- https://www.bathhistoricalsociety.org/

Summit County Astronomy Club

- 2701 W Market St Fairlawn, OH 44333
- 330-836-8477
- summitcountyastronomy@gmail.com

Bath Art Fest

- PO Box 546 Bath, OH 44210
- 330-603-4924
- bathartsfestival@gmail.com
- https://www.bathartfestival.com/

The University of Akron Field Station (Bath Nature Preserve)

- 4160 Ira Rd Akron, OH 44333
- 330-666-2919
- UAFieldStation@uakron.edu
- http://www.bathtownship.org/Parks%20folder/Parks%20page%20web%202.htm

Western Reserve Playhouse

- 3326 Everett Rd Bath, OH 44286
- 330-620-7314

Crown Point Ecology Center

- 3220 Ira Rd Akron, OH 44333
- 330-668-8992
- https://www.crownpointecology.org/

Camp Christopher

- 1930 N Hametown Rd Akron, OH 44333
- 330-376-2267
- campchristopher@ccdocle.org
- https://ccdocle.org/camp-christopher

Bath Tour Committee

Heritage Corridors of Bath Committee

Friends of the Regal Beagle

Bath Attractions Committee

C. Primary and Secondary Byway Leader Contact Information

Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Becky Corbett HCB Committee Phone: 330-666-4007 Email: bcorbett@bathtownship.org	Elaina Goodrich HCB Committee Phone: 330-666-4007 Email: egoodrich@bathtownship.org

D. Level of Participation in State/Regional Byway Meetings and Trainings

None to report.

E. Byway Leadership Succession Plan

The committee is locally sponsored by Bath Township and will ensure the ongoing existence.

IV. BYWAY CORRIDOR CONDITIONS: ROADWAYS, SAFETY, INTRINSIC RESOURCES, ACCESSIBILITY

A. Road Conditions and Signage

The general condition of the roads is reviewed on an annual basis. Repairs and resurfacing are completed by the Summit County Engineer's office and the Bath Township Service Department.

i. Existing official ODOT byway signs.

See appendix.

ii. Local byway signs.

See appendix.

iii. Interpretive signs.

See appendix.

iv. Future sign needs.

The roads signs were replaced in 2019, and the byway signs are to be reviewed.

B. List of Primary and Secondary Intrinsic Qualities/Resources

Primary Intrinsic Quality	**Secondary Intrinsic Quality**	**Site & Location (GPS when available)**	**Description**
Historic		John Richard House (41.187672, -81.636667)	The John Richard residence was constructed in approximately 1830. Richard lived in the small one and a half story Greek Revival home from at least 1856 to 1891. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic		Dustin Johnson House (41.188340, -81.636709)	The Dustin Johnson residence was a Greek Revival home constructed in about 1830. The size of the building and its unusual number of entries suggests that it had an early commercial function.
Historic		Pugh House (41.189873, -81.636792)	Noted for the historical residents, Roy and Ruth Pugh, who also operated the adjacent property at 1996 N Cleveland Massillon Rd as an antique store named Pugh's Old Store. Roy Pugh was noted for having an influence on education through his years as a high school teacher and administrator.
Historic		Roy and Ruth Pugh house (1850) (41.190103, -81.636649)	Noted above.
Recreational	Natural	Bath Nature Preserve (41.180981, -81.650137)	Consisting of approximately 410 acres, the Bath Nature Preserve hosts several environmental

			habitats including wetlands, woodlands, riparian, and old-field habitats. It also offers many activities, such as a multi-use trail that links the preserve to the Bath Community Activity Center, and equestrian trail, and ponds for fishing.
Natural		Crown Point Ecology Center (41.185148, -81.619667)	This 130-acre organic farm was originally owned by early Bath resident Jason Hammond. The Crown Point mission is to be a role model for food security through farm stewardship, advocacy, education, and collaboration. Visitors are welcome.
Historic		Hale Family Farm (41.193685, -81.592399)	Hale Farm and Village lies on both sides of Oak Hill Road and has more than ten historic homes and structures dating from 1825 to 1850. It is open to the public and managed by the Western Reserve Historical Society.
Natural		Wayside Exhibit (41.161685, -81.637583)	The Wayside Exhibit was built in 2015 as a gateway connecting the Ghent Hamlet to other areas of the township. The exhibit includes informational panels and a shelter house.
Recreational	Natural	Bath Community Park (41.178810, -81.630992)	Founded in 1968, the Bath Community Park is Bath's oldest park. It hosts a variety of nature and recreational purposes, including a Butterfly-Hummingbird Garden, several picnic areas, hiking trails, soccer fields, volleyball courts, a football field, and more.
Historic		Whitcraft Store (1913) Rebuilt (41.189112, -81.636194)	Known as the "second largest general store in the state", the Whitcraft store served Bath and the surrounding area in the late 1800s and early 1900s and was the social center of the area. The original building was built in the mid-1800s but was rebuilt after a fire in 1913.
Recreational		University of Akron Field Station (41.188930, -81.653340)	A living laboratory for the advancement of knowledge through ecological research, education
Recreational		Summit County Astronomy Club Celestial Observatory (40.969851, -81.560584)	Five telescopes are available to view stars and planets on clear nights.
Historic		Rufus Randall house (c. 1860) (41.189088, -81.634748)	Built in approximately 1860, Dr. Randall, a leader at the time, resided here. He was noted for finding successful new remedies used in his medicinal practice. He was also an advocate for equal rights and reform.
Historic		Bath Memorial Park (41.168750, -81.636301)	In honor of the Bath citizens who served in the armed forces.

