1078

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

RECEIVED
JUL 22 1992
NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling
other names/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 1059 Harbor Street — N/A not for publication
city, town: Conneaut — N/A vicinity
state: Ohio code: OH county: Ashtabula code: 007 zip code: 44030

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
[X] private	[X] building(s)	2	1 buildings
[ ] public-local	[ ] district		sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site		structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure		objects
	[ ] object	2	1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Light Stations of Ohio

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Barbara Power — 7-15-92
Signature of certifying official — Date

Ohio Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[✓] entered in the National Register.
[ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[ ] removed from the National Register.
[ ] other, (explain:) _____

Entered in the National Register

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action — 8/21/92

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC: single and multiple dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)
LATE VICTORIAN

Materials (enter categories from instructions)
foundation brick
walls wood
roof asphalt
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling is a large 1½-story-and-basement, clapboard-sided building distinguished by steep intersecting gable roofs pierced by shed dormers. Irregular in plan, the building gives the appearance of a single residence. However, it actually consists of two dwellings: the first, T-shape in plan with seven rooms (parlor, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, and three bedrooms), was erected in 1873; the other, of six rooms (parlor, dining room, kitchen, and three bedrooms), was added at the northeast corner of the original dwelling in 1905. Each unit features double-hung, 2/2 windows with plain trim. At the front entrance to each is a small square veranda with hipped roof and simple brackets.

The double dwelling, vacant and in disrepair, is located on a half-acre lot on a bluff overlooking Conneaut Harbor. The property is surrounded by a chain-link fence. Adjoining it to the south is a new condominium project, while on the opposite side of unpaved Harbor Street are several modest wood-frame houses.

The evolution of the property over time is well documented by Coast Guard records. An 1885 survey map of the property indicates that, in addition to a single frame dwelling, there was a barn, privy, woodhouse, well, and 6th-order beacon on the site; the detached light tower was located on the north side of the house, at the edge of the property. In 1887 a foundation and cellar (brick above ground, stone below) were placed under the dwelling. In 1889 the kitchen was "rebuilt," and the wooden fence was replaced by a wire fence. In 1892 the house was equipped with plumbing, and a new plank walk was laid from the dwelling to the street. In 1897 the ell portion of the dwelling was "rebuilt two stories in height," according to a Lighthouse Board report. A bathroom was installed in 1900.

In 1905 the original dwelling was almost doubled in size with the addition of separate quarters for an assistant lightkeeper. The facade of the 1½-story addition featured a bay window with recessed panels above and below the windows; in all other respects, the addition was designed to match the original dwelling, with intersecting gable roofs, clapboard siding, shed dormers, and double-hung, 2/2 windows with plain trim. Plans for the 1905 addition show, at the front entrance to each unit, a small square veranda; these have square posts with chamfered corners, a balustrade with turned balusters, and latticework. Both verandas have since been rebuilt with concrete decks and steps, and plain posts, balusters, and brackets.

[X] See continuation sheet

According to a 1909 inventory, in addition to the dwelling, the property then included a wood shed (12 x 16 feet) and small barn (16 x 22 feet), both with gable roofs; "cement" (concrete) walks from the street to the front doors, around the house to the rear doors, and from the rear door to the wood shed and barn; and a garden (30 x 100 feet). The dwelling and outbuildings were painted red with green trim, and the half-acre property was enclosed by a picket fence.

Sometime before 1934, an enclosed porch or vestibule with shed roof was added off the kitchen at the rear of the original dwelling. In 1934 the original roofs (probably slate) were replaced with asphalt shingles. The kitchens of both dwellings were remodeled in 1950; several existing windows were removed, and replacement windows, smaller in size and having 1/1 lights, were installed in their place. Aluminum screens and storm windows, and ventilators in the attic, were added later. The house is now painted white. One of three original interior chimneys has been removed above the roofline.

No nineteenth-century outbuildings survive. At the rear of the property are one noncontributing resource, a three-car garage with clapboard siding and gable roof probably dating to the mid-twentieth century, and one contributing resource, a one-story, yellow-brick control house that once housed an auxiliary generator and was used to monitor the Conneaut Harbor West Breakwater Light. The control house, erected in 1936, is rectangular in plan, with a hipped roof.

