### Ohio Historic Inventory

**1. No.** LOR-1894-21  
**2. County** Lorain  
**5. Historic or Other Name(s)** Godley-Bailey House  

**103 East College**  
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 0900086106008  
7. City or Village Oberlin  
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrange Name: Oberlin  
Zone Easting Northing 17 398513 4571825  
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO  
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)  
16. Thematic Associations:  
**African American**  
**Christianity**  
17. Date(s) or Period c. 1870  
19. Architect or Engineer  
18. Style Class and Design Dominant Greek Revival  
18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)  
19a. Design Sources  
20. Contractor or Builder  
21. Building Type or Plan Side Hallway  
22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling  
23. Present Use Single Dwelling  
24. Ownership Private  
25. Owner's Name & Address, if known  
26. Property Acreage 0.29  
27. Other Surveys  
28. No. of Stories Two story  
29. Basement? YES  
30. Foundation Material Stone bearing  
31. Wall Construction Balloon/western/platform frame  
32. Roof Type Gable  
33. No. of Bays 2 Side Bays 3  
34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Aluminum or vinyl siding  
35. Plan Shape Rectangular  
36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: Original/Most significant construct  
37. Window Type(s) 6 over 6 Altered  
38. Building Dimensions 24’ x 48’  
39. Endangered? NO By What?  
40. Chimney Placement Center  
41. Distance from & Frontage on Road 35’ approx  
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)  

As per the side hallway building plan, the front door of this Greek Revival house is at the extreme left of the front (north) facade. An entablature and decorative vertical stripes are located above and pilasters flank the sides of the wood door, which has a window with 9 lights in the upper portion and filled panels in an X pattern below. To the right of the door, a large bay window with many lights dominates the first story of the main facade. This window dates to a 1940s alteration, added when the original front porch was taken down. Decorative scallops and a slightly bell cast, standing-seam metal hood top the window. Most other windows are 6/6 double hung. The second story contains 2 windows with shutters in the front gable, and features the cornice returns archetypical of the Greek Revival style. The east elevation includes 2 shuttered windows in the first story and two more in the second story without shutters. To the right of a window, a small one-story wing juts out from the center of the west elevation. This wing contains 1 window facing north and another more recent window, similar to the front bay in its many lights but slightly smaller in size, continued...  

**43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)**  
This address first appears in the city directory in 1873 under the ownership of a J. Godley, merchant tailor; probably the house was constructed at some point in the previous decade. Joseph Godley, a Scottish immigrant, lived here with his family at least by the 1860 census, but had owned the lot since around 1853. Godley first came to Oberlin when he studied at the College in the 1840s and returned here after marrying his wife Elizabeth in 1853. Joseph and Elizabeth had three children, Mary Jane, John A. and William. Mary Jane graduated from Oberlin High School in 1871 and married Coville C. Royce in 1875, later moving to Escanaba, Mich. John A. attended the Oberlin College Preparatory Department from 1874/75; by 1880 he had joined his father in the tailor trade. In 1880 the Godleys continued...  

**44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)**  
This house is located on the same lot as 107 East College, with which it shares a driveway and owner. It is on a residential street with a moderate amount of traffic.  

**45. Sources of Information**  
Interview with Patricia Stetson by Maria Survoy and Laurie Stein, June 29, 2005; 'Mrs. Bailey is taken by death,' Oberlin News, 6 January 1927, p. 1, c. 6; 'Bailey-Martin Nuptials,’ Oberlin News, 26 May 1927, p. 8, c. 5; 'Death of Joseph Godley,' Oberlin Weekly News, 29 May 1885, p. 3, c. 4; 'Death of Mrs. Wilder,' Oberlin News, 22 May 1918, p. 4, c. 4; ‘Fell from mound and broke limb,’ Oberlin News, 27 October 1909, p. 1, c. 2; 'Meat Dealers Fined,' Oberlin News, 6 November 1912, p. 5, c. continued...
| 1. No. | LOR-1894-21 |
| 2. County | Lorain |
| 5. Historic or Other Name(s) | Godley-Bailey House |

8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan:

- Door Selection: Corner
- Door Position: Flush
- Orientation: Gable end axis
- Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:
Facing west. Another 6/6 double hung window is beside it, with four more above across the second story. The back of the house contains a modern addition with a different foundation; it includes one window facing west, and a wooden deck and side door beside a large single paneled window flanked by 2/2s.

