National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

294

JAN 30 2002

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "w" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

| • | | | | code153 | • |
|-----------------|--------------|-------|---|---------|---------------------|
| ity or town | Des Moines | | | N/A | |
| reet & number | 1410 19th St | treet | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | N/A [| not for publication |
| . Location | | | | | |
| ther names/site | number | | | | |
| istoric name | | | | | |

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this is 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide is locally. (Different Set for additional comments.)

Dearty SHPO February 4, 2002 60 Date ORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

State of Federal agency and bureau

Sig

| Signature of certifying official/Title | Date | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| State or Federal agency and bureau | | |
| . National Park Service Certification | a hore a | |
| hereby certify that the property is: | O Signature of the Keeper | Date of Action |
| entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. | Cason I. Beall | 4.1.02 |
| determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. | | |
| determined not eligible for the National Register. | | |
| removed from the National Register. | | - <u>i</u> |
| Other, (explain:) | | |

| Polk | • I | owa | |
|--------|-----|-------|--|
| County | and | State | |

| 5. Classification Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) (Check only one box) | | Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.) | | | count.) |
|---|--|---|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| private public-local public-State public-Federal | building(s) district site structure object | 1 | | Noncontributing | building sites structure |
| Name of related multiple p | roperty listing | 1 Number | of cont | 0 ributing resources prev | Total |
| | or a multiple property listing.) | in the N | ational I | Register | |
| 6. Function or Use | | <u></u> | | | |
| Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) | | Current Fu (Enter categori | | nstructions) | |
| Domestic, Single Dwelling | | Domestic, Single Dwelling | | | |
| | | Comme: | rcial/T | rade, Professional | |
| 7. Description | | | | | |
| 7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) | | Materials (Enter categor | ies from in | structions) | |
| Late Victorian, Que | eene Anne | foundation Brick | | | |
| Late 19th & 20th Ce | entury Rivivals, | walls | Wood, | Weatherboard | |
| Classical Revival | | | Wood, | Shingle | |
| | | roof | | lt | |
| | | other | | | |

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.
- \Box C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- □ F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography

#__

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- □ Federal agency
- Local government
- I Other

Name of repository:

| | | | Library |
|------|--------|---------|---------|
| Iowa | Geneol | logical | Society |

(Enter categories from instructions)

Areas of Significance

Architecture

e Architect/Builder a. 100 Architect/Builder Christy, Joseph

| Evans, Edward B. & Nettie E., House Name of Property | Polk, Iowa County and State |
|--|---|
| 10. Geographical Data | |
| Acreage of Property less than one | |
| UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) | |
| 1 1 <td>3 Zone Easting 4 See continuation sheet</td> | 3 Zone Easting 4 See continuation sheet |
| Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) | |
| Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) | |
| 11. Form Prepared By | |
| name/titleCal Sale | |
| organization N/A | date |
| street & number1410 19th Street | telephone (515) 243-3985 |
| city or town Des Moines s | tate <u>Iowa</u> zip code <u>50314</u> |
| Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: | |
| Continuation Sheets | |
| Maps | |
| A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the prope | rty's location. |
| A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having la | |
| | |
| Photographs | |
| Representative black and white photographs of the prope | ty. |

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

| Property Owner | | | ***** | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------------|--|
| (Complete this item at t | the request of SHPO or FPO.) | | | |
| name | Cal Sale & Kristian Mikesell | | | |
| street & number | 1410 19th Street | telephone _ | (515) 243-3985 | |
| city or town | Des Moines | stateIowa | zip code | |

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Evans, Edward B. & Nettie E., House Polk County, Iowa

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The overall style of the Edward Baker Evans house is a two and a half story, frame, Cross Gabled Free Classic Victorian with a full width front gable and a prominent front porch. Above the front porch on the second floor is a recessed sleeping porch. The house also sports a prominent view from the South with its arched window wall and sleeping porch on the south gable. It is one of only three in this specific style known to exist in Des Moines. Some believe that C. C. Cross and son, architects, who designed many houses in the Drake area designed this house, but this has yet to be proven. The house also may have been designed by architect, C. E. Eastman, who also designed many homes in the area. Eastman designed a later home at 1130 31st Street for the Evans family. The house at 1410 19th was the second house built on the block according to county records. The county places the year of construction as 1900. The interior of the house reflects late Victorian style. It is located in the King-Irving neighborhood, a transitional neighborhood, located about six blocks east of the Drake University campus. The house fronts East onto 19th Street, on a fifty foot wide lot.

