OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

1. No. 2. County 3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Roll # Exp. # Facing
4. Present Name(s)
5. Historic or Other Name(s) Brown House, Smith House, Baumann House

6. Specific Address or Location 64 East Lorain Street
7. City or Village Oberlin
8. Site Plan with North Arrow
9. U.T.M. Reference
10. Site Building Structure Object
11. On National Register No
12. N.R. Potential? Yes
13. Part of Estb Hist Dist? No
15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)
16. Thematic Association(s) Commerce

17. Date(s) or Period 1869-99
17b. Alteration Date(s) 1875
18. Style or Design Queen Anne
18a. Style of Addition or Element(s)
19. Architect or Engineer unknown
19a. Design Sources unknown
20. Contractor or Builder unknown
21. Building Type or Plan Other House
22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling
23. Present Use Single Dwelling
24. Ownership Public X Private
25. Owner's Name & Address, if known
26. Property Acreage .16
27. Other Surveys in Which Included no
28. No. of Stories 2 and 1/2
29. Basement? Full
30. Foundation Material Sandstone
31. Wall Construction Wood Frame
32. Roof: Type Hip Pitch Steep Material Slate, Imbricated
33. No. Bays Front 4 Side 4
34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Wood, Horizontal Siding Wood, Shingle
35. Plan Shape Irregular
36. Changes (Explain in #42) Restoration
37. Window Type(s) 1 over 1, Other
38. Bldg. Dims. 38' x 51'
39. Endangered? No Explain:
40. Chimney Placement Three or More Chimneys
41. Distance from road 35' approx.
41b. Frontage on road 68'

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features
This large house has an irregular shape. On part of the south and part of the east sides is a porch. The southeast corner is screened. Groups of Doric columns support shingled arcades, and the raking is also shingled. There is a triangular pediment over the entryway to the porch which has cornice returns. A wall dormer on the front of the house has a hip roof and beveled glass window. All of the gables on the house have hip-knobs shaped like the crests of waves. On the southeast corner of the house is a hexagonal tower with a flat roof and decorative moulding, with beveled glass windows on the top story. (continued on back)

43. History and Significance
This handsomely preserved, prominently sited house is not the first on this site; the house that was there previously has been moved to 108 North Pleasant Street. The current house was constructed some time between 1896-1899 on a parcel of land purchased by Henry Smith. Smith was a druggist in town who opened the Gem Pharmacy in 1893. Smith was vice-president of the People's Bank, and later, became mayor of Oberlin from 1922-1926. (continued on back)

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52)
A driveway on the north side of the house leads to an alleyway shared by many of the houses on East Lorain Street. Behind these houses is a slate-roofed carriage barn, which Geoffrey Bledgett estimates was built in the 1870s. When Henry Smith sold all of the houses he owned on Lorain Street, the barn remained with 64 East Lorain, but the lean-tos on each side of it were sold with the other houses on the street.

45. Sources of Information

Oberlin College: The Story of a Century

46. Prepared by D.G. Henry, G. Baudoin, M. Franck
47. Organization O.H.I.O. and H.P.C.
48. Date Recorded 1/26/2002
49. Revised by
50a. Date Revised
50b. Reviewed by
51. Condition of Property

- [ ] Excellent
- [x] Good/Fair
- [ ] Deteriorated

53. Affiliated OAI Site Number(s)

- [ ] OAI Completed?

52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies

- [ ] Barn Type(s)
  - n/a

- [ ] Corn Crib or Shed
- [ ] Smoke House
- [ ] Designed Landscape Features
- [ ] Summer Kitchen
- [ ] Spring House
- [ ] Ice House
- [ ] Privy
- [ ] Formal Trash Dump
- [ ] Garage

54. Farmstead Plan

- [ ] Ruin
- [ ] Destroyed/Burned

52. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued from page 1)

On the east side is a one-story hip-roofed wing that has a sun room, with windows with 5 over 1 lights. The house has an intersecting gable with cornice returns, beveled glass, and a rectangular window tucked deep into the gable. The intersecting gable is the same on the west side, but the window there is a fanlight instead of rectangular. Also on the west side is an exterior chimney. There is a window in this chimney that has a semieliptical arch and a sandstone sill. Two of the windows on this side of the house have stained glass.

On the inside, the house has piping for gaslights, and many of the gaslight fixtures remain. Most of the interior woodwork is oak, but there is some walnut, yellow poplar, and yellow pine. Sunroom window seat and bookshelves were added in 1978, some of the shelves are made of cherry wood from Jack Baumann's grandfather's farm in Henrietta.

43. History and Significance (Continued from page 1)

Smith used to own a large plot of land with many houses on it, but when he sold the property, he sold each house individually. In 1947, the property was sold to the widow Zaidee Baumann, the great aunt of the later residents. She rented some of the rooms to students, and in 1950 she added a bathroom off the kitchen. The Baumanns who resided there next were teachers, and Frances served as President of the Oberlin City Council until 2002. The house was completely remodeled in 1975 and has been beautifully preserved by the current owners, who even have some of the original furniture.