an empire within an empire
Ohio's Heritage

Ohio was the first state carved out of the Northwest Territory. Because of its wide diversity of interests, its unofficial motto for years was "An Empire within an Empire."

Ohio's statehood was founded in the action of Congress known as the Ordinance of 1787. That famous act guaranteed citizens of the great Northwest Territory the right to freedom of worship, of person, property and speech. It also provided the rights of proportionate representation in the legislature, writ of habeas corpus, and trial by jury.
These great freedoms, the envy of the entire world, later were incorporated in the Bill of Rights amendments of the Constitution of the United States.

By 1803 the population in the Ohio country was sufficient to request statehood from the National Congress, and Ohio became the 17th State of the Union—the first to be carved out of the Northwest Territory.

The Indian trails, over which pioneers traveled into this gateway to the Northwest Territory in 1788, today are vital links in transcontinental highway and railway systems. All the great transcontinental highways and railroads pass through Ohio. The major coast-to-coast airlines cross her skies. River traffic from New Orleans and traffic on the Great Lakes meet in Ohio. More than 660 miles of navigable waters mark her south, east and north borders.

Ohio’s network of telephone and telegraph lines and radio and television channels bring almost instant communications within the reach of every Ohioan.

Characterized by great industrial centers, by vast and fertile plains, and by mountainous sections where mining is extensive, Ohio’s 41,263 square miles of land area is a cross-section of American commerce, industry and culture.

This booklet, which illustrates some of the highlights of Ohio’s history, is dedicated to the glorious past and bright future of the Buckeye State.
The Mound Builders

Long before the settlement of Ohio by the white man, prehistoric Indians roamed over the lands.

Some 10,000 mounds throughout the state, containing relics of religious altars and human bones, remain today to prove their existence. The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society has preserved many of the mounds.

The largest and most remarkable of these mounds can be seen in Adams County. Built of earth, it curls like an enormous snake and extends to a length of 1,330 feet. Other mounds may be seen in Greene, Fairfield, Montgomery, Washington and Ross counties.

LaSalle Discovers the Ohio River

In 1669, the famous French explorer La Salle wrote his name in Ohio history by his discovery of the Ohio River.

Shortly after La Salle came into Canada from his native France, he became interested in the uncharted wilderness south and west of the St. Lawrence River, where he hoped to discover a river that would open new trade routes from Canada to Mexico . . . or perhaps even to China.

Told about the river by the missionaries, he was warned of the fierce Iroquois who guarded it. Nevertheless, La Salle left Montreal on July 6, 1669, with a party of 24 men. Although deserted by some of his men, La Salle forced the rest of his band against their will to drive on.

La Salle succeeded in reaching the Ohio River and explored its length as far as the present site of Louisville, Kentucky.
The Indians in Ohio

Ohio pioneers not only had to conquer a vast wilderness; they had to come to terms with the many Indian tribes that inhabited the territory. Many of these Indian chiefs and their tribes have left their mark on the pages of Ohio's history. Among them are the Mingos, led by Chief Logan, who gave his famous speech under the Logan Elm; Chief Tecumseh of the hostile Shawnees, who took part in the War of 1812; and Chief Little Turtle of the Miamis, who took part in the Treaty of Greenville and became the leading spokesman for peace.

Many others, such as the Delawares, Senecas and Ottawas gave up their struggles against the settlers in the Greenville Treaty. In 1842, the Wyandot tribe was the last tribe to leave the Ohio Country and open the entire territory for peaceful settlement.

General Rufus Putnam... Founder of Marietta

The first permanent settlement in Ohio was founded by General Rufus Putnam at Marietta in 1788.

General Putnam, with a party of 47 men, came to the territory as the first contingent of the Ohio Company organized in New England to settle the Ohio wilderness. He and his band of pioneers chose as their permanent settlement a site where the Muskingum River flows into the Ohio. They called the spot Marietta in honor of Marie Antoinette.

Shortly after landing, they built a stockaded fort, called Campus Martius, where the entire settlement lived at first. Today a museum at Marietta, still called Campus Martius, houses many relics of the first Ohio town.

