DRAFT A.

2017

Appleseed Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Submission for Eligibility

Ohio Department of Transportation

Submitted February 24, 2017
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INTRODUCTION AND MAP

A. Byway Introduction

The concept of a new organization, known as Appleseed Scenic Byway and Eco-Heritage Corridor (ABC), is being tested for the purpose of preserving, conserving and promoting the scenic, cultural, historical, natural, architectural, archaeological and recreational integrity and significance of Ohio’s Ashland and Richland counties, thus enhancing residents’ and visitors’ experiences while traveling through the region.

Focusing on State Route 39 from Loudonville to Mansfield and SR 603 from Mifflin to Malabar Farm, an ABC byway steering committee, representing private, public, local, state, cultural, archaeological, geological, historical, educational and philanthropic interests has been formed to prepare data required by the State of Ohio Byways Program. The ABC byway steering committee is presenting this Phase I. Eligibility Submission to eventually secure official designation and manage a strategic comprehensive corridor management plan designed to meet the Ohio Byways requirements.

ABC’s committee members will be comprised of representatives from local and regional resources whose mission will be to focus on managing a proposed scenic byway involving State Route 39 between Loudonville and Mansfield, Ohio and State Route 603 between the Village of Mifflin and Malabar Farm, as well as surrounding associated destinations relative to the life, times and themes of John “Appleseed” Chapman, which include Appleseed’s original landholdings and nurseries, original sites of American Indian culture, early settlers and settlements, events during the War of 1812 and related present-day destinations.

It will be ABC’s intention to manage the route and surrounding corridor equitably for all who pass through this unique area of North Central Ohio.

The Resource: What is Appleseed Country?

A migration of Indians throughout Ohio began due to unstable conditions created by the American Revolution. Delaware Indians abandoned the village of Helltown (c. 1750) south of present day Pleasant Hill Lake and settled five miles northeast on the present site of Greentown, along with a small group of Mingo, Mohawk and Mohican Indians, as early as 1782.

John “Appleseed” Chapman had an amicable relationship with the Delaware and was known to visit Greentown on his travels throughout the region, when he arrived here as early as 1807. Observers noted that there were at least 60 dwellings at Greentown by 1812.

Although considered peaceful, the intentions of the Greentown Indians were questioned during the War of 1812. Following General William Hull’s surrender to the British at Detroit on August 16, 1812, residents were removed from Greentown, sometime around September 2, for fear that they would aid “unfriendly” Indians. Greentown’s Chief Armstrong was assured, through the urging of local settler James Copus, that Greentown’s property would be inventoried and protected until peace ensued.
However, a faction of militiamen, who “assisted” in the removal, disobeyed orders and stayed behind to set fire to the village.

This unfortunate act spawned various tragic consequences including the killing of Chief Toby in Mansfield, the Ruffner/Zimmer attack south of Mifflin and the Copus battle north of Greentown, all in which Appleseed and many others found themselves caught in the middle. Appleseed knew them all and seemed to traverse the area with impunity, warning local settlers of impending attacks, as he was so highly regarded by both the settlers and Indians. At this time Appleseed had already planted numerous apple tree nurseries nearby and would soon be securing various land holdings in our area, which he called home for over 20 years.

The Opportunity

The name **Johnny Appleseed** is well known and his characteristics are synonymous with themes already represented by existing local destinations such as embracing conservation at Gorman Nature Center, pondering history at Johnny Appleseed Heritage Center, examining horticulture at Kingwood Center, considering agriculture at Malabar Farm, investigating environmentalism at Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors, engaging humanitarianism at Ohio Bird Sanctuary, respecting other cultures at Greentown, reflecting spirit on Mohican Waters, researching roots at Ohio Genealogical Society, seeking recreation at Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District Lakes, or just resting at Mohican State Park, to name a few. A byway is supposed to tell a story and no one else—anywhere else—has the opportunity that we do to share Appleseed’s story through current and proposed destinations en route SR 39, SR 603 and their surrounds.

The Case

The Ohio Department of Transportation states that its Scenic Byway Program is, “A grassroots effort designed to increase the focus on Ohio’s history and to preserve, enhance and protect the State’s intrinsic resources for visitors and residents of the state by designation of highways, roads and streets as scenic byway corridors. Through partnerships with communities, organizations and government agencies, efforts can be combined to promote travel and recreation, and to enhance and provide stewardship for the features that distinguish the designated byways. With this collaboration it is hoped that we can establish a balance between conservation and land use that heightens the experience of traveling designated byways while improving the quality of life in communities.”

ABC can increase the cultural and economic impact of our region while enhancing its aesthetic beauty. It can fit easily into the existing mix of regional, historic, conservation and culture-themed nonprofit and for profit organizations, such as those mentioned above, as well as virtually connect with Lincoln Highway Historic Byway, Gateway to Amish Country Byway, Amish Country Byway, Wally Road Byway and Mohican State Scenic River. Other benefits include resource protection, community recognition, economic development/tourism, community visioning and partnering. Also, in tandem with historical markers, education programs and other means of interpretation, a byway can increase awareness, pride, a sense of belonging and can introduce visitors to other resources unrelated to Appleseed.
Considering that a byway must exhibit significant, exceptional, and distinctive features of the region that it traverses, ABC already has a good start. Thanks to earlier efforts, Appleseed story-related venues and assets are already in place, such as the Appleseed Heritage Center and Amphitheatre, Johnny Appleseed Forest, Greentown Preservation Association, and several Appleseed-related Ohio Historical Markers along State Routes 39 and 603, and the downtowns of Mansfield and Mount Vernon. The tallest known Appleseed wooden sculpture can be found at Mohican Wilderness.

North Central Ohio has the richest heritage of Appleseed lore anywhere on Earth—most of his landholdings, nurseries, personal relationships, his life and legacy. An Appleseed Byway and Corridor make sense.
B. Byway Route Map

Map Legend

Brown—Lincoln Highway Historic Byway
Purple—Proposed Appleseed Byway
Light Green—Gateway to Amish Country Byway
Dark Green—Wally Road Byway
Bright Blue—Mohican State Scenic River
Orange—Amish Country Byway
BYWAY STRATEGIC PLAN: VISION, MISSION, GOALS AND ACTIONS

A. Vision and Mission

Vision: Enrich lives of all who pass this way.

Mission: Appleseed Country Scenic Byway and Eco-Heritage Corridor (ABC), shall preserve, conserve and promote the scenic, cultural, historical, natural, architectural, archaeological and recreational integrity and significance of Ashland and Richland counties, Ohio, thus enriching residents’ and visitors’ experiences while traveling through the region.

B. Accomplishments since last CMP Formation

Case for Appleseed Byway developed 2012

Appleseed Power Point presentation produced and in service (9 minutes) 2012

Numerous meetings/formal presentations with community leaders to test concept, 2012-13 (list follows)

News articles (examples in Appendix)

Public Meeting with Shyna Gawell: March 14, 2013

Formation of formal Steering Committee March 2013

Appleseed Byway rack brochure published spring 2013

Steering Committee Meetings: 2013—April 18; July 16; August 21; September 25

Numerous individual meetings with steering committee members: 2013-14

Public Presentations: 2013—March 14; June 22; September 26. 2014—August 9 (details follow)

C. Goals and Objectives

Preliminary Phase

Goal I. Test concept of ABC

Objectives:

Obtain/study revised (June 2012) byway requirements from ODOT’s Ohio Byways Program (OBP)—Completed

Obtain encouraging and positive reactions from OBP and Ohio Historical Society—Completed
Obtain public reactions by interviewing a cross section of residents, businesses and parks; town, village, city, township and county government officials, located along the proposed byway route—**Completed**

Report findings to interviewees, obtain reactions, determine *go/no go*—**March 14, 2013**

**Goal II. Form ABC Steering Committee**

Objective:

Recruit cross section of interested persons (interviewees and others) from throughout the region to form and serve on the ABC Steering Committee—**June 2013**

**Phase I.—Preparation**

Details for Phases I., II. and III. are amplified at:


**Goal I. Prepare to Secure Eligibility**

Objectives:

Committee members familiarize themselves with, and commit to, OBP’s requirements—**Completed**

Identify and assign responsibilities to committee members for the purpose of gathering and preparing documentation that supports ABC’s eligibility—**Completed**

**Goal II. Secure Eligibility**

Objective:

Submit program criteria, outlining ABC’s intrinsic resources and demonstrating community support to OBP for approval—**Deadline, October 18, 2013**  **Spring 2017**

**Phase II.—Designation**

**Goal I. Prepare “Corridor” Management Plan**

Objectives:

Organize comprehensive support data, protection techniques and management strategies for the Byway and associated Corridor—**Winter 2014 In progress**

Secure Ohio Scenic Byway Committee approval and official designation—**Spring 2014 TBD**
Phase III.—Implementation

Goal I. Put management plan into action—Summer 2014 TBD

Objectives:
(To be determined and identified in Corridor Management Plan)

BYWAY ORGANIZATION: STRUCTURE, COMMITTEES, VOLUNTEERS, PARTNERS AND BUDGET

A. Structure:

Family matters prohibited William E. Jones from further development of ABC, until recently.

