### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received AUG 31 1982

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type ail entries—complete applicable sections

### 1. Name

historic Jeremiah Wood House and/or common Jeremiah Wood House Location street & number 802 River Streetnot for publication 2 Sabula vicinity of city, town -congressional dist Iowa Jackson state code 19 county code 097 Classification 3. Category **Ownership** Status **Present Use** x occupied district public agriculture \_ museum x private \_xbuilding(s) \_ unoccupied commercial park \_ structure both work in progress educational <u>x</u> private residence entertainment \_ site **Public Acquisition** Accessible \_ religious scientific n.a in process \_ yes: restricted government object \_\_\_ being considered ves: unrestricted \_ industrial \_ transportation no military other: 4. **Owner of Property** 

name Carl and Juanita Haynes 802 River Street street & number Sabula Iowa vicinity of city, town state **Location of Legal Description** Jackson County Recorder's Office courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jackson County Courthouse street & number Maquoketa Iowa city, town state **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6. title has this property been determined eligible? x\_ no Iowa Historic Resource Survey \_\_ yes date 1977 federal .\_\_\_\_ state \_\_ \_ county \_ \_ local depository for survey records Office of Historic Preservation Des Moines city, town state Iowa

# 7. Description

Condition		Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
<u></u> good	ruins	$_{\mathbf{X}}$ altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one original site moved date

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The setting for this dignified limestone house is the banks of the Mississippi River. The house is associated with the Wood family, who were among the first to found Sabula. Its riverfront location is appropriate both because of the importance of the river to Sabula's economy and because its first owner, Jeremiah Wood, became a steamboat pilot on the river.

Constructed of limestone quarried nearby, the house is an example of vernacular building techniques. Prominent features include modillions along the rooflines of the two- and three-story portions, ocular windows at the main gable ends, a regular arrangement of large 2/2 windows, and transomed doors. A simple marble plaque with "J. Wood 1866" incised on it is centered above the front doors.

The plaque dates the three-story main block of the house at 1866, but it is possible that the smaller two-story portion at the rear is of earlier construction, perhaps as much as thirty years. The somewhat awkward arrangement of the plan, the presence of two staircases in a relatively small dwelling, the two exterior doors on the small two-story part and the difference in lintels all suggest different dates of construction. The plan, in particular, is puzzling, for the two-story part existed as an appendage extending back from the main body before later changes filled in that shape. A further one-story addition, which also breaks up the rectangularity of the main body, is tacked onto the other rear corner.

Undated photographs showing women in long skirts depict an earlier, airy wood porch having pierced decoration, a small porch over the second story door and a balustrade surmounting the main porch. An equally lighthearted picket fence surrounded the property. This earlier porch connected the two- and three-story parts of the house quite satisfactorily, but was replaced in 1923 with a more austere two-story front porch having large squared columns. A garage has been added to the rear and a small back porch enclosed.

## 8. Significance



#### **Specific dates** 1866-present

Builder Architect \*\* Jeremiah Wood

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Jeremiah Wood house calls attention to the settlement of Sabula and is also associated with that most romantic of occupations, piloting a steamboat on the Mississippi. It appears to be the sole reminder in Sabula of the Woods' early contribution to its settlement.

In 1836 Dr. Enoch A. Wood and his father James Wood arrived on the site of Sabula, making them among the very first settlers. They built the first log cabin there, opened a store and built the first saw mill. Jeremiah, brother of Enoch, arrived the following year and joined the family business. With other early settlers, the Woods bought out some land owners and in 1836 platted the town of Sabula, as it was renamed in 1846.

Jeremiah continued in the family business until 1852, when he probably became a steamboat pilot. Certainly by the 1870s, he was pilot of the steamer "Alexander Mitchell." Married in 1860, Jeremiah built the major portion of his house six years later. Later the Woods lived across the river in Illinois.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

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state N.A.	code	county	code
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11. Form Pr	enared Ry		
treet & number East 12t	h and Grand Avenue	telepho	ne 515/281-5111
city or town Des Moine	2S	state	Iowa
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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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Continuation sheet Bibliographical References Item number 9

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