

2020

Land of The Cross-Tipped Churches Corridor Management Plan (CMP)

Ohio Department of Transportation

Submitted ***March 2020***



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I. INTRODUCTION AND MAP

A. Byway Introduction

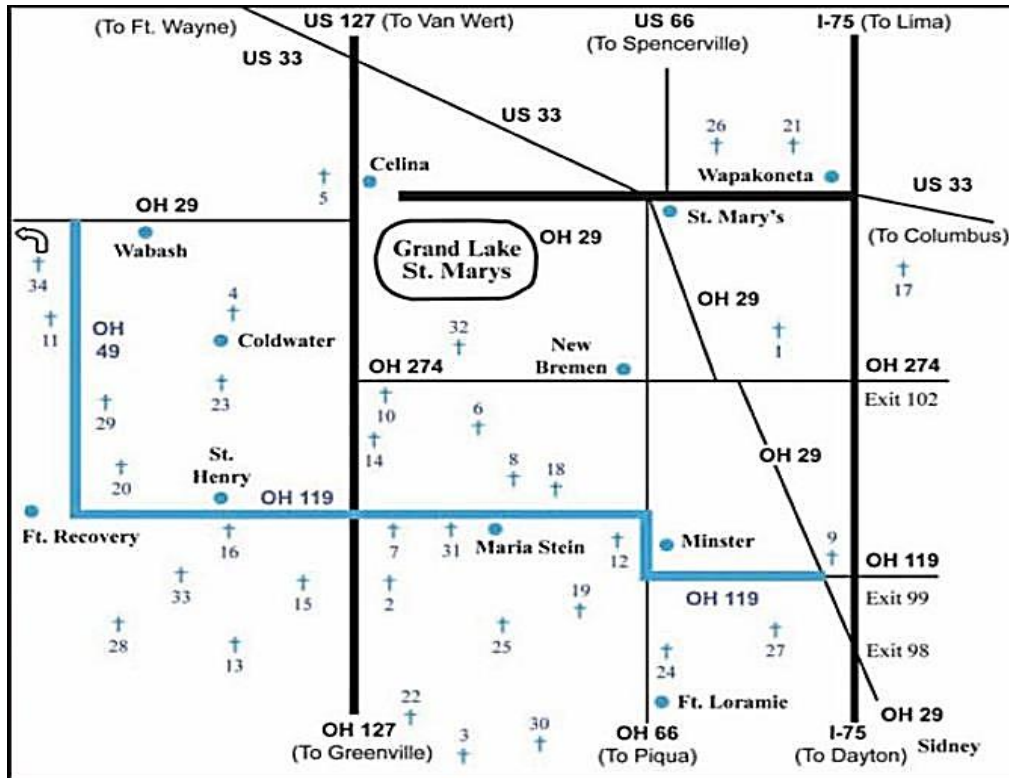
The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches State Byway is 38 miles of two-lane scenic roadways that traverse three counties in west central Ohio. The route runs through Shelby, Auglaize and Mercer Counties, Ohio with assets off the route in Darke County, Ohio and Adams County, Indiana. The route which was designated in 1998 is lined with majestic Catholic churches, many dating back to the late

1800's, that are the direct result of a vast immigration of German Catholics to this area in the early 1800's. These beautiful buildings represent the hard work and faith of this immigrant population that tamed a dense and almost impenetrable forest and transformed it into the neat and fertile farms and small towns that still line the route today.

The churches and the story of the people who built them provide a glimpse into a past rich with tradition that is still strong today. The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches Byway transcends the typical American driving experience, creating a compelling feeling of appreciation for the grandeur and architectural ornateness of the buildings dedicated to their faith among the strong, plain, neat homesteads where the descendants of the original immigrants still reside.

The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches Scenic Byway Route Description		
Route Number or Road Name	Termini	Distance in Miles
State Route 119	McCartyville to State Route 66 in Minster	6.5
State Route 66/State Route 119	Fourth Street in Minster to continuation of State Route 119 at Bensman Road	1
State Route 119	State Route 66 to State Route 49 in Fort Recovery	21.5
State Route 49	Fort Recovery to State Route 29	9.4
Byway Total		38.4

B. Byway Route Map



1. Botkins Elementary School and Immaculate Conception Rectory (1865) – 116 N Mill St
2. Gruenwal Convent – Cassella-Montezuma Rd
3. Holy Family Church (1866) – 14 E Wood St
4. Holy Trinity Church and Rectory (1899) – 116 E Main St
5. Immaculate Conception Church Complex (1903) – 229 W Anthony St
6. Precious Blood School and Rectory (1903) – 35 S Maple St
7. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church and Rectory (1858) – 6524 SR 119
8. National Marian Shrine of the Holy Relics (1892) and former convent (1900) – 2291 St Johns Rd
9. Sacred Heart of Jesus Rectory (1882) – 9333 SR 119
10. St. Aloysius Church (1877) – SR 274
11. St. Anthony Church (1869) – 471 St. Anthony Rd
12. St. Augustine Church (1849) – 48 N Hanover
13. St. Bernard Church and Rectory (1924) – 75 W Main St
14. St. Charles Seminary and Chapel (1906) – US Route 127
15. St. Francis Church and Rectory (1906) – 1509 Cranberry Rd
16. St. Henry Church (1897) – 272 E Main St
17. St. John Church and Parish Hall (1850) – Schemel and Van Buren Sts
18. St. John the Baptist Church and Rectory (1889) – 8533 SR 119
19. St. Joseph Church and Rectory (1887) – SR 364
20. St. Joseph Church and Rectory (1866) – 1689 St. Joseph Rd
21. St. Joseph Church and School (1911) – 101 W Pearl St
22. St. Louis Church and Rectory (1914) – 15 Star Rd
23. St. Mary Church and Rectory (1871) – 3821 Philothea Rd
24. St. Michael Church Complex (1881) – 33 Elm St
25. St. Nicholas Church and Rectory (1908) -128 Church St
26. St. Patrick Church (1884) – Glynwood Rd
27. St. Patrick Church Commemorative Plaque – Hoying and Wright-Puthoff Rds
28. St. Paul Church and Rectory (1888) – Sharpsburg Rd
29. St. Peter Church and Rectory (1904) – 1477 Philothea Rd
30. St. Remy Church (1946) – 108 E Main St
31. St. Rose Church Complex (1911) – 7428 SR 119
32. St. Sebastian Church and Rectory (1903) – 3280 County Rd 716A
33. St. Wendelin Church Complex (1870) – 2980 Ft. Recovery-Minster Rd
34. Trinity Church Complex (1885) – SR 67

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

A. Vision and Mission

Vision:

The byway's heritage will be readily identifiable, recognizable, and authentic, whether that heritage is found in towns, parks, or rural working landscapes.

The byway will be an inspiring and relaxing travel experience, highlighting the rural beauty and historic character of the corridor. The route will stay much the way it is today, largely rural interspersed by small towns. The roadway itself will continue to change over time while accommodating all modes of transportation and types of users within the corridor. The route will be attractive, safe and well-signed with plenty of pull-off opportunities at the many churches, so people can take their time and not feel rushed by traffic. Land use along the route may see more housing components but is expected to remain primarily farmland if not a part of the small communities that grace the byway.

