### OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

**No.** LOR-1605-21  
**County** Lorain  
**Location of Negatives** O.H.I.O. Resource Cen

**Present Name(s)** Siddall House, Hoover House

**Historic or Other Name(s)**
- Siddall House
- Hoover House

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### Descriptive Information

**Roll No.** 9  
**Picture No.(s)** 24, 25

**Address** 262 West College Street

**City or Village** Oberlin

**Path Plan with North Arrow**

**Quadrangle Name:** Oberlin  
**Zone:** 17  
**Easting:** 397250  
**Northing:** 4571675

**Classification:** Building

**Original Use, if apparent** Single Dwelling

**Present Use** Single Dwelling

**Owners** Private

**Owner's Name & Address, if known**

**Property Acreage** 1.45

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### Thematic and Design Information

**Thematic Associations:** Health Care, College, Music

**Date(s) or Period**
- c. 1858
- pre-1911, c. 1956-1970

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### Architectural Information

**Architect or Engineer**

**Design Sources**

**Contractor or Builder**

**Building Type or Plan** Gabled Ell

**Building Type or Plan**

**Original Use, if apparent** Single Dwelling

**Present Use** Single Dwelling

**Ownership** Private

**Endangered?** No

**Chimney Placement** Off center within roof surface

**Distance from & Frontage on Road** Approx. 30'

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### Environmental and Outbuildings

This vernacular Gabled Ell was built shortly after the original owner purchased the lot in 1855. The house is comprised completely of asbestos tile that simulates whitewashed brick, except for the stucco chimney. According to the current owners & local historian Jane Blodgett, the tile was applied over the top of stucco by previous owners, the Hoovers, which previously covered the exterior of the house. The large wing/addition was built sometime continued...

This much-altered house was built in 1858 (Property Card). The 1873 resident was Dr. J.F. Siddall, a dentist and Oberlin pioneer who lived here with his wife, Orinda C. Siddall (City Directory). Dr. Siddall died in 1909 by falling into the cistern of the home and drowned (Oberlin News). His family lived here until around 1916. The 1927 city directory listed the next resident of this house as John E. Wirkler. John became the Director of Admissions at Oberlin College in 1945. According to local continued...

This house includes a detached carriage house, which was used to house the Hoover children's horses around the 1950s. An in-ground swimming pool is also located behind the house. The lot originally stretched to West Lorain Street, however, part was sold to the Oberlin Clinic, now part of the local hospital.

45. **Sources of Information**

'Tragic Death of Dr. Siddall,' 'The Oberlin News,' 13 October 1909:1.; 'New Management For Glee Club,' 'The Oberlin News,' 28 July 1909:4.; Blodgett, Geoffrey, 'Oberlin Architecture, College and Town: A Guide to Social History,' Oberlin College, 1985.; City Directories, O.H.I.O Resource Center.; continued...

46. **Prepared By:** Petersen, T Reeves, M Surovy  
**Organization:** O.H.I.O.

47. **Date Recorded:** 08/05/2003
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| 51. Condition of Property: | Excellent |
| 52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies | Carriage house |
| 53. Affiliated OAI Site Numbers | |

**FOR OHPO USE:**

49. Revised By: 
50a. Date Revised: 
50b. Reviewed by: 
RPR Number: 

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

before 1911, when it appears on the Sanborn map. The right side of the facade contains a front-facing gable. At the gabled section, the door is located to the left and it features a pedimented portico with square supports on top of a brick wall. The door has sidelights and a transom above. Two six-over-one windows with shutters are located to the right of the door, and three six-over-one windows with shutters are in the second story. A single window with shutters is located in the gable. The roof gable and the portico have simple entablatures. The wing to the left is two stories. A bay window with shutters is to the right side of the wing and a six-over-one window with shutters is to the left. The second story has a pair of six-over-one windows to the right and a single six-over-one; each has shutters. At the far right side of the elevation, a one-story wing with several awning windows has a side-facing gable. The east elevation has six-over-one windows with shutters at the first and second stories, except at the wing, which has awning windows. The west elevation includes a door near the center of the elevation, with an entry that projects from the house and has a gable roof. A large window with shutters is to the right. Double hung windows with shutters are at the left and right of the first story. Another six-panel window with shutters is located near the center, above the door. The attic has hopper windows with transoms that follow the roof’s gable, and are probably replacements. A modern deck is located behind the house. This house is comprised of many additions; the only original part of the house that remains is where the dining room is located.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

historian Dick Lothrup, John Wirkler was a graduate of OC, served as assistant to the Secretary (1911-13), Assistant Secretary (1913-38), Associate Secretary (1938-45), & continued to serve the college as Assistant to the Secretary & Assistant to the Director of Admission after his retirement in 1945. Lothrup also asserts that John Wirkler ‘knew more alumni personally than any other official at the college.’ John was featured in the Oberlin News when he was chosen as the new manager of the Oberlin College Glee Club in 1909 (The Oberlin News). The next occupant of this house was Dr. George O. Hoover & his wife Bobbie; they moved into the house in 1956 and lived here until the 1970s.

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

45. Sources (Con't)

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