B. Description of Current and Future Byway Committee Representatives, Partners and Stakeholders

The following are persons who have indicated interest in and/or support for ABC through at least one meeting or more of personal and formal interviews, each of 50 minutes or more duration, conducted by ABC Founder, William E. Jones, are:

Shyna Gawell, Manager
Scenic Byways Program
Ohio Department of Transportation
Columbus, Ohio 43233

Andy Verhoff, Local History Coordinator
Ohio Historical Society
Columbus, OH 43211

Kevin Long, Manufacturing Executive
Step2
Perrysville, OH 44864

Tim Cowan, President
Cowen Truck Line, Inc.
Perrysville, OH 44864

Herman Stine, Director
Richland Community Development Group
Mansfield, OH 44902

Evan Scurti, Director
Ashland Area Council for Economic Development
Ashland, OH 44805
Robert Yun/Georgia Kauffman  
Mohican-Loudonville Convention and Visitors Bureau  
131 W. Main Street  
Loudonville, OH 44842

Ken Daubert, Mayor  
Village of Perrysville, OH  
Perrysville, OH 44864

William E. Jones, President  
Greentown Preservation Association, Inc.  
Perrysville, OH 44864

Richland County Commissioners  
50 Park Ave. East  
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

Ashland County Commissioners  
110 Cottage Street  
Ashland, OH 44805

David and “Dee Dee” Culler, Proprietors  
The Old Summer House Bed and Breakfast  
3501 St. Rt. 39  
Lucas, OH 44843

Bruce and Karen Beck, Proprietors (retired)  
The Olde Stone House Bed and Breakfast  
291 Stewart Road N  
Mansfield, OH 44905

Green Township Trustees  
137 East Pleasant Street  
Perrysville, OH 44842

Janet Chatlain  
Hattery & Chatlain Nursery  
1468 Lucas Road  
Mansfield, OH 44903-8554

Denise Vales/Dan Mager, Regional Park Manager (retired)  
Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District  
1277A State Route 430  
Mansfield, OH 44903
Those who have expressed a further Interest in and/or support for ABC resulting from having attended the ABC Public Meeting on March 14, 2013 are:

Denise Vales, Administrative Assistant
Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District
1277A State Route 430
Mansfield, OH 44903

Bruce Beck, Proprietor (retired)
The Olde Stone House Bed and Breakfast
Mansfield, OH 44905

Cheryl Bowen, Member
Perrysville Economic Development, Incorporated
164 South Bridge Street
Perrysville, OH 44864

Amy Daubenspeck, Executive Director
Ashland Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
211 Claremont
Ashland, OH 44805

Joe Eggerton, President
Perrysville Economic Development, Incorporated
P.O. Box 35
Perrysville, OH 44864
Kevin Nestor, President  
Richland Area Chamber of Commerce  
55 North Mulberry Street  
Mansfield, OH 44902

Hal Scheaffer  
Johnny Appleseed Heritage Center, Incorporated  
C/o811 Center Street  
Ashland, OH 44805

Lee Tasseff, President  
Mansfield and Richland County Convention and Visitors Bureau  
124 North Main Street  
Mansfield, OH 44904

Facilitators in Attendance:

Robert Yun, Executive Director  
Mohican-Loudonville Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Loudonville, OH 44842

William E. Jones, Appleseed Byway Proposer  
3160 Golden Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Shyna Gawell, Manager  
Scenic Byways Program  
Ohio Department of Transportation  
Columbus, Ohio 43233

Also In Attendance:

Jim Brewer, Reporter  
Loudonville Times/Ashland Times Gazette  
265 West Market Street  
Loudonville, OH 44842

Annette McCormick, Citizen
Persons indicating interest and some signing a guest book at the ABC booth at Perrysville’s Bicentennial Fair, Summer 2013: Several hundred

Persons indicating interest and some signing a guest book at the ABC booth at Loudonville’s Bicentennial Fair, Summer 2014: Several hundred

Persons indicating interest and some signing a guest book at the ABC exhibit at Appleseed Ohio Historic Marker dedication September 26, 2014, Wappner Funeral Home, Mansfield: Sixty-eight in attendance.