The house was built by real estate developer, Joseph Christy, owner of Christy Coal and President of Christy Savings Bank, who sold the property to Edward B. & Nettie E. Evans for \$5300.00. They bought the property on November 13, 1899. The Evan's sold their residence of eleven years, at 1444 East Walnut—now razed—to Christy, along with a lot they owned on Columbia Street in the Highland Park area. Mr. Christy held the note on the house until May 24, 1900, when he sold the note, in the form of a mortgage, to the State Savings Bank of Des Moines. This may indicate that the house was built between November 1899 and May 1900; however it would be more likely—from a construction point of view—that it was built in the summer of 1899. It may have been started in the summer of 1899, but not completed until May 1900. The exact time-line remains a mystery. The City of Des Moines has no building records going back this far.

The house sports faddish belcast curves on each gable and an arched window wall on the south gable—a rare feature that was only popular for a few years around the turn of the century. This arched window wall was accessed from the third floor attic. It features a sleeping porch that was also a fad of the times. It led out over the bay window wall on the South side of the house. The house also features a sleeping porch on the second floor of the front facade, which can be accessed from both the southeast and northeast bedrooms. While working on this sleeping porch ceiling, we found an insulation technique from either the turn of the century, when the house was built, or the circa 1911 attic bedroom remodel. A wood cavity had been built, lined with roofing felt and the wood shavings, newspapers, molding pieces, nails, sandpaper and almost everything else from the attic floor had been swept into this cavity. Then it was sealed and not opened until 1998. The contents of this cavity have been saved and proved beneficial in determining a missing architrave detail on third floor.

The front entry to the first floor is from a porch that stretches three quarters of the width of the east side of the house. The porch has a unique design in that it has a turned set of three neo-classic columns set up on bases at each end of the porch. These matched a set on the second floor balcony above which still exist. A set of wide porch steps with railings on both sides, centered on the front of the porch, led up to the front door.

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In removing damaged retaining walls in front of the house and along the driveway at the N.E. corner of the property part of a brick driveway and sidewalk were found. The driveway used a stacked bond and was edged with a curb style brick. The front sidewalk, in the herring bone style, which ran from a step-off at the curb up a set of steps, made in-part of granite, was uncovered in 1998. A patio to the side of the porch dating to before 1937 still exists.

What is believed to have happened is that in 1935 the water line to the house was replaced, based on records of the Des Moines Waterworks. It ran through the foundation wall of the front bay of the house. I believe that the original brick drive in the front of the house was removed at this time and the bricks were

then used to make the retaining wall around the front of the property, along with the bricks from the front steps, which would no longer be needed since there was to be a new set of steps leading down to the drive. This explains why most of the driveway and sidewalk were missing and why the bricks in the retaining wall had such rounded off edges and wear such as you see in street brick. It was also at this time that I believe that the front porch was altered. At the very least, the front steps were removed and the opened porch railing consisting of simple, square, 5/4 balustrades with a decorative dowel and ball design between, was replaced with a closed railing that was sided to match the house. These balustrades were found incorporated into the structure of the front porch along with a section of front railing. The dowel and ball were found under the front porch. A shadow line showing the intricate bottom railing section was found on the original column base. The front porch columns were removed at some later date. We still have three original columns from the second floor balcony. And, it would appear from the evidence—for example, shadow lines and height requirements—that the same columns were used on the front porch. These columns are being made to match those on the balcony. The porch will be rebuilt in this original style incorporating as many of the original balustrades and railing pieces as possible.