Historic		Historic Bath Township Hall and Museum (1905) (41.169143, -81.636514)	The town hall was built in 1905 with a $25,000 bond. The building now holds the Bath Township Historical Society Museum.
Historic		Bath Center Cemetery (c.1820) (41.169242, -81.636443)	The earliest burial recorded was in 1804. In 1834, the Hammond Family donated the land to the township. Within the cemetery is a Romanesque stone vault that was built in 1913 to store bodies during the winter when the ground was too frozen to dig graves.
Scenic	Cultural	Chief Logan Statue (41.179284, -81.635966)	A 20-foot-tall wooden sculpture located at Bath Community Park
Historic		Stony Hill Schoolhouse (41.08228, -81.40159)	One of nine original schoolhouses and is now a museum.
Historic		Bath Church (c.1820) relocated from Ira Road (41.168149, -81.641583)	Bath United Church of Christ was built around 1823 and was moved from Ira Road to its present location in 1949. The original building for this congregation was a log structure built around 1818 at the site of the Historic Town Hall.
Historic		The Ghent Woolen Mill (1832) (41.158032, -81.638351)	Built in 1832, it is the oldest extant woolen mill in Ohio. It achieved only marginal commercial success because there was low fleece supply due to the abundance of wolves in the area, making it difficult for farmers to maintain sheep. It was converted to a machine shop around 1889 and then into private residences in the late 1890s.
Historic		The Octagon Bee House- the only two-story structure of its kind (41.157400, -81.637164)	This unique structure was built by Thomas Pierson in 1859 to house honeybees. Constructed of wood frame in an octagonal form, it is the only known two story structure of its kind.
Historic		Thomas Pierson house (1837) (41.157400, -81.637164)	Built in 1837, this house was owned by Thomas Pierson, the first postmaster of Ghent. Since the 1940s, the building has been used for commercial uses and currently houses a bakery named "The Bake Shop in Ghent."
Historic		Yellow Creek Grist and Flair Mill (41.160458, -81.649908)	Rebuilt in 2019 as a residence.
Historic		Alderfer's Mill (1945) Rebuilt (41.160458, -81.649908)	After the original 1830 3-story mill known as the Yellow Creek Grist and Flour mill was destroyed by fire in 1943, this mill was rebuilt for the Sterling Alderfer Company as a manufacturing plant in 1945.
		Ira Cemetery (41.189587, -81.591747)	Also known as the Ira and Cranz Cemetery, this cemetery contains burials of the Hale, Hammond, and Cranz families and some

			unmarked graves of Irishmen who worked on the building of the Ohio and Erie Canal. The earliest known burial here is dated 1829.
Recreational	Natural	O'Neal Woods (41.169926, -82.590457)	A Summit Metro Park with 242 acres, developed in 1972. It is situated along Yellow Creak with a 1.8-mile walking trail.
Historic	Recreational	Western Reserve Playhouse (41.202048, -81.614040)	A local theater located in a converted barn that hosts many different shows for the community and visitors.
Historic		Moore's Chapel Cemetery (41.181510, -81.665720)	The cemetery was purchased by Bath Township in 1892 and was originally called Shaw's Cemetery for a man named Samuel Shaw who was buried there in 1836. The cemetery also contains the burial of Revolutionary War Veteran Nathan Thorp.

C. Changes in Intrinsic Qualities/Resources since last CMP

Additions include:

A new fence installed at the Bath Center Cemetery.

Changes include:

The Historic Bath Elementary (1923) was razed and replaced with a new elementary school in 2019.

D. Accessibility to Intrinsic Quality/Resources: Pull-Offs, Parking, Rest Areas, Visitor Amenities, etc.

All resources, not including private homes and properties, are accessible by pull-offs or parking areas. The Heritage Corridors of Bath Wayside Exhibit Visitor Center, which is also accessible with a pull-off and a parking area.

All interpretation, Pull-Offs, and visitor amenities along with associated parking, public restrooms and amenities are to be accessible per the Americans with Disability Act. This includes accessibility for persons with mobility, hearing, sight, and cognitive impairments. The 2010 US Census revealed that at least 56.7 million or 20 percent of the US population have some level of disability, about 20 million of which are mobility impaired Americans. Therefore, for the story of the byway to be told to all, new programs and improvements need to be accessible while existing sites should have transition plans in place by those who own and maintain them.

The byway organization will have a hand improving accessibility by raising awareness about the need to remove barriers to access and by installing all interpretive signs or other improvements according to the United States Civil Rights ADA laws. For free information and guidance, please contact the Great Lakes ADA Center at 800-949-4232 (V/TTY).

