



# OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

1. No. <b>LOR-1928-21</b>		4. Present Name(s)	
2. County <b>Lorain</b>		5. Historic or Other Name(s) <b>Dyer-Phillips House</b>	
6. Specific Address or Location <b>117 East Vine</b>		19a. Design Sources	35. Plan Shape <b>Rectangular</b>
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number <b>0900086107006</b>		20. Contractor or Builder	36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: 17. <b>Original/Most significant construct</b>
7. City or Village <b>Oberlin</b>		21. Building Type or Plan <b>Side Hallway</b>	17b. <b>Substantial alteration/addition</b>
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: <b>Oberlin</b> <b>17 398409 4571504</b> Zone Easting Northing		22. Original Use, if apparent <b>Single Dwelling</b>	37. Window Type(s) <b>1 over 1</b>
10. Classification: <b>Building</b>		23. Present Use <b>Single Dwelling</b>	38. Building Dimensions <b>32' x 52'</b>
11. On National Register? <b>NO</b>		24. Ownership <b>Private</b>	39. Endangered? <b>NO</b> By What?
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? <b>NO</b>		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known	40. Chimney Placement <b>Center</b>
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)		26. Property Acreage <b>0.43</b>	41. Distance from & Frontage on Road <b>50' approx</b>
16. Thematic Associations: <b>African American</b> <b>Adventist</b> <b>Civil War</b>		27. Other Surveys	51. Condition of Property: <b>Good/Fair</b>
17. Date(s) or Period <b>c. 1870</b>	17b. Alteration Date(s)	28. No. of Stories <b>Two story</b>	52. Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies Structure Type
18. Style Class and Design <b>Element Italianate</b>		29. Basement? <b>Yes</b>	Date
18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)		30. Foundation Material <b>Stone bearing</b>	Associated Activity
19. Architect or Engineer		31. Wall Construction <b>Balloon/western/platform frame</b>	53. Affiliated Inventory Numbers Historic (OHI)
		32. Roof Type <b>Truncated hip</b> Roof Material <b>Asphalt shingle</b>	Archaeological (OAI)
		33. No. of Bays <b>2</b> Side Bays <b>2</b>	
		34. Exterior Wall Material(s) <b>Clapboard or weatherboard</b>	

LOR-1928-21

Lorain 2. County

4. Present or Historic Name(s)

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)  
**A boxy shape, low roof, & pediments are Italianate elements visible in this house. At the front/north elevation, the original door is located at the left, with many lights in the upper half. This house has replacement windows. The door & windows have wood pediments. The full front porch has a shed roof & box cornice. The porch posts appear to be modern, and the floor of the porch is set at ground level, covered with modern cement. The 2nd story features 2 1/1 double hung windows with pediments above them. A frieze runs below the roof's eaves. The east elevation features a door at the center & left of the 1st story. The 2nd story has a 1/1 double hung window. All windows at this elevation have pediments above. A 1-story addition is located at the rear & has a rear-facing gable. A porch off the addition has a slightly slanted roof & is surrounded by lattice, which extends from the floor to ceiling of the porch at the north and south sides of the porch. The west elevation has a 1/1 double hung window at the left & right sides of the 1st story. The left window is slightly larger & is surrounded by a variation in the wood clapboard, which indicates the possible continued...**

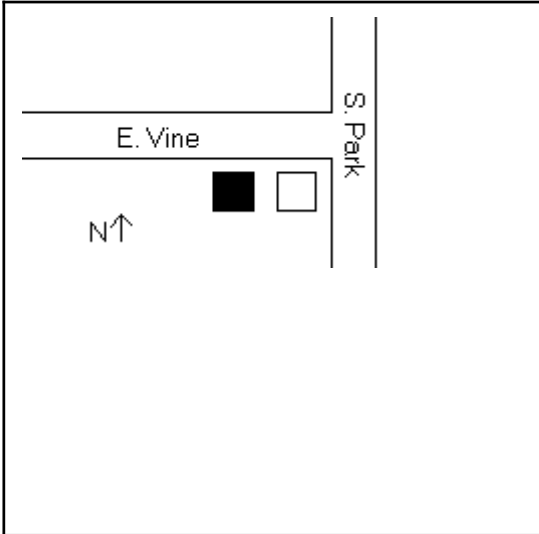
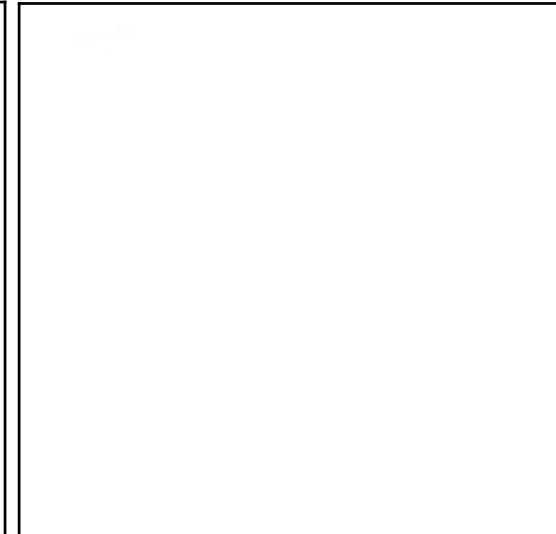
6. Specific Address or Location  
117 East Vine