A sketch of the original fort is shown below.
Battle of Fallen Timbers

Only twelve miles from the heart of Toledo is the battlefield of Fallen Timbers, where "Mad Anthony" Wayne's victory over Indian warriors led to the ultimate retreat of the British from Ohio and an enduring peace with the Indian tribes.

At daybreak on August 20, 1794, General Wayne ordered his troops in readiness for battle. The prairie and wooded area had been swept by a raging tornado which left a tangled mass of trees along the battle line. General Wayne and Lieutenant William Henry Harrison charged their troops against the well barracked tribes. The enemy was thrown back and fled for the safety of Fort Miami, seeking protection of the British guns. The British closed the gates to them, leaving the Indians nothing to do but vanish into the forest. This desertion by the British later caused the Indian tribes to come to terms with the white settlers.

A bronze monument, sculptured by Bruce Wilder Saville, marks the site of the battle.

Greenville Treaty

Following their disastrous defeat of Fallen Timbers, the Indians realized that it was suicide to oppose the white settlers further and signified their desire for a peaceful settlement.

On June 16, 1795, General Anthony Wayne lighted the council fire to start the peace talks with the Indian chiefs at Greenville. The purpose was to agree on a treaty that would end all wars between the Indians and the white settlers.

On August 3, 1795, the Greenville Treaty, which divided the Ohio territory between the settlers and Indians, was signed, thus ending the Indian wars and bringing a peaceful, progressive period in the development of the state.
Ohio's First Capital . . . Chillicothe

Ohio's first capitol was built at Chillicothe in 1801, just two years before Ohio was admitted to the Union.

It was the first building erected in stone in the Northwest Territory. Major William Rutledge, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, is credited with all of its masonry construction.

The first session of the legislature was held in 1801, and the convention that drafted Ohio's constitution met in the building in 1802.

The sessions of 1810 and 1812 were held in Zanesville, but moved back to Chillicothe to remain until 1816, when Columbus became capital of Ohio.

The barge sketched below was typical of those used on the Ohio River in 1868 by farmers in transporting their produce to markets.

Ohio's First University

Ohio's first university was established at Athens in 1804, by General Rufus Putnam, with the aid of his friend Dr. Manasseh Cutler.

An early law provided for the establishment of the "American Western University", but later the Ohio State Legislature changed the name to Ohio University. This university at Athens became the first institution of higher learning in the Northwest Territory.

Cutler Hall, built in 1817, is the oldest college building in the Northwest Territory that still stands today.

On the campus also stand the sturdy "McGuffey Elms", planted by the famous educator who still is remembered for his early school textbooks.

The mule-drawn canal boat shown below plied a series of Ohio canals in the early 1820's. Canal boats accommodated both passengers and freight.
The Battle of Lake Erie

We have met the enemy and they are ours.

Commodore Perry

Such was the famous victory message of Commodore Oliver H. Perry as he reported the first surrender in history of a whole British naval squadron to an American fleet. Commodore Perry was just twenty-eight years old when he led a group of fifty men from Newport, Rhode Island, through the wilderness to the shores of Lake Erie. It took six months to hack out a fleet of ships from the Ohio forests.

With two flagships and seven smaller vessels equipped with a total of 54 guns, Perry met the superior British fleet.

The historic Lake Erie battle was fought on September 10, 1813. At first the Americans were blasted unmercifully, but soon Perry outmaneuvered and outsailed the enemy, forcing the British to surrender.

Perry's victory was the first in a series of American triumphs that drove the British and Indian forces into Canada, leading to the end of the Indian wars in Ohio.

Below is a sketch of Perry's Monument on Put-in-Bay in Lake Erie, commemorating his victory.

When "Old Betsy" Spoke

"Old Betsy", a six-pounder that was cast by the French and used by them during the French and Indian War in 1756, is an artillery piece that changed the course of a war and inscribed the name of Major George Croghan on this nation's roll of honor.

Standing on the site of Fort Stephenson in Fremont, Ohio, the proud old cannon was the only piece of artillery when Fort Stephenson was threatened by the British and Indians during their attempt to invade Ohio. When Major Croghan, then only 21, received the order to abandon the post, he rejected it and rallied the 160 men to hold the fort.

