

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

Ohio Historic Preservation Office
567 E. Hudson St.
Columbus, OH 43211
614/298-2000



1. No. LOR-1608-21		2. County Lorain		4. Present Name(s)		1. No. LOR-1608-21
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Cen						
Roll No. 10		Picture No.(s) 13,14		5. Historic or Other Name(s) Belden House, Junto House Dormitory		2. County Lorain
6. Specific Address or Location 287 West College Street		16. Thematic Associations: College, EDUCATION, Residential		28. No. of Stories Two and a half story		
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 0900-085-102-002		17. Date(s) or Period c. 1898	17b. Alteration Date(s)	29. Basement? Yes		4. Present or Historic Name(s)
7. City or Village If Rural, Township & Vicinity Oberlin		18. Style or Design Craftsman/Arts and Crafts,	High Style Elements	30. Foundation Material Unknown		
8. Site Plan with North Arrow		18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s) Dutch Colonial Revival		31. Wall Construction Balloon frame/western frame/pla		6. Specific Address or Location 287 West College Street
		19. Architect or Engineer		32. Roof Type Gable with side gab Roof Material Composition shin		
		19a. Design Sources		33. No. of Bays 2 Side Bays Irregular		
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: Oberlin 17 397205 4571644 Zone Easting Northing		20. Contractor or Builder		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Clapboard or weatherboard		
10. Classification: Building		21. Building Type or Plan Other House Type		35. Plan Shape L-shaped		
11. On National Register?		22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling, , ,		36. Changes (Explain in #42) Addition Yes Altered Moved		
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist?		23. Present Use Single Dwelling, ,		37. Window Type(s) 1 over 1,		
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)		24. Ownership Private		38. Building Dimensions 40 x 32		
		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known		39. Endangered? By What?		
		26. Property Acreage .24		40. Chimney Placement Center		
		27. Other Surveys		41. Distance from & Frontage on Road Approx. 30'		
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)						287 West College Street
<p>This Craftsman house has a Dutch Colonial Revival element in its gambrel roof. The house has a full front porch with a shed roof. The supports are slanted, in pairs and sets of three; they sit on top of walls comprised of wood shingles. Wood steps and railings lead up at the left side of the porch, and square lattice runs below. The door is at the extreme left and one large one-over-one window is at the far right. The second story has two large continued...</p>						
43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)						
<p>Ellen Scranton Belden, a recent widow of Rev. William Henry Belden, built this house in 1898 & lived here with her children Ellen, Mary, Evelina, William, & Charles (City Directory, Archives). Mrs. Belden & her husband were American Board Missionaries to Turkey (where twins, Ellen & Mary were born) & lived in NY & NJ before moving here (Archives). All 5 children attended OC & Mary was a teacher at Lake Erie College while living here in 1920 (City Directory, Archives). Evelina served in the continued...</p>						
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)						
This house, and those nearby, is in good condition.						
45. Sources of Information						
Blodgett, Geoffrey, 'Oberlin Architecture, College and Town: A Guide to Social History,' Oberlin College, 1985.; City Directories, O.H.I.O Resource Center.; Holsworth, Pat, Oberlin Pioneer Database.; Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet, http://www.lorainc continued...						

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51. Condition of Property: Good/Fair	54. Farmstead Plan
52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies	
53. Affiliated OAI Site Numbers	
Door Selection: Single off center	
Door Position: Flush	
Orientation: Lateral axis	
Symmetry: Bilateral symmetry	
FOR OHPO USE:	
49. Revised By:	
50a. Date Revised:	
50b. Reviewed by:	
RPR Number:	

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con't)

one-over-one windows and the hipped-roof dormer has four narrow one-over-ones. The second story of the house is comprised of wood shingles, and the first story appears to be vinyl siding. The windows may be replacements, but the storm windows make this difficult to determine. The west elevation has a large carport connected to the house, which extends over the driveway. A square, projecting bay window at the left side of the first story has a sloping, mansard-style roof. Two one-over-one windows are in the second story and attic. An arched window is located in the gable. The east elevation has a door near the center of the first story, with large, one-over-one windows to its right and two smaller windows to its left. Two windows line up directly above the door, with a decorative wood piece separating one from the other. Two one-over-one windows are located to the left and right of the second story and attic. An arched window is in the gable. The one-story addition at the rear has a door and a shed roof extending from it.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

American Red Cross Commission to Poland after WWI & was married in this house in 1922 (Oberlin News). Ellen served as president in the WCTU (Oberlin News). The children, except William were published in some way, & all but Selden were teachers (more info available in O.H.I.O.' s Building Files) (Archives). The Beldens lived here until about 1929 & were joined by Mrs. Laura Boyd in 1910 & Mrs. Jane Scranton (widow of Col. Charles) in 1908 (City Directory). In 1933-6, OHS teacher Maude Warner lived here with her child (City Directory). In 1937, Mary & Carlton Lee moved in with their daughter Carma Elaine & the house became a dorm called Junto House; Mary was its matron; Carlton was the director (City Directory). They lived here through 1948 (City Directory). From about 1956 through 1961, Arthur & Marion Bradley lived here; Arthur' s realty agency was at 11 W College (City Directory). In 1970 Prof. John Spencer lived here; he was director of Allen Art Museum (City Directory).

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Con't)

45. Sources (Con't)

county.com/auditor/index.shtml, Accessed 2003.; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.; Gordon, Stephen C., ' How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, 1992.; McAlester, Virginia and Lee, ' A Field Guide to American Houses,' Alfred K. Knopf Inc., New York, 2000.; ' Alumni Register: Graduates and Former Students, Teaching and Administrative Staff, (1833-1960),' Oberlin College, 1961.; ' Evelina Belden Reports on Red Cross Work in Poland,' ' Oberlin News,' 23 November 1921: 2.; ' Ellen S. Belden Chosen President, Non-Partisan WCTU,' ' Oberlin News,' 31 May 1923: 1.

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