**Ohio Historic Preservation Office**

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

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### Lorain National Bank, Dale Petrill DDS Commercial Block

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<td>3. Historic Name(s)</td>
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**14. Present Name(s)**: Lorain National Bank, Dale Petrill DDS Commercial Block

- **24, 32, 38, 40 East College**

**6. Specific Address or Location**: 24, 32, 38, 40 East College

**6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number**: 0900086101050

**7. City or Village**: Oberlin

**9. U.T.M. Reference**: 398170 451868

**10. Classification**: Building

**11. On National Register?**: NO

**13. Part of Established Hist. Dist?**: NO

**15. Other Designation (NR or Local)**

**16. Thematic Associations**: Bank

**17a. Dates of Period**: 1954-1955

**17b. Alteration Date(s)**

**18. Style Class and Design**: Modern Movements

**18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)**

**19. Architect or Engineer**: Eldredge Snyder


**20. Contractor or Builder**: Unknown

**21. Building Type or Plan**: COMMERCIAL

**22. Original Use, if apparent**: Financial institution

**23. Present Use**: Financial institution

**24. Ownership**: Private

**25. Owner's Name & Address, if known**: Oberlin College

173 North Main Street

Oberlin, OH 44074

**26. Property Acreage**: unknown

**27. Other Surveys**

**28. No. of Stories**: One story

**29. Basement?**: No

**30. Foundation Material**: Concrete slab

**31. Wall Construction**: Metal/steel frame

**32. Roof Type**: Flat

**33. No. of Bays**: 7 Side Bays 2

**34. Exterior Wall Material(s)**: Brick, Wood

**35. Plan Shape**: Rectangular

**36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates**: Original/Most significant construct

**37. Window Type(s)**: Storefront

**38. Building Dimensions**: 125' x 40'

**39. Endangered?**: YES

**40. Chimney Placement**: No chimney observed

**41. Distance from & Frontage on Road**: 10'

**42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features**: This commercial building displays Modern Movements in architecture and encompasses four historic storefronts, but is currently only occupied by two businesses. The center two storefronts (with addresses 32 and 38 E. College) are occupied by Dale A. Petrill Family Dentistry. The two storefronts flanking the dentist's office (24 and 40 E. College) both belong to Lorain National Bank. Looking at the south facade (which faces E. College Street), the far left storefront (24) contains a glass and metal door. The door has a glass transom above and a glass sidelite (in the right side of the door). The transom is marked with a '24.' The storefront has vertical wood siding with large trapezoid-shaped windows paired together to give a somewhat diamond pattern. As the windows meet, they angle in, to create a recessed window, similar to a reverse bay window. There are 3 pairs of windows (six altogether). The center two storefronts (with the numbers '32' and '38' painted on them), which form the dentist's office, appear to retain historic features. Each door is made of glass and the storefront is dominated by large, plate glass windows. The far right storefront continued...

**43. History and Significance**: These addresses are all located within the same commercial building. There have been businesses located on this property since the early years of Oberlin, in addition to residences above the early buildings. Businesses that were located at 24 East College, but not in the current building, included R. M. Finley's meat market (c. 1890-1896), E. R. Hopkins' ophthalmology office (c. 1908), Hiram Fobe's insurance company (c. 1904), the Palace Barber Shop, owned by Harris G. Helms, a grocery owned by Francis Water and then Bert Locke (c. 1920-1936), and the Oberlin Times, managed by Carl and Rebecca Kinney (c. 1937-1942). Businesses at 26 East College (no longer an address) included J. Preston's tobacco store (c. 1894), West Plumbing (c. 1899-1920), and the Oberlin Times (c. 1937-1948). 28 East continued...

**44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings**: This building is located at one of the main intersections in downtown Oberlin, and receives high vehicular and pedestrian traffic. In front of the businesses, the sidewalk space is wide. The sidewalk in front of the buildings includes rectangular 'flower beds' made from raised walls of concrete. Each rectangle includes a tree and foliage.


**46. Prepared By**: Liz Schultz

**47. Organization**: Oberlin Heritage Center

**48. Date Recorded**: 11/20/2009

**49. PIR Reviewer**: 

**50. PIR Review Date**: 

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*Ohio Historic Inventory Number: RPR 02037-21*
| 1. No. | LOR-02037-21 | 4. Present Name(s) | Lorain National Bank, Dale Petrill DDS Commercial Block |
| 2. County | Lorain | 5. Historic or Other Name(s) | Lorain National Bank Commercial Block |

| 8. Site Plan with North Arrow | 54. Farmstead Plan |
|

**Report Associated With Project:**

**NADB #:**

**Door Selection:**
- Three or more

**Door Position:**
- Recessed

**Orientation:**
- Lateral axis

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

(42) also belongs to Lorain National Bank; this storefront has hexagonal windows within vertical wood siding. This storefront is similar to that of 32 E. College, except the windows are flush with the facade, rather than recessed. The door is located at the center of this storefront and is recessed within a portico that has a triangular top. The door is wood and has a large, diamond-shaped window. Running above the windows on each elevation of the building, a metal covering (about 1 foot in height) covers a retractable awning. Above that, a horizontal band has been covered with aluminum. The east elevation (42 E. College) contains the drive up window for the bank at the right. To its left are two large, plate glass windows. A small driveway runs along this elevation and is shaded by a wood overhang with a flat roof. The west elevation (32 E. College) contains two pairs of large, plate glass windows. An addition at the left is mostly unadorned, with the exception of the metal awning feature and the aluminum horizontal band seen in the rest of the structure. This portion is presumed to be an addition because the brick is a slightly different shade than the rest of the building. The rear elevation (north) faces a parking lot and is nearly a mirror image to the front (south) facade. The exception is that the far right side protrudes out at the addition and contains two large windows at the far left and right.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

College held the A. J. Rivers shoe shop (c. 1894-1896). Livery stables owned by T. R. Mayhew, G. W. Gibson, and Henry Lee (African American) were located near 30, 32, and 34 East College (c. 1873-1900). Later, these areas held offices for the Oberlin College grounds department (c. 1920-1944). At one time the Oberlin Family Theater, managed by Willson and Fisher, was at 36 East College (1908). Over the years 38 East College held a grocery owned by J. H. Martin, Cooley and Fowler, and W. S. Wait (c. 1890-1902), and the college carpenter shop (c. 1935-1939). The office of college residences and dining halls was in 36 E. College (c. 1940-1943). Businesses at old 40 East College buildings include: Jackson House (c. 1873), H. J. Martin grocers (c. 1894-1897; probably attached to 38 E. College), Tuck Wall Paper and Prints (c. 1908-1910; African American owned), and a garage owned by Roger Bros. and Artino Bros. (c. 1916-1920). An Oberlin Times article published in 1950 shows some of the former buildings being torn down, including one which used to hold Martin's grocery and a garage. (For more information about prior businesses visit the Oberlin Heritage Center). The current building was constructed from 1954 to 1955 as part of the larger project of building the new Oberlin Inn. The new Oberlin Inn was designed by New York architect Eldredge Snyder, who also designed the Jones Field House and Harkness and Fairchild dorms on campus. Barber and Magee of Cleveland were structural engineers and Adachi and Case of Cleveland were mechanical and electrical engineers. This commercial building was included in Snyder's designs for the Inn block. The first business establishments located in the new commercial building included the Popcorn Bowl (40 E. College), Nishan Tailor and Furrier (30 E. College, on this block from 1948-1985), Dudley Wood Florist, the Chamber of Commerce, the Auto Club, and the Carlyle Shop. Wood served as the College's florist. The shop moved and by 1970 the Southwestern Savings and Loan was listed in 24 East College. Then from about 1979 to 2009 Third Federal Savings was at this address. In 2009 Third Federal Savings left and Lorain National Bank took the space. Nishan's Tailor Shop was located in 30 East College until 1985. Businesses at 32 East College included the Oberlin Auto Club (c. 1956-1961, in previous building in 1948 too), Nationwide Insurance (c. 1970), A. D. Searles insurance (c. 1973-1983), Ross Insurance Agency (c. 1983-1993), and the current business, Dale A. Petrill's Family Dentistry, since 1994. Few businesses were listed in 38 East College in the current building, possibly because businesses were combined with 32 East College. Businesses included Bittersweet Interiors (c. 1956), Ray's Barber Shop, managed by R. E. Murphy and G. R. Goodson (c. 1961), and Lehman Johnson Gallery of homes (c. 1981-1982). The first business listed at 40 East College in the new building was the Popcorn Bowl Coffee Shop, managed by L. C. Kaiser (c. 1956-1961). The next business was, and continues to be, Lorain National Bank, starting in 1970. The address of the bank was occasionally listed as 40-42 East College. The bank currently operates out of both 24 and 40 East College, with offices in 24 and the drive-through window at 40.

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

45. Sources (Con't)