**OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY**

**Ohio Historic Preservation Office**
567 E. Hudson St.
Columbus, OH 43211
614/298-2000

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1. **No.** LOR-1653-21
2. **County** Lorain
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Cen
   - Roll No. 12
   - Picture No.(s) 07,08
4. **Present Name(s)** Geiser House
5. **Historic or Other Name(s)**
6. **Specific Address or Location** 83 Elmwood Place
7. **City or Village** Oberlin
8. **Site Plan with North Arrow**

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16. **Thematic Associations:**
   - World War II, German, College
17. **Date(s) or Period** c. 1912
18. **Style or Design** High Style
19. **Architect or Engineer**
20. **Contractor or Builder**
21. **Building Type or Plan** Bungalow Dormer Front
22. **Original Use, if apparent** Single Dwelling
23. **Present Use** Multiple Dwelling
24. **Ownership** Private
25. **Owner's Name & Address, if known**
26. **Property Acreage** unknown
27. **Other Surveys**

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28. **No. of Stories** Two story
29. **Basement?** Yes
30. **Foundation Material** Brick bearing
31. **Wall Construction** Balloon frame/western frame/pla
32. **Roof Type** Gable with side gable
33. **Roof Material** Asphalt shingle
34. **No. of Bays** 3
35. **Plan Shape** Rectangular
36. **Changes**
   - Addition
   - Altered
   - Moved
37. **Window Type(s)**
   - 6 over 1
38. **Building Dimensions** 25 x 38
39. **Endangered?** By What?
40. **Chimney Placement** Off center within roof surface
41. **Distance from & Frontage on Road** Approx. 15'
42. **Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)**
   - This Dormer Front Bungalow has elements of Craftsman/Arts and Crafts Style. The front facade features a full porch with brick columns and wood steps with an iron railing leading up the center. Wood balusters runs between the brick columns. The door is located at the center, and contains eight glass panels. Sets of three windows flank the door, which are comprised of a fixed center window surrounded by six-over-one windows.
   - The second story continued...

43. **History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)**
   - This house was built in 1912 (Property Card) for Karl Frederick Geiser, who taught political science at OC & lived here around 1916 with his 2nd wife Florence Mary Chaney (Archives, City Directory). His daughter was born in 1916. Geiser was OC's first professor of political science. He arrived at OC in 1907 & was the only member of his department for the next 17 years (Archives). Geiser was involved in the local community & in developing Oberlin's city manager plan around 1915 (Oberlin News). He continued...

44. **Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)**
   - This house is in good condition and is located in a cul-de-sac with other homes that are well maintained. A university building is located behind the home's east elevation.

45. **Sources of Information**

46. **Prepared By:** Petersen, T Reeves, M Surov
47. **Organization:** O.H.I.O.
48. **Date Recorded:** 08/19/2003
contains a shed dormer at the center of the elevation. The dormer features a door with glass panels at the center, flanked by windows with four panels. A wood balustrade is situated along the dormer’s small porch. A six-over-one window is located at each side of the dormer. The north elevation contains a set of three six-over-one windows at the right side of the first story, with a single six-over-one window to the left. The second story contains a pair of six-over-one windows. A semi-circular window is located in the gable.

became a controversial figure within the college, town & nation due to his outspoken pro-German stance during WWI & in the following years (Archives). Geiser translated several German works into English, including Werner Sombart’s Der Moderne Kapitalismus. In 1934, Hitler awarded Geiser the Order of the German Eagle, 1st degree, & anti-Geiser feelings in Oberlin reached their peak. That year Geiser retired, due to pressure from the college administration (Archives). In 1920, Maurice & Juliette Koessler lived here with their child; Maurice was a professor of Music at the Conservatory (City Directory). Around 1927-33, Hermann Thornton occupied the house; he was a professor of French at the college (Hi-O-Hi, 1933). From around 1935-42, Luke Steiner lived in the house with his wife, Helen & 2 children (City Directory). Steiner was an Oberlin alumnus & became head of the chemistry department. From 1956-61, Sadie & Bernard Tenney, who was retired, occupied the house (City Directory).

4. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Con’t)

45. Sources (Con’t)

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