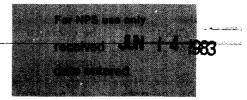
### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



LA .

2 s., 1 s., Sec. 3. 6

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic	T. B. Perr	y Hou:	se			
and/or common		2 75				
2. Loc	ation					
street & numbe	r 212 Benton	Aven	<del>le</del> West		_	not for publication
city, town	Albia		V	icinity of	congressional district	
state	Iowa	code	019	county	Monroe	code 135
3. Clas	ssificatio	n				
Category district xx building(s) structure site object	Ownership public <u>xxx</u> private both Public Acquisitie in process n/a being conside		work Accessib XX_ yes: r	cupied in progress <b>le</b>	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park park religious scientific transportation other:
4. Owr	ner of Pro	per	ty			
name	Pabst Law Fi	irm				
street & number	212 Benton A	Avenue	e West			
city, town	Albia		vi	icinity of	state	Iowa 52531
5. Loca	ation of L	ega	l Des	criptio	on	
courthouse, reg	istry of deeds, etc.	Cour	ty Clei	ck's Off:	lce	
street & number	• · ·	Monr	coe Cour	nty Court	chouse	
city, town		Albi	a		state	Iowa 52531
6. Rep	resentati	on i	n Exi	sting 9	Surveys	
title N/A				has this pro	perty been determined eli	gible? yes no
date	4				federal stat	e county loca
depository for s	urvey records					
city, town				<b></b>	state	

## 7. Description

Condition

excellent \_X\_good \_ fair

**Check one** deteriorated \_\_ ruins ... unexposed

**Check one** XX\_ original site \_ moved date .

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

unaltered

altered

Dunham & Jordan, a prominent Burlington, Iowa architectural firm, designed "T. B. Perry's Residence" and William Phinny, an Albia contractor & brick mason, constructed the building in 1877-78.

The building is 2-12 story, of Greek cross shape & High Victorian, eclectic style. It is basically unaltered. A low (stone) foundation supports brick, load-bearing walls. A stone water table surrounds the house. Slate has replaced the original, wood shingle roof. The building's main block measures 26<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>'x52'. There are wrap-around porches on the facade & at the rear of the building; the facade also has a gable balcony.

There is considerable ornamentation on the exterior: one original chimney with corbeled cap; a steeply pitched roof with finials & pendants; brackets with modified frieze under the eaves; barge boards on second story & entry gables; & front porch Gothic tracery millwork. The use of two different colored bricks, laid at random, enriches the texture of the wall surface.

The roofing system is particularly complex. It combines 5-dormer windows, 2-hip & deck roofs, 3-gable roofs, and 2-hip roofs. Metal roof crestings and alternating patterns of straight, imbricated, and diagonal wood shingles originally decorated the roof.

The interior has a side-hall floorplan, 3-rooms deep. It is unaltered with minor exceptions. A front stairway & marbelized, slate fireplaces are notable features. "The woodwork is white walnut & never varnished. It was washed with water into which a few drops of oil were added--then rubbed dry."\* Every room & closet has original louvered, window-shutters.

The lot measures 158.88'x170.73'. The property is situated 2 blocks west of the Albia public square. The area is primary residential but a parking lot & hospital are directly east of the house. A hill slopes north from the property; a grassy draw slopes south. The size of the lot protects the building from intrusion.

## 8. Significance

1400–1499 1500–1599	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture x architecture art commerce communications	community planning	Iandscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
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Specific dates 1877-78
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#### Builder/Architect Dunham & Jordan

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The T B Perry House is a fine example of the High Victorian, eclectic style of architecture. Public water & gas service was unavailable in Albia when this house was built in 1877-78. In addition to style of design, the building's private system for inside running water & gassification indicates an experienced, professional architect.

The house calls attention to the firm Dunham & Jordan, architects of Burlington, Iowa. Charles A Dunham (1830-1908) is a good example of an apprenticed trained, 19th century architect. He was born in Connecticut & came to Burlington in 1856. A G Bassett apprenticed Dunham from 1856-1865 during which time the office designed courthouses for Monroe County (Albia, IA) and Appanoose County (Centerville, IA). In 1865 Dunham opened his own office. He won a major commission to design the first building, "Old Main" (non-extant), at Iowa State University. Dunham built a highly successful practice. His clientele ranged over Iowa & surrounding states. Dunham designed buildings in most of the styles popular during the last half of the 19th century. He retired in 1907. Thomas Jordan, Dunham's partner in the 1870s, was also a photographer.