C. Primary and Secondary Byway Leader Contact Information

Prior to securing byway eligibility, further Steering Committee Members will be recruited as necessary. Following securing eligibility, Byway Corridor Management Committee members will be identified and recruited from lists of interested persons identified at interviews, public meetings, etc.

Current ABC steering Committee members are:

David and “Dee Dee” Culler, The Old Summer House Bed and Breakfast

Amy Daubenspeck, Ashland Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Joe Eggerton, Perrysville Economic Development, Incorporated

William Jones, Founder, Appleseed Byway and Corridor

Georgia Kauffman, Mohican-Loudonville Convention and Visitors Bureau

Lee Tasseff, Mansfield and Richland County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Denise Vales, Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District

D. Level of Participation in State/Regional Byway Meetings and Trainings—TBD

E. Byway Leadership Succession Plan—TBD

F. Current and Future (Five Year) Funding Needs—TBD
BYWAY CORRIDOR CONDITIONS: ROADWAYS, SAFETY, INTRINSIC RESOURCES, ACCESSIBILITY

A. Road Conditions TBD

B. List of Primary and Secondary Intrinsic Qualities/Resources (Primary and secondary status levels TBD)

Northwest Route—SR 39 from Loudonville to Mansfield (AF = Appleseed Friend(s))

Loudonville
Downtown Victorian-style architecture
Log Cabin in downtown Square
Cleo Redd Fisher Museum and Mohican Historical Society
Ohio Theater and Police Station
Ohio Historical Marker commemorating Charles F. Kettering
Embarkation points to three existing and one proposed Ohio Byways, one Ohio Scenic River, (ref. map)
Home of Mohican Country and Ohio Canoe capita
Wolf Creek Grist Mill

Loudonville to Perrysville
Appleseed leasehold and tree nursery site

Perrysville
Site of Coulter’s Blockhouse (Perrysville founder and AF), current VFW
Site of Jedediah Smith home (mountain man and AF)
Early Presbyterian Church with pioneer cemetery of many AFs
Home of Rosella Rice, major Victorian author who knew and wrote about Appleseed
Site of Appleseed’s home base for many years
Home of Appleseed’s half sister Persis Broom for many years

Perrysville to Lucas
Ohio Historical Marker at site of Appleseed landholding, adjoining site of AF first settler A. Baughman
Black Fork river valley consisting of geological kames, eskers and kettles
Ohio Historical Marker at site of AFs Delaware Indian village of Greentown (or Armstrong’s Town)
Site of Mohawk Town and Mohawk Hill

Lucas
Town laid out by AF John Tucker
SR 39 somewhat same route as taken by displaced Greentown Indians during War of 1812

Lucas to Mansfield
Appleseed landholding near I-71 and SR 39
Site of Beam’s blockhouse and earliest settler Jacob Newman (AFs) at I-71 and SR 39 intersection
Mansfield
Site of Appleseed nursery
Site of Appleseed town lot
Site of major Appleseed landholding
Site of Appleseed’s run for reinforcements following an attack during War of 1812
Site of Delaware Indians’ (AFs) encampment during displacement from Greentown
Richland Carousel Park, Mansfield Historic Carrousel District and Carrousel
Shawshank Trail Driving Tour filming sites

North to South Route—SR 603 from Mifflin to Malabar Farm (AF = Appleseed Friend(s))

Mifflin
Site of old Thomas Tavern (AF) (currently Mifflin Inn) where Appleseed often slept
Sites of numerous Appleseed tree nurseries
Near entrance to Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District’s Charles Mill Lake
Site of Martin Ruffner cabin (AF), killed during Ruffner/Zimmer attack, War of 1812

Mifflin to Mohawk Hill at intersection of SRs 603 and 39
Site of Zimmer cabin and graves of fallen (AFs) during Ruffner/Zimmer attack
Entrance to Appleseed Heritage Center and Appleseed Forest
Ohio Historical Marker commemorating attacks during War of 1812 in which Appleseed warned
Site of Reverend Copus cabin attack and early Appleseed planted apple trees, graves of fallen and
earliest known monument commemorating Appleseed
Mohawk Hill where Greentown villagers turned to look back at their homes in flames during
displacement