The entire byway corridor will serve as an example for how American communities can remain authentic and present the best of history including working farms; historic areas, walkable and sustainable communities; pristine natural areas; and irreplaceable cultural/historical resources worthy of the next generation's protection and stewardship.

Mission:

The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches Byway Committee's mission is to find ways to share the sacred spaces along the byway and enhance the visitors experience by working with the individual parishes along the route. Through community-based consensus and partnerships, the program will promote economic prosperity and broaden the traveler's overall recreational and educational experience.

B. Accomplishments since last CMP

The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics has twice picked up the printing cost for the LCTC Brochures that are available in 30 information racks throughout the two-county area. The Greater Grand Lake Visitors Center has included the byway in a full-page promotion within their annual Visitors guide. That is distributed in the 30 local information racks, in all the ODOT TICs in Ohio, as well as at more than a dozen travel shows in the Midwest through the Ohio Travel Pavilion and shows attended by the local Greater Grand Lake Region Visitors Center.

There was a bicycle tour among the churches this summer to bring more awareness to the beauty of the byway. The "Steeplechase" bicycle tour would be held in conjunction with the St. Henry Community Picnic that included and ice cream social and speaker. There is hopes for another event like this.

In 2019, the Visitors Center was all about marketing the 50th anniversary of Neil Armstrong's first steps on the moon. In 2020, we hope to again focus on other assets in the area – including the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches and the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics.

C. Goals, Objectives, and Action Plans

Goal I: Promote the byway for marketing and promotion purposes.

Objective	Person/group responsible	Timeline	Action Plan	Funding
Promote Byway as a destination for leisure travelers.	Byway committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package area attractions to attract the group tour market. • Develop ways to better tell the story at each of the churches along the byway. – As information and new technology becomes available. 	N/A
Create a larger media presence with the community and visitors.	Byway Committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look to technology to help assist in sharing the history of those individual churches and parishes in a way that doesn't mar the beauty or local use and respect for the historic buildings. These opportunities are yet to be determined but could include On Cell Tours (a format used by the Relic Shrine), a tour app for smartphones, an audio tour triggered by a QR Code or technology currently unknown to us at this time. 	N/A
Identify niche interests that may be beneficial in attracting visitors to the byway—such as interest in architecture, the arts, canal history, Catholicism.	Byway Committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify group that would enjoy the niche interests that we will also promote in the byway—such as architecture, the arts, canal history.... etc. and create a marketing plan and/or special events to reach those various interests. 	N/A

Goal II: Create partnerships and engage with stakeholders.

Objective	Person/group responsible	Timeline	Action Plan	Funding
Engage potential partners that would complement our efforts to enhance	Byway committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with local groups such as local businesses, history organizations, etc. 	N/A

the visitors' experience.				
Create long-lasting business relationships	Byway committee	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore more opportunities to promote the byway as a destination for leisure travelers through online avenues and through campaigns with the Auglaize and Mercer Counties Convention & Visitors Bureau. Look for PR opportunities to keep the costs modest. • Work with the CVB, the Maria Stein Relic Shrine, The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, the St. Charles Center, Niekamp's Farm Market, The Bicycle Museum of America, The Armstrong Air & Space Museum and the Fort Recovery State Museum to develop a package that can be offered to group tour operators. 	N/A

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

A. Structure:

The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches State Byway Committee is made up of residents living along the byway as well as representatives of churches, communities and businesses located along the route. The record-keeping and continuation plan are in the hands of the Auglaize & Mercer Counties Convention and Visitors Bureau. The organization recognizes the importance of the byway and has the funding and paid personnel to make sure the necessary reports and projects move forward. The CVB Board is comprised of members representing both Auglaize & Mercer Counties so regardless of who fills the role of Executive Director, the importance of the byway is institutional. The organization holds meetings on a needed basis. There are always three to four to plan the annual Kreuzweg. One meeting is typically held in the spring while several others are held closer to the event.

Current committee members are:

President Karen Romer (Romer’s Catering and Entertainment Centers)

Vice President Don Rosenbeck (Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics)

Secretary-Treasurer Donna Grube (Auglaize & Mercer Counties CVB, Phone: 419-394-1294)

Mary Ann Olding (Old World Research Company)

Teresa Di Salvo (St. Charles Sr. Living Community)

Robin Goettemiller (Maria Stein Spiritual Center)

Shelly Hemmelgarn (Auglaize & Mercer Counties CVB)

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

The committee works in partnership with governmental entities and interested organizations in the area including, but not limited to:

ORGANIZATION	PHONE	EMAIL
Mercer County Commissioners	419-586-1699	commissioners@mercercountyohio.org
Auglaize County Commissioners	419-739-6710	
The Auglaize & Mercer Counties CVB	419-394-1294	info@seemore.org
The Village of Minster	419-628-3497	administration@minsteroh.com
The Village of Maria Stein	419-925-4764	mcdo@marioncommunities.com
The Village of St. Henry	419-678-4030	Sthenry_vil@yahoo.com
The Village of Fort Recovery	419-375-2530	
The St. Charles Center	937-228-9263	mission@cpps-preciousblood.org
The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics	419-925-4532	
Marion Township Trustees	419-925-4831 419-305-4485	mariontwp@bright.net

	419-305-1285	
	419-305-5240	
Gibson Township Trustee	419-375-4567	gibsonwp@gmail.com
	419-852-6485	
	419-375-4902	
	419-375-2408	
Recovery Township Trustees	419-375-4824	recoverytownship@bright.net
	419-375-2696	
	410-375-2921	
	419-375-5767	
Jefferson Township Trustees	419-953-9748	Jeffersontownship.mercercounty@gmail.com
	419-305-2399	
	419-586-4293	
	419-953-4368	
Franklin Township Trustees	419-268-2008	franklinclerk@bright.net
	419-268-2061	
	419-305-8525	
	419-268-2486	
Hopewell Township Trustees	419-586-4143	
	419-363-2867	
	419-910-1231	
	419-733-6070	
Center Township Trustees	419-795-1172	Center0785@gmail.com
	419-394-5343	
	419-305-1178	
	419-733-9803	
Washington Township Trustees	419-942-1104	
	419-942-1044	
	419-942-1039	
	419-942-1505	
Jackson Township Trustees	419-628-3497	info@minsterohio.com
Granville Township Trustees	419-763-1276	
	419-852-0117	
	419-303-4564	
	419-678-0309	
Mercer County Engineering Department	419-586-7759	engineer@mercercountyohio.org
Auglaize County Engineering Department	419-739-6520	doug@augcoeng.com
Celina/Mercer County Area Chamber of Commerce	419-586-2219	info@celinamercer.com
Sidney/Shelby County Chamber of Commerce and CVB	937-492-9122	

C. Primary and Secondary Byway Leader Contact Information

Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Donna Grube Executive Director of the Greater Grand Lakes VC Phone: 419-394-1294 Email: donna@greatergrandlakeregion.com	Don Rosengarten Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics Phone: 419-925-4532 Email: d.rosenbeck@mariasteinshrine.org

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

- Donna Grube, Secretary/Treasurer of the LCTC Byway Committee attended the annual byway conference in Marysville in the fall of 2015.
- Grube also attended the 2016 Byway Conference in Cadiz, Ohio
- Midwest Byway Conference near Richmond, Indiana in 2018 and played host to conference attendees with a tour of the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches during the conference.
- Attended one Ohio Byways meeting within the previously stated conference.

