

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

JUN 14 1983

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Seeberger-Loring-Kilburn House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 509 High Avenue East

not for publication

city, town Oskaloosa

vicinity of

state Iowa

code 019

county Mahaska

code 123

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Jo Broerman, Inc.

street & number 509 High Avenue East

city, town Oskaloosa

vicinity of

state Iowa 52577

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk's Office

street & number Mahaska County Courthouse

city, town Oskaloosa

state Iowa 52577

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title n/a has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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 1850-75

Builder/Architect David L. Evans, Builder.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Seeberger-Loring-Kilburn House calls attention to the career of David L Evans, Master Builder, and to a significant vernacular statement of the Italianate style in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Evans (1825-1897) was born in Wales and emigrated to America at the age of 14. He arrived in Oskaloosa in 1845 via Ohio and St Louis. Nothing is known about his early training in construction. His father was a clergyman in Wales.

This house is the oldest, extant dwelling built by Evans and documented. The architectural belt which surrounds the house separates the Flemish bond construction of the first floor facade from the common bond construction of the second floor facade. The use of this technique as a transition demonstrates the careful attention to detail and skillful craftsmanship characteristic of Evans, "one of the most thoroughly reliable workmen that has ever been in the city" (obituary).** Three commercial buildings remain in Oskaloosa of his design and construction, the Evans Block the most notable.

Evans was a man of conviction. "It is alleged that Mr. Evans was the first man in Iowa who worked to bring about shorter hours of labor. He came up from St. Louis, Mo., where he had been a young architect, saw men laboring for 12 hours a day, and determined to do something about it."# The old sources are silent on this point. Iola Thomas recorded the above information in the 1930s, apparently from oral tradition. We do know that Evans served as a City Councilman in 1875 and was defeated in his bid on the Greenback ticket for Mahaska County Coroner in 1877. Thomas relates that Evans' progressive ideas about labor met cold response from Oskaloosa's business community.

Frank E Wetherell, AIA, planned a sympathetic expansion of the Seeberger-Loring-Kilburn House in 1916. He was a prominent Des Moines architect. Reared in Oskaloosa, Wetherell designed dozens of homes for his hometown and also the Oskaloosa Band Stand, public library, and YMCA (non-extant). His credits of state importance include: libraries (Bloomfield, Boone, Osceola); courthouses (Sigourney, Leon); as well as urban planning, notably Keosauqua Way and the Des Moines Riverfront improvement project of the 1930s and 1940s in Des Moines.

The Seeberger-Loring-Kilburn House is a good, vernacular statement of the Italianate style. The belt course and eyebrow windows distinguish the house from the other handful of brick dwellings in the Italianate style in Oskaloosa. The building also calls attention to David Evans' career and skill as a builder.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheets 9:2-3

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Oskaloosa

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	5	30	1	90	45	7	14	2	0
Zone		Easting			Northing					

B

Zone		Easting			Northing					

C

Zone		Easting			Northing					

D

Zone		Easting			Northing					

E

Zone		Easting			Northing					

F

Zone		Easting			Northing					

G

Zone		Easting			Northing					

H

Zone		Easting			Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

South 136.5' of Lot 6, East Addition, City of Oskaloosa, Iowa.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William C. Page, Public Historian, SIEDA Area XV Reg. Plng. Comm.

organization Iowa SHPO date 1 June 1983

street & number Historical Building E. 12th & Grand Ave. telephone 515-281-4137

city or town Des Moines state Iowa 50319

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state 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 Exec. Director Iowa State Historical Department date 6/5/83

For NPS use only

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

date 7/14/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

PRIMARY

- Abstract of Title; Property Helen Jo Broerman; Oskaloosa, IA.
"Bird's Eye View of the City of Oskaloosa; Mahaska County,
Iowa; 1869; Drawn by Augustus Koch;" Chicago Lithographing
Co; Chicago; 1869." Pictures Oskaloosa streets, buildings,
landscaping and the Seeberger-Loring-Kilburn House. Framed
copy property Oskaloosa Public Library.
- Death Records; David Evans; #375; Book 2A, 1896- 1906; p 29.
Clerk of Courts Office; Mahaska County Courthouse.
- ** David Evans Obituary; The Daily Evening Herald; Oskaloosa, IA;
16 September 1897; p 2 c 7.
- Probate Inventory of Personal & Real Property; David Evans
Estate; Box #553; Docket 7; p 281; Probate Records; Mahaska
County District Court; Courthouse; Oskaloosa, IA.
- Oskaloosa City Directory & Business Record; 1887; 1898/99;
1900/01; 1902/03.
- Informant Interview: Helen Jo Broerman; Oskaloosa, IA; Winter
1982.
- Wetherell, Frank E, AIA; "A Duplex House for Miss Lillian Kilburn,
Oskaloosa, Iowa;" Original architect's tracings dated 15 August
1916. Property Helen Jo Broerman; Oskaloosa, IA.
- Reproduction of photographic image; "One of the 'Mansions' of Early
Oskaloosa;" Oskaloosa Daily Herald; 15 July 1939; p 3 c 3- 8.
Pictures deck railing. Undated, circa 1900. Property Olive
Maddy (1939); present whereabouts unknown.
- 5 photographic images; picture lily pond & garden. Undated, cir-
ca 1918. Property Helen Jo Broerman.
- 3 photographic images; picture facade soon after expansion & street-
scape. Undated, circa 1918. Property Helen Jo Broerman.

SECONDARY

- * Hedge, Manoah; Past & Present of Mahaska County, Iowa; S J Clarke
Publishing Co; Chicago; 1906; p 115.
- Page, W C; Mahaska County, Iowa; An Historical Survey of Buildings;
unpublished survey for Division of Historic Preservation; Iowa
State Historical Department; 1981; n p.
- Phillips, Semira Ann; Proud Mahaska 1843- 1900; Herald Print; Oska-
loosa, IA; 1900; pp 245-7; 360-1 ("Paradise Block"); 300-02;
295-98 (Jackson House).
- # Thomas, Iola; "Loring House;" Mahaska County Folder; Box 28; WPA
Documents; Federal Writers' Project; Special Collections; Univer-
sity of Iowa Library; Iowa City, IA; n d.

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- "Riverfronts & Thoroughfares;" Iowa Architect; March/April 1959; pp 17- 19. Biographical and professional sketch of Frank E Wetherell, AIA.
- "Frank E Wetherell;" Des Moines and Polk County; S J Clarke Publishing Co; Chicago; 1911; vol II; pp 1355-56.
- Frank E Wetherell Obituary; Newspaper clipping. Undated and unidentified. Property John Wetherell, AIA; Des Moines, IA (grandson Frank E Wetherell).
- Correspondence between John Wetherell & W C Page; January/ February 1983.