### Oberlin Heritage Center

**Locke-Upton House**

**Building**

- **County:** Lorain
- **Specific Address or Location:** 355 West College
- **Classification:** Single Dwelling
- **Style Class and Design:** American foursquare
- **Other Designation (NR or Local):** No
- **Part of Established Hist. Dist?:** No
- **Thematic Associations:** Commerce
- **Alumni Register: Graduates and Former Students**
- **Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies:** Garage

**Architect or Engineer**

- **Present Name(s):** Steven R. Huff
- **Sources of Information:**
  - Ohio Heritage Center
  - Oberlin Pioneer Database
  - Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps
  - Gordon, Stephen C., 'How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, Columbus. 1992.

**Vernacular American Foursquare**

This vernacular American Foursquare displays elements of Queen Anne styling, particularly in the multi-textured first floor exterior. This exterior consists of a tall sandstone foundation, while the remainder of the exterior is brick. Sandstone blocks also mark the sills and lintels of the windows of the first story. The doors also have sandstone lintels above them. The windows of the house have been altered, with the addition of replacement windows. At the front/north facade, the full front porch has a hip roof and Ionic columns. Concrete steps with metal railings lead up to the wood floor of the porch. At the top of the steps, to the right, the column is not a full, Ionic column; rather, it is more of a base of a column. At the first story, a 1/1 double hung window is at the right; the upper sash of this window is smaller than the lower sash. The door, which is located at the center, is the original wood door, with a window in the upper half and two horizontal, filled panels below, as well as another horizontal panel above. A large window to the left of the door has four lights, with the upper two lights smaller than the bottom ones. The second story has two

**Additional Details**

- **Ownership:** Unknown
- **Foundation Material:** Balanced/Platform frame
- **Roof Type:** Asphalt shingle
- **Exterior Wall Material(s):** Brick, Aluminum or vinyl siding

**Additional Sources**

- City Directories, Oberlin Heritage Center Resource Center.
- Holsworth, Pat, Oberlin Pioneer Database.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.
- Gordon, Stephen C., 'How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, Columbus. 1992.

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**Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)**

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**Historic and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)**

This house was built circa 1910 and first lived in by William Adelbert Locke. Locke worked as a stonemason and contractor in Oberlin. He and his wife Elizabeth raised four children and belonged to the members of Knights and Ladies of Security, a fraternal and benevolent society. The 1916 city directory lists Sidney Kent Gunn and his wife Sylvia as the next residents. Sidney was a clerk, salesman, and bought various businesses in Oberlin, including Kelly's Drugstore and Hobbs' restaurant and bakery. By 1920, Clyde O. Wilson, his wife Browning M., and two children came to be residents. In 1929 John Henry Kutcher, who was a teacher at the Oberlin School of Commerce, and his wife Maud resided in the home until 1933. Glenn Spencer, an Oberlin plumber, and his wife Ethel became residents with

**Additional Details**

- **Endangered?:** No
- **Date:** 1910
- **Structure Type:** Garage
- **Associated Activity:**

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**Sources of Information**

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- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.
- Gordon, Stephen C., 'How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory,' Ohio Historical Society, Columbus. 1992.

**PIR Reviewer:** Elizabeth Schultz
1. No. LOR-02015-21
2. County Lorain
4. Present Name(s) Huff House
5. Historic or Other Name(s) Locke-Upton House

8. Site Plan with North Arrow
   Report Associated With Project:
   NADB #: 

54. Farmstead Plan:

   Door Selection:
   Single off center

   Door Position:
   Flush

   Orientation:
   Other

   Symmetry:
   Bilateral asymmetry
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con't)

1/1 double hung windows. A hipped dormer in the roof has three casement windows. The east elevation, at the first story, has a 1/1 double hung window at the right, and the left features a cutaway bay with a 1/1 double hung window on each face. The bay has a hipped roof. The second story includes a 1/1 double hung window at the left and right. The center of the second story has a small, 1/1 double hung window. At the far left, at the rear of the house, a one-story addition has aluminum siding and two 1/1 double hung windows. The addition also has double hung windows at the south side. The west elevation includes a door near the center of the first story. The door has a window in the upper half and three horizontal, filled panels. At the left side of the first story, a 1/1 window is double hung, and the right side includes a 1/1 double hung window with a window box. Above the door, at the center of the elevation, between the first and second stories, a stained glass window has a pastel, flower pattern. The second story includes 1/1 double hung windows at the left and right. A square window is at the center. At the far right, in the first story, a porch has been enclosed. This porch has a door at the left, with a metal hood above, and brick steps with concrete caps lead up to the door, as well as metal railings. A 1/1 double hung window is right of the door.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

their daughter in 1933. According to the city directory, the home was vacant from 1935 to 1936. In 1937 Conrad Laberg, his wife Stella, and three children resided in the home. Conrad was district manager of the A & P grocery. In 1939 the house was vacant again. In 1940 D. Bradford Noble and his wife Nell moved in and remained there until 1942. In 1948 Mrs. Sophia Upton, widow of Samson Upton, moved in and 355 seemed to become a family home. The next name in the city directory is Winifred Upton, Sophia's daughter, in 1956 and then N. C. Upton in 1981. Not until 1994 does the home become vacant for a third time, when N. C. moved into the Kendal at Oberlin retirement community. Steven R. Huff purchased the house in 1994 and is the current owner. He is a professor in the German Language and Literature Department at Oberlin College.

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

45. Sources (Con't)