Mohawk Hill at intersection of SRs 603 and 39 to Malabar Farm
Near friend’s land
Malabar Farm where author Louis Bromfield wrote about his Aunt Matties’s stories about Appleseed
Shawshank Trail Driving Tour filming sites at Malabar Farm

C. Changes in Intrinsic Qualities/Resources since last CMP TBD
D. Accessibility to Intrinsic Quality/Resources: Pull-Offs, Parking, Rest Areas, Visitor Amenities, etc. TBD

VISITOR EXPERIENCE: INTERPRETATION, STORIES, PRESERVATION, WAYFINDING/SIGNAGE

A. Interpretation since Designation TBD
B. Byway Story

Whether you are a resident, guest to our area, or just passing through, the Johnny Appleseed Scenic Byway will enhance your experience.

Although John “Appleseed” Chapman was born in Massachusetts on September 26, 1774, and died in Indiana on March 18, 1845, he spent a large portion of his adult life in and throughout north central Ohio.

Today, Ohio State Routes 39 and 603 pass many of Appleseed’s land holdings, apple tree nursery sites, and other significant historical locations and event sites associated with Appleseed’s heroic life and deeds.

Numerous commemorative monuments and historical markers already identify locations where Appleseed lived and worked. More are planned.

The Byway route passes within sight of former homes of those with whom Appleseed associated—Jedediah Smith, mountain man and fur trader; Rosella Rice, Victorian period author of national renown; and Delaware Indians from Greentown, who played such an important role in the area’s early history during the War of 1812.

But, the Appleseed Scenic Byway weaves through more than the past. Today, the route offers access to Ohio’s canoe capitol, Mohican Country, Mohican State Forest and Park, Johnny Appleseed Heritage Center and Amphitheatre, Appleseed Forest, Malabar Farm, Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, Amish country and some of the prettiest farms and scenery in Ohio.

Appleseed Scenic Byway is a good idea!

C. Future Interpretation TBD

D. Plans for Improving Visitor Experience

ABC founder, William E. Jones is developing a tour guide to Appleseed Country which will amplify the touring experience throughout the Appleseed Byway routes as well as the larger corridor’s surrounds by including documented history, related stories, folklore, photographs, historic location sites, Appleseed relationships and Appleseed theme-related destinations.

E. Preservation TBD

F. Sign Inventory: Documentation of Location and Condition of Signs TBD

i. Existing official ODOT byway signs. To be indentified at existing adjoining byways

ii. Local byway signs. TBD

iii. Interpretive signs. TBD

iv. Future sign needs. TBD
MARKETING: PROMOTION, FEATURED ATTRACTIONS AND FUTURE PLANS

A. Current and Future Planned Marketing Activities  TBD
B. Recommended Products or Attachments for Media and Public Relations  TBD
   i. Short description of byway for use in publications.  TBD
   ii. Seasonal digital photographs (at least 300 dpi).  TBD
   iii. Brief description of the top 5-10 unique/authentic attractions on the byway.  TBD
   iv. Provide website/URL (if available) and local website/URL that manages byway.  TBD
   v. Marketing contact information:  TBD

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: COMMUNITY PARTNERS, PUBLIC FORUMS, CRITICAL ISSUES

A. Ongoing Communication and Cooperation with Community Partners  TBD
B. Public Meeting and Public Participation Opportunities
   First Formal Public Meeting—March 14, 2013, conducted at Mohican School in the Outdoors, Butler, OH. Included survey questionnaires.
   Public presentation—June 22, 2013, participated in parade and booth at Perrysville Bicentennial Fair. Distributed ABC Rack brochure; hundreds stopped to talk. Virtually no discouraging, disparaging input. All positive.
   Formal Public Presentation—September 26, 2013, conducted at Wappner Funeral Home, Mansfield, at site of Appleseed’s Town Lot Ohio Historical Marker Dedication ceremony. Included 20-minute Appleseed history and byway presentation, Appleseed Byway table exhibit and Ohio Governor Proclamation. Distributed ABC Rack brochure; approximately 68 in attendance.
   Public Presentation—August 9, 2014, participated in parade and booth at Loudonville’s Bicentennial Fair. Distributed ABC Rack brochure; hundreds stopped to talk. Virtually no discouraging, disparaging input. All positive.
C. Steps Taken to Update Byway Mission and Vision  TBD
D. Narrative on Critical Issues and How They Will Be Addressed  TBD  (None identified at this time)
A. Ohio Byway sign inventory (Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet, GIS information formatted as latitude, longitude as per ODOT guidelines) TBD

