

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DEC 03 1992

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 "x" 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

historic name Charles M. Fleshman and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 919 9th Street N/A not for publication

city or town Hawarden N/A vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Sioux code 167 zip code 51023

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David [Signature] 11/24/92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historical Society of Iowa
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

**Entered in the
National Register**

Date of Action

[Signature] 1/7/93

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

none

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN

foundation Brick; Concrete, walls Weatherboard, roof Wood shingle, other

Narrative Description

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

See 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: N/A

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1889, ca. 1897-1905

Significant Dates

1889, ca. 1897-1905

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Name of Property

Sioux County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	4
---	---

7	0	5	3	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	7	6	3	2	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

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/title Dr. Norene Roberts, President
organization Historical Research, Inc. date September 21, 1992
street & number 7800 Tessman Drive telephone (612) 560-4348
city or town Minneapolis state MN zip code 55445-2734

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Harlan and Alice Harris
street & number 925 Avenue K telephone (712) 552-1964
city or town Hawarden state IA zip code 51023

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

DESCRIPTION:

The Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House is an irregularly shaped, cross gabled, balloon frame residence one and a half-stories measuring approximately 45 feet in width by 40 feet in depth. Constructed in 1889, the house faces south at the northwest intersection of Ninth St. and K Avenue. It was enlarged ca. 1897-1905. This is a single building nomination.

As built, the south side had an asymmetrical facade with side gabled roof and two front gables, one located over a bay window in the front gable and the other over a second story door in a recessed side wing to the west dominated by a narrow flat-roofed porch with balustrade and supported by wooden porch columns with fretwork below the porch frieze. It was sheathed in weatherboard with wooden cornerboards and narrow one-over-one windows set in window molding with gabled cornices and a wide plain wooden frieze. The original bay window on the south has paired Italianate brackets and wood panelled spandrel area between the bottom of the windows and the wooden water table. The original roof was wood shingled and is now in deteriorated condition. All the described original material is still extant on the house.

The house was enlarged between 1897-1905 with the addition of a small recessed kitchen wing on what was originally the north side of the house, or rear, and a small porch on the east side of this kitchen dependency. But the major alteration at that time was to the east facade. A Queen Anne style one story porch was built on the east side of the original house, creating a second principal facade on the east. The porch roof is slightly hipped. The main roof of the house on this facade is also side-gabled and dominated by a central south-facing gable and the new porch which extended completely across the east facade. These alterations are documented on the 1899 and 1909 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and in dated original family photographs in the possession of the current owners.

This house has had several addresses since its construction because it is located at the corner of two streets. Originally the south facade was the front. This was Iowa Street. The south as front is confirmed by a family photograph from 1894 showing the south as the front of the house. Sometime around the building of the new porch addition, ca.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

DESCRIPTION, CONT.

1897-1905, the house address was to the east on Nevada Street with the new porch as the front entrance. A second family photograph confirming this shows the east side of the house with the new porch and is dated "about 1897." This was Nevada Street. In June, 1929, the city of Hawarden approved a new city plat following which the address changed back to the south on Iowa Street, which had become 919 9th Street, the present address.² A last available family photograph demonstrates this confusion: dated August, 1929, it shows both the south and east facades. But for most of its history, the south facade has been considered the front by the family and the city.

Stylistically, the house is a mixture of Greek Revival, Italianate, vernacular, and Queen Anne influences. The attenuated Greek Revival style is seen in the basic "upright and wing" massing of the original house as seen from the south, the original front. The basic massing and probably stock millwork indicate that the design of the house was most likely pattern book in origin. Italianate influences are indicated in the paired bracketed eaves on the south-facing bay window and in the narrow configuration of the original window openings, and in the slightly gabled decorative window and door moldings in the lintel areas on the exterior. The Queen Anne influence resides with the east porch built around the turn of the century. This porch has original spindlework, scroll sawn and spindle fretwork, turned balustrades and Eastlake-style turned porch columns.

Alterations to the exterior have been minimal and the house is virtually intact to the period when the Fleshman family lived there. Historic photographs indicate that the house originally had wide angled brick chimney pots terminating the red brick chimneys. These are missing and the brick is in bad repair. The house is built in an area with a history of flooding and high water table and the foundation has sunk in places causing the east porch to begin to collapse. The foundation is now a combination of concrete block, brick, and solid cement and cement skim coat. The house has unusually fine architectural integrity because very little repair work has been done to it since its construction.

The property originally contained a large horse barn on at the rear of

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7, 8 Page 3

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

DESCRIPTION, CONT.

the house on the north end of the lot along the alley. It accommodated the horse and buggy, a milk cow, chickens,³ and miscellaneous equipment. This barn burned down in 1977. Surrounding the entire lot was a wooden picket fence which appears in old photographs as stick 1" pickets alternating long and short. This is also long gone. There are no other outbuildings.