V. VISITOR EXPERIENCE: INTERPRETATION, STORIES, AND PRESERVATION

A. Interpretation since Designation

The establishment of the scenic byway has allowed Bath Township to preserve its rural character and create a feeling of community pride as reflected in its historic roots. In 2018, the township celebrated a bicentennial, which amplified the values established in the Heritage Corridors of Bath.

B. Byway Story

The Heritage Corridors of Bath is the story of Ohio's Western Reserve. In the early nineteenth century, settlers from Connecticut built homes and mills, and established farms and hamlets reminiscent of their New England origins. The byway passes through these hamlets, traverse streams, weaves along hillsides and offers vistas across farmland dotted with barns.

In 2000, the Bath Scenic Byway Task Force received designation from the Ohio Department of Transportation for 34.5 miles of scenic and historic byway along twelve roads, now known as the Heritage Corridors of Bath. Subsequently new roads and sections of previously designated roads were added to the byway, resulting in a total of 39 miles of byway, that now includes fourteen roads.

The maintenance of the byway is important to Bath Township because it preserves the historic foundation of the community.

C. Future Interpretation

Review of the Byway signs to identify the 39 miles of the Heritage Corridors of Bath.

D. Plans for Improving Visitor Experience

Bath Township continues to improve the 7-acre parcel known as the Wayside Exhibit to attract visitors to the area.

The Heritage Corridors of Bath Wayside Exhibit is situated along the main thoroughfare in Bath Township, north of the Ghent Historic District on Cleveland-Massillon Road. The site will offer visitors an opportunity to learn about the byway, the watershed, and township history. Initially identified as a visual blight on the byway, the 7-acre property was utilized as a staging area for construction vehicles. Following years of negotiation, the township was successful in acquiring the property.

E. Preservation

- Historic Town Hall and Museum
    - The exterior of the building is to be renovated and restored.
    - The museum will feature an exhibit called the School Houses of Bath in 2020. This is only one example of the annual exhibits they showcase to highlight the history in the township.
- An annual tour of Cleveland Massillon Road is planned for 2020.

VI. MARKETING: PROMOTION, FEATURED ATTRACTIONS AND FUTURE PLANS

A. Current and Future Planned Marketing Activities

Bath Township is currently in the process of acquiring another 78-acre parcel called the North Fork Yellow Creek Preserve for passive recreational use.

- Mitigation efforts of the five-acres of wetlands at the Bath Nature Preserve
- Notable annual events which gain attraction to the byway:
    - Chillin' on the Hill – Bath Nature Preserve
    - Fall into Nature – Bath Nature Preserve
    - Memorial Day Celebration – Bath Center Cemetery
    - Barn Social – New location each year
    - Steeplechase 8kRun – Bath Community Park and Bath Nature Preserve
    - Civil War –Hale Farm and Village
    - Made in Ohio – Hale Farm and Village
- Bath Township is in the process of preparing a new website to be launched in the Summer of 2020. There will be a portion solely dedicated to the Heritage Corridors of Bath.
- Establishment of a new 5k running event in 2020 called "Run to the Sun" hosted at the Bath Nature Preserve during the summer solstice.

B. Recommended Products or Attachments for Media and Public Relations

i. Short description of byway for use in publications.

The Heritage Corridors of Bath is the story of Ohio's Western Reserve. Early nineteenth century settlers from Connecticut built homes and mills and established farms and hamlets reminiscent of their New England origins. The byway passes through these hamlets, traverses' streams, weaves along hillsides and offers vistas across farmland dotted with barns. All these qualities are nestled in the Cuyahoga Valley region of Ohio, highlighting some of the most beautiful qualities of the state.

ii. Seasonal digital photographs (at least 300 dpi).

See appendix.

iii. Brief description of the top 5-10 unique/authentic attractions on the byway.

#	Name	Description	GIS
1	Bath Nature Preserve	The Bath Nature Preserve supports a diverse community of plants, animals, bugs, bacteria, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. The vibrant ponds facilitate their habitat as a crucial watershed for the Cuyahoga region.	41.181045, -81.650122
2	Bath Memorial Park	Bath Memorial Park was purchased in 1817 for the intended use as a burial ground and meeting house. This provided public and religious meeting place for residents to bury their loved ones.	41.168724, -81.636575

3	Ghent Woolen Mill	This was one of thirteen mills built in the Yellow Creek Valley to take advantage of water as an energy resource. It was built in 1832 and is the oldest standing mill in all of Ohio, retaining much of its original architectural features.	41.158041, -81.638279
4	Historic Bath Township Hall and Museum	The Bath Township Museum promotes community activities and interest in Bath's heritage through publications, exhibits/displays of the collection and programs. Furthermore, it maintains and preserves historical materials for education and research.	41.169157, -81.636472
5	Hale Farm	This is a historic property part of the Western Reserve Historical Society. It resides within the boundaries of Cuyahoga Valley National Park. There are 34 historical structures on the property. The Hale family farm demonstrates entrepreneurship and prosperity within Bath Township. This stead utilizes the natural resources while continuing the education of the next generations.	41.193696, -81.592389
6	Alderfer's Mill	The mill was built in 1830 as a three-story grist and flour mill. The mill was sold to Sterling Alderfer in the 1930s and then destroyed by a fire in the 1940s. It was rebuilt with the capabilities to produce foam rubber. This was one of 13 mills located on the Yellow Creek.	41.160395, -81.649418
7	Octagon Bee House	Built by Thomas Pierson in 1859, the unique structure houses honeybees and is truly one-of-a-kind.	41.157494, -81.637485

iv. Provide website/URL (if available) and local website/URL that manages byway.

