### William and Robin Jindra House

**4. Present Name(s)**: William and Robin Jindra House

**2. County**: Lorain

**5. Historic or Other Name(s)**: Edwards-Chesbro House

**1. No.**: LOR-02083-21

#### 6. Specific Address or Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Specific Address or Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>244 North Pleasant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number**: 900076101042

**7. City or Village**: Oberlin

**8. Zip Code**: 44074

**9. U.T.M. Reference**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17</th>
<th>398246</th>
<th>4572401</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone</td>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>Northing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10. Classification**: Building

**11. On National Register**: NO

**12. Part of Established Hist. Dist.**: NO

**13. Part of Established Hist. Dist. (NR or Local)**

**14. Present Name(s)**: William and Robin Jindra House

**15. Historic or Other Name(s)**: Edwards-Chesbro House

**16. Thematic Associations**

- **MANUFACTURING/INDUSTRIAL**

- **Social/Fratal Organizations**

- **Telephone/Telegraph**

**17. Date(s) or Period**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s) or Period</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ca. 1894</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**18. Style Class and Design**

- **No academic style - Vernacular**

**18a. Style of Addition or Elements**

**19. Architect or Engineer**

**20. Design Sources**

**21. Building Type or Plan**

- **Upright and Wing**

**22. Original Use, if apparent**

**23. Present Use**

- **Single Dwelling**

**24. Ownership**

- **Private**

**25. Owner's Name & Address, if known**

**26. Property Acreage**

- **unknown**

**27. Other Surveys**

**28. No. of Stories**

- **Two story**

**29. Basement?**

- **Yes**

**30. Foundation Material**

- **Stone bearing**

**31. Wall Construction**

- **Balloon western platform frame**

**32. Roof Type**

- **Gable**

**33. Roof Material**

- **Asphalt shingle**

**34. Exterior Wall Material(s)**

- **Aluminum or vinyl siding**

**35. Plan Shape**

- **Rectangular**

**36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates**:  
- **Original/Most significant construct**
- **Substantial alteration/addition**

**37. Window Type(s)**

- **2 over 2**

**38. Building Dimensions**

- **32' x 50'**

**39. Endangered?**

- **NO**

**40. Chimney Placement**

- **Center**

**41. Distance from & Frontage on Road**

- **40'**

**42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)**

This vernacular house currently has an upright and wing plan, however, it may originally have been a front gable side hall plan, with the north wing a later addition. At the east facade a gabled portion at the left (the original part of the house, if this structure began as a side hall plan) contains the front porch. The porch has turned posts and a half-wall covered in aluminum siding follows the perimeter of the porch. Within the porch, a door is located to the right. A pair of 1/1 double hung windows are to the left. Concrete steps with a pipe railing lead up to the wood porch. Square lattice runs below the porch. The second story has two 2/2 double hung windows with shutters. The attic gable has a vent. To the right of the gabled portion, the one-story wing (and possible addition) juts out north and east and is flush with the perimeter of the porch. This wing has a 2/2 double hung window with shutters. At the north elevation, the one-story wing protrudes and has a 2/2 double hung window with shutters at the left. The center of the elevation has a box bay protruding even farther out, with a 1/1 double hung window facing the front and another 1/1 double continued...

**43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)**

The first known resident of this address in 1886 was Frank Johnson, a laborer. Prior to 1894 this address was listed as 57 North Pleasant. The African American Johnson family included Frank, wife Adelaide E. (nee Haynes) and children Samuel H., Gertie, Fred A., Ernest R., Frank T., and Edwin B. The address does not appear in directories again until 1894, when Andro Galvic lived here. It is possible that the 1886 directory was in error because the Johnson family is usually listed at 55 North Pleasant during this time. In 1895 the next resident was Edgar Hammond Olmstead (b. 1870, MI), who was a student at the Oberlin College Seminary. He lived here 1895-1896. After moving from this house, in 1899, he married Minnie Lavinia (nee Pay; b. 1868, Oberlin). In 1897, the Edwards family continued...

**44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)**

This house has many historic outbuildings, one of which (purportedly the southern building, according to neighbor Marilyn Harley) once operated as a tin workshop owned by a former owner. All of the small outbuildings are connected in some way, either by sheds or breezeways. The southern-most building has a brick facade, while the sides are wood clapboard. The building has a flat roof and a large window at the left with a vertical mullion and large horizontal muntin. The building also has double continued...