On August 2, 1813, General Proctor and a British force of 1300 men began their siege. When the British gunboats began their bombardment from the Sandusky River, Croghan answered with his six cannon, "Old Betsy". Shifting the six-pounder from one part of the fort to another to impress his enemy, Croghan held fast, routing the enemy with bluff and courage.
Milan . . .
Ohio’s Earliest Seaport

Back in 1839, Milan - the peaceful Ohio community best known today as the birthplace of Thomas A. Edison - was a teeming seaport, crowded with schooners from distant lands.

The ships were there to gather the golden avalanche of grain that was harvested from the countryside surrounding Milan.

Ships jammed the river and large grain warehouses lined the shores because of the canal that linked Milan with Lake Erie.

The dream of the early Yankee settlers at Milan of making it the greatest seaport in the world, however, was shattered with the advent of railroads. With the western plains out-producing eastern farms, and railroads continuing to advance through the west, Milan lost its hold on trade markets and settled back to the quiet village it is today.

Ohio in the Civil War

When Ohio entered the Civil War in 1861, her sons became famous for outstanding heroism on the fields of battle.

It is difficult to imagine the outcome of the war if such Ohioans as Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and many others were not commanding the men who won final victory for the Union armies. Ohio gave 340,000 men to the cause, and at the end of the war the record showed that 6,536 Ohio boys were killed in battle and 4,674 were mortally wounded and died in hospitals. During the struggle 13,354 more died of disease contracted during the epidemics that followed the misery of war. The "Underground Railroad", which enabled slaves to escape to freedom across Ohio, was memorable in Ohio's Civil War days.

Below is Rankin House, where slaves sought haven in their desperate bid for freedom. It is famous because it sheltered Eliza and George Harris of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" fame.
The first telephone in Ohio was installed in 1877. The first dial telephone (shown above) was placed in service at St. Marys in 1903.

There are nearly 7 million telephones in service in Ohio today as compared with fewer than 100 in 1878.

In the early 1880's, the mushroom growth of the telephone system fairly blotted out the sun in large cities where 90 foot poles were used.

Now, telephone cables across the nation and short wave radio speed millions of telephone and telegraph messages as well as television and radio programs.

In the early days long-distance calls had to be made from a "toll station" located in the telephone office.

Today, telephoning across the nation is as easy and convenient as a phone call to your next-door neighbor.

Today, even with the convenience of customer Direct Distance Dialing, hundreds of young women are at the switchboards to assist you with your calls.

The first telephone operators in Ohio were boys, whose rowdy manners soon proved that soft-spoken girls were needed at the switchboards.
Presidents of Ohio

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON
Born in Berkeley, Virginia in 1773. Educated at Hampden-Sidney College and entered the United States Army in 1791 at Cincinnati. Served under General Anthony Wayne during the campaign against the Indians, and after returning from the army established his home at North Bend, Ohio.
At 26, Harrison was elected territorial delegate to Congress and a year later was appointed Governor of the territories of the Indians. In 1823 he was elected to the United States Senate and in 1840 was nominated for the Presidency. Inaugurated the 9th President on March 4, 1841.

ULYSSES SIMPSON GRANT
Born in Point Pleasant, Ohio on April 27, 1822. Enrolled at West Point Military Academy in 1839 and graduated in 1843.
When he entered the Civil War he was appointed a Colonel, but at the close of the struggle he commanded all of the Union Army.
Nominated for President in 1868 and was inaugurated the 18th President on March 4, 1869.

RUTHERFORD BIRCHARD HAYES
Born in Delaware, Ohio on October 4, 1822. Educated at Kenyon College and studied law at Harvard. He was admitted to the bar in 1845 and practiced in Cincinnati from 1846 to 1861.
Became a member of Congress in 1863 and was elected Governor of Ohio in 1867.
Nominated for President in 1876 and was inaugurated the 19th President on March 4, 1877.

JAMES ABRAM GARFIELD
Born in Orange, Ohio on November 19, 1831. Educated at Hiram College and later became its President at the age of 27.
Served as a member of the Ohio Senate and as a soldier in the Civil War. In 1880, Garfield was elected United States Senator and in the same year was nominated for the presidency. Inaugurated the 20th President on March 4, 1881.
President Garfield was shot and killed at Elberon, N. J. on September 19, 1881.

