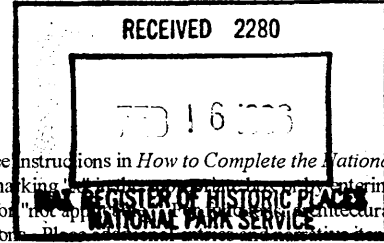


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**United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service**



**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" for "yes" and "N/A" for "not applicable." For architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Maybury-McPherson House  
other names/site number AP04-127

**2. Location**

street & number 502 East Fourth Street n/a not for publication  
city or town Neligh n/a vicinity  
state Nebraska code NE county Antelope code 003 zip code 68756-1513

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Walter Sumner 2/5/96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society-SHPO  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

NA  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NA  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other (explain:)

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper  
Entered in the National Register

Date of Action  
3/1/96

Maybury-McPherson House  
Name of Property

Antelope County, Nebraska  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- Public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register  
0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC, single dwelling  
DOMESTIC, secondary structure  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC, single dwelling  
DOMESTIC, secondary structure  
DOMESTIC, secondary structure  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
LATE VICTORIAN  
Queen Anne  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation BRICK  
walls WOOD: weatherboard  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof ASPHALT  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

Maybury-McPherson House Antelope County, Nebraska  
Name of Property County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register)

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

**A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

ARCHITECTURE

**B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

**Period of Significance**

**C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics 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 individual distinction.

1887 - 1912

**D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Significant Dates**

1887, 1896,  
1898, 1912

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

**Cultural Affiliation**

**B** removed from its original location.

N/A

**C** a birthplace or grave.

**D** a cemetery.

**E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure

**Architect/Builder**

**F** a commemorative property.

Unknown

**G** less than 50 years of age achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous Documentation on File (NPS):**

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository:

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_



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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 1 Maybury-McPherson House, Antelope County, Nebraska

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Description

The Maybury-McPherson House is a one-and-one half story wood frame residence located in Neligh, NE (1990 pop. 1,742), in the northeastern part of the state. Originally constructed as a relatively simple Queen Anne structure by John Maybury in 1887, the residence is located on a corner lot in the southeastern portion of Neligh. The neighborhood consists of modest late 19th and early 20th century residences on tree-lined grid-pattern streets. The Maybury-McPherson House has a north-south orientation, with the primary facade facing south. The house is 63'x 57' on a lot that measures less than one acre. This nomination includes a one story, 21'x30' frame garage located thirty-nine feet east of the residence. The southern facade of the garage is flush with the northern facade of the house. This nomination also includes a non-contributing 8'x10' c.1980 metal shed adjacent to and set back from the garage. The house is fronted and flanked by a large yard on the south and west sides. Two large pine trees are located in the southwestern quadrant of the front yard. A row of shrubbery bounds the yard on the east, west and south sides. The rear of the house comes within a very few feet of the northern property line.

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The Maybury-McPherson House has a U-shaped plan as viewed from the primary facade. The U is formed by a deeply recessed central entry flanked on the east and west by two relatively large wings. The recessed entry creates a small porch. The porch has typical Queen Anne spindled railings. The porch was reconstructed by the current owners in 1993, using historic photographs as a basis for the reconstruction. The southern facades of the wings terminate in window bays. Each bay has four, one-over-one<sup>1</sup> double hung windows: two in front and one on each side. The bays are trimmed with decorative brackets and modest dentils. The gable ends of the wings are covered with fish-scale shingles, as are the bay-roofs and the porch roof over the entranceway. Flattened ovoid windows that open into the upper half-story are located in the gable end of each wing above the window bays. The entry door is flanked by two large windows that sport decorative glass transoms.

The west wing has an entryway off the porch that was added, probably in either 1896 or 1898, when a number of significant alterations were made to the structure by Dr. Daniel McPherson, a prominent local dentist. These alterations, done in classic Queen Anne style, were

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<sup>1</sup>Hereinafter designated as 1\1, 2\2 etc.

