

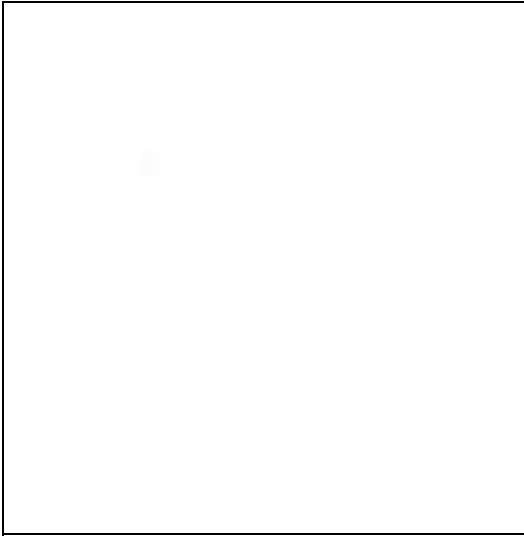
OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

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



1. No. LOR-1821-21		2. County Lorain		4. Present Name(s)		1. No. LOR-1821-21
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O.						
Roll No. 8		Picture No.(s) 2, 3		5. Historic or Other Name(s) Severs House		2. County Lorain
6. Specific Address or Location 405 W. College Street		16. Thematic Associations: Law Office, ,		28. No. of Stories One story		
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 0900084107009		17. Date(s) or Period 1961		17b. Alteration Date(s) 1970 (Property Card)		4. Present or Historic Name(s)
7. City or Village Oberlin		18. Style or Design Wrightian,		29. Basement? 30. Foundation Material Poured concrete		
8. Site Plan with North Arrow		18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)		31. Wall Construction Balloon frame/western frame/pla		
		19. Architect or Engineer Ulrich Engler		32. Roof Type Flat Roof Material Other		
		19a. Design Sources		33. No. of Bays irregular Side Bays irregular		
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: Oberlin 17 396800 4571918 Zone Easting Northing		20. Contractor or Builder Ken Clark		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Brick		
10. Classification: Building		21. Building Type or Plan Other House Type		35. Plan Shape Square		
11. On National Register?		22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling, , ,		36. Changes (Explain in #42) Addition Altered Moved		
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist?		23. Present Use Single Dwelling, ,		37. Window Type(s) Other,		
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)		24. Ownership Private		38. Building Dimensions 80' x 80'		
		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known		39. Endangered? By What?		
		26. Property Acreage 1.15		40. Chimney Placement Off center within roof surface		
		27. Other Surveys		41. Distance from & Frontage on Road Dist: 40' & Frontage: 200'		
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)						6. Specific Address or Location 405 W. College Street
Ulrich Engler, a Cleveland Heights architect designed this modern house as well as a house in the lagoons of Vermilion. Ken Cla College for the Severs family. The Severs were fans of Frank Lloyd Wright and had this house built shortly after Wright's Weltz house was built in Oberlin. It resembles Wright's Usonian houses in its simple, low layout and its flat roof. The lot is very w rear; continued...						
43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)						
This house was built in 1961, according to the Lorain County Auditor's Property Card. The first known residents, Grover L and their two children, are listed in the 1970 Oberlin City Directory. Grover was a partner in the Oberlin law firm Severs, Thomas became just Severs & Boylan (City Directory). Grover's son, Eric, is also an attorney who currently has offices in Oberlin (Ch The Severs left the house in 1986 or 1987.						
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)						
This house is in excellent condition and is in a residential area of Oberlin, on a large, wooded lot.						
45. Sources of Information						
City Directories, O.H.I.O. Resource Center.; Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet, http://www.loraincounty.com/auditor/index.shtml, Accessed 2004. Oberlin Chamber of Commerce, Internet, http://www.oberlin.org/, Accessed 2004.; Gordon, Stephen C, 'How to Complete the Ohio c continued...						
46. Prepared By: Clark, Surovy, Tomazic, Tuohy		47. Organization: O.H.I.O./Oberlin Heritage Center		48. Date Recorded: 08/02/2004		

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51. Condition of Property: Excellent	54. Farmstead Plan 
52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies	
53. Affiliated OAI Site Numbers	
Door Selection: Single off center	
Door Position: Recessed	
Orientation: Lateral axis	
Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry	
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)

originally, the house was built on swampland, in an area considered to be outside of the town of Oberlin. The house is largely unaltered, both on the interior and exterior, except for a few necessary repairs, including new drains, a furnace, and roof. The original furnace utilized ducts that run below the floor; however, the current heating system is radiant heat. The roof is rubber on the flat portion of the roof and tar & gravel on the slanted portion of the roof. The house is a ranch plan, with one story that includes five bedrooms, a study/den, family room, living room, kitchen, and two bathrooms. The house does not have a basement. On the interior of the house, the front foyer is laid with stone, while the remainders of the home's floors are covered in tile. Originally, the floors were concrete with shag carpet over the concrete. The front door is a replacement. The working fireplace in the living room was once an open fireplace, but glass has been added for safety. A built-in cement bench runs along the brick wall of the wide fireplace. The space below the bench is open and is used to store firewood. The walls of the house are comprised of redwood that has never been finished or painted, including in the bathroom. The current owner periodically cleans and treats the walls with Murphy's Oil. The ceiling is made of particleboard and pressed sawdust and wood chip panels, which run between large redwood beams. In the family room, the windows are adorned with the blinds that originally decorated them when the Severs owned the property. The family room windows have fixed panels. George Nelson designed the home's original lighting and they were saucer-shaped. The lights have been removed, to protect their fragile state (but they remain in the house). The

43. History and Significance (Con't)

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

45. Sources (Con't)

Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, 1992.; 'Hi-O-Hi: 1961' (Oberlin College Yearbook).; McAlester, Virginia and Lee, 'A Field Guide to American Houses,' Alfred K. Knopf Inc., New York, 2000.; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

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Roll No. **8** | Picture No.(s) **2, 3**

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