



OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

1. No. LOR-02183-21		4. Present Name(s) Brian and Kathleen Sittinger House		3-21 LOR-0218
2. County Lorain		5. Historic or Other Name(s) Worcester-Murphy-Sittinger House		
6. Specific Address or Location 374 South Main		19a. Design Sources		2. County Lorain
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 0900095107023		20. Contractor or Builder		
7. City or Village Oberlin		21. Building Type or Plan Upright and Wing		4. Present or Historic Name(s) Brian and Kathleen Sittinger House
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: Oberlin 17 397997 4570708 Zone Easting Northing		22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling Multiple Dwelling		
10. Classification: Building		23. Present Use Single Dwelling		35. Plan Shape Irregular
11. On National Register? NO		24. Ownership Private		
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known Brian B. & Kathleen S. Sittinger		36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: 17. Original/Most significant construct 17b.
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)		26. Property Acreage 0.5		
16. Thematic Associations: Residential		27. Other Surveys		37. Window Type(s) 1 over 1 Other
17. Date(s) or Period ca. 1890		28. No. of Stories Two story		
18. Style Class and Design No academic style - Vernacular		29. Basement? Yes		38. Building Dimensions 31' x 43'
18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)		30. Foundation Material Poured concrete		
19. Architect or Engineer		31. Wall Construction Balloon/western/platform frame		39. Endangered? NO By What?
		32. Roof Type Gable Roof Material Asphalt shingle		
		33. No. of Bays 4 Side Bays 2		40. Chimney Placement Off center within roof surface
		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Aluminum or vinyl siding		
		35. Affiliated Inventory Numbers Historic (OHI)		41. Distance from & Frontage on Road 40'
		Archaeological (OAI)		

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)
This vernacular upright and wing, though somewhat hidden by an enclosed front porch and new windows and siding, primarily maintains its historic shape. On the east (front) elevation of the two-story upright section, there are two bays, each with a 1/1 double hung window in the first and second stories. There is a louvered vent in the gable. The one-story wing to the north is covered by an enclosed porch that projects beyond the front of the upright element. The porch appears to be historic, though it was enclosed more recently. The porch has a brick foundation, stone steps, screen door and a shed roof. There are at least two 1/1 double hung windows in the east elevation of the wing under the porch, and presumably the front door either opens into the wing or into the side of the upright element, but it is obscured by the porch enclosure. On the first story of the south elevation, there are two 1/1 double hung windows; located between them on the second story is a smaller 1/1 double hung window. Basement windows are also visible on this elevation. The north elevation of the upright segment does not exhibit any notable features; the north elevation of the wing has continued...

43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)
This house was used as a single family home for working class Oberlinians for much of its history, along with occasional extended family. According to city directory research, this house was built circa 1890, possibly for the first known resident, Frederick D. Worcester, of that same year. Frederick was born in 1862 and was a machine hand at Cole's lumber yard. He and his wife Hattie (nee Hutchings) had two sons, William and Harold, and one daughter named Marie. The next occupants were James A. Sheridan and his wife Minnie, as well as Orrin W. Dowell, his wife Katie (nee Burger), and Augusta Burger in 1891. James Sheridan was a proprietor of the Oberlin Telegraph School, telegrapher, and worked for the Oberlin Tavern. He got into a little trouble with the law when he was discovered continued...

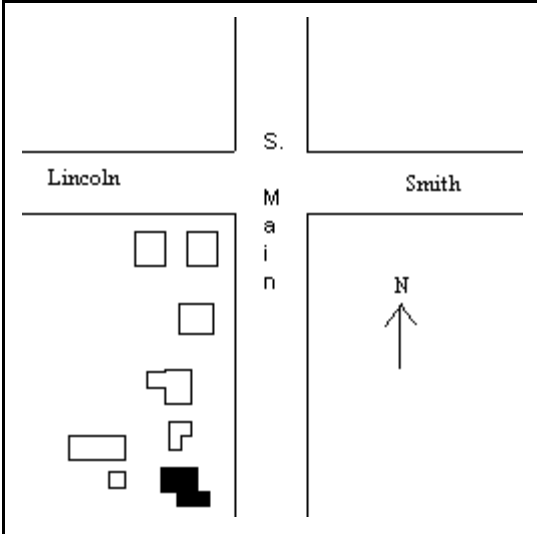
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)
Behind the house there is an historic garage, not contemporaneous with the house. The garage is front gabled with a four by four panel garage door, with the row second from the top made of glass panels. There is also a wooden pedestrian door. There is a covered window visible on the outbuilding's north elevation. The beams of the roof are visible below the eaves, and the building is covered in wide, probably asbestos, siding.