Background

BENJAMIN HARRISON
Born in North Bend, Ohio on August 20, 1833. Educated at the Farmers College University. At 21 years of age, Harrison began his law career in Indianapolis and launched his political career. After serving in the Civil War, he was elected to the United States Senate and served six years.
Nominated for President in 1888 and was inaugurated the 23rd President on March 4, 1889.

WILLIAM McKinley
Born in Niles, Ohio, on January 29, 1843. Served in the Civil War as a youth and rose to the rank of major. After his military service, he studied and practiced law in Canton, Ohio. Became Governor of Ohio in 1891 and was nominated for President in 1896. Became famous for his "front-porch" campaigning. Nominated for President in 1896 and was inaugurated the 25th President on March 4, 1897.
While attending the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, he became the third president to be killed by an assassin’s gun.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT
Born in Cincinnati on September 15, 1857. Graduated from Yale and the Cincinnati Law School. He held several public offices before serving as a United States circuit court judge. He also served as the dean of the University of Cincinnati Law School, governor of the Philippines and in 1904, was appointed Secretary of War under Theodore Roosevelt. Nominated for President in 1908 and was inaugurated the 27th President on March 4, 1909.

WARREN GAMALIEL HARDING
Born in Corsica, Ohio on November 2, 1865. Educated at Ohio Central College and later became known as the editor and publisher of the Daily Star in Marion, Ohio. Served as Lieutenant Governor of Ohio from 1904 to 1906, and was elected to United States Senate in 1915.
Nominated for President in 1920 and was inaugurated the 29th President on March 4, 1921.
Some of Ohio's Famous Women

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE
Famous author from Cincinnati, Ohio, who wrote the novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin". It proved to be one of the most widely read novels ever written. It was inspired by the misery and sorrow suffered by the slaves as they were bought and sold from the auction blocks in the deep south.

Her famous book roused tempers to the point where they flared in open violence. President Lincoln once referred to her as "the little lady who started our little war".

LILLIAN WALD
Cincinnati nurse, who was known as "The Angel of Henry Street," went to New York City to become a doctor. She was appalled at the living conditions on New York's lower east side.

Lillian Wald became an institution, caring for the sick, fighting disease and improving the unsanitary conditions that prevailed.

She was instrumental in establishing a nationwide system of nurses in public schools.

ANNIE OAKLEY
Born in a pioneer log cabin in Darke County, Ohio, in 1860, Annie Oakley learned to shoot at an early age to provide food for her family.

When she was just 15 years old, Annie won her first shooting match just outside of Cincinnati, Ohio. She defeated a crack-shot named Frank Butler, who later became her husband and manager on her world-wide exhibitions.

CATHERINE FAY
Served as a missionary among the Choctaw Indians for 10 years. She returned to Marietta in 1858 to continue her work. Feeling a need for educating and caring for the town's orphans, Catherine Fay spent much of her time trying to persuade the townspeople to put them in her care. Her good works influenced the Ohio State legislature to pass a bill in 1867 authorizing state-supported children's homes in every county in Ohio.

BETTY ZANE
During the siege of Fort Henry near Wheeling in 1782, Betty Zane became the first heroine in Ohio.

While the battle raged on, the powder supply of the defenders ran dangerously low. Betty Zane volunteered to leave the fort to renew the supply. Surrounded by a hail of bullets, Betty returned to the fort clutching her apron that was filled with the powder that saved the garrison. Her monument is to be seen on the Ohio side of the river, at Martins Ferry.

MARY BICKERDYKE
Born in Knox County, Ohio, Mary Bickerdyke distinguished herself as the "mother" of nearly a million dirty, unwashed, unloved foot soldiers in the ranks of the Northern armies that slogged and fought their way through the western campaigns of the Civil War.

Mother Bickerdyke's continuing efforts to improve the medical and health conditions of her boys saved many lives. Generals Grant and Sherman both came to be her strong supporters and gave her great credit for the success of their armies.
Some of Ohio's Famous Men

ALFRED E. KELLEY
Born November 7, 1810, Alfred Kelley came to Cleveland in 1810. On his twenty-first birthday, he was admitted to the bar and was appointed prosecuting attorney. Served in the Ohio House of Representatives which met at Chillicothe, then the capital of the State. He is noted for supervising construction of Ohio's famous canal system. During panic of 1837, Kelley pledged his personal fortune to save Ohio from bankruptcy. He built three railroads, including the first line to link Ohio with the eastern markets.