43. History and Significance (Cont.)

Moved to Osbourne, Kansas, residing there until Joseph died in 1885 of heart disease. By 1883, Jacob Fredrick, a dry goods merchant, lived here. Jacob worked for his brother, Adam J., at A. J. Fredrick and Co. Dry Goods, and went on to serve on the Oberlin City Council in the 1890s. Possibly he moved in after his marriage to Libbie L. in 1881. A daughter, Alice Libbie, was born to the Fredricks in 1882. The Fredricks occupied this house until at least 1887; by 1890 they moved to 12 N. Pleasant and a Mrs. F. D. Wilder had taken their place as resident. Frances Durand Wilder was the widow of Theodore Wilder, a professor at Ripon College in Wisconsin who, according to The Oberlin News, 'when a student at [OC] in 1861, enlisted in Co. C. of the Seventh Ohio Infantry, and was shot in one of the early battles of the Civil War'; Theodore died in 1871. Frances Wilder worked throughout her life as a teacher at several high schools and colleges in Ohio and Michigan; she was also very involved with foreign missions, serving as treasurer of the Ohio Branch of the W.B.M.I. (Women's Board of Missions of the Interior) on her return to Ohio in the late 1880s. This house went through a succession of occupants in the 1890s: Francis Wilder's residence in the house lasted just a year, with a Mrs. L. Gordon listed in the 1891 city directory at this address; by 1894, Mrs. Adella Easton and her children John Arago, Lottie Dell (OHS 1898), and twins Charles and Archibald lived here. The house was vacant between the Easton occupancy in 1894 and 1897, when Quincy R. Sage and his wife Ida May (nee Knaus) moved in. In February of that year a son, Russell, was born to the Sages. Quincy worked as a grocer at Sage Brothers and was elected to the City Council shortly after his residency here, in 1900; Ida was a former student at the Oberlin Conservatory. The Sages moved up the street to 90 E. College in 1899, and Mrs. Ellen J. Crittenden and her children took up residence here. According to the 1900 census, her son Immed sold life insurance and her daughter Wenda worked as a dressmaker. Reverend Smith Norton and his third wife Mary resided here briefly in 1902 before moving out west to Oregon; Smith was a graduate of Oberlin College and the Seminary (1855, '58). With the residency of George Bailey by 1904, however, the house entered into the possession of the family that still owns it today. George ran a meat market under the auspices of a series of different partnerships (Bailey and Rosecrans in 1904, Bailey and Grinnell in 1908, Bailey and Morris in 1912 and Bailey and Haas by 1914); he also operated a livery service with partner Kelley. The Oberlin News reported in 1912 that Bailey and his partner L. J. Morris 'were fined $10.00 and costs each by Mayor Yocom last week on a charge of keeping chickens in the basement of their stores in violation of a board health ordinance.' George's mother, Mrs. Kaziah Bailey, also lived in the house. In 1909 Mrs. Bailey met with a 'peculiar accident,' according to the Oberlin News: 'Mrs. Keziah Bailey of 103 East College street, while out in the lot in the rear of her home last Friday fell from a little mound which she had ascended and her right limb was broken. The fracture was a very bad one, the bones protruding through the flesh.' Fortunately Mrs. Bailey recovered from the accident, which the News described as 'remarkable' due to 'the fact that a hill big enough to tumble down from could be found in Oberlin, but mole hills some times may cause a great amount of trouble.' During this period of the Bailey occupancy, a house, 107 E. College, was built next door to 103 on the same lot. The histories of these two houses, both owned by the Bailey family, often overlap. By 1916, George and Mrs. Kaziah Bailey had moved next door to 107 and were renting out 103. Marie DeFrance, whom Bigglestone calls 'that rare Oberlinian, a single black woman in business,' lived here for about a decade in the 1910s and 20s (64). Marie's mother, Mary Elizabeth 'Mamie' DeFrance, resided here with her daughter until 1923, when she died at age 86 (Bigglestone 64). Mary Elizabeth had relocated her children from Mississippi to Oberlin in 1883. Marie studied for a year at the Conservatory in the 1890s, when she also began working in Belle Knowlton's millinery store at 31 W. College. In 1896, 'Marie purchased Belle's stock and established her own shop,' relocating to 24 S. Main in 1904. She operated her millinery for about 30 years before taking ill in May 1926; two months later she had sold her business and entered a sanitarium in Chicago, where she died later that year of cholecystitis. By 1927, Hollis W. Reighley, a meat-cutter for Bailey and Haas, was renting the house from the Baileys. Reighley and his family, including wife Florence and one child, lived here only briefly, moving to 29 N. Park in 1929. That year, LeRoy LaDow, who worked at the college heating plant, moved in with his wife Wilma. From 1933-36, Mrs. A. K. Zavodsky and her children occupied the house. Eugene Zavodsky worked as a clerk, Frances and Louise as office assistants, and Franklin was a student at OHS, graduating in 1936. The Newells were the house's next residents. Garrett Newell, a contractor, his sister Margaret Newell and William Newell, a carpenter, lived here from 1937-1940. The city directory listed Bruce E. James, a pipefitter, and Mrs. Ethel James as occupants from 1941-42, and an R. A. Edgar in 1943 before the Bailey family's resumption of possession by 1948. Mrs. Kaziah Bailey had passed away in 1927 at age 87; later that year, George Bailey married Miss Josephine Martin. By 1933, the Baileys had left 107 to live on a farm further east on College Street, where they resided until 1944. The Bailey family then consisted of George, Josephine and their daughter Patricia, who graduated from OHS in 1946. The Baileys updated the house a bit on their return in the 1940s, taking out the porch and adding a large front bay window. By 1956, Patricia had married William C. Stetson, who was employed then as an expeditor for Western Automatic. William Stetson went on to run The Sport Shop at 16 S. Main and serve as vice-president of the Oberlin Chamber of Commerce. The Stetsons and their growing family resided in the house in the 1950s, but by 1961 had moved to 309 Edgemoor and once again rented out 103 E. College. David E. Moyer, an emeritus professor of piano at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and his wife Jessie were listed as the occupants in 1961. By 1970, Anthony M. and Dorothy M. Frank resided here. Anthony worked as a controller for the FAA. The Stetsons returned to the house in 1991.

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Cont.)

45. Sources (Cont.)