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Section 7 Page 2 Maybury-McPherson House, Antelope County, Nebraska

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added to create more space in the home. The alterations also served to “upgrade” the residence of a prominent citizen. The central part of the roof was raised and a cupola added. The cupola has three small 1/1 double hung windows, small decorative brackets at the cap-line and is topped by asphalt shingles and a wooden finial. The sides and bottom of the cupola are trimmed with wood fish-scale shingles. Space created by raising the roof converted the east wing upper floor into two bedrooms, and the central portion of the upper half story into a single bedroom. The west wing upper floor is now a large utility room.

The west facade of the west wing has two 1\1 double hung windows on the first floor. When the roof was raised, a gable was created on the west facade that is highlighted by a single 1/1 double-hung window. The east facade of the east wing has a relatively large window bay with a single multi-light window on the first floor: the top tier of three lights in this window are decorative glass. The bay is topped by a shingled window hood and decorative brackets. The roof line over the rear portion of the structure is flat with mansard elements and modest bracketing. This part of the house was added to the residence during its period of significance; most likely in 1896 or 1898.

The interior of the Maybury-McPherson House opens into a large vestibule with a bedroom and dining room occupying the east wing (to the visitor’s right), and a large living room and bathroom in the west wing. The vestibule area leads directly to four smaller rooms, one of which opens onto a stair landing. The kitchen is located through the dining room on the east side. The rooms are trimmed with intricately carved oak woodwork. The first-floor plan is basically original, with the exception of the bathroom located off the original living room. Some interior decorative woodwork, especially around the stairway, was probably added as part of the McPherson alterations.

The garage is a c.1912 gable-roofed frame building, with an open-plan interior and loft. The east and west facades have windows which have been boarded. The south facade is dominated by a large double wooden door. The gable ends are covered with wood, fish-scale shingles which match the decorative shingles on the residence. The adjacent, non-contributing small metal shed is west of and slightly set back from the garage.

The original house built by John Maybury was a simple, yet easily recognizable Queen Anne structure. The most significant exterior elements from this period are extant (basic plan, siting, setting, fenestration, materials, much of the detailing), as are the first floor interior floor

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Section 7 Page 3 Maybury-McPherson House, Antelope County, Nebraska

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plan and woodwork. Dr. McPherson's contribution to the significance of this structure was to raise the roof, and to introduce additional Queen Anne elements and ornamentation to the structure (cupola, west gable, dentils and brackets). Although exact dates of McPherson's alterations are unclear, it is apparent that the changes were done during the height of popularity of the Queen Anne style, 1880-1910<sup>1</sup>. The garage, constructed c. 1912, was built in a manner complementary to the residence. The integrity of the Maybury-McPherson House is outstanding. Much of the building's excellent physical condition is due to the current owners, who have maintained the house and, where necessary, rehabilitated it using in-kind materials, and historic photographs as a guide.

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<sup>1</sup>McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses (New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1984) P. 263.

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Section 8 Page 1 Maybury-McPherson House, Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska

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**Section 8 - Statement of Significance**

The Maybury-McPherson House is architecturally significant at the local level due to its embodiment of a property originally built in a simplified Queen Anne style, a sub-type of Late Victorian architecture. The building was consequently altered using Queen Anne elements. These alterations contribute to the significance of the Maybury-McPherson House. The Maybury-McPherson House is an outstanding local example of the Queen Anne style, and exhibits characteristics of the type. The house was originally constructed in 1887, with significant alterations occurring within the period of significance, 1887-1912.

In 1990, the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey recognized this property as eligible for listing on the National Register as an excellent example of its architectural style. This nomination also includes a contributing outbuilding, a 21'x30' garage, constructed c. 1912 in a manner complementary to the main building's architecture. One non-contributing c.1980 8'x10' metal shed is also part of this nomination. The Maybury-McPherson house is the best known early example of Queen Anne architecture in Neligh.

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Antelope County (1990 pop. 7,965)<sup>1</sup> is located in the northeastern part of Nebraska. Euro-American settlement did not begin in the area that was to become Antelope County until shortly after statehood in 1867. Settlement was relatively rapid after statehood, and the County was organized in 1871. The 1880 Antelope County census revealed a population of just under four thousand, while the 1890 population figure more than doubled to nearly 10,400. These figures indicate the rapidity of settlement, relative prosperity of the area, and the relative age of the Maybury-McPherson House .

