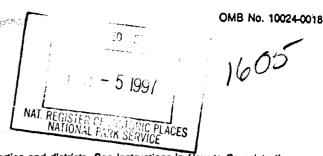
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of	Property						
historic name	9	Court Hill Hi	storic D	District			
other names	/site number_						
2. Location							
street & num	nber	111 E. Court,	407-100	4 N. Court			☑ not for publication
city or town.		Ottumwa					_N/A vicinity
state	Iowa	code <u>TA</u>	_ county.	Wapello		code <u>179</u>	_ zip code _52501
3. State/Fed	deral Agency	Certification					
Signatur State of	e of certifying off STATE HISTO Federal agency a pinion, the proper	e 🔀 locally. (See or Cally Title RICAL SOCIETY OF and bureau	IOWA) - G -	97	o continuation s	heet for additional
	e of certifying off			Date			
State or	Federal agency	and bureau	·	A			
I hereby certify O entere	Park Service that the property d in the National See continuation nined eligible for onal Register	Register. n sheet.	Eds	Signature of the	Entered	in the	Date of Action
☐ determ	See continuation See co				Rations	<u>) Pajliste</u>	
vomer 🗌	onal Register. ed from the Nationster,	onai					
Other,	(explain:)						
		A					***************************************

Court Hill Historic District

Name of Property

Wapello County, Iowa

County and State

5. Classification	·		•	
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Res (Do not include pre	sources within Proper wiously listed resources in the	ty he count.)
private public-local pu	□ building(s) ☑ district	Contributing 56	Noncontributing 25	bulldings
☐ public-State ☐ public-Federal	☐ site ☐ structure	0	1	buildings sites
_ ,	☐ object	2	0	structure
		0	0	objects
		58	26	Total
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	roperty listing of a multiple property listing.)	Number of co	ntributing resources p I Register	previously liste
Architectural & Histor	ical Resources of Ottum	wa, IA 0		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/Single Dwel		Current Function (Enter categories from DOMESTIC/S:		
DOMESTIC/Multiple Dw	elling	DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling		
EDUCATION/School		EDUCATION/School		
			eligious Facility	
		COMMERCE/B	ısiness	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions		Materials (Enter categories from foundation	n instructions)	
Queen Anne		walls WOOD/Weatherboard		
LATE 19th/20th CENTU		110/0	RICK	
				
		roofA	SPHALT	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

County and State

	atement of Significance		
(Mark '	cable National Register Criteria 'x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property ional Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)	
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of		Industry	
	our history.	Architecture	
	Property is associated with the lives of persons	Architecture	
□ B	significant in our past.		
XX C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics		
-es C	of a type, period, or method of construction or		
	represents the work of a master, or possesses		
	high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack	Period of Significance	
	individual distinction.	c.1865-c.1915	
Пρ	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,		·
	information important in prehistory or history.		
Crite	ria Considerations	Significant Dates	
(Mark	"x" in all the boxes that apply.)	N/A	
Prop	erty is:		
	owned by a religious institution or used for		
	religious purposes.		
Пв	removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
	Temoved nom no original todadori.	N/A	
□ c	a birthplace or grave.		
□ D	a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation	
DE	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.		
□ F	a commemorative property.		
Пв	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Architect/Builder	
	within the past 50 years.	Kerns, George	
		Clark, Edward	
Narr (Expli	ative Statement of Significance ain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheet	s.)	
9. N	fajor Bibliographical References		
Bibil (Cite	lography the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on	one or more continuation sheets.)	
-	vious documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:	
	preliminary determination of individual listing (36	XX State Historic Preservation Office	
	CFR 67) has been requested	Other State agency	
	previously listed in the National Register	☐ Federal agency	
L	previously determined eligible by the National Register	Local government University	
	designated a National Historic Landmark	☐ Other	
	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	Name of repository:	
_	# recorded by Historic American Engineering		-
-	Record #		

Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) 1	Court Hill His	storic District	Wapello County	, Iowa
Acreage of Property	lame of Property		County and State	
The References Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) 1	0. Geographical	Data		
Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) 1	Acreage of Proper	ty		
Zone Easting Northing 2	UTM References Place additional UTM r	references on a continuation sheet.)		
name/titleMolly Myers Naumann, Consultant organizationOttumwa Historic Preservation Comm		Northing	Zone Easting	سلتلنا لبيل
Street & number Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant				
Ottumwa Historic Preservation Comm. Street & number	•			
Ottumwa Historic Preservation Comm. Street & number	11. Form Prepare	d By		
street & number 167 West Alta Vista telephone (515) 682-2743 city or town Ottumwa state IA zip code 52501-1437 Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number telephone	name/title	Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant		
city or town Ottumwa state IA zip code 52501-1437 Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number	organization	Ottumwa Historic Preservation Comm	date8/97	
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name	street & number_	167 West Alta Vista	reiebuoue	
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name	city or town	Ottumwa	tate <u>IA</u> zip	code 52501-1437
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number telephone	Additional Docum			
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name	Submit the following it	ems with the completed form:		
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number	Continuation She	ets		
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name	Maps			
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property. Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number telephone	A USGS n	map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pro	erty's location.	
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number telephone	A Sketch	map for historic districts and properties having	rge acreage or numerou	us resources.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name	Photographs			
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name	Represent	ative black and white photographs of the pro	rty.	·
Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Various (see attached list) street & number telephone		O or FPO for any additional items)	·	
name Various (see attached list) street & number telephone	Property Owner			
street & number				
	name	Various (see attached list)		
city or town state zip code	street & number_		telephone	
·	city or town		state zip	code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	7	Page1	
			CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION:

Architectural Classification (Continued):

Classical Revival
Colonial Revival
LATE 19th/EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICAN: Craftsman/Bungalow

Narrative Description:

As you approach Ottumwa from the south or west you are presented with a view of a tree-covered bluff rising from the Des Moines River valley, with church spires and roof tops peeking through the trees. Many of the spires and roof tops belong to houses and churches in the 5th Street Bluff and Court Hill Historic Districts: 5th Street Bluff is located to the east of Court Street; and, the Court Hill Historic District is to the west. Both of these developed as the town grew up and away from the river during the second half of the 19th century.

The original plat of the City of Ottumwa was laid out along the north bank of the Des Moines River which runs through the community from northwest to southeast. Since the streets were laid out parallel to the river, nothing was aligned to the compass points. It is only with later additions to the city that streets took on a true north/south and east/west alignment. The "business district" was originally located along the river, with log cabins (and somewhat later, houses) intermingled with the commercial establishments. By the 1850s construction was taking place farther from the river, and residences were being built on the hillside. In addition to the neighborhood known as the 5th Street Bluff, construction was also taking place along Court Street.

Court Street was designed as a major street leading northeast from the river to 6th Street, the original city limits, where it turned slightly and continued due north into the countryside. This appears to be the road that was authorized by the Legislature in February 1844 to extend from the southern line of Davis County to the northern line of Wapello County, touching both county seats. (Today this road is U.S. Highway 63.)

The Court Hill Historic District is approached from the intersection of 4th and Court streets, where Central Park is ringed by four large limestone buildings (Wapello County Courthouse, Ottumwa Public Library, U.S. Post Office/Federal Building, and St. Mary of the Visitation Church). In this area Court Street is 82' wide and provides a sweeping path up the hill. Two blocks north, at the intersection of Court and 6th, the Court Hill Historic District begins. It extends north six blocks to Woodland Avenue, and includes all resources facing Court Street. This is a residential neighborhood which contains a total of 84 resources:

- 63 houses
- 4 buildings (school, church, new apartment, commercial)
- 14 garages
- 1 site (park)
- 2 structures (stone retaining walls, brick posts)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	2
36611011	Humber		ı ayç	

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):



U.S.G.S. Map of Ottumwa (North)
Location of Court Hill Historic District indicated by arrow.

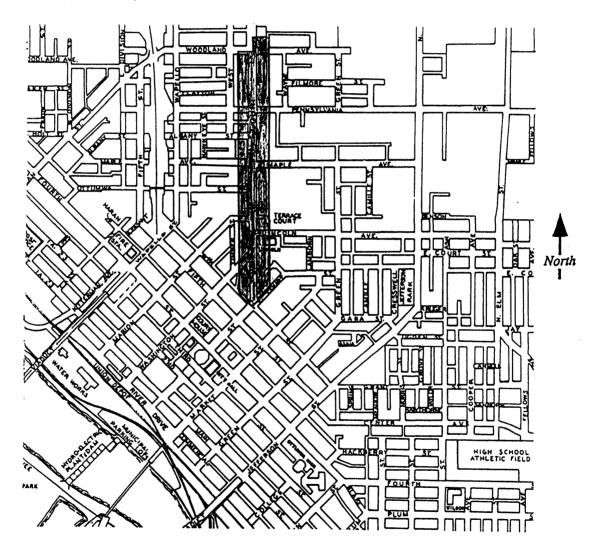
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	7		2
Section number	,	Page	3
Section number		rayo	

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):



Map of Ottumwa (City Engineer's Office, 1991) Court Hill District indicated by shaded area.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number.	7	Page	
			CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

Of these, 58 (69%) are considered to be key or contributing structures in the district. Locally Court Hill is known as an area of large residences, with a few somewhat smaller houses scattered throughout. It represents a prestigious neighborhood with the houses illustrating the most popular styles from c.1865-c.1915.

Exactly when the first houses were built along Court has not been determined, but in September 1858 the Ottumwa Weekly Courier noted,

"Marshal Myers has had a large force at work the past week opening Court Street up the Bluff. Any easy grade has been secured......the road bed is being graveled which will insure a hard and smooth track in all seasons. This is an important and very desirable improvement.

The 1869 Bird's Eye View of Ottumwa shows a scattering of houses from 6th Street north along Court, including three that may be part of the district today: 502 N. Court, a two story frame residence with gable entry off-set to the left with sidelights and transom; 622 N. Court, a two story brick with central entrance on the side gable, originally with bracketed eaves; and, 724 N. Court, a large two story brick with hip roof. The house at 724 N. Court was built between 1865 and 1870 for Major Charles and Tabitha Fulton. Charles died in 1870 leaving his widow and small children in this large house. The other extant early house the neighborhood, the frame Italian Villa at 111 E. Court, is not shown on the 1869 view. It appears to have been built between 1871 and 1875 for G.A. Roemer, a carpenter by trade. Several other dwellings are shown along Washington, Marion, and E. Court streets. It is interesting to note that by the late 1860s the school board felt that there was a sufficient number of children in the area to construct an elementary school (named Lincoln after the martyred president) at the corner of Court and Lincoln (now 458 N. Court). This school burned and was replaced in 1876 by a larger brick building in the Italianate style designed by Des Moines architect Benjamin Bartlett on the same site.

There is little information about residential construction along N. Court for several years, although the newspaper did make note of two large brick houses being built at the top of the E. Court hill, one for Dr. C.C. Warden in 1876, and another (designed by Benjamin Bartlett) directly across the street for Major Samuel Mahon the following year.

Architect Edward Clark designed an elegant brick residence for inventor Allen Johnston which was completed in 1882. This house is located at the corner of Court and Marion (531 N. Court) and the style was High Victorian Italianate, complete with three story tower. The exterior walls were of deep red brick with cast hoodmolds, limestone sills and watertable, and bracketed eaves. Two entry porches were found on the facade, a formal covered entry at the base of the tower, and a larger porch inset on one side. The roof line was neither pure hip nor pure mansard, with iron cresting and elaborate chimney pots. The two original porches were replaced by 1897 with the present wrap-around porch. At the time of its construction, it appears that most of the neighboring houses were widely scattered.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):



Residence of Allen Johnston (From Flowers, Descriptive Illustrated Review of Ottumwa, Iowa)

Another fine two story brick residence is located just two doors south of the Johnston house at 513 N. Court. Built in the early 1880s for W.R. Daum (of the Electric Street Railway), the house is similar to that of Johnston in the shape of the roof, with a shorter tower, a bracketed cornice, and a two story bay to one side. However, the windows feature simple segmental arches of cream colored brick, with the same brick used for quoining at the corners, and a decorative pattern between the cornice brackets. The two original porches (located in a similar position to those on the Johnston house) were replaced by the present pergola-like porches c. 1915. No information has been located on this house concerning date of construction, builder, or architect, and no historic photographs have been discovered.

At about the same time these two brick houses were being built in the 500 block of N. Court, two other large brick residences were constructed three blocks north at the corner of Court and Pennsylvania. The first appears to be that of W.T. Harper at the northeast corner of the intersection (now 908 N. Court). Ottumwa architect Ernst Koch has been identified as the architect/builder for this residence. Although it is now painted white, originally it was of deep red brick with cast hoodmolds, limestone trim, and a bracketed cornice. The mansard roof is pierced by dormers, as is the tower roof. The original entry porch was replaced by the present porch c.1910, and at some point (no one can remember when or why) one story of the tower was removed. Like the Johnston house this can best be described as High Victorian Italianate.

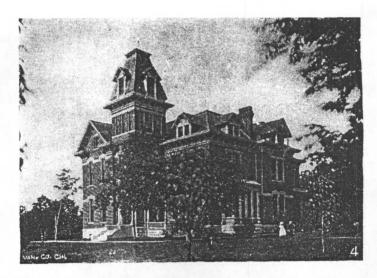
Directly across Pennsylvania, at the southeast corner of the intersection, a brick residence was constructed for industrialist J.T. Hackworth at about the same time. No specific date has been

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA
DESCRIPTION (Continued):



Residences of W.T. Harper (above) and J.T. Hackworth (below) (From Ottumwa 1889 Illustrated)



determined, and no architect identified. However, the Hackworth house is a departure from the popular High Victorian Italianate to a more elegant, sophisticated design. The two and one-half story house featured a steeply pitched cross-gable roof with limestone belt courses located above and below the windows at each level. The watertable and foundation were also of limestone. A two

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number7	Page	
	•	CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

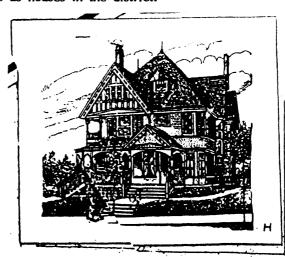
DESCRIPTION (Continued):

story bay was located on the south elevation, and a highly decorative porch extended across a portion of the facade. The Hackworth residence was unlike any other in the community, and was probably the work of an outside architect. Shortly after 1920 the house was converted into apartments and the present mansard roof added to provide living space. It is still possible to see some original design elements if you look closely at the painted exterior.

The next phase of construction in the district seems to begin in the late 1880s. The first horse-drawn streetcar made its appearance in 1887, connecting the downtown business district with the Ottumwa Cemetery at the far north end of Court. In 1889 this horse-drawn vehicle was replaced by an electric streetcar which made regular trips up and down Court Street hill every 20 minutes. The availability of the streetcar was probably one of the incentives to build along Court. New construction began c.1888 at the south end, with the building of a house for W.C. Wyman at 407 N. court, and one for W.D. Elliott next door at 411. The newspaper made note of both new houses in the summer of 1888. The Wyman house is unusual because of the use of a cross-gambrel roof, and the "U" shaped wrap-around porch. The location of the house is also unusual as it faces, not Court Street, but directly down the hill toward the river. The Elliott house appears to have originally been of Queen Anne design, but alterations have erased the original details.

The next house up the hill (419 N. Court) was built in 1889 for J.C. Jordan, and has retained an extraordinary level of integrity. The house is an excellent example of Queen Anne design with its irregular roof shapes, multiple porches, and highly decorative surface. When the front porches were rebuilt in the early 20th century, decorative elements from the original design were re-used. No architect has been identified for this house. However, like the Hackworth house, this one has an elegance of design that suggests it was the work of a skilled architect. This house was one of only five residences selected as illustrations around the edge of an 1890 Bird's Eye Map of Ottumwa. This map shows houses lining Court Street almost all the way to Woodland Avenue, and many of the drawings are recognizable as houses in the district.

Residence of J.C. Jordan (From 1890 Bird's Eye Map)



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

1891 was an important year in the history of this neighborhood, as it was the year that Court Street was paved from 6th to Woodland, the area included in the historic district. A number of houses were constructed in the following decade, most of which had some elements of the Queen Anne style.

A fine architect designed house was built in 1896 at the corner of Court and Marion, across from Allen Johnston, for J.W. Calhoun. Like the C.O. Taylor house in the 5th Street Bluff Historic District, this was designed by the Omaha firm of Fisher and Lowrie. It blends the steeply pitched gable roof line of the Shingle style with the irregular shapes and paired classical columns of the Free Classic Queen Anne. This house has retained a high level of integrity.

Another good example of Queen Anne design is the W.H. Cooper residence at 625 N. Court. This residence was one of several noted in the 1893 <u>Courier Trade Edition</u> as having been constructed during the previous 12 months. While no architect has been determined, it could well have been the work of one of Ottumwa's local architects, or built from mail order plans. It is a classic example of the style with an irregular roof line, multiple porches, and a rounded corner tower. Around 1915 the wrap-around porch was replaced by the two current porches which feature the popular diagonal star pattern often used in the windows of public buildings and banks.



Residence of W.H. Cooper (From Ottumwa, Iowa '98, '99, 1900)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Page9	
		CFN-259-1118

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

Another example of Queen Anne design from the 1890s is the residence of grocer Otto Bremhorst at 905 N. Court, the northwest corner of the intersection with Pennsylvania. Like the Cooper house, no architect has been identified, and no historic photos have come to light.

At the far north end of the district, newspaper publisher A.H. Hamilton had a rather subdued Queen Anne residence built c.1891. No historic photographs have been located for this house, but it uses the classical details associated with Free Classic Queen Anne in its porches, as well as the Palladian window in the front dormer. This house is highly visible as it is located on the northeast corner of Court and Woodland, where Court Street jogs slightly to the west. It is possible to see this house for several blocks.

A number of other houses along Court display elements of the Queen Anne style without the full-blown exuberance of the style. These were probably built by local contractors from pattern book designs. Houses in this style make up the majority of the houses in the district. Many have been altered by the removal of the front porch, or the application of modern replacement siding, but they retain the overall shape and proportions of the style and can be considered contributing to the district.

With the turn of the century new styles became popular. Classical details had been applied to many of the Queen Anne houses but now these details were being applied to houses of simpler rectangular design. Both Colonial Revival and Neo-classical became important in residential construction between 1900-1915.

The house at 423 N. Court appears to have been constructed c.1900 and illustrates how effectively classical details can be applied to a simple hip roof box. The pilastered corners, and porches with lonic columns are strong design elements. The dormers feature baroque pediments. No information or historic photographs have been located. For decades this house was covered with replacement siding. It was a great surprise to everyone when the siding was removed and all of the details were revealed.

Across the street at 434 N. Court is a large two story Neo-classical house from c.1905. The gable roof residence has a symmetrical facade on the side gable with a massive two story portico with lonic columns. A second floor porch with balustrade is set inside these columns. A large Palladian window is centered above the front door at the second floor level, and pedimented dormers with cornice returns are symmetrically arranged along the roof. No documentation has been located on this house, but it is quit possible that it was designed by Ottumwa architect George M. Kerns. There are two houses of similar design in the 700 block, one of which is a known Kerns plan.

The house at 716 N. Court was designed by George M. Kerns in 1914 for Ottumwa lumber yard owner O.D. Tisdale. Although it features the full two story portico of Neo-classical designs, it was described in The American Contractor as being "Colonial," measuring 34' x 40', and was to cost \$15,000. Here the portico covers only the center third of the facade, and it features a fully denticulated pediment above. Dormer windows, with pilasters, pierce the roof. Like the house at 434, this has been covered with modern replacement siding.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	7	Page10	
		_	CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

Next door at 718-722 is a two and one-half story house that was constructed c.1910 as a tri-plex. It was built for Tabitha Fulton who lived next door in the large 1860s brick house. She wanted to leave the big house for her children and family, but wanted a fine place to live nearby. This was basically a luxury apartment building when it was built. It features a full two story portico on the side gable, with full pediment above the Doric columns. A second floor porch, with balustrade, is set inside the columns. No architect has been determined, but it would not be a surprise to find out it was Kerns.

A house representative of the Colonial Revival style is found at 609 N. Court. Built c.1910-15, this two story brick features a gable roof with a symmetrical facade on the side gable. Dormer windows feature cornice returns, echoing the design of the small entry porch. Windows are jack-arched with keystones. A two story solarium on the south elevation is a common detail from this period.

Other houses in the district feature some elements of classical design. For instance, the house at 508 N. Court appears to have had a the two story portico applied to the front of an earlier dwelling. A duplex at 615 from c.1915 features classical columns on the broad entry porch, and had pilastered corners which are no longer visible due to new siding.

The large frame residence at 921 N. Court was built c.1905 for Samuel Houston Harper, a prominent businessman. It contains elements of classical design in the Palladian dormer, and the original classical porch columns. This house is covered with asbestos siding and may have all original details intact.

The early decades of the 20th century also saw the popularity of a simple two story house with entry on the gable end. These houses will usually have a broad porch across the facade, and details will vary. Some will have classical elements, such as the house at 925 N. court, while others will have a heavier type of porch, more in the Craftsman tradition. There are a few good Craftsman/Bungalow designs in the district, such as the house at 637 N. Court with its pseudo—thatched roof, and the small gable entrance bungalow at 809 N. Court.

Most construction along Court Street was complete by 1915. It was not until the late 1930s and post World War II, that new houses were built on several of the empty lots. The period of significance for this district ended with 1915.

Present Appearance of the Court Hill Historic Distict

Court your center of your vision. You actually enter the Court Hill Historic District as you turn due north on Court at 6th Street and the street itself narrows from a right of way of 82' to the more common width of 66'. The district entrance is framed by the Italian villa on the east side, and the Wyman gambrel roof house on the west. The 400 block is the only one in the district which is located on the hill proper. From the 500 block on north the street is on a ridge and the terrain is basically flat, although it falls off to both sides.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	7	Page	
		•	CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

Both sides of the 400 block contain historic homes, representing the styles of the 1880s-1915. Although some have been altered, there is a fairly high level of integrity on both sides of the street. The houses on the east side are built higher into the hillside and must depend on the limestone retaining walls for security. Although the walls run almost the full length of the 400 block, the stonework varies from property to property. Note the irregular shape of the lots on both sides of the street in this block. This was one of the first areas added to the original plat, and the irregular contour of the land probably created this unevenness. The earliest house is the Italian villa from c.1870-75 on the corner, but it is followed by a two story hip roof Italianate house at the top of the hill on the west side. Greatly altered by new siding and porch, this house probably dates to c.1880. On the east side there are three two story frame houses built between c.1890-1915. Each has a broad porch across the facade. The largest house on this side of the street is the two story hip roof apartment house at 424. While this is not architecturally outstanding, it is of interest as an early example of an apartment house in a prosperous neighborhood. Again, the streetcar line may have been a factor in its construction. Immediately north of the apartment house is the Neoclassical residence at 434 from c. 1905. It is the only house on this side of the street which does not have a retaining wall, preferring to have a terraced lawn instead. The east side of the block ends with the present Lincoln School which was constructed in the early 1960s. This is obviously a non-contributing structure, but it is of interest because it illustrates that this area remains a viable residential neighborhood that still needs a neighborhood school.

The west side of the 400 block presents a different picture, with the houses set closer to the street, and no retaining walls. With one exception, the houses along this side appear to date prior to 1900. The south end is anchored by the Wyman house from 1888 which retains a great deal of integrity even with wide siding and the lost of the porch balustrade. It is very possible that the original decorative elements remain under the siding. Next door, the 1888 Elliott house has been greatly altered, but the Jordan house at 419 is an outstanding example of late 19th century design. The same integrity is found on the house at 423. The next house appears to have had Queen Anne elements but these have been lost through remodeling. The duplex at 435 was designed by George Kerns in 1914 and remains fairly unaltered. As noted earlier, the block ends with the altered Italianate at the top of the hill.

The 500 block consists primarily of the houses along the west side. Of the five houses, three are either greatly altered or new, but the remaining two are outstanding. These are the Daum house at 513, and the Johnston house at 531. Both are fine brick examples of High Victorian Italianate design and are considered landmarks in the district. The east side contains three houses. 502 is an early Italianate, 508 dates somewhat later and has a Neo-classical portico, and 510 is a flat roofed house from c.1960 that has the unusual feature of a windowless facade.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		7	_	12
Section nu	mher	,	Page	12
occuon na			I UMU	

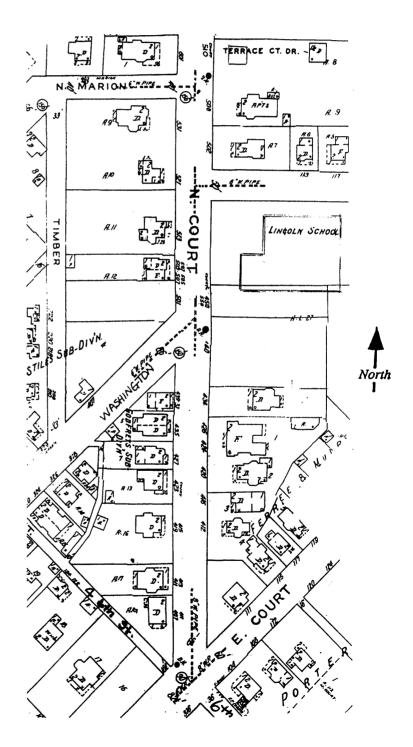
CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Contineud):

400 & 500 Blocks N. Court (From 6th to Marion)

1925 Sanborn Map (updated)



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		7	D	13
Section	number		Page	

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

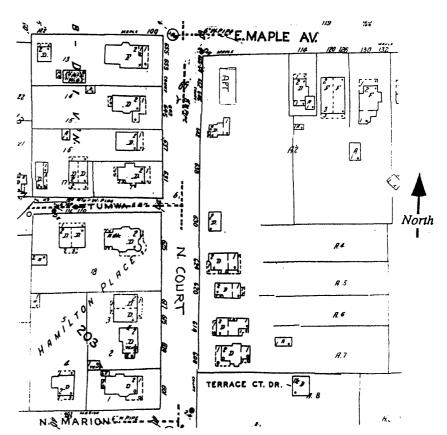
DESCRIPTION (Continued):

The west side of the 600 block contains eight residences, all built between 1892 and 1915, and all retaining a sufficient level of integrity to be considered contributing structures. The block begins with the 1896 Calhoun house which was designed by Fisher and Lowrie, continues with a brick Colonial Revival, a duplex with Neo-classical details, and has the W.H. Cooper Queen Anne at the corner of Ottumwa and Court. The next half of the block contains three frame houses dating between c.1895-1905 and a fine bungalow from c.1915 (with pseudo-thatched roof).

The east side of the 600 block suffers from a definite loss of integrity. The houses are a combination of Italianate (614 is a brick from c.1865, and 622 is a two story frame Italianate from c.1875) and Queen Anne (608 which is stucco with decorative wood shingling, 624 with an altered porch but nice gable and bay elements, and 642 which is almost totally altered). In addition, there is a single example of Craftsman design at 630. A large new apartment building was constructed at the north end of the block (southeast corner of Court and Maple) in 1996. Despite an attempt to create a design which would be sympathetic to the historic neighborhood, it is still rather intrusive as it sets farther back from the street and is built on a lower level than the others.

600 Block N. Court (From Marion to Maple)

1925 Sanborn Map (updated)



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	7	Page14	
		_	CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

The west side of the 700 block is a neighborhood park which is located on top of a c.1950 waterworks reservoir. This reservoir replaced an earlier one which occupied only the north half of the block. It appears that only one house was displaced for this, but no historic photos have been located.

The east side of the 700 block retains an exceptionally high degree of integrity and contains three fine residences. The corner lot at Maple is occupied by a small brick church which was built in the 1950s. This is set at the back of the lot and is not visually intrusive (although the green space in front has recently been paved). The three large residences occupy the rest of the block. The first is the Neo-classical design at 716 N. Court from 1914 by George M. Kerns for O.D. Tisdale. The monumental portico and dormers are the dominant features. Although this has been re-sided, it is a very important house in the district. Next is the tri-plex at 718-22 from c.1910 with its two story portico. This house is visually linked to the "parent" house next door at 724 by curving walks and massive brick piers at the sidewalk entrances. The house at 724 was altered c.1910 by the addition of the broad wrap-around porch and large arched windows on the main floor. However, it retains the original scale and proportion of the late 1860's design. In addition to the brick piers at the sidewalk entrances, there is a set at the driveway entrance to this house as well. These three houses share a common set back and present a strong visual image. They might be considered a mini-district in their own right.

The 800 block is composed primarily of houses that are either "new" or altered on both sides of the street. There is a small Craftsman house on the west side at 809 that deserves mention, and at the north end of the west side we have a small brick commercial building which probably was originally a neighborhood grocery store. However, it has been altered by the application of vertical siding and a wood shingled "mansard" roof. Between the Fulton house at 724 and the J.T. Hackworth house at 822, there are two small houses that are non-contributing due to date of construction. In its present altered condition the Hackworth residence cannot be considered a contributing structure architecturally. But, it was originally built as the home of a prominent businessman and was a significant part of the social element of this neighborhood. Even in its present state it is viewed as important locally.

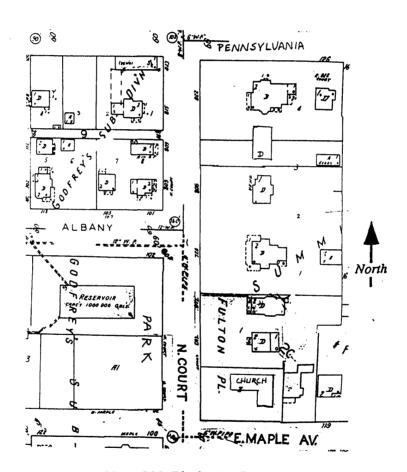
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	7	_	15
Section number		Page	

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):



700 & 800 Blocks N. Court (From Maple to Pennsylvania)

1925 Sanborn Map (updated)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number.	7	Page16	
		•	CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

The 900 block begins at Pennsylvania and runs to Woodland, a distance of almost two regular blocks. The houses along this block date primarily from c.1890–1915, with one major exception, the W.T. Harper house at 908 N. Court. Although it has experienced some changes (remodeled porch, loss of one story of the tower) it retains a high degree of integrity. It is noted as a landmark along Court Street. The other houses along the east side of the block represent primarily Queen Anne and early 20th century designs, with one small post–war house. Porch alterations have been made to several of the houses, but they still retain the scale and proportion of the original design, and none have been totally altered by the application of inappropriate modern siding.

The west side of the 900 block contains several architecturally significant properties. The first is the Queen Anne style house at 905 N. Court which was built for Otto Bremhorst. This is currently receiving some much needed maintenance without altering the integrity. One of three small cottages in the block is located immediately next door. The house at 921 has been altered only by the asbestos siding and removal of original front porch details. It is possible (probable) that all original decorative elements remain beneath this siding and restoration is possible. The next house at 925 is a fine, unaltered gable front house from c.1910 with cornice returns at the gables, and a broad porch with clustered classical columns. Two doors north is a good example of Queen Anne design at 935, and a house at 941 which has characteristics of both of these houses, a more irregular roof than the house at 925, but with a similar broad porch, plus a Palladian window in the gable. The north end of the block contains two smaller houses, one could easily be a mail order cottage, while the other is true bungalow complete with front dormer.

The district is anchored at the north end by the two story house at 1004 which was built for A.H. Hamilton around c.1891. The size, design, and placement, all make this a significant part of the district.

Like many streets in lowa communities, Court Street lost its tree canopy to Dutch elm disease in the 1960s. Unlike many communities, only some of the trees along Court have been replaced, and this certainly provides a different picture of the neighborhood. Another change that has taken place along Court is the conversion of many of the big single family dwellings into apartment houses. This appears to have taken place during World War II when there was a severe housing shortage in Ottumwa due to the Ottunwa Naval Air Station. Some Ottumwans view these houses as "big old apartment houses" while others see them as "fine Victorian homes." In recent years there has been a gradual increase in the number of people buying these houses along Court and restoring them as single family residences. They see and feel the sense of time and place that is reflected by the houses in the Court Hill Historic District.

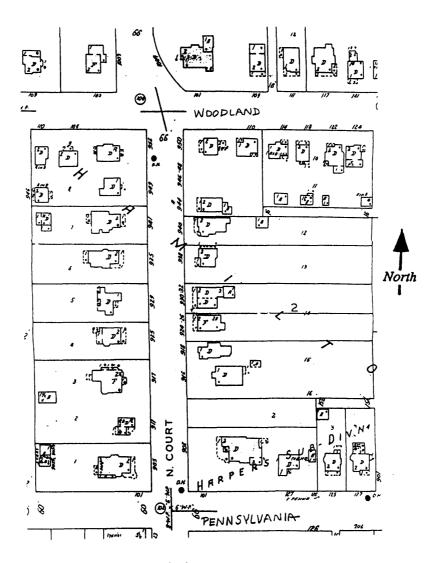
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		7	D	17
Section	number		Page	

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):



900 Block N. Court (From Pennsylvania to Woodland)

1925 Sanborn Map (updated)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number.	7	Page18	
		_	CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

LIST OF COURT HILL RESOURCES BY LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE Key (K), Contributing (C), Non-Contributing (N)

Address	Building Type	K	С	N
N. Court Street (various)	Stone Retaining Walls		Х	
111 E. Court	House		x	
407 N. Court	House		X	
411 N. Court	House			X
412 N. Court	House			X
416 N. Court	House		X	
420 N. Court	House		X	
419 N. Court	House	X		
423 N. Court	House	X		
	Garage		X	
424 N. Court	Apartments		X	
	Garage		X	
427 N. Court	House			X
	Garage		X	
434 N. Court	House		X	
435 N. Court	House ⁻		X	
	Garage		X	
437-39 N. Court	House			X
458 N. Court	School			X
502 N. Court	House		x	
507-09 N. Court	House			X
	Garage			X
508 N. Court	House		X	
510 N. Court	House			X
513 N. Court	House	X		
517 N. Court	House			X
521 N. Court	House			X
531 N. Court	House	X		
601 N. Court	House	X		
608 N. Court	House		X	
	Garage		X	

Χ

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

ection number	Page19			CFN-259-1116
COURT HILL HISTORIC	DISTRICT			
WAPELLO COUNTY, IO				
DESCRIPTION (Continued	d):			
Address	Building Type	K	С	N
609 N. Court	House	X		
•	Garage		X	•
614 N. Court	House		X	
615 N. Court	House		X	
622 N. Court	House		X	
624 N. Court	House		X	
625 N. Court	House	X		
630 N. Court	House	,	X	
631 N. Court	House		X	
637 N. Court	House		X	
642 N. Court	House			X
644 N. Court	New Apartments			X
645 N. Court	House		X	
	Garage		X	
653-55 N. Court	House		X	
Odd Side 700 Block	Park			x
710 N. Court	Church			X
716 N. Court	House		X	
718-22 N. Court	House	X		
724 N. Court	House	X		
	Garage			X
	Brick Posts		X	
803 N. Court	House			x
806 N. Court	House			X
809 N. Court	House		X	
814 N. Court	House			Χ
815 N. Court	House			X
822 N. Court	House		X	
	Garage		X	
823 N. Court	Store			X
905 N. Court	House	X		
908 N. Court	House	X		
911 N. Court	House			X
916 N. Court	House			X

Garage

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

				CFN-259-1
COURT HILL HISTORIC	DISTRICT			
WAPELLO COUNTY, IC				
DESCRIPTION (Continue	ad).			
DESCRIPTION (Continue	eu).			
Address	Building Type	K	С	N
918 N. Court	House		X	
921 N. Court	House		X	
	Garage		X	
924-26 N. Court	House -		X	
925 N. Court	House	X		
929 N. Court	House			X
930-32 N. Court	House		X	
935 N. Court	House	· X		
938 N. Court	House			X
940-42 N. Court	House		X	
	Garage		X	
941 N. Court	House	X		
944 N. Court	House			X
949 N. Court	House		X	
	Garage		X	
950 N. Court	House		X	
951 N. Court	House		X	

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		7	_	21
Section	number		Page	

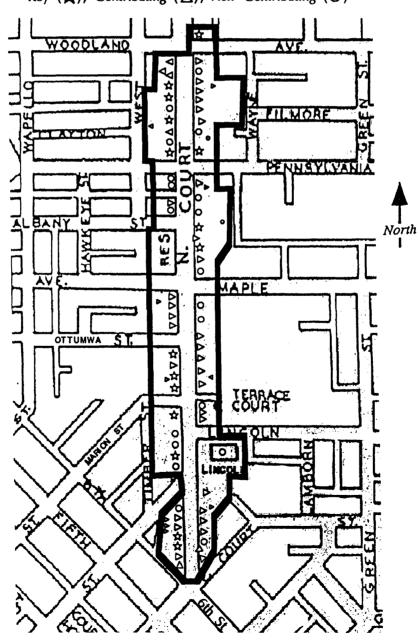
CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

DESCRIPTION (Continued):

MAP SHOWING COURT HILL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND RESOURCES BY LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

Key (☆), Contributing (△), Non-Contributing (○)



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number.	8	Page	
			CFN-259-1

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Court Hill Historic District relates to all three of the historic contexts developed in the 1995 Multiple Property Documentation Form: The Des Moines River & Its Role in the Settlement & Development of Ottumwa; Industry; and, Architecture. It is locally significant under Criterion C as it contains important examples of the popular architectural styles from the period of significance; and, under Criterion A as it illustrates the important role played by the Des Moines River in the physical development of the City of Ottumwa; and, because it served as the home of many of Ottumwa's early industrial and commercial leaders who established this as a prestigious neighborhood. The period of significance begins c.1865 with the first true development of substantial housing in the neighborhood, and ends c.1915 with the completion of major construction. Basically it covers the period between the Civil War and World War I.

The bluffs along the north side of the Des Moines River in Ottumwa are a major landscape feature, and have played a role in community development since the town was established in 1843. The map from the 1875 Andreas Atlas clearly shows the original plat with streets running parallel to the river. It was only as the city expanded away from the river in later years that streets were oriented to the cardinal points. The earliest settlement occurred on the flat along the river bank, a marshy area prone to flooding. Log cabins served as both housing and places of business during the early years. When brick became more readily available in the early 1850s, many decided to build more permanent dwellings. These were constructed farther and farther away from the river, but still on fairly level ground along Second Street. As the small town prospered, local business owners could afford more comfortable housing, and many began building higher, and higher on the hills. The area along 5th Street known as "the bluff" began development in the late 1850s, while development along Court Street began following the Civil War. The hills on the north side of the river became the site of the most prominent residences - a distinction that is still locally perceived today. Some of the streets leading up to the new houses were quite steep (Washington, Market, and Green being good examples). It was a challenge to grade the streets on such a steep hillside, and even more of a challenge to build houses on the hills. In an effort to reduce erosion problems, massive retaining walls of limestone were constructed along the streets and downhill sides of the properties. These stone walls became a very important visual element of Ottumwa's landscape.

Court Street appears to have always been the major north/south transportation route from the river north to the rural areas. It rises from the river to a crest near Washington Street, then continues along a ridge north out of the city, with hills dropping off to either side. In 1844 the Territorial Legislature authorized the establishment of a road from the southern line of Davis county, to the northern line of Wapello County, going through both county seats. Court Street was the route for this road through Ottumwa, with later 19th century maps showing it labeled as "State Road." In the 1930s traffic through town was routed on Jefferson Street from Vanness to the river to alleviate heavy traffic on the more residential Court Street. Today this north/south road through the county is known as U.S. Highway 63.

Court Street not only provided 19th century farmers and travelers with access to the community from the rolling prairies north of town, it also served as the route to the "new"

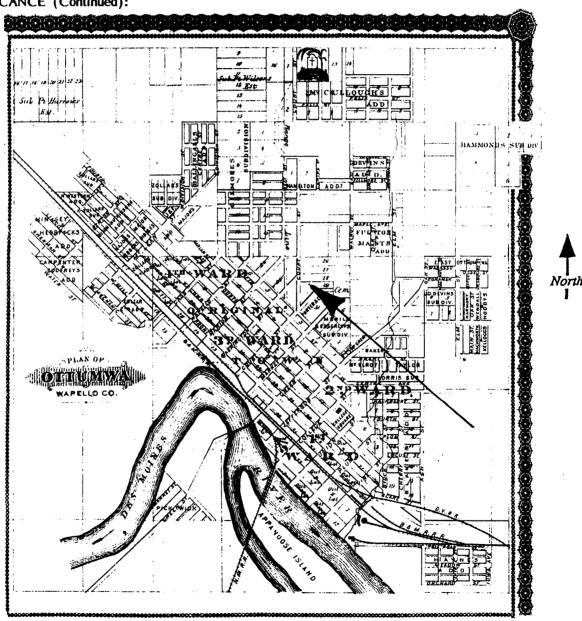
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number rade	Section	number	8	Page	23
---------------------	---------	--------	---	------	----

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):



Map from the 1875 Andreas Atlas
Arrow indicates location of Court Street.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page	
-----------------------	--

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

(established in 1857) Ottumwa Cemetery on the far north edge of town. Although there are no records to prove it, Court Street must have been one of the most heavily traveled streets in town.

With the end of the Civil War Ottumwa was expanding and new homes were being built on the hills above town. The earliest remaining houses along Court appear to date from the period 1865–75 and represent various aspects of the Italianate style. Two are particularly important: the home of Tabitha Fulton at 724 N. Court represents a large brick house from shortly after the Civil War which must have been considered "in the country" at the time of construction. Because the home remained in the Fulton–Nimocks family until the 1960s this house retains an unusually high degree of integrity. The other early house of interest is the Italian Villa at the corner of Court, 6th, and E. Court streets. This was built in the early 1870s for G.A. Roemer and has been a visual landmark since that time because of its location at the corner where Court Street turns north. The Italian Villa style was often used for houses in river communities to provide a tower from which to gain an even better view of the river valley. At one time there were a number of villas in Ottumwa, but this appears to be the only one left.

In the early 1880s four prominent Ottumwa industrialists decided to build large brick "mansions" along Court Street. It is not known exactly who was first, but it is known that Allen Johnston's residence was completed at 531 N. Court in 1882. Designed by architect Edward Clark, this house was an excellent example of High Victorian Italianate design, with the brackets, hoodmolds, bays, and porches common to that style. Allen Johnston was a prolific inventor of nearly 150 "useful inventions." He was responsible for establishing the Johnston Ruffler Company, the Ottumwa Iron Works, and the Johnston & Sharp Manufacturing Company. Johnston's inventions and the money and business acumen of other Ottumwa businessmen were to have long term effects on the city of Ottumwa. The men involved with the Johnston businesses (including J.T. Hackworth and W.T. Harper) were later to sit on the board of directors of almost every major business and industry in the community.

Just south of the Johnston house was a residence built for W.R. Daum. In many ways it is similar to Johnston's but smaller in scale. The High Victorian Italianate structure was trimmed in cream-colored brick rather than limestone. W.R. Daum organized a company in 1888 to build an electric street railway and electric light and steam-heating system. One of the areas to profit most from his new business was the Court Hill neighborhood.

Two of Johnston's associates, J.T. Hackworth and W.T. Harper built their brick "mansions' at the corner of Court and Pennsylvania. Harper's reflects the same High Victorian Italianate style used for the Johnston and Daum houses, but with some variations. The architect for the Harper house was Ernst Koch. The Hackworth house exhibits a different level of sophistication, and was probably designed by an architect from outside the community.

These four brick houses really established Court Street as a prestigious neighborhood and set the standard for other residences to follow.

A new form of transportation was introduced to Court Street in 1887 with the horse-drawn streetcar. This traveled from Market Street in downtown Ottumwa, north on Court to the Ottumwa

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 25

CFN-259-1116

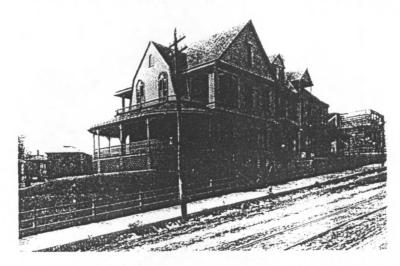
COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

Cemetery, and returned. It was soon realized that two small mules were not capable of pulling the car up Court Hill by themselves, and an extra animal was needed between the courthouse and the Johnston residence. In 1889 the horse-drawn cars gave way to progress, when the first electric streetcar was introduced on Thanksgiving Day. With the electric cars, the trip from the cemetery to downtown took only 10 minutes, and the cars ran on a regular 20 minute schedule from 6:30 A.M. to 11:30 P.M.