**45. Sources of Information**

- **Oberlin Heritage Center Resource Center, City Directories, Oberlin Phone Book and Past Perfect collections program; Lorain County Court House, Auditor Property Record, Internet, http://www.loraincounty.com/auditorindex.shtml, accessed 2009; 'Mrs. Fannie Rathwell,' Obituary, Oberlin News-Tribune, 4/18/1927, Pg. 2A; 'Alma Frost Kirkpatrick,' Obituary, St. Petersburg Times, St. Petersburg Florida, 12/23/1997; 'Gertrude Mae Chesbro,' Obituary, Oberlin News-Tribune, 8/12/1997, Pg. 2; 'Eudora J.' continued...**

**46. Prepared By**: Liz Schultz

**47. Organization**: Oberlin Heritage Center

**48. Date Recorded**: 11/20/2009

**50. PIR Review Date**: 
1. No. LOR-02083-21
2. County Lorain
3. NADB #: 
4. Present Name(s) William and Robin Jindra House
5. Historic or Other Name(s) Edwards-Chesbro House
6. Report Associated With Project: 
7. Site Plan with North Arrow:
8. Farmstead Plan : 

- Door Selection: Single off center
- Door Position: Flush
- Orientation: Gable dominant with lateral smaller extension
- Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry
hung window facing the north, at the far left of the bay. A smaller window is located at the rear of the house, to the right of the bay. The second story has a 2/2 double hung window. The south elevation includes the front porch at the far right. The first story has two window elements. Each element is comprised of a large center window flanked by casement windows. The casement windows each have three horizontal muntins. The windows also have shutters. Two 2/2 double hung windows are located in the second story. A rear, one-story addition has a rectangular window. A porch off the rear of the addition has stick-style supports.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

replaced Olmstead. Charles Pliny Edwards (b. 1860, OH; d. 1938, Oberlin) was married in 1881 to Mary (nee Freehold). Mary died in 1897 and she is not listed here in the city directory, so it may be assumed Charles moved here following her death. They had four children: James Arthur (b. 1883; d. 1963), Estelle M. 'Stella' (b. 1885; d. 1997), Eva Fannie (b. 1887; d. 1957), and Alma (b. 1895; d. 1997). The 1899 directory also lists Bessie Edwards; her relation to Charles is unknown. Charles married a second wife in 1899; her name was Eliza Jane (nee Rathwell; b. 1870, Oberlin; d. 1931, Oberlin). Miss Eliza Rathwell had been listed in this house in 1897, the year Charles’ first wife died. Charles and Eliza had five children together: Gertrude Mae (b. 1900; d. 1997), Eudora Jane (b. 1901; d. 1999), Grace Harriet (b. 1905; d. 1988), Harley Rathwell (b. 1908; d. 1974), and a boy who died in infancy (1900). Charles worked as a tinner at Huckins and Huckins on South Main Street through 1902 and then operated the Edwards and Son, a plumbing company located downtown at 42 S. Main, from 1908 through 1917, until the business was moved to his home. His son, James, was a partner in this business, and had also previously worked for Huckins and Huckins. In 1920, Charles was listed as an employee of the Whitney Brothers, based in Elyria, but in later years he continued to be listed as a plumber, tinner, and in furnace work. While living in this house, Stella was a telephone operator (1904-07), as was Alma, who worked for the Oberlin Telephone Company in 1920. Additionally, Eliza was a member of the Knights and Ladies of Security. As the years passed, the children moved out of the house. Eliza and Charles both lived here through the times of their deaths; at that time, Charles was retired. In 1922, their daughter Gertrude Mae married Aven (or Avon) Blaine Chesbro (b. 1897; d. 1984, Oberlin). Gertrude and Aven lived elsewhere in Oberlin before moving into this house with Charles Edwards in 1933. Aven worked as a salesman, clerk, auditor, and accountant for both Electro Alloys and American Brake Shoe. Gertrude was a homemaker. Aven and Gertrude had two daughters and lived here through their deaths in 1984 and 1997, respectively. During the 1940s, Aven served as an Air Raid Warden and was involved in the Oberlin Masonic Lodge. Gertrude Mae was active in the visiting nurse association of Oberlin and volunteered for the Red Cross, Victory Fund and the War Chest. According to the county auditor William J. and Robin Z. Jindra have owned the house since 1998. In 1999 Adam and Libby Chapman (nee Jindra, their daughter) lived in the house. In 2004 Emily G. Jindra lived here and since 2005 William and Robin have been the occupants. William was a police dispatcher in Avon, Ohio and has served on Oberlin City Council. Robin was the director of the Oberlin Senior Center (run by the Neighborhood House Association) and a board member of the Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization.

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

doors to the right. Attached to it, two gabled garages have double doors that are made of vertical wood and open at hinges to the left and right sides of each door. The right garage is bigger and has a standing seam metal roof. The house is located on a primarily residential street and is next to the Boys and Girls Club of Lorain County.

45. Sources (Con't)

Goodrich,' Obituary, Oberlin News-Tribune, 9/14/1999, Pg. 2; 'Reminds Public to Use the Visiting Nurse Services,' Oberlin News-Tribune, 11/16/1944, Pg. 8; 'Burneson Is Installed,' Oberlin News-Tribune, 12/10/1942, Pg. 1; 'Charles P. Edwards Married Eliza Rathwell,' Oberlin News, 6/23/1899, Pg. 5 Col. 6; 'Alma Edwards Married Ernest G. Frost,' Oberlin News, 9/15/1920, Pg. 5 Col. 6; 'Born-Edwards,' Oberlin News, 8/17/1900, Pg. 5, Col. 5; 'Eliza Jane Edwards,' Obituary, Oberlin News-Tribune, 6/18/1931, Pg. 1, Col. 3.