

DATA SHEET

PH0699446

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 13 1979
DATE ENTERED APR 3 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

J.C.B. Warde House

AND/OR COMMON

"Warde's Folly"

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

205 Cherry Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Muscatine

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Iowa

CODE

COUNTY
Muscatine

CODE

139

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

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Roger Crow

STREET & NUMBER

1104 Garfield Court

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52803

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Muscatine County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Muscatine

Iowa STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Architecture of Muscatine, Iowa

DATE

1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

City of Muscatine, Muscatine, Iowa

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The J.C.B. Warde house is situated on a high bluff overlooking the Mississippi River, about 5 blocks southwest of the central business district, in an area noted for a number of mid-to-late 19th century residences. The house was begun by Warde in 1852, and was completed after 1854 by John G. Gordon. Additions at the rear were made in 1905 and 1938.

The principal construction material is brick of unknown origin, with details executed in limestone, wood, and metal. The house is two stories on a full brick basement, with dimensions of 40' x 59'. The house is five bays along the front and four bays along each side. The bays are divided by pilasters, which support a full entablature running continuously around the house. The roof is a single gable with ridge running parallel to the front, creating side gable ends which are treated as large wall pediments. The dominant feature of the front is a giant prostyle portico, with four wooden Corinthian columns on high pedestals supporting a triangular pediment. (In the early decades of this century, a double window was cut into the originally blank tympanum of the pediment.) An early feature of the portico was a small balcony above the center entrance, with a delicate cast-iron railing. Later (perhaps 1904) a larger porch, covering the entire area of the portico, was added on the second floor, and, still later, both stories of the portico were fully enclosed to provide sitting rooms for the hospital (into which the house was converted in 1905). The windows of the house have narrow stone sills, flat lintels finished with cast metal pediments and 6/6 double-hung sash. There are two similar windows in the tympanum of each side pediment. Centered on the main roof ridge is an octagonal belvedere with 2/2 double-hung sash windows on each face, and a narrow cornice, surmounted by wrought-iron cresting. No longer extant are four tall brick chimneys.

The rear of the house has been complicated by the addition (1938) of a large 30-story wing whose main axis is parallel to the roof ridge of the main house. This section is flat-roofed, built of brick (painted white) with a severely plain exterior. It is connected to the original house by a short, 2-story, 2-bay projection which was very likely the kitchen/servants' wing of the 1852 house (the window hoods, cornice, and remnants of pilastering suggest this). This small wing was remodelled sometime after 1905, alterations including roof dormers and an enclosed porch on the southwest side.

The house has a center hall, double-pile plan, with the main staircase on the north side of the hall. Remnants of interior molding, fireplace detail and staircase give some idea of the original character of the interior, although the house has not been used for residential purposes since the turn of the century.

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 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 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 1852

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The J.C.B. Warde house is one of Muscatine's earliest remaining fine residences, and one of the supreme monuments of the residential Greek Revival in Iowa, a state which, first being settled at a time when the Greek Revival was at its height in popularity, can claim relatively few examples of this architectural style.

The house is architecturally very fine, and exhibits an educated understanding on the part of the architect or builder of the elements of Greek architecture, as used by American architects in the first half of the 19th century. It is impressively sited and, if anything, slightly severe. It has something of the character of a public building of the period about it, and it might be noted that J.F. Rague used the same basic form (tetrastyle portico, pedimented side gable ends, central roof feature and plastered facades) for both his Illinois Capitol at Springfield (1837) and his Iowa Capitol in Iowa City (early 1840's). The house remains, in spite of the enclosure of the portico and the alterations and additions at the rear, quite intact and potentially restorable.

The house was begun in the spring of 1852 for J.C.B. Warde, a local attorney about whom little is known except for his abrupt departure from Muscatine, creditors at his heels, in the fall of that year. The house was put up for auction at a sheriff's sale the following year, and purchased by Gen. John G. Gordon. Gordon put finishing touches on the house, and lived there until his death in 1877.

The house then passed to Cora Chaplin Weed, a young Muscatine woman who had married elderly Chester Weed in 1873. Weed died in 1874, leaving a substantial fortune acquired through various dry goods, insurance and wholesale enterprises. Cora Weed lived in the house until about 1904, earning no little local renown as a lavish hostess and active participant in assorted literary and musical activities. Subsequently, Drs. J.L. Klein and A.J. Weaver purchased the house, and converted it into a private hospital (Bellevue). The house served this function until recently.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Muscatine Journal: 21 Feb., 15 May, 19 June, 25 Sept., 20 Nov., 1852; 19 Jan., 15 July, 7 Oct., 14 Oct., 1853; 1 Aug. 1873; 7 Dec. 1894; 3 Aug. 1910; 26 March 1904.
 Richman, Irving B. History of Muscatine County, Iowa. Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1911, pp. 17, 443.
 Randall, W.D. Little Known Stories of Muscatine. Muscatine: Fairall Service, 1949, pp. 6-10.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Muscatine, Iowa; III.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 5 | 6, 6, 2, 7, 5, 0 | 4, 5, 8, 6, 6, 8, 0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 10, 9, 8, and the west 44.625 feet of Lot 7, Block 40, Original Town of Muscatine, Iowa.

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

S.J. Klingensmith, Architectural Historian/M.H. Bowers, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

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

Adrian A. Anderson

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE 2/8/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

William Blouch

DATE 4/3/79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *William Blouch*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE March 30, 1979