The house also originally had a back porch that stretched three quarters of the width of the house. The porch is simple in design with two Greek Revival Doric columns and a hipped roof. The porch railing had an arched balustrade design, evidenced by photos recently acquired from circa 1954. The back porch on the west side of the house had a small room added under it along with the kitchen or dinette room addition sometime prior to 1920, as evidenced by the 1920 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. It was probably during the time from 1911-1920, that owner Thomas McCarty, whose family totaled nine, added this room as well as adding three bedrooms and water closet in the attic. The cellar stairs are set next to the porch on the west-southwest corner of the house. There were two rear entry doors on the house. One on the west-northwest corner of the house led into the kitchen and had a transom above; the original cavity that housed the door was found during renovation. The second door was that of a smoking porch door that led to the porch from the dining room. This door had no transom and was converted into the new back door to the house after the 1911-1920 renovation. The kitchen addition, being a good quality addition that matches the overall structure, will be left in place. There will be a new door to this kitchen addition from the outside, which will be once again used as a modern kitchen so that the original kitchen area can be returned to a period kitchen/breakfast room for the house.

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The house was originally composed of nine rooms on the first and second floors including a bathroom on the second floor. The first floor had a reception hall, parlor, dining room and kitchen. It also had an alcove located just off the reception hall and under the stairs for coats. A pair of french doors led from the reception hall to the parlor, which may have been used as Evans' home office, and a pair of eight foot pocket doors, each 32" wide, led into the dining room from the parlor. The cross paneled oak pocket doors had been removed and/or cut down into swinging doors when the house was converted to apartments in 1945. The dining room could also be accessed from a door off the alcove and another swinging door off the kitchen. The dining room was the only room in the house to originally have a coal burning fireplace. However, the design, size and location of the three flue chimney suggests that the master bedroom could also have had a fireplace or stove. The north side of the house on the first floor also has a central stairway that can be accessed by either an oak stairway from the reception hall or a simpler stairway in yellow pine from the kitchen. The reception hall, dining room and alcove have inlaid floors of differing designs. The floors throughout the first floor were oak; while the floors on the second and third floors were birch. The original oak, cross panel door hardware on the first and second floors had been changed out during the time the house was apartments with one exception. The brass plated set evidently is rare, because after several years of searching, because I have been unable to find any other set like it. The house also has its original storm doors with unusual hardware that I have never seen before. All rooms on the first and second floors had gas-electric light fixtures which, although removed, have been replaced with original pieces of the period.

The third floor of the house was originally all attic space. As stated previously, it was converted to three bedrooms and a water closet, circa 1911-1920, which sported built-in sets of drawers; one set was made of a dining room side board. The original door hardware from the bedrooms on the third floor remain. Some of the original boxes the door hardware came in have been found. A ceiling that was added at the time that the bedrooms were added covered over part of the lunette window portion of the palladian window, which was uncovered in May 1996. The third floor was equipped with only gas light fixtures. At some later date, prior to1941, the third floor was converted to an apartment by adding a full bathroom and converting bedroom 3 into a kitchen, bedroom 2 into the living room. Part of this apartment information was related to me by the former Mrs. William Hilling, now remarried, who lived in the apartment in 1941. She unfortunately had no photographs of the house.

The basement walls of the house are of brick, on a twelve inch by six inch brick footing. This foundation was placed on stable soil as there has been no settling of the foundation since. The basement originally consisted of two large rooms divided by a center load bearing wall. There was a small room in the northwest corner for coal storage—the original battens still remain in the coal room door. The room now is used for utilities. Leaders from the roof fed a cistern in the center of the basement on the north side. This cistern—although filled in—remains. However, bricks from the cistern may be mined to be used in exterior repairs if required. At some point in its history there was a door leading down into the basement from the North side of the house under the main staircase above. This was probably the predecessor to the cellar stairs on the back of the house that may have been added when the kitchen/dinette room addition was added, circa 1911-1920.

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While there is evidence from the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps dated 1901, of a one and a half story, sixteen by twenty-four foot carriage house/garage in the Northwest corner of property, it has been gone since before 1950. Mr. and Mrs. James Wren, who provided me with photos from 1954, who lived in one of the former apartments from 1950-1958, stated that there was a one car garage at the Southwest corner of the property when they lived here which is also now gone and the one and a half carriage house was also gone at the time the Wrens lived in the house. However, the foundation of the original carriage house remains.

Little of the original landscaping still remains other than some daylilies and an ivy vine.

