

P110077921

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

STATE:	IOWA
COUNTY:	JOHNSON
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	AUG 27 1974

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Wentz House *Wentz, Jacob, House*

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
219 North Gilbert Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Iowa City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First

STATE: **Iowa** CODE: **14** COUNTY: **Johnson** CODE: **103**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	Boarding House	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
May Stach Estate, c/o Mrs. Carl Stach

STREET AND NUMBER:
412 East Bloomington Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Iowa City

STATE:
Iowa

CODE:
14

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Johnson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Clinton Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Iowa City

STATE:
Iowa

CODE:
14

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local

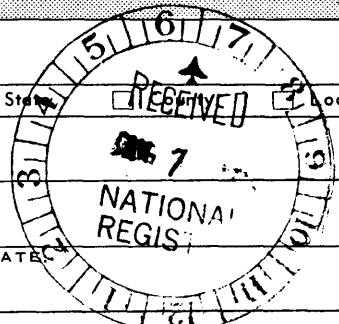
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wentz House is a two story residence of the Greek Revival style as it was interpreted by a midwestern builder of stone mason. Its native yellow-brown sandstone walls were laid in random ashlar fashion. All openings are symmetrically placed; with a central doorway and windows with 6/6 lights. Each window, including the short basement level openings, are dressed with stone lintels and sills. A transom of small lights adorns the central doorway. A gable roof with the ridge pole parallel to the street is tin with four inside end chimneys and a bracketed entablature with brief cornice returns. Interesting exterior features are the large clapboard lean-to structure at the rear of the building (date of construction thought to be original) and the small wrought iron S-clamps just above the central doorway.

The interior arrangement of the building is based on the central hall plan with a stairway leading straight to the second floor. Each of the three rooms in the four present day apartments is finished with simple wood moulding and wood floors and plaster walls. It is not known at this time how extensive the remodeling for apartment use may have been; however, the major partitions separating rooms are original.



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SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1847**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wentz House is the only extant two story native stone house of the original town of Iowa City. Built in 1847 under the supervision of its German immigrant owner, Jacob Wentz, a shoemaker, the house is a well-preserved example of the Greek Revival style as it penetrated the midwest. Both good craftsmanship and design, with symmetrical openings, dressed stone lintels, bracketed entablature, are manifested in this once prominent home now converted into apartments.

Few native stone houses are extant in Iowa City. And very few were constructed of two stories. This particular residence was the near twin of another two stone stone building close by, now destroyed. Still in a residential area, the remaining stone house is not unthreatened, however, from encroaching commercial development.



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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Keyes, Margaret N., Nineteenth Century Home Architecture of Iowa City (Iowa City, 1966), pp. 36-37.

U. S. Manuscript Census for Iowa, 1850 (microfilm, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41°	39'	50"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		91°	31'	49"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
15/022380
4613310
CU

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Dr. Lawrence Lafore, Chairman

ORGANIZATION: Architectural Heritage Committee, Project GREEN DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: 9 Parsons Street

CITY OR TOWN: Iowa City STATE: Iowa CODE: 14

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Adrian D. Anderson

Title Historic Preservation Officer

Date 31 July, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ad Martensen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/27/74

ATTEST:

Charles A. Bennett
Keeper of The National Register

Date 8-27-74