

PH0688339

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	NOV 20 1978
DATE ENTERED	DEC 29 1978

**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

Max Petersen House

AND/OR COMMON

Petersen Mansion

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1607 W. 12th Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Iowa

CODE

Scott COUNTY

CODE
163

3 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
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Marycrest College ✓

STREET & NUMBER

1607 W. 12th Street

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52804

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Scott County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Petersen house was built in 1888. It is 2½ stories, with overall dimensions of 94' x 65'. The front part of the house, containing the main living spaces, is more or less square, and is joined to a rear wing narrower and lower than the front. Exterior walls are of brick, on a rock-faced stone foundation. The main roof is a high hip with large deck and a single remaining brick chimney. There are projecting gable ends on the east and west sides, a conical-roofed turret at the SW corner, a projecting rectangular corner bay with hipped roof above a second-story porch on the southeast, and a square tower in the center of the front (south) facade with a high peaked roof. One-story porches, with flat roofs supported by square brick piers, are found on the front and the east side. These porches, which may be early additions, are enclosed in glass (with stained-glass transoms); that on the front (only partially enclosed) forms a sun-room; that on the east side a breakfast room.

The treatment of the walls is quite plain. Three stone stringcourses, set flush with the walls, run continuously around the house (with the exception of the rear wing). A wide stringcourse runs at a level where it engages the lintels of the first floor windows. A narrow stringcourse, which engages the sills of the second floor windows, is found above this, and a second wide stringcourse runs directly below the cornice and engages the lintels of the second floor windows. These stringcourses impart a sense of cohesion, of continuous surface, to the house, and counter the chaotic effect of the many asymmetrically-placed projections. The windows, which are exceptionally tall and narrow, are without enframingent; those of the first floor, taller than those of the second, feature stained-glass transom panels.

The cornice, narrow and projecting only slightly, features somewhat overscaled dentils. Below the cornice is a downward extension of the roof, a sort of vestigial mansard, which occupies the zone between the cornice and the uppermost stringcourse. Elaborate detail is concentrated at only a few points: the second floor porch of the southeast corner bay, with its turned Eastlake posts and punched frieze, and the wall dormer of the front tower, with its elaborate projecting sill and top-heavy triangular pediment.

The main entrance (south facade) opens into a hall with parlors to either side. The hall gives on to a large living hall in the center of the house, with staircase to the left and a corner fireplace. Off the living hall are the library (north) and dining room with attached breakfast room (east), and kitchen (northeast corner). This arrangement obtains on the second floor as well, where three bedrooms are grouped around an upper "sitting hall". There are 8 fireplaces, most of which retain original mantels. Those of the first floor are mostly marble and columned. Those of the second floor are of wood, bracketed and shelved in the aesthetic mode, with tile facings and mirrored overmantels. Early wallpaper remains intact in several of the downstairs rooms; the southeast parlor, for example, still features a deep, floral frieze and the hall still retains an early embossed paper (now painted over). The dining room still has an elaborate Renaissance Revival sideboard and an "etagere" mantelpiece with a round-arched mirror above the opening. Early light fixtures also remain, most notably a ceiling fixture in the dining room with a leaded glass shade.

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

1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

F.G. Clausen

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Petersen house is a superb example of a monumental residence in the Queen Anne style. Like many of the houses in this style constructed of masonry, it is somber and dignified, rather than playful or exuberant (qualities more often achieved in Queen Anne houses of frame construction). It is relatively restrained, elaboration being confined to a few significant points -- the second floor porch of the southeast corner and the tower over the front entrance. The homogeneous treatment of the facades lends a nice sense of unity to a house broken up by various projections.

The house was designed for Max Petersen by F.G. Clausen, an architect in Davenport, who probably began his practice in the late 1880's. Working alone at first, Clausen later had partnerships with Willaim Cowe, Park Burrows and Walter Kruse, as well as with his son. Although Clausen worked several places in eastern Iowa (Lyons, Maquoketa, and marengo, for example), his Davenport commissions were most numerous, and included a wide range of industrial and commercial, as well as residential, designs.

Max Petersen was a son of J.H.C. Petersen, a Danish immigrant who came to Davenport in the early 1860's. In 1862 he established an auction house with Henry Abel. Ten years later, Petersen bought out his partner and began a small retail store. This store, successively enlarged and expanded over the years, became a major Davenport enterprise. After J.H.C.'s retirement in 1892, the firm was taken over by his sons, Max being the senior of the three. That year, too, F.G. Clausen designed a new building for J.H.C. Petersen's Sons at the corner of Pleasant and Main Street in Davenport. The firm, still an important one in eastern Iowa, is known as Petersen-Harned-Von Maur.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jurkovich, Veronica, "The Petersens of Davenport", Marycrest Quarterly, June, 1954.
 "Home for Sisters of Humility at Marycrest College", Davenport Times, 16 September 1939
 "Index of Clausen and Clausen Jobs" (typescript) from files of Charles Richardson and Associates, Davenport, Iowa.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Davenport East, Iowa -- 111.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 700300 4600240
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Structure is located in a quadrangle of buildings belonging to Marycrest College, Davenport, 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

November 1978

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

LOCAL X

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

Admin H. [Signature]

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

11/13/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature]

DATE

12/29/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: William H. [Signature] 12-29-78

DATE

CHECK OR SIGNATURE