The majority of settlement in Antelope County took place along the Elkhorn River. Neligh, the largest town (1990 pop. 1,742) and county seat, is located on the Elkhorn in the south-central part of the county. John D. Neligh purchased the land for the town site, platted it in 1873, and was rewarded by having the village named after him. Neligh's success was attributable

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<sup>1</sup> All census information is from the Clerk of the Legislature, Nebraska Blue Book 1994-95, pp. 808 & 818.



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Section 8 Page 2 Maybury-McPherson House, Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska

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primarily to a grist mill which opened in 1874.<sup>1</sup> The town grew rapidly after the mill opened, creating opportunities for the creation of wealth and the influx of professional and business people. The town's success also contributed to its selection as county seat in 1883, further advancing the village's opportunity for growth and development.

John Maybury purchased corner lots 7-9 in 1887<sup>2</sup>. According to the May 20, 1887 Neligh Leader, Mr. Maybury began construction of the house now known as the Maybury-McPherson house on these lots. An increase in the value of the property at this time is confirmed by tax records, and indicate construction of a home. Little is known about Mr. Maybury during this part of his life. Another Leader article (Dec. 30, 1887) mentions Maybury buying cattle. Maybury was also briefly the sheriff of Antelope County, filling in for a sheriff who died<sup>3</sup>. In a March 3, 1993 letter to the current owner of the Maybury-McPherson House, Dr. Daniel McPherson's granddaughter, Louise McPherson Selleck, claimed that Mr. Maybury owned a tavern in Neligh.

An historic photograph (xerox attached), most likely taken just after Dr. McPherson purchased the house from Maybury in 1896, shows how the building looked when Maybury lived in it. The photograph shows a house that looks very much like the dwelling we see today, sans the half-story addition and cupola added by McPherson. Many Queen Anne elements are visible in the photograph: decorative fish-scale shingles on the gable-ends and window hoods, large window bays, a steeply pitched roof with two dominant front-facing gables, spindle work gable ornaments and porch railings. The symmetrical plan of the structure is somewhat atypical of Queen Anne architecture, and establishes this house as a "folk" variant of its primary architectural style. In any case, Maybury appears to have been a man of some means: he was able and willing to construct a home that was, though conservative, well in keeping with an architectural style popular throughout the rest of the country. Maybury built this stylish house in a town that had only been in existence for fourteen years, and in a state that had existed for only twenty.

Dr. Daniel McPherson apparently moved to Neligh in 1894. McPherson's residence in

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<sup>1</sup> Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Reconnaissance Survey Final Report of Antelope County (Lincoln, Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office, 1990) Pp.9-13.

<sup>2</sup> Property abstract, in possession of current owner.

<sup>3</sup> A.J. Leach, A History of Antelope County Nebraska, (R. R Donnelly & Sons, 1909) P. 236.

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Section 8 Page 3 Maybury-McPherson House, Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska

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Neligh before he purchased the house is unknown.<sup>1</sup> However, according to an April, 1896 Neligh Leader article, "Dr. McPherson and John Maybury have traded residence property (sic)". Dr. McPherson's ownership of the property is confirmed by its abstract. McPherson was a well known dentist by this time, having established an office in downtown Neligh in 1894.<sup>2</sup> The May 27, 1898 Neligh Leader contains an article about McPherson, calling him "Neligh's Painless Dentist."

Dr. McPherson made a number of significant alterations to the Maybury-McPherson house, most notably raising the central roof to create an additional one-half story of living space. McPherson also added a cupola to the new roof line, which remains one of the house's most prominent features. McPherson was also, apparently, responsible for adding on to the rear of the house. The April, 1896 and May, 1898 Leader articles both hint at projects being completed at the McPherson house; and tax assessment records corroborate that work was done to the property. In the past year, 1995, the current owner of the Maybury-McPherson House has conducted exhaustive research in Neligh, as well as extensive interviews and correspondences with surviving McPherson family members. Research has also been conducted at the Nebraska State Historical Society's library and archives. These efforts have not clearly defined which changes in the Maybury-McPherson House took place in what year. Anecdotal evidence seems to indicate that the preponderance of work on the house was completed in 1898, but without a serendipitous discovery this will essentially remain an assumption.

