



OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

Form with multiple sections: 1. No. LOR-02014-21, 4. Present Name(s) Black House, 2. County Lorain, 5. Historic or Other Name(s) Heacox-Black House, 6. Specific Address or Location 297 West College / 11 South Prospect, 19a. Design Sources, 35. Plan Shape Rectangular, 20. Contractor or Builder, 36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: 17. Original/Most significant construct, 21. Building Type or Plan I House, 17b. Substantial alteration/addition, 22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling Multiple Dwelling, 37. Window Type(s) 8 over 1 6 over 1, 23. Present Use Single Dwelling, 38. Building Dimensions 42' x 52', 24. Ownership Private, 39. Endangered? NO, 25. Owner's Name & Address, if known Virginia E. Black 11 South Prospect St. Oberlin, OH, 44074, 40. Chimney Placement Center, 26. Property Acreage 0.25, 41. Distance from & Frontage on Road 40', 27. Other Surveys, 28. No. of Stories Two story, 51. Condition of Property: Good/Fair, 29. Basement? Yes, 52. Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies Structure Type Garage, 30. Foundation Material Stone bearing, 31. Wall Construction Balloon/western/platform frame, Date Historic, 32. Roof Type Gable Roof Material Asphalt shingle, Associated Activity, 33. No. of Bays 5 Side Bays 5, 53. Affiliated Inventory Numbers Historic (OHI) Archaeological (OAI), 34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Clapboard or weatherboard Wood shingle

LOR-0201
2. County
Lorain
4. Present or Historic Name(s)
Black House

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)

This vernacular house has somewhat of an I-house plan. The front/north facade includes a full front porch, which has a hipped roof and simple, wood supports. A low wood clapboard wall runs the perimeter of the porch. Below the porch, vertical wood slats (rather than the more common lattice) conceal the underside of the porch. Modern, concrete steps and metal rails lead up to the porch. The entry at the first story (this is the entry for 297 W. College) is at the center and includes a wood door with nine lights in the upper half, and filled panels below. 8/1 double hung windows are to the left and right of the door (the left portion of the wall is slightly recessed). At the second story, two 8/1 windows are double hung. A two-story addition at the left is set back from the main body of the house and has two pairs of casement windows at the first and second story. This addition may be historic because the foundation appears to match the main body of the house. The east elevation has two pairs of 8/1 double hung windows at the first and second stories. A shingled gable with a triangular, louvered vent is in the gable. At the right side of the west elevation is a continued...

43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)

This house first appeared in city directories in 1902. The first known residents were Arthur E. Heacox and his wife Katherine (nee Marcy) of that year. Arthur was a professor of music at Oberlin College. Katherine was secretary of the county unit of Woman's Auxiliary for the National Defense Council, as well as the President of the Oberlin League of Women Voters. In 1908, their daughters Gertrude (b. 1896) and Evelyn (b. 1901) were listed as well. While the family was living abroad, Mrs. A. S. Nilson occupied the home in 1910. Mrs. Hannah M. Nilson immigrated to the country from Denmark and had four children with her husband. In 1916 Arthur Edward Heacox was listed here again through 1936. In 1937 Eugene Royce Comings, his wife Elizabeth, and their two children resided here. Eugene continued...

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)

A historic garage behind the house has a west-facing gable and drop, or novelty, wood clapboard siding. Wood shingles are in the gable. The garage door is large enough for one car; the door has four square windows that run horizontally. A small, 8-light window is left of the garage door, and a 4-light window faces north. This house is on the corner of W. College and S. Prospect streets, and is surrounded by other residences.

45. Sources of Information

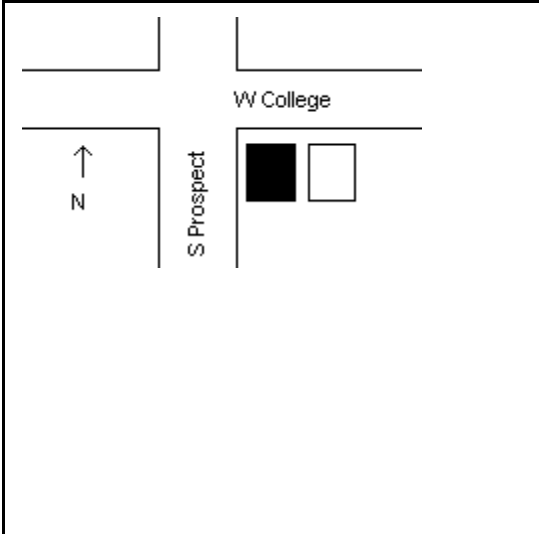
O-High Alumni, Internet, http://www.oberlin-high.org, Accessed January 2008.; City Directories, Oberlin Heritage Center Resource Center.; Holsworth, Pat, Oberlin Pioneer Database.; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.; Gordon, Stephen C., 'How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, 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 continued...

6. Specific Address or Location
297 West College / 11 South Prospect

1. No. LOR-02014-21	4. Present Name(s) Black House
2. County Lorain	5. Historic or Other Name(s) Heacox-Black House

8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan :



Door Selection:
Single centered

Door Position:
Protruding

Orientation:
Lateral axis with lateral smaller extension

Symmetry:
Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:



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

two story addition with a roof that is slightly shorter than that of the original house. The addition has a single-car garage door comprised of wood with six square windows running horizontally. Above the garage door, a pair of 6/1 double hung windows are in the second story. Left of the garage door, an entry has brick steps leading up to the cement stoop. The stoop has wood balusters and simple wood supports below the pedimented hood. The door, which is the entrance to 11 S. Prospect, is comprised of wood with 9 lights in the upper half and filled panels below. The door is covered by a wood storm door. At the original body of the house, a 6/1 double hung window is at the left and a pair of 6/1 double hung windows are at the right. The same window arrangement is in the second story. Stained glass windows are at the center at both the first and second stories. These stained glass windows do not appear to be historic. The gable has wood shingles and a triangular, louvered vent in the attic. The rear/south elevation includes a two-story addition with a cinder block foundation. The addition has a door at the left and the second story has an 8/1 double hung window. The gable has shingles and a triangular, louvered vent in the gable.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

was a bookkeeper and clerk in the county. Mrs. E. R. Comings was the assistant clerk at the Oberlin Selective Service board. In 1939 the family was listed with three children. The next known occupant in 1956 was Mrs. Estelle Seaman, widow of Harry. William M. Black and his wife Virginia E. have been listed at this residence since 1970. In 1973 the residence became listed as 11 S. Prospect. William was a US Steel employee. His name is still listed in telephone books, while Virginia E. is listed as the current owner.

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

45. Sources (Con't)

Staff, (1833-1960).' Oberlin College, 1961.; Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet, <http://www.loraincounty.com/auditor/index.shtml>, Accessed 2008.; 'Named Secretary, County Unit of Woman's Auxiliary, National Defense Council,' Oberlin News Tribune, 21 August 1918, p. 2; 'Elected Oberlin League of Women Voters President,' Oberlin News Tribune, 31 January 1928, p. 4; 'Mrs. E. R. Comings Appointed,' Oberlin News Tribune, 18 January 1945, p. 1.