

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0695505

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 24 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 9 1979

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

PATTERSON LAW OFFICE

AND/OR COMMON

Patterson Law Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1517 18th Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Central City

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3rd

STATE

Nebraska

CODE

31

COUNTY

Merrick

CODE

121

3 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
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Barbara A. Gorgen ✓

STREET & NUMBER

1818 16th Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Central City

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Nebraska

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Clerk, Merrick County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Central City

STATE

Nebraska

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Patterson Law Office, situated north of the courthouse square in Central City, Nebraska, is a one story, false-fronted building with gable roof. This fine, frame 19th century commercial building rests on a stone foundation and exhibits Greek Revival elements in the door, window, pilaster and cornice detailing. Some damaged exterior siding has been removed and is being stored. Upon close examination of the "false-front", one can faintly see the lettering "John Patterson Law Office." The interior of the building contains two rooms, two deep, lined with wainscot paneling. Restoration of the building is planned by the Lone Tree Literary Society, who will use the facility as a library/reading room in honor of Central City native and author Wright Morris.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

ca. 1872

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Patterson, a native of Ireland, came to Nebraska in 1872 after receiving his Bachelor of Laws degree at the University of Wisconsin. He established his residence at Lone Tree (now Central City), Nebraska and became a pioneer member of the bar in that section of the state. Patterson built a large law practice in Merrick County and became a well-known trial lawyer and forceful public speaker. He played a very significant role in the civic, material development and progress of Central City and Merrick County. Politically, Patterson served as county superintendent of schools and county attorney. Two of his sons were later associated with him in his law practice.

Architecturally, the building is significant as one of the earliest known frame commercial buildings still extant in Nebraska. Built ca. 1872, this structure predates the majority of our 19th century commercial buildings by nearly 20 years. The simple detailing and the street-scale proportions make the Patterson office a fine example of this architectural era.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lone Tree Literary Society, informants

Sanborn Insurance Map, City of Central City, Nebraska, Sanborn Map Company, 1889.

Sheldon, Addison E., Nebraska, The Land and the People, Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1931.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Central City East

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 4 | 5, 8, 4 | 0, 2, 0 | 4, 5, 5, 1 | 7, 1, 0

B | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | |

D | | | |

E | | | |

F | | | |

G | | | |

H | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

East 33 feet of the West 99 feet of Lot 5, Block 5, County addition to Lone Tree, now Central City.

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

Janet Jeffries Spencer, Cultural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Nebraska State Historical Society

DATE

January, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

1500 "R" Street

TELEPHONE

402/471-3270

CITY OR TOWN

Lincoln

STATE

Nebraska

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

Marion E. Knett

1/19/79

TITLE

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles A. ...

DATE *2-9-79*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST *William H. ...*

3-7-79

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION