

Davenport
Department of Community Development
Iowa Office of Historic Preservation
Dennett, Muessig & Associates, Ltd.

Survey 7-1-82

DAVENPORT

SURVEY 1982

SITE #82-10- -5905 **MAP NUMBER**
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NAME Joseph S. McHarg House ✓
ADDRESS 5905 Chapel Hill Road ✓

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Residential Building on
Agricultural Land from Parcel #30719 04

ACREAGE >1 **ZONE** **UTM** *697700/4595050*
OWNER Ora Monckmeier **TITLE** H
PO Box 151, c/o Werlin
Tipton IA 52772

DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Vernacular Greek Revival **DATE** c. 1865-70
FORM 2 story side-gable I house with full-height rear ell and
shed-roofed, enclosed entrance porch in southwest reentrant angle; five-bay,
symmetrical main facade
MATERIALS frame and clapboard on limestone foundation
FENESTRATION 3/1 d.h.s. (not original); windows have narrow, molded cornices
FEATURES molded gable-end cornices with partial returns; superimposed
central doorways on main facade are framed with sidelights (the top light
arched) and topped with single-light transom
ALTERATIONS 3-bay front porch and screened porch on east side are likely
from the turn of the century; window sash replaced
SITE slightly elevated above gravel road in rural area in the far
western part of Davenport



ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE This outstanding example of mid-19th century rural architecture lies within the Davenport city limits only because the city has expanded to include it. It is one of the few examples of the I-house included in the city-wide survey, not surprisingly, since the I-house is predominantly a rural, rather than urban, form. Built during the local transition from Greek Revival to Italianate, the house includes features from both styles. The superimposed center doorways with their unusual sidelights and transom panels, are particularly fine borrowings from the Greek Revival. The influence of the Italianate is seen primarily in the noticeably taller front windows of the first floor. Although within city limits, the house retains a rural, agricultural setting.

HISTORICAL DATA

Although little information has been found concerning this house, it may have been built by Joseph S. McHarg. Available evidence suggests that Joseph McHarg was the brother of Thomas J. McHarg, an immigrant from Ireland who came to the Davenport area in 1848. Thomas is cited as having farmed with his brother until 1855, when the two apparently procured separate farms. Joseph appears as owner of land encompassing the house in 1875. By 1882, the property was occupied by Richard Jenkins, who was one of several farmers in the area specializing in fruit-growing (probably apples). Between 1882 and 1894, the property was acquired by Heinrich Rohwer, son of a German immigrant who farmed in Allen's Grove Township. The property remained in the Rohwer family well into the 20th century.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Iowa. Chicago: A.T. Andreas, 1875

Schmidt & Heubinger's Map of Scott County, Iowa. Davenport, 1882

Atlas of Scott County, Iowa. Davenport: M. Huebinger & Co., 1894

Atlas of Scott County, Iowa. Davenport: Iowa Publishing Co., 1905

Atlas of Scott County, Iowa. Davenport: Huebinger Publishing Co.,

1919

Downer, Harry E. History of Davenport and Scott County, Iowa.

Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1910

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION

DESIGN excellent STATURE incident
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONTEXT good FABRIC excellent
DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL EVALUATION

PRIMARY THEME

SECONDARY THEME

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE yes

PHOTO ID 1764-1,2,3,4

Martha H. Bowers, Architectural Historian

Marlys Svendsen, Historian

FOR DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION USE ONLY

1 DATE RECEIVED _____

2 DATE OF STAFF EVALUATION _____

	A ARCHITECTURAL	B HISTORICAL
ELIGIBLE FOR NRHP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NOT ELIGIBLE FOR NRHP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3 NRHP ACTION

A STATE REVIEW COMM	APP <input type="checkbox"/>	DISAPP <input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE _____
B FEDERAL REVIEW	APP <input type="checkbox"/>	DISAPP <input type="checkbox"/>	TABLED <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE _____

4 DHP SOURCES

<input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/> DEF OF ELIGIBILITY
<input type="checkbox"/> W SHIELD SURVEY	<input type="checkbox"/> R B C _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NRHP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DAVENPORT A/H SURVEY
<input type="checkbox"/> GRANT _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____

5 SUBJECT TRACES _____

6 PHOTO _____