The Brown House is located at 147 North Pleasant Street in Oberlin.

1. No. 2. County LOR
   3. Location of Negatives O.H.I.O. Resource Roll # Exp. # Facing
      Front 1 29
      Front 3 09
   4. Present Name(s)
   5. Historic or Other Name(s)
      Brown House, Bessey House, Lehti House, Bahr House, Waltz House
   6. Specific Address or Location
      147 North Pleasant Street
   6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number
      0900076103027
   7. City or Village
      Oberlin
   8. Site Plan with North Arrow
   9. U.T.M. Reference
      Zone
      Easting
      Northing
      N Pleasant
      W Lorain
   10. Site
       Structure
       Building
       Object
   11. On National Register?
       No
   12. N.R. Potential?
       Yes
   13. Part of Estb Hist Dist?
       No
   14. Dist. Potential?
       Yes
   15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)
   16. Thematic Association(s)
       Commerce, College, Professional
   17. Date(s) or Period
      pre 1873
   17b. Alteration Date(s)
   18. Style or Design
      High Style
      No academic style - vernacular
   18a. Style of Addition or Element(s)
      Elements
   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
      Multiple Dwelling, Apartment House
   24. Ownership
      Public
   25. Owner’s Name & Address, if known
   26. Property Acreage
      .5
   27. Other Surveys in Which Included
      no
   28. No. of Stories
      2
   29. Basement?
      Full
   30. Foundation Material
      Sandstone
   31. Wall Construction
      Wood Frame
   32. Roof:
      Type
      Gable
      Pitch
      Moderate
      Material
      Asphalt Shingle
   33. No. Bays
      Front
      Side
      3
      5
   34. Exterior Wall Material(s)
      Wood, Narrow Horizontal Siding
   35. Plan Shape
      Rectangular
   36. Changes (Explain in #42)
      Altered
   37. Window Type(s)
      6 over 6, 1 over 1
      22' x 58'
   39. Endangered?
      No
   40. Chimney Placement
      Center
   41a. Distance from road
      20' approx
   41b. Frontage on road
      66'
   42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features
      A porch spans the front of the house, with square columns and a flat roof. Under this porch on the right side is the front door, which has a wooden arch around it that creates a fanlight and sidelights. To the left of the door are two windows with arched entablatures. The windows on the second story have plain rectangular lintels. On the north side of the house, a wooden staircase leads to a door on the second story. On the back of the house is a one-story gable-roofed wing, with a shorter shed-roofed section behind that. On the south side, there is a small projecting wing with a low-pitched hip roof.
   43. History and Significance
      This house was built prior to 1873, and the building’s earliest known resident was I. H. Brown, a carriage maker, and his wife. The longest resident was Margaret Bessey, who lived there from 1877 to around 1910, with various tenants. Arthur Sadler lived in the house in the 1910s, followed by the Waters family in the 1920s. The next owner was Anton Lehti, a Lorain County Road Department worker, and his family, who moved into the house in 1933 and stayed at least through 1942. Other members of the family were a teacher, a stenographer, a beautician, and a student nurse. (continued on back)
   44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52)
      There is a paved driveway on the north side of the house.
   45. Sources of Information
51. Condition of Property
   - Excellent
   - Good/Fair [X]
   - Deteriorated

54. Farmstead Plan
   - Date

52. Historic Outbuildings and Dependencies
   - Barn Type(s)
     - n/a

53. Affiliated OAI Site Number(s)

54. Farmstead Plan
   - OAI Completed?
     - [X] Yes

55. Archaeological Feature
   - Observed
   - Expected on Basis of Archival Research
     - Well
       - No
     - Privy
       - No
     - Cistern
       - No
     - Foundation
       - No
     - Structural Rubble
       - No
     - Formal Trash Dump
       - No
     - Other
       - No

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

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

In 1956, Durward Bahr, Assistant Operations Foreman at Oberlin College, and his wife Ruth moved in and stayed at least through 1961.