

# *Historical Communities*

# National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources which are worthy of preservation. It is authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. It is part of a national program which coordinates and supports public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archaeological resources. Listings are evaluated by uniform standards and include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The NRHP is administered by the National Park Service and includes more than 70,000 listings. This information is from <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/about.htm>.

-Compiled By

*Ohio Avenue ABE*

*Gallia-Jackson-Vinton JVSD*

## Gallipolis Public Square and Garden Lots Historic District

Court and State Streets  
1st and 2nd Ave.  
Gallipolis, Ohio  
Gallia County

There are many architecturally and/or historically significant buildings and sites within this district which includes parts of Court and State Streets and First and Second Avenues. The city park is the site of the first settlement and has several memorials of interest including the Bandstand, which is of Eastlake influence. It was built in 1876 as a memorial to Gallia County Civil War veterans. It is a landmark of the city of Gallipolis and is still used for activities and performances.

There are 33 sites, buildings, and homes within this area, which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural styles include Early Republic, Mid 19th Century Revival, and Late Victorian.

This information is from "A Self-Guided Tour Map of the Historic City of Gallipolis, Ohio".

The Gallipolis Public Square and Garden Lots Historic District was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on January 8, 1980.

## **Gatewood**

76 State St.  
Gallipolis, Ohio  
Gallia County



Built in 1847, Gatewood is a brick Colonial structure that was the dream home of O.O. McIntyre, widely syndicated columnist of the 1930's. It was purchased as a 25th wedding anniversary gift for his wife, Maybelle Hope Small McIntyre.

Gatewood was named in honor of Mrs. McIntyre's mother. McIntyre did not retire to Gatewood, but was laid in state there prior to burial on Mound Hill.

This information was taken from the brochure, "A Self-Guided Tour Map of the Historic City of Gallipolis, Ohio".

Gatewood was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on October 16, 1986.

## **The Ohio Hospital for Epileptics Stone Water Towers**

Mill Creek Rd.  
Gallipolis, Ohio  
Gallia County



These stone water towers were erected by local craftsmen in 1892 and serviced the Ohio Hospital for Epileptics until 1950. The sandstone of the masonry walls was quarried from the surrounding hills. The hospital facility, a former Union Hospital site during the Civil War, was the first of its kind in the United States. The towers were restored in 1981-1982.

This information was taken from an Ohio Historical Marker, which is located on the site.

The Stone Water Towers were entered in the National Register of Historic Places on September 13, 1978.

## Our House

434 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Gallipolis, Ohio  
Gallia County



Gallipolis, where Our House stands, had its beginning in a land speculation scheme. Congress granted 3.5 million acres of land, east of the Scioto River in Southern Ohio, to the Scioto Company founded by William Duer and his associates. The company sent a salesman to Europe to sell the land. In 1789 the Scioto salesman, joined by an Englishman, formed the Compagnie du Scioto in Paris. They bought the former company's holdings to resell them to

Frenchmen, who were desperate to escape from the ill fate of the French Revolution. About five hundred men, women, and children, from various walks of life left their homeland to settle in North America. Although the Scioto Company failed to provide them with land it promised, the Ohio Company of Associates accommodated them in the vicinity.

In 1790 Major John Burnham from Marietta was sent to construct some houses and cabins for the new settlers on the future site of Gallipolis. After arriving in the area, the immigrants faced the harsh reality of living in the new country. They were not ready to be self-sufficient; some yearned for the comfortable life they left behind. Half of them moved elsewhere within two years. Twenty French families remained and were joined by settlers from Massachusetts and Virginia. They built a strong, prosperous community.

Around 1819, Henry Cushing, from a prominent family in Gallipolis, built the three-story tavern in the Federal style. It was said that ten guests could comfortably lodge within. In 1825, General Lafayette, on his triumphant tour of America, was entertained in this tavern, which also became the center of the community.

In 1913-1936, after Dr. and Mrs. Charles E. Holzer of Gallipolis purchased and restored the property, people desired this site to be a museum.

In 1944, the Holzers gave this house to the state as a gift.

In 1966, the Ohio Historical Society restored and re-furnished "Our House" completely. It is open to the public from June through August.

This information was taken from the brochure of the Ohio Historical Society.

Our House was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on November 10, 1970.

*Written by Chieko Moore*

## Davis Mill

Also known as:  
Davies Mill, Cora Mill, and Falls of Raccoon Mill  
NE of Patriot on Cora Mill Road  
Patriot, Ohio  
Gallia County

The mill is located ten miles from the mouth of the Raccoon Creek on Cora Mill Road in Cora, Ohio. It was built in 1853. Farmers came from miles around to have their grain ground at this location. In 1890 the mill was modernized with a new turbine.

This information was taken from Gallipolis, Ohio -- A Pictorial History 1790-1990.

Davis Mill was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on November 28, 1980.

## Evans House

Also known as: Erb House  
Coal Valley Road  
Vinton, Ohio  
Gallia County



A Welsh immigrant, Evan Evans, is the earliest verified owner of the property. He lived there in 1854 but the house may have been built earlier.