Proposed Sign Inventory (First Draft)

Northwest Route:
Loudonville— SR 30/60 at Ashland/Holmes counties lines (Amish Byway) [1]; Main and SR 39 [2]
Perrysville—SR 39 and SR 95 [2 or 4]
Mohawk Hill—SR 39 and SR 603 [4]
Lucas—SR 39 corp. lines [2]
Mansfield—SR 39 and Park Avenue East (Lincoln Highway Byway SR 430) [2]; SR 39 and Main Street [1]; Main Street and East 1st Street [1]

Subtotal: 15 to 17 signs

North/South Route:
Mifflin Village at Mifflin Tavern, SR 430 and SR 603 [1]
Mohawk Hill—SR 603 and SR 39 (same [4] as in Northwest Route above)
Malabar Farm—SR 603 and SR 95, [1]

Subtotal: 2 signs

Grand total: 17 to 19 signs
Map Legend

Brown—Lincoln Highway Historic Byway
Purple—Proposed Appleseed Byway
Light Green—Gateway to Amish Country Byway
Dark Green—Wally Road Byway
Bright Blue—Mohican State Scenic River
Orange—Amish Country Byway
Map Legend

Red—Proposed Northwest/Southeast Appleseed Byway (SR 39)

Gold—Proposed North/South Appleseed Byway (SR 603)
C. Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations (Map II)

Map Legend

Red—Appleseed Landholdings (squares), nursery sites, acquaintances, etc.
C. Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations (Map III)

Map Legend

Red—Delaware Indian village of Greentown (circle)

Red—Indicating earliest settlement in Richland County (Baughman 1807); Appleseed landholding and nursery (1815); Jones landholdings where Appleseed historical events took place
C. Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations (Map IV)

Map Legend

Red—Appleseed landholdings (squares) and other Appleseed historical events
C. Maps Identifying Primary Intrinsic Quality/Resource Locations (Map V)

Map Legend

Red—Delaware Indian encampment during displacement from Greentown c. 1812; Appleseed town lot, c. 1816
D. Byway Photographs- Include a number of images of your byway, at least one from each season.

**Appleseed Byway Northwest Route; State Route 39, starting in Loudonville to Mansfield**

“Workman Cabin” Downtown Loudonville Park; looking NW

Early Appleseed nursery site; SR 39 West, between Loudonville and Perrysville
Site of Jedediah Smith’s (mountain man) home, Appleseed friend, now VFW, Perrysville

Church with early pioneer cemetery, where many Appleseed friends are buried, Perrysville
Home of famous author Rosella Rice, friend of Appleseed, Perrysville

Ohio Historical Marker at Appleseed landholding, SR 39 west
Original Weirick Farm, Appleseed friend, near Indian village of Greentown, SR 39 west.

Ohio Historical Marker at site of Delaware (Appleseed friends) Indian village of Greentown, SR 39 west.
Mohawk Hill; looking back SE at Mohawk Town and Greentown in distance, SR 39 west

Early Appleseed landholding in SW distance at Intersection I-71 and SR 39
Site of Beam’s Blockhouse (formerly Newman’s cabin), Appleseed friends, at I-71 and SR 39

Downtown Mansfield, near Appleseed nursery site and other Appleseed-related events, SR 39 west
Appleseed mural on Main Street, Mansfield (looking southeast)

Ohio Historical Marker, Mansfield Square, where Appleseed ran for reinforcements during War of 1812, looking southwest
Possibly oldest standing building in Mansfield’s downtown, South Main Street, where Delaware Indians (Appleseed friends) encamped during displacement from Greentown, during War of 1812, looking northwest ↑

Ohio Historical Marker (not shown) at site of Appleseed town lot, downtown Mansfield
Appleseed Byway North to South Route; State Route 603, starting in Mifflin to Malabar Farm

Site of old Thomas Tavern, where Appleseed often slept on floor, SR 603, looking east ↑

Entrance to Appleseed Heritage Center and Appleseed Forest, SR 603 (looking north)
Ohio Historical Marker, at Charles Mill Dam, between sites of two attacks during War of 1812, when Appleseed warned settlers

