



OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

Form containing fields for: 1. No. BUT-00007-01 REV, 4. Present Name(s) Langstroth Cottage, 2. County Butler, 5. Historic or Other Name(s) Edward W. Root House, Lorenzo L. Langstroth House, 6. Specific Address or Location 303 Patterson Avenue, 19a. Design Sources, 35. Plan Shape Rectangular, 6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number, 21. Building Type or Plan Side Hallway, 7. City or Village Oxford, 22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling, 9. U.T.M. Reference, 23. Present Use College/University, 10. Classification: Building, 24. Ownership Public, 11. On National Register? YES, 25. Owner's Name & Address, if known Miami University, 13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO, 26. Property Acreage, 15. Other Designation (NR or Local), 27. Other Surveys, 16. Thematic Associations: AGRICULTURE Invention, 28. No. of Stories Two and a half story, 17. Date(s) or Period 1856, 17b. Alteration Date(s), 18. Style Class and Design Dominant Greek Revival, 29. Basement? Yes, 30. Foundation Material Stone bearing, 31. Wall Construction Brick bearing, 18a. Style of Addition or Element(s), 32. Roof Type Gable, Roof Material, 33. No. of Bays 3, Side Bays 2, 19. Architect or Engineer, 34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Common or American bond, 35. Plan Shape Rectangular, 36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: 17. Original/Most significant construct, 37. Window Type(s) 6 over 6, 38. Building Dimensions, 39. Endangered? NO, By What?, 40. Chimney Placement Lateral wall flush, 41. Distance from & Frontage on Road 83, 74, 51. Condition of Property: Excellent, 52. Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies Structure Type, Date, Associated Activity, 53. Affiliated Inventory Numbers: Historic (OHI), Archaeological (OAI), 42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary) Constructed of brick, this 2-1/2 story house features a gabled main facade with Greek Revival features. Plain raised brick pilasters at corners create a recessed wall plane on the main elevation and raised brick forms a pediment at the gable. At the center of the gable is an elliptical window with fanlight. The facade has three bays, with parlor-length windows on the first floor. Windows have plain sandstone lintels and sills and 6-over-6 sash. The entry door, located in the first bay, also has a plain stone lintel. The existing gabled front porch is a later addition, but pilasters attached to the building appear to be from an earlier porch. Side elevations on the house are plain; each has two bays located in recessed panels with raised brick surrounds. Windows are visible at the exposed basement level as well. A one-story addition exists at the rear of the building. On the interior, the house is an example of a Side Hallway plan, with entry hall and stair flanked by a parlor where a fireplace is located., 43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary) This house is significant as the residence of Lorenzo Lorraine Langstroth (1810-1895), renowned as 'The Father of American Beekeeping,' who lived here with his wife and three children from 1858 to 1887. Langstroth was a clergyman, educator, inventor and author. Fascinated from childhood by the orderly kingdom of honeybees, he discovered the principle of 'bee space' which enabled him to develop the world's first moveable frame beehive (patented in 1852), making it possible to remove honey-laden combs from a hive without destroying it. This invention revolutionized beekeeping and the honey industry. In 1858, Langstroth moved to Oxford from Philadelphia, PA, and resided in this home which had been purchased for him by a brother-in-law. The house had been built just two years before as the continued..., 44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52) Located facing Patterson Avenue near the entrance to Western College and a short distance south of Bachelor Hall. The house still occupies a residential setting with mature trees. Parking is now located to the rear of the house, however., 45. Sources of Information Smith, Ophia D., Langstroth, The 'Bee Man' of Oxford, Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly, Vol. 57, 1948; Western College Memorial Archives; The Ohio Historical Society, Ohio Historical Marker, Langstroth Cottage; National Park Service, National Historic Landmark Program, statement of significance; Adam Bilfield, Ashley Boerger, Erika Larson, Matt Plank and Mark Snider, Getty Campus Heritage Grant Student Report, Professor Helen Sheumaker, Fall 2008., 46. Prepared By: Judy Williams, 47. Organization: Historic Preservation Consultant, 48. Date Recorded: 07/30/2008, 49. PIR Reviewer:, 50. PIR Review Date:

7-01 BUT-0000
2. County Butler
4. Present or Historic Name(s) Langstroth Cottage
6. Specific Address or Location 303 Patterson Avenue

1. No. **BUT-00007-01** REV

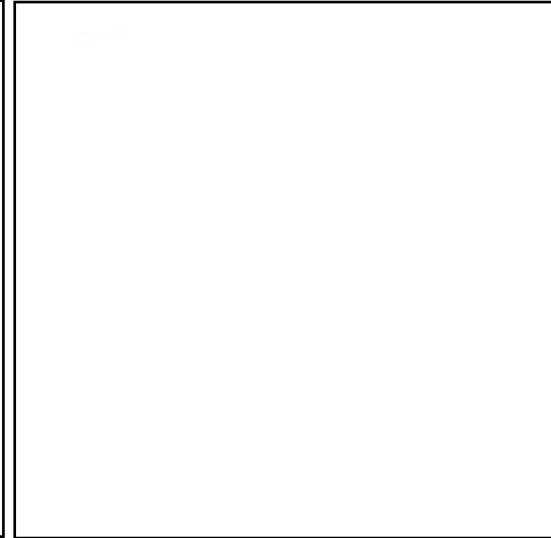
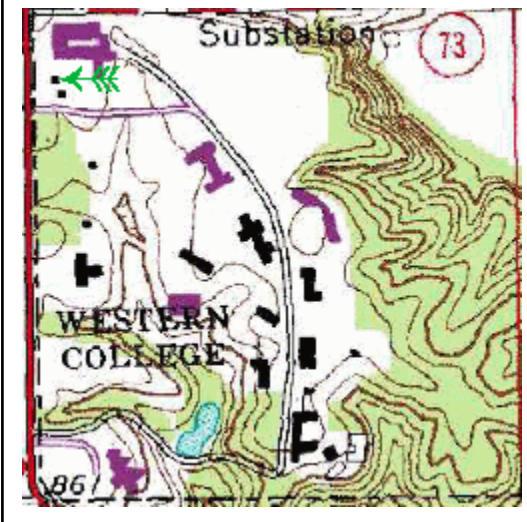
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5. Historic or Other Name(s) **Edward W. Root House, Lorenzo L. Langstroth House**

8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan :



Door Selection:
Single off center

Door Position:
Flush

Orientation:
Gable end axis

Symmetry:
Bilateral asymmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:



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42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con't)

43. History and Significance (Con't)

home of Edward W. Root, a local Presbyterian minister. On this 10-acre site, Langstroth made experimental beehives, established an apiary with his son James, and grew buckwheat, clover, an apple orchard and a 'honey garden' of flowers. He also imported Italian queen bees in an effort to improve native bees, and shipped them to keepers across the U.S. Following his wife's death in 1887, he moved to Dayton to live with his daughter. According to Western College Memorial Archives, the home was later purchased by Susan Peabody, niece of Western Female Seminary founder Helen Peabody, and donated to Western College. Part of Miami's purchase of the Western campus in 1973, it today houses administrative offices. The house was placed on the National Register in 1976 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1982.

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

45. Sources (Con't)