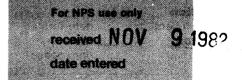
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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Scholte House						
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507 Franklin	Stree	t				
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7. Description

Condition excellent deteriorated ruins fair unexposed	Check one XXX unaltered altered	Check one XXXYOYiginal site moved date
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

As the only Pella home of H:P. Scholte. the founder of that city and its most important early leader, the house is of primary historical significance. It is located on the north side of the town square, the only house there. Many commercial buildings have had pseudo-Dutch architectural features applied to them in the past few years, and those American Greek Revival elements of the Scholte House show that the Dutch immigrants used local materials and American styles. A modern garage and a "garden house" with a thatched roof (probably for tool storage) share the good-sized Scholte site, whose backyard extends for three blocks. Originally the Scholtes planted a formal garden in the rear, apparently not extant.

The Scholte house is a warren of small and large additons built since its construction in 1847-48. A file of materials and labor bills fixes the date. It appears that the original house, considered immense in its times, was long and gabled with the long portion facing the street. There are still cornice returns and a simple cornice on this portion; later additions have also been of clapboard. The original house sported a long two-story porch along the east end. (Around 1900 the double decker solaria filled in part of the porch.) A sketch accompanying Leonora Scholte's memoirs, \underline{A} Stranger in a Strange Land, shows a large porch as well as a small flat-roofed porch (not extant) over the west entrance. The house appears to be a combination of Greek Revival motifs and Dutch gingerbread rendered in wood. The east gable end has a semi-circular louvre and a nonfunctional balcony and canopy adorning the sole window on the second floor.

Two additions extend to the rear on the east end of the house. The two-story portion date from 1903 while the one-story curator's quarters were added in 1980. Several large additions occur to the west as well. The largest, two-story, is recessed slightly from the original house facade so that the original side windows remain. This section which does not appear onthe Scholte book sketch, houses the dining room and kitchen, with a stucco bath at the rear. The owners say that there has been no change in the rooms, but, if the early sketch is at all accurate, then there has been some rearrangement of use and space. Indeed, throughout the house, new openings have been made and others closed off. The house once included rental apartment space, and the library and east living room were sealed off from one another.

The interior features many items belonging to the Scholte family. Reportedly the original carpet and wallpaper ordered from Paris in the 1860's still exists in some parts of the house. Much of the woodwork including the staircase, is walnut.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 XX 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering XX exploration/settlement	Iandscape architectur Iaw Iiterature Iiteratury Indicate music Indicate politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1847-48	Builder/Architect		

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

H.P. Scholte was the founder of Pella and the spiritual, practical and formal leader of the Dutch Emigration Society that planned and carried out migration of several hundred people to Pella. The immigrants sought both increased prosperity and religous freedom. The Scholte family house was an early showplace in the region, one of the first constructed by the Dutch after their arrival in 1847.

Scholte was significant in the religous history of the Netherlands, being a primary leader of the Secessionist movement from the organized church in the 1830s. He continued to be religiously and politically active in Iowa, to the point of delivering a seconding speech for Abraham Lincoln at the 1860 Republican convention. He also was chief commercial leader in early Pella, investing heavily in early mills, assorted development ventures and land. In 1855 Scholte founded the first permanent newspaper in town, the Pella Gazette, the only one in the region at that time. He was one of three founders of the first and largest bank in town (later named Pella National Bank.) He was a leader in acquiring Baptist Central College for Pella in 1853 and served as president of the college trustees. Later events, especially his switch from the Democratic to the new Republican party and his participation in highly emotional church schism issues, diminished Scholte's influence. But his initial contribution to Pella's existence and growth remains.

After Scholte's death in 1868, his widow and her second husband, R.R. Beard, lived in the house. Beard carried on Scholte's commercial leadership through the end of the nineteenth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

10 Goograph	ical Data		
10. Geograph			
Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle name Pella	, less than one ac	<u>er</u> e	Quadrangle scale 1/24,000
UMT References			Quadrangle scale 1/2+3000
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List all states and counties	for properties overla	pping state or county	boundaries
state Iowa	code 19	county Marion	code 125
state	code	county	code
11. Form Pre			
	al Building	date	October 26, 1982
street & number East 12t	h and Grand Ave	e telepho	ne
city or town Des Moin	nes	state	Iowa 50319
12. State His	toric Prese	rvation Off	icer Certification
The evaluated significance of the	nis property within the st	ate is:	
national	xxxxstate _	locai	
As the designated State Historic 665), I hereby nominate this proaccording to the criteria and prostate Historic Preservation Office	operty for inclusion in the ocedures set forth by the	National Register and c	reservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– ertify that it has been evaluated
title Executive Direc	tor Iowa State	Historical Dep	t date November 1, 1982
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this p	roperty is included in the	National Register Entered in the National Regis	date /2/10/12
Keeper of the National Reg	ster	ANALUMI A0216	date
Chief of Registration			

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

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Item number

9.

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