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United States Department of the 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Gillette, Guy M. and Rose (Freeman), House

other names/site number Ferrin, Joseph L. and Lizzie, House

Name of Multiple Property Listing N/A

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

2. Location

street & number 111 N. 11th Street not for publication

city or town Cherokee vicinity

state Iowa county Cherokee zip code 51012

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: ___ national ___ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ___ A x B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Steve King Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date 8 AUG 2019

State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
2	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/granite

walls: SYNTHETICS/vinyl

roof: ASPHALT

other: _____

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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph (Briefly describe the current, general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The Guy M. Gillette and Rose (Freeman) House at 111 N. 11th Street in Cherokee, Iowa, is a two-story frame vernacular Queen Anne-style residence probably built around 1898. Its massing is a modified “pinwheel plan,” characterized by a central hip-roofed section and gabled wings or bays that project from multiple sides of the central section. The house has a granite ashlar foundation, modern metal imitation lap siding, and a complex roof covered in composition shingles. It is located at the southwest corner of N. 11th Street and W. Willow Street in an older residential neighborhood situated at the west end of Cherokee’s platted subdivisions. A block to the west and northwest is the large Cherokee Mental Health Institute property, while only a handful of mostly modern residential properties separate the house from woodland and agricultural fields to the southwest. The neighborhood consists largely of one-story to two-story residences built between the 1890s and the 1920s, with a few mid-twentieth century ranch-style houses or Minimal Traditional houses included at the peripheries of the neighborhood or as infill. The streets are lined by mature trees. The Gillette House is somewhat larger and exhibits somewhat more architectural elaboration than the majority of the houses in the neighborhood, which are typically one-story or one-and-one-half-stories in height, and typically date to the early twentieth century rather than the late nineteenth century. The Queen Anne-style “pinwheel plan” type represented by the Gillette House is rare in the neighborhood, as are Queen Anne-style houses generally. The period integrity of the house has been compromised on the exterior by the introduction of replacement siding, modern windows, and a few other changes, but the overall massing, roofline, and fenestration pattern remain essentially unchanged, and the interior retains a high degree of period integrity from the property’s period of significance. The Gillette House contains two resources, the house and a garage.

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

(Iowa SHPO Additional Instructions: After the main **Narrative Description**, discuss any physical alterations since the period of significance under the subheading **Alterations**, and the seven aspects of integrity as it applies to the resource in a **Statement of Integrity** with each aspect discussed in its own paragraph.)

The Guy M. Gillette and Rose (Freeman) House is located at 111 N. 11th Street in Cherokee, Cherokee County, Iowa, at the southwest corner of N. 11th Street and W. Willow Street (Figures 1–3). It is located in a residential neighborhood situated west of Cherokee’s central business district, near the western edge of Cherokee’s older platted subdivisions. The property sits on a corner lot, with sidewalks extending along its north and east sides. Most of the property outside the house is taken up by a grass lawn. Hedges, shrubs, and other small plantings are located both adjacent to the house and in a garden in the front yard to the southeast of the house. A row of mature deciduous trees extends north of the house parallel to the Willow Street sidewalk. A paved concrete driveway extends in a loop from W. Willow Street near the corner of N. 11th Street up to the house’s carport, then back to W. Willow Street opposite the entrance to an alley in the block to the north. Although the west 142 feet of the original property were later transferred to another owner after the Gillette House’s period of significance, this house lot remains one of the largest in this part of Cherokee. The handful of other lots in the neighborhood that are of similar size are also located on the west side of N. 11th Street south of Willow Street. North of Willow Street the lots extend no further west than a north-south alley that extends through the blocks north of the Gillette House, and east of N. 11th Street the platted lot sizes are smaller and have only rarely been merged into larger lots.

House. This two-story vernacular Queen Anne-style house is estimated to have been built around 1898, as described in greater detail below (Figures 4–5). While similar in form to a Queen Anne “pinwheel plan,” its massing is more complex. A pyramidal-roofed section dominates the southeast part of the house, but the north half, aside from the pyramidal section, is essentially a gable-roofed box with a rectangular footprint. In addition, a hip-roofed section extends from the west sides of the pyramidal-roofed section and the north slope of a gable-roofed projection from the

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south side of the pyramidal-roofed section. Aside from a one-story enclosed porch on the southeast corner of the house and a one-story carport on the north side, all sections of the house are two stories in height, although the gable-roofed section and projections include some attic space above the second story. According to county assessor's records, the overall dimensions of the house are essentially 44 ft east-west and 31 ft north-south, including projections, but with a 4' x 16' rectangle removed in the northwest corner and a L-shaped piece removed in the southeast corner above the enclosed porch.¹

The house rests on a foundation of large granite ashlar ranging from gray to reddish in color. The only exception is the hip-roofed section containing the sleeping porch in the southwest corner of the house, which has a smooth-faced concrete block foundation. The walls of the house are clad in wide steel imitation lap siding stamped to imitate wood grain. The siding was installed for the present owner after 1973, probably in the 1990s or later. A composition shingle roof covers all sections of the house. A corbelled brick chimney projects up from the north slope of the gabled roof on the north, while a modern chimney extends up the south side of the house. With few exceptions, the windows throughout the house are single, paired, or tripled windows with modern 1/1-light sash. According to the present owner, the modern windows—all installed after he acquired the property in 1973—are either vinyl or vinyl-clad wood windows that have been placed in the original openings. They reportedly mimic the windows they replaced through the use of snap-in muntin bars rather than actual muntin bars. Several original decorative windows survive, including the upper sash of the front (east-facing) cottage window and a leaded glass window on the south side. A third original wood window survives, but it is no longer on the exterior of the house. It now connects the main entrance hall with the enclosed porch. This double-hung window retains what appear to be its original ropes and pulleys, and probably retains its weights as well. Other windows have been removed, such as the lower sash of a former cottage window on the south and two windows on the west that were replaced by French doors opening onto the rear deck. The modern windows slide vertically on tracks but are not double-hung. Basement windows are located on the east and north sides of the house, but none were observed on the other two sides.

The facade of the house, which faces east, is divided into a projecting gabled section on the north and a pyramidal-roofed section on the south, with the one-story enclosed porch extending across the pyramidal-roofed section and wrapping around the southeast corner of the house. The gable-roofed section on the north has a cottage window with a stained and leaded glass upper sash on the first story and a pair of 1/1-light modern windows on the second story. The attic window in the gable field is a smaller two-light sliding window with snap-in muntin bars in each sash to imitate a 6-light sash. To the south of the gable-roofed projection on the second story is a single 1/1-light window near the projection.

On the first story, the enclosed porch includes a modern door on the north end and two large two-light sliding windows, each with snap-in muntin bars to imitate 12-light sash. This porch wraps around to the south side of the house, which has two tripartite picture windows. Both have a large central light flanked by a smaller single-light sash on each side. Like the sash on the facade, each of the four side lights imitates a 12-light sash. The only other fenestration on the enclosed porch is a single imitation 12-light window on the north side, around the corner of the porch from the front door. The front door appears originally to have had a 12-light upper section with a single panel below, but the 12 panes of glass have been replaced by 12 wood panels. The original front door can no longer be seen from the exterior. Located directly west of the current exterior door, this door has a single large light at eye level, with three panels below it and one panel above. The front porch was evidently enclosed sometime between 1940, when the Gillettes bought the property, and 1948, when a photograph (cited below) shows the porch as enclosed.

The south side of the house is divided into three sections. On the east is the south side of the enclosed porch on the first story, and a single 1/1-light window on the recessed section of the second story above it. To the west of the porch are a central gable-roofed section and a hip-roofed rear wing. Both have the same wall plane, which projects slightly relative to the eastern section, but not as far out as the enclosed porch. The central gable-roofed section formerly had a cottage window on the first floor, but the larger lower sash has been removed to accommodate a modern chimney. The leaded glass upper sash remains in place, although its west end has been concealed in order to allow the flue to extend up the side of the house in that location. The chimney is clad in steel siding like that on the rest of the house. A broad 1/1-light window on the second story is centered under the gable peak, as is a modern two-light sliding window in

¹ Cherokee County, Iowa, Assessor, entry for 111 N. 11th Street, Cherokee; electronic document cherokee.iowaassessors.com/parcel.php?gid=174813, accessed November 27, 2018.

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the gable field. To the west of the gable-roofed section of the south side is a trio of three windows on each floor. Each window on the first floor is 1/1-light with snap-in muntin bars designed to imitate 3/1-light sash. Those on the second floor are each 1/1-light windows that are slightly broader than those on the first story. Two large solar panels on the south side of the house to the rear of the modern chimney date to the early 1980s.

The rear (west) side of the house is divided into a projecting hip-roofed section on the south and a recessed gable-roofed section on the north. Fenestration on the south is limited to a pair of modern French doors on the first story that exit onto a modern wood deck, and a triplet of 1/1-light windows on the second story similar to those around the corner on the south side of the sleeping porch. The gable-roofed section to the north has a modern two-light sliding window on the first story, a pair of tall narrow 1/1-light windows on the second story, and a small two-light sliding window in the gable field, all centered under the gable peak. In addition, to the north of the pair of windows on the second story is a small 1/1-light window in the location of a bathroom.

The north side of the house is notable for a one-story gable-roofed carport that projects from this side slightly to the west of center. The north end of the carport, located across the driveway from the house, is supported by a smooth-faced concrete block wall. This wall supports two round Doric posts that in turn support a simple entablature with a row of dentils under the eaves. A Classical Revival-style design decorates the tympanum of the closed pediment on the north. The carport shelters a side entrance to the house that is slightly lower than the other entrances. The entry door is the same as the front door between the enclosed porch and the entry hall on the east, except that the single-light window opening has been replaced by a wood panel. In contrast to the front door, a transom light is located above the side door. A variety of window types span the first story of the north side. From east to west, these are a typical 1/1-light sash, a smaller 1/1-light sash, both to the east of the carport, and a modern octagonal window just under the west eave of the carport. On the second floor are a row of three 1/1-light windows, more-or-less evenly spaced, with the west window somewhat smaller than the other two.

The interior has four major rooms and several smaller rooms and halls on both the first and second stories. The enclosed porch on the east enters into an entrance hall. Broad openings with pocket doors separate this hall from a parlor on the north and a living room on the west. The parlor also has a separate entrance into the living room. A broad opening with no doors separates the living room from the dining room on the west. A smaller door on the north side of the living room opens into a side hall where the staircase to the second story is located along the east and north walls. Along the west wall of the side hall are a door to a small bathroom on the south and a door to a small vestibule on the north. The vestibule is the room one enters from the carport entrance on the north side of the house. The vestibule is one step lower than the side hall on the east or the kitchen on the west. Another door on the east side of the vestibule appears to lead to the basement stairs. The kitchen to the west of the vestibule is also accessible through a door on the north wall of the dining room. Only one built-in closet is located on the first floor: a small closet accessible through a door near the south end of the east wall of the living room.

