This Greek Revival Side Hallway house maintains its original shape and features despite the later addition of a Queen Anne porch. There are two primary bays in this elevation, the one at left composed of vertically aligned windows, 1/1 double hung on the first story and 6/6 double hung on the second story, and the one at right composed of a 6/6 double hung window in the second story above the door. The roofline features cornice returns visible on this elevation, which give the house its Greek Revival appearance. The first story of the north elevation and the front half of the west elevation is covered by a wraparound porch, an historic (but not original) addition dating from 1904 and 1911. The porch has a wooden floor and steps, located in the center of the porch, directly in front of the door, with a wooden handrail. Wooden horizontal slats fill the space between the ground and the porch floor and, after a small gap, create the porch's railing. The hipped porch roof is supported by Tuscan columns, sitting on stone piers, at the corners, on both sides of the steps, and in two places in the middle of the west elevation of the porch. Above the stairs, continued...

This house was built between 1883 and 1890, the year the first known residents were listed in the city directory. James Craig, an African American teacher, Mrs. Anna Ward, Mrs. M. Gray, and Henderson Taborn, an African American laborer, his wife Mary Jane and four children, Henry, Edward, Sarah and Frederick all shared the house. During 1890 Mary Jane gave birth to another son, Ellis. By 1891 Mrs. Hattie Williams and her son Edward moved in alongside Mrs. Anna Ward, the other residents having departed. By 1894 Mrs. Annie Ward no longer lived in the house. The second 1894 directory no longer lists Edward, indicating he may have moved out around this time as well. Around 1897 Hattie Williams was joined by Miss Grace Long. By 1899 both Hattie and Grace had left and they were replaced by continued...

Outbuildings: To the southwest of the house, remains of an old stone foundation are visible. These foundations do not appear to be attached to the house, and are of unknown age and use. They are most probably part of an old carriage house.
1. No. LOR-01996-21
4. Present Name(s) Rental Property
2. County Lorain
5. Historic or Other Name(s) Craig House
8. Site Plan with North Arrow
54. Farmstead Plan:

- Door Selection: Corner
- Door Position: Flush
- Orientation: Gable end axis
- Symmetry: Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #: 
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con’t)

projecting from the porch roof, is a decorative simple pediment. Aside from the porch, the west element has only two features, both windows. One of these is a 1/1 double hung window, located under the porch near its terminus. The other is a one-pane square window, possibly casement, in the first story just beyond the porch. The east elevation begins with two sets of vertically-aligned 6/6 double hung windows, which create the first two bays. Behind these, in the first story, is a rectangular window, possibly casement. Basement windows are visible in the tall foundation.

43. History and Significance (Con’t)

Charles Marshall, a former member of the 16th U.S. Colored Infantry during the civil war and now a farmer, and his newlywed wife Rachael J Marshall, a dressmaker. While Charles entered the marriage having fathered a large number of children, many were grown by the time of the wedding and it is unclear if any lived in the house. By 1902 the Marshalls had left and Mrs. Susan B. Colbert and Cora B. Colbert, a former Conservatory student, had moved in. By 1904 the house was occupied by Walter Weiker, a laborer, his wife Agnes, and son Walter Jr. By 1908 newly married African Americans Jeanette C. and Otis D Smith, a painter, lived in the house. The Smiths too only stayed a short time, as by 1910 Othella A. Roots, a divorced man and paper hanger, lived in the house. By 1916 William Johnson, a house mover resided here. During the following four years Mr. Johnson moved away and Joe Blakely, a laborer, and the Durhams, Arvilla, a domestic, and Windom and Chester Durham, her sons, took his place. The Durhams frequently had trouble with the law throughout the first three decades of the 20th century - Windom and Chester numerous times were arrested, fined and on occasion jailed. In 1926 Chester was murdered by William Whiteside. By 1929 the home's newest occupants, an African American family, moved in, Walter T. Champe, a barber, wife Jessie and their children, Marguerite J., Glenna Lucille and Walter D., all students. In 1934 Glenna married, but remained at the home. In 1936 Walter D. married and moved away. Walter T. Champe passed away in 1943 leaving the house to Jessie Champe since all the children had by then departed. By 1956 Floyd Walter, a tailor from OC, arrived with his wife Lucile G. By 1961 the house was occupied by Mrs. Annabelle S. Craighead and by 1970, Dorothy Miller. Since 1997 the home has been owned by Frances Gordon Kent who resides in Washington DC.

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

45. Sources (Con’t)