This altered Queen Anne features a brick foundation that rises high on the walls of the house, with the top bricks projecting out slightly, creating a stringcourse. The front (south) façade is dominated by a two-story tower at the right corner of the house. The tower is cut out and open at the first story, to form a corner porch. The cut-out faces south and is arched. The tower has a conical roof. At the second story of the tower, a square window has shutters, and above that, a narrow, horizontal window has leaded (and possibly stained - this is difficult to determine) glass. Left of the tower, at the first story, a large window is flanked by smaller 1/1 windows (the upper sashes are decorated with beveled, leaded glass). The entry is near the center, and the door is recessed, near the tower-porch. The door is covered by a modern storm door, and has a 1/1 window to its right. The gable roof of the house extends low to the first story, at the left side of the facade, and the roof has a cornice return. The second story has two 1/1 windows near the center of the elevation, each with a shutter on its far side, and each set of windows is set within a slight recess; continued...

According to the Lorain County Auditor's website, this house was constructed in 1894. The first residents, the Morris family, are listed in the 1897 directory. J. M. Blanchard was also listed as a resident at that time. David E. Morris had left the house by 1899. David worked at the Godley and Morris Hardware Company with his father, William Morris, who is listed as the resident of the house after David left between the years of 1899 and 1904. William, along with his wife Sarah, immigrated from England to Oberlin in 1854. In addition to working at the Godley and Morris Hardware Company, he also worked at Morris Brothers Meat Market. While Sarah and William resided in the house, their daughter Ella lived with them. She attended both OHS and the Oberlin College Conservatory. After continued...

Outbuildings: None. This house is located on a residential street that receives little traffic.

Sources of Information
1. No. LOR-01973-21
2. County Lorain
5. Historic or Other Name(s) Morris-Geiser House

8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan:

- Door Selection: Single off center
- Door Position: Recessed
- Orientation: Other
- Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #: 

[Images of the house and site plan]
between the windows, the wood shingles begin to flare more slightly as they near the lower portion of the window (level with the sills). The attic gable has a large, semi-circular window with Mullions. One Mullion runs horizontally in the bottom fourth of the window, and two other Mullions run vertically and stop at the horizontal Mullion. This arched window is recessed slightly and the attic gable has a small vent. The first story of the west elevation has a ribbon of three square, leaded and beveled windows that sit high in the wall at the right. Near the center, a pair of 1/1 windows has shutters. At the left of elevation, in an addition, a small, modern projecting bay window has wood Mullions and casement windows. At the far right, a small, roofed portion projects off the addition to the west and is enclosed in lattice. At the main body of the house, a shed dormer is set in the roof, at the second story. The dormer has a pair of 1/1 windows. To its right, a large, gabled dormer has two 1/1 windows at cutaway sides, and smaller wood shingles in the gable. The east elevation is largely obscured by trees. The tower is at the left, and it has a window with shutters at the second story. Near the center of the elevation (not in the tower), between the first and second stories, there is a rectangular window. At the right of the first story, a 1/1 replacement window has shutters. The second story, which is, in part, a shed wall dormer, has a pair of 1/1 windows. At the far right, in the set-back addition, there is a large window. To the far right, another, smaller addition is comprised totally of wood shingles; a shed awning is at the rear.

43. History and Significance (Con’t)

graduating from the Conservatory she became a music teacher. For the year of 1904, public school teacher Tracy P Anderson is listed as living with the Morris family. In 1907, another family of Morrises, John Morris and his wife Mary Ann are listed here. John made his living as a stone mason and stone contractor and was a member of the Oberlin Lodge of Odd Fellows. It is unknown if John Morris is related to the Morris family previously mentioned, as John Morris was also an immigrant, immigrating from Scotland in 1864 when he was 24 years old. By 1908 all Morrises had left the house and OC Professor Karl Frederick Geiser and his wife Addie moved in. The next year, Addie passed away from a cerebral hemorrhage. In 1910 W. C. Hietman is listed as living with them. Geiser was the first professor of political science at the college and he was very vocal about world politics and active in local affairs. He was elected to the first council under a city manager in 1923 and served the city council from the years 1926 until 1931. As the son of German immigrants, he supported Germany in WWI and the years leading up to and the beginning of World War II and believed that America should not get involved. As a result, he was awarded the Order of the German Eagle by Hitler in 1938 and it was reported in Time Magazine that he intended to accept the award. From records left behind it is apparent he was active in giving speeches and advocating political changes through newspaper columns. In 1919 Professor Geiser moved to a house built for him at 337 Reamer. By then, he was married to Florence and they had a child, Gretchen. The 1929 directory, however, lists Professor Edwin L. Clarke, his wife Marguerite, and their two children as the new occupants. By 1933, William Butler Cooley, his wife Kathleen, and their children resided here. William got his education at the Oberlin Academy and made his living over the years as a bookkeeper, a grocer, a clerk, and a shoe store merchant. He worked at the W. H. Cooley and Son grocery store with his father, William H. Cooley, who sold it in 1906 in what was called by the newspaper one of the 'most important [business changes] which have occurred in Oberlin for a number of years.' By 1941, William Butler's youngest child and son Ransom Cooley has enlisted in the Navy to fight in World War II. Ransom survived the war. Another son, Chester Cooley, also served. The Cooleys are recorded to have occupied the house until 1942. The next known residents lived here by 1948: Joseph C. Dixon, his wife Betty, and their one child. Joseph worked at the Western Adj. and Ins. Company. Several years later the 1956 directory lists Milton Corlette, his wife Frieda, and their two children as the occupants. Milton worked at the Reserve Power Plant as a factory worker, meter reader and installer, and electrician. The residents by 1961 were Robert James Willbond, his wife Joanne, and their two children. Robert, who went by Bob, was a star in sports at Oberlin High School and was class president his senior year. Robert's parents were from England, but he served in the U.S. Navy doing motor maintenance during the WWII. Once he exited the service he served as a mail carrier and was the Elyria Little League Manager. The city directories in 1970 list Janet R. Owens, an assistant professor at OC, as the primary resident. The current resident as of February 2007, Marjorie Kehl, is first listed in the directories here in 1973.

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

45. Sources (Con’t)