The availability of the streetcars was probably an important consideration to many people when they were deciding where to build their new home. The decade following the introduction of the electric streetcars was a period of great growth for the Court Hill neighborhood. Another important step in the development of modern transportation was the laying of brick paving. In 1890 the City of Ottumwa undertook a massive paving project. Among the streets paved that year was Court, from 2nd to 6th streets. The following year, the summer of 1891, Court was paved all the way from 6th to Woodland, an area of six blocks which included all of the large residences already noted. The paving was needed because of the heavy traffic on Court, but probably was influenced by the property owners as well.

A number of historic photographs of the neighborhood have been located, one of the most interesting being of the W.C. Wyman house. This photograph from Ottumwa 1889 Illustrated shows



the house with streetcar tracks leading up the hill, but Court has not yet been paved. Behind the Wyman house can be seen the Elliott house (both of which were built in 1888) and the framing of the J.C. Jordan house. Since the tracks were in place the photograph was taken after Thanksgiving Day 1889, and since the street was not paved, it was taken before the summer of 1891. This dates the construction of the Jordan house to the months in between the two events.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	8	Page _	26	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

In addition to providing the electric streetcar line, Daum's company also provided steam heat. For many years (as late as 1942) steam heat was available in Ottumwa through a central system. The main steam pipes ran up the middle of the Court Street hill, thus ensuring that the street never froze over. Court was the only street in town that you could always get up in the winter.

Following the paving of Court, residential construction "boomed" with the majority of the houses in the historic district built in the years between 1890 and 1915. These included a number of large Queen Anne style houses such as the W.H. Cooper house at 625, and the Otto Bremhorst house at 905. The J.W. Calhoun house at 601 N. Court is an unaltered example of an architect designed house from 1896. Fisher and Lowrie of Omaha designed this about the same time they designed the C.O. Taylor residence in the 5th Street Bluff Historic District. Cooper, Bremhorst, and Calhoun were all prominent businessmen who chose to live along the streetcar line, in what they considered to be a "fine residential neighborhood.

A number of other houses with Queen Anne elements were constructed along Court, giving way c.1905 to houses with more Neo-classical details. Several of these houses were designed by Ottumwa architect George M. Kerns (who was also responsible for the gateway and chapel at the Ottumwa Cemetery, the buildings at the Ottumwa Country Club, and several properties in the 5th Street Bluff district). The houses at 434 N. Court, 716 (by Kerns), and 718–22, are all good examples of Neo-classical design with monumental porticos. Other houses along Court had details of the style applied to porches and gable ends. By c.1910–15 most of the houses along Court were being built in the more "modern" styles such as the front gable with broad porch, or the Craftsman/Bungalows. 925 N. Court is a fine example of the first, while 637 is a good example of the second. With the approach of World War I, construction along this section of Court, the area known as "Court Hill," was basically complete.

A number of the houses along Court retain a high level of integrity, while others have been altered over the years. There has been little demolition of historic houses, and almost no new construction. The conversion of many to multi-family housing during World War II had a major impact on the integrity. Recent years have seen a return to single family status for several of the houses, with a growing awareness of Ottumwa's heritage. On Court Street, the stone retaining walls still line the 400 block, it is still a major north/south route for the city bus line, and Lincoln School continues to be filled with neighborhood children. It is a vital residential neighborhood. 69% of the resources in the Court Hill Historic District are considered contributing to the district, with most of the non-contributing being garages, or resources built after the period of significance. The district meets the registration requirements and integrity considerations established in Section F of the Multiple Property Documentation Form for historic districts in the City of Ottumwa. Locally Court Hill is perceived as an area of large 19th century residences, an area deserving of preservation.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	9	Page	
		•	CEN-259

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Abstracts of Title were provided by a number of the residents.

American Contractor. Vol 29 (1908), Vol 34 (1913) through Vol 39 (1918), weekly.

Andreas, A.T. <u>Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa</u>. Chicago: Andreas Atlas Co., 1875.

Architects and Builders File, State Historical Society of Iowa, Community Programs Bureau, Des Moines, IA

Atlas, City of Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa. No publisher given, 1939

Evans, Samuel B. History of Wapello County, Iowa. Chicago: Biographical Publishing Co., 1901.

Flower, Fred G. Descriptive Illustrated Review of Ottumwa, Iowa. Ottumwa, IA: 1890.

History of Wapello County, Iowa Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1878.

Meagher, Glen B. and Munsell, Harry B. Ottumwa Yesterday and Today. Ottumwa, IA: Ottumwa Stamp Works, 1923 (Diamond Jubilee).

Ottumwa '98, '99, 1900. No publisher, no date.

Ottumwa 1900. Ottumwa, IA: A.G. Wallace, Art Printer for Christian Endeavors Union, 1900.

Ottumwa City Directory. Various publishers, 1875 to 1950.

Ottumwa Daily Democrat Souvenir of the 2nd Regiment Encampment, I.N.G. Ottumwa, IA: July 25-August 1, 1896. (Compiled by Hamilton K. Watkins).

Ottumwa 1889 Illustrated. No publisher given.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Wapello County, Iowa. Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1887.

<u>Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps</u>. Chicago: Sanborn Map Co., 1885, 1891, 1897, 1902, 1909, 1917, 1925, 1925 updated.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	9	Page	
			CFN-259-1

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

BIBLIOGRAPHY (Continued):

Schroder, Alan M. (Comp.) <u>Directory of 19th Century Iowa Architects</u>. Iowa History Sources No. 3. Iowa City, IA: Iowa State Historical Department, Division of the State Historical Society, 1982.

Standard Atlas of Wapello County, Iowa. Chicago: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1908.

Taylor, James C. Ottumwa: One Hundred Years a City. Ottumwa, IA: James C. Taylor & the Ottumwa Chamber of Commerce, 1948.

Waterman, H.L. History of Wapello County, Iowa Chicago: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1914, 2 Vol.

Newspapers

Ottumwa Courier (variations: DeMoine Courier, Ottumwa Weekly Courier, Ottumwa Daily Courier). 1854 to 1950.

Ottumwa Courier Annual Trade Edition, 1893.

Ottumwa Daily Democrat (variations: Evening Democrat, Morning Democrat). 1881-1904.

Ottumwa Democrat. 1871-1875.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	<u> 10</u> Page <u>29</u>	_
		CFN

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

GEOGRAPHIC DATA:

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	549720	4542000
В	15	549760	4542000
C	15	549760	4541080
D	15	549720	4541020
E	15	549680	4541080
F	15	549680	4541940
C	15	549720	4541940

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	10	Page	
			CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

A parcel of land including all properties facing North Court Street between 6th Street and Woodland Avenue. This parcel will include properties with the following addresses: 111 E. Court, 407 through 951 N. Court, plus the property at 1004 N. Court, located the northeast corner of Court Street and Woodland Avenue. The rear boundaries will be the present (1997) lot lines for each of the above named properties.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

This is the geographic area of Ottumwa that has historically been known as "Court Hill." It specifically includes the properties which abut the portion of Court Street that was brick paved the summer of 1891.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

ection number Photo Page 31	

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

PHOTOGRAPHS:

35 of the 39 photographs of the historic district were taken by Molly Myers Naumann for the Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission during March & April 1997. The other 5 were taken during the Intensive Level Architectural & Historical Survey conducted in 1992–93. These were carefully selected to provide the best possible view of the resource, and the consultant verifies that the 1992–93 photographs provide an accurate picture of the resources today. ** identifies the 1992–93 photographs. All negatives are located in the files of the State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI), Community Programs Bureau, Des Moines, IA.