JOSEPH B. FORAKER
Served as Ohio Governor from 1886 to 1890 and became known as "Fire Alarm Joe Foraker." Born in Rainsboro, Ohio, in 1846, Foraker served with the 89th Ohio volunteers in the Civil War. In 1869, he served two full terms as United States Senator. However, his political career ended when he strongly opposed President Theodore Roosevelt's orders to discharge without honor every man of his former regiment who became involved in the Brownsville, Texas episode of 1906.

COMMODORE ABRAHAM WHIPPLE
Fired the first naval gun of the Revolutionary War in Narragansett Bay. After the war, Commodore Whipple settled in Marietta and captains the seagoing tug "St. Clair." He was instrumental in bringing ocean-going vessels up the Ohio River to Marietta.

JOHN P. GREEN
Born a son of a North Carolina slave, Green migrated to Ohio and became a great Ohioan, American and humanitarian. John Green was educated in Cleveland, where he attended law school. As a member of the Ohio legislature in 1890, he introduced the bill that established Labor Day.

GENERAL AUGUST WILICHL
Famous Ohio citizen who was born in Prussia, came to America in 1833, and joined the 9th Ohio regiment at the outbreak of the Civil War. His troops made the first bayonet charge of the war at Mill Springs, Kentucky. Served as Brevet Major General and served until he was badly wounded. He retired to the village of St. Marys, Ohio, to live out his life.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER
Fabulous business man who obtained his early business education and experience in Cleveland and went on to become the world's first billionaire. Attended Fuszum Business College in Cleveland and, after graduating, entered the oil business. He founded the firm that later became the Standard Oil Company. Many schools, laboratories and institutions have started from the generous donations of "John D."
"OHIO FIRSTS"

AIRCRAFT
First controllable pitch propeller for aircraft invented by Harold Smith of Cleveland.

THE AIRPLANE
On December 17, 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright demonstrated to the world the first successful airplane.

AUTOMOBILE SELF-STARTER
The first automobile self-starter was invented by Charles F. Kettering in 1911.

BOY SCOUTS
Daniel Beard of Cincinnati, Ohio, formed a boy's group called the Sons of Daniel Boone. In 1910, the group became known as the Boy Scouts of America.

CASH REGISTER
The world's first cash register was patented by James Ritty, November 4, 1879.

CHEWING GUM
The first chewing gum patent was issued to W. F. Semple of Mt. Vernon in 1869.

CHILDREN'S HOME
In 1867, Catherine Fay founded the first public-supported Children's Home near Marietta.

CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE
Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio became the first co-educational college in America in 1833.

COMMERCIAL CHICK HATCHERY
The world's first commercial hatchery was started in New Washington, Crawford County, in 1897. Ohio now has more than 700 hatcheries.

CONCRETE PAVING
The first concrete street in the U.S. was located in Bellefontaine in 1892.

CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
The first conservancy district in the United States was the Miami Conservancy District, Dayton, followed by the Muskingum Conservancy District. These played an important part in passage of the National Conservancy Act.

CHEWING GUM
The first dental school was founded by John M. Harris, M.D., at Bainbridge, Ohio, in 1828.

ELECTRIC LIGHT
Thomas Alva Edison, born in 1847, at Milan. One of the world's greatest inventors. Developed the electric light and contributed greatly to motion pictures.

GASOLINE STATIONS
World's first automobile filling station dealing exclusively in the sale of gasoline and petroleum products was located in Columbus, 1917.

4-H CLUBS
The first 4-H Club was organized in Springfield, Ohio in 1902, by A. B. Graham.

HOT DOGS
Harry Mossely Stevens, an iron puddler from Niles, wrapped frankfurters in rolls, took concession license at the New York Polo Grounds in 1900 and made the "hot dog" an American institution.

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MATCHES
The first book matches in the world were made in 1896 at the Barberton Match Co. in Barberton, Ohio.