Currently, the house has been returned to its original floor plan except for the attic apartment which still exists. The house is currently being rehabilitated both inside and out with an investment of over \$112,000 to date plus sweat equity. Approximately two to three more years are remaining on the outside work and three to four years on the inside. The adaptive reuse of the first floor of the house is for office space, while the second floor remains bedrooms and baths. We will reside in the attic apartment. Future plans also call for a possible bed and breakfast catering to Drake University parents and alumni and a possible basement apartment. The grounds have been increased to .45 acres with the purchase of two lots to the South; stretching to the corner of Forest Avenue and 19th Streets, giving the property much more prominence from the South and returning the view from the South to that which would have existed in 1899-1900 when the house was built; as evidenced by the 1901 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. A wrought iron fence is planned to secure the property. Also, a three car garage in the same style as the house will be built to the rear of the first lot South of the house.

NARATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edward B. and Nettie E. Evans house is locally significant under Criterion C as one of the best surviving examples of a Free Classic Queen Anne type residence in the City of Des Moines. It is a transitional architectural type, identified and classified by the McAlesters in their groundbreaking, <u>A Field Guide to American Houses</u> in 1984 and this house was also identified by John Maves in his commissioned study for the Des Moines Planning and Zoning Commission, <u>Des Moines Heritage, A Survey of Significant Architecture</u>, 1976, as being architecturally significant. The Evans house is essentially a Queen Anne style house with architectural detailing derived from the Classical Revival mode. Like so many of these houses, the Evans residence features the asymmetrical form, complex roof treatment, full width and recessed porches, and contrasting shingle patterning that are considered hallmarks of the Queen Anne style. On the other hand, the classically derived window and door trim, the grouped classical porch columns, and especially the Palladian attic window on the front facade exhibit a strong Classical Revival influence. Likely architect designed, this house possesses a number of significant interior features as well, including parquet floors, pocket doors, elaborate door hardware, and beveled glass windows.

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The Evans house was built in circa 1899 for the Edward Baker Evans family. Evans, a native of Iowa, lawyer, and first secretary of the Drake University Law School, known then as the Drake College of Law, would, in 1907, become the law school's second Dean and serve in that post until June 1918. The law school's classes were held downtown until 1904, when Cole Hall was completed on the Drake University campus. Evans, coming from a poor rural background, was born near Winterset, Iowa in 1861, and originally apprenticed as a marble carver and tradesman for six years. However, he found that it was the study of law that really interested him and so started in his studies to become an attorney. In January 1888, he passed the examination before the supreme court in Des Moines. He then opened a law office at 504-506 Fifth Street, until he was appointed in 1894, by President Grover Cleveland as Registrar of the Government Land Office of Iowa. He worked in this position until 1897, when he resumed private practice, which he would continue for the next ten years. In 1901, he also became the Secretary of the Drake College of Law under Dean, Judge C. C. Cole. In 1903, Drake College of Law conferred upon him the Master of Law Degree. Evan's was also a well-published author, being an associate editor of the American Cyclopedia of Pleadings and Practice, a thirty-two volume law publication. His specific chapter was on the Pendency of Actions. He also, wrote a textbook on insurance law called Evans' Cases and Text on the Law of Insurance, 1912. He was the professor who started the Moot Court Competition, as part of the Model Senate, a debating society at Drake. In 1904, 'The Trial of Aaron Burr' was argued over a five day period, by six student lawyers. This mock trial was reported nationwide. Evan's presided. He was one of the directors and the attorney of the American Life Insurance Company. He was also a founder, trustee and director of Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines. Evans was active in the temperance movement, being a member of the headquarters committee of the Anti-Saloon League. Mr. Evans was active in many fraternal organizations including, the University Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge of Odd Fellows, Brotherhood of American Yeomen, and others. He was also a member of the Grant Club in Des Moines. He was married to Nettie E Motley of Winterset, Iowa.