- #1 Street view looking N up Court Street hill from 6th Street. (Southern boundary of district.)
- #2 111 E. Court, looking NE.
- #3 Streetscape of the east side of the 400 block of N. Court, looking NE. **
- #4 416, 420, and 424 N. Court, looking NE.
- #5 434 N. Court, looking ENE. **
- #6 Lincoln School, 458 N. Court, looking SE.
- #7 407 N. Court, looking NW, with west side of the 400 block in background.
- #8 419 N. Court, looking NW. **
- #9 423 N. Court, looking W.
- #10 Streetscape of the west side of the 400 block of N. Court, looking SW from Washington.
- #11 Streetscape of the west side of the 500 block of N. Court, looking NNW. **
- #12 West side of 500 block showing 513 and 531 N. Court, looking NW.
- #13 531 and 601 N. Court, looking WNW.
- #14 502, 508, and part of 510 N. Court, looking NE.
- #15 Streetscape of west side of 600 block with 601 N. Court in foreground, looking NW.
- #16 609 and 615 N. Court, looking NW.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo Page 32

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

PHOTOGRAPHS (Continued):

- #17 625 N. Court, looking NW.
- #18 Streetscape of west half of 600 block (631, 637, 645), looking NW.
- #19 Streetscape of west side of the 600 block with 653 in foreground, looking SW.
- #20 Streetscape of east side of the 600 block, 608 and 614 in foreground, looking NE.
- #21 Streetscape of east side of the 600 block, 642 & 644, looking NE toward Maple St.
- #22 West side of the 700 block (Hillcrest Park), looking NW.
- #23 East side of 700 block showing church at 710, and part of 716, looking NE.
- #24 East side of 700 block, 716, 718-22, and 724, looking NE.
- #25 716 N. Court, looking E. **
- #26 718-22 and 724 N. Court, looking ENE.
- #27 East side of 800 block, 806, 814, and 822 N. Court, looking NE.
- #28 West side of 800 block, 803 and 809 N. Court, looking NW.
- #29 West side of 800 block, 815 and 823 N. Court, looking NW.
- #30 Intersection of Court and Pennsylvania, 822 and 908 N. Court, looking NE.
- #31 908 N. Court, looking NE.
- #32 East side of 900 block looking NE, 916 through 942 N. Court, looking NE.
- #33 East side of 900 block, 950 and 944 N. Court, looking SE from Woodland.
- #34 905 N. Court, with 911 & 921 in background, looking NW.
- #35 West side of 900 block with 921 in foreground, looking NW.
- #36 925 N. Court, looking NW.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo Page _ CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

PHOTOGRAPHS (Continued):

935 and 941 N. Court, looking WNW. #37

West side of 900 block N. Court, looking SW from Woodland. #38

1004 N. Court (NE corner Court and Woodland), looking NE. (Northern boundary of #39 district.)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Owners Page 34

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS

Donald/Susan Boer 722 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Dorothy Byers 643-645 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Kevin/Linda Carroll 615 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

James/Ramona Colvin 730 N. Foster Ave. (for 410 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Linda Downing 631 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Kevin/Bethany Falkner 620 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Roy Forgy 1015 N. Court (for 950 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501 John/Ruth Arnold 716 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Larry/Cheryl Carnahan 637 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Wilbur/Shirley Chapman 932 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

GL DeLapp 710 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Kenneth Kent 2702 N. Court (for 510 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Floyd/Myrtle Toomey 10473 US Hwy 34 (for 624 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Roger/Theresa Frimml 916 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501 James/Lora Fiscella 609 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Randel Allee

423 N. Court

Gene Chisman

402 Elmdale

Steve Siegel

411 N. Court

806 N. Court

Ottumwa IA 52501

Ottumwa IA 52501

James/Rose Mary Lang

935 N. Court

Ottumwa IA 52501

Rex/Martha Larson

Ottumwa IA 52501

(for 924 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Scott Fulton 437 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Bruce Wiesner (for 435 N. Court) C/O Jean Sheedy REMAX 2815 N. Court Ottumwa, IA 52501

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Owners Page 35

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA
LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS (Continued)

James/Dawn Gauld 601 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Marcella Gettings 747 Riverside Lane (for 424 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

City Of Ottumwa Water Works (for 700 N. Court) Ottumwa, IA 52501

Doris Harriman 204 E. Pennsylvania (Lot 4 - vacant lot) Ottumwa IA 52501

Richard/Marj. Hastings P.O. Box 1258 (for 924 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Richard/Kim Heckart 911 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Ronnie/Delores Hills 427 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Margaret/Wendell Hunt 118 Bryan Road (for 105 E. Woodland) Ottumwa IA 52501 Paul Gettings 747 Riverside Lane (for 905 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Hans Wilz 121 E. Pennsylvania (for 815 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

John/Olga Woudenberg P.O. Box 1232 (for 625 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Doris Harriman 204 E. Pennsylvnania (for 508 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

John/Mimmie Hawley 809 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Mary Helgerson 434 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Karl/Mary Hoff 724 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Michael Hunter 1332 N. Elm (for 929 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501 Paul/Marcella Gettings 747 Riverside Lane (for 608 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Hans Wilz 121 E. Pennsylvania (for 823-825 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

John Woudenberg, Jr. 122 W. Fifth (for 803 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Doris Harriman 204 E. Pennsylvania (Lot 5 - vacant lot) Ottumwa IA 52501

Lena Hillenga 502 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Dwight Humeston 951 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Nordyk Inc. RR3 (for 416 N. Court) Pella IA 50219

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Owners Page 36

CFN-259-1116

COURT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT WAPELLO COUNTY, IOWA

LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS (Continued)

Floyd/Victoria Line 642 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501 Kevin McGinity 925 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Lise McTaggart 517 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Jake/Doris Mein 315 Bryan Road (for 938 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Margueritte Swensgaard 521 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501 Steven Morgan 918 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Nellie Nicholson 941 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501 John/Martha Olinger 419 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Paula/Betty Parrott 630 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

McClellan Partners 104 Elmdale (for 822 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501 Mark/Mary Welch P.O. Box 1562 (for 513 N. Court) Fairfield IA 52556

Mary Pieper 207 E. Maple Ave. (vacant lot N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Mary Pieper 207 E. Maple Ave. (for 509 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Charles/Naomi Poncy 653 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501 H & K Properties P.O. Box 932 (for 644 N. Court) Fairfield IA 52556

Ottumwa Ventures 1208 Hutchinson Ave. (for 940 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Harvey Ware 531 N. Court (for vacant lot) Ottumwa IA 52501

Harvey/Dorothy Ware 531 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Rutledge Rentals P.O. Box 247 Ottumwa IA 52501 Rutledge Rentals P.O. Box 247 (for 614 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

John Wells 420 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Rutledge Rentals P.O. Box 247 (for 917 N. Court) Ottumwa IA 52501

Ottumwa Community Schools ATTN: Dr. Joseph Scalzo (For Lincoln School) 322 McCarroll Drive Ottumwa, IA 52501 Shawn Williamson 814 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501

Dean/Kelly Williams 944 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501 Calvary Open Bible Church 710 N. Court Otumwa, IA 52501 Sara Seim 949 N. Court Ottumwa IA 52501