

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 22 1978
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**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

Braska House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

889 2nd Avenue

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Marion

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

Iowa

CODE

COUNTY

Linn

CODE

113

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Clarence and Evelyn Jenn

STREET & NUMBER

503 4th Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Charles City

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52302

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Linn County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cedar Rapids

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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 Braska house is a two-story residence, 36' across the front and 26' deep, constructed of brick laid in stretcher bond on a stone foundation. The low-pitched hipped roof has rather wide eaves and lacks a cornice. The five-bay front is symmetrical, with shuttered, 6/6 sash windows and flat wood sills and lintels. The main entrance has sidelights and a four-light transom. Side elevations are two bays wide. Rear window lintels are brick.

Alterations: On the east side, the sill of one of the first story windows has been raised, and a modern 6/6 sash window installed. A window has been cut at first story level on the west side, now giving two windows on each story. The frame summer kitchen on the right side of the rear elevation has been removed. This elevation has two windows on the second story, and, originally had two doors (one leading directly outside, the other into the summer kitchen) flanking a center window on the first story. These doors have been replaced with modern doors with tall, narrow plate-glass windows. Four brick chimneys have been removed.

The interior has been extensively remodelled, after years of neglect. The house has a center hall plan, with dining and kitchen areas to the left and a large living room (once partitioned into two areas) to the right. There are three bedrooms on the second floor, with a fourth bedroom converted to a bath and dressing room.

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 c. 1855

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Braska house is a well-preserved example of vernacular residential architecture from the mid-19th century. The center hall, double-pile plan is a traditional form. The Italianate influence is suggested by the low-pitched hipped roof, with wide eaves, while the long, symmetrical front facade is reminiscent of the Greek Revival. Its strongest feature is its simplicity, with no embellishments to clutter the straightforward lines. Similar examples of this "style" have been identified in Muscatine, Iowa, dating from the mid-19th-century. Other, rather more elaborate manifestations are the Mansion House at Nauvoo, Illinois, and the Cox House, Dresden, Ohio.

Moses and Louisa Brejsigke (anglicized to Braska) were the first occupants of the house, having acquired the land in 1854. Their daughter, Mary, born in 1856, ran a millinery store in Marion from 1881 until her death in 1920. The business was continued by her neice, Louise, until 1951.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Marion Sentinel, August 19, 1965, pp. B-3, B-4, B-5.
Abstract of Title

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Marion, Iowa

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 6,1,5,8,5,0 4,6,5,3,6,9,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot is 65' x 125', located on the southeast corner of 2nd Avenue and 9th Street, Marion

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kenn Jenn

ORGANIZATION

DATE

October 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

889 2nd Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Marion

Iowa

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Adrian H. Anderson

TITLE

Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

12/12/78

FDR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3/5/79

ATTEST:

William Labovick
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

8/1/79