This modest single family house in Oberlin's African American community was built before 1873 as 15 Groveland St. The first known residents were G. H. Allen, a miller, G. L. Ashford, a harness maker, and Samuel C. Gillett, a grocer and miller. It is possible Mr. Gillett’s wife Abigail (Farr) lived in the house, along with some of their six children: Mary b. 1851; Ellen b. 1854 (d. 1871 while a student at Oberlin High School after a kerosene accident); Florence b. 1856; Charles b. 1860; Susan b. 1863. Samuel Gillett died in 1873. By 1877, Mr. Allen, his wife Abigail (Farr) and the rest of the Gillett family had moved out of the house and a clerk named C. B. Hager moved in. He moved out by 1883.

This front/south facade of this vernacular side-hallway house features a full front porch. The house has Greek Revival elements. The porch has a gable roof, square supports (which have been covered with aluminum) and vinyl half-walls between the supports. The porch is likely not original to the house; it appears to be a c. 1915 addition based on its Craftsman appearance with tapered square columns. Within the porch, a 6/1 double hung window is at the center and right. The door is at the left and has nine lights in its upper half. In the north-facing window, which is 1/1 double hung.

At the west elevation, which includes the hip-roofed addition, 6/6 double hung windows are at the left and right. The center includes a pair of two narrow, 1/1 windows are double hung. Left of the porch, in a one-story addition, a 6/6 window is double hung.

Second story, a pair of two narrow, 1/1 windows are double hung. Left of the porch, in a one-story addition, a 6/6 window is double hung. Left of the porch, a 6/1 double hung. A door in the addition faces east and has a metal hood. The addition also has a gable roof, square supports (which have been covered with aluminum) and vinyl half-walls between the supports. The porch is likely not original to the house; it appears to be a c. 1915 addition based on its Craftsman appearance with tapered square columns.

The front/south facade of this vernacular side-hallway house features a full front porch. The house has Greek Revival elements. The porch has a gable roof, square supports (which have been covered with aluminum) and vinyl half-walls between the supports. The porch is likely not original to the house; it appears to be a c. 1915 addition based on its Craftsman appearance with tapered square columns. Within the porch, a 6/1 double hung window is at the center and right. The door is at the left and has nine lights in its upper half. In the north-facing window, which is 1/1 double hung. At the main body of the house, a rectangular window is continued...
1. No. LOR-02031-21
2. County Lorain
3. Present Name(s) rental property
4. Historic or Other Name(s) Butler-Ives-Hamlin House
5. Historic or Other Name(s)
6. Site Plan with North Arrow
7. Farmstead Plan:
   - Door Selection: Single off center
   - Door Position: Flush
   - Orientation: Gable dominant with lateral smaller extension
   - Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:
NADB #: 
at the first story and two 6/6 double hung windows are at the second story. The east elevation includes a projecting bay window with
tcutaway sides at the far left; the bay has a flat roof and 1/1 double hung windows. At the right, a porch with a hip roof has square supports.
A vinyl wall runs between the supports, and concrete steps lead up to the north side of the porch. Within the porch, the door at the left has
two narrow windows, running vertical, with filled panels below. A 6/1 double hung window is at the far right. The second story has two 6/6
double hung windows.

