OHIO

567 E. Hudson St. Columbus, OH 43211 614/298-2000

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

4. Present Name(s) Langston Hall		-21
5. Historic or Oth	er Name(s) North Hall		
	19a. Design Sources	35. Plan Shape Other	Lorain
95 Union	20. Contractor or Builder	36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates:	
	21. Building Type or Plan Other Building Type		
	22. Original Use, if apparent	1/b. Substantial alteration/addition	
	Bollintory	37. Window Type(s) Other	_
	23. Present Use	Other	
2320	Dormitory	38. Building Dimensions	sto
	24. Ownership Private	39. Endangered? NO	Langston Hall
	,	By what:	=
	Oberlin College	40 Chiman Dlanamat	1
	457		
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO 15. Other Designation (NR or Local)	26. Property Acreage 1.57 27. Other Surveys	41. Distance from & Frontage on Road	┨
	,	50' approx	
		• •	
	-		-
College			
	Poured concrete	Structure Type	
Iteration Date(s)	31. Wall Construction Metal/steel frame	Date	
n	32. Roof Type	Associated Activity	
	Roof Material		
	33. No. of Bays 13 Side Bays 16	53. Affiliated Inventory Numbers	1
	34. Exterior Wall Material(s)	Historic (OHI)	1
	Brick Concrete	Archaeological (OAI)	1
	5. Historic or Oth	5. Historic or Other Name(s) North Hall 19a. Design Sources 20. Contractor or Builder 21. Building Type or Plan Other Building Type 22. Original Use, if apparent Dormitory 23. Present Use Dormitory 24. Ownership Private 25. Owner's Name & Address, if known Oberlin College 10. 26. Property Acreage 1.57 27. Other Surveys 28. No. of Stories Three story 29. Basement? Unknown 30. Foundation Material Poured concrete 31. Wall Construction Metal/steel frame 32. Roof Type Flat Roof Material Unknown 33. No. of Bays 13 Side Bays 16 34. Exterior Wall Material(s)	19a. Design Sources

^{42.} Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)

The front facade of this modern X-shaped building can be divided into 2 categories: the central element & residential wings that radiate out from the central hub. The central section projects from the face of the building. On the top 2 stories, the projection is 3-sided & made of glass panels, with 3 panels on the NE & NW sides & 4 panels on the northern side. Square concrete columns are at the corners of the projecting central element; and the sheet glass is bordered by metal beams. The 1st floor entry projects even further than the rest of the central element & the flat roof of the entry projects beyond its glass panel walls. The glass double doors with a transom & sidelights is located in the center of the entry's north wall. The 5-sided entryway connects to the main part of the building by a short passageway. The main residential wings of the building have 6 bays each. Each bay consists of a set of windows, usually 2, on each floor, set in concrete slabs flanked by the slightly-projecting brick face. The vertical elements are emphasized by a projecting vertical lines, associated with each column, in the cement. The innermost bay on the long face of each continued...

43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)

Langston Hall, constructed in 1963 as North Hall, was designed by the Austin Company of Cleveland, also the architect of Oberlin College's Kettering Hall of Science (1961) and Williams Ice Rink (1963), neither of which still stand. In 1987, Langston Hall was altered by the construction of an addition that attaches to the main body near the center of its southernmost elevation. This addition is composed of two elements: a roughly circular first story and a roughly rectangular second/third story. The rectangular section is approximately two stories tall, contains a large lounge, and creates an overhang that shelters a back 'patio' area. The recessed first story contains a small lounge and other common space. The architect of this addition was Dagit & Saylor of Philadelphia. Renamed in the continued...

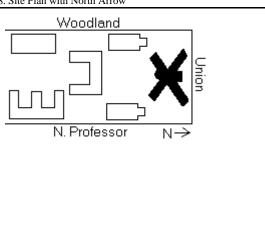
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)

This building is situated at the northernmost point of Oberlin College's current residential north campus. It is flanked on three sides by other dormitories; across the street from it are private residences, athletic fields, and a new development of college housing, scheduled to be completed by autumn 2005.

45. Sources of Information

'Housing: Traditional Housing: Langston Hall,' accessed http://www.oberlin.edu/reslife/housing/Hhouses/Hlangston.html; North Hall floor plan, accessed through http://www.oberlin.edu/reslife/housing/traditional.html; 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.; Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet, continued...

8. Site Plan with North Arrow



54. Farmstead Plan:

Door Selection:

Three or more

Door Position:

Protruding

Orientation:

Lateral axis

Symmetry:

Repetition of bay arrangement

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:





1. No. LOR-1934-21	4. Present Name(s) Langston Hall	LOR-
2. County Lorain	5. Historic or Other Name(s) North Hall	1934

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

wing has 3 windows in its set. All the windows have metal surrounds. There is a metal string course that runs around the original building near the roofline. The same pattern of windows & alternating concrete slabs & brick continues on the short ends of the wings, which have 2 windows on each story & on the long faces of all wings, although with some modifications. The southern elevation of the NE & NW wings & northern elevation of the SE & SW wings have projecting stairwells & doorways at the 2nd bay from the extreme outside of that wing. The stairwells are brick on their wide faces and glass on their narrow faces. The single glass doors on the narrow side of the projecting stairwell face away from the central section of the building & open out onto concrete stoops. The central element, viewed from the eastern elevation, contains 2 bays, 1 with 2 vertically-aligned hopper windows plus a 1-panel glass door and 1 with 3 vertically-aligned hopper windows. This central element also projects somewhat, forming a point where the 2 bays meet. Recessed somewhat from the main wall of the central element is a glassed-in 4th 'half-floor' with a flat metal roof. The central element viewed from the western elevation is similar: the only difference is that it has a 3rd hopper window instead of a door in the central section. The majority of the southern elevation is made up of the SE & SW wings, which follow the established pattern for wings. In the center of the southern elevation, a large contrasting addition covers the 3rd window in the innermost bay of each of the south-facing wings & projects from the building, creating a covered, quasi-arcaded patio area under the eastern half of the addition. The addition is brick-faced & primarily circular in shape, except for a concavity on the southernmost point of the circle's wall. Within this concavity are a number of square windows with green metal surrounds (versus the silver aluminum metal surrounds in the original structure). The concavity is adorned with a single concrete Corinthian-inspired flattened pillar in the center of the hollow. A concrete 'sill' has a 'medallion' below the large paneled window & a decorative circle of concrete above it. The roof of this addition is of gabled standing seam metal with brick extending slightly above the roofline on all sides of its perimeter. Both the east & west elevations have a single decorative metal simulated buttress that extends from the main part of the addition to a decorated cement pillar standing on a low brick wall on each side.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

1990s to honor Oberlin College graduate John Mercer Langston, a prominent 19th century African-American lawyer and politician, the dorm is still commonly called 'North.' Today Langston is a traditional coeducational dorm with single-sex rooms housing 226 students from all class years. It no longer holds the distinction of being the northernmost dorm, surrendering that title to the College-owned Union Street complex (2005), which extends the area of residential north campus to include the northern side of Union Street.

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

45. Sources (Con't)

http://www.loraincounty.com/auditor/index.shtml, Accessed 2005.; Baumann, Roland M, Jessica G. Broadwell, and Michael Morgenstern, compilers, Roland M. Baumann, general editor, 'Architecture of the Oberlin College Campus,' from 'Oberlin College Archives: Published Resources: Architectural Records Guide: Guide to the Architectural Records in the Oberlin College Archives,' available http://www.oberlin.edu/archive/resources/architecture/index.html; City Directories, O.H.I.O Resource Center.