Entrance from SR 603 to Copus attack site and burials, where earliest known marker in tribute to Appleseed is located (1/4 mile)
Mohawk Hill at intersection of SR 39 and SR 603 (looking south)

Malabar Inn at Malabar Farm, intersection of SR 603 and Pleasant Valley Road
Malabar Farm, where author Louis Bromfield wrote about his Aunt Mattie’s memories of Appleseed
Commissioners to hear scenic byway proposal

By Al Lawrence
News Journal correspondent

MANSFIELD — The president of the Greenlowe Preservation Association said a state scenic byway designation for Ohio 99 between Mansfield and Loudonville would promote the area by drawing attention to its history.

Bill Jones told county commissioners Tuesday he is in the process of talking with local officials to see if there is enough interest in forming a byway committee to apply for the designation.

Jones presented a map showing a variety of historical sites tied to Johnny Appleseed and historical events leading up to the War of 1812 — including the former Delaware Indian village at Greenlowe and the Copus massacre that followed the burning of the town. He said having the byway extend to Mansfield, site of the blockhouse and the square, would allow people to experience events that also include sites in Lucas.

"Some byways, while they have scenic qualities, they don’t have the attributes that we have here," Jones said. "A scenic byway can help preserve our intrinsic assets."

Jones noted the byway could link visitors to other local assets, such as Malabar Farm, the Mohican Watershed Conservancy District hikes, Kingwood Center and the Ohio Bird Sanctuary. He also suggested the byway could link those in the region, including the Lincoln Highway (U.S. 30), the Andy Country Byway in Holmes and Wayne counties and the Gateway to Amish Country Byway in Knox County.

"Development of a byway does not require people to stay, but is a way of generating interest in the area," he said. "What we’re saying is if you follow the roads and trails you will see things."

Jones told commissioners he has contacted Lee Tasseff at the Mansfield-Richland County Convention and Visitors Bureau, officials at the Mohican-Loudonville CVB and a number of restaurants and local bed-and-breakfast operations. He has received a favorable response so far.

According to the Ohio Department of Transportation website, a local committee must be formed to determine if a proposed byway is eligible for designation and to develop a corridor management plan if the area is eligible. Criteria for byway designation include whether a corridor tells a story that relates to its intrinsic resource, exhibits significant, exceptional and distinctive features of the region and has the support of local development organizations and cities and villages.

Jones said officials hope to have erected on the site a small log cabin that was moved from Butler and is representative of the handmade log structures in Greenlowe.

He said future reconstruction will involve minimal excavation to protect possible burial sites.
PERRYSVILLE -- Bill Jones wants to spread the word about the life and times of the legendary Johnny Appleseed.

Appleseed, actually John Chapman, moved into pioneer Ohio from Massachusetts in the early 19th century and, Jones said, "spent the majority of his adult life in north central Ohio, what is now Ashland, Richland, Knox and Holmes counties," planting apple trees, buying property and becoming a friend to both the Native Americans and the pioneer settlers in the area.

In a presentation made before about 15 community leaders at the Mohican School in the Out of Doors school field trip center between Perrysville and Butler, Jones proposed getting state scenic byway designation for two state routes whose paths Chapman crossed many times between 1800 and 1840 -- Ohio 39 between Loudonville and Mansfield, and Ohio 603 from Ohio 95, west of Perrysville, to U.S. 30, northwest of Mifflin.

Visitors bureau directors from Mansfield, Ashland and Loudonville attended the meeting.

In building his case for the byway designation, Jones used maps to trace instances of Appleseed's presence along the two highways. Appleseed, Jones said, owned property just west of Loudonville and the Norman Sprang farm, and in Perrysville, where he reportedly stood with other settlers during a time of Indian unrest at the Coulter Blockhouse, located near the present day VFW Post 8586.

Union Cemetery in Perrysville, Jones continued, has grave markers for several people who were friends or contemporaries of Appleseed, including Solomon Hill, reportedly the first settler to die in what was then Richland County. He also was friends of Rosella Rice, a Perrysville woman who gained national fame as a writer of magazine articles and a novel; Abram Baughman, who had a large farm just north of Perrysville, near the Cowen Truck Lines facility; and John Tucker, the man who laid out the village of Lucas.