The interior retains many of its original finishes, although some have been altered. On both stories, nearly all of the flooring is wood, probably original. The only exceptions are on the first story, where the entrance hall and living room have wall-to-wall carpeting and the kitchen has what appears to be vinyl flooring. The walls may be original lath and plaster walls, but if any have been replaced by drywall that would not be clearly evident from a visual inspection, particularly since most of the walls in the principal downstairs rooms are covered in wallpaper. One notable example of a wallpapered room is the parlor, which is finished in a type of embossed wallpaper that, while not necessarily original to the house, appears to date to no later than the early twentieth century. In any case, it predates the current owner, so it was almost certainly in place during the building's period of significance. The ceilings on both stories are typically fiberboard tiles that appear to date to the mid-twentieth century, and most likely to the period of significance of the house. The exceptions are the entrance hall and parlor on the first floor, which have textured wallpaper ceilings installed a decade ago by the present owner; the enclosed porch and side vestibule on the first story, which have lath and plaster ceilings; and the northeast and southeast bedrooms on the second story, which also have lath and plaster ceilings.

Aside from several closets and a small bathroom in the northwest corner of the house, all of the rooms on the second story are accessible from an L-shaped hallway near the center of the house. This hall is reached from the staircase along the north wall, which has a half-turn landing one step below the level of the second-story floor. Three bedrooms open onto the larger east section of this hall: one each on the northeast, southeast, and south. A narrower hallway extends west from the south end of the wide section at the door to the south bedroom. Doors opening onto this

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narrower hallway include, along the north wall, a door to the attic staircase on the east and a door to a bathroom on the west. Along the south wall of the hallway, to the west of the south bedroom door, is the door to a large closet. At the west end of the hallway is a doorway that opens into a sewing room. Doors on the north and south sides of the sewing room open into a bathroom and the sleeping porch, respectively. In addition to these larger rooms, built-in closets are located in all three bedrooms.

The interior retains much of its original woodwork, including doors, door and window casings, baseboards, and staircase. In particular, all of the door openings in the main public rooms on the first story (entrance hall, parlor, living room, and dining room) are framed by vertical side casings over plinth blocks that support an entablature composed of a wide frieze and projecting cornice. The cornice displays classical molding and a row of dentils. In the entrance hall and parlor, the vertical side casings are plain boards, while in the living room, side hall, and dining room, the side casings are decorated with classical moldings similar to fluting. The window casings throughout these principal rooms are similar, with plain side casings and classical entablatures, including a row of dentils under the cornice. On the second story, and in the less public rooms of the first story, the door and window casings are simpler. They consist of plain vertical side and top casings, with bull's-eye corner blocks the only concession to artistic embellishment. The smaller doors throughout the house are typically either five-panel or six-panel doors, in both cases with the panels stacked vertically. Their knobs are typically metal on the first story and ceramic on the second story. The pocket doors between the entrance hall and the parlor and living room were open and therefore not examined during the field investigation.

The staircase to the second story is unusually simple for a Queen Anne-style house. The newel posts and balusters have simple square footprints, and the newel posts have simple flat caps. The railing, skirt board, and other parts of the staircase are also utilitarian rather than decorative. The kitchen retains its wooden cabinetry from the mid-twentieth century or earlier. A taller window on the north wall of the kitchen was replaced by the present small octagonal window since 1975. On the second story, Senator Gillette installed a built-in bookcase in the northwest bedroom in the mid-twentieth century that appears to survive unchanged.

In addition to expected updates to the kitchen and bathrooms, some changes have been made to the interior finishes and fixtures in the main public rooms. One major change has been the introduction of a modern fireplace in the living room along the south wall. This required the removal of the bottom sash of an earlier cottage window, and the partial concealment of the Queen Ann-style leaded glass upper sash that remains in place. According to the current owner, the flue was angled at 60 degrees directly above the fireplace in order to leave as much of the leaded glass window as possible exposed. Another substantial change has been the removal of two windows in the west wall of the dining room and their replacement by modern French doors. The casings from the former windows were reused in the casing for the French doors. In the sleeping porch in the southwest corner of the second story, the window trim is different from that used elsewhere in the house, suggesting that this porch was made into a four-season room well after the house was constructed. This change occurred before the present owner bought the house.

Garage. This 12' x 20' building was built in 1946 for Guy and Rose Gillette.² It has a poured concrete foundation and is clad in vinyl siding. Its front-gabled roof is covered in composition shingles. The front (east) gable end has a modern metal overhead drive door. The only other fenestration on the building consists of one window on the north side and two windows on the west gable end, one on the lower level and one in the gable field. These single-sash windows have eight-light sash, composed of two rows for four tall, narrow lights. The vinyl siding and metal door on the garage were installed in recent decades by the present owner. Because it was built during the property's period of significance and it retains at least fair integrity (original massing, roofline, and probably fenestration pattern), it is counted as a contributing building.

Alterations. Several substantial changes have been made to this house since its period of significance ended in 1966. The most important changes to the exterior have been the installation of modern steel siding; the construction of a modern chimney on the south side, necessitating the removal of the lower sash of a former cottage window in this location; the replacement of two windows on the first story of the west-facing hip-roofed section by a pair of French doors; the replacement of all of the windows on the house by modern windows that imitate the muntin pattern of the original sash through the use of snap-in muntin bars; and the construction of a rear deck. A photograph of the house

² "Building Permit to Guy M. Gillette," *Cherokee [Iowa] Daily Times*, August 7, 1946, p. 1.

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published in 1948 indicates that it had no ornamental woodwork on the exterior that has been removed or concealed, only clapboard siding with a band between the first and second stories, and no gable ornamentation in the main front-facing gable.³ The most substantial changes to the interior have been the construction of a fireplace in the living room and a renovation of the kitchen. All of the other changes to the exterior and interior since the house was built—including the enclosing of the front porch, renovation of the sleeping porch, and installation of fiberboard tile ceilings—appears to have been done under the ownership of the Gillette family, most likely during the property's period of significance. Otherwise, the massing, roofline, fenestration pattern, materials, and interior plan and finishes all appear to be original.

Integrity. This property retains a moderate to high degree of all seven aspects of integrity from its period of significance (1940–1966).

Its integrity of *location* is excellent, since it has not been moved since it was completed around 1898.

Its integrity of *design* is very good. As far as can be determined, it retains the same massing, roofline, fenestration pattern, and interior plan as it had during its period of significance, as well as most or all of its interior finishes. Some changes to the house, such as the enclosure of the front porch, were made during its period of significance, and therefore do not detract from its period integrity. Historical photographs of the house do not depict any significant design details that were removed when the present metal siding was installed.

The property's integrity of *setting* is also excellent. It was built near the west edge of the platted area of Cherokee, near the Cherokee Mental Health Institute, and during its period of significance it was surrounded by the same late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses that surround it today. Only to the west have a few houses been built since this property's period of significance.

Its integrity of *materials* is only fair. On the exterior, the siding and most of the windows have been replaced in recent decades, although the stone block foundation and some older windows and doors remain exposed. The integrity of materials on the interior is much higher. With a handful of exceptions noted above, all of the materials used in the floors, walls, ceilings, door and window casings, staircase, and other built-in features all appear to be original or to be changes made before or during the house's period of significance.

Its integrity of *workmanship* is good. Most of the original workmanship cannot be seen on the exterior because the original siding and windows have been replaced. The integrity of workmanship, especially seen in the wood trim, staircase, and other built-in features, is much higher on the interior.

Its integrity of *feeling* remains very good. Despite the changes to materials on the exterior, the house retains good integrity of feeling on the exterior because the massing, roofline, and fenestration pattern remain largely unchanged. It retains excellent integrity of feeling on the interior because it retains its original floor plan and nearly all of its original finishes and built-in features. In particular, it retains changes that date to the house's period of significance, such as the enclosed porch that was used by Senator Gillette as a study, and the bookcase the Senator had installed in an upstairs bedroom.

Finally, its integrity of *association* is excellent. While the exterior of the house has been altered since the property's period of significance, the interior remains largely unchanged from the time the Gillette family occupied the house. With the exceptions of the modern siding, fireplace, and French doors, the Gillettes would readily recognize the exterior and interior of the house as the house they occupied in the decades following 1940.

³ George Mills, "Senator-Elect Guy Gillette: A Farmer Politician Who Bases His Beliefs on Jeffersonian Democracy," *The Des Moines [Iowa] Sunday Register*, November 7, 1948, Section 4, p. 3. This photograph also shows that the front porch had been enclosed by 1948.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1940–1966

Significant Dates

1940

1948

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Gillette, Guy Mark

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

unknown

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Statement of Significance

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Guy M. Gillette and Rose (Freeman) House is eligible under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government as the home in Cherokee of United States Senator Guy M. Gillette and his family during the majority of the time he served in the Senate. His family occupied a different house from 1932, when Gillette was first elected to the U. S. House of Representatives, until 1940, when he was in the middle of his first full term as Senator. The family occupied the house being nominated here from 1940 until 1966, when the former Senator moved to a hospital as the result of a stroke. Senator Gillette served in the Senate twice during this period, once from 1936 until 1944, when he lost a re-election bid, and again from 1948 until another loss in 1954. The house being nominated here was the Senator's only house in Cherokee during his most productive time in the Senate, when he or subcommittees he chaired investigated ways of producing synthetic rubber during World War II, helped draft the United Nations charter, and pushed the Roosevelt Administration to create the War Refugee Board. It was also his home in Cherokee during the period from 1945 to 1948 when he was president of the American League for a Free Palestine, which helped further American support for a Jewish state in Palestine after World War II. Finally, during the entire period he occupied the house, Senator Gillette was active not only in national politics, but also in local and statewide politics and community service. The house served as his base of operations for all of these statewide and local activities. Senator Gillette was routinely described as Cherokee's most famous citizen between the 1930s and 1970s. The house's period of significance under Criterion B extends from 1940, when the Gillette family first moved into this house, to 1966, when Guy Gillette suffered a stroke and left the house. The present nomination supports the significance of the house at the local level, but further research on Senator Gillette's statewide importance in Iowa politics may support eligibility at the state level as well.

Narrative Statement of Significance

 (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

(Iowa SHPO Additional Instructions: For properties not nominated under Criterion D, include a statement about whether any archaeological remains within or beyond the footprint of the property were assessed as part of this nomination under the subheading **Archaeological Assessment**.)

This single-family home was built around 1898 in a newly platted subdivision, Burrough's West Addition to New Cherokee. It was owned by two families before 1940, when it became the new home of United States Senator Guy M. Gillette. The Gillette family owned and occupied this house between 1940 and 1966, when Senator Gillette had a stroke and moved to a hospital for the rest of his life.

This property is evaluated as eligible under Criterion B because it is the building most closely associated with Senator Gillette during his long service to Iowa in national, state, and local politics and community service. Properties most closely associated with Senator Gillette's national political career are located in and near Washington, D. C., where he lived and worked almost continuously from 1933 to 1956. These include the U.S. Capitol, where he cast his House and Senate votes, and where the committee meetings he attended or chaired were most likely held; the Senate Office Building (now the Russell Senate Office Building), where he had his Senate office; and various locations in or near Washington, D.C, where he and his family resided while the Senate was in session.

The present nomination argues for the significance of the Gillette House for its close association with Senator Gillette not only during his Senate career, but also during the time when he was connecting with his constituents during Senate recesses and participating in local and state political and service activities both during and after his Senate career. When away from Washington, whether as a Senator or former Senator, he spent most of his time at the nominated property in Cherokee, where he remained active and in the public eye. From the 1930s to the 1960s, Senator Gillette spent his time in Cherokee giving public presentations, backing local and statewide political candidates, and serving on numerous boards and committees. The use of the living room, one upstairs bedroom, and the enclosed porch of the nominated house as office space by the Senator is a testament to the amount of political and service work he undertook from this property. While other buildings in and near Washington, D.C., better represent one aspect of Senator Gillette's importance during this period—his Senate career—the Gillette House in Cherokee is the building that most closely represents his broader importance to the people of Iowa in general and the people of Cherokee in particular.

