

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

Ohio Historic Preservation Office
567 E. Hudson St. Columbus, Ohio 43211
614/297-2470



1. No.	2. County LOR	4. Present Name(s) Christ Episcopal Church		<input type="checkbox"/> Coded				
3. Location of Negatives		5. Historic or Other Name(s) Christ Episcopal Church						
O.H.I.O. Resource								
Roll #	Exp. #	Facing						
Front 3	24A	NW						
Rear 3	23A	NE						
6. Specific Address or Location 160/162 South Main		17. Date(s) or Period 1859	17b. Alteration Date(s) 1860;1930	30. Foundation Material Stone				
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 09-00-085-113-026		18. Style or Design Gothic Revival	High Style <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	31. Wall Construction Brick Bearing				
7. City or Village Oberlin		18a. Style of Addition or Element(s) Elements <input type="checkbox"/>		32. Roof: Type Gable Pitch Steep Material Asphalt Shingle, Patterned				
8. Site Plan with North Arrow		19. Architect or Engineer Frank Wills		33. No. Bays Front 1 Side 5				
		19a. Design Sources		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Brick, Common/American Bond				
		20. Contractor or Builder		35. Plan Shape Rectangular				
9. U.T.M. Reference		21. Building Type or Plan Other Building		36. Changes (Explain in #42) Additions				
Zone Easting Northing		22. Original Use, if apparent Church/Religious Structure		37. Window Type(s) Stained Glass				
<table border="1" style="width:100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width:25%;"> </td> <td style="width:25%;"> </td> <td style="width:25%;"> </td> <td style="width:25%;"> </td> </tr> </table>						23. Present Use Church/Religious Structure		38. Bldg. Dims. 79 ft. X 32 ft.
10. <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Object		24. Ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		39. Endangered? No Explain:				
11. On National Register? Yes		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known Christ Episcopal Church 162 South Main Oberlin OH 44074		40. Chimney Placement Unknown				
12. N.R. Potential? No		26. Property Acreage 0.605		41a. Distance from road				
13. Part of Estb Hist Dist? No		27. Other Surveys in Which Included McQuillin (78)		41b. Frontage on road 32 ft.				
14. Dist. Potential? No		28. No. of Stories 1 and 1/2						
15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)		29. Basement? Yes						
16. Thematic Association(s) Religion: Christianity: Episcopalian		42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features This one-story, Gothic Revival Style Church has a steep-pitch, gable-end roof. A small gable roof extends outward from the front façade, and creates the main entrance corridor. A rectangular bell tower is above the front gable peak. The tower is narrow, resembling a chimney in girth, and is supported by a steel-rod brace. A working bell sits in an arch cutout in the tower. The small, oculus window above the front doors is echoed in the circle above the bell arch. A large, circular, stained-glass window, divided into eight sections around a small central section, is located above the main entrance gable. Tapered buttresses reinforce the corners of the building, with carved stone blocks mimicking quoins at the slopes. The sides of the sanctuary are divided into five bays by brick piers. (cont.)						
43. History and Significance Episcopalians who had settled in Oberlin by 1851, were the first alternative to the dominant Congregationalists. In 1854 Rev. Frances Granger organized the Association of the Friends of the Episcopalian Church, and by 1855 thirty-one people had signed the articles. The congregation began construction of this church, designed by Frank Wills, in 1856. The building was completed in 1859 at a cost of \$5,000; it was consecrated On May 11, 1859. In 1860 the vestibule was added; in 1869 the chancel was added, and in 1930 the chancel was remodeled. In 1901 Kenyon Cox, a New York artist, designed and installed the first stained glass window as a memorial (cont.)								
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52) Christ Church is located at the southern end of Oberlin's main commercial street and north-south thoroughfare. A few residential structures remain on south Main but it has predominately been converted to commercial.		46. Prepared by M. Fedelchak-Harley; L. Previll		47. Organization O.H.I.O. and H.P.C.				
45. Sources of Information Lorain County Courthouse: Lorain County tax records. O.H.I.O. Resource Center: Oberlin Historic Preservation Commission Files; National Register nomination. Oberlin College Archives: Record Group: 31/4/2, Churches Miscellaneous.		48. Date Recorded 10-13-2000		49. Revised by				
		50a. Date Revised		50b. Reviewed by				

51. Condition of Property

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good/Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Destroyed/Burned
<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	Date _____

54. Farmstead Plan



52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies

Barn Type(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Corn Crib or Shed	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer Kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/> Silo
<input type="checkbox"/> Smoke House	<input type="checkbox"/> Spring House	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice House
<input type="checkbox"/> Designed Landscape Features	<input type="checkbox"/> Privy	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage

53. Affiliated OAI Site Number(s) _____

OAI Completed? _____

Archaeological Feature:	Observed	Expected on Basis of Archival Research
Well	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Privy	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Cistern	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Foundation	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Structural Rubble	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Formal Trash Dump	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Other _____	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued from page 1)

Each bay has a row of bargeboard along the top edge and a narrow-arched, stained-glass window with pronounced archivolt trim, each window has, as a later addition, fixed exterior aluminum storm windows, with lower vent panels. This building had some rear alterations, including the addition of a parking lot and a one-and-one-half-story, late 20th century, activity building with vertical siding and a gable-roof entry porch.

43. History and Significance (Continued from page 1.)

to his father, Jacob Dolson Cox, a Civil War general and Oberlin College alumnus and trustee. Rev. Robert F. McGregor, who served from 1943-1949, raised \$50,000 for construction of the parish hall. The hall was completed during the tenure of Rev. Chave McCracken who also oversaw installation of nine stained glass windows. The windows were designed and built by parishioner Margaret Kennedy. The first window was installed in 1955 in memory of Mrs. Skjerne's father (her husband Professor Skerjne taught in the Oberlin conservatory). In 1967 the Nord family purchased a new rectory home on Elm Street as a memorial to Mary Nord Ignat. In 1972 the Nord family made possible the purchase of the house at 162 South Main, the old rectory was then torn down. The house was converted for offices and a library (OC Archives).

This building is significant for its architect-designed architecture, for its windows, and for its history of religious alternatives to the dominant Congregational history in Oberlin. Christ Church was listed by the City of Oberlin as an Oberlin City Landmark in September of 1975. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.