**OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY**

1. No.  **LOR-1929-21**
4. Present Name(s)  **Sperry House**

2. County  **Lorain**
5. Historic or Other Name(s)  **Sperry House**

6. Specific Address or Location  **50 West Vine**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number</th>
<th>0900085112043</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6b. Town or City</td>
<td>Oberlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6c. Road</td>
<td>50 West Vine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6d. Reference</td>
<td>4571340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6e. Quadrangle Name</td>
<td>Oberlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6f. Zone</td>
<td>Northing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6g. Easting</td>
<td>4571340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Classification:  **Building**

13. Part of Established Hist. Dist?   **NO**

15. Other Designation (NR or Local) **Sperry House**

16. Thematic Associations:  **Public Spaces**

17. Date(s) or Period  **c. 1896**

18. Style Class and Design  **Dutch Colonial Revival**

19. Architect or Engineer  **Sperry**

20. Contractor or Builder  **Sperry**

21. Building Type or Plan  **Other House Type**

22. Original Use, if apparent  **Single Dwelling**

23. Present Use  **Single Dwelling**

24. Ownership  **Private**

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

26. Property Acreage  **0.11**

27. Other Surveys  **Sperry House**

28. No. of Stories  **Two story**

29. Basement?  **Yes**

30. Foundation Material  **Stone bearing**

31. Wall Construction  **Balloon/西部/Platform Frame**

32. Roof Type  **Gambrel**

33. No. of Bays  **2 Side Bays 3**

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

35. Plan Shape  **Square**

36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates:  **17b.**

37. Window Type(s)  **1 over 1**

38. Building Dimensions  **39' x 28'**

39. Endangered?  **NO**

40. Chimney Placement  **Center**

41. Distance from & Frontage on Road  **35' approx**

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

This Dutch Colonial Revival house features a recessed porch at the right corner of its main/south facade. Within the porch, the wood door has a large, oval window. A leaded & beveled glass window is right of the door. The porch has square pilasters & square columns supporting it. Left of the porch, a large 1/1 window has an upper sash that is smaller than the lower sash. Another square pilaster is located at the far left corner of the house. The second story features the gambrel gable indicative of Dutch Colonial Revival style. The gable extends to just above the 1st story & its wood shingles bow out at the 1st story. 2 1/1 double hung windows at the 2nd story have segmental arched pediments above the windows with a torch & laurel wreath design at the center of each arch. The arches have cornice returns. The attic has a pair of windows that form 1 arch with a wood 'keystone' at the top. The east elevation features a door at the center, below projecting bay, which is supported by decorative brackets. A small window left of the door has muntins that form diamonds. The projecting bay has small, sawtooth shingles at the lowest row & features a pair of 1/1 double continued...

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

In 1896, the 'General Explorer' Dr. Lyman B. Sperry led a team to an unexplored glacier in what would become Glacier National Park. The glacier is known today as Sperry Glacier, and it rests on Mt. Oberlin. Also in 1896, some two thousand miles away in Oberlin, Ohio, on a parcel of land at the northwest corner of South Professor and West Vine, this house was moved to come to front on W. Vine. Dr. Lyman B. Sperry owned that parcel of land, and became, with his wife Rosa H., the first resident to live at 50 W. Vine. Sperry taught at Oberlin College and did much more traveling in his life, and, in fact, died in Glacier National Park. Lyman and Rosa Sperry moved out of this house, though, around 1908, making way for another Sperry family (but of no apparent relation), Merritt D., his wife continued...

45. Sources of Information

Oberlin City Directories. Oberlin News; 'Plans for property W. Vine and S. Professor', 06/18/1986, p. 5, c. 4; 'Died in Glacier Park; to be buried in Oberlin; obituary,' 07/05/1923, p. 1, c. 6; 'To open grocery store', 02/25/1908, p. 1, c. 6; 'died; obituary', 06/30/1915, p. 1, c. 7.; Oberlin College Archives Online. 'Louis D. Hartson, Biography.' <http://www.oberlin.edu/archive/holdings/findings/RG30/SG12/adminhist.html> Accessed 08/02/2005.; Blodgett, Geoffrey, 'Oberlin Architecture, College and... continued...

46. Prepared By:  **Laurie Stein**
47. Organization:  **Oberlin Heritage Center**
48. Date Recorded:  **12/02/2005**
49. PIR Reviewer:  **G. P. K.**
50. PIR Review Date:  **12/02/2005**
S. Professor

W. Vine

N↑

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Door Selection:</th>
<th>Single off center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Door Position:</td>
<td>Recessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation:</td>
<td>Gable end axis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symmetry:</td>
<td>Bilateral asymmetry</td>
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</table>
Hung windows. The right side of the elevation has steps that lead to another door. Both doors have a window in the upper half & 3 filled wood panels below. A window is located between the doors. 1/1 double hung windows are located in the 2nd story to the left & right of the projecting bay. Another gambrel gable dominates this elevation & west elevation since the roof is a cross gable. The west elevation has a large 1/1 window with a small upper sash at the left side of the elevation. The right side has a bay window with a narrow 1/1 window that faces southwest (another likely faces northwest, but is not visible). The center window is leaded & has beveled glass. The bay has an entablature with dentil molding, frieze panels, & cornice. The 2nd story has 3 1/1 double hung windows. The attic has a pair of 6/1 double hung windows.

43. History and Significance (Con't)
Myrtle V., and their daughter Margaret E., an Oberlin College student. Merritt and family had lived in Piqua, Ohio for five years previous to moving into this house. Before that, they had lived in Oberlin. Sperry returned to take over the Sperry Grocery business from his brother. Myrtle died in 1915. Sometime between 1916 and 1920, Merritt Sperry moved out. Jean P. Youtz, a Conservatory student, lived here in 1920. The house maintained this college tie (another likely lives northwest, but is not visible). The center window is leaded & has beveled glass. The bay has an entablature with dentil molding, frieze panels, & cornice. The 2nd story has 3 1/1 double hung windows. The attic has a pair of 6/1 double hung windows.

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

45. Sources (Con't)