When T B Perry (1832-1921) employed Dunham to plan a large scale residence, Perry intended the building to make a social statement. Perry was a successful Monroe County attorney & capitalist. He served numerous public offices including 2 terms as a state senator. Perry built several commercial buildings which are extant on the Albia square. These call attention more directly to Perry's public career than does his home.

The style of the T B Perry House is eclectic. The pronounced barge boards and gables windows are similar to Dunham's well-known stick style residence, the G B P Carpenter (McArthur-Millard) House at Burlington. Both buildings were built within several years of one another. More in keeping with the High Victorian Gothic style, the T B Perry House displays polychrome through the use of two different colored bricks and a complex roof design.

The architect needed to clarify his instructions for roof construction. An ad hoc plan survives on cheap paper.<sup>#</sup> It shows a 3-dimensional sketch of the roof & indicates measurements for its rises. Undoubtedlv Mr Phinny, the contractor, felt satisfaction in completing this roof as it required far more than common skill.

The T B Perry House is one of the three or four show residences of 19th century Monroe County. It is a fine example of Dunham & Jordan's High Victorian, eclectic design. The private systems for inside running water & gassification also indicate an experienced, professional architect. The attention to surface texture and complex roof system distinguish this building from others in Monroe County. The house was built as a quality residence & has been maintained in a similar manner.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

## **10. Geographical Data**

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organizatio	for on	Iowa	SHPO			dat	e	l Ju	ne 1983		
street & nu	umber			Building and Ave.		tele	ephone	515-	281-4137		
city or tow	'n	Des M	oines			sta	te	Iowa	50319		
12.	Stat	e Hi	storic	c Pres	ervatie	on C	)ffic	er C	ertific	atio	on
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### PRIMARY

Abstract of Title; Property Pabst Law Firm; Albia, IA.

"Bird's Eye View of Albia, Monroe County, Iowa;" reproduced in Andreas, A T; <u>Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa</u>; Chicago; Andreas Atlas Co; 1875.

#Dunham, Charles A and Jordan, Thomas; "T. B. Perry's Residence, Albia, Iowa." Seven original architects' drawings: "North Elevation;" "Plan of Second Story;" "West Side Elevation;" "Plan of Cellar and Foundation Walls;" "Plan of First Story;" "East Side Elevation" and "Roof Plan." Ink on sized linen. "Roof Plan" ink on architect's tracing paper. Property Pabst Law Firm.

"Pioneer Laid to Rest" (Perry obituary); <u>Albia Union</u>; 20 May 1921. "Died in Chicago/Chas. A. Dunham Passed Away Last Evening;" <u>Burlington</u>

- (Iowa) <u>Gazette;</u> 11 December 1908.
- "Chas. A. Dunham Dead/Well Known Architect Passed Away in Chicago Sunday;" <u>The Burlington Hawk-Eye</u>; 15 December 1908.
- "C.A. Dunham, Architect and Superintendent;" <u>Commercial & Statistical</u> <u>Review of the City of Burlington</u>; J L Spalding & Co; 1882; p 108. advertisement sketches Dunham's career.

Photographic postcard (black & white); Dated February 1912. Looks NW & pictures residence through apple & pear trees with snow cover. Property Mr & Mrs Donald J Wilson; Logan, Utah.

\*Letter of Correspondence; Frances Miller & Ruth Miller Thormyer to Linda K Pabst; January 1983. Description of Perry House and grounds by two granddaughters of Perry. Includes one sketch of the property's landscape architecture and one sketch of outbuildings and street furniture as they appeared prior to 1921.

Letter of Correspondence; Frances Miller to Linda K Pabst; 9 December 1982.

### SECONDARY

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<u>Spokesman</u> (organ of The Iowa Farm Bureau); South Central Edition; 15 June 1974; Vol 40, No 41; pp 14-5. Describes renovation in 1970s by a former owner.

- Landon, Marie D; "Charles A. Dunham, An Iowa Architect of the Picturesque;" Unpublished paper; University of Iowa; Iowa City; 1980.
- "Historic Houses;" <u>Des Moines Tribune</u>; 4 July 1962. Photofeature by Nick Baldwin.
- Telephone Conversation between Steve Brower (Burlington, IA) and W C Page, April 1983.
- Telephone Conversation between Frances Miller (Lima, OH) and W C Page, May 1983.