http://www.bathtownship.org/

https://www.allthingsbath.com/heritage-corridors

v. Marketing contact information:

Heritage Corridors of Bath

3864 W. Bath Road

Akron, Ohio 44333

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: COMMUNITY PARTNERS, PUBLIC FORUMS, AND CRITICAL ISSUES

A. Ongoing Communication and Cooperation with Community Partners

Partnerships are vital to the implementation of the Heritage Corridors of Bath mission. Within the township, the Bath Business Association and the Bath Historical Society pursue goals in tandem with those of the committee.

Originally an outgrowth of a Heritage Corridors of Bath Committee focus group, the Bath Business Association has emerged as a respected and influential voice in the community. With their many contributions and sponsored events, they are a model of responsible stewardship in the hamlets. The Annual Wye Road Bridge Lighting Festival has become a popular venue for residents to celebrate the holiday season. And throughout the year, hamlet businesses take pride in their seasonal landscaping and decorations.

The Bath Historical Society manages the Bath Museum at the Historic Town Hall in Bath Center. In a buildup to Bath Township's bicentennial in 2018, they are hosting walking tours of the hamlets. A Bath Historical Society member and former Heritage Corridors of Bath Committee member Libby Bauman contributes a monthly installment, The Century Homes of Bath, to the Bath Country Journal. The well-researched articles and accompanying photographs of the township's early homes and settlers have stimulated interest and pride in Bath's heritage.

B. Public Meeting and Public Participation Opportunities

The Heritage Corridors of Bath meets on the second Wednesday in February, April, June, August and October. A Barn Social is held in the place of the September meeting and attend by 60-100 people each year. All meetings are publicized and open to the public.

C. Steps Taken to Update Byway Mission and Vision

The township’s Heritage Corridors of Bath spent considerable time reviewing their vision and mission when planning for the Wayside Exhibit, which was completed in 2016, and the Bicentennial Celebration in 2018.

New brochures for the Heritage Corridors of Bath were updated with information and published in 2016.

D. Narrative on Critical Issues and How They Will Be Addressed

There are no critical issues currently.

VIII. APPENDIX

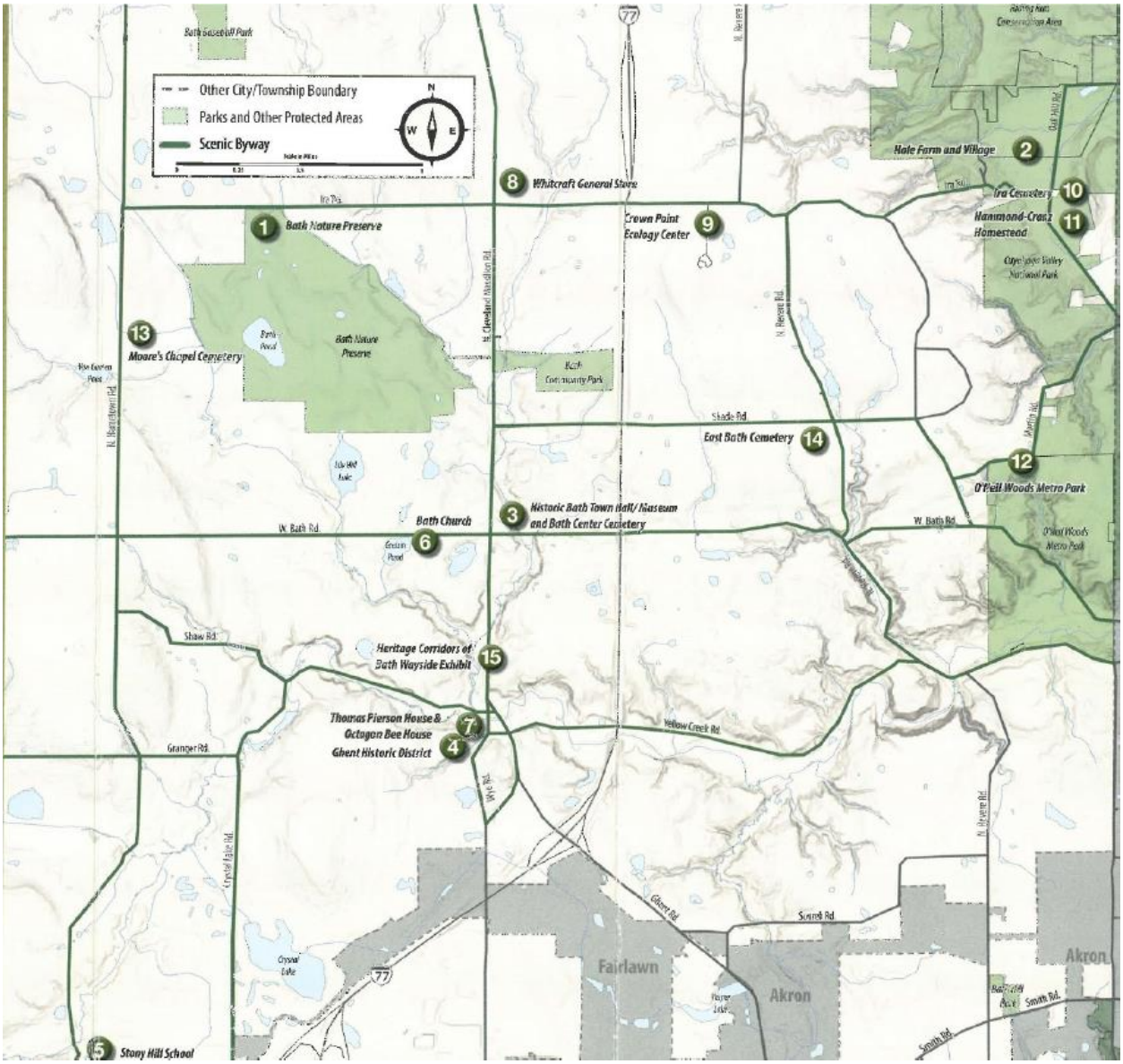
A. ***Ohio Byway sign inventory (Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet, GIS information formatted as latitude, longitude as per ODOT guidelines)***