E. Byway Leadership Succession Plan

The Convention and Visitors Bureau has pledged leadership of the byway organization and that responsibility would transfer to a new director if the current director should leave the organization. Likewise, the leadership of the Maria Stein Relic Shrine also supports this path with additional help with the byway committee.

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

A. Road Conditions and Signage

Road conditions are good. State, county and township governmental entities are responsible for the maintenance of the roads in this byway.

i. Existing official ODOT byway signs.

See appendix.

ii. Local byway signs

See appendix.

iii. Interpretive signs.

See appendix.

iv. Future sign needs.

While the byway signs are, for the most part, located to easily assist drivers, there seems to be one missing westbound in the Village of Minster. State Route 119 turns north, but there is no sign to indicate that the byway also turns. A sign is needed at that turn where State Routes 119 and 66 merges to alert travelers they need to turn right at that junction.

B. List of Primary and Secondary Intrinsic Qualities/Resources

Primary Intrinsic Qualities	Secondary Intrinsic Quality	Site & Location (GPS when available)	Description
Historic	Cultural	Botkins Elementary School and Immaculate Conception Rectory (1865) (40.4693, -84.1824)	Many parishes in the region constructed rectories for their pastors in accordance with an archiepiscopal directive in the early twentieth century. Most of these houses are simple brick structures influenced by the style of the Sears Roebuck catalog of the day. The rectory at Botkins, Ohio, built before this directive, is significantly different: its architecture is an ornate Italianate. Its brick walls are built on a limestone foundation. This two-story house was the second rectory owned by the parish; its members bought and converted a house in 1875 before erecting the present structure in 1887 at a cost of \$3,000. The school was razed in 1985. Both buildings were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

Historic	Cultural	Gruenwald Convent (1854) (40.241, -84.333)	The Gruenwald Convent is a historic former Roman Catholic convent located near the small community of Cassella in Mercer County, Ohio. The convent was built in 1854. It is one of six convents that were built by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in this portion of Ohio and in adjacent portions of far eastern Indiana, and one of only two that remain without significant alterations. It was listed on the National Historic Register in 1979. It is currently a private residence.
Historic	Cultural	Holy Family Church (1866) (40.2460, -84.5240)	The present Holy Family Church, in Frenchtown, Ohio was completed in 1866 in the Gothic Revival style. Its gabled roof is topped with a bell tower; the walls are of brick painted white, and the building rests on a stone foundation without a basement. Most of the exterior remains little changed from its original format, although the entrance has been hidden by the addition of a small structure in 1964. The interior has been changed more substantially than the exterior, however still present are the original lancet windows of stained glass, each inscribed with the name of the individuals who paid for the window. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 and was accorded historic site status because of its well-preserved Gothic Revival architecture.
Historic	Cultural	Holy Trinity Church and Rectory (1899) (40.4799, -84.628)	Dedicated in October 1899, Holy Trinity, Coldwater Ohio, is of gothic design built of red pressed brick with blue Bedford stone trim. The interior has high and shapely peaked arches and clustered drop columns. The building includes two spires, one standing 85 feet and the other 145 feet tall. Through donations and volunteer efforts of the parishioners, additions and renovations continued over the years. The church saw the addition of exquisite stain glass windows in 1907 and in 1913 the parish built a two story, eight room parochial school and a convent for the Sisters teaching in the school. Electric lights were introduced in church in 1917, and a new pipe organ in 1918 and in the late 1960's and in 1969 additions to the east and west sides of the church were added. The rectory was built in 1905. The church and the parish rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	Immaculate Conception Church Complex (1903) (40.5520, -84.5729)	Founded later than many other Catholic parishes in the heavily Catholic region of western Ohio, the Immaculate Conception Church and parish buildings in Celina, Ohio were built in the early 20th century. The church was built in the Romanesque Revival style just 43 years after the first Catholic moved into the city: it has been called northwestern Ohio's grandest church building. It is a large brick building constructed in the shape of a Greek cross; it was designed by Andrew DeCurtins of Lima. It is centered on a large bronze dome. Worshippers may enter the building through its eastern end; the facade is pierced by three large doorways and a massive rose window. Capping the facade are two square towers; each one includes an octagonal belfry and is topped with a smaller

			bronze dome. Inside, the church is heavily decorated; many of the walls feature paintings, and the altar is distinctly Romanesque in its style. The entire building rests on a stone foundation with a basement. Because of the well-preserved and historically significant architecture of its buildings, the Church and education complex were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	National Marian Shrine of the Holy Relics (1892) and Former Convent (1900) (40.4159, -84.4754)	The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics was founded in 1875 when Father J.M. Gartner entrusted his collection of relics to the Sisters at Maria Stein, Ohio. Housed in a beautiful chapel built in 1892, the collection, with over 1000 relics on display, is the second largest collection of its type in the United States (after St. Anthony's Chapel in Pittsburg). The Shrine was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The primary display of relics is in an altar that was hand-carved especially for this purpose. Four beautiful stained-glass windows imported from Munich, Germany and hand-carved woodwork also adorn the Relic Chapel. The Heritage Museum, located on the second floor, is designed to interpret the early settlement of southern Auglaize and Mercer counties in Ohio. Settlers to this area were largely of German descent and of the Roman Catholic faith. The displays in the museum reflect their way of life in the mid to late nineteenth century. Special attention is given to the history of the Sisters of the Precious Blood and their contribution to the cultural development of these early pioneers.
Historical	Cultural	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church and Rectory (1862) (40.4069, -84.5505)	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church building, in Casella, Ohio, is a rectangular single-story structure, three bays wide on the front and four bays long on the sides. Built on a stone foundation with a basement, the walls are of brick covered with stone, and the building is covered with a gabled roof. Begun in 1858, the church was consecrated in August 1862. The High Gothic Revival church was greatly modified after an 1888 fire that nearly destroyed the original structure: only the original walls survived, badly burnt, but the interior was destroyed. Although the church was soon rebuilt at a cost of \$16,000, the exterior displayed signs of fire for many years; only in 1915 was the damage hidden, as travelling German craftsmen covered it with the cut stone exterior that remains in place today. Dominating the church's facade is a square tower at the front; topped with a cupola above an arch-shaped tracery window, it is decorated with ornamental columns. Worshippers enter the church through a large doorway in the tower's base. This tower was a later addition to the church: when it was first built, it was a small simple structure. The inclusion of a tall tower, completed in 1877, was revolutionary in the region — later churches were built with such towers, and many existing churches (including Nativity) were modified by the addition of a tall tower. In 1979 the church and rectory were listed together on the National