Regardless of the exact dates of construction, it is clear that the alterations made by McPherson were done during the height of popularity of the Queen Anne style, @1880-1910.<sup>3</sup> The primary decorative elements from Maybury's construction remained, and the addition of the cupola added a classic Queen Anne touch to the building. This is especially true considering the shingle trim and wooden finial that remain part of the cupola. The building's basic symmetry was retained, again belying its "folk" roots. McPherson also built a relatively nondescript rear addition

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<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Louis McPherson-Selleck, personal correspondence to Mr. Arthur Jones, March 13, 1993.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. Additionally, according to the current owner of the property, this information is repeated on an undocumented plaque on the building site where Dr. McPherson had his practice.

<sup>3</sup> McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses (New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1984) P. 263

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Section 8 Page 4 Maybury-McPherson House, Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska

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that does not conflict with the significant features that establish the basic style of the Maybury-McPherson Home.

This nomination's contributing garage was constructed c.1912, according to family history. The building's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and its association with the main structure make it contribute to the entire property's historic significance. Relatively simple in design and plan, the building's age, shingle detailing and gable form constitute a significant addition to the nominated property.

Antelope County was surveyed by the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey in 1990. The Maybury-McPherson house is the best known example of its type in Neligh and one of the earliest. Five other dwellings in Neligh that date from the same era have the basic U shape design of the Maybury-McPherson House. Of these, only two retain sufficient integrity to be evaluated individually using National Register criteria. Neither, however, have the essential features that identify the Queen Anne style.

The Maybury-McPherson House is an excellent example of a relatively simple Queen Anne residence originally constructed in 1887, which was updated a few years later into a more elaborate building. This residence, originally constructed only twenty years after Nebraska attained statehood, has outstanding integrity and embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Queen Anne style, and is an excellent example of its type in Neligh.

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)

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Section 9 Page 1 Maybury-McPherson House, Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska

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**Section 9 - Bibliographical References**

Antelope County tax assessment record, Antelope County Courthouse. Compiled 6/4/92

Antelope County Historical Society. A History of Antelope County, 1868-1985. (Dallas, TX Curtis Media Corp., 1986)

Leach, A.J., A History of Antelope County Nebraska (Chicago, R.R. Donnelly & Sons, 1909)

McAlester, Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984)

McPherson, Daniel. Long Lake MN, descendant of Dr. Daniel McPherson, personal interview with Arthur Jones.

McPherson-Pichel, Lorraine. Omaha, Nebraska, descendant of Dr. McPherson, personal interview with Arthur Jones.

McPherson, Robert. Hastings, Nebraska, descendant of Dr. Daniel McPherson, personal interview with Arthur Jones.

McPherson-Selleck, Louise. Ojai, CA, descendant of Dr. McPherson, personal interviews with Arthur Jones.

McPherson-Selleck, Louise. Ojai, CA, personal correspondence to Arthur Jones, 13 March 1993.

Neligh Leader, 4 March 1887.

Neligh Leader, 6 May 1887.

Neligh Leader, 20 May 1887

Neligh Leader, 3 April 1896

Neligh Leader, 27 May 1898

Neligh Nebraska Centennial, 1873-1973. (No publisher, 1973)

Save America's Heritage, Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey Reconnaissance Survey Final Report of Antelope County (Lincoln, Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office, 1990)

NPS Form 10-900-a  
(Rev. 8-86)

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Section 10 Page 1 Maybury-McPherson House, Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska

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**Section 10 - Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The property is described as Lots 7 and 8, except the north 3 feet of the west 60 feet, of Block 158 of the original town in Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes that parcel of land which has historically been associated with the property.

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Maybury-McPherson House  
Neligh, Antelope County, Nebraska  
Photographs by William Callahan & Carol Ahlgren, Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office  
February 6, 1995  
Negatives at the Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, Nebraska

The above information applies to all of the following photographs:

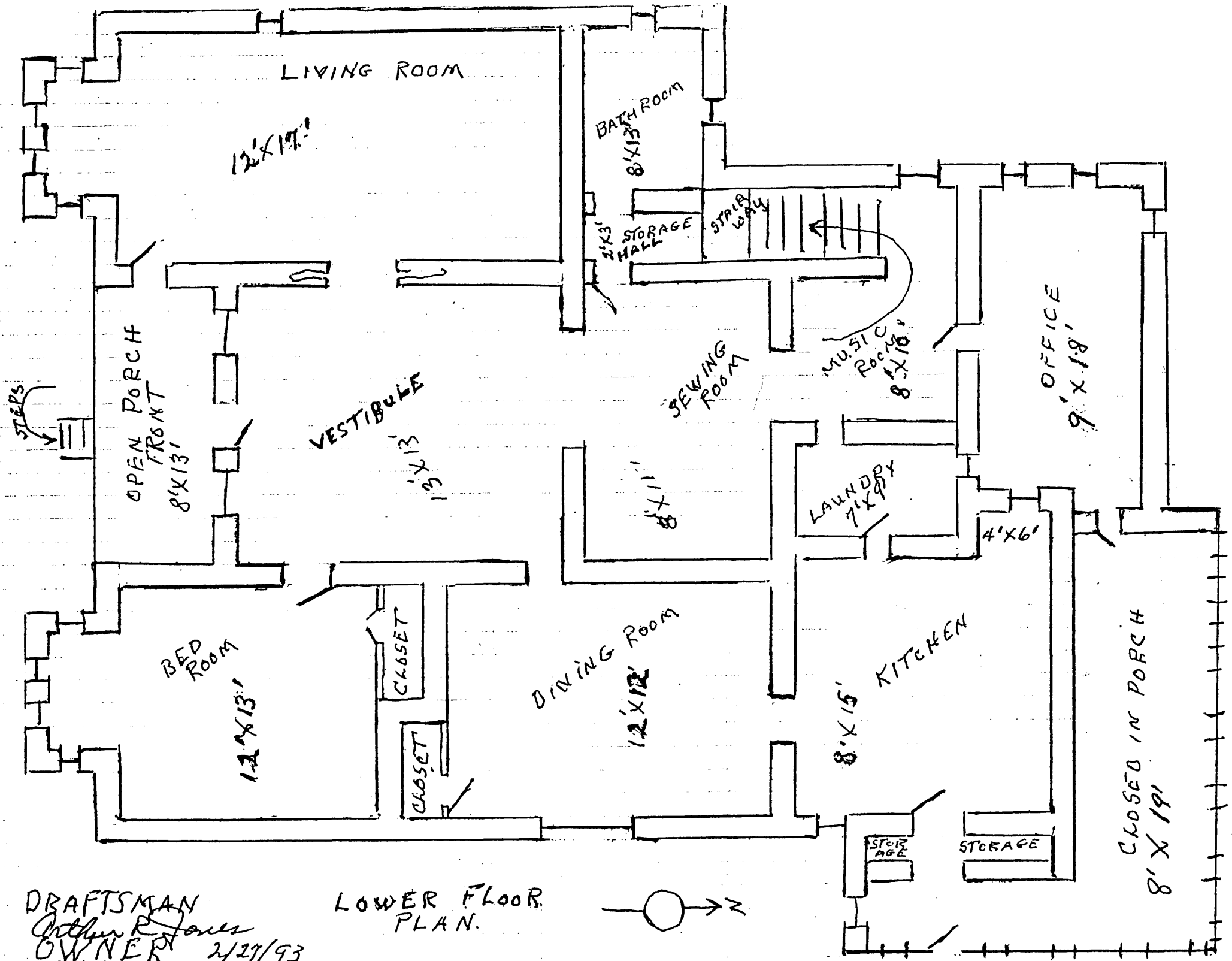
Photo # 1 of 5  