Among the extant buildings associated with Senator Gillette in Cherokee, the house at 111 N. 11th Street is the building most importantly associated with him. Because Guy Gillette lived in Cherokee for all of his adult life when he

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was not in Washington, numerous buildings in Cherokee are associated with him to a greater or lesser degree. Except in the case of the house at 111 N. 11th Street, however, these buildings either were associated with Guy Gillette before he served in national office, or they were associated with him less significantly or for a shorter period of time than the house nominated here.

The Gillettes' earlier house at 1107 W. Main Street, which they owned between 1916 and 1940, is still standing. Any house Guy Gillette occupied in Cherokee prior to 1916 would have been associated with his local or statewide legal and political career rather than his national career, where he achieved his greatest significance. The nominated property is therefore more importantly associated with Senator Gillette than any pre-1916 building. Senator Gillette started his national political career while living in the house at 1107 W. Main Street, but he spent only four years as representative and four years as senator in that house. In contrast, when he lived in the nominated property, he served ten years in the Senate, during which time he did the majority of his most important work in the Senate, as well as served as president of the American League for a Free Palestine. Further research is necessary to establish whether the house at 1107 W. Main Street may be significant for its association with Rose Gillette during the period between 1928 and 1932 when, as described below, she served as chair of the Democratic party in Cherokee County at a time when few women served in such positions.

Another building in Cherokee associated with Senator Gillette's political career is his congressional campaign office, which, at least in 1935, 1938, and 1948, was located in the Brummer Block in downtown Cherokee, a building that is also still standing.⁴ While his campaign office is arguably more closely connected with his political activities than is his house, his campaign office was not used continuously during his term in the Senate, since it appears generally to have been shuttered once the campaign had ended. Nor is it associated with Senator Gillette's non-Senate activities, such as his heading the American League for a Free Palestine. The buildings that housed Guy Gillette's law offices from the time before he held any national office are also still standing at 205–207 W. Main Street, but they are not associated with his career in Congress.⁵

Finally, the Gillettes owned a small 20-acre farm in Cherokee that was part of the property at 1107 W. Main Street they owned between 1916 to 1940, and they owned a much larger 200-acre farm three miles northwest of Cherokee from 1938 until the mid-1950s or later. Neither property is as importantly associated with the Senator or his family as is the house in Cherokee—the farm at 1107 W. Main Street for the reasons given above, and the farm at 1423 520th Street, northwest of Cherokee, since the Gillettes lived in the house being nominated here rather than on the farm during the period they owned the farm. Moreover, Senator Gillette's significance is based on his role in national, state, and local politics and community service rather than in Cherokee County agriculture. In any case, most of the farm buildings on the farm at 1423 520th Street have been removed or replaced in recent decades, so it retains a much lower degree of period integrity from the time it was owned by Senator Gillette than does the property being nominated here.⁶ For these reasons, the house at 111 N. 11th Street is the building in Cherokee that best represents the local significance of Senator Guy Gillette.

In 2017, consultant Marlys Svendsen recommended that an area in Cherokee that includes the Gillette House be designated the West Main Street Historic District, which she evaluated as eligible under Criteria A, B, and C, for its architectural importance and association with important people in Cherokee's history, including Senator Gillette.⁷ The house at 111 N. 11th Street was evaluated as a contributing resource in the West Main Street Historic District.

⁴ "Gillette Plans District Swing After Vacation," *Cherokee Chief*, August 23, 1935, p. 1; Jim Adamson (Chairman, Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission), e-mail of December 5, 2018, to Richard Carlson, summarizing information from 1938, 1939, and 1948 newspaper accounts.

⁵ Newspaper advertisements from the first decade of the twentieth century identify his law office as located in the Simpson Building, which was located at 205 W. Main Street; see "Business Directory," *The Cherokee Times*, April 4, 1904, p. 4. Other sources from 1907 and 1915 give his address in the adjacent storefront at 207 W. Main Street; see Adamson, e-mail of December 5, 2018. The buildings at 205–207 W. Main Street are described in James E. Jacobsen, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Cherokee Commercial Historic District (prepared by History Pays! Historic Preservation Consulting Firm, Des Moines, Iowa, 2005; copy on file, State Historic Preservation Office, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines), p. 55.

⁶ Cherokee County, Iowa, Assessor,

⁷ Marlys Svendsen, *Cherokee Historic and Architectural Reconnaissance Survey Report* (prepared for the City of Cherokee and the Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission by Svendsen Tyler, Inc., Sarona, Wisconsin, April 2017; copy on file, State Historic Preservation Office, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines), pp. 60–76.

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History of Cherokee.

The original City of Cherokee (“Old Cherokee”) was platted in 1857, the same year that Cherokee County was separated from Woodbury County to the west. It was originally settled primarily by members of the Milford Emigration Society, who came to Iowa from Milford, Massachusetts. When the Iowa Falls and Sioux City Railroad was built just south of Old Cherokee in 1870, the town of New Cherokee—now known as Cherokee—was platted around the new depot. Cherokee was formally incorporated in 1873. As a result of the railroad depot, the new city attracted many new residents, who quickly built up the new city’s commercial and residential areas, as well as some local industries, such as the Cherokee Brick and Tile Company. The population tripled from 438 in 1870 to 1,523 in 1880, and more than doubled again during the next decade, to 3,441 in 1890. Additional railroad branch lines and machine shops were built in Cherokee in the 1880s and 1890s, and in 1896, the city became a division point on the Illinois Central Railroad, the successor to the Iowa Falls and Sioux City Railroad. The city’s infrastructure grew rapidly between 1889 and 1905 with the introduction of a waterworks, electrical company, gas works, and telephone service. In 1894, the State of Iowa selected Cherokee as the site for a new State of Iowa Mental Health Institute, which was constructed between 1897 and 1902. Between the State Mental Health Institute and the railroad, Cherokee’s economy boomed, and its population continued to grow, reaching 5,824 by 1920 and 7,469 by 1940. While the Cherokee Mental Health Institute remains in Cherokee, the importance of the railroad faded after the 1940s. The city’s population grew only slowly to its 1960 peak of 7,724, and it has declined since then, standing at 5,253 in 2010.⁸ The city’s population has been almost exclusively white for its entire history.

Construction and Early History

Although county assessor’s records date this house to 1890, it is unlikely to have been built before 1897, when the subdivision in which it is located—Burrough’s West Addition to New Cherokee—was platted. The first known occupant of the house was the family of Joseph L. Ferrin, who co-platted Burrough’s West Addition with N. T. Burroughs. In 1898, N. T. Burroughs quit-claimed Lot 1 in Block 1, where the house at 111 N. 11th Street is located, to J. L. Ferrin. The house had probably been built by 1900, when Joseph L. Ferrin and his family were listed in the census as living on N. 11th Street.⁹ For this reason, an approximate construction date for the house of ca. 1898, when Joseph L. Ferrin acquired full interest in this property from N. T. Burroughs, has been adopted here.¹⁰ Ferrin was only 38 when he acquired this property, but he had evidently retired from farming, his previous occupation, by the time he was involved in platting Burrough’s West Addition. No occupation for him was listed in either the 1900 or 1910 census.¹¹ He lived in this house with his wife Lizzie and their four children.

In 1915, the Ferrins sold the property to another retired farmer, German immigrant Henry Woltman, and his wife Henrietta. The Woltmans owned the property from 1915 until 1940. They lived in the house until Henrietta’s death in 1934, after which Henry Woltman moved to live with his children elsewhere in Cherokee County.¹² The house at 111 N. 11th Street was evidently rented to tenants for the next six years. At the time Senator Gillette bought the property in 1940, it was occupied by Wayne Flickinger, clerk of district court.¹³

⁸ Marlys Svendsen, Iowa Site Inventory Form for State Inventory No. 18-00331 (402 Ash Street, Cherokee), 2017, pp. 3–5; copy on file, State Historic Preservation Office, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines.

⁹ No street addresses were specified in the census, but by 1910, Ferrin was listed at 111 N. 11th, so he was likely in the same house in 1900. See Cherokee County, Iowa, Assessor, entry for 111 N. 11th Street, Cherokee, electronic document, cherokee.iowaassessors.com/parcel.php?gid=174813, accessed November 25, 2018; Cherokee County, Iowa, Auditor’s Office, Transfer Books; Ancestry 2018.

¹⁰ Marlys Svendsen uses a similar argument to estimate the construction date as ca. 1898 in her Iowa Site Inventory Form for State Inventory No. 18-00330 (111 N. 11th Street, Cherokee), 2017 (copy on file, State Historic Preservation Office, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines), p. 2.

¹¹ He had worked in his youth on his parents’ farm in Carroll County, Illinois, before they moved to Cherokee County in the 1880s; see Ancestry 2018; “Gone to His Rest,” *The Cherokee [Iowa] Democrat*, August 19, 1898, p. 1.

¹² Cherokee County, Iowa, Auditor’s Office, Transfer Books; Ancestry 2018; Deaths: Mrs. Henry Woltman, *Cherokee [Iowa] Daily Times*, May 10, 1934, p. 6; “Cherokee News Briefs” column, *Cherokee Daily Times*, June 15, 1934, p. 3.

¹³ “Senator Gillette Purchases New Residence on North 11th,” *Cherokee Daily Times*, July 16, 1940, p. 1. In the 1940 census, Wayne H. Flickinger and his family were listed at “119” N. 11th Street, but this appears to refer to the same property; see Ancestry 2018.

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Guy Mark Gillette

Guy M. Gillette (1879–1973) was born on a farm near Cherokee, Iowa. He attended local schools, then reached the rank of sergeant in the local National Guard company. After earning his law degree from Drake University in Des Moines in 1900, he practiced law in Cherokee. In 1907 he married a local schoolteacher, Rose Freeman. As described in one biographical sketch, during the 1910s he “intermittently took various political offices, including city attorney, county prosecutor, and state senator, before he served in France during World War I as a captain in the U. S. Army. He lost a race for State Auditor in 1918, and is said to have left his political career to operate a farm near Cherokee.”¹⁴ This is not entirely true, since he was also an unsuccessful candidate for a U.S. House of Representatives seat in 1922.¹⁵ Also, although he stated in 1943 that he had not been a practicing lawyer since shortly after World War I, he was listed as a lawyer in general practice in both the 1920 and 1930 federal census.¹⁶ During this period he and his wife Rose lived at 1107 W. Main Street in Cherokee. This 20-acre parcel was apparently also the location of their farm, since the Gillettes are not known to have purchased additional farmland until 1938.

