This vernacular, gabled ell-plan house has elements of Queen Anne style, particularly in its porches. The exterior is heavily obscured by shrubbery and trees, making a proper evaluation of the physical features difficult. The exterior is covered in faux brick, which appears to be made of asphalt, but it may also be asbestos shingles. At the west facade the front porch has turned posts. A half-wall covered in clapboards. Above the gabled wing, at the second story, a 1/1 window is double hung. The gable has clapboards and a roof. The porch is covered with clapboards. The center of the porch has a pediment with wood clapboard. The first story has a door that sits on an angle at the far right and a 1/1 double hung window to the right of the door. A large window is near the center of the first story and another large window (possibly a door) is at the far left. The south elevation includes the front porch at the far left. A gabled portion near the center has a small, projecting, one-story gabled wing at the center and a pair of 1/1 double hung windows. This gable is also covered with clapboards. Above the gabled wing, at the second story, a 1/1 window is double hung. The gable has clapboards and a vent. To the right of the gabled section, the side porch has been enclosed with a new roof. The first known occupants of this house, in 1894, were the Chancey family. Frederick E. Chancey (b. 1866, OH) married in 1889 to Eve (b. 1866, OH). They had three children: Mable (b. 1889), Hazel (b. 1894), and Beatrice (b. 1897). Frederick worked as a mail carrier. In 1895 the city directory lists Mrs. Isadora living at this house; her relationship to Frederick is unknown. The Chancey family was listed here through 1896. In 1897, the city directory lists Heza G. Andrews (b. 1853, OH; d. 1904, Canada) as the resident (lately of 175 North Pleasant). Heza was married in 1874 to Bina (b. 1856, OH). They had seven children: Edna (b. 1875), Edith M. (b. 1877), Earl J. (b. 1879), John H. (b. 1881), Kitty B. (b. 1883), Clyde G. (b. 1885), and Dwight H. (b. 1887). Heza was a baker. In 1896, continued...
1. No. LOR-02084-21
2. County Lorain
3. Present Name Helke House
4. Historic or Other Name Chancey-Helke House

8. Site Plan with North Arrow
   - N Pleasant
   - Walnut

54. Farmstead Plan:
   - Door Selection: Single off center
   - Door Position: Flush
   - Orientation: Lateral axis
   - Symmetry: Bilateral symmetry
screen. However, original, historic features are visible inside the screen, such as turned posts and balusters. Wood steps lead up to the porch. Above the porch, a shed dormer with a 1/1 double hung window butts up to the gabled section. The north elevation has a gabled portion to the right, which has a large, 1/1 double hung window at the first story. Another 1/1 double hung window is at the second story. Towards the left, a two-story, box-shaped bay with a shed roof projects out. At the first story of this bay, there is a door; the second story has a 1/1 double hung window. Additionally, low within the bay, a coal chute faces west. To the rear, a one-story addition has a small window.

43. History and Significance (Con't)

Edith became the first operator employed by the Oberlin Telephone Company. The next known occupants listed appear in the 1902 directory: the Stirlen family. Samuel Stirlen (b. 1881) was married to Caroline and they had four daughters: Donna, Frances, Mary, and Ruth. The 1904 directory lists the Smith family here. Mrs. Frances Forester (nee Rice) Smith (b. 1849, VT) attended Oberlin College from 1870-74 and became a Latin tutor at the college from 1881-1888. She was the widow of Hiram Smith. They had three children, who lived in this house: Shirley (b. 1890, Washington, DC), Ernest Rice (b. 1891, MO; d. 1952, OH), and Philip (b. 1893, MO; d. 1848, VA). The children attended the Oberlin Academy, and Ernest graduated from Oberlin College. The next known occupants were the Sadler family. They are listed at this residence from 1908 through 1910. Arthur Sadler (b. 1850, OH; d. 1925, Oberlin) was married in 1876 to Emma (b. 1856, OH; d. 1925, Oberlin). They had a daughter, Ruth Mildred (b. 1895; d. 1975). Arthur was a janitor at Oberlin College. From 1916 through 1920, the Eakin family occupied the house. Joseph S. Eakin (b. 1858, PA) was married in 1876 to Susanna (nee Latshaw; b. 1857, PA; d. 1926, PA). They had a daughter, Sadie May (b. 1895, MI). Joseph worked as a carpenter. The next listing for residents in this house is in 1929 for the Ruzsa family. Reverend Stephen Ruzsa (d. 1971, Oberlin) was a minister and was married to a woman named Anna (d. 1971, Oberlin). They lived here through 1936. In 1937, the directory lists Frank Novak as a resident. The 1939 directory identifies the house as vacant. The next known occupant in 1942 was L. C. Zimmermann; this person is not listed the following year and in 1948, the house is again identified as vacant. In 1956, the Helke family took ownership of the house. Albert Helke (b. 1890; d. 1980) was married to Olga (or Ulga; b. 1897; d. 1977). Albert worked as a boiler operator for Pleasant View Rest Home. By 1970, according to the city directory, he was retired. The current owner is Albert E. Helke, Jr.

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

45. Sources (Con't)

Smith Married Maysie Elizabeth Summers,' Oberlin News, 5/1/1918, Pg. 5 Col. 4; 'Fanny Forester Rice Smith Died in Vermont,' Oberlin News, 2/7/1917, Pg. 8 Col. 3; 'College Janitor Arrested for Locking Concert Hall Doors,' Oberlin News, 3/3/1908, Pg. 1 Col. 4; 'Arthur Sadler,' obituary, Oberlin News, 1/29/1925, Pg. 1 Col. 7; 'Emma B. Sadler,' Obituary, Oberlin News, 10/15/1925, Pg. 1 Col. 2; 'Philip Smith, O.H.S. Grad, in 1911, Dies in Virginia,' Oberlin News-Tribune, 9/9/1948, Pg. 4.