SE facade, facing NW

Photo # 2 of 5  
S facade, porch and cupola, facing N

Photo # 3 of 5  
S facade, E wing, facing N

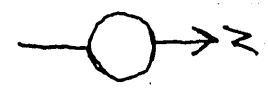
Photo # 4 of 5  
NW facade, facing NE

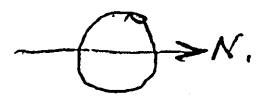
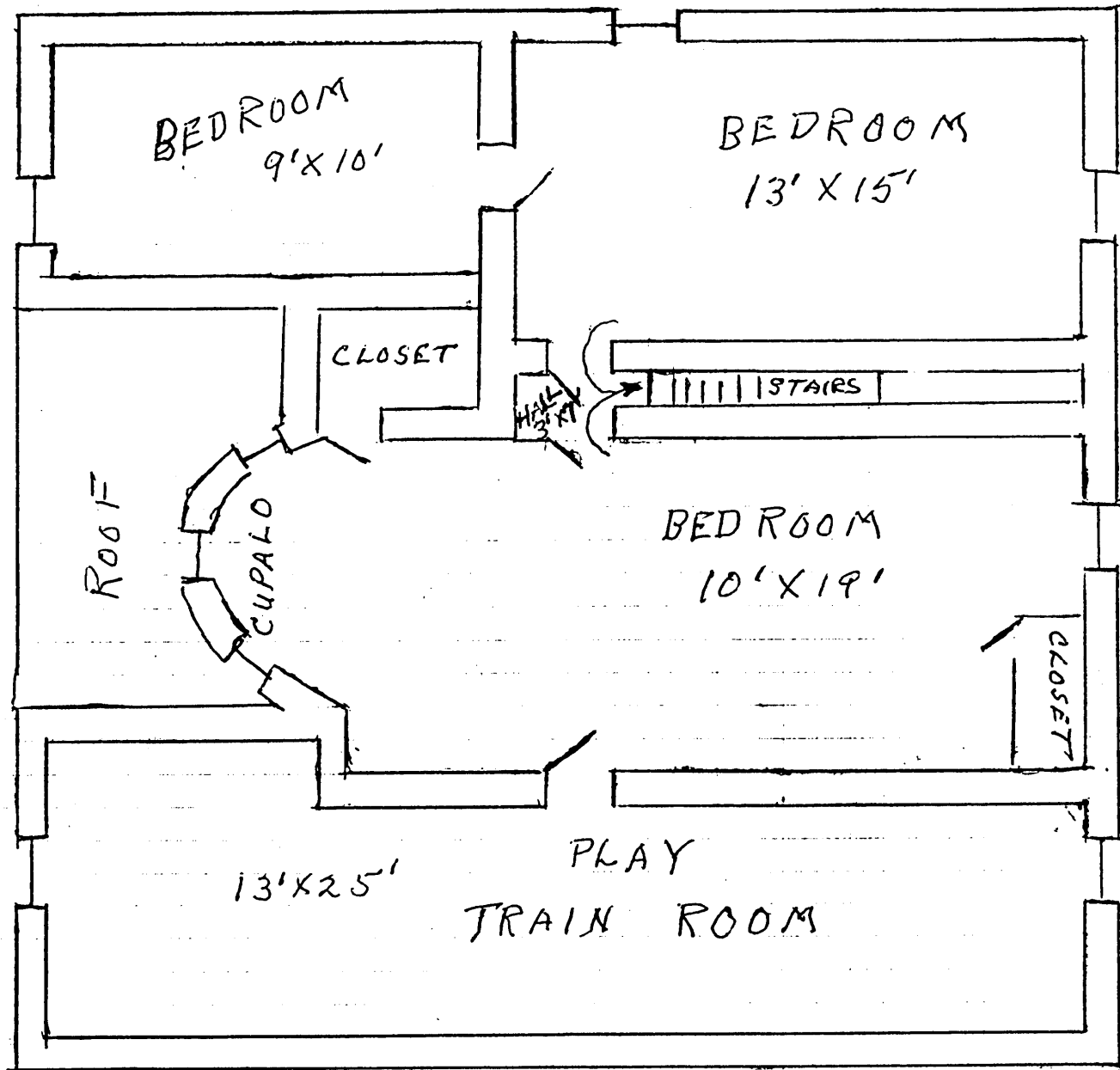
Photo # 5 of 5  
SE facade of garage, facing NW. Non-contributing shed is on the west



DRAFTSMAN  
*Arthur R. Jones*  
 OWNER 2/29/93

LOWER FLOOR  
 PLAN.