43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)  
**The first known occupant of this house, George R. Dyer, lived here by 1870, when he was listed in the census as a student. That year he married his next door neighbor, Sarah (Sallie) Ann Taborn. The Dyers, an African-American family, lived here until George's death in 1889. George worked as a laborer and a teamster. He and Sarah had four sons in the 1870s, James A., Charles, George and Fred. The boys were orphaned in their teens, with Sarah dying in 1881 and George in 1889. On that occasion the Oberlin Weekly News reported that 'George Dyer, a well know[n] colored man of this place, died at his residence on Mill Street, of consumption.' Both Dyers are buried at Westwood. By 1891, the Dyer children resided at 33 S. Water with their maternal grandmother, Minerva Taborn. Later in life James continued...**

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)  
**This house is located on a residential street & is surrounded primarily by houses, with the exception of the parking lot of an apartment complex to its west.**

45. Sources of Information  
**Demchick, Harrison & Phil Kreniske, 'Park Street Seventh Day Adventist Church A History,' Oberlin College, Fall 2003, Internet, www.oberlin.edu/external/EOG/AfAmChurches/ParkStreetChurch.htm, Accessed 18 July 2005.; Bigglestone, William E. 'They Stopped in Oberlin.' Innovation Group, Inc., Scottdale, Ariz. 1981.; 'DeWitt Phillips is Taken by Death; Civil War Soldier,' Oberlin News, 15 August 1929, p. 1, c. 4.; 'George Dyer, Obituary,' Oberlin Weekly News, 6 June 1889, p. 3, c. 2.; 'Fires continued...**

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8. Site Plan with North Arrow	54. Farmstead Plan :	Door Selection: <b>Single off center</b>
		Door Position: <b>Flush</b>
		Orientation: <b>Lateral axis</b>
		Symmetry: <b>Bilateral asymmetry</b>

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:



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

removal of a former bay or addition. The 2nd story has 2 1/1 double hung windows. All windows at this elevation have wood pediments. A 1-story addition at the rear has a 1/1 double hung window with no pediment. The foundation of the addition is comprised of both concrete block & cast concrete that is simulated to look like rock-faced stone. The addition has a chimney at the center, located on the ridgeline.

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

Dyer was committed to the Massillon asylum after uneven behavior and fits of violence, including several threats and actual shots fired at people working on Rust M. E. church. After the Dyers left in 1891, DeWitt Phillips and his new wife Anna, also African-American, moved into the house. The Phillips family resided here until 1938. DeWitt's parents, Isaac and Sarah, were former slaves who emigrated with their family at the end of the Civil War from Virginia to the Oberlin area. The Oberlin News mentions that DeWitt 'was a veteran of the Civil war, having enlisted when but a mere lad.' After moving into this house in 1891, DeWitt and Anna started a family, with daughters Madeline, Carrie Alice, and son Theodore born within the next decade. Anna's mother Mary Irvington lived here with the family at least part of the time, according to the 1910 census. DeWitt had several different jobs during his residence here, working as a grocery deliveryman in the 1890s, a fish dealer in the 1900s, and a gardener by 1920. His daughter Carrie Alice married a man named Jackson in 1914 but died two years later. Theodore Phillips graduated from OHS in 1919 and the Oberlin Conservatory in 1924, going on to teach music at West Virginia State college. DeWitt died in 1929 at age 81, 'having been a member and officer of Rust M. E. church for more than fifty years' according to the Oberlin News. Anna Phillips lived on in the house until 1938, five years before her death in 1943. Charles Stewart and his wife Bonnie moved into the house in 1938 and resided here for almost 50 years until 1983. Charles worked as a decorator, a molder, and by the 1950s as a general contractor. He was also very involved with the early development of the Seventh Day Adventist group in Oberlin, serving as 'the unofficial pastor, a 'lay-pastor,' in the early 1940s as the group got off the ground. Charles Stewart's skills as a general contractor also proved vital in the construction of the Seventh Day Adventists' new church at 99 S. Park. Fellow members of the congregation recalled some conflicts they had with Charles Stewart during the building's construction. 'He wanted it done a certain way,' one said, but remembered Charles Stewart as 'a good old man,' though 'a bit on the stubborn side. You couldn't help but love him.' After the Stewarts left in 1983, a Pamela Shepherd moved into the house by 1985 with her three sons, Tim, Mark, and Brian (Mark and Brian were twins). Shepherd's husband fought in the Vietnam war. She lived in the house until 1994.

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

*45. Sources (Con't)*

Bullets Into New Church; James Dyer Terrorizes His Neighbors,' Oberlin News, 26 July 1916, p. 1, c. 3.; 'Is Taken to the Asylum,' Oberlin News, 7 March 1917, p. 1, c. 3.; O-High Alumni, Internet, <http://www.oberlin-high.org>, Accessed 10 August 2005.; Blodgett, Geoffrey, 'Oberlin Architecture, College and Town: A Guide to Social History,' Oberlin College, 1985.; City Directories, O.H.I.O Resource Center.; Holsworth, Pat, Oberlin Pioneer Database.; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.; Gordon, Stephen C., 'How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, Columbus. 1992.; McAlester, Virginia and Lee. 'A Field Guide to American Houses.' Alfred K. Knopf Inc. New York. 2000.; 'Alumni Register: Graduates and Former Students, Teaching and Administrative Staff, (1833-1960).' Oberlin College, 1961.; Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet, <http://www.loraincounty.com/auditor/index.shtml>, Accessed 2005.