

SITE #82-10-RD-E1234 MAP NUMBER
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NAME Abner Davison House
ADDRESS 1234 East River Drive



LEGAL DESCRIPTION Fulton's Add., Pt. Blk. 2 com
116' W of SE cor Blk 2-W 140'-N414'-E to NE cor
Lot 1 Blk 2-S 381' to N/L River St.

ACREAGE ap.2 ZONE R4D UTM 15/703840 4600030
OWNER Don S. Challed & Wife TITLE H
5 McClellan Blvd.
Davenport IA 52803

DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Tuscan Italianate (orig.) DATE c.1860-1910
FORM 2 stories; nearly square main block w/full-height rear wing
(original part); two-story wing added west side; multiple hipped roofs
MATERIALS original construction was brick, addition clay tile; stuccoed
FENESTRATION two French doors on front of main block; plate
glass casements? in bands on west wing; various 1/1 and 2/2 d.h.s. elsewhere
FEATURES main entrance porch w/fluted Doric columns and pilasters; wide
door w/sidelights; ornate Victorian gazebo near SW corner of main block
ALTERATIONS original rear elements of 2 and 1-1/2 stories redone as single
two-story mass; west wing added; wood veranda across front of main block
removed; exterior stuccoed; window sash replaced, esp. at front
SITE house set on crest of hill, w/sweeping lawn to retaining wall

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE The Abner Davison house successfully incorporates both Italianate and Prairie influences, the result of two distinct building phases. The house appears to have been originally constructed in the cubic "Tuscan" form of the Italianate style, in the late 1850's or early 1860's, when the style was extremely popular among well-to-do Davenport residents. Sometime between about 1900 and 1910, the house was considerably enlarged through modification of the original rear wing and addition of a two-story wing on the west side. This new wing repeats the hipped-roof form of the original main block, but organizes windows in horizontal bands, a Prairie style feature that contrasts with the Victorian verticality of the tall, narrow windows at the front of the earlier section. A covering of gray stucco brings the new and old sections of the house together, as does removal of brackets and possibly a belvedere. The only decorative element is the columned entrance porch. The house is impressively sited on an enormous, terraced lot which still retains
(CON'T)

HISTORICAL DATA

Abner Davison was the original occupant of this residence, which may have been built as early as 1858. Davison was a lawyer in partnership with David S. True at the time. By the 1890's, Davison had another partner, Joe R. Lane.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES Davenport City Directories, 1858, 1861, 1866, 1873, 1890-91

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION

DESIGN good STATURE focus
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONTEXT good FABRIC good
DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL EVALUATION

PRIMARY THEME
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

SECONDARY THEME

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE yes

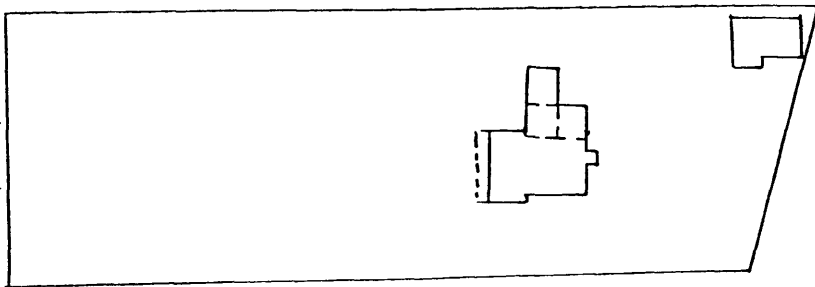
PHOTO ID 1744-17A, 18A; 1760-18, 19

Martha H. Bowers, Architectural Historian

Marlys Svendsen, Historian

E. RIVER DR.

1234



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 TRACE: _____

6 PHOTO _____

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (con't)

evidence of an original carriage drive. The ornate, wrought-iron gazebo near the front of the house is an important decorative feature, now the only truly "Victorian" element remaining.