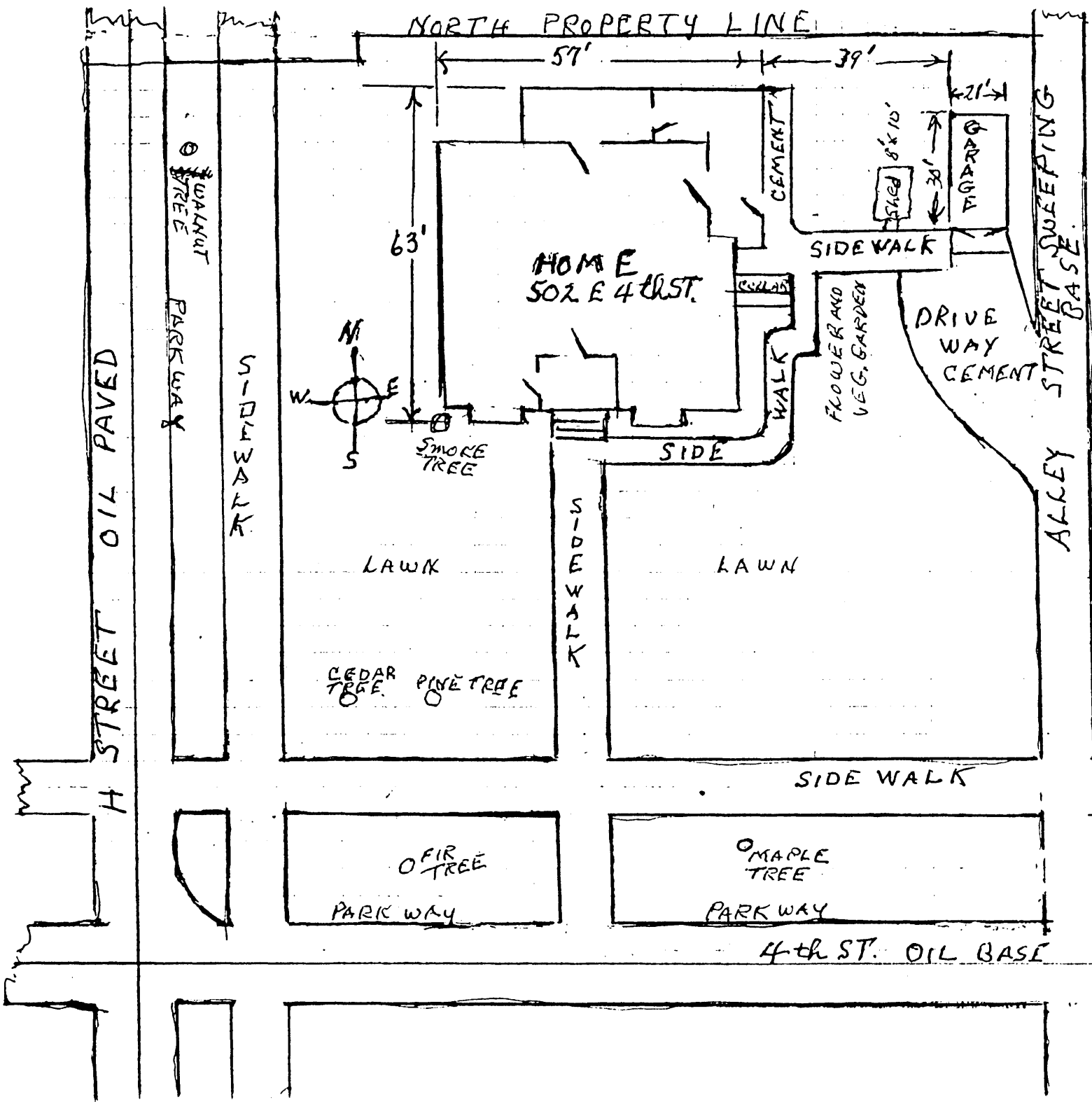


SECOND FLOOR

PLAN.

DRAFTSMAN  
Arthur R. Jones  
2/27/93  
OWNER.

