

MISSISSIPPI RIVER MEN:
LE CLAIRE, IOWA 1850-1880

Name: George Tromley, Jr. House

Address: 127 Jones St.

Owner: Laurel Mulvania

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Legal Description: Lot 10, Block
7, original town of Le Claire

Acreage: less than one

UTM: 15/721310 4608420

Physical Description:

1½-story frame house, c. 1865, situated on a raised lot surrounded by a low stone retaining wall. The main roof is a jerkinhead, with ridge parallel to the street, and there is a large jerkinhead dormer centered in the front facade. Curving around the southeast corner is a one-story porch, connecting on the northeast corner with a one-story, gable-roofed section which may have once been the summer kitchen. House is faced with narrow clapboards, and has a single brick chimney with corbelled cap. Original ornate trim has been removed from the porch.

Significance:

George Tromley, Jr. (born in 1857) was the second generation of Tromleys to work as a pilot on the Upper Rapids, and thus was among the distinctive family groups which maintained their connection with the river trade over many years.

The house is not outstanding from a strictly stylistic point of view, but is noteworthy for the use of the jerkinhead on three sides, which makes it among the more picturesque and unusual houses of Le Claire.