The interior of the house has integrity equally intact to that of the exterior, with two periods of construction: the original 1889 construction and the ca. 1897-1905 alterations. The house has plaster walls and ceilings. Much of the original woodwork on the first floor is intact and includes 10 inch high molded baseboards or mop boards, tongue and groove wainscot in the kitchen, grooved or beaded door and window casings with stylized flower petal cornerblocks and bullseye cornerblocks, and original four-panelled doors with white ceramic door knobs. The screen doors are also decorated with spindlework, but are in deteriorated condition. The kitchen still has a long shallow sink with a hand pump. Floors are maple. Most of the floors are covered in sheet linoleum.

There are two types of woodwork on the second floor. The first matches the described woodwork on the first floor in two upper story rooms and the hallway. Two other rooms have more modest woodwork which has been painted. This consists of four-panelled doors with ceramic door knobs, but with plain wood mop boards with quarter round tops and a plain shoe. Door trim is plain flat wood without cornerblocks. These two rooms are assumed to have been finished in the ca. 1897-1905 period when alterations were made to the exterior.

The house is in fair to deteriorated condition. The interior has suffered water damage from a badly leaking roof, some settling, and numerous layers of wallpaper. The exterior needs paint and repairs and has some foundation settling.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as an unusually

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

SIGNIFICANCE, CONT.

well-preserved and well-executed example of the influence of Greek Revival, Italianate, vernacular and Queen Anne stylistic influences and reflects the combined impact that millwork catalogs, pattern books, and the railroads had on communities like Hawarden in popularizing styles, mass producing architectural detail, and making that material readily available at local lumberyards via the railroad. Charles M. Fleshman was a leading merchant in Hawarden from his arrival in the mid-1880s until his death in 1926.

The style of the Fleshman House is tied to the existence of what started as the Toledo and Northwestern Railroad (and eventually the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad and the Chicago and North Western Railroad) which, in 1882, decided to construct a marshalling yard at Hawarden and by-pass the earlier settlement of Calliope to the north. The railroad brought Charles Fleshman to resettle in the new town and made possible the stylistic influences shown in the architecture of his house.

Under Criterion C, the Fleshman House is a mixture of Greek Revival, Italianate, vernacular, and Queen Anne influences. The attenuated Greek Revival style is seen in the basic "upright and wing" massing of the original house as seen from the south, the original front. The basic massing and probably stock millwork indicate that the design of the house was most likely pattern book in origin. Italianate influences are indicated in the paired bracketed eaves on the south-facing bay window and in the narrow configuration of the original window openings, and in the slightly gabled decorative window and door moldings in the lintel areas on the exterior. The Queen Anne influence resides with the east porch built around the turn of the century. This porch has original spindlework, scroll sawn and spindle fretwork, turned balustrades and Eastlake-style turned porch columns.

Unfortunately local lumber yards and newspapers do not record the builder of the house or the origin of the stock millwork. Two lumber yards, the J. H. Queal and Co. (now Thompson Yards, Inc.) and the Wooster and Milne Lumber Company, were operating in the 1889-1905 period when the house was built and added to, but there is no record of which might have supplied the millwork and house design. The former

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

SIGNIFICANCE, CONT.:

was described as having carried "a full line of builder's materials" as part of their "mammoth stock." The latter is described as having "carried an extensive stock of lumber supplies that was second to none in the country."

Because Hawarden has had no architectural survey, the current owners of the Fleshman House, Harlan and Alice Harris, with some direction from a professional contractor, conducted their own reconnaissance survey and took photographs in the city in order to determine the relative architectural integrity and significance of the Fleshman House. This information, which provides architectural context, has been submitted to the preservation office and is hereby summarized. The bulk of the early residential housing in Hawarden is located east of the downtown commercial district within five or six blocks and north of the Toledo and Northwestern Railroad tracks. This is the neighborhood of the Fleshman House, which is located on the plat known as Western Town Lot Company's First Addition. This area was platted in 1883. The neighborhood is predominantly one of single family homes built in the 20 years on both sides of 1900 with intersecting gables and mostly one and a half stories tall. Some are upright and wing in form and others are L-shaped in form. There are 14 other similar houses in the neighborhood, but because of a variety of alterations to the others, they do not have the integrity of the Fleshman House. It alone is clearly the best example of its style in town as shown by the reconnaissance survey.

Visual indication that the Fleshman House was made from stock millwork can still be seen in at least two other houses in town, both of which are similar in style and size, have the same gabled window molding over narrow upstairs windows and intersecting gabled roofs, have been altered with enclosed porches, and do not have the architectural integrity of the Fleshman House. The latter has a neighbor with the same gabled window molding which was not photographed and mapped.

The Sioux County Assessor's records indicate that the Fleshman House was built in 1889. This is further supported by two articles in the local newspaper and a contemporary mortgage. The March 21, 1889 issue of The Independent printed the following notice: "Chas Fleshman has

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

SIGNIFICANCE, CONT.

the basement to his house well underway [sic]. Chas. will have one of the neatest residences in that part of town." Six weeks later, the following notice appeared in the May 9, 1889 issue of the same paper:

The Building and Loan Association had its regular meeting Monday evening, at which time \$800 was loaned. Chas. Fleshman was given an additional loan of \$300. . . .

