

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)		<input type="checkbox"/> Coded
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Ctr.		5. Historic or Other Name(s) Rockwell House, Sperry House, Saxton House, Peabody House, Worcester House, Teets House, Webber House, Yasher House, Locke House, Exner House		
Roll #	Exp. #			
	5	20		
Front	5	21		
6. Specific Address or Location 99 Spring Street		17. Date(s) or Period c. 1890-1900	17b. Alteration Date(s)	30. Foundation Material Sandstone
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 0900-086-112-044		18. Style or Design Shingle Style	High Style <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	31. Wall Construction Balloon Frame/Western Frame/Platform
7. City or Village Oberlin		18a. Style of Addition or Element(s)	Elements <input type="checkbox"/>	32. Roof: Type Gable Pitch Moderate Material Asphalt Shingle
8. Site Plan with North Arrow		19. Architect or Engineer Unknown		33. No. Bays Front irregular Side irregular
		19a. Design Sources Unknown		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Wood, Shaped Wood Shingle
		20. Contractor or Builder Unknown		35. Plan Shape Rectangular
9. U.T.M. Reference		21. Building Type or Plan Other House		36. Changes (Explain in #42) Altered, Minimal
Zone	Easting	22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling		37. Window Type(s) 1 over 1, 5 over 1
		23. Present Use Single Dwelling		38. Bldg. Dims. 37 x 58 ft.
		24. Ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		39. Endangered? No Explain:
10. <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Object		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known		40. Chimney Placement Off Center Within Roof Surface
11. On National Register? No		26. Property Acreage .51		41a. Distance from road approx. 25'
12. N.R. Potential? No		27. Other Surveys in Which Included		41b. Frontage on road 134 ft.
13. Part of Estb Hist Dist? No		28. No. of Stories 2		
14. Dist. Potential? No		29. Basement? Yes		
15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)		42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features The sweeping lines of its roof and its shaped wall shingles dominate this whole house. The house has one main gable with its end facing the street, but a screened-in porch covers the whole first floor of the façade with a flared gabled roof running perpendicular to the house. The porch has a screen door at each end, and the house has its front door in the middle of the porch. The peak of the porch's roof is cut away at the center of the façade to reveal a row of four windows on the gable end of the second floor. The south side of the house has a very small deck shaded by an extension of the roof, and the north side of the house has a side door with a gabled hood over its stoop. Both the north and south sides of the roof have one normal shed dormer and one very wide one.		
16. Thematic Association(s) Commerce - Grocery, Furniture, Undertaking		43. History and Significance Mrs. Maria E. Rockwell lived here from 1890 through 1894. Meritt Darius Sperry moved in during 1894 and stayed through 1896. Sperry co-owned Hart & Sperry Furniture and Undertaking with Maria Rockwell's brother-in-law, F. A. Hart. Maria had married A. B. Rockwell around 1884, but was probably widowed by the time she lived here, and eventually moved in with the Hart family on East College St. She worked as a clerk in a store. Census records do not specify which store, but it is possible she worked for her brother-in-law at Hart & Sperry, a firm that lasted until at least 1900. M. D. Sperry had attended the Oberlin College (cont.)		
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52) Gravel driveways on both sides of the house lead to a four-car garage in the north side of the backyard. The house sits on a small incline above the street.		46. Prepared by H. Petersen, M. Franck, D. Musson, and O.H.I.O. Interns		
45. Sources of Information O.H.I.O. Resource Center: Oberlin City Directories. Lorain County Courthouse, Auditor Property Records, 2001. Internet. http://www.loraincounty.com/auditor/index.shtml . Oberlin Historic Preservation Commission Files. O.H.I.O. Resource Center Files. Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pat Holsworth, Oberlin Pioneer Database. Oberlin College Yearbooks. Frank Locke, "Oberlin Groceries and a New Nursery," 1987.		47. Organization O.H.I.O. and H.P.C.		
		48. Date Recorded 12/16/2002		
		49. Revised by		
		50a. Date Revised		
		50b. Reviewed by		

51. Condition of Property

- Excellent Ruin
 Good/Fair Destroyed/Burned
 Deteriorated Date _____

54. Farmstead Plan



52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies

Barn Type(s)

- Corn Crib or Shed Summer Kitchen Silo
 Smoke House Spring House Ice House
 Designed Landscape Features Privy Garage

53. Affiliated OAI Site Number(s) _____

OAI Completed? _____

Archaeological Feature:	Observed	Expected on Basis of Archival Research
Well	_____	_____
Privy	_____	_____
Cistern	_____	_____
Foundation	_____	_____
Structural Rubble	_____	_____
Formal Trash Dump	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____

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

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

Preparatory Department from 1889 through 1891, and married Myrtle E. Thimblebee in 1893 (Holsworth). After leaving the furniture and undertaking business in the early 20th century, he founded the M. D. Sperry and Co. Grocery at 25 E. College, before 1913. One of his employees, Bert A. Locke, bought a share in the store and by 1923 the Sperry & Locke grocery was at 11 S. Main (Locke). Sperry and Locke both died in 1938 (Holsworth). Farmer William J. Saxton lived at 99 Spring St. from 1897 through 1900. He and his wife, Eleanor (Nellie), had both attended the Oberlin College Preparatory Department in the 1870s, and had 8 children before moving to Interlochen, Michigan (Holsworth). Henry B. Peabody lived here in 1902. From 1902 through 1940, Harley O. and Mary E. Worcester lived here with their children: Dorr, Myron, and Fay. Harley was a carpenter. Woodrow Wilson Teets lived here in 1942, followed by G. H. Webber and G. C. Yasher in 1956 and J. B. Locke and R. C. Exner in 1961 (City Directories).