8. Statement of Significance Ashtabula County, Ohio

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
TRANSPORTATION
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1873-1939

Significant Dates
1873, 1905

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

For nearly a century, the Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling served as a residence for keepers tending the Conneaut Harbor lights and their families. Built in 1873 and enlarged in 1905, the 1½-story wood-frame dwelling is typical of the plain but handsome accommodations erected in the late nineteenth century to house keepers employed by the U.S. Lighthouse Service. In location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, the property conveys its historic form, function, and appearance. Only in setting has it been compromised; a large condominium project and asphalt parking lot now abut the property to the south, while the land below the bluff, once the site of rail yards and ore docks, today is occupied by a sewage treatment plant. (The latter is not visible from the property, however.)

A light has marked the entrance to Conneaut Creek since 1835, when the Federal Government erected numerous beacons to guide ships safely into the harbors of Lake Erie. In the nineteenth century, Conneaut was an important shipping point for grain, whiskey, and forest products from the interior of Ohio, as well as a frequent stopping place for lake steamers. After 1892, with completion of the Pittsburgh, Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad* connecting Conneaut with the Pittsburgh furnaces of the Carnegie Steel Company, Conneaut Harbor was the site of an immense iron-ore (inbound) and coal (outbound) traffic.

In 1870, the U.S. Lighthouse Board reported that the Conneaut light station "is without a keeper's dwelling, and as one is essential to the proper attendance upon the light, an estimate of $4,000 has been submitted for the purchase of a site and the erection of a convenient frame dwelling." Congress appropriated the requested sum the following year. In May 1871, the Government purchased a half-acre site on a bluff overlooking Conneaut Harbor and subsequently invited bids for construction of a one-story-and-attic frame dwelling with an oil storage room. (It is not known who received the contract.) The dwelling was completed in 1873.

(* = also known as Pittsburgh, Shanago, & Lake Erie RR)

☒ See continuation sheet

In 1885, owing to deterioration of the pier, the beacon marking Conneaut Harbor was moved to the site of the keeper's dwelling. According to a survey map of the same date, in addition to the 1½-story frame dwelling, the half-acre lighthouse reservation then consisted of a barn, privy, woodhouse, and well; the detached beacon was located on the north side of the dwelling. In 1897, following extensive improvement of the harbor, the beacon was relocated to the outer end of the newly extended west pier, and the elevated walk to the lantern was substantially rebuilt.

Over the years, the dwelling was successively improved and enlarged to enhance the comfort and safety of the keeper (see "7. Description"). In 1905, the dwelling was enlarged and remodeled to accommodate an assistant keeper and his family. Plans for the addition were prepared by the Office of the U.S. Light-House Engineer, Tenth District, Buffalo, New York, under the signature of H. M. Adams, lieutenant colonel with the Corps of Engineers and engineer for the lighthouse district. The lightkeeper's dwelling, now doubled in size, consisted of seven rooms plus bath (occupied by the keeper and his family) and six rooms plus bath (occupied by an assistant keeper and his family). An inventory of the property prepared in February 1909 by the Department of Commerce and Labor described concrete walks connecting the dwelling to a wood shed and a small barn, the only outbuildings noted; the character of the surroundings consisted of "scattered dwellings" to the rear of the property, with ore docks and railroad yards below the bluff.

In 1906, the light marking Conneaut Harbor was reconfigured. A new beacon, exhibiting a fixed white light from the pierhead of the west pier, formed a range light with a rear beacon to aid vessels entering the harbor. To service the new front range light, the keepers walked three-eighths of a mile "through railroad yards and ore docks" to a boat house, then traveled by small boat nearly one-half mile to the light, where a derrick hoisted the boat to the beacon.

The present light tower, which replaced still another pierhead beacon completed in 1920, was erected in 1935-36 following Government-sponsored construction of new breakwater extensions. (The Conneaut Harbor West Breakwater Light has been nominated separately to the National Register.) Placed in commission at the opening of navigation in 1936, the new Conneaut Harbor West Breakwater Light was powered by electricity transmitted from shore by submarine cable and operated by remote control from a small yellow-brick control house (still extant) located behind the lightkeeper's dwelling.

After 1939, when the Bureau of Lightouses was abolished, the keeper's

dwelling continued to be occupied by United States Coast Guard personnel, who tended the Conneaut Harbor West Breakwater Light until it was automated in 1971. In 1974 the U.S. Government sold the property to private owners. Today the lightkeeper's dwelling stands vacant and in disrepair.