			Register of Historic Places because of their well-preserved historic architecture
Historic	Cultural	Precious Blood school and Rectory (1903) (40.4358, -84.4929)	<p>The Precious Blood School in Chickasaw, Ohio, is a two-story brick structure that is supported by a foundation of ashlar. Built in the Italianate style by the DeCurtins brothers, it features a central square bell tower that rises above the rest of the building.</p> <p>Individuals enter the building through double doors that are topped by an elliptical fanlight. The parish school closed in the late 1950's and the building were sold to a local organization of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Like the school, the Precious Blood Rectory is a square two-story brick structure built on an ashlar foundation. Featuring more of a vernacular style of architecture, the house is topped with a hip roof that is pierced by dormer windows on all four sides. Its front door is surrounded by a veranda built with wooden columns and surrounded with a railing. In 1979, the rectory and the former school were listed on the National Register of Historic Places, deemed historic because of their well-preserved architecture and their contributions to Ohio's history.</p>
Historic	Cultural	Sacred Heart of Jesus Rectory (1911) (40.3950, -84.2542)	<p>The rectory at Sacred Heart church in McCartyville, Ohio, is like many other rectories in the region and lies immediately west of the church. Built in 1911, it is a square-shaped building with three bays on each side that rests upon a foundation of cut stone with a concrete water table and a basement. Among its distinctive architectural features are a prominent cornice, large lug sills and lintels around the windows, and sidelights on both sides of the main entrance. Dominating the facade is a massive verandah-style porch with heavy brick pillars and a brick railing. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 because of its historically significant architecture.</p>
Historic	Cultural	St. Aloysius Church (1877) (40.4365, -84.5700)	<p>St. Aloysius Church in Carthagena, Ohio, is a Gothic Revival structure, five bays long and three bays wide, and officially one story high. Built of brick, laid in a stretcher bond, the walls rest on a foundation of stone rubble which includes a basement. A gabled roof covers the rectangular church, which measures 85 feet long and 45 feet wide. One of the church's most prominent architectural elements is its tower: equipped with a white-painted wooden belfry and a tall spire, the tower rests on its own walls, 2 feet thick. The entire building cost approximately \$7,500 to erect. Inside the church's sanctuary includes elements such as white-painted altars and multiple sizes of pews: large pews for adults, and miniature pews for children. The interior is lit partially by many large stained-glass windows; added more than 25 years after the church was completed, these windows were purchased by individual families within the parish. Few elements of the church are original from the 1870s. The middle of 1905 saw the completion of a wide range of alterations, including the removal of the original interior, the addition of a sacristy, the placement of the present stained-glass</p>

			windows, and the expansion of the sanctuary. The church was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Anthony Church (1879) (40.5089, -84.7850)	Construction began on the present St. Anthony Church building in St. Anthony, Ohio, in 1873 when workers began to bring stone from New Bremen for the church's foundation, while others began to make bricks at the site of the future church. Local architect Anton DeCurtins designed the new structure, which was built by a Mr. Van Oss of Minster; under their leadership, construction was completed in 1875, and the building was finished in 1879. The single-story church was erected atop a basement; its walls were faced with a stretcher bond, and the gabled roof was finished with slates. Among its most distinctive elements are the square pilasters on each corner of the building's facade. Inside, many of the walls of the sanctuary were decorated with frescoes, and it was lit by stained glass windows donated by members of the congregation. The sanctuary was further enriched by the installation of a large high altar in 1880 and a pipe organ in 1900. The church was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Augustine Church (1849) (40.3944, -84.3801)	The Neoclassical, Gothic Revival-style S. Augustine Church in Minster, Ohio, was constructed in 1848. In 1874, the building was modified as the original single spire was removed, and twin Gothic spires designed by Anton Goehr were added. The eight, black faced tower clocks with gilded numerals were installed in 1897. Renovations that began in 1900 on the interior saw changed that created the current half barrel ceiling adorned with seven beautiful paintings by Chicago painter Joseph Vittur. The church was listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Bernard Church and Rectory (1924) (40.218, -84.3845)	Construction on the current St. Bernard Church building in Burkettsville, Ohio, began in 1915 but was halted due to the beginning of World War I. Construction resumed in 1922 and was completed in 1924. It is Romanesque style with twin domes, an open belfry and elaborate round stone arches over the doors and windows. The brick is buff colored with a red tile roof and has beautiful stained-glass windows. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Charles Seminary and Chapel (1906) (40.2611, -84.312)	The Saint Charles Center, resting on 500 acres in Carthage, Ohio, is the central house for the Cincinnati Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. This apostolic community of priests and brothers was founded on August 15, 1815, by St. Gaspar del Bufalo, in Rome, Italy, and began missionary service in the United States in 1844. Several hundred acres with school buildings were purchased in 1861 by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood to provide for a seminary for Precious Blood priests and brothers. The main building was completed in 1922. The beautiful Romanesque chapel was built in 1906 and subsequently remodeled, is attached to the center rear of the building. The seminary closed in 1969 and

			the building was named St. Charles Center, primarily a home for active and retired priests and brothers. In 2006, the main building was renovated into independent apartments for people age 55 and above, religious and laity, and is now known as the Saint Charles Senior Living Community. St. Charles Seminary was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Francis Church and Rectory (1906) (40.3928, -84.5816)	The present St. Francis Church building in Cranberry Prairie was constructed in 1906 and is a brick building with a slate roof in the gothic style with a 112-foot tower. Artistic windows were donated by different families of the parish and include a large window showing St. Francis of Assisi sitting among a large gathering of woodland creatures. The walls of the church were frescoed in 1908. The rectory was built in 1911 at a cost of \$7,000. The church and rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Henry Church (1897) (40.4173, -84.6374)	Construction on the current St. Henry church structure in St. Henry, Ohio, began in 1895 and while much of the construction work was performed by parishioners, the design was the responsibility of architect J. Anton Decurtins. Finished in 1897, at a cost of approximately \$100,000, an estimate in the early twentieth century pronounced the church the costliest in northwestern Ohio. The church is a Gothic Revival structure, built in the shape of a Latin cross. Its exterior consists of brick walls and a gabled roof, upheld by a stone foundation. The most prominent aspect of its exterior is a massive belfry and clock tower, approximately 200 feet tall. Large rose windows illuminate the interior, which features painted and frescoed walls; the distance from the floor to the apex of the ceiling vault is 62 feet. A major renovation project in the 1970s led to significant changes in the sanctuary, including the removal of statues and its High Gothic altar. It was listed on National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. John Church and Parish Hall (1850) (40.3057, -84.854)	Construction of the St. John church building in Fryburg, Ohio, was completed in 1850. A Catholic school in connection with the church was established in 1877. Both buildings feature fine architecture: the church includes Gothic Revival elements such as ornate pilasters and lancet windows, while the former school is a good example of Federal architecture. St. John Church retains its historic brick and stucco exterior, and its frescoed ceiling has been recognized as a leading aspect of its architecture. Throughout the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, there is only one church older than St. John's that survives without significant structural changes. St. John's and its parish hall were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

