### OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

#### LOR-1702-21

1. **No.** LOR-1702-21
2. **County** Lorain
3. **Location of Negatives** O.H.I.O. Resource Cen
4. **Present Name(s)** Brown-Toddings House

#### 6. Specific Address or Location
- **251 East Lorain Street**

#### 7. City or Village
- **Oberlin**

#### 10. Classification: Building
- **Four-over-Four**

#### 12. On National Register?
- Private

#### 16. Thematic Associations:
- African American, Civil War,

#### 18. Style or Design
- **Greek Revival,**

#### 20. Contractor or Builder
- Single Dwelling,

#### 21. Building Type or Plan
- Single Dwelling,

#### 26. Property Acreage
- .42

#### 43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)

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

#### 45. Sources of Information

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This vernacular house has elements of Greek Revival style. The full front porch has square supports with carved caps and dentil molding below the hip roof. A shingled wall runs between the supports, and wood framing exists, indicating a formerly screened in porch. Lattice runs below the porch, and cement steps with an iron rail lead up to it. The front facade features six-over-one vinyl replacement windows with wood surrounds. Windows at continued...

Elijah N. Brown came to Oberlin in 1850 & lived here by 1859; he was a laborer, a cook on a steamboat, & a sailor until his health failed in 1896 (Bigglestone, City Directory, Census). He married Mary Hester (Crabb), a pastry cook at OC's Ladies Hall, in 1847. Both were African-Americans from Virginia (Holsworth). Charles P & Harriet/Hattie S Mounce moved in with the Browns around 1890. They were African-Americans from Canada; Charles was a plasterer, cement workman & worked on the city street continued...

This house, located on an Oberlin street with heavy traffic, appears to be in need of repair. It is neighbored by other homes in various conditions.


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46. Prepared By: Petersen, T Reeves, M Surov
47. Organization: O.H.I.O.
48. Date Recorded: 08/19/2003
1. No. LOR-1702-21
2. County Lorain
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Center
4. Present Name(s)
5. Historic or Other Name(s) Brown-Toddings House

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2. Count
3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Center
4. Present Name(s)
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51. Condition of Property: Good/Fair
52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies
53. Affiliated OAI Site Numbers

Door Selection: Single off center
Door Position: Flush
Orientation: Lateral axis
Symmetry: Repetition of bay arrangement

FOR OHPN USE:
49. Revised By:
50a. Date Revised:
50b. Reviewed by:
RPR Number:

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con’t)

First story stretch from the ceiling to the floor. The door is located at the second bay from the left. The house contains two chimneys; one is concrete block while the other is brick. The east elevation features three one-over-one windows in the first story, with two one-over-one windows at the far left and right sides of the second story. The attic contains a fixed, square window in the gable. The exterior chimney runs just right of the far left windows. The gable features cornice returns. A one-story addition at the rear contains a door towards the far left, with wood steps and a one-over-one window to the right. The gable of the addition’s roof faces the rear of the house. The first and second stories of the west elevation contain two one-over-one windows at the center of the elevation. The left, second story window is shaded by a metal awning, and a fixed window with a metal awning is located in the attic.

43. History and Significance (Con’t)

Force (Bigglestone 153). Elijah died in 1900 & Mary lived here with the Mounces until her death in 1903; both are buried in Westwood Cemetery. Between 1903-04, the Mounces moved out & George Chandler, an African-American gardener lived here with his wife, Jessie Eugene (Waring). George attended OC from 1876-80, & was a janitor & barber with his brother-in-law William T. Henderson (Bigglestone 42). Jessie’s father, James, was a Civil War veteran (Bigglestone 214). Both are buried in Westwood. By 1908, the Toddings family moved in & occupied the house through 1970 (City Directory). Rev. T.J. Toddings lived here with his wife, Mary C; James, Maude, Charles, & Lillie Toddings are listed at this address in 1908. By 1935, only C Elizabeth Toddings is listed here with T.J. & Mary. Mary died in 1935. T.J. lived here with C Elizabeth & Johanna B Toddings until his death in 1948. C Elizabeth lived here through 1970, & Johanna lived here until her death in 1955.

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

45. Sources (Con’t)

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<td>2</td>
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<td>Brown-Toddings House</td>
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