The Evans house derives its primary significance as an example of a traditional folk house form that was once common to the southern Ohio Appalachian region. While log houses and cabins were constructed in many forms, this one seems most closely related to the rectangular mountain cabin of southeastern Appa-

lachia and finds its roots in forms used by the Scots-Irish and the New World Germans.

The Evans house is a two-story, half-dovetailed notch log structure with a rear ell of wooden construction. The exterior chimney is located at one end. The chimney was constructed on a cut sandstone base with tapered shoulders narrowing to a chimneystack made of handmade brick. The exterior has its own story to tell of the early life of the house. The fireplace has a wide surround along the hearth opening. The floor joists supporting the second floor are quite large and were smoothed by a hand plane.

Sandra Erb, who is a former resident of the home furnished this information.

The Evans House was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in July of 1984.

## Ewington Academy

Ewington Road  
Ewington, Ohio  
Gallia County



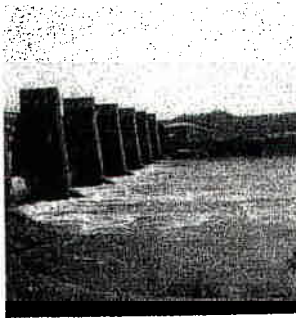
The Ewington Citizens' Literacy Institute purchased this site and sponsored the construction of Ewington Academy, which opened in 1859. The building, designed by George Ewing, was financed by popular subscription with much labor and materials donated. It provided high school level education to approximately 60 students each year. It ceased operation as an academy in 1901 and then served as an elementary school until about 1947.

This information was taken from an Ohio Historical Marker located on the site.

Ewington Academy was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 30, 1982.

## Gallipolis Locks and Dam

292.2 mile marker  
10 miles below Gallipolis  
Gallia County



The Gallipolis Locks and Dam were dedicated in 1937 as a \$10,000,000 federal project. It was the largest roller dam in the country and did away with the three smaller dams near Gallipolis in the Ohio and Kanawha rivers. It consists of eight concrete piers which support gigantic steel rollers 30 feet in diameter and 125 feet long. The rollers are raised up to 100 feet during flood season to equalize the water above and below the dam.

In recent times the locks were regarded by waterway shippers as a major bottleneck on the Ohio River because of their small size and deteriorating condition. New locks were built and their dedication took place in 1992.

This information is from paper clippings in the "Columbus Citizen Journal" and Gallipolis Ohio – A Pictorial History 1790-1990.

The Gallipolis Locks and Dam were entered in the National Register of Historic Places on February 21, 1994.

## Old Wood Homestead

Also known as:  
Wood's Tavern, Old Homestead  
and The Homestead  
1253 Jackson Pike  
Rio Grande, Ohio  
Gallia County

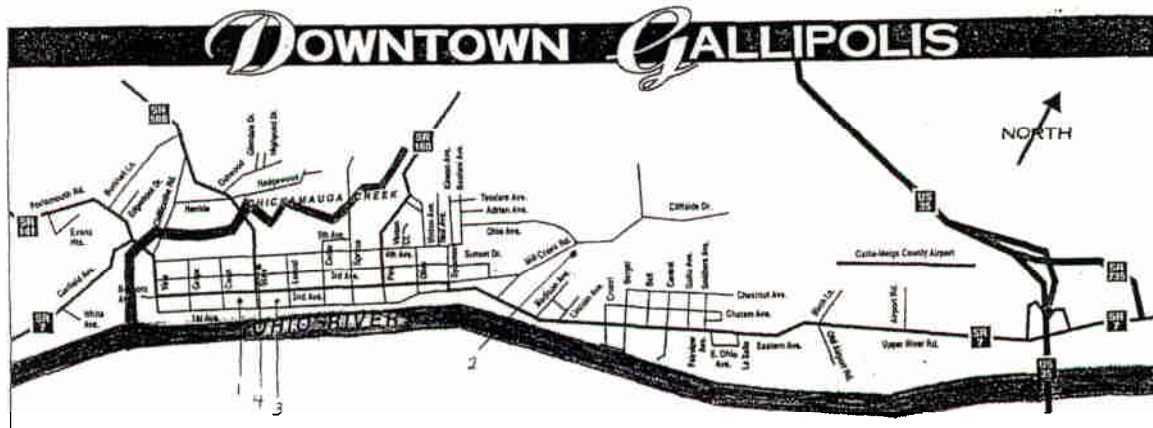


Nehemiah Wood built the Homestead in 1820. The brick was made on the farm. The Homestead once served as a stagecoach stop. Bob Evans purchased it in 1953. The Evans family lived in the home for 17 years. The building is now used for various purposes and is only open to the public during select farm events.

Bob Evans is best known for his Bob Evans Farms Sausage and his chain of Bob Evans Restaurants.

This information was taken from the sign in front of the home, which is located on the Bob Evans farm.

The Old Wood Homestead was entered in the National Register on December 12, 1987.



1. Gallipolis Public Square and Garden Lots
2. Stone Water Towers
3. Our House
4. Gatewood

This map is from the Ohio Valley Visitors Center.