Historic	Cultural	St. John the Baptist Church and Rectory (1888) (40.4077, -84.4733)	The current St. John the Baptist Church in Maria Stein, Ohio, was completed in 1888 at a cost of \$40,145. Its architecture features a massive tower that was designed to house four tower clocks. Large amounts of sandstone are used to trim the corners of the brick church, which can be entered through three doors at the base of the tower. The church is built on a stone foundation and is topped with a gabled roof. Many rounded lancet windows of stained glass illuminate the interior; among the most prominent of its windows are those of the sacristy, which feature deep blue stained glass. The church's heavily decorated interior includes elaborate altars and a reredos built in the Romanesque Revival style. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Joseph Church and Rectory (1887) (40.3848, -84.4341)	The current St. Joseph Church building in Egypt, Ohio was erected in 1887 at a cost of \$5,000, according to a design by Anton Goehr. This building's walls are built of brick, supported by a stone foundation with a basement and topped with a gabled roof. Its floor plan is the shape of a Latin cross, three bays wide and six bays long, and the entire building reflects the Gothic Revival style of architecture. Inside, the church is ornamented with frescoes on the walls and a heavily decorated ceiling, and the altars are built in a revivalist form of the Gothic style. Worshippers enter the church through an arched doorway in the base of the tower. Goehr's design remained little changed until 1927, when the church was modified by the addition of a tower and a sacristy. Although the sacristy remains in place, the tower was further modified in the 1940s by the replacement of its spire with a small domed belfry. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Joseph Church and Rectory (1861) (40.2541, -84.4419)	The present St. Joseph Church in St. Joe, Ohio was constructed in 1861. The tall bell tower and new entrance were added to the front of the brick structure in 1902. One unique interior feature that remains is a pulpit which displays statues of the four evangelists—Mark, John Luke and Matthew. The stained-glass windows, which depict the life of St. Joseph, were installed in 1920. The church was redecorated in 1999 restoring some of the original paintings and adding decorative painting to match that found in old photographs from the early years of the church. The rectory was built in 1906. The church and rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Joseph Church and School (1911) (40.5677, -84.1951)	Construction the St. Joseph Church in Wapakoneta, Ohio, began under the direction of the DeCurtins family in 1910, and it was dedicated on October 8, 1911. The Romanesque Revival brick building is supported by a stone foundation, the church includes architectural features such as two towers and a large rose window at the front, underneath which worshippers may enter the building through several large arched doors. In 1853, the church purchased

			a frame building adjacent to its property and quickly opened a parish elementary school inside. Continued growth necessitated its replacement by a newer building in 1899; this structure is still standing. With features such as towers and turrets, St. Joseph's School is one of the most architecturally prominent Catholic schools in the region. The church and school were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Louis Church and Rectory (1914) (40.3245, -84.5701)	St. Louis Church in North Star, Ohio, is a rectangular single-story structure with multiple gables and an off-center square bell tower. Walls of white-painted stucco rest on a concrete foundation. The interior is lit by windows of many shapes and sizes: a rose window is located above the entrance, wide stained-glass windows topped with rounded arches line the walls, and narrow rectangular windows appear in the tower. While the church reflects a range of architectural styles, many of its elements, such as the cornices on the bell tower, bear evidence of the French Renaissance style. No other Catholic church in the region resembles St. Louis' Church; the ecclesiastical architecture of the region typically employs the Gothic Revival style. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Mary's Church and Rectory (1871) (40.4508, -84.6550)	The St. Mary's Church building in Philothea, Ohio, was dedicated in June of 1871. It represents a transitional phase with characteristics of Greek Revival style along with elements of the early Romanesque Revival style. The stained-glass windows, marble baptistery and pipe organ were added in 1890. The Reverend Paulinus Trost C.P.P.S. painted the striking picture of Our Lady, Queen of the Rosary on the ceiling. The rectory was built in 1905, unusual for the area as it was made of wood instead of brick. The rectory was sold for \$1 and was moved about a quarter mile to the east of the church. It has been restored and is currently a private residence. The church was faced with the buffed yellow bricks during a major remodel in 1923 when the large steeple and new entrance were also added. In 1943 a Grotto was built to honor the men of the parish who served our country. Each family of the parish donated large rocks and boulders for the construction of the large Grotto located on the west side of the church. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Michael Church Complex (1881) (40.3510, -84.3716)	The present St. Michaels Church building in Fort Loramie, Ohio, was dedicated in October of 1881. The gothic style, red brick structure trimmed with sandstone was designed by the Cleveland based architectural firm Cudell and Richardson in the style of Cleveland's St. Joseph's Catholic Cathedral. Anton Gohr supervised the construction with parishioners providing much of the raw materials. More than 1 million bricks were made for the structure with its 200-foot-tall tower. An interesting note, the previous church used by the parish related to the newly constructed building

			and serves as a chapel located on the northeast corner of the building. The statues of St. Michael, St. Martin and St. Maurice were added to the front façade in 1891. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Nicholas Church and Rectory (1908) (40.3403, -84.4925)	Dedication of the present brick St. Nicolas Church in Osgood, Ohio, took place in 1908. The building was constructed at a cost of \$22,000. The church rests upon a stone foundation with a basement, the brick walls, trimmed with stone, are laid in a stretcher bond. Its plan is primarily that of a rectangle, but gables on each side have the effect of forming a slight transept. The church's dominant feature is its octagonal steeple, located atop a tower at the entrance. Equipped with a belfry and ornamented with corbelling, the tower is topped with a golden cross. Worshippers enter the church through a vestibule and proceed through the base of the tower; until the addition with the vestibule was built in 1970, the church's exterior doors were a part of the tower. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Patrick Church (1884) (40.5831, -84.3176)	The parish now known as St. Patrick was founded as St. Thomas Church in the community of Six Mile in 1857. While most Catholic churches established in Auglaize and Mercer counties during this time were primarily German, St. Thomas' was established by Irish settlers. The cornerstone for the Gothic Revival style church in the community now known as Glynwood, was laid in 1883. In this same year, the parish was rededicated for Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland; the cemetery retained its former name. The church was listed in the National Register of historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Patrick Church and Rectory (1915) (40.2213, -84.1719)	The church and rectory in the small community of St. Patrick, Ohio, were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. St. Patrick's Parish closed in the late 90's and the church has been destroyed. A small memorial occupies the site of the church, while the rectory building remains.
Historic	Cultural	St. Paul Church and rectory (1888) (40.3675, -84.7115)	The present St. Paul's Church building in Sharpsburg, Ohio, was designed by DeCurtins and constructed in 1888 after the previous building was destroyed by fire in 1886 after being struck by lightning. The red brick, gothic style building includes a 125-foot square tower. The interior was frescoed in 1902 and in 1916 stained glass windows depicting the life of St. Paul were added. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Peter Church and Rectory (1904) (40.23, -84.4448)	St. Peter Church, located near Fort Recovery Ohio, is an excellent example of American High Victorian Gothic Revival style. It is composed of dark red brick with smooth and rusticated stone used in the decorative elements. Designed by the Mercer County based architects the DeCurtins Brothers, the interior is highlighted by