ORGANIZED BASEBALL
The world's first professional baseball team, the Cincinnati Red Stockings, was organized in 1866 by Aaron Champion.

RADIO
The first radio license in the United States was issued to a Cincinnati resident in 1911.

SCHOOL BOOKS
William McGuffey ... Reader. Platt Roger Spencer ... Penmanship. Joseph Ray ... Arithmetic.

SOLDIER'S HOME
On March 21, 1866, the first national Soldier's Home was established in Dayton, Ohio.

STREET LIGHTS
The world's first electric arc lights, invented by Charles F. Brush, were installed on Cleveland streets in 1879.

WOMAN JUDGE
In 1922, Florence E. Allen became the first woman in the United States to serve as a judge in the State Supreme Court.
Ohio Flag

The state flag was officially adopted by the General Assembly of Ohio in 1902. It is the only pennant-shaped flag among those of the 50 states. The symbolism of the official banner as explained by John Eisemann, who designed it, is: "The triangles formed by the main lines of the flag represent the hills and valleys as typified in the State Seal, and the stripes, the roads and waterways.

"The stars, indicating the thirteen original states of the Union, are grouped about the circle which represents the Northwest Territory, and that Ohio was the seventeenth state admitted into the Union is shown by adding four more stars. The white circle with its red center not only represents the initial letter of Ohio, but is suggestive of its being the Buckeye State."

The Great Seal of Ohio

The Constitution, adopted in November 1802 for the new state, provided for the Great Seal of Ohio.

Early in 1803 several officials attended a gathering at Adena near Chillicothe (Ohio's first capital) and stayed until a late hour. This group included Governor Edwin Tiffin, U. S. Senator Thomas Worthington and Secretary of State William Creighton. As they were leaving they noticed the sun rising between the hills of Mount Logan and it was this sight which inspired Mr. Creighton to design the seal.

In 1803 the Legislature adopted Mr. Creighton's design as the official seal. Its official description follows: In the foregoing a sheaf of wheat and sheaf of seventeen arrows with a mountain in the background, over which shall appear a rising sun. The arrows indicate that Ohio was the seventeenth state admitted to the Union. The mountain and rising sun indicate that it was the first state west of the Alleghenies.
State Motto

"With God All Things Are Possible."
The State of Ohio did not have an official motto until 1959. James Mastro nardo of Cincinnati, a 12 year old school boy, suggested the motto taken from Matthew 12:26. He appeared before the General Assembly in support of his suggestion and it was adopted and became effective October 1, 1959.

The unofficial motto, which had been known for years, was "An Empire within an Empire."

State Flower

Two factors determined the selection of the scarlet carnation as the State Flower. The strain was developed in Ohio at Alliance, and it was the favorite flower of President William McKinley who was a native Ohioan. It was adopted by the Ohio General Assembly in 1904.

State Tree

Although the Buckeye tree was not officially named the state tree by the Ohio General Assembly until 1953 during Ohio's Sesquicentennial Celebration, Ohioans have been nicknamed -"Buckeyes"- for over 100 years. This tree, native to Ohio, was used by the early settlers for building purposes. The Indians called the Buckeye-"Hetuck"-meaning eye of the buck deer because of the striking resemblance of the seed, both in color, shape and appearance, to the eye of the deer.

State Bird

The Ohio General Assembly adopted the cardinal as the State Bird in 1933. The cardinal is known for its bright red plumage, strong-voiced song and high crest. It is a nonmigratory bird.
Ohio's Wealth in Industry and Agriculture

The Buckeye State can be described as the hub of America's commerce, industry and agriculture. Ohio's wealth is obtained through its natural resources, its great industrial centers and from the rich, fertile farm lands that extend across the state. Ohio maintains its position as the leading industrial state in the central region and second in the nation.

There are more than 1,500 trades and skills represented in the state. The manufacturing facilities that turn out the machine tools, cranes, clay products, glass, iron, rubber and ceramics all add to the tremendous sum of a 12-billion-dollar annual business.

Ohio ranks among the first ten states in the gross value of farm production.

Today, modern farm equipment and electrical facilities, plus the improved methods of land use, have increased farm production to a value well in excess of a billion dollars a year.

Within a 500-mile radius of Ohio are located 75 per cent of the Nation's consumer markets.