

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

DAVENPORT SURVEY 1982

SITE #82-10- NW-6035 **MAP NUMBER**
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NAME John Littig House ✓
ADDRESS 6035 Northwest Boulevard ✓



LEGAL DESCRIPTION Residential bldg. on agri.
land, from parcel #W0353 09B (see continuation
sheet)

ACREAGE ap.2 **ZONE** A1? **UTM** 15/700280 4606070
OWNER City of Davenport **TITLE** H
City Hall
Davenport IA 52801

DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Victorian Gothic **DATE** c. 1867
FORM 2-1/2 stories; five-bay symmetrical main block with side-gable
roof; front wall rises to large gable; 1-1/2 story front-gable kitchen wing at
north corner; three-bay front porch
MATERIALS rubble limestone, covered with stucco and scored to resemble
ashlar; dressed stone quoins
FENESTRATION 2/2 d.h.s.; openings topped with shallow triangular hoods that
are nearly flush with the wall surface; single round-arched window in front gable
FEATURES double-door entry has transom with two lozenge-shaped lights;
porch appears original or quite early, with chamfered posts and very thin, wavy
brackets; modillion cornice
ALTERATIONS has suffered neglect, but appears to have had little exterior alteration
SITE house is well set back on expansive lot with large evergreen
and shade trees (some of an age with the house)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE The Gothic Revival style in Davenport was
extensively used in 19th century ecclesiastical design, but seldom used for
dwellings. The style's application to domestic architecture usually meant
borrowing the roof shape, and perhaps a few decorative elements, and combining
these with more traditional house forms. This characteristic is well
illustrated in the Littig house, which apart from the steep front gable and
distinctive porch brackets, displays the rectilinear symmetry associated with
the Georgian/Federal and Greek Revival styles. This lingering neoclassicism is
also expressed in the way in which the rubble stone walls were plastered, then
scored to resemble dressed ashlar construction -- a conceit which was carefully
carried through even to the kitchen wing.

The Littig house is thus of interest in several respects. In style it might
be considered conservatively transitional, in that it borrows from both
neoclassical and later picturesque styles. And the treatment of the exterior

(CON'T)

NOV 1 1984

HISTORICAL DATA

John Littig built this house around 1867. It was the third farm purchased by Littig following his arrival in Scott County from France in the 1840's. In Davenport, Littig went to work for Harvey Leonard, a local contractor and brick manufacturer. Later, he worked for Antoine LeClaire, the city's founder and principal promoter. Littig's father, a stone mason and brewer, is reported to have supervised construction of the house.

By the 1880's John Littig's farm on Allen Grove Road (now Northwest Blvd.) was the largest in Scott County and a notable show place. The Littigs were known for their hospitality and fine, locally-produced wines. The farm remained in the Littig family until 1899.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES History of Scott County, Iowa. Chicago: Interstate Publishing Co., 1882.
Littig Family Geneology, c. 1945

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION

DESIGN excellent STATURE incident
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONTEXT good FABRIC fair
DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL EVALUATION

PRIMARY THEME
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

SECONDARY THEME

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE yes

PHOTO ID 1763-33A,34A

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 OHP SOURCES

<input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY RESOURCES	<input type="checkbox"/> DE 1 OF ELIGIBILITY
<input type="checkbox"/> WSHIELD 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 _____

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (con't)

illustrates one way in which the illusion of "high style" and use of expensive materials could be achieved even when such materials were either unavailable or too costly for the builder to afford.

Boundry Description

Beginning in the intersection of the northeasterly right-of-way line of Northwest Boulevard and the east right-of-way line of Studevart Street; thence northerly along the east right-of-way line of Sturdevart Street approximately 265 feet to the south right-of-way line of 60th Street Court; thence easterly along the south right-of-way line of 60th Street Court approximately 136 feet; thence southerly along a line of approximate angle of South 31 Degrees West for approximately 300 feet to the northeasterly right-of-way line of Northwest Boulevard; thence westerly along the northeasterly right-of-way line of Northwest Boulevard approximately 166 feet to the point of beginning.

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