			pointed arches and vaults in the ceiling. The richly hued stained-glass windows were produced by the firm Fredrich Wolfrum of Vienna, Austria. These are the only known windows from this European-based company in Mercer County. The original taller, slender spire from 1904 was replaced in 1968 with a lower, pyramidal roof. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Remy Church (1890) (40.2338, -84.4083)	Constructed in 1890, St. Remy's Church, located in Russia, Ohio, is built primarily in the Romanesque Revival style of architecture, but its tower displays the Gothic Revival style. In the early 20th century, it was rated as one of the most beautiful churches in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and one of its purest examples of Romanesque Revival architecture. The structure rests on a stone foundation with a basement. Sandblasted brick walls, which rise to multiple gables, are topped with a slate roof. The interior is lit by many stained-glass windows along both sides. In 1954 and 1976, the church was extensively modified: a vestibule was added to the front, blocking the original facade, and the original altars and statues were destroyed or heavily modified.
Historic	Cultural	St. Rose Church Complex (1911) (40.4074, -84.5150)	St. Rose Church, in St. Rose, Ohio, is a High Gothic Revival structure, three bays wide on the front and five bays long on the sides. Built in the shape of a Latin cross, the church is a single-story brick building; it rests on a foundation of blue Bedford limestone with a basement and is covered with a gabled roof. Among its leading architectural elements is its octagonal steeple, topped with a louvered belfry. The two corners of the facade feature tall, thin windows and are topped with miniature square towers. Inside, the sanctuary is decorated with multiple white reredos and many statues; the interior is illuminated by light from lancet windows, one of each which is found in each of the side bays. Throughout the building, the architectural elements include high pointed arches. The church, school and rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
Historic	Cultural	St. Sebastian Church and Rectory (1904) (40.4447, -84.5170)	The present St. Sebastian Church in St. Sebastian, Ohio, was constructed in 1904 after a fire destroyed their previous church building. Andrew DeCurtins was chosen as the architect for the new structure; he employed stone for the foundation, pressed brick (laid in a stretcher bond) for the walls, and slates for the roof. The entire building is a very tall structure; its vertical features are highlighted by elements such as the sandstone trim on the buttresses. Although the building is only one story high, it includes a tall steeple with a belfry and topped with a four-sided spire. Worshippers enter the building through a doorway in the tower's base; the transom features tracery crowned with sandstone. Its most impressive feature is a vaulted ceiling decorated with multiple High Gothic Revival reredos. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

Historic	Cultural	St. Wendelin Church Complex (1870) (40.3990, -84.6899)	The current St. Wendelin Church building, in Wendelin, Ohio, was completed in 1870. Designed by Anton Goehr, it is rectangular and has a rectangular tower. To save on costs parishioners made, burned and limed the bricks by hand. The stained-glass windows were donated by different families in the parish. The rectory was built in 1905. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.
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C. Changes in Intrinsic Qualities/Resources since last CMP

None to report.

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

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, PRESERVATION, WAYFINDING/SIGNAGE

A. Interpretation since Designation

Travelers visiting the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches Byway should experience the conflicting feelings of peaceful tranquility and awe. The neat farms and home, the orderliness of the small communities and the well-kept lawns, tended gardens and vast farm fields gives the visitor a sense of calm while the towering churches that line the route seem to be out of place in their grandeur. This juxtaposition of the simple and grand makes the visitor experience one of anticipation and discovery. The small communities along the route also offer home-style eateries, quaint shops and obvious community pride where friendly folks are helpful and glad to answer questions about the area.

B. Byway Story

The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches State Byway is 38 miles of two-lane scenic roadways that traverse three counties in west central Ohio. The route runs through Shelby, Auglaize and Mercer Counties, Ohio with assets off the route in Darke County, Ohio and Adams County, Indiana. The route which was designated in 1998 is lined with majestic Catholic churches, many dating back to the late 1800's, that are the direct result of a vast immigration of German Catholics to this area in the early 1800's. These beautiful buildings represent the hard work and faith of this immigrant population that tamed a dense and almost impenetrable forest and transformed it into the neat and fertile farms and small towns that still line the route today.

The churches and the story of the people who built them provide a glimpse into a past rich with tradition that is still strong today. The Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches Byway transcends the typical American driving experience, creating a compelling feeling of appreciation for the grandeur and architectural ornateness of the buildings dedicated to their faith among the strong, plain, neat homesteads where the descendants of the original immigrants still reside.

C. Future Interpretation

The Committee has not come up with new ways to tell the story of the German Catholics who settled the area and built all those beautiful churches other than to work on new ways to emphasize the recently redesigned Heritage Museum at the Maria Stein Relic Shrine. The second-floor museum, handicap accessible with elevator access, highlights the history of the region and the importance that the settler's faith played in the area's development. There is no charge to tour the museum.

D. Plans for Improving Visitor Experience

Expanding information on area restaurants, shopping and other local amenities is an effort being made to improve the visitor's experience. These brochures would be made available at locations along the byway.

E. Preservation

Since the intrinsic qualities of this byway are church and religious buildings their preservation is dependent on the parishes and the people who attend these churches. Since most of these buildings are more than 100 years old there are always preservation efforts taking place in these buildings.

VI. MARKETING: PROMOTION, FEATURED ATTRACTONS AND FUTURE PLANS

A. Current and Future Planned Marketing Activities

The Marketing of the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches State Byway is primarily the responsibility of the Auglaize & Mercer Counties Convention & Visitors Bureau. (CVB) The CVB promotes the byway with a full-page map and listing of the churches along the route in their annual printed visitors guide. They also feature it on the Bureau’s website. The CVB promotes the area to group tour operators. Bureau employees plan tour itineraries and serve as step on guides for the tours visiting the churches and other religious sites along the route. The byway is promoted in featured print advertising by the bureau and is also promoted at the many travel shows they attend throughout the year. The CVB’s budget falls in the \$150,000 to \$175,000 range. About 10% of the budget is used to promote the byway in our various activities throughout the year. The work of the CVB is aided by promotions by the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics, the Maria Stein Spiritual Center and the St. Charles Center. These organizations work together to cross promote each other and the byway. To promote even further, an aesthetically improved LTCT Map was created last year for print projects. The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics printed a new, redesigned brochure for visitors. They share those with the Visitors Center which fills more than 30 information racks in the two-county area. The Auglaize and Mercer Counties Convention and Visitors Bureau has a full page in their annual, magazine size, visitors guide. They also organize and narrate bus tours of the byway and sell it to bus tour operators through the group “Ohio Has It!” The byway and its assets are also featured on the CVB’s website.

B. Recommended Products or Attachments for Media and Public Relations

i. Short description of byway for use in publications.

Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches Byway is lined with majestic Catholic churches, many dating back to the late 1800s. The direct result of a vast immigration of German Catholics in the early 1800s, they represent the hard work and faith of these immigrants that tamed a dense forest into the neat and fertile farms and small towns that line the route today.

