

MASON CITY, IOWA

Cerro Gordo County

HISTORIC BUILDINGS & SITES FIELD SURVEY

Environmental Planning and Research, Inc.

Surveyed by: Ronald Schmitt, Architect

Survey Date: 11-3-76

Research by: R.S.

IDENTIFICATION

80001436  
NUMBER CBD-25

- 1. Common Name Gerard Photography
- 2. Historic Name F.M. Norris / Patton House
- 3. Address 108 4th St. N.E.
- 4. Subdiv. Railroad Addition Blk. 38 Parcel 14
- 5. UTM: 15/482820 4777900 Acreage: less than one

INFORMATION

- 1. Present Owner Jerome J. & Loraine F. Gerard
- 2. Owner's Address 296 Lakewood Drive, city
- 3. Use: Original house  
Present photo studio
- 4. Construction Date 1913 A
- 5. Accessible to Public? Yes  No
- 6. Zoning District G-BUSINESS
- 7. Maintenance: Excellent Good Fair Poor
 

Structure	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Site	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Adjacent Buildings	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Adjacent Property	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
Vicinity	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____



NATURE OF SITE

- Building
- District \_\_\_\_\_
- Site \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

SOURCE OF INTEREST

- History \_\_\_\_\_
- Architecture
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

ARCHITECTURAL QUALITY

- Exceptional \_\_\_\_\_
- Excellent \_\_\_\_\_
- Good
- Fair \_\_\_\_\_
- Poor \_\_\_\_\_

URBAN DESIGN VALUE

- Exceptional \_\_\_\_\_
- Good \_\_\_\_\_
- Moderate
- Minor \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNIFICANCE

- Neighborhood \_\_\_\_\_
- City \_\_\_\_\_
- State
- National \_\_\_\_\_

CONDITION

- Sound \_\_\_\_\_
- Min. Def.
- Maj. Def. \_\_\_\_\_
- Substandard \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION

- 1. No. of Stories: a) one \_\_\_\_\_ b) two  c) three \_\_\_\_\_ d) other \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Building materials: a) ext. walls stucco  
b) foundation stucco c) roof rolled asphalt d) porches stucco w/ wood  
e) other wood trim & strips
- 3. Integrity: a) original site  b) moved \_\_\_\_\_ c) when \_\_\_\_\_ d) from \_\_\_\_\_  
e) major alterations (dates if known) sidewalk canopy, with advertising boards, added
- 4. Threats to Site: none known, although use, location, & zoning working against retention.
- 5. Significant Features: see back

ADDITIONAL REMARKS

original owner, Fred M. Norris, was mayor of Mason City 1911-1913. Built by Chris Rye \*

SOURCES

A City Sewer Records dated 9-17-13 \* Arne Holnk interview 12-10-7

Points \_\_\_\_\_ Group 2

Photos R-3 R-12/34 & 35 Mapped \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ See back of page

\* State Inventory

5. SIGNIFICANCE: CBD-25

Although commercial additions mar its original beauty, the house is still a good example of Prairie School design applied to a small city house. With characteristic horizontal emphasis, it has broad, overhanging hip roofs and stucco walls. It was built for Fred M. Norris by Chris Rye, who built some of Walter Burley Griffin's designs. Norris was mayor of Mason City from 1901 to 1905 and again from 1911 to 1913.

