Davenport
Department of Community Development
Iowa Office of Historic Preservation
Dennett, Muessig & Associates, Ltd.

DAVENPORT

SURVEY 1982

SITE #82-10- KR-628 MAP NUMBER 6
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NAME Thomas Murray House
ADDRESS 628 Kirkwood Blvd.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION LeClaire's 11th, Blk. 127, Lot 5

ACREAGE <1 ZONE R4D UTM 15/703090 4600950

OWNER Joseph M. Kint, P.T.Beech TITLE H
628 Kirkwood Blvd.

Davenport, IA 52803



DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Italianate

DATE 1881

FORM 2 stories, decked hipped roof, 3-bay front w/entrance to left of center; extends to irregular plan at rear w/gabled and shed additions; polygonal bay E. side, edged with balustrade

MATERIALS frame on dressed limestone foundation; clapboarded

FENESTRATION 2/2 d.h.s. 1st, in flat surrounds w/narrow cornices; 1/1 d.h.s.

2nd story

FEATURES bracketted cornice with scallops applied to frieze; iron roof cresting; full length veranda w/chamfered posts, brackets, and scallop motif in frieze; brick chimney w/corbelled cap

ALTERATIONS pedimented roof dormers added c. 1900

SITE shaded lot, moderate setback

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE This house is a representative example of the Italianate style from post-Civil War Davenport. Characteristic features include the boxy form, hipped roof with deck, projecting side pavilions and a prominent, bracketted veranda. The cornice is enriched with brackets and a scalloped motif applied to the frieze. The roof cresting, which appears to be quite intact, is another important element. Houses such as this reflect the changes that transformed the earliest (1850's) local versions of the style, which retained many Greek Revival features, to a fully Victorian expression of verticality and millwork embellishment.

HISTORICAL DATA

Thomas Murray had this house built in 1881, shortly after marrying Eva Daniels. Murray had been Surveyor for the county for more than a decade, and was also City Engineer at the time this house was built.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES Davenport City Directories, 1880, 1881, 1890-91.

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION
DESIGN good/exc STATURE incident
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONTEXT good FABRIC excellent
DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL EVALUATION PRIMARY THEME LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

SECONDARY THEME

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE YES

PHOTO ID 1735-23

Martha H. Bowers, Architectural Historian

Marlys Svendsen, Historian

FOR DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION USE ONLY

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