See TIMS.

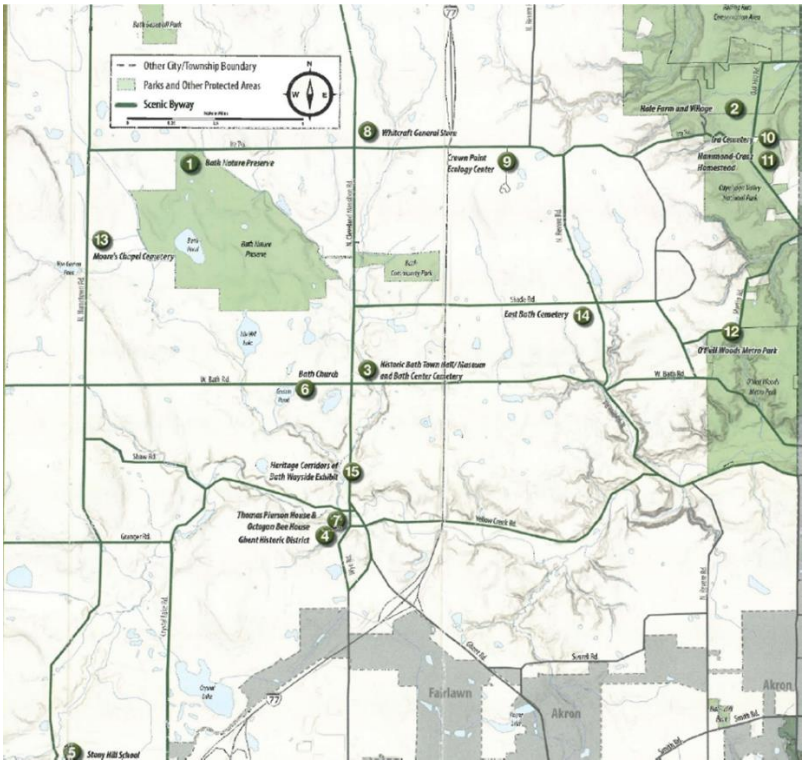
Interpretive Sign:

Name	Latitude	Longitude
Ghent Woolen Mill	41.1581690	-81.6385240

B. ***Most Current Byway Map***



C. ***Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations***





D. ***Byway Photographs- Include several images of your byway, at least one from each season.***


Bath
Township
Museum


MOORE'S
CHAPEL
CEMETERY

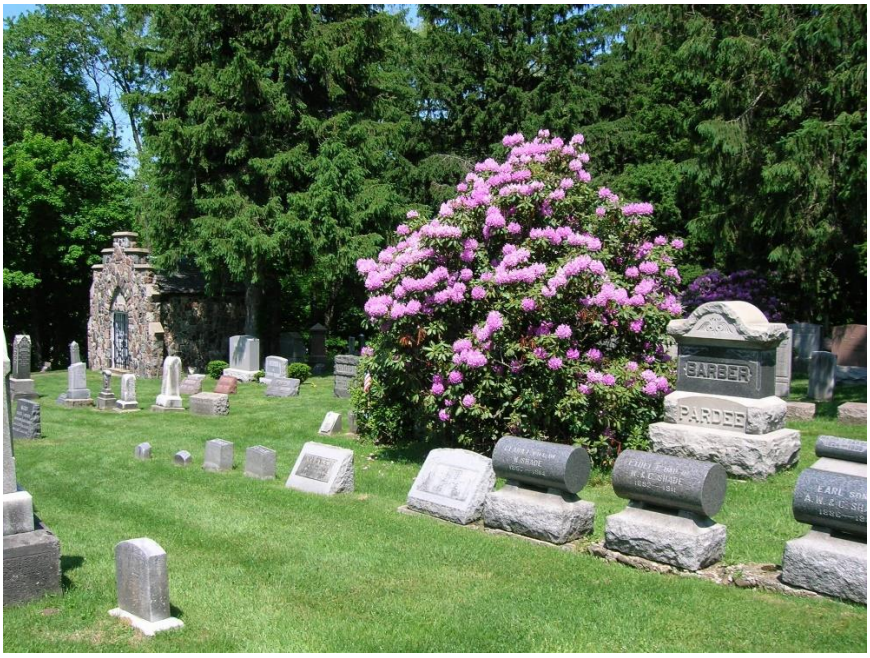


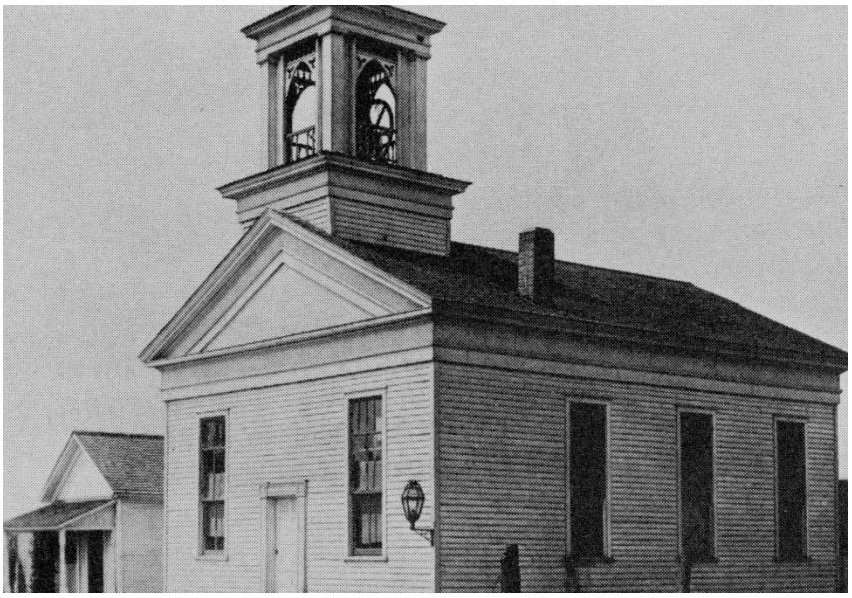




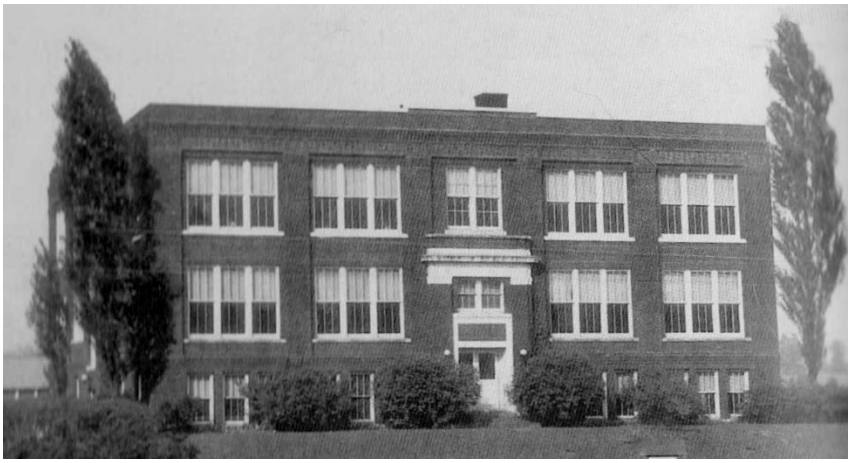





SARBER
PARDEE




KEEP
Bath

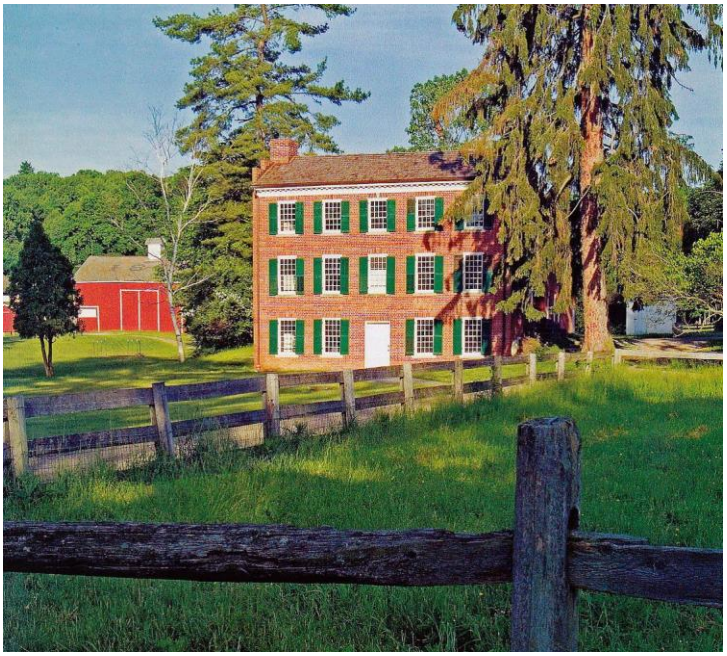










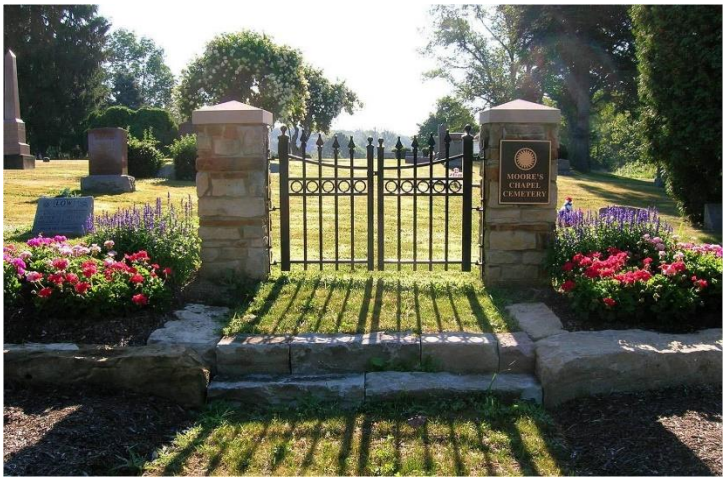


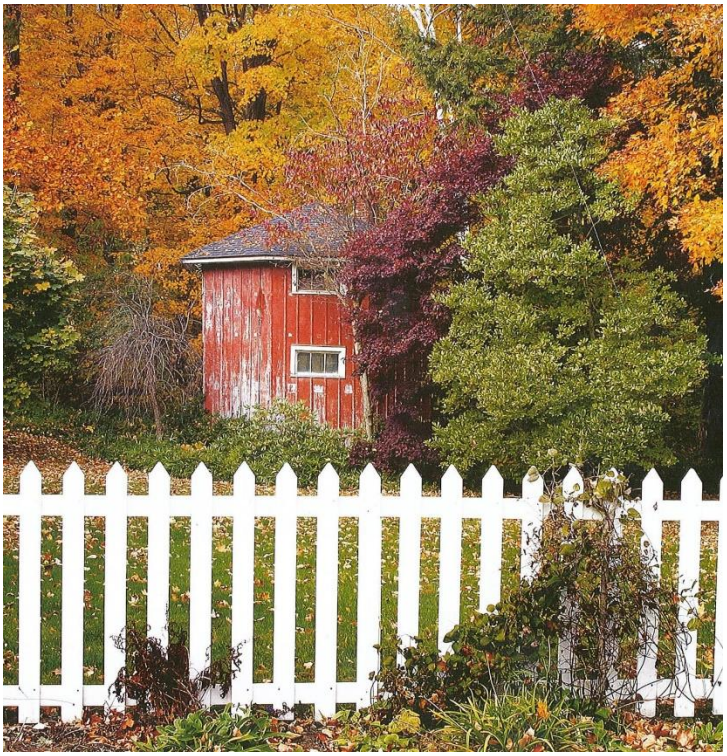

Ira
Cemetery






BATH TOWNSHIP
VETERANS
MEMORIAL


MOORE'S
CHAPEL
CEMETERY









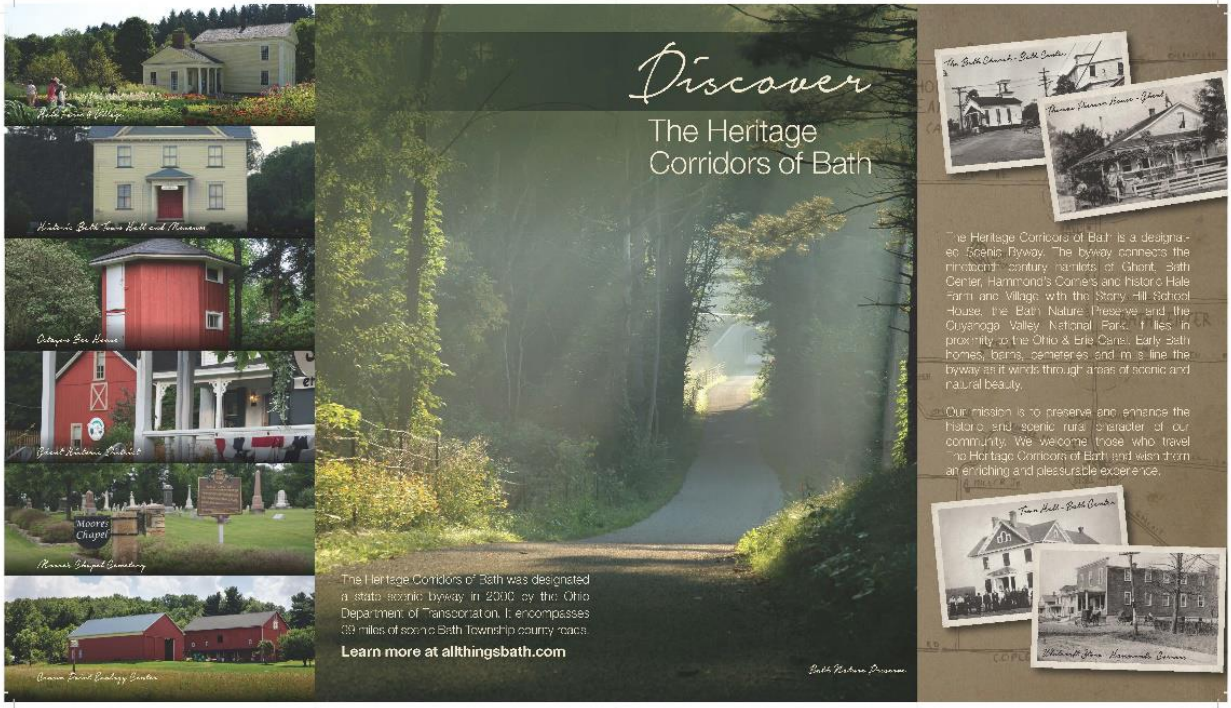

800
the
Bake
Shop
in Ghent





E. ***Marketing Materials- If applicable.***

RIGHT INSIDE FLAP | FOLD | BACK COVER | FOLD | FRONT COVER | FOLD | LEFT INSIDE FLAP



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1 Bath Nature Preserve

The 411 acres of the Bath Nature Preserve were originally part of the 1510 acre farm of Raymond C. Firestone. A 7,800 square foot manor house, barns, dog kennels, horse stables, riding ring, and 17 other residences complemented the estate. Bath Twp. purchased a portion of the farm in 1997. It includes wetlands, woodlands, riparian and old field habitats, plus trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding, thus ensuring the use and beauty of the property for generations.

2 Hale Farm and Village

An outdoor living history museum with more than ten historic homes and structures dating from 1825.

3 Historic Bath Town Hall/Museum and Bath Center Cemetery

The Town Hall was built in 1905 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It housed township administrative offices and served as a meeting hall for community organizations. The cemetery was purchased in 1817 and is adjacent to the Museum.

4 Ghent Historic District

Included in the National Register of Historic Places. Contains seven structures dating from the early 19th century in the Hamlet of Ghent.

5 Stony Hill School

This one room school house was built in 1892 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the only school house in Bath that remains in its original location and condition.

6 Bath Church

The original congregation of 1818 was a group of early settlers in the Western Reserve. They built a frame church in 1842 that was moved from its No. at Hammond's Corners to its current location on W. Bath Rd. The Historic Chapel is the original building constructed in 1842.

7 Thomas Pierson House and Octagon Bee House

The house was built in 1837 and the Octagon Bee House prior to 1850. The Bee House was the only one of its kind in the country at the time, built to house bees in the wintertime. In 1858-59 Thomas Pierson successfully wintered 13 swarm of bees.

8 Whitcraft General Store

The original store was destroyed by fire in Jun. 1912. The current structure was rebuilt and the General Store reopened in August 1912. Currently the home of Barth Andrew's Interior Design, the Andrew family are descendants of the Whitcrafts.