This property meets the requirements for registration set forth in the multiple property documentation form "Light Stations of Ohio." The Conneaut Harbor Light Station Keepers' Dwelling is significant under Criteria A and C for its association with the associated historic contexts of "Transportation and Commerce on Lake Erie, 1818-1936" and "Light Stations on the Great Lakes, 1819-1939."

The frame construction, 1-1/2 story height, steep gable roof and clapboard siding as well as the original t-shape form are typical features of light keepers dwellings in Ohio. The presence of a keeper's and assistant keeper's dwellings attests to the importance of Conneaut's role as a shipping point for area agricultural products, iron ore, and coal. The Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling is a good representative of history of lighthouses on Lake Erie in Ohio and of the architecture of facilities constructed to support lighthouse activity in the state.

The period of significance of the nominated property extends from the original date of construction in 1873 to 1939, the year that the Bureau of Lighthouses ceased to control the operation of lighthouses on Lake Erie.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Drawing and photograph files. United States Coast Guard Ninth District, Cleveland, Ohio.

National Archives and Records Administration. Records of the United States Coast Guard. Record Group 26. Records of the Bureau of Lighthouses and Its Predecessors, 1789-1939.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☒ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: Nat'l Archives & Records Admin.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.5

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	537129	4645980
B			
C			
D			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Ashtabula County permanent parcel #12-20300-01100, as described in Ashtabula County Deeds Vol. 786, pp. 18-19.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary describes the original parcel purchased by the United States of America in 1871 (and recorded in Ashtabula County Deeds Book 82, p. 596) to serve as the site of the Conneaut light station keeper's dwelling.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Poh Miller/Historical Consultant- under contract with
organization Ohio Historic Preservation Office date 8/27/91
street & number 17903 Rosecliff Road telephone 216/692-0747
city or town Cleveland state OH zip code 44119

PHOTOGRAPHS-CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPER'S DWELLING

1) Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling
2) Conneaut, Ohio
3) Carol Poh Miller photograph
4) June 1990
5) Ohio Historic Preservation Office
[NOTE: THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS THE SAME FOR PHOTOS #2-5]
6) Looking north toward Lake Erie. Condominium garage and parking lot in foreground.
7) #1 of 5

6) Facade and south elevation of assistant keeper's residence (1905), looking northwest.
7) #2 of 5

6) North elevation, showing assistant keeper's residence and rear ell of keeper's residence (1873), looking southwest.
7) #3 of 5

6) South and west (rear) elevations of keeper's residence (1873), looking northeast.
7) #4 of 5

6) Garage (date unk.) and light station control house (1936), looking northwest.
7) #5 of 5

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling

MULTIPLE NAME: Light Stations of Ohio MPS

STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Ashtabula

DATE RECEIVED: 7/22/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/03/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/19/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/05/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001078

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT 8/21/92 DATE

Entered in the National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA_____
REVIEWER_____
DISCIPLINE_____
DATE_____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPERS' DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA Co., OH
#2 OF 5



CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPERS' DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA CO., OH
#3 OF 5



CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPERS' DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA CO., OH
#4 OF 5



CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPERS' DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA CO., OH
#5 OF 5

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name County, State	Multiple Property Name	Reference Number
Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling Ashtabula, Ohio	Light Stations of Ohio Multiple Property Submission	92001078