They had a son, Frederick Vance Evans, born July 19, 1883, who was also of some note. Frederick Vance Evans graduated from Drake University in 1905 with a degree in Music. He became a music instructor at Des Moines College in 1907. He then took a position as a vocal instructor at Drake University from 1908-1910 and was named Secretary and acting Dean of the Music College in 1909, after the death of Dean Frederick Howard; but he would not be named to the permanent position. After leaving Drake he became the head of the vocal department at the Conservatory of Music at Highland Park College in Des Moines between 1911-1913. Frederick Vance Evans also was the conductor of the Des Moines Philharmonic Choir, made up of singers from throughout Des Moines until late 1913. Evans then moved to California in the fall of 1913 where he became a well-known choral music conductor in the Monrovia, California area. Frederick Evans is also given credit for the discovery of Merle Tillotson Alcock, by Alcock herself, who was a contralto with the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

Evans and his wife lived in the house at 1410 19th Street until May 1910 when they moved to a smaller house at 1130 31st Street, designed by C. E. Eastman. There is evidence that Evans became an investor after leaving Drake in June 1918, and followed his son Frederick to California. He was listed as living in South 8th Avenue in Arcadia, California in 1923. His occupation, investor. He is listed as the President of the Rotary Club in Monrovia, California in 1927. The 1929-30 Monrovia telephone directory lists him again as a lawyer, his offices at 224-228 Italy Building. No street address was listed. In 1931, his offices are listed as being in the Bank of America Building. A Drake University Law School alumni publication lists Evans living in Monrovia, California in 1939. Evans died in 1940 at the age of 79. His son Frederick Vance Evans would die from complications due to a stroke in 1942 at age 59.

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Evans, Edward B. & Nettie E., House Polk County, Iowa

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In May 1910, the house was sold to Gertrude C. Mott, widow of wealthy and influential Des Moines businessman Lamoine Mott. Mott had been a leading grain merchant in Iowa, President of the Diamond Grain Company, Vice President of B. A. Lockwood Grain Company, President of Shannon and Mott Milling Company, and President of Mott Ranch Company, all in Des Moines. Mott invested in real estate in Des Moines and Valley Junction; along with several orange groves around San Diego, California and ranch lands in North Dakota. He was also the builder of the Orpheum Theater in Des Moines. He spent time as a member of the school board and was a member of the Masonic Temple. Mr. Mott died on Christmas Eve, 1905 in San Diego, California. The widow Mott owned the house until December 1911, when it was sold to Nellie and Mary McCarty daughters of Thomas McCarty.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

John Maves and the Des Moines Planning and Zoning Commission, Des Moines Heritage, A Survey of Significant Architecture, Summer, 1976, Appendix III, p. 2. Charles Blanchard, The History of Drake University, 1931, p. 97, 103, 105. Real Estate Transfers, November 14, 1899, Des Moines Register and Leader. Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, 1992, pp. 263-265, 280-281. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Sanborn Map Company, 1901, 1920. Brigham, The History of Des Moines and Polk County, Volume 2, 1911, p. 854-857 Drake University Catalogue, 1990-1992, p. 5 Drake University Law School Alumni Directory, 1875-1939 pp. 1, 37, 57. George Huff, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, Law School Blueprint, 1956, p. 5. Who Was Who In America, 1961-1968, p. 293. The New Secretary of Drake Conservatory of Music, The Midwestern, January 1909, pp. 78-79. The Philharmonic Choir, Highland Park College Yearbook, The Piper, 1914, no page number listed. Timeless Palladian, Old House Journal, November/December, 1997, pp. 30-35. Sleeping Porches, Old House Journal, July/August, 1995, pp. 38-41. Richard Wiley, History of Monrovia, California, 1927. Cal Sale, interview and e-mails with Pam Barkas, Monrovia Old House Preservation Group, fall, 2000. Cal Sale, interview and e-mails with Steven Baker, Historian, City of Monrovia, California, fall, 2000. Cal Sale, interview with Mrs. William Hilling, 1996. Cal Sale, interview with Mrs. Betty Evans-Antrim, Granddaughter of Edward & Nettie Evans, fall, 2000. Cal Sale, interview with Mr. & Mrs. James Wren, fall, 2000.

VERBAL BOUNDRY DESCRIPTION

Lot 15, Block 1, Marquardts Second Addition to North Des Moines. Now included in the corporate limits of Des Moines.

Lot Size: 50' x 128.65'. Lot faces East.

Alley Width: 16'

BOUNDRY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries are those historically associated with the Evans house.

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EDWARD BAKER EVANS Dean of the Gollege of Law

From the 1909, Drake University yearbook, the 'Quax.'

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SECOND FLOOR PLAN 989 TOTAL SQ. FT.