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
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1	Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics	<p>Story: The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics was founded in 1875 when Father J.M. Gartner entrusted his collection of relics to the Sisters at Maria Stein, Ohio. Housed in a beautiful chapel built in 1892, the collection, with over 1000 relics on display, is the second largest collection of its type in the United States (after St. Anthony's Chapel in Pittsburg). The Shrine was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The primary display of relics is in an altar that was hand-carved especially for this purpose. Four beautiful stained-glass windows imported from Munich, Germany and hand-carved woodwork also adorn the Relic Chapel.</p>	40.415991, -84.475452
2	St. Charles Seminary and Chapel	<p>The Saint Charles Center, resting on 500 acres in Carthagena, Ohio, is the central house for the Cincinnati Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. This apostolic community of priests and brothers was founded on August 15, 1815, by St. Gaspar del Bufalo, in Rome, Italy, and began missionary service in the United States in 1844. Several hundred acres with school buildings were purchased in 1861 by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood to provide for a seminary for Precious Blood priests and brothers. The main building was completed in 1922. The beautiful Romanesque chapel was built in 1906 and subsequently remodeled, is attached to the center rear of the building. The seminary closed in 1969 and the building was named St. Charles Center, primarily a home for active and retired priests and brothers. In 2006, the main building was renovated into independent apartments for people age 55 and above, religious and laity, and is now known as the Saint Charles Senior Living Community. St. Charles Seminary was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.</p>	40.2557, -84.3348
3	St. Augustine Church	<p>This parish was the first one founded in the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches and as such is the "Mother" church for all those that followed. The Neoclassical, Gothic Revival-style St. Augustine Church in Minster, Ohio, was constructed in 1848. In 1874, the building was modified as the original single spire was removed, and twin Gothic spires designed by Anton Goehr were added. The eight, black faced tower clocks with gilded numerals were installed in 1897. Renovations that began in 1900 on the interior saw changed that created the current half barrel ceiling adorned with seven beautiful paintings by Chicago painter Joseph Vittur. The church was listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.</p>	40.394460, -84.380165

4	Immaculate Conception Church Complex	<p>Founded later than many other Catholic parishes in the heavily Catholic region of western Ohio, the Immaculate Conception Church and parish buildings in Celina, Ohio were built in the early 20th century. The church was built in the Romanesque Revival style just 43 years after the first Catholic moved into the city: it has been called northwestern Ohio's grandest church building. It is a large brick building constructed in the shape of a Greek cross; it was designed by Andrew DeCurtins of Lima. It is centered on a large bronze dome. Worshippers may enter the building through its eastern end; the facade is pierced by three large doorways and a massive rose window. Capping the facade are two square towers; each one includes an octagonal belfry and is topped with a smaller bronze dome. Inside, the church is heavily decorated; many of the walls feature paintings, and the altar is distinctly Romanesque in its style. The entire building rests on a stone foundation with a basement. Because of the well-preserved and historically significant architecture of its buildings, the Church and education complex were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.</p>	40.552071, -84.572939
5	St. Joseph Church and Rectory	<p>The present St. Joseph Church in St. Joe, Ohio was constructed in 1861. The tall bell tower and new entrance were added to the front of the brick structure in 1902. One unique interior feature that remains is a pulpit which displays statues of the four evangelists—Mark, John Luke and Matthew. The stained-glass windows, which depict the life of St. Joseph, were installed in 1920. The church was redecorated in 1999 restoring some of the original paintings and adding decorative painting to match that found in old photographs from the early years of the church. The rectory was built in 1906. The church and rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.</p>	40.428056, -84.738611
6	St. Michael Church Complex	<p>The present St. Michaels Church building in Fort Loramie, Ohio, was dedicated in October of 1881. The gothic style, red brick structure trimmed with sandstone was designed by the Cleveland-based architectural firm Cudell and Richardson in the style of Cleveland's St. Joseph's Catholic Cathedral. Anton Goehr supervised the construction with parishioners providing much of the raw materials. More than 1 million bricks were made for the structure with its 200-foot-tall tower. An interesting note, the previous church used by the parish related to the newly constructed building and serves as a chapel located on the northeast corner of the building. The statues of St. Michael, St. Martin and St. Maurice were added to the front façade in 1891. The church and its rectory were listed together on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.</p>	40.351013, -84.371681

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

<http://www.seemore.org/where-to-play/land-of-the-cross-tipped-churches/>

v. Marketing contact information:

info@greatergrandlakeregion.com

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

A. Ongoing Communication and Cooperation with Community Partners

The public has participated in many ways along the Land of the Cross-Tipped Churches to support the State Byway and the goals expressed in this document by the committee.

Each church has several volunteers “on call” to provide information and speak about the history of their parish for tour groups. Parishes also provide members as tour guides and hosts for the annual Kreuzweg, Bicycle Pilgrimage Tour.

The Kreuzweg Committee meets several times a year to plan the biking event in the Land of the Cross Tipped Churches and is made up of local citizens as well as others from the Dayton area anxious to promote the spiritual and physical aspects of the tour among the churches. A similar event held annually in conjunction with the community of St. Henry’s village festival entitled The Steeplechase Bike Tour, features a tour ranging from 15 to 30 miles that visits the churches in that community church’s cluster. There are scores of volunteers that plan and work the event each summer to make it safe and educational for the more than 300 participants.

Along with the St. Henry Community Picnic there are many other festivals that promote the byway including the St. Joe Parish Festival, Countryfest (held on the grounds of the Maria Stein Relic Shrine), the Coldwater K of C Picnic and the Minster Oktoberfest which truly promotes the heritage that is exemplified in the byway. All these events are entertaining and yet are grounded in the heritage and faith of the local citizens. They all also are accomplished through the employ of many, many thousands of volunteer hours.

B. Public Meeting and Public Participation Opportunities

Meetings concerning planning the Kreuzweg were held at the Maria Stein Relic Shrine and were open to the public. Community members from area parishes were invited to attend and participate.

C. Steps Taken to Update Byway Mission and Vision

There are no changes.

