42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features

This two-and-one-half story house has a low-pitched, hipped roof, lateral exterior chimney, and Arts & Crafts design elements. The exterior walls of the house are stucco, and the large shed dormers have wood shingles. A wide cornice, lined with thin strips of wood, protrudes from the roofline. The front entrance porch has a gable roof, supported by thick wooden beams, with a slight bow at the bottom. In the center of the porch gable a beam bisects the stucco. On the second story, three cubed brackets support a bay projecting from the front façade with paired six-over-six double-hung windows. All of the windows are replacement and vary in size and shape. The house may have undergone later additions.

43. History and Significance

In 1911, only 14 months before his death, Joseph Lyman Silsbee designed this home for local newspaper editor Carl W. Kinney. Kinney was well known as a young man who started his own newspaper, The Owl, while a student at the Oberlin academy, and as editor of the Tribune from 1899 to 1934. Carl W. Kinney, Jr. was the house’s next occupant. Carl Jr. continued the family profession of journalism with his own newspaper The Times from 1936 to 1951 (Blodgett). In 1950 Joseph, college German professor, and Anita Reichard, college dean of women in the turbulent 1960s, purchased the house from Carl Kinney Jr. The Reichards sold the house for (cont.)

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

West College Street is a predominately intact historic neighborhood. Its integrity, however, is threatened by insensitive rehabilitation, and conversions to student rental.

45. Sources of Information


46. Prepared by

M. Fedelchak-Harley, L. Previll

47. Organization

O.H.I.O. and H.P.C.

48. Date Recorded

9-15-2000

49 Revised by

50 Revised by
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued from page 1)

43. History and Significance (Continued from page 1)

$155,000 in 1993.

This house is significant for its association with the town’s leading family of journalism, and for as the residence of college faculty. This house was listed by the City of Oberlin as an Oberlin City Landmark on May 5, 1997.