

Hughes School



33. Hughes School, 5994 Princeton Road, D2010-022.000-011

Originally built in 1887 to replace a previous school building, this was in use until 1922 or 1923. In 1975 the Liberty Township Historical Society was formed to restore this building into a representative one-room schoolhouse. Nicholas Curtis originally deeded land for use as a school in 1832. This is the only remaining “one-room schoolhouse” in Butler County (other buildings exist but serve other functions)

Hughes School, was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The web site of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO) of the Ohio Historical Society says it "represents an exceptionally fine example of 19th century one-room school architecture. For the early construction date, the brick and overall design show an advanced degree of architectural sophistication." An example of 'a little red school house,' Hughes School can be seen as a memento of early education in rural Ohio. Hughes School is also locally significant because it was named for one of the area's earliest settlers, the Hughes family, and is therefore, associated with some of the area's earliest history. In 1832, Nicholas Curtis gave the Hughes School to School District No. 4. Elijah Hughes was a school director of the district at that time and is mentioned in the original deed. Elijah Hughes was born in Maryland in 1777. He married Sarah Muchner in 1800 and they came to Butler County in the 1820's with five children. A neighbor of the Hughes family in Maryland had come to Butler County some time previously and had purchased 160 acres of land on which he had started to make improvements. However, the Indians were numerous in this locality and the owner was continuously menaced by them. Deciding to return to the more civilized east, he sold his property to Elijah Hughes. It was upon this land that Elijah set up his trade as blacksmith, of him it has been recorded that “so skilled and industrious was he that he was soon controlling the business of the entire countryside. It was rule of his never to charge for any work that he

did for the early preachers, and these traveling divines would come from 100 miles around to get their horses shoed at the shop of this sturdy pioneer's smith". OHPO says "Hughes Station located on the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad was named for the Joshua Hughes, son of Elijah, who owned the land the town was built on and was the town's first postmaster.

<http://www.lanepl.org/blount/jbplaces/>

DHJ Keehner Inc.



34. 5980 Kyles Station Road, DHJ Keehner Inc, D2010-028.000-007