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

___ Nomination Form

_X_ Photographs

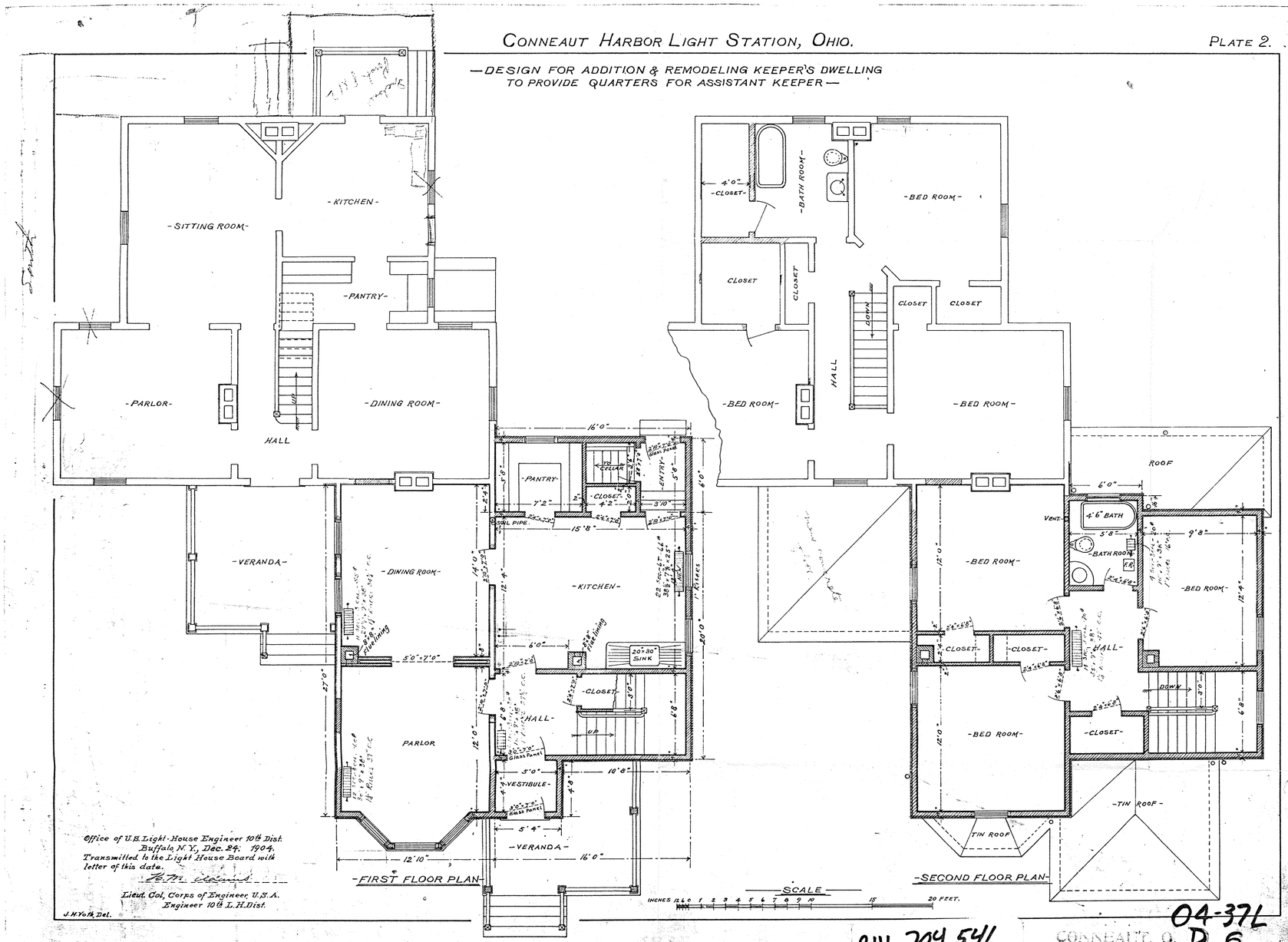
___ USGS Map

CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPER'S DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA CO., OH

CONNEAUT HARBOR LIGHT STATION, OHIO.

PLATE 2.

—DESIGN FOR ADDITION & REMODELING KEEPER'S DWELLING TO PROVIDE QUARTERS FOR ASSISTANT KEEPER—



Office of U.S. Light-House Engineer 10th Dist.
Buffalo N.Y., Dec. 29. 1904.
Transmitted to the Light House Board with letter of this date.

T.M. Handbook

Lieut. Col. Corps of Engineer U.S.A.
Engineer 10th L.H.Dist.

J.H.Yoth Del.

