

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 31 1978
DATE ENTERED 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Rees Gabriel House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Des Moines

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Iowa

VICINITY OF
CODE

COUNTY

Polk

CODE

153

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Harry and Dorothy Grant

STREET & NUMBER

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Des Moines

VICINITY OF

STATE
Iowa 50316

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Polk County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Des Moines

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Des Moines' Heritage: A Survey of Significant Architecture

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Plan and Zoning Commission, Des Moines, Iowa

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gabriel House, built about 1896, as a 2½-story frame dwelling in a vernacular Queen Anne style. The irregular plan is reflected in the roofscape, which has a main hipped roof that is somewhat obscured by intersecting gables and dormers. Principal features are the round corner tower with bell-shaped roof, and the long front veranda which extends around the southwest corner. Smaller porches are located at the second floor level on the west side, and over the rear entrance at the northeast corner. Other features typical of Queen Anne influences include small-scale, classical elements (denticular cornices, pediments over the front and side doors and over the veranda ends) and a variety of surface textures (very narrow clapboarding, alternating with fish-scale or imbricated shingling). The mansard pentroof between first and second stories is very slightly canted. The protruding mass of the west side is also distinguished by rounded corners and a balustrated porch recessed within a jerkinhead gable end. Windows are 1/1 sash, some with curved lights, in plain surrounds with small cornices. A porte-cochere has been removed.

The main entrance vestibule opens directly onto a front parlor, one of four rooms in the main area of the first floor. The kitchen is located at the rear. The second floor has a center hall and five bedrooms, while the attic story is not partitioned. Flooring is oak and walls have been plastered. Much of the original woodwork (largely walnut) is still extant.

Also on the property is a carriage house or garage which dates from the same period as the house. It is of frame construction, covered with drop siding. The hipped roof with gablet has a small louvred cupola. There are two wide doors, side by side, and windows of varying sizes somewhat irregularly placed in the walls.

The Gabriel House is located in a residential area containing many other dwellings of similar scale and age. The Gabriel property is situated in a small triangle, formed by the junction of Pennsylvania and Washington Avenues, with a city park to the north and, to the west, the Des Moines River.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Rees Gabriel

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gabriel House is a nice example of Queen Anne architecture, and quite well preserved. It was built largely under Gabriel's personal supervision and to his design, according to family tradition, and can be said to reflect the taste of a man of this era who dealt in building supplies. The basic plans were provided by the Des Moines architectural firm of C.E. Eastman and Co. (surviving are two elevation drawings, of the front and left sides), then extensively modified in detail by Gabriel. Several of the more important modifications were the raising of the turret to include an "observation" room in the attic, and widespread changes in window shape.

Rees Gabriel was born in Wales and came to the U.S. as a young man. He lived for more than 30 years in Des Moines, as a large dealer in lumber and other building materials.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(Obituary) Iowa Daily Capitol, 21 June 1920, p. 2.
 Records of the Iowa Power and Light Co., Des Moines, 31 June 1898.
 Records of the Des Moines Water Works, 26 May, 1896.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| ZONE | | EASTING | | | | NORTHING | | | | | | | | |

B

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|--|---------|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ZONE | | EASTING | | | | NORTHING | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 170 feet x 140 feet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Harry and Dorothy Grant

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE _____

STREET & NUMBER 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue TELEPHONE _____

CITY OR TOWN Des Moines STATE Iowa 50316

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Philip A. Anderson DATE 5/25/78

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12/1/78

ATTEST: William Telorovich DATE Nov 30, 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER