

CONTENT SUMMARY FOR TURNER EARTHWORKS, FLAGSTONE MOUND, SPEARHEAD MOUND, AND NEWTOWN FIREHOUSE SITE.

Turner Earthworks: Now mostly destroyed through graveling operations undertaken after World War II, the Turner Earthworks was one of the most unique geometric earthworks of the Hopewell (B.C./A.D. boundary to A.D. 400) period. Situated just south of the Little Miami River on a large series of elevated terraces, the earthwork complex consisted of a large oval enclosure with up to 12 mounds and two crescent-shaped earthworks. The oval was connected via a graded way to a higher terrace where it terminated into an elevated circle that contained two additional mounds. The Turner Complex was the scene of large scale excavations by Peabody Museum at Harvard during the 1880s and 1890s. Those excavations produced spectacular artifacts including those made of exotic raw materials.

Flagstone (Oddfellows) Cemetery Mound: Numerous mounds were once located in the vicinity of Newtown, but the vast majority have either been destroyed or heavily damaged. The Flagstone Cemetery Mound is an excellent example of what these mounds once looked like on the landscape. Located near the center of the historic cemetery along Roundbottom Road, the mound stands approximately 12 feet high, and has a basal diameter of approximately 100 feet. Today, it is one of the tallest mounds still surviving in southwest Ohio. It has never been excavated, and is probably either an Early Woodland (Adena) (ca. 1000 B.C. to B.C./A.D. boundary) or Middle Woodland (Hopewell) (B.C./A.D. boundary to A.D. 400) construction. The mound is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Spearhead (Walker) Mound: Located south of State Route 32, the Spearhead Mound was the largest mound in Hamilton County in the nineteenth century. Covering approximately 1 acre, the mound was approximately 40 feet high with the width at base varying from 150 to 250 feet. It was almost certainly an Adena (ca. 1000 B.C. to B.C./A.D. boundary) construction. The mound was not excavated during the nineteenth century, but during the Depression, tunnels were constructed into the interior where log tomb burials were exposed. It was destroyed by graveling in the 1940s. The Spearhead Mound was almost certainly in the top ten tallest mounds in the U.S

Newtown Firehouse Site: The location of the Newtown Museum, the Firehouse Site is one of the most significant Native American sites in the Central Ohio River Valley. Skeletons were uncovered during the original construction of the Baptist Church in 1841, and again during the placement of a hose tower building in 1981. The latter construction exposed a half dozen burials, some of which contained exotic grave goods including a pair of engraved marine shell gorgets. Subsequent excavations in 2006 revealed additional burials, habitation debris, trash pits, and additional exotic grave goods. The site is diagnostic for the Newtown Phase, and likely dates to approximately A.D. 400 to A.D. 500. The extent of the site is unknown, although the broad terrace upon which it rests is occupied by much of the center of the Village of Newtown.

SCHEMATIC DESIGN
PRELIMINARY - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Cincinnati
Museum
Center

Union Terminal
1301 Western Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45213

NEW EXHIBITS
for the
MUSEUM & ADMIN BUILDING
VILLAGE OF NEWTOWN
3537 CHURCH STREET
NEWTOWN, OH 45244

Date: 17JUL12

Sheet No.

EX.5