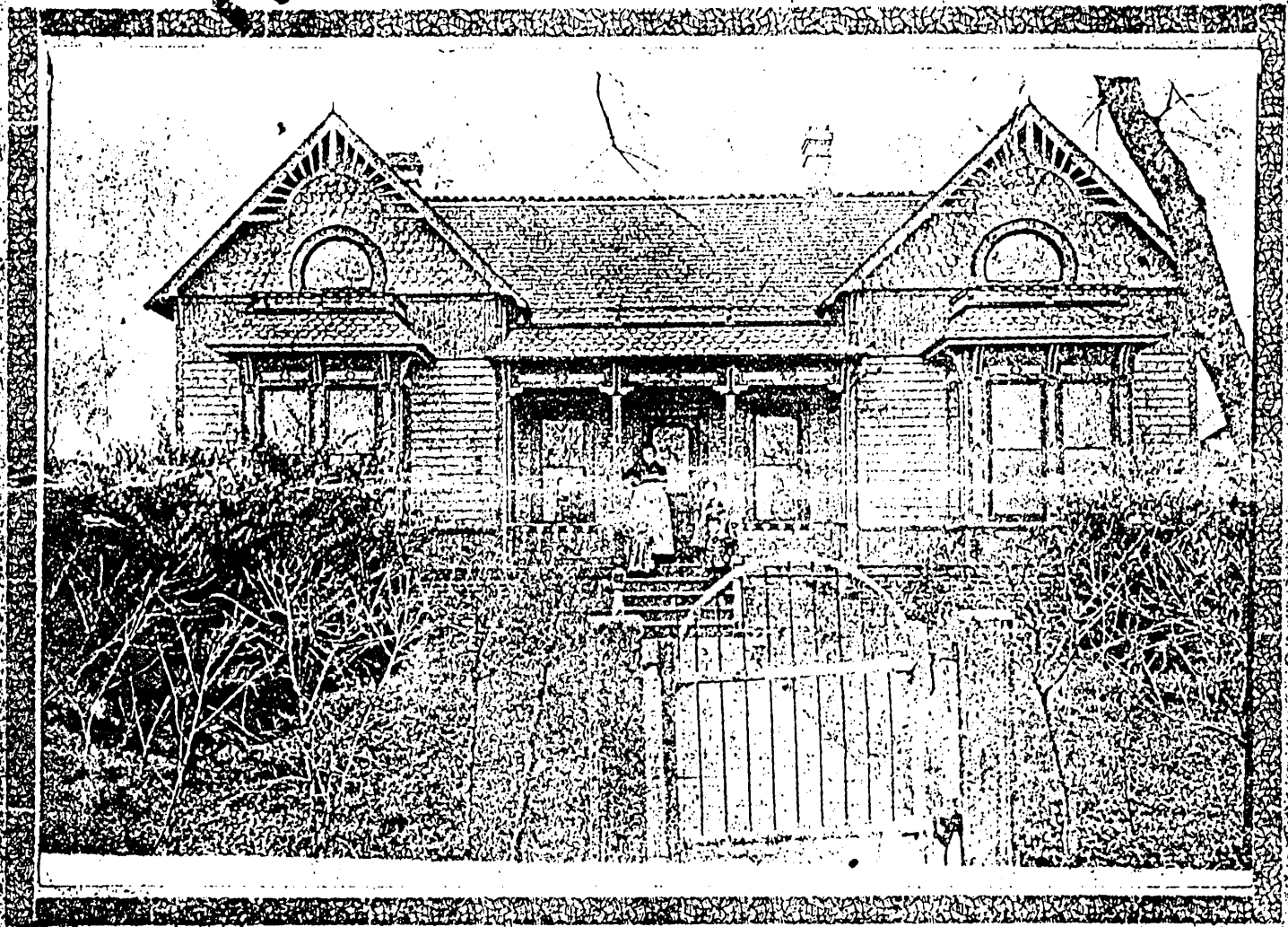




NEW SITE PLAN HOUSE 502 E 4th ST.  
 NEIGH, NE 68756  
 LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LOT 7 AND 8 EXCEPT THE NORTH  
 3 FEET OF THE WEST 60' OF LOT 8  
 BLOCK 158.  
 LOT SIZE: 48' X 132'

DRAFTSMAN  
*Arthur R. Jones*  
 OWNER



National Photo. Co.,

New York.

PHOTO C. 1896