

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

DAVENPORT

SURVEY 1982

SITE #82-10-13W1301 MAP NUMBER 7
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NAME Washington Gardens ✓
ADDRESS 1301 W. 13th St. ✓



LEGAL DESCRIPTION John Ahren's Sub. of
Sturdevant's 2nd Add., Blk. 14, Lot 6

ACREAGE <1 ZONE C-1 UTM 15/700920 4600450
OWNER Leo E. Ruth & Wife TITLE H
2429 Pershing Ave.
Davenport IA

DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE Vernacular Italianate DATE 1885
FORM 1-1/2 stories, rectangular plan, front gable; veranda north and
east sides; wall dormers west and east sides; roof dormers
MATERIALS frame on brick(?) foundation
FENESTRATION 4/4 d.h.s., surrounds have projecting, molded cornices
FEATURES oversized, paired eaves brackets; double round-arched windows
in gable ends; "frieze" is flush boarding parallel to eaves
ALTERATIONS veranda may have been altered; front entry and flanking windows
are later modifications; 1 story rear hall and dwelling (orig. on south end) removed.
SITE prominent corner location

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Among Davenport's oldest taverns, the Garden retains a significant measure of its Victorian character. Reflecting several stylistic influences, the bracketted front-gable structure can be read as a commercial version of the Italianate, while the pairs of round-arched gable-end windows are a feature often associated locally with German immigrant tradition. Originally combining a tavern, social hall and beer garden, the establishment was for many years a focal point for leisure activities among northwest Davenport's German community, and continues to be so, although on a lesser scale, today.

HISTORICAL DATA

John Wiese built this saloon and residence in 1885. The site consisted of ten lots. In 1888, another German-American, Claus Gruneau bought the saloon from Wiese's widow, Sophie. The saloon was known alternately as "Washington Park" and "Washington Gardens". The name was apparently derived from the establishment's proximity to elaborately landscaped gardens that were enjoyed by the German neighborhood as beer gardens. Gruenau formerly operated the St. Louis House, a hotel-saloon near the public square in downtown Davenport known as Washington Square.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES Davenport City Directories 1887, 1888-9, 1890
Scott County Auditor's Deed Transfer Books, 1:1, 10:166, 10:112, 4:301

ARCHITECTURAL EVALUATION

DESIGN good STATURE incident
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE local

CONTEXT fair FABRIC good
DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

HISTORICAL EVALUATION

PRIMARY THEME
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

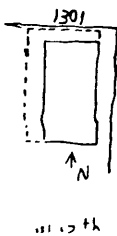
SECONDARY THEME

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBLE YES

PHOTO ID 1733-35

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"/> DE1 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 _____