At the relatively new Ohio 39-Interstate 71 interchange, Appleseed once planted a nursery, and he had several in today's city of Mansfield.
The intersection of Ohio 603 and Ohio 430 just west of Mifflin was the site of still another Appleseed nursery, and at the site of today's Mifflin Inn once was a bunkhouse where Appleseed often slept.

Jones has made application and received approval for four Ohio historical markers on this route, and has a fifth in the process. And the Johnny Appleseed Heritage Center, built as an outdoor theater in his memory, is along 603 three miles south of Mifflin.

"There are all sorts of reasons to seek this designation," Jones said. "I have yet to hear anyone speak against the idea."

Shyna Gawell, coordinator of the Scenic Byway program through the Ohio Department of Transportation, said designation must be preceded by a formal application, with supporting documentation, and a review by ODOT officials and a byways review committee.

Jones said he plans to conduct two more meetings to elicit support for his idea before submitting the application.

"It appears Bill already has most of the historical documentation we would need for an application," Gawell said.

Bob Yun of Loudonville-Mohican Visitors Bureau said the Appleseed Byway would connect with Wally Road and Amish Country byways, which both end in Loudonville, "to make a series of byways on Ohio 39 from west of I-71 near Mansfield all the way to Dover in Tuscarawas County. Such a concept is bound to improve our already solid tourist attraction base."

Kevin Nestor of Mansfield-Richland County Chamber of Commerce called the byway "an additional attraction for this area, another reason to visit. I would love to see this happen."

Joe Eggerton, president of Perrysville Economic Development Committee, pledged his support.

"We certainly would like to see this happen."
Appleseed Scenic Byway can increase the cultural and economic impact of your region while enhancing its aesthetic beauty. It can fit easily into the existing mix of regional, historical, cultural and conservation-driven organizations, such as Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, those already mentioned and many more.

Other byway benefits include resource protection, community recognition, economic development/tourism, community visioning and partnering. Also, in tandem with historical markers, education programs and other means of interpretation, a byway can increase awareness, pride, a sense of belonging and can introduce visitors to other resources unrelated to Appleseed.

For more information or to learn how you can help, please visit one of the region’s Convention & Visitor’s Bureaus’ websites:
www.visitashlandohio.com
www.loudonville-mohican.com
www.mansfieldtourism.com
Or:
www.dot.state.oh.us/ohiobyways.com

Appleseed Scenic Byway
A Good Idea

\[ \text{Johnny Appleseed, } \text{from Harper's Magazine, November 1871} \]

“This way to “Appleseed Country!”

Whether you are a resident, guest to our area, or just passing through, the Johnny Appleseed Scenic Byway will enhance your experience.

Although John “Appleseed” Chapman was born in Massachusetts on September 20, 1774, and died in Indiana on March 18, 1845, he spent a large portion of his adult life in and throughout north central Ohio.

Today, Ohio State Routes 39 and 603 pass many of Appleseed’s land holdings, apple tree nursery sites, and other significant historical locations associated with Appleseed’s heroic life and deeds.

\[ \text{From Knapp’s History of Ashland County, 1865} \]
Numerous commemorative monuments and historical markers already identify locations where Appleseed lived and worked. More are planned.

The route passes within sight of former homes of those with whom Appleseed associated—Jedediah Smith, mountain man and fur trader; Rosella Rice, Perrysville author of national renown in the 1800s; and Delaware Indians from Greentown, who played such an important role in the area’s early history during the War of 1812.

But, the Appleseed Scenic Byway weaves through more than the past. Today, the route offers access to Ohio’s canoe capital—Mohican Country, Mohican State Forest and Park, Johnny Appleseed Heritage Center and Amphitheater, Malabar Farm, Amish country and some of the prettiest farms and scenery in Ohio.

Appleseed Country Scenic Byway will help to preserve, conserve and promote the scenic, cultural, historical, natural, architectural, archaeological and recreational integrity and significance of Ashland and Richland counties, Ohio.

Focusing on State Route 39 from Loudonville to Mansfield as the primary byway, with spurs utilizing SR 603 north to Mifflin and south to Malabar Farm, the route will connect to existing Ohio byways.

The Ohio Department of Transportation states that its Scenic Byway Program is, “A grassroots effort designed to increase the focus on Ohio’s history and to preserve, enhance and protect the State’s intrinsic resources for visitors and residents of the state by designation of highways, roads and streets as scenic byway corridors.”