This asphalt walkway extends along the south bank of Plum Creek, between the front yard of the Shurtleff House and Wright Park. Near the western end of the walkway, there is a plaque mounted on a rock, which reads, "Johnston Walk; In honor of Adelia A. Field Johnston whose vision made possible this community parkway."

43. History and Significance
This walkway is named for Adelia Antoinette Field Johnston because of her leadership of the Oberlin Village Improvement Society, the organization that cleaned up Plum Creek and created this walkway. Throughout most of the 19th century, Plum Creek had been used as a dump by many Oberlin residents and businesses. In 1903, the Oberlin Village Improvement Society (OVIS) was founded in accordance with the principles of the City Beautiful movement, the civic improvement fervor that swept the nation following the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair. Giles Waldo Shurtleff served as the first president of the OVIS. (cont.)

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52)
Except at the very ends, the walkway is very secluded by the woods along Plum Creek.

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

but he was replaced after his death in 1904 by Adelia A. Field Johnston, who remained president until her death in 1910. Johnston had graduated from Oberlin College in 1856, and served as Dean of the Women’s Department, Professor of Medieval History, and matron of Baldwin Cottage, retiring in 1902. She was the driving force of the OVIS during her tenure as president, and one of her main projects was the massive clean-up of Plum Creek. Johnson purchased and arranged for the donation of as much land along the Creek as possible, and donated it to the City of Oberlin as the nucleus of a greenway along the Creek. After her death in 1910, the newly-formed Park Board built on the foundation laid by Johnston and established park land along most of Plum Creek’s course through Oberlin (Christen). The walkway along the Creek from Professor Street to Wright Park (on Main Street) was named after Johnston because of her indispensable role in cleaning up the Creek and setting it aside for park use.