Guy Gillette’s national political career began in earnest in the 1930s, when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1932 as part of the Democratic landslide that brought President Franklin D. Roosevelt to office. He served for two terms before winning a special election in 1936 to fill a vacant seat in the U. S. Senate. During his years as U.S. Representative, he generally supported the New Deal, the Roosevelt Administration’s program to reduce unemployment and stimulate the American economy during the Great Depression of the 1930s. However, he opposed the National Recovery Act and the Agricultural Adjustment Act.¹⁷

He served in this position for two years before winning a full six-year term as Senator in 1938. As described in his biographical sketch, “[a]lthough he generally supported the New Deal, Gillette became a thorn in the administration’s side by aggressively challenging President Roosevelt’s efforts to ‘pack’ the Supreme Court with six new associate justices [in 1937]. In addition, Gillette opposed the antilynching bill, the new wage and hours bill, a new farm bill, and aspects of the new Social Security system, thus establishing a reputation as somewhat of a maverick politician.”¹⁸ As a result, administration officials supported another candidate in the Democratic primary for the 1938 election, but Senator Gillette won against both his New Dealer-backed Democratic challenger in the primary election and then against his Republican challenger in the general election. Guy Gillette’s election to the House, followed by his multiple terms as United States Senator, insured that he was widely considered Cherokee’s most famous citizen from the 1930s to the 1970s.¹⁹

During his first full term as U. S. Senator (1939–1945), he served on the Agriculture and Forestry Committee. One of his proudest achievements was as chair of the subcommittee seeking new uses for surplus agricultural products. In particular, he co-sponsored legislation to produce synthetic rubber from grain alcohol, since the United States had been unprepared for the Japanese seizure of virtually all rubber imports during World War II. As historian Mark Finlay describes, Gillette’s subcommittee charged that the government “had hastily begun to invest in synthetic rubber from expensive and unproven technologies that used petroleum as the raw material. In contrast, Gillette and his colleagues demonstrated that surplus grains such as wheat and corn could be turned into synthetic rubber through methods that were

¹⁴ Mark R. Finlay, “Gillette, Guy Mark,” *The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa* (University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, Iowa, 2009), electronic document, uipress.lib.uiowa.edu/bdi/DetailsPage.aspx?id=139, accessed November 25, 2018. Unless otherwise noted, the information on Senator Gillette in this section of the nomination is taken from Finlay’s biographical sketch.

¹⁵ “Clean Sweep for Iowa’s Republicans,” *The Cherokee [Iowa] Chief*, November 9, 1922, p. 1. He also kept himself regularly in the public eye through numerous speaking engagements and his service leading various local organizations. His work during the 1920s is amply documented in Cherokee newspapers; see the Cherokee Public Library Community History Archive, Cherokee newspaper database, electronic document, cherokee.advantage-preservation.com/, accessed November 2018.

¹⁶ “Senator Gillette Reiterates He’s Not To Be Candidate,” *Cherokee Daily Times*, September 20, 1943, p. 1; Ancestry. By all accounts, when he wasn’t serving in Washington, he operated a farm near Cherokee from at least the 1920s to the 1960s, but only the 1925 Iowa state census identifies his occupation as being in agriculture rather than law or politics.

¹⁷ David L. Porter, “Gillette, Guy Mark,” in Kenneth T. Jackson, et al. (editors), *Dictionary of American Biography*, Supplement 9 (New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1994), p. 310.

¹⁸ Finlay.

¹⁹ See, for example, “Leaves for Capitol Monday,” captioned photograph, *Cherokee Daily Times*, December 24, 1936, p. [8]; Dave Buck, “Smoke Signals” column, *Cherokee Daily Times*, July 27, 1968, p. 6; “A Fitting Memorial for Guy Gillette,” editorial, *Cherokee Daily Times*, February 5, 1977, p. 2.

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sustainable, renewable, and potentially less expensive. In fact, much of the American synthetic rubber produced during the war did derive from farm products.”²⁰

Senator Gillette also served on the Foreign Relations and Naval Affairs Committees. In this capacity,

[h]is resolution supporting the Atlantic Charter [a 1941 document signed by the United States and Great Britain stating their goals for a postwar world] and advising Roosevelt to negotiate a postwar peace charter became part of the Connally resolution approving American participation in the United Nations. A bipartisan Senate group, including Gillette, helped draft the United Nations Charter and formulate the Food and Agricultural Organizations program [of the United Nations]. Gillette favored creation of the War Refugee Board and of a commission to save European Jews. He spoke at many rallies in behalf of European Jews and proposed that the United States help them resettle.²¹

Senator Gillette ran for re-election in 1944, but was defeated by Republican Bourke Hickenlooper. After his Senate term expired, Gillette spent six months as chair of the Surplus Property Disposal Board, which was charged with disposing of \$100 billion worth of surplus war property.²² He then continued his efforts to help resettle European Jews in a private capacity. In particular, from 1945 to 1948 he was president of the 130,000-member American League for a Free Palestine (ALFP). The ALFP was one of several related organizations founded by Peter H. Bergson (born Hillel Kook), a member of the *Irgun Zvai Leumi* (IZL), the military arm of the Revisionist Zionist movement based in Palestine. The Revisionist Zionist movement and the IZL, together with more mainstream Jewish and Zionist groups, were working towards the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine, which at the time was under British control. The goals of Bergson’s organizations, which were supported by many American politicians and other prominent figures, were to “mobilize support for the IZL, facilitate creation of Jewish military units to fight against Nazi Germany, and gather support for a Jewish state in Palestine.”²³ Although Gillette was not part of a mainstream Zionist group, concludes Mark

²⁰ Finlay; Porter, p. 311. Senator Gillette identifies this as one of his four accomplishments in the Senate that he was “most happy about” in an article published in 1959; see Frank Buckingham, “Guy M. Gillette, Man of Global Peace; One of Last 2 Living Men on UN Draft,” *Cherokee [Iowa] Daily Times*, July 15, 1959, p. 8. A second agricultural-related accomplishment that he identified in 1959 may also have been achieved during his service on the Agriculture and Forestry Committee. This was the “[i]ntroduction of soybeans in Iowa as a standard farm crop.” Corn and soybeans have long been the two major crops in Iowa, so if Senator Gillette had a major role in popularizing soybeans to Iowa farmers, that would form another basis of his significance. Research conducted for the present nomination was unable to confirm the role Senator Gillette played in the popularization of soybean cultivation in Iowa, however, so this accomplishment is not included among the bases for his significance under Criterion B claimed in this nomination. Additional research is recommended to evaluate the senator’s role in introducing soybeans as a standard crop in Iowa.

²¹ Porter, p. 311. The War Refugee Board, established in 1944, was credited with saving the lives of tens of thousands of European Jews by aiding organizations whose mission was to rescue Jews from occupied territories, providing them with false identification papers or transport to Allied or neutral countries, and to provide relief to Jews in hiding and in concentration camps. Most accounts attribute the creation of the War Refugee Board to the efforts of Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., rather than to the U. S. Senate, so Senator Gillette appears not to have had a significant role in its creation; see “War Refugee Board,” Holocaust Encyclopedia, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; electronic document, encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/the-war-refugee-board, accessed November 30, 2018; Michael Berenbaum, “War Refugee Board,” Encyclopedia Britannica, electronic document, www.britannica.com/topic/War-Refugee-Board, accessed November 30, 2018.

²² Porter, p. 311.

²³ “Peter Bergson,” Holocaust Encyclopedia, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; electronic document, encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/peter-bergson, accessed November 28, 2018; Porter, p. 311. Bergson’s work for the IZL included helping to smuggle Polish Jews to Palestine in 1938 and 1939. The Hebrew Committee of National Liberation (HCNL)—another Bergson organization closely allied with the ALFP—stated that its ultimate goal was “the establishment of a free Palestine with the Arab population as partners in a democratic and civilized Palestine, and with a legally constituted international authority in control of the Holy Places of all faiths”; see “New Liberation Group Denounced by Leading Jews,” *Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle* (Milwaukee, Wisconsin), May 26, 1944, p. 2. During Gillette’s term as president, the ALFP adopted the Bergson group’s goals of armed resistance against British rule in Palestine and the continued immigration of Jewish refugees into Palestine in defiance of British limits on immigration; see, for example, the ALFP’s advertisements published in the *Philadelphia [Pennsylvania] Inquirer* on December 9, 1946, p. 11, and February 2, 1948, p. 30, and in the *Boston [Massachusetts] Globe* on April 24, 1947, p. 19. The HCNL, and probably also the related ALFP, dissolved after the state of Israel was established in May 1948 and was promptly recognized by the United States and other members of the international community (“Peter Bergson,” Holocaust Encyclopedia; “U. S. Recognition of the State of Israel,” National Archives, electronic document, www.archives.gov/education/lessons/us-israel, accessed November 30, 2018). During the 1940s, and through the creation of the state of Israel in 1948, the IZL was considered to be a militant fringe group by mainstream Zionists, who decried its actions as terrorism. It is doubtful that the group ever saw Jewish-Arab partnership as a long-term or desirable goal, although later sources typically characterize the ALFP and the HCNL as backing a democratic state led by a Jewish-Arab partnership; see, for example, the characterization made by Senator Harold Hughes of Iowa in a tribute to Senator Gillette after the latter’s death, published in *Memorial Address and Other Tributes in the Congress of the United States on the Life and Contributions of Guy M. Gillette*, 93rd Congress, 1st Session,

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Finlay, "Gillette's work helped accelerate the British departure from Palestine, contributed to the creation of the nation of Israel, and brought international attention to the plight of the displaced Palestinians."²⁴ As described below, Senator Gillette's interest in the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine was almost certainly influenced by his wife Rose, whose parents were Eastern European Jewish immigrants, and who appears to have matched her husband in her interest in politics.²⁵

In 1948, Guy Gillette ran again for U. S. Senator, this time defeating incumbent Republican Senator George Wilson. During this term he served on the Rules Committee, chairing the Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections from 1950 to 1952.²⁶ Among other actions, the subcommittee urged the Rules Committee to "formulate explicit ethical standards for Senate election contests and for disciplining any senator violating standards."²⁷ Senator Gillette also "sought to make a single agency responsible for all campaign spending by candidates. He favored stricter enforcement of the \$3 million limitation on campaign expenditures by political committees and \$5,000 limitation for individual contributions."²⁸ In 1959, he was quoted as saying that his work on this committee was one of the accomplishments he was most happy about.²⁹

In the 1954 election, Senator Gillette was defeated by Republican Thomas Martin. Senator Gillette, who was 75 years old at the time of the election, then retired from politics. He worked in Washington in 1955 and 1956 as counsel with the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee. After Rose Gillette's death in 1956, Senator Gillette returned to Cherokee and lived in the house being nominated here for the next decade, aside from a brief return to Washington in 1960 and 1961 to serve as counsel with the Senate Judiciary Committee.³⁰

During Senate recesses and after his two defeats for re-election in 1944 and 1954, Senator Gillette always returned to his house in Cherokee unless other business kept him in Washington. While in Cherokee, he typically arranged to give one or more talks on national political and economic affairs, which were well attended. The Cherokee Chamber of Commerce sponsored an annual "Guy M. Gillette Dinner," attended by 150–200 people in the early 1940s.³¹ In 1943, he gave a talk at the Fraternal Order of Eagles lodge that was attended by 223 lodge members and their families.³² In 1944, a local newspaper reported that "[d]uring his recent visit in Iowa, Senator Gillette made a number of talks to dinner groups as well as two or three general evening meetings."³³ He continued the practice after losing his re-election bid in 1944. Although based in Washington, D.C. for the next two years, he returned to Cherokee periodically and addressed groups while he was there, before returning to live in Cherokee full-time between 1946 and 1948.³⁴ He also attended many Democratic Party events while in Iowa to keep abreast of Iowa politics in preparation for his successful 1948

Senate Document No. 93–14 (Washington: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1973), p. 5. Hughes' characterization was adopted by Porter (p. 311) and Mark Finlay in their biographical sketches of Senator Gillette. For more on the role of the IZL, its relation to mainstream Zionist groups, and its role in the creation of the state of Israel, see Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims: A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict, 1881–2001* (New York: Vintage Books, 2001), pp. 161–258.

²⁴ Finlay.

²⁵ In his inaugural address as incoming president of the ALFP, he described how he became interested in the Zionist cause, but he never mentioned his wife's background; see Senator Guy Gillette's speech, "American Tradition and Hebrew Freedom," quoted in the remarks of Senator Scott of Pennsylvania in *Memorial Address and Other Tributes in the Congress of the United States on the Life and Contributions of Guy M. Gillette*, 93rd Congress, 1st Session, Senate Document No. 93–14 (Washington: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1973), pp. 37–41.

²⁶ Porter, p. 311.

²⁷ Porter, p. 311.

²⁸ Porter, p. 312.

²⁹ Buckingham, p. 8.

³⁰ For the Senate committees for which Gillette served as counsel, see the comments of Mr. Mayne of the U.S. House of Representatives included in *Memorial Address and Other Tributes in the Congress of the United States on the Life and Contributions of Guy M. Gillette*, p. 49. This source mentions Gillette's service as counsel to the two Senate committees, but does not mention his return to Cherokee between 1956 and 1960. As a result, more recent biographical sketches of Gillette—such as Porter (p. 312) and Finlay—mistakenly claim that he remained in Washington from 1955 to 1961 before retiring to Cherokee. For a long article describing Gillette as a resident of Cherokee in 1959, see Buckingham, pp. 1, 8. For Gillette's short-term service as Senate counsel in 1960–1961, see "Iowan Gillette, 81, Returns to Senate in Counsel Role," *Des Moines [Iowa] Register*, June 25, 1960, p. 5.

³¹ See, for example, "Senator Gives Off-The-Record Talk Wednesday," *Cherokee Daily Times*, August 29, 1940, p. 1; "Sen. Gillette Foresees Long, Hard Struggle," *Cherokee Daily Times*, August 28, 1942, p. 1.

³² "Eagles Hear Address Friday By Sen. Gillette," *Cherokee Daily Times*, August 28, 1943, p. 4.

³³ "Senator Gillette Plans Trip Back to Iowa Soon," *Cherokee Daily Times*, September 15, 1944, p. 2.

³⁴ See, for example, "Gillette Visits Cherokee Between London Trip and Tour of Palestine," *Cherokee Daily Times*, April 23, 1946, p. 1; "Gillette To Be Guest Speaker at Rotary Luncheon," *Cherokee Daily Times*, August 21, 1946, p. 1. For his retirement to Cherokee in 1946, see "Gillette Will Leave for Palestine July 21," *Cherokee Daily Times*, July 3, 1946, p. 1.

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Senate election campaign.³⁵ Perhaps more notably, he kept involved in Democratic Party activities after he had returned to Cherokee in 1956, when he appears to have had no interest in running for any other office. He often campaigned for Democratic candidates, for such as Albert J. Loveland for governor in 1950, and Missouri Senator Stuart Symington during his unsuccessful bid for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1960.³⁶ Between January and September 1950, he kept his constituents informed on Capitol Hill business through “The Gillette Newsletter,” a weekly column that was published in many Iowa newspapers, including one in Cherokee.³⁷

A profile of Senator Gillette published in 1959, when he was 80 years old and had been retired from the Senate for four years, gives an indication of how active he remained in political, social, and business spheres at the time. According to the article:

Still bearing all the physical earmarks of his statesman-like qualities, he fulfills a lengthy list of statewide civic posts and personal speaking engagements. . . .

If he is occupied elsewhere [that is, not in his garden or on his farm] it could be meeting with the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce Promotional Committee for Industry or attending a meeting of the Iowa Democratic State Central Committee. He represents the Eighth Iowa District.

Gillette’s statewide responsibilities are a tribute to his drive and physical stamina.

He currently is state chairman of the Iowa Cancer Fund. And last year he served as state chairman of the Committee for the United Nations commemoration. Gillette also was state vice-chairman of the Governor’s Committee on Social and Economic Trends in 1958.

And the former senator still is on the board of directors of the Fair Campaign Practices Committee, Inc., New York.

Beyond that he is Cherokee County chairman for the Red Cross and a member of the board of directors of Cherokee State Bank.

Sandwiched in between came Rotary Club and Masonic sessions. Gillette is a member of Speculative Lodge 307 here and a 50-year Mason. He’s a member of the Consistory in Sioux City.³⁸

A tribute made as part of a 1964 program to honor the Senator included the following statement from local newspaper publisher Dwight R. Clark:

Cherokee was incorporated in 1870 as a town and in all the 94 years of the city’s existence one man stands out as the greatest—Hon. Guy Gillette.

No man has brought the credit, distinction and recognition to Cherokee that Guy has.³⁹

At the same 1964 tribute, Senator Gillette received a plaque that listed his accomplishments that benefitted Iowa and the nation:

Presented as a token of your friends’ deep respect[,] affection, admiration and appreciation for:
Your willing service in time of war; Your many years of loyal and distinguished service in local, state and national government;
Your contribution to our parks and conservation projects; Your schools, library and museum.

³⁵ See, for example, “Formal Bid To Gillette To Be Senate Candidate,” *Cherokee Daily Times and Cherokee Chief*, July 28, 1947, p. 1.

³⁶ “Gillette Returns to Iowa; Starts Boost for Loveland,” *Cherokee Daily Times and Cherokee Chief*, October 27, 1950, p. 1; “Gillette to Head Iowa Push for Symington,” *Cherokee Daily Times*, April 4, 1960, p. 1.

³⁷ It was published in *The Cherokee Daily Times and Cherokee Chief*, as well as in small-town newspapers throughout Iowa, including ones in Alton, Eldora, Lenox, Lime Springs, Sioux Center, and Terril, at least—the cities represented in a Newspapers.com search for the column on February 19, 2019.

³⁸ Buckingham, p. 1.

³⁹ D. R. Clark, “Our Guy Gillette,” *Cherokee Daily Times*, October 21, 1964, p. 1.

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Your kindness and humanity through our hospital and social agencies; Your influence for good through our churches;
Your great contribution in framing the United Nations Constitution and for being a beloved "Great Guy."⁴⁰

The importance of Senator Gillette to Cherokee was also explicitly linked to his home by one of the speakers at the 1964 tribute. District Judge A. R. Nelson, a longtime friend of Senator Gillette, reportedly said that "he wished everyone could visit Guy's home. He said it is a big friendly home with a personality much like the man."⁴¹ His home in Cherokee was the only property that was associated with the Senator during his lengthy service both as U.S. Senator and as leader of organizations at the national, state, and local levels from 1940 to 1966. No other single building in Cherokee or elsewhere better represents the Senator's importance in all aspects of his local, statewide, and national activities during his most productive years. While the present nomination argues for the significance of the house at the local level only, further investigation into the extent of the Senator's importance in statewide politics may support the eligibility of the house in Cherokee at the state level as well.

Rose (Freeman) Gillette

Although the significance of the nominated property is based on its association with Senator Guy Gillette, it is also important to recognize the role played by the Senator's wife, Rose (Freeman) Gillette. Rose Gillette was an important figure in Cherokee County politics before 1932, before she moved to the nominated property, and she also appears likely to have influenced her husband's political views and interests in a variety of areas.

Rose Freeman was the daughter of Abraham Freeman and Libbie Parshall. Her parents were Jewish, born in Russia and Poland, respectively, in the early 1850s. They immigrated to the United States around 1867 or 1868 from Hamburg, Germany, and married in 1873. Abraham Freeman worked as a grocer or merchant his entire life. The Freemans lived in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the mid-1870s, then moved to Des Moines, Iowa, around 1878. They lived successively in several different places for the next five decades, mostly small towns in central and western Iowa. These included Reasnor and Ida Grove, both in Iowa, in 1885 and 1895, respectively, and Randolph, Iowa, from about 1901 until their deaths, Libbie in the late 1910s and Abraham around 1924. The only large city where they resided after leaving Des Moines in the early 1880s was Omaha, Nebraska, where they lived for no more than a few years around 1900.⁴²

Rose Freeman was born on March 12, 1880, at the time the family was living in Des Moines. She graduated from Ida Grove High School in 1897. At the time of the 1900 census, she was living with her family in Omaha, where she worked as a saleswoman. In 1905, she graduated from the Iowa State Teachers College (now the University of Northern Iowa) in Cedar Falls, and taught in the Cherokee public schools in 1906–1907. She married Guy Gillette, then county attorney for Cherokee County, on June 17, 1907.⁴³ The couple had no children until 1929, when they adopted as their only child a baby boy whom they named Mark Freeman Gillette.⁴⁴

In 1928, when her husband was working as a farmer between his political careers as a state senator and a U.S. representative, Rose Gillette was elected county chairman for the Cherokee County Democrats. One newspaper editorial at the time took pains to note that she was the general county chairman, since at the time of her election Cherokee newspapers had mistakenly reported that she was elected county chairman for women. The editorial stated that Mrs. Gillette "has long been a student of political and governmental matters both of her own accord and thru association with her husband, a democrat who achieved the distinction of election as state senator from this district many years ago. She has strong executive ability and will prove an able leader."⁴⁵ She remained county chairman until July 1932, when the

⁴⁰ Ron Seaman, "350 Honor Gillette for Service—Gets Plaque," *Cherokee Daily Times*, October 21, 1964, p. 1.

⁴¹ Seaman, p. 1.

⁴² Ancestry, All U.S. Federal Census Collection; All Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836–1925; U. S. City Directories, 1822–1995; U. S. Passport Applications, 1795–1925.

⁴³ "Mrs. Gillette Is Dead at 75," *Des Moines Tribune*, January 3, 1956, p. 4; "Our County Attorney To Be Married Today," *The Semi-Weekly Democrat* (Cherokee, Iowa), June 17, 1907, p. [4].

⁴⁴ "Cherokee News Briefs," *The Cherokee [Iowa] Chief*, April 18, 1929, p. 8.

⁴⁵ Editorial, *The Cherokee [Iowa] Chief*, July 5, 1928, p. 2. For one newspaper report that mistakenly reported Rose Gillette's position, see "Cherokee Democrats for Smith," *Cherokee [Iowa] Evening Times*, July 2, 1928, p. 1. The previous county chairman, William Mulvaney, was in ill health and was not expected to undertake many duties, but he was appointed assistant chairman as recognition for his role in county Democratic

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Cherokee County Democrats elected a county chairman and county chairwoman.⁴⁶ A month earlier, her husband Guy Gillette had won the primary election to secure the Democratic nomination for the U. S. House of Representatives seat that he won in November.⁴⁷ While no source consulted for the present nomination suggests that Rose Gillette's service as county chair for the Cherokee County Democrats from 1928 to 1932 had any role in her husband's decision to re-enter politics for the 1932 election, it is difficult to see how it would not have been a significant factor.

