

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) Watson's Hardware (Molyneaux Building)		<input type="checkbox"/> Coded									
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource		5. Historic or Other Name(s) Gilchrist Building: North: Wilkinson & Watson Hardware; Watson & Thompson Hardware; Watson's Hardware. South: Booth & Moore Furniture; Moore Furniture; Kroger Grocery; Smith Furnishing & Floor											
<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th>Roll #</th> <th>Exp. #</th> <th>Facing</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Front 1</td> <td>4</td> <td>W</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rear 2</td> <td>7</td> <td>E</td> </tr> </table>		Roll #	Exp. #	Facing	Front 1	4	W	Rear 2	7	E	6. Specific Address or Location 26 South Main Street		
Roll #	Exp. #	Facing											
Front 1	4	W											
Rear 2	7	E											
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 09-00-085-112-083		17. Date(s) or Period 1874	17b. Alteration Date(s)	30. Foundation Material Stone									
7. City or Village Oberlin If Rural, Township & Vicinity		18. Style or Design No academic style - vernacular	High Style <input type="checkbox"/>	31. Wall Construction Brick									
8. Site Plan with North Arrow		18a. Style of Addition or Element(s)	Elements <input type="checkbox"/>	32. Roof: Type Tar Other Pitch Low Material									
		19. Architect or Engineer		33. No. Bays Front 6 Side									
		19a. Design Sources		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Brick Bond									
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name		20. Contractor or Builder		35. Plan Shape L-Shaped									
<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th>Zone</th> <th>Easting</th> <th>Northing</th> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		Zone	Easting	Northing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21. Building Type or Plan Other		36. Changes (Explain in #42) Altered			
Zone	Easting	Northing											
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>											
10. <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Object		22. Original Use, if apparent Retail-Hardware		37. Window Type(s) Other									
11. On National Register? no		23. Present Use Retail-Hardware		38. Bldg. Dims. 55 ft. X 101 ft.									
12. N.R. Potential? no		24. Ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		39. Endangered? no Explain:									
13. Part of Estb Hist Dist? no		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known		40. Chimney Placement No Chimney Observed									
14. Dist. Potential? yes		26. Property Acreage .145		41a. Distance from road 13 ft.									
15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)		27. Other Surveys in Which Included Dobson-Brown (92)		41b. Frontage on road 55 ft.									
16. Thematic Association(s) Commerce		28. No. of Stories 3											
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features The first floor storefront of this three story commercial building has been altered though the brick piers between bays remain and a stone base is visible. Above the first floor an iron beam leads up to double hung windows with stone sills and continuous stone lintels on the upper floors. All windows have aluminum sashes. The top level brick work appears to be an alteration. The roof has brick dentils and stepped brick pattern corbels. A 1946 renovation inserted the name Molyneaux in the brick work. The interior has retained the tin ceiling and wood flooring. In 1984 the wall was torn down between the north and south halves (cont.)		29. Basement? Yes											
43. History and Significance This structure was built in 1874 by Albert Gilchrist. In 1890 Mr. Watson, a clerk at the hardware store across Main Street, bought an interest in Mr. Gilchrist's business. Then in 1893 Mr. Watson sold his shares and bought an interest in a hardware store on East College Street. In January, 1898 a fire severely damaged this building and Mr. Watson's former partners Godley and Morris lost everything. Mr. Watson and his new partner, Mr. Wilkinson, bought out Goodley and Morris and opened business in this building in 1898.													
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52) This building is one of the many that comprise the core of South Main Street's downtown commercial district.													
45. Sources of Information Fred Maddock files at O.H.I.O. Resource Center and Oberlin College Archives; Oberlin H.P.C. files; Lorain County Courthouse tax records.		46. Prepared by											
		47. Organization O.H.I.O. and H.P.C.											
		48. Date Recorded 12/8/1998											
		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	no _____	no _____
Privy	no _____	no _____
Cistern	no _____	no _____
Foundation	no _____	no _____
Structural Rubble	no _____	no _____
Formal Trash Dump	no _____	no _____
Other _____	no _____	no _____

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

A more recent two story addition in the rear is wider than the storefront and extends north behind the Workshop Gallery (24 South Main).

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

At various times the south half has been home to different businesses, but a hardware store has been in the north half for 100 years, a record unique to Oberlin.