9 Crown Point Ecology Center

This property was originally owned by Jason Hammond in the early 1800s. Now Crown Point is a 115 acre working organic farm where harvest is donated to food banks and those in need. The Center offers workshops and camps and is open to the public.

10 Ira Cemetery

Recognized by the Ohio Historical Society, also known as the Hale, Hammond and Cranz Homestead Cemetery. Earliest burials include Mercy Piper Hale, 1829, wife of Jonathan Hale and Jason Hammond, 1830, Revolutionary War veteran.

11 Hammond-Cranz Homestead

Originally built in 1818 by Jason Hammond and expanded in 1836 by his son Lewis. William Cranz purchased the farm in 1863. Son Lagene Cranz farmed the land and promoted conservation. It is the oldest documented house in the township.

12 O'Neil Woods Metro Park

In the 1930s this 295 acre family farm was owned by the founder of General Tire, William F. O'Neil. It was used for gentleman farming, horseback riding and family gatherings. Fifty head of Herefords also grazed the land. In 1972, the family of William F. and Grace O'Neil donated the family farm to the Metro Parks.

13 Moore's Chapel Cemetery

Originally the Shaw Family Cemetery. Nathan Thorp, a Revolutionary War Veteran, was buried here in 1840.

14 East Bath Cemetery

This cemetery served families of German descent. A German Evangelical Church was once adjacent to the cemetery.

15 Heritage Corridors of Bath Wayside Exhibit

Learn more at allthingsbath.com