During her time in Washington, while her husband served first as Representative and then as Senator, Rose Gillette was not idle. As described in her obituary, Rose Gillette was "active in social, civic and church organizations" both in Washington and Cherokee. In Washington, she "organized a Red Cross unit among wives of congressmen and was active in the 73 Club, an organization of wives of members elected to the seventy-third congress." She was also active in the Westminster Club and Presbyterian Church in Cherokee.⁴⁸ She also continued her interest in politics, but because her husband was a senator, she no longer felt she could speak her views publicly. A profile of her published in 1953 reports that:

Naturally a major interest of Mrs. Gillette's is politics and the things that go along with it—campaigning, party views, national conventions, national and international problems. However, she does not state her views publicly because she believes politics and religion are both "touchy" subjects and are hard to discuss without getting into an argument.⁴⁹

While no evidence discovered during the research for the present nomination states directly that Rose Gillette influenced her husband's views on the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine, it is very likely that she played an influential role. While Rose herself appears not to have practiced Judaism after her marriage—she was identified in the 1915 Iowa state census as having no church affiliation, and in the 1925 state census both she and her husband were recorded as affiliated with the Presbyterian church—her parents and at least one sister were strongly associated with the Jewish faith.⁵⁰ At the time of the 1915 Iowa state census, after the Freeman family had lived in small rural communities with few or no other Jews for nearly 35 years, the church affiliation of both Abraham and Libbie Freeman, as well as their adult children Ritza and Millie Freeman, was identified as "Hebrew." Ritza Freeman also appears to have had an interest in Jewish affairs. Her occupation from 1900 to 1915 was consistently identified in census records as in the insurance business. Less than three months after the end of World War I, however, she applied for a passport to travel to France and England to conduct "Reconstruction work" for the Jewish Welfare Board, with her occupation listed as "Social Service worker."⁵¹ The Jewish Welfare Board had been established in 1917 to provide services to Jewish troops in the American Expeditionary Force at home and abroad. After the Armistice in November 1918, 178 Jewish Welfare Board workers—evidently including Ritza Freeman—were sent to 57 Centers in cities and camps in France to provide social support services for the troops. These included religious services, education, entertainment and recreational opportunities, and assistance in returning to civilian life.⁵² In 1920, after she had returned to the United States, Ritza Freeman worked briefly as a settlement worker in Chicago, though it is not known if she worked specifically with Eastern European Jewish immigrants.⁵³ In any case, because of her family's Jewish background and her own interest in politics, it is almost certain that Rose Gillette had a keen interest in the discussions of the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine after World War II.

affairs—and possibly also to ease the concerns of county Democrats who were unaccustomed to having a female chair. The Nineteenth Amendment, which extended to women the right to vote in federal and state elections, had gone into effect just eight years earlier.

⁴⁶ "Wm. Drummond Is Demos' Choice for County Recorder," *Cherokee Daily Times*, July 2, 1932, p. 1.

⁴⁷ "Guy Gillette Out for Congress," *Cherokee Daily Times*, April 4, 1932, p. 1; "Unofficial Table Cherokee County Primary Election 1932," *Cherokee Daily Times*, June 7, 1932, p. 1.

⁴⁸ "Mrs. Gillette Is Dead at 75," *Des Moines Tribune*, January 3, 1956, p. 4.

⁴⁹ "Mrs. Gillette Is Well Known in Washington," *Cherokee Daily Times*, August 22, 1953, p. 6.

⁵⁰ Ancestry, All Iowa, State Census Collection, 1836–1925.

⁵¹ Ancestry, U. S. Passport Applications, 1795–1925.

⁵² Jewish Welfare Board, *Final Report of War Emergency Activities* (Jewish Welfare Board, New York, 1920), pp. 13–46; electronic document, archive.org/stream/01120030R.nlm.nih.gov/01120030R#page/n51/mode/2up, accessed November 27, 2018. After Raiza's return to the United States, she was listed in the 1920 census as a settlement worker. By 1922, she had married Thomas Reardon and moved to San Diego, California. At the time, she worked as an "Off[icial]. Fairy Story Teller"; see Ancestry, California, Voter Registrations, 1900–1968.

⁵³ Ancestry; "Local News Briefs," *The Semi-Weekly Democrat*, March 8, 1920, p. [4].

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Rose Gillette may also have been influential in another of Senator Gillette's more progressive political positions during his time as Senator: his support for an Equal Rights Amendment to the U. S. Constitution to guarantee equal rights under the law regardless of sex. Senator Gillette promoted this amendment during his first full term, and voted with the majority when it passed the Senate in 1950 during his second full term, but the Senate bill was never considered by the House before it went into recess.⁵⁴

After his defeat in the 1954 Senate race, as described above, Guy Gillette remained in Washington to serve as counsel to a Senate committee. Rose Gillette remained with him in Washington, where she died on January 3, 1956.⁵⁵

Subsequent History

In 1966, Senator Gillette suffered a stroke and was hospitalized at Sioux Valley Memorial Hospital (now the Cherokee Regional Medical Center) in Cherokee, where he appears to have spent the rest of his life until his death in 1973. It is not clear who, if anyone, occupied the nominated property between 1966 and 1973. After Senator Gillette's death, his estate transferred the property to his son, Mark Gillette, who transferred the property in June 1975 to James C. and Donna J. Lewallen. Both were teachers at the time they bought this house. They owned and occupied the property until Donna Lewallen's death in 2018. They made several changes to the house, including the installation of steel siding and the replacement of nearly all of the windows. James Lewallen continues to live in the house.⁵⁶

Archaeological Assessment.

No archaeological remains within or beyond the footprint of the property were assessed as part of this nomination.

Acknowledgements.

This nomination was funded in part by a Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) grant administered by the State of Iowa.

⁵⁴ Finlay; Guy M. Gillette, "The Gillette Newsletter," *Cherokee [Iowa] Daily Times and Cherokee Chief*, February 1, 1950, p. 2; Jane J. Mansbridge, *Why We Lost the ERA* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986), p. 9.

⁵⁵ "Mrs. Gillette Is Dead at 75," *Des Moines Tribune*, January 3, 1956, p. 4.

⁵⁶ "Solons Honor Gillette Today—Marks 91st," *Cherokee Daily Times*, February 3, 1970, p. 1; "Guy M. Gillette Dies at 94," *Cherokee Daily Times*, March 3, 1973, p. 1; Marlys Svendsen, Iowa Site Inventory Form for State Inventory No. 18-00330 (111 N. 11th Street, Cherokee), p. 5; personal communication with James Lewallen, 111 N. 11th Street, Cherokee, Iowa, September 13, 2018.

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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
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State Agency
 Federal Agency
 Local Government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa; City of Cherokee City
Clerk's Office

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>42.750484 N</u> Latitude	<u>95.564868 W</u> Longitude	3	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude
2	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude	4	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property comprises the east 209 ft of the north 110 ft of Lot 1, Block 1, in Burrough's West Addition to New Cherokee.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes all of the land that was associated with the house at 111 N. 11th Street during its period of significance that retains integrity. It does not include the west 142 ft of the property as it existed during the period of significance, since this parcel was later sold to a separate owner and a house constructed on it in 1978.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard J. Carlson/Architectural Historian date November 24, 2018
organization Office of the State Archaeologist telephone (319) 384-0732
street & number 700 Clinton Street Building email richard-j-carlson@uiowa.edu
city or town Iowa City state IA zip code 52242-1030

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs under separate cover. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and does not need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Gillette, Guy M. and Rose (Freeman), House
City or Vicinity: Cherokee
County: Cherokee **State:** Iowa
Photographer: Richard J. Carlson (except for garage photos; see Nos. 15 and 16 below)
Date Photographed: September 13, 2018 (except for garage photos; see Nos. 15 and 16 below)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0001
General view, west side of 100 block of N. 11th Street, camera facing southwest.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0002
Front (east) side (right) and south side (left) of house, camera facing northwest.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0003
South side of house, camera facing northwest.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0004
Rear (west side) of house, camera facing east.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0005
North side (left) and west side (right) of house, camera facing southeast.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0006
Front (east) side (left) and north side (right), camera facing southwest.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0007
Interior, first story, enclosed porch, camera facing north.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0008
Interior, first story, parlor, camera facing northeast through pocket doors towards cottage window.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0009
Interior, first story, parlor, detail of wallpaper, camera facing west.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0010
Interior, first story, living room, camera facing east-northeast towards entrance hall.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0011
Interior, first story, dining room from living room, camera facing west-southwest.

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IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0012

Interior, first story, staircase to second story, camera facing north.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0013

Interior, second story, northeast bedroom, showing built-in bookcases reportedly installed for Senator Gillette, camera facing southeast.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0014

Interior, second story, hall, camera facing west.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0015

Garage, camera facing southwest. Photograph by John Snapp, February 10, 2017.

IA_CherokeeCounty_GilletteHouse_0016

Garage (left) and house (right), camera facing east-southeast. Photograph by John Snapp, February 10, 2017.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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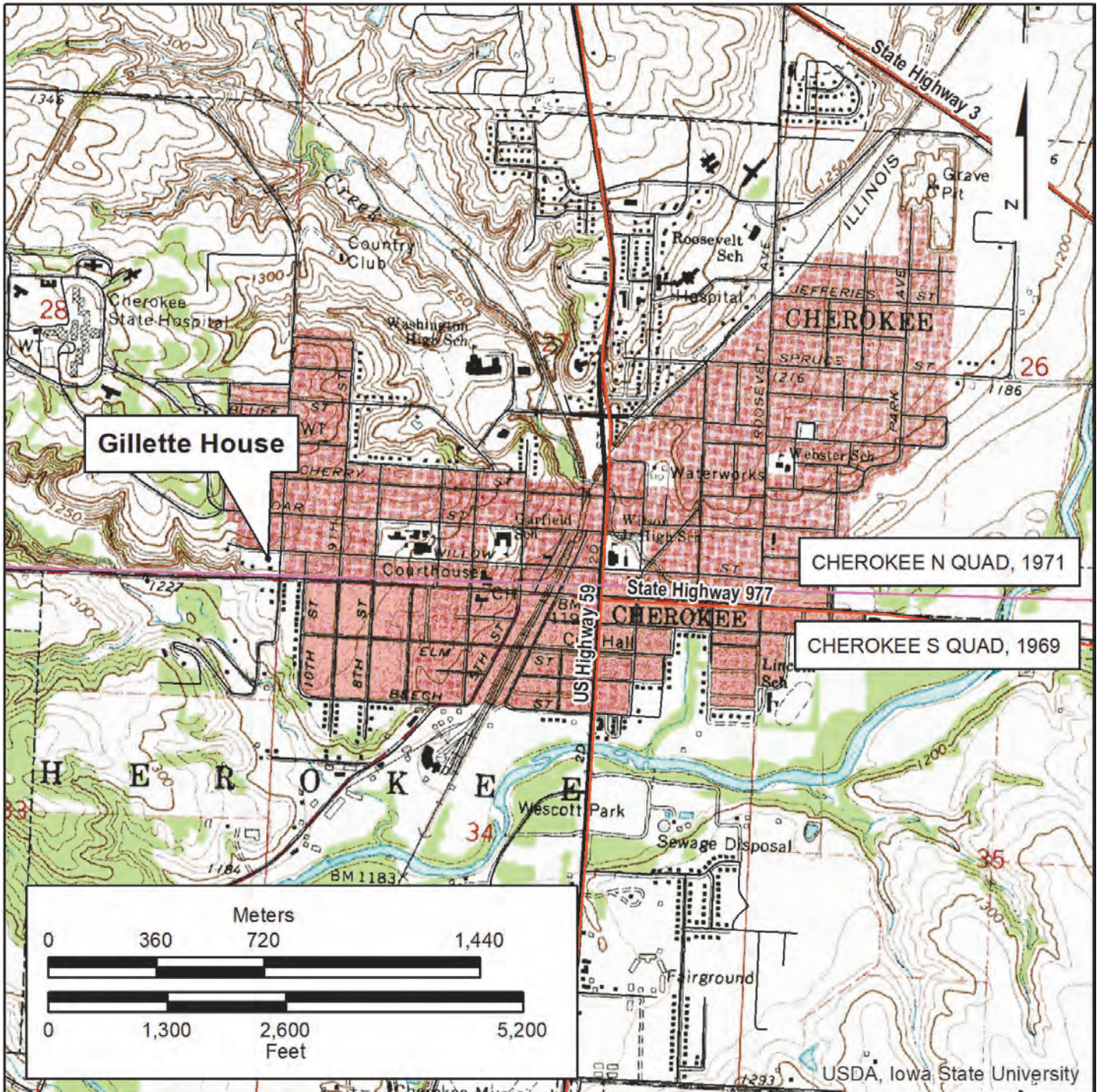


