

ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORICAL SURVEY

DAVENPORT, IOWA

The Architects Office

Wehner, Nowysz, Pottschull and Pfiffner

501 clay building, Iowa city, Iowa 52240

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
IOWA DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SITE # 82-10-7-E427 MAP # 4

HIST. DIST. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME Potter-Williams House H C

ADDRESS 427 E. 7th St.

LEGAL DES. LeClaire's 5th' 70 6 N. 80' of  
SUB-DIVISION BLOCK PARCEL SUB-PARCEL

UTM: 15 710218.60 451998.60 ACREAGE -1 ZONE R-6M  
EASTING NORTHING

OWNER Gary L. Pearson & Wife

210 S. Rolff St., Davenport, IA 52802

TITLE H. William A. Ford  
(IF DIFF)

PHOTO

MAP

SITE SHEET

DESCRIPTION

FORM 3-story, T-plan, w/gable roof & 3-story porch in re-entrant angle CONST. DATE c. 1872-73

MATERIALS Stone ground floor, brick upper stories ARCH STYLE Vernac. Greek Revival

FENESTRATION Rectangular (very tall on 2nd story) beneath stone slab lintels

DIST. FEATURES Wide molded gable-end frieze

ALTERATIONS Current porches c. 1900; Craftsman-type hood over west entrance

SITE & RELATED STR: Raised corner lot

STATEMENT

This building is a significant variation on the Greek Revival style as expressed by local builders. The building is neither pure style (only a handful of local pure Greek Revival buildings are extant) nor typical of the vernacular expression of this style common throughout the city (see #8 J, p.1). Rather, this example is an adaptation of the Greek Revival style to the unusual topography of the site. Additionally, this building is a dominant feature in an area characterized by small to medium sized, principally wood frame houses. A late example of the Vernacular Greek Revival, it features battered stone walls at the ground floor, with brick above, and stone slab lintels and influences from the Italianate, a style that achieved great popularity in Davenport during and just after the Civil War. The use of a single, narrow molding strip to suggest a frieze is a decorative touch found on a number of other Greek Revival houses in the City.

SOURCES

ARCHITECTURE

**SIGNIFICANCE**

HISTORY

**DESCRIPTION**

This house was probably built in 1872-73 by Waldó M. Potter-who was the editor of the Davenport Gazette. Alexander F. Williams bought the house in 1878 and his family resided here until the 1890's. Williams was a partner in the retail/wholesale hardware firm "Seig and Williams." After an early career in dry goods sales, Williams established himself in hardware sales. In 1869Seig and Williams was formed to sell heavy hardware and Williams handled buying for the firm.

**SOURCES**

City Directories 1873, 1880, 1885-86, 1887, 1888-89, 1890-91, 1892-93, 1900.  
 Downer, Harry E., History of Davenport and Scott County, Iowa, Vol. II, Chicago: S.J. Clark Publishing Co., 1910, pp. 74-79.  
 Scott County Auditor's Deed Transfer Books, Vol. 4:108, 10:37.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN: TODD R. MOZINGO | HISTORIAN: MARLYS SVENDSEN -ROESLER | SURVEY COMP 1980

**EVALUATION**

**ARCHITECTURAL**

I. ARCH. EVALUATION Good  
 II. ENVIR. STATURE Incident  
 III. INT. OF CONTEXT Fair  
 IV. INT. OF FABRIC Good

**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

NAT.  STATE  LOCAL  N. ELIG.

**HISTORICAL**

**I. THEME(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

A. PRIMARY \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. SECONDARY \_\_\_\_\_

**II. LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

NAT.  STATE  LOCAL

**III. N.R.H.P**

ELIGIBLE  NOT ELIGIBLE

**HISTORIC DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION**

A.  B.  C

**FOR DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION USE ONLY**

1. DATE RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

2. DATE OF STAFF EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_

	A. ARCHTECTURAL	B. HISTORICAL
ELIGIBLE FOR N.R.H.P.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NOT ELIGIBLE FOR N.R.H.P.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**3. N.R.H.P. ACTION**

A. STATE REVIEW COMM. APP.  DISAPP.  TABLED  DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. FEDERAL REVIEW APP.  DISAPP.  TABLED  DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**4. D.H.P. SOURCES**

<input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/> DET. OF ELIGIBILITY
<input type="checkbox"/> W'SHIELD SURVEY	<input type="checkbox"/> R. & C. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> N.R.H.P.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DAVENPORT A/H SURVEY
<input type="checkbox"/> GRANT _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

**5. SUBJECT TRACES**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**6 PHOTO**

82-10-1690,6  
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