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

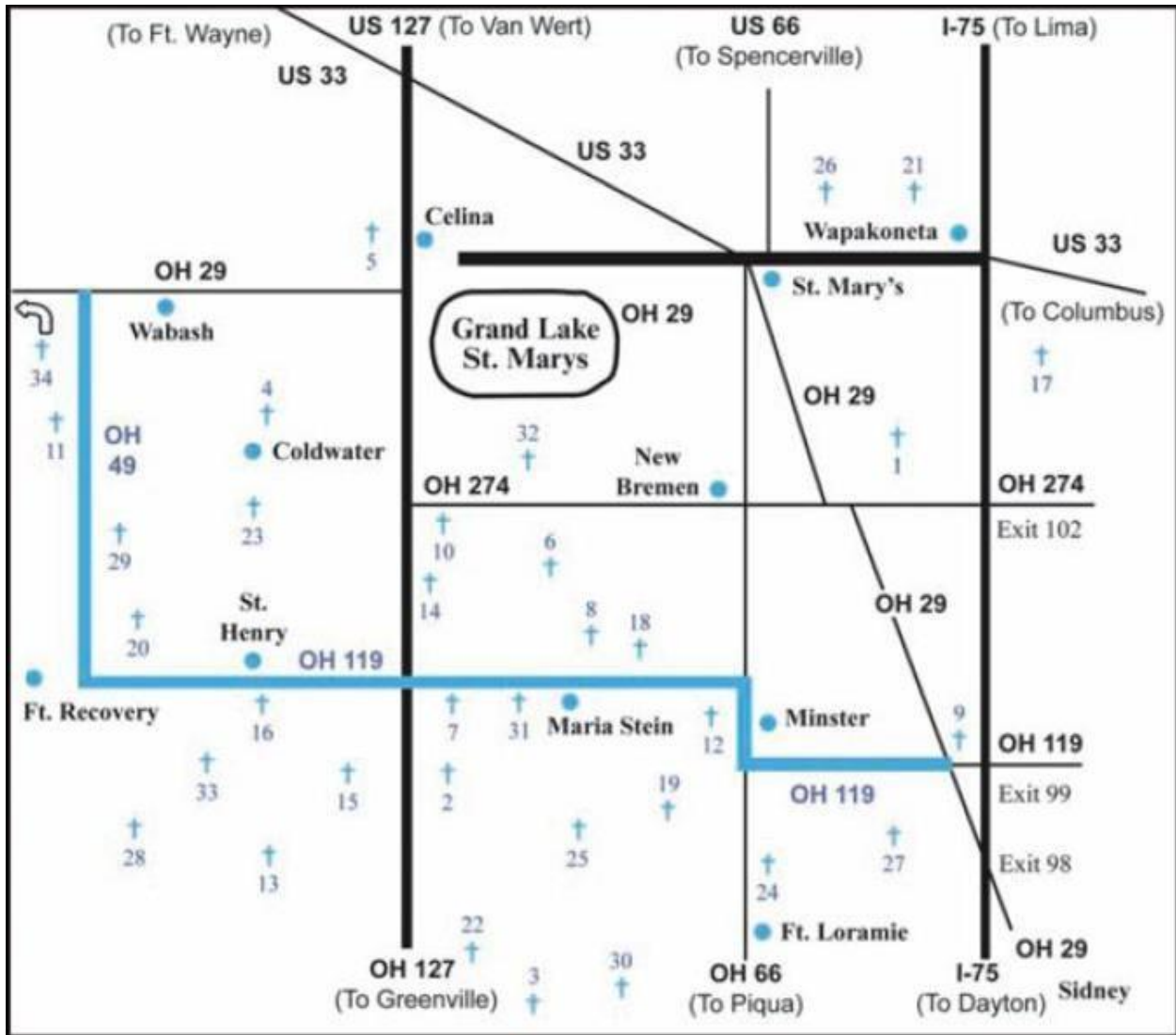
There are no critical issues facing the byway currently.

VIII. APPENDIX

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

#	Byway	Latitude	Longitude
1	LCC	40.3947	-84.257
2	LCC	40.3925	-84.2548
3	LCC	40.3967	-84.2594
4	LCC	40.3946	-84.2573
5	LCC	40.3946	-84.26
6	LCC	40.3933	-84.3767
7	LCC	40.4059	-84.3766
8	LCC	40.4076	-84.3773
9	LCC	40.4075	-84.4354
10	LCC	40.4072	-84.5726
11	LCC	40.4178	-84.6297
12	LCC	40.4128	-84.776
13	LCC	40.4137	-84.7765
14	LCC	40.4143	-84.7795
15	LCC	40.4146	-84.7795
16	LCC	40.4155	-84.7803
17	LCC	40.5444	-84.7843
18	LCC	40.5459	-84.782
19	LCC	40.5458	-84.7861
20	LCC	40.5457	-84.7844
21	LCC	40.4153	-51.7792
22	LCC	40.4153	-84.7801
23	LCC	40.4137	-84.7766
24	LCC	40.4134	-84.7766
25	LCC	40.4128	-84.7761
26	LCC	40.4175	-84.6285
27	LCC	40.4074	-84.5709
28	LCC	40.4074	-84.4331
29	LCC	40.4076	-84.3797
30	LCC	40.3941	-84.3767
31	LCC	40.3945	-84.2599
32	LCC	40.3946	-84.2571

B. Most Current Byway Map



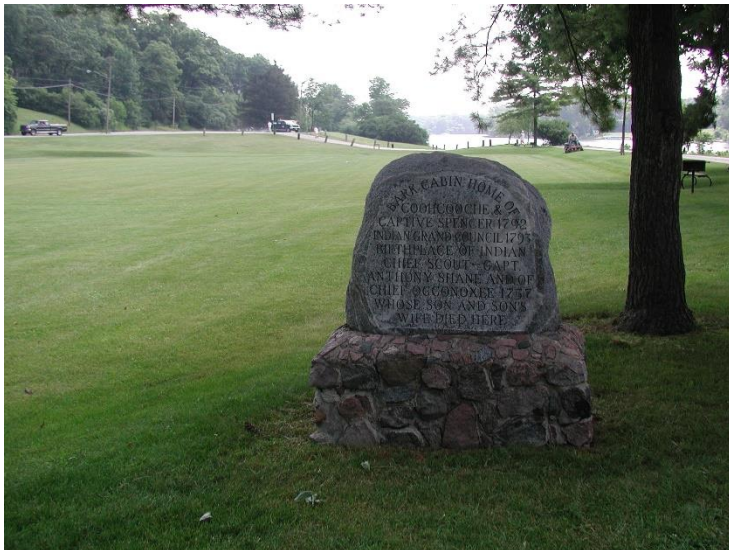
C. Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations

Refer to previous map.

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

















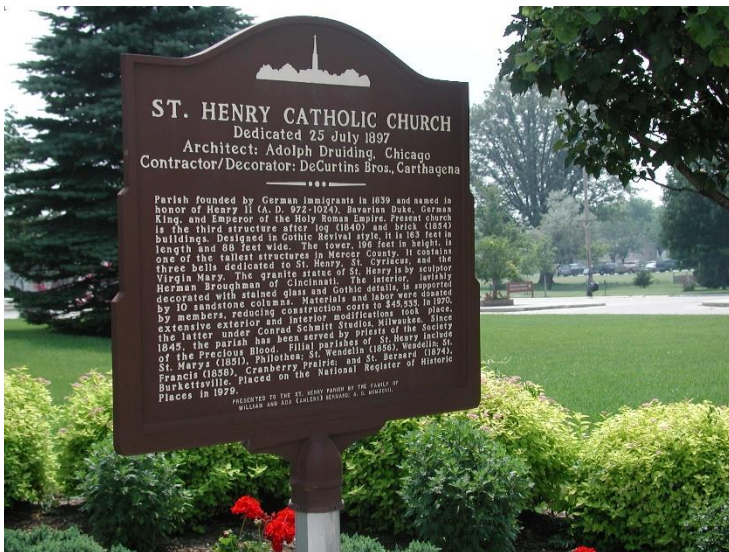






























E. Marketing Materials- If applicable.

N/A