Figure 1. Cherokee, Cherokee County, Iowa. Small-scale view showing location of the Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) Gillette House, 111 N. 11th Street. Source: U.S.G.S. Cherokee North (1971) and Cherokee South (1969), 7.5 Series Quadrangle Map (ISUGISSRF 2018).

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Figure 2. Location of Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) Gillette House, 111 N. 11th Street. Medium-scale view showing relation of house to surrounding neighborhood. Base aerial photograph: 2017 aerial photograph (ISUGISSRF).

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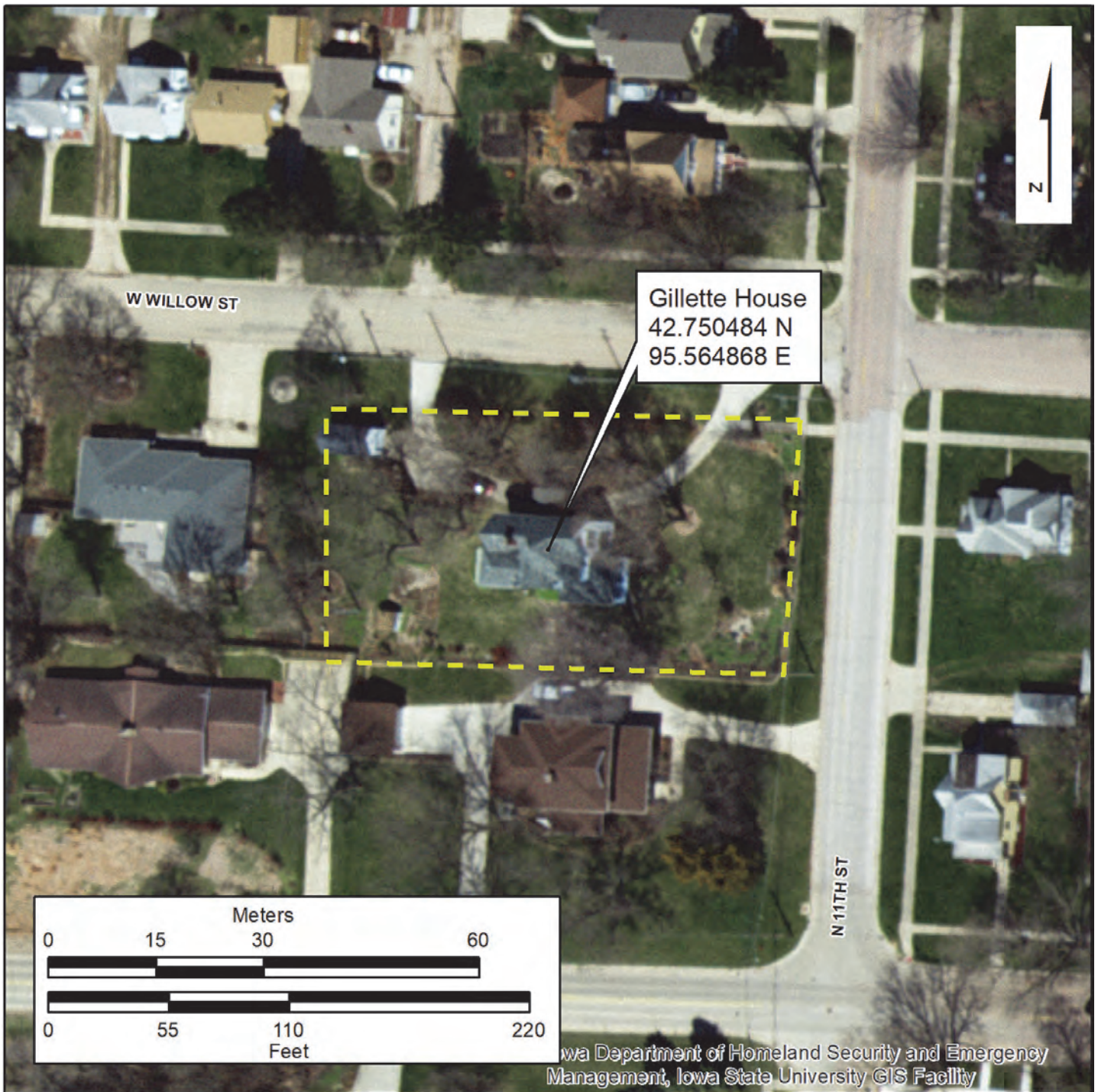


Figure 3. Location of Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) Gillette House, 111 N. 11th Street. Large-scale view. Dashed line shows the boundary of the nominated property. Base aerial photograph: 2017 aerial photograph (ISUGISSRF).

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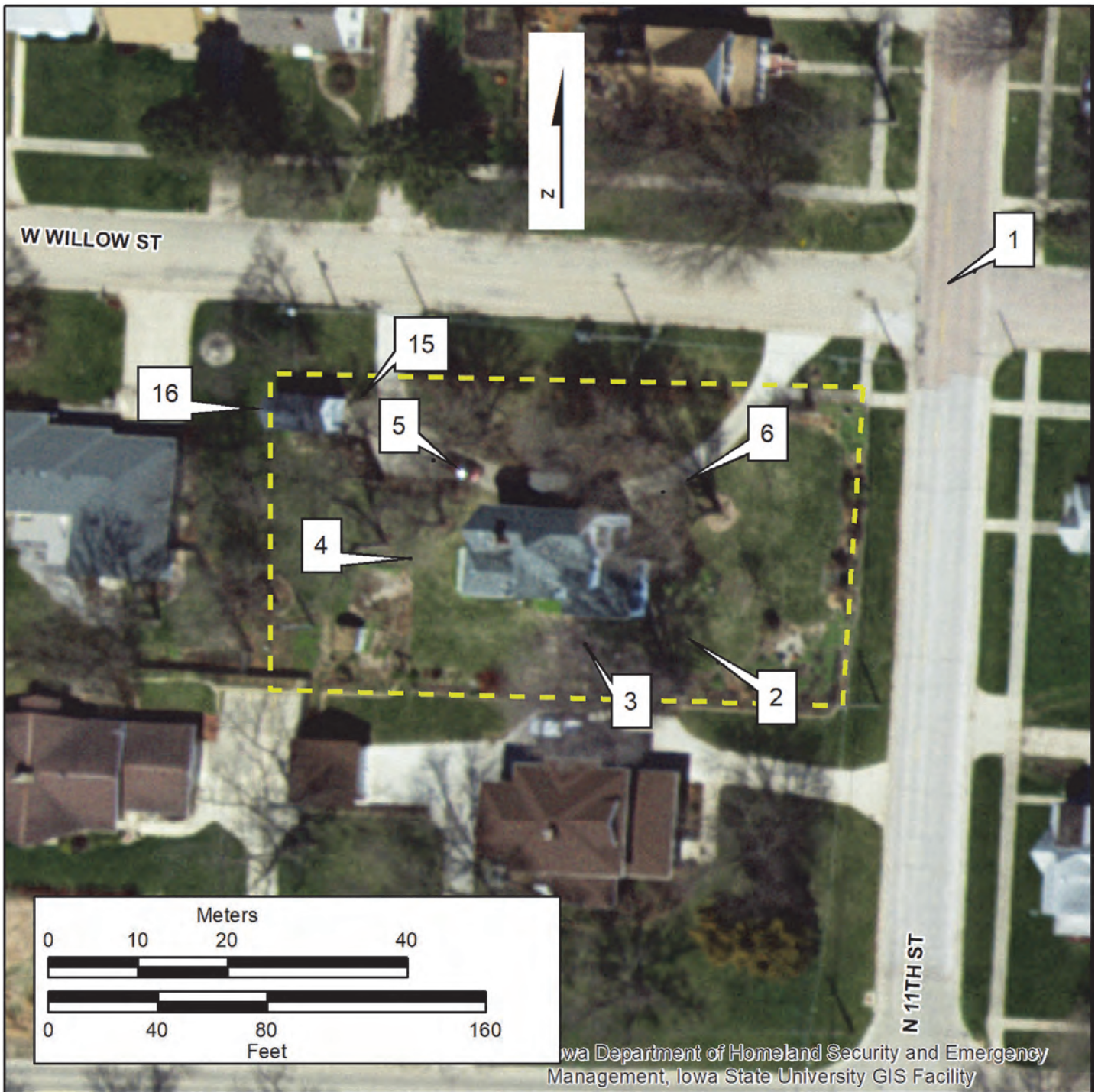


Figure 4. Key to photos 1–6 and 15–16 of the Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) Gillette House, 111 N. 11th Street. Base aerial photograph: 2017 aerial photograph (ISUGISSRF).

