

Simon and Anna Murphy House

HABS No. OH-2430

7519 Gallagher St.

Proposed Champion Historic District

Springfield

Clark County

Ohio

HABS

OHIO

12-SPRIF

25-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Great Lakes Systems Office
Department of the Interior
1709 Jackson St.
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SIMON AND ANNA MURPHY HOUSE HABS No. OH-2430

HABS
OHIO
12-SPRIF
25-

Location: 519 Gallagher St., Springfield, Clark County, Ohio

Significance: This house is significant as an early example of Italianate style working class residential housing stock in the city. It retains its basic form and is distinguished by its bracketed cornice, long and elegant windows and simple peaked hood moldings.

Description: The Simon and Anna Murphy House is a long narrow rectangular building that is part of a closely spaced cluster of similar houses within the proposed Champion historic district. The presence of a side window near the front door suggests that this is not a Side Hallway type of house. The building has a simple low-pitched hipped roof on its full-width front porch. Its simple columns suggest that the house has been altered. Windows are symmetrically arranged on the exterior and have simple peaked hood moldings at their tops. Although this house has boarded windows, the nearly identical house next door has two-over-two windows, so they are probably the same here. The exterior is covered with drop siding. The most elegant feature of the house is its bracketed cornice, which extends around the front and sides. The rear has a one-story hip-roofed wing that is as wide as the main section of the house. At the end of this low wing is a small shed-roofed extension, perhaps an infilling of an original rear porch. The original chimney of the house seems to have been removed.

History: This building was probably constructed in the 1880s, judging from its styling and materials. In 1909 this was listed as the residence of Simon and Anna Murphy. He was listed as a car mechanic. In 1915 he was listed as being a carpenter. By 1930, this was the home of Anna Murphy, widow. It had a succession of owners in the 1940s through 1980s and has been vacant in recent years.

Sources: 1909, 1915 and later Springfield city directories. The building stands within the proposed Champion Historic District, which has been determined as an area potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places by the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer. Copies of information used to make this determination of eligibility for National Register status are at the Springfield Department of Planning and Development and the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.

Historian: Steven McQuillin, preservation consultant to the City of Springfield, 1997