### Allen Medical Center

#### Historical Information
- **Location**: 200 West Lorain Street
- **Building Type**: Hospital
- **Ownership**: Private
- **Building Age**: 1925
- **Exterior**: Mediterranean style, white stucco, red tile gable roof, carved rafters, terra cotta tile windows.
- **Interior Features**: Ornate doorways, festoons, fruits.
- **Significance**: Designed by Cass Gilbert; operated by Obelin Hospital Association.

#### Additional Information
- **Ownership**: Public
- **Bed Capacity**: 120
- **Stories**: 2
- **Endangered**: Yes

#### Environment and Outbuildings
- **Parking Lot**: Adjacent
- **Garages**: On-site

#### Social Welfare
- **Type**: Health Care

#### Prepared by
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on terra cotta tiles. The two-story 1970 addition covers the front façade of the Gilbert portion and extends south toward the street. An entrance pavilion, built in 1993, projects from the center of the façade, and there is a porte cochere in front, supported by four metal columns. The entry is a pair of automatic sliding glass doors. The pattern of the façade alternates between recessed windows and blank walls of beige brick. A sign over the entry, says "Allen Medical Center."

43. History and Significance (Continued from page 1.)

To work with his father. In 1883 he moved to Cleveland and taught surgery at Western Reserve Medical College until 1910. In 1894, he became a Trustee of Oberlin College, and hoped to build a hospital for Oberlin, but he died in 1915 of pneumonia before he could realize the goal. In accordance with his will, his widow, Elizabeth Severance Allen, donated $100,000 to the College for the establishment of a hospital. She also funded the College’s Allen Art Museum. The hospital project was delayed for eight years by World War I, postwar inflation, and disagreements over size and appearance, but in 1923, Elisabeth (now Elisabeth Severance Allen Prentiss) donated another $50,000 on the condition that the College would raise the balance of the money needed to build a hospital designed by Cass Gilbert. The Oberlin Hospital Association donated the land to the College, and in 1925, Allen Memorial Hospital opened, designed by Cass Gilbert and owned by Oberlin College. Patients could receive visitors at their windows, and the average length of a patient’s stay was 8.6 days (compared to 3 days currently). The original building had 25 beds, but additions in 1955, 1962, and 1972 eventually raised the bed capacity to 97. In 1954, Oberlin College donated the hospital to the City, and in 1960, the City transferred management to the Allen Memorial Hospital Association. Financial difficulties mounted over the years, and in 2000 the City donated the land and buildings to the Hospital Association. Oberlin College then purchased the land and buildings and leased them to the Hospital Association for $1 per year. The hospital has now been renamed Allen Medical Center, and is managed by Community Health Partners. The federal government has designated it as a rural “Critical Access Hospital,” and to comply with this designation, the hospital has reduced its inpatient bed capacity back to 25. Despite the appearance of being small, the hospital serves a large population especially in southern Lorain County and in 2002 saw over 12,000 patients (1100 inpatient; 9000 Emergency Room visits). Since 2000 there has been extensive interior remodeling, equipment acquisition, and recruitment of new physicians to make the hospital one of the best in Northeast Ohio (Preston).