45. Sources of Information
O-High Alumni, Internet, <http://www.oberlin-high.org>, Accessed December 2010; 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.' Columbus: Ohio Historical Society, 1992; McAlester, Virginia and Lee. 'A Field Guide to American Houses.' New York: Alfred K. Knopf Inc., 2000; 'Alumni Register: Graduates and Former Students, Teaching and Administrative continued...

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8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan :



Door Selection:
Single off center

Door Position:
Unknown

Orientation:
Gable with lateral wing

Symmetry:
Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:



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

a vent in its gable and two windows, one of which is 1/1 double hung, and the other of which is rectangular, possibly a horizontal sliding window. There is also a gabled addition at the rear visible from this elevation.

43. *History and Significance (Con't)*

to have been keeping rooms for gambling. The Sheridan's lived in the house through 1895 and C. F. Johnson stayed with them as well for one year in 1894. The Durands were the next occupants from about 1895 to 1897. Edwin C. Durand was a carpenter and by this time was living with his second wife, Elizabeth, and one of his sons, Herbert, from a previous wife, who had passed away the year before (Laura Wright). William R. White was the next resident at this address in 1897. William was a painter, blacksmith, plumber, and tinner for Barnum & Godley. His wife was named Nettie J. (nee Clark). They had two children named Herman A. and Jessie A.. The next residents were George H. Wilson and his wife Jane (nee Pickworth) from approximately 1899 to 1904. George had immigrated to the country from Europe. In 1904, Frank L. Roberts was listed at this address. He was a plumber and machinist and lived there with his wife Minnie. They had two daughters named Ethel M. and Orpha L. In 1907 Homer V. Hawkins, a carpenter, and his wife Vira were residents. The next known occupant was farmer William Starling Graves in 1908. He had attended the Oberlin College Preparatory School from 1861 to 1862 and married Julia E. (nee Hull), who also attended to preparatory school and college from 1858 to 1864 and studied literature. Following his wife's death, William lived here with housekeeper and former dressmaker Emma E. Wing, probably until his own death in 1914. The next known resident was Gerald Monroe Worcester in 1916, a carpenter, and his wife Mary. It appears that Gerald was brother to Frederick Worcester, the first known resident. The 1920 census records the McGinnis family living here, including locomotive engineer George, wife Amanda, daughter Helen, and Amanda's father Sands McKee. The next recorded occupant was Harry Murphy, a postal clerk, in 1927. Harry and his family lived at this address until he died in 1958. He married Bertha E. M. (nee Krueger) and had two sons, James Frank and Harry James Murphy, Jr., and daughter Elizabeth Rae. She attended Oberlin High School and married Clarence Barbor. James graduated from Oberlin High School in 1941 and also married a woman named Bertha. He was a WWII veteran and commander of the American Legion 91 in Berea. He was also a member of the Lorain Country Homebuilders Association, Lorain County Board of Realtors, and a member of the Oberlin Masonic Lodge 219. Harry, Jr. married a fellow classmate named Jeannette Schubert. Harry, Jr. had poor health and had many operations throughout his life. He was active in the Methodist Church, helped design 4-H booths at the Lorain County fair, and was a member of Wellington's barbershop quartet until he was too sick. He worked in the meat department at the Fisher Market and was a draftsman at the Thew Shovel plant in Lorain during WWII. This house appears to have been vacant from about 1958 until 1970 when Wayne M. and Nancy K. Shipman occupied it. Wayne was a manager at the Morehead Sparkle Market and they had two children together. Records show the current owners are Brian and Kathleen Sittinger since 1984.

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

45. *Sources (Con't)*

Staff, (1833-1960).' Oberlin: Oberlin College, 1961; Lorain County Auditor Property Record, Internet, <http://www.loraincounty.com/auditor/index.shtml>, Accessed December 2010; 'Reopens Oberlin School of Telegraphy,' Oberlin News Tribune, Dec. 6, 1911, p. 8; 'Arrested for Keeping Gambling Rooms,' Oberlin News Tribune, June 19, 1890, p. 3; 'Jeannette Schubert is Bride of Harry Murphy Junior,' Oberlin News Tribune, June 15, 1944, p. 5; 'Lifelong Illness Ends in Death of Harry Murphy, Jr,' Oberlin News-Tribune, April 12, 1951; 'James F. Murphy Dies in Elyria,' Oberlin News-Tribune, November 23, 1978.