### Barden House

**Address:** 215 Morgan Street

**City:** Oberlin

**Historic or Other Name(s):**

**Historic Name:** Barden House

**Building Type or Plan:** Single Dwelling

**Original Use:** Single Dwelling

**Present Use:** Single Dwelling

**Owners:** Private

**Sources:**
- City Directories, O.H.I.O Resource Center.
- Holsworth, Pat. Oberlin Pioneer Database.
- Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet.

**Features:**

- **Architect or Engineer:**
- **Design Sources:**
- **Contractor or Builder:**
- **Building Type or Plan:**
- **Original Use, if apparent:** Single Dwelling
- **Present Use:** Single Dwelling
- **Window Type(s):** 1 over 1, Leaded
- **Roof Type:** Hip
- **Roof Material:** Slate
- **No. of Bays:** 4
- **Story:** Two
- **Basement:**
- **Foundation Material:** Brick bearing
- **Wall Construction:** Balloon frame/western frame/pla
- **Plan Shape:** Irregular
- **Changes:** Addition, Altered, Moved
- **Ownership:** Private
- **Endangered:** By What?
- **Distance from & Frontage on Road:** Approx. 50'

**Description:**

This house is an example of a French Colonial/Norman Revival house, unusual in Oberlin. An impressive tower near the center dominates the main facade. The tower has a conical roof with a wind vane at its peak. The entry is slightly recessed with louvered doors and a simple entablature that follows the curve of the tower. A diamond-shaped leaded glass window is above the entry. A wall extends to the right and contains a circular window. The wall continued...

This house was built around 1942-43, although the property card dates it at 1941, for Clifford A. & Harriet C. Barden (Sanborn, City Directory). The Bardens lived here with their two children at least 20 years, through 1961 (City Directory). Clifford was a wholesale seed salesman in Wakeman, worked in real estate & at a farmer’s supply store (City Directory). However, he is remembered in Oberlin for his efforts to save Oberlin’s Little Red Schoolhouse from demolition in 1958 (Blodgett). He continued...

**History and Significance:**

This house was built around 1942-43, although the property card dates it at 1941, for Clifford A. & Harriet C. Barden (Sanborn, City Directory). The Bardens lived here with their two children at least 20 years, through 1961 (City Directory). Clifford was a wholesale seed salesman in Wakeman, worked in real estate & at a farmer’s supply store (City Directory). However, he is remembered in Oberlin for his efforts to save Oberlin’s Little Red Schoolhouse from demolition in 1958 (Blodgett). He continued...

**Sources of Information:**

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**Prepared By:** Petersen, T Reeves, M Surovy

**Organization:** O.H.I.O.

**Date Recorded:** 08/19/2003
1. No. LOR-1739-21

2. County Lorain

3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Cen

4. Present Name(s)

5. Historic or Other Name(s)
   Barden House

1. No. LOR-1739-21

2. Count

4. Present Name(s)  

5. Historic or Other Name(s)  
   Barden House

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

   drops at the right and a second door is visible. A pair of narrow double hung windows is above the tall portion of the wall. Two rectangular windows are at the far right, at the first and second stories. A hyphen at the right side of the house has two double hung windows and connects the house to the garage. Left of the tower, a one-over-one window is at the first and second stories. The far left of the second story has a pair of double hung windows. The east elevation includes narrow windows in the tower that step up the curving exterior of the house. The remainder of the exterior is obscured by foliage. The west elevation includes the attached garage that protrudes out at the first story and has two windows. The main body of the house has a door near the hyphen connecting the house to the garage, which leads to an open patio. Two rectangular windows are situated to the far left of the first story. The second story has two pairs of windows with metal awnings.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

   successfully campaigned the city for the funds to relocate the schoolhouse, the oldest extant building in Oberlin, to a location overlooking Plum Creek on E. Vine Street (Blodgett). In 1970, James & Betty L. Christie lived in this house; James was retired (City Directory). James B & Clare N McMillan, moved in by 1976 (Surovy). Both are graduates of OHS, and James is a retired doctor from Allen Medical Center (Surovy).

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

45. Sources (Con't)

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4. Present Name(s)
Barden House

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