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

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

1. No. LOR-1956-21
2. County Lorain
3. Historic or Other Name(s) Godley-Jackson House

6. Specific Address or Location 31 Locust
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number 0900096102007
7. City or Village Oberlin
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: Oberlin
10. Classification: Building
11. On National Register? NO
12. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO
15. Other Designation (NR or Local)
16. Thematic Associations: Scottish
17. Date(s) or Period c. 1870
18. Style Class and Design Dominant No academic style - Vernacular
18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)
19. Architect or Engineer

19a. Design Sources
20. Contractor or Builder
21. Building Type or Plan Upright and Wing
22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling Multiple Dwelling
23. Present Use Single Dwelling
24. Ownership Private
25. Owner's Name & Address, if known
26. Property Acreage
27. Other Surveys
28. No. of Stories One and a half story
29. Basement? Yes
30. Foundation Material Stone bearing
31. Wall Construction Balloon/western/platform frame
32. Roof Type Gable
33. No. of Bays 3 Side Bays 2
34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Aluminum or vinyl siding
35. Plan Shape Irregular
36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: Original/Most significant construct
17b.
37. Window Type(s) 1 over 1
38. Building Dimensions 30' x 34'
39. Endangered? NO
40. Chimney Placement Center
41. Distance from & Frontage on Road 25' approx.
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)
This vernacular Upright and Wing contains its upright portion at the left side of the north facade. At the first story of the upright portion, a bay window has a modern, brick foundation below it and cutaway sides. Each side has a 1/1 window. The second story also has a 1/1 window. The right side of the facade contains the porch, and the wing section of the house. The porch has square columns (and a base, without a full column next to the steps). Brick steps lead up to the porch, which has a vinyl wall around its perimeter and lattice below. A 1/1 window is situated to the right of the door. The west elevation projects out at the right side and has a gable. This portion has a small 1/1 window facing both west and north. At the part that does not project out, there is another 1/1 window. The east elevation has a projection at the left side of the first story and two 1/1 windows. Right of the projection, at the first story, there is another 1/1 window. The original basement windows each have two vertical Mullions.

43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)
The first record of this house appears in 1873, as 10 Mechanic Street, when the city directory lists a Mrs. F. L. Brown and a D. Darling as occupants. The house was likely built sometime in the decades immediately prior. (The address changed to 31 in 1894 and the street name to Locust in 1914.) Mrs. Brown worked as a hairdresser. More is known about Darius T. Darling, who came to Oberlin with his family in 1869. Darius worked as a butcher and meat-cutter for various firms, and also became a member of Oberlin's original fire department. Although not listed in the directory, his family also likely resided in this house, including his wife, Julia Weed Darling, Julia's son from a previous marriage, Charles Henry McChesney, and two young children, Ella May and William Darling. Julia was a continued...

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)
Small (not historic) wood shed at the far (rear) edge of the property. This house is located on a residential street that receives little traffic.

45. Sources of Information
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. No.</th>
<th>LOR-1956-21</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. County</td>
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<td>Godley-Jackson House</td>
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<td>4. Present Name(s)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Historic or Other Name(s)</td>
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8. Site Plan with North Arrow

![Site Plan with North Arrow]

54. Farmstead Plan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Door Selection:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single off center</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Door Position:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flush</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orientation:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gable dominant with lateral smaller extension</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symmetry:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bilateral asymmetry</td>
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Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:
43. History and Significance (Con't)

member of First Baptist Church. Charles McChesney worked as a mechanic in the 1870s and went on to become the chief engineer of Oberlin College. William also later went on to work for the College, as head plumber. By 1877, the Darlings had moved to 92 S. Main and George A. Papworth, a farmer, had relocated his family to this house from his 1873 residence of 92 S. Main. Also likely occupying the house by 1877 were George's second wife Margaret (some sources list her as Mary or Malinda) and two sons from his first marriage, John E. and Frederick Johnson, who worked as day laborers. Fred went on later to be employed by the village of Oberlin as foreman in charge of street work. Possibly born here was a daughter, Sarah Papworth, in 1879. According to the census, by 1880 the Papworths had moved out and Emma Clark and her children James M. and Emma Esther were the residents. The house stayed in this family for over three decades. The Clark family, pioneers of Pittsfield in the 1830s, relocated to Oberlin upon the death of Emma's husband, also James M. Both Emma Esther and James J. Jr. attended the Oberlin Academy. In 1884, Emma Esther, then nearly 40, married Joseph B. 'Job' Godley from this house. The Godleys made their home here along with Emma Esther's mother and brother. Job Godley was born in Scotland and came to Oberlin in 1871. He worked as a timer in the 1870s and early 1880s, and by 1886 was listed in the city directory as a hardware dealer. He continued in the hardware trade for over 20 years, jointly running firms with Mr. Barnum, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Morris. By 1891, a Miss Maime Kidd was boarding with the Godleys and Clarks at this house - she continued to board until at least 1897. In 1893, Emma Esther's mother Emma Clark died. James M. Clark was still living with his sister through 1894, when he was employed as a newsboy. That same year, the Oberlin News reported that the hardware store of Godley and Morris, at 26 S. Main, was burglarized 'of about $20 worth of pocket knives.' The case was described as 'peculiar' since the main witness 'completely reversed himself in about twenty-four hours.' Two years later, in 1896, Godley and Morris was robbed again, this time of 'fine knives and razors to the value of $75.' Job Godley was also a member of the I.O.O.F. (the Independent Order of Odd Fellows). By 1910, he co-owned the house with a Mr. Frank Ward. Job Godley died, after 'long suffering' according to the Oberlin News, in 1914, at which time his wife Emma Esther still resided here. By 1915, though, Emma Esther Godley had left Oberlin; the Maroney family were the new occupants. John Maroney had recently married his wife Mary Sweeney in 1913. At that time John was employed at the Dean Electric works in Elyria and Mary as a seamstress. The couple temporarily resided with John's mother at 314 S. Professor. Likely this house at 31 Locust was their first home. They lived here by November 1915, when the Oberlin News reported the birth of their son, William P. Their first child, Mary Elizabeth, had been born the year before. The 1916 city directory lists the Marones at this residence, with John working as a machinist. By 1920, the Marones had returned to 314 S. Professor upon John's mother Ann's death. Shirley Jackson was the occupant by 1927 - his family owned this house for fifty years. Shirley managed the office of the Railway Express Agency. He and his wife Anna had two children, Howard Elbert and Eleanor Grace. Both graduated from OHS, Howard in 1933 and Eleanor in 1935. After graduating Howard worked with his father at the Express Agency. He married a woman named Lois at some point before 1937, when the city directory lists the two as residents of this household. Eleanor attended a nursing training school at the Elyria Hospital, graduating in 1939. She worked as a nurse at Oberlin College health services from 1942 until her marriage to Maurice Heidbrink in 1947. Shirley Jackson died in 1953 and was buried at Westwood. Anna continued to live here through the 1970s. The 1956 city directory lists her as an operator for the Northern Ohio Telephone company. The house continued to be listed in Shirley Jackson's name in the 1973 phonebook - possibly, Anna continued to reside here until 1977, when it was sold to Martha Cruz. She owned the house from 1977 to 1996 according to the Lorain County Auditor.

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

45. Sources (Con't)