RHL 704, 546

04-37L

CONNEAUT, O. D 6

15

Conneaut Light Station Keeper's Dwelling
Conneaut, Ashtabula Co., OH

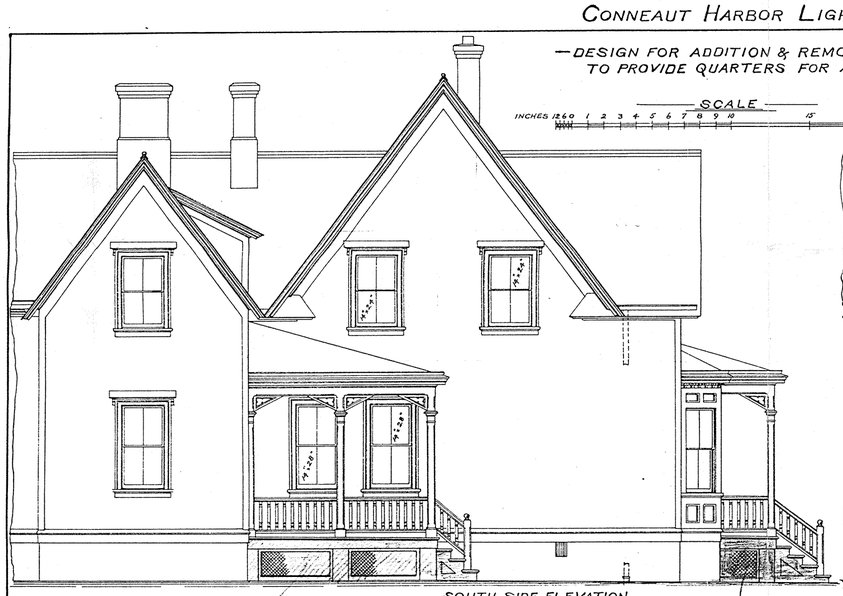
Conneaut Harbor Light Station, Ohio.

Plate 3.

—Design for addition & remodeling keeper's dwelling to provide quarters for assistant keeper—

Scale

Inches 1260 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 15 20 Feet.



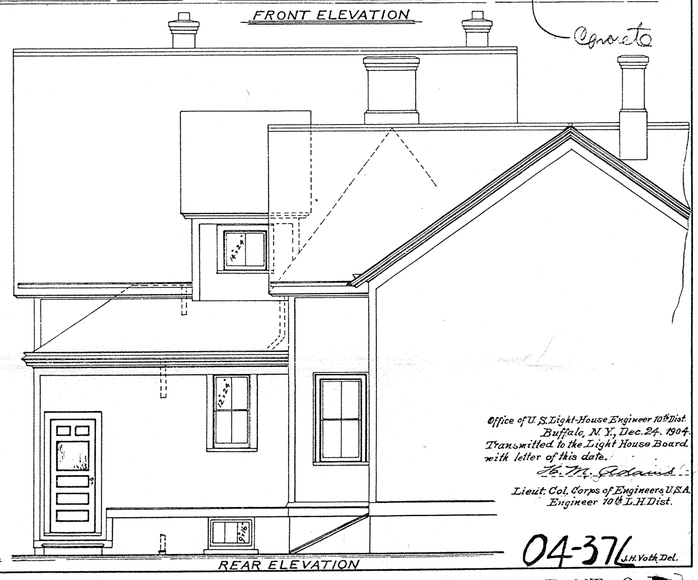
South side elevation



Front elevation



North side elevation



Rear elevation

Office of U.S. Light-House Engineer 10th Dist.
Buffalo, N.Y. Dec. 24, 1904.
Transmitted to the Light House Board.
with letter of this date.
H. M. Adams
Lieut. Col. Corps of Engineers U.S.A.
Engineer 10th L.H. Dist.

04-376 J.H. Voth, Del.

