This front gable house has elements of Italianate style, which are overshadowed by c. 1950s alterations. The owner, James Ward, reported that this house was built in 1883. He also said that the house was built by the same contractor as 306 S. Main Street, but that 280 S. Main was built first. He was not sure of the contractor’s name. At the front (east) elevation of the house, two 2/2 double hung windows are at the first story. Each sash of the window has a horizontal muntin cutting it in half. All windows of this house have c. 1950s shutters. A pair of shutters on the outer edges of the doors. The garage also features a scalloped wood cornice. The first known resident was William Yesberger, an engineer and mechanic. He was listed in city directories along with his wife Ellen and daughter Mary from approximately 1883 to 1891. John Kennedy was listed as a resident in 1894. Later in 1894 the address of this house changed from 91 South Main Street to 280 as all of Oberlin was re-numbered. Between 1894 and 1910 the house was occupied by short-term owners and their families, including John Victor and Mary Anderson, George and Eliza Baker (fireman / engineer), John and Ora Horn (laborer), Walter and Cora Walker (grain elevator operator and later manager of Oberlin Elevator), and Jane Wilson (widow).
1. No. LOR-02264-21
2. County Lorain
3. Present Name(s) James and Joanne Ward House
4. Historic or Other Name(s) Yesberger-Shepeard-Ward House

8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan:

- Door Selection: Corner
- Door Position: Unknown
- Orientation: Gable end axis
- Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #: 
### Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con't)

A one-story addition at the rear has small 2/2 double hung windows at the far left and two larger 2/2 double hung windows near the center and right. The north elevation includes two 2/2 double hung windows in the first story of the original portion of the house, with a smaller 2/2 double hung window above in the second story. At the one-story addition, a larger 2/2 double hung window is placed left of center. A small hopper window is set high in the wall. A door is at the far right of this elevation.

### History and Significance (Con't)

As shown by the Oberlin city directories, 280 South Main belonged to the Shepeard [aka Shepheard, Shepard] family from roughly 1916 to 1961. Lester Shepeard, a foreman for the New York Central Railway, lived at the home with his wife Dora and children Dora, Lester, Charles, Lucille and Margaret. Lester, Jr., a clerk and later mechanic for T. O. Murphy, was listed as the head of household in 1961. In 1965, James Ward and his wife Joanne were listed as the owners of 280 South Main. James was employed at Bendix-Westinghouse in Elyria. According to the Lorain County Auditor's website, Joanne Ward is still the owner.

### Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Con't)

### Sources (Con't)