43. History and Significance (Cont'd)

with his wife Elizabeth (Alexander), an 1865 OHSU graduate, and their son Walter. James Butler served in the war in violation of law which
prohibited African Americans from serving, possibly by passing as white. He sustained serious injuries and left the battlefield to serve as a
nurse in 1863. Later years, James Butler was twice cited for creating a public disturbance under the influence of alcohol (1890). In 1903, Mr.
Butler was providing a room in his house for Riley D. Black, an African American from Tennessee who had been working in Oberlin. After
a confrontation resulting from a dispute over a damaged rug in Mr. Black's bedroom, Mr. Butler killed him with a shotgun. He was arrested
and convicted of second-degree murder, resulting in a life sentence. He was released from prison in 1907 due to poor health and he moved
back into the house for a few months before passing away at the age of 65. Despite his troubles with the law, he was honored for his
service in the Civil War upon his death. Elizabeth continued to live in the house until she died in 1910 at the age of 63. Around 1886, while
the Butlers were living in the house, Darius Taylor Darling, a butcher, moved in with his wife Julia (Weed) and their children Ella May and
William, as well as Charles Henry McChesney, a son from Mrs. Darling's previous marriage to John McChesney. Julia and John also had a
daughter, Flora McChesney, but she married in 1875 and likely never lived in the house. Darius Darling was a member of the Oberlin fire
department. In 1884 Ella Darling married F. H. Wood, a bookkeeper, and he moved into the house. William Darling eventually took charge
of all Oberlin College plumbing, while Charles McChesney became the chief engineer for Oberlin College. The Darlings, McChesneys and
Woods all moved out of the house by 1888. Around 1900 Charles Dyer, an African American meat cutter, moved in. He had moved out by
1916. In 1902 an Oberlin Academy student from Congress, Ohio, Grover Elsworth Sigrist, lived in the house. In 1910, Frederick Clark, an
African American and former barber, moved in with his new wife Sarah E. (Leek), a cook at a boarding house. The couple married when Mr.
Clark was 74 and Mrs. Clark was 63. The couple moved out around 1916. Around the time the Clarkes moved out the African American
Johnson family moved in. Charles C. Johnson was a janitor and lived with his wife Bertha and their children. The youngest child, John
Benson, went on to graduate from Oberlin High School in 1939. His older brothers, Albert and Clinton E., were born to a different mother.
The Johnson family moved out by 1927. Sometime between 1920 and 1927 the Ives family moved in. Wilber F. Ives was a sheet metal
contractor and with his wife Helen raised four children: Wilbur John b. 1924, Mary b. 1925, Edward F. b. 1927, and a fourth child born in
1930. The Ives moved out of the house between 1937 and 1939. Joe Hamlin, an African American Oberlin College custodian, moved in
around the time the Ives moved out, along with his wife Geneva, a cook at Barrows (now Old Barrows) house (a college dormitory), and
their child. Mrs. Mildred Hamlin (Legg), Joseph's widowed mother, moved in about the same time. Joseph's sister, Lethra Marilla (also
seen as Leatha), who appears to have been separated from her husband, Leonard Smith, whom she later divorced, lived in the house for a
time. Lethra may have brought with her one or both of her children, Leonard Smith, Jr. and Ronald Smith. Lethra remarried in 1943 to
Emmet Crosby and likely left the house around that time. In 1943, Ralph Hudnell Jr., Joseph Hamlin's nephew, registered for the draft while
living in the house. Ralph Jr.'s mother, (and Joseph's sister), Edith Mae Hudnell, died in 1941. Edith Mae's husband, Ralph Sr., might have
moved into the house. Mildred had moved out by 1948. Joseph Hamlin continued to live in the house until he passed away in 1981 at the
age of 76. His wife moved out of the house around that time. Known subsequent occupants include R. Anselm (c. 1984) and J. Hood (c.
1994-1995). According to the county auditor, Eddie K. Pifer sold the house to the PB Land Inc. in 2003, who sold it to Nilda Liciaga in 2004,
who sold it to Deutsch Bank National in 2008, who sold it to Luke Washburn in 2009. None of these recent owners appear to have been
residents. In 2008 the house was part of an Ohio Neighborhood Stabilization Plan program to help southeast Oberlin, which had been
stressed by foreclosures. The house was listed as a candidate for Acquisition/Rehabilitation/Resale/Rent.'

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Cont')

Ohio-NSP-Executive-Summary-Lorain---Huron.aspx; 'A Young Girl Burned to Death', 6/3/1871, Lorain County News, Pg. 3, Col. 3; 'Gillet,
Samuel C. P. - Obituary,' 12/4/1873, Lorain County News, Pg. 3, Col. 5; 'A Pleasant Affair', 9/5/1884, Oberlin Weekly News, Pg. 3, Col. 4;
'Butler, James S. - Drunk and Disorderly,' 5/8/1890, Oberlin Weekly News, Pg. 3, Col. 1; 'Butler, James S. - Drunk and Disorderly,' 7/10/1890,
Oberlin Weekly News, Pg. 3, Col. 3; 'A Foul Murder', 2/17/1903, Oberlin News, Pg. 1, Col. 1; 'Butler Sentenced', 3/22/1903, Oberlin News, Pg. 4,
Col. 3; 'Aged Colored People Wed', 2/29/1909, Oberlin News, Pg. 1, Col. 5; 'Butler, Elizabeth Alexander - Died,' 2/16/1910, Oberlin News,
Pg. 5, Col. 1; 'Weed, Julia A. - Obituary,' 9/3/1912, Oberlin News, Pg. 5, Col. 3; 'Darius Darling Taken By Death', 3/3/1915, Oberlin News, Pg. 1,
Col. 6; 'Sixty Attend Ives Reunion', 8/11/1927, Oberlin News, Pg. 1, Col. 6; 'Ives Family Reunion', 8/15/1929, Oberlin News, Pg. 1, Col. 6;
'Employee of the College Died Monday', 7/24/1930, Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 1, Col. 2; 'Character Was an Inspiration to Many', 7/31/1930,
Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 1, Col. 5; 'Sudden Death of Engineer for College', 8/21/1930, Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 1, Col. 2; 'Born',
11/27/1930, Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 1, Col. 4; 'Edith Hudnell Dies, Age 41', 9/4/1941, Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 1; 'Willard Mitchell Again
Heads Men's Civic Club', 2/2/1942, Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 1; 'Oberlin in Uniform', 7/8/1943, Oberlin News-Tribune, Pg. 4; Bigglestone,