567 E. Hudson St. Columbus, OH 43211 614/298-2000

## OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

| 1. No. <b>BUT-00173-01</b> REV 4. P                                     | resent Name(s) Lewis Place                                   |  | BUT-0017<br>3-01                 |
|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
| 2. County Butler 5. H   | istoric or Other Name(s) Romeo Lewis House                   |  |                                  |
| 6. Specific Address or Location 310 East High Street                    | 19a. Design Sources  | 35. Plan Shape Rectangular   | 2. County <b>Butler</b>          |
| -   | 20. Contractor or Builder                                    | 36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates:                                    | T* inty                          |
| 6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number  | 21. Building Type or Plan Four-over-Four                     | Original/Most significant construct     17b. Substantial alteration/addition |                                  |
| 7. City or Village  | 22. Original Use, if apparent Single Dwelling                | 37. Window Type(s)   | +                                |
| Oxford  |  | 6 over 6   | Les :                            |
| 9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: Oxford 16 694566 4375687           | 23. Present Use Single Dwelling                              | 38. Building Dimensions  | 4. Present or Histo  Lewis Place |
| Zone Easting Northing   | 24. Ownership Public   | 39. Endangered? NO  By What?   | 1                                |
| 10. Classification: <b>Building</b> 11. On National Register? <b>NO</b> | 25. Owner's Name & Address, if known  Miami University       |  | Name(s)                          |
| The official register:  | Oxford, Ohio 45056   | 40. Chimney Placement  |                                  |
| 13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO                                  | 26. Property Acreage   | Two chimneys asymetrical   |                                  |
| 15. Other Designation (NR or Local)                                     | 27. Other Surveys  | 41. Distance from & Frontage on Road   |                                  |
|   | 28. No. of Stories   | 51. Condition of Property:   |                                  |
| 16. Thematic Associations: <b>University</b>                            | Two story  | <b>Excellent</b> 52. Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies                    | $\dashv$                         |
| University  | 29. Basement? Yes 30. Foundation Material Stone bearing      | Structure Type   |                                  |
| 17. Date(s) or Period 17b. Alteration 1839 1965, 1996                   | Date(s) 31. Wall Construction  Brick bearing                 | Date   |                                  |
| 18. Style Class and Design High Federal                                 | 32. Roof Type  Truncated hip  Roof Material                  | Associated Activity  |                                  |
| 18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)                                   | Asphalt shingle  |  | 4                                |
| 19. Architect or Engineer   | 33. No. of Bays 5 Side Bays 3  34. Exterior Wall Material(s) | 53. Affiliated Inventory Numbers:<br>Historic (OHI)                          |                                  |
|   | Unable to discern from existing information                  | Archaeological (OAI)   | <u> </u>                         |

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

This 1839 Federal style house is constructed of brick (painted) with a low-pitched hipped roof topped by a widow's walk with balustrade. The symmetrical facade has 5 bays and central entrance with transom and sidelights. First floor windows are taller than those on the 2nd floor, with shutters that extend to the floor. Windows are 6-over-6, but may be modern replacements. The house has a plain frieze and cornice. Across the front is a full-width porch with smooth Doric columns and railing with turned balusters at both the roof and porch base. The porch was rebuilt in 1996 and a handicapped access ramp was added to its west side. Other additions include a breakfast room built in 1965 and a new sunroom in 1996. In 2007, the interior of the house received new HVAC, plumbing and kitchen. A brick garage was added to the northwest corner of the house and a new rear terrace was installed. The rear of the house is impressive, with a 2-story porch and sunroom with arcaded windows.

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

Lewis Place is significant as an excellent example of the Federal style and for its role as the President's home in Miami University's history. The house was built in 1839 by Romeo and Jane Lewis, a Connecticut couple who came to Oxford in about 1837. Romeo Lewis died in 1843, but Jane North Lewis continued to live in the house until her death in 1888. While living here, she reared a nephew, Philip Moore, who graduated from Miami in 1870. After a prosperous career as a mining engineer in Kentucky, Colorado and Montana, Moore offered the house to the university for use as the president's home in 1903-04. President Guy Potter Benton was the first to occupy Lewis Place. In 1929 the house was purchased by the university as a permanent president's residence.

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)

Located on High Street overlooking the Miami campus to the south and east, the house occupies spacious landscaped grounds with mature trees. The house is reached by two curved sidewalks from High Street. There is a large backyard.

45. Sources of Information

Havighurst, Walter, The Miami Years 1809-1984, 1996; Flintermann, Peter, Miami Buildings Past and Present, 1966; Smith, Ophia D., Old Oxford Houses, 1975; Curry, Lucy and Tatnall, Carrie, Ohio Historic Inventory Form, 1977 and 1999.

46. Prepared By: Judy

49. PIR Reviewer:

Specific Address or Location
 10 East High Street

| 1. No. <b>B</b> l | BUT-00173-01 | REV | 4. Present Name(s)           | ewis Place        | 3-01 | BUI-0 |
|-------------------|--------------|-----|------------------------------|-------------------|------|-------|
| 2. County         | Butler       |     | 5. Historic or Other Name(s) | Romeo Lewis House |      | 017   |

8. Site Plan with North Arrow



54. Farmstead Plan:

Door Selection:

Single centered

Door Position:

Flush

Orientation: Lateral axis

Symmetry:

Bilateral symmetry

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:





| 1. No. <b>BUT-00173-01</b> REV  | 4. Present Name(s) Lewis Place                 | BUT-0<br>3-01 |  |  |  |
|---|--|---------------|--|--|--|
| 2. County <b>Butler</b>   | 5. Historic or Other Name(s) Romeo Lewis House | 0017          |  |  |  |
| 42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con't) |  |               |  |  |  |
| 43. History and Significance (Con't)  |  |               |  |  |  |
| 44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Con't)                     |  |               |  |  |  |
| 45. Sources (Con't)   |  | 1             |  |  |  |