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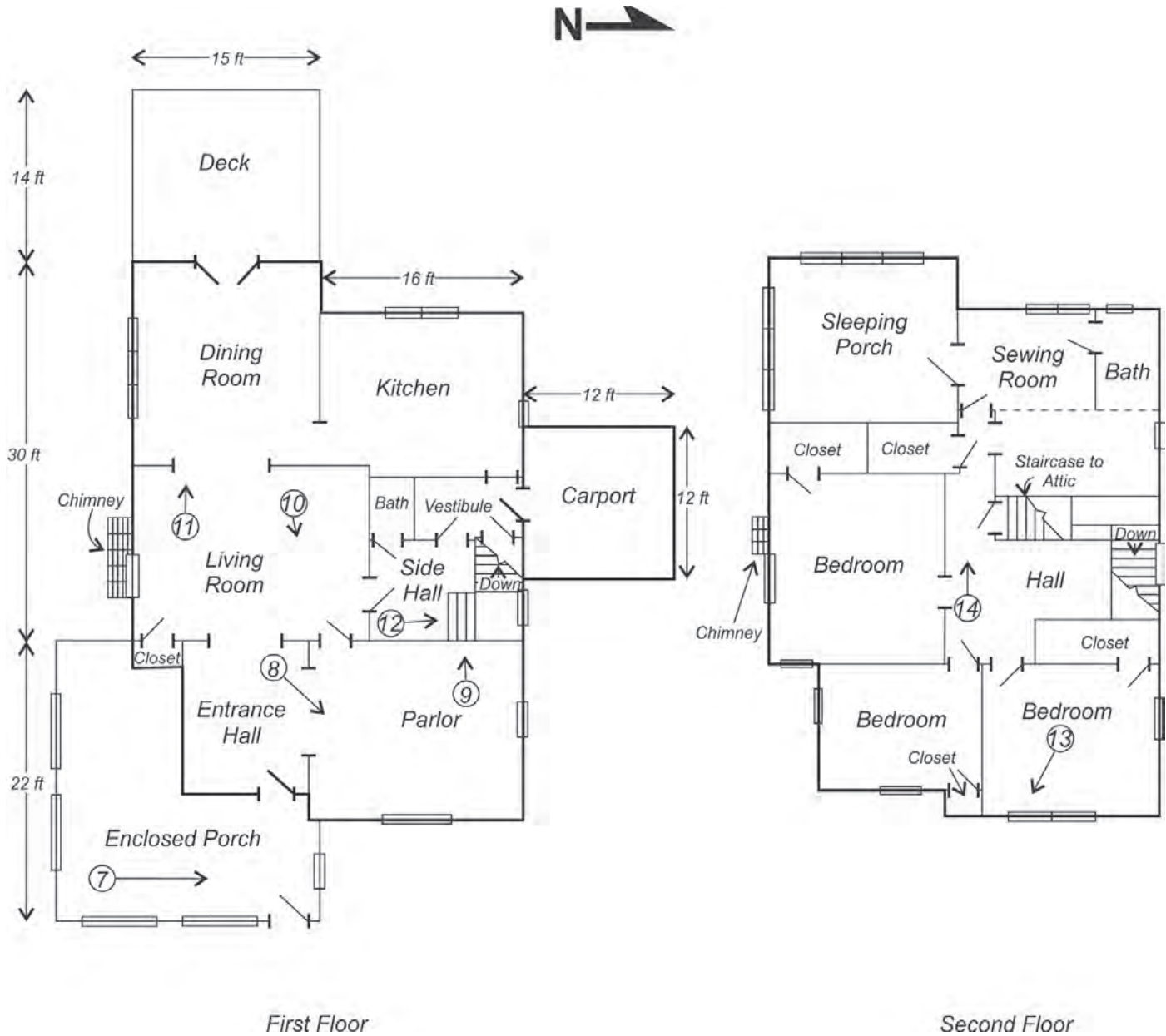


Figure 5. Key to photos 7–14 of the Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) Gillette House, 111 N. 11th Street. Scale approximate. Floor plans prepared by Maria Schroeder from information gathered by Richard Carlson.

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Figure 6. Studio photograph of Guy M. Gillette. This undated photograph most likely dates to the 1940s or early 1950s. Source: Cherokee Area Archives, Cherokee Public Library, Cherokee, Iowa.

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Name of Property

County and State



Figure 7. Historical view of the Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) Gillette House, 111 N. 11th Street. This undated photograph probably dates to the late 1950s or early 1960s, after Senator Gillette had retired to Cherokee. In particular, it appears identical or nearly identical to a photograph taken by the Cherokee Daily Times staff photographer to accompany an article on the senator published by the newspaper on July 15, 1959 (cited earlier in this nomination). The photograph therefore most likely dates to within a week or two before the publication date. This photograph shows the original configuration of the rear (west side) of the house, with two windows where there is now a pair of French doors on the first story under the sleeping porch, and a Queen Anne sash in the gable field of the west-facing gable. The field of corn in which the Senator is standing was later separated from the house property and now contains the house at 1107 W. Willow Street, built in 1978. Source: Cherokee Area Archives, Cherokee Public Library, Cherokee, Iowa.



VOTE YES

NO LEFT TURN









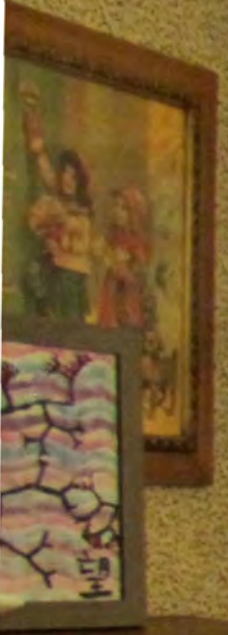






















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Gillette, Guy M. and Rose (Freeman), House

Multiple Name:

State & County: IOWA, Cherokee

Date Received: 8/13/2019 Date of Pending List: 9/13/2019 Date of 16th Day: 9/30/2019 Date of 45th Day: 9/27/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: SG100004427

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 9/27/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Guy M. and Rose (Freeman) House meets National Register Criterion B at the local level in the area of Politics/Government. The house was the home of prominent U.S. Senator Guy Gillette from 1940 to 1966. The house represents the property most directly associated with Gillette during his lengthy service in the Senate and as an influential leader in various national, state and local organizations and efforts. Gillette is considered one of Cherokee, Iowa's most noted twentieth century citizens.

Recommendation/ Criteria Accept NR Criterion B

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date 9/27/2019

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA COUNCIL PRODUCE STATE OF IOWA

August 8, 2019

Joy Beasley, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms Beasley:

The following National Register nomination(s) from Iowa are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable. For the **Clinton Street and Railroad Depot Historic District**, 7 of 10 owners have objected and so this nomination is being passed forward for a determination of eligibility rather than listing as described in § 60.6 (n). All objections and a copy of a letter in support of the objections (received by Iowa SHPO on June 11, 2019) are also enclosed. We received no objections for the other four enclosed nominations.

Clinton Street and Railroad Depot Historic District

The Clinton Street and Railroad Depot Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as the only surviving concentration of historic buildings that represents the history and development of one of Iowa City's oldest neighborhoods, the Near Southside neighborhood. This neighborhood is important in Iowa City's history both for the historical and architectural importance of its working class and middle class housing stock and because it is the only neighborhood in Iowa City that illustrates the importance of rail travel in Iowa City's past. Three of the buildings in the nominated historic district are associated specifically with the construction of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad passenger depot in the neighborhood in 1898, and the name of the historic district was selected to reflect that historic connection. The district is also eligible under Criterion C for the architectural importance of its contributing buildings, built between 1879 and 1915, several of which are individually eligible for listing. The nominated district represents the last remaining vestige of the 1870s–1910s redevelopment of the Near Southside neighborhood as a middle class residential area. The district's period of significance begins in 1879, the date of construction of the oldest contributing building in the district, and ends in 1948, the year in which the last contributing building was moved into the district.

Hotel Rea

The Hotel Rea is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The property is locally significant as a well-preserved example of a 19th century, small town hotel. The Hotel Rea is also eligible under Criterion A. The property is locally significant in association with the history of Corydon commerce. The Period of Significance is 1898 through ca.1931, which marks the building's history from its construction in 1898 through the period in which alterations to the original plan separated

the hotel function from the adjacent bank building, tied the interior function of the east storefront (207 State Street) to the hotel building, and incorporated the addition on the west with the hotel function. Specifically, the period of significance includes the construction of a wall on the first and second stories that created a physical separation of the first-floor retail space (207) from the bank building and disconnected the hotel rooms located on the 2nd floor of the bank building from the hotel proper. The period also includes construction and integration of the addition on the west. In short, by ca.1931 the Hotel Rea had evolved in composition and arrangement representative of the building today. The period from 1898-ca.1931 also best represents the "small town hotel" model for which the resource derives significance under Criterion A. Significant dates are 1898, the year the hotel was placed in service; and ca.1931, the year the hotel achieved autonomy from the bank building.

Gillette, Guy M. and Rose (Freeman), House

The Guy M. Gillette and Rose (Freeman) House is eligible under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government as the home in Cherokee of United States Senator Guy M. Gillette and his family during the majority of the time he served in the Senate. His family occupied a different house from 1932, when Gillette was first elected to the U. S. House of Representatives, until 1940, when he was in the middle of his first full term as Senator. The family occupied the house being nominated here from 1940 until 1966, when the former Senator moved to a hospital as the result of a stroke. Senator Gillette served in the Senate twice during this period, once from 1936 until 1944, when he lost a re-election bid, and again from 1948 until another loss in 1954. The house being nominated here was the Senator's only house in Cherokee during his most productive time in the Senate, when he or subcommittees he chaired investigated ways of producing synthetic rubber during World War II, helped draft the United Nations charter, and pushed the Roosevelt Administration to create the War Refugee Board. It was also his home in Cherokee during the period from 1945 to 1948 when he was president of the American League for a Free Palestine, which helped further American support for a Jewish state in Palestine after World War II. Finally, during the entire period he occupied the house, Senator Gillette was active not only in national politics, but also in local and statewide politics and community service. The house served as his base of operations for all of these statewide and local activities. Senator Gillette was routinely described as Cherokee's most famous citizen between the 1930s and 1970s. The house's period of significance under Criterion B extends from 1940, when the Gillette family first moved into this house, to 1966, when Guy Gillette suffered a stroke and left the house. The present nomination supports the significance of the house at the local level, but further research on Senator Gillette's statewide importance in Iowa politics may support eligibility at the state level as well.

Seaman, Roy C. and Lena (Johnson), House

The Roy C. and Lena (Johnson) Seaman House is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example in Cherokee, Iowa, of a Craftsman-style bungalow that retains a high degree of period integrity. Characteristic features of this style exhibited on the exterior of the Seaman House include a broad, moderately pitched, side-gabled roof that extends over a full-width front porch; decorative rafter tails; broad shed-roofed dormer windows; decorative stone veneers on the front porch and a prominent exterior chimney; and multi-light over single-light window sash. Craftsman-style features on the interior include a colonnade with built-in cabinets and squat battered square piers between the living room and dining room, faux timbers extending across the ceilings in both the living room and dining room; a decorative brick fireplace; and much original woodwork finished in varnish. Few features of the interior or exterior have been altered, so the house retains a high degree of period integrity. Its period of significance is ca. 1913, the estimated date the house was completed and ready for occupancy. Its significance is at the local level.

Boughton, Lemuel and Mary (Vaughn), House

The Lemuel C. and Mary (Vaughn) Boughton House is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example in Cherokee, Iowa, of a Queen Anne-style residence that retains a high degree of period integrity. Characteristic features of this style exhibited on the exterior of the house include a central pyramidal-roofed section with projecting gabled bay windows; imbricated shingles used as wall and gable decorations; decorative turned and jigsaw-cut details under the eaves in the cutaway bay windows; cottage windows on the bays; and apparently the smooth-faced concrete block foundation. Queen Anne-style features on the interior include the decorative staircase railing and newel

post; door surrounds with fluted jambs and bull's-eye corner blocks; paneled doors; robust molded baseboards; and transoms over the second-story bedroom doors. Few features of the exterior have been altered since the front porch was completed around 1910, and the interior also retains many original features, so the house retains a high degree of period integrity. Its period of significance under Criterion C extends from 1891, when the house was completed with its original porches, to ca. 1910, the approximate date when the current front porch replaced the two smaller original porches. Its significance is at the local level.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Laura Sadowsky
State Historian and National Register Coordinator
State Historical Society of Iowa

Enclosures.