RHL 704, 548

CONNEAUT, O. D 7

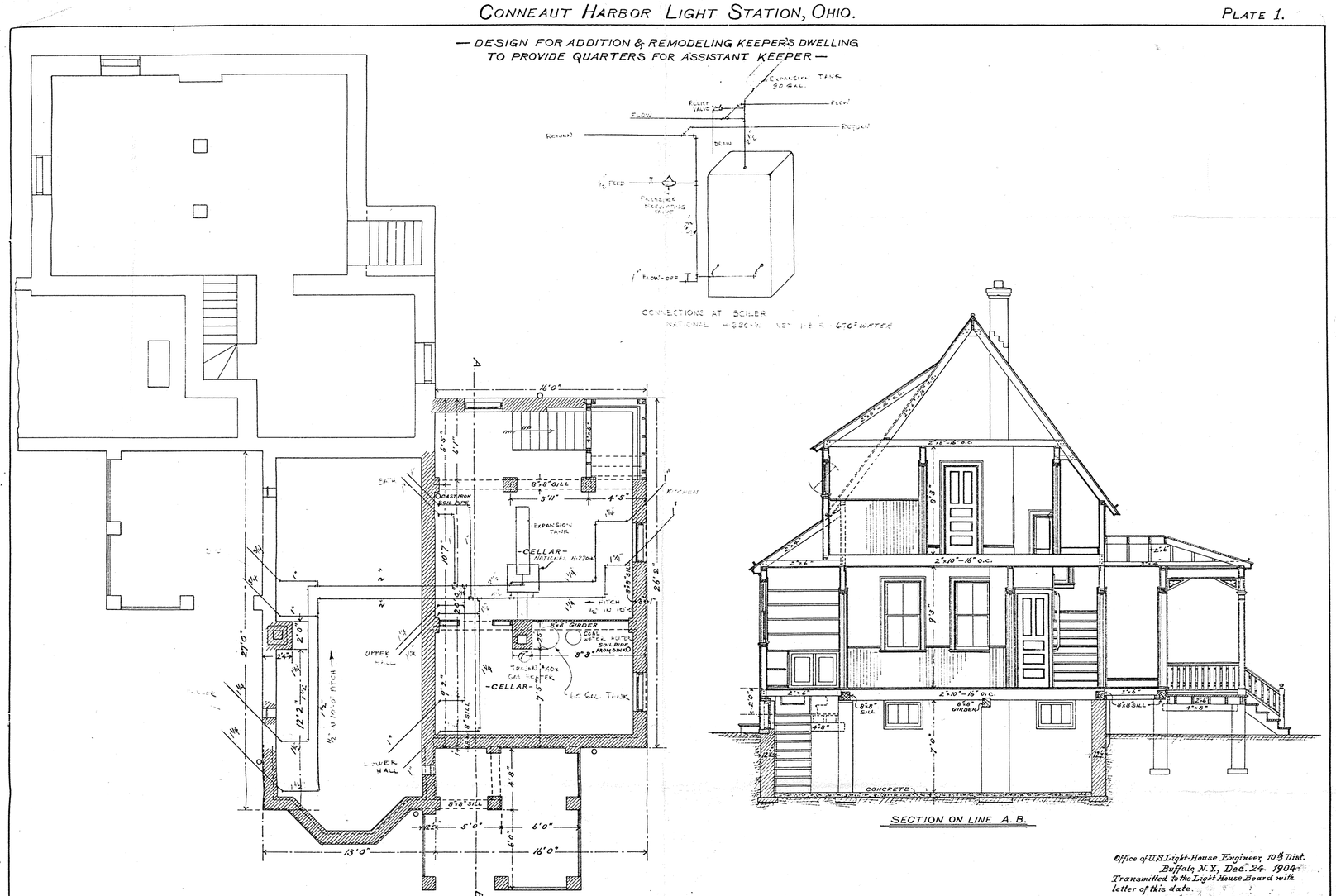
15

CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION KEEPER'S DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA CO., OH

CONNEAUT HARBOR LIGHT STATION, OHIO.

PLATE 1.

— DESIGN FOR ADDITION & REMODELING KEEPER'S DWELLING TO PROVIDE QUARTERS FOR ASSISTANT KEEPER —



FOUNDATION & CELLAR PLAN

SECTION ON LINE A. B.

SCALE

INCHES R & O 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 15 20 FEET.

NATIONAL H-220-W BOILER INSTALLED JUNE 1943

Office of U.S. Light-House Engineer 10th Dist.
Buffalo, N.Y., Dec. 24. 1904.
Transmitted to the Light House Board with letter of this date.
H. M. Adams
Lieut. Col. Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.
Engineer 10th L.H. Dist.

J.H.Voth, Del.

04-37L

RHL 704, 549 BAUT. 6, D 5

15

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF OHIO
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CONNEAUT QUADRANGLE
OHIO—PENNSYLVANIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 CONNEAUT 15' QUADRANGLE

(4968 III SW (FAIRVIEW SW))

CONNEAUT LIGHT STATION
KEEPER'S DWELLING
CONNEAUT, ASHTABULA CO., OH

17. 537120. 4645780

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and U. S. Lake Survey

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1958. Field check 1960

Selected hydrographic data compiled from U. S. Lake Survey Chart 33 (1959). This information is not intended for navigational purposes

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Ohio coordinate system, north zone and Pennsylvania coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Ohio area lies within the Connecticut Western Reserve
Dotted land lines established by private subdivison of the Connecticut Western Reserve.

MN GN
5° 88 MILS
0°18' 5 MILS
UTM GRID AND 1970 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24 000
1 0 1 MILE
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS LOW WATER 570.5 FEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

OHIO
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of Ohio agencies from aerial photographs taken 1970
This information not field checked

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route — U. S. Route — State Route

CONNEAUT, OHIO—PA.
NE/4 CONNEAUT 15' QUADRANGLE
N4152.5—W8030/7.5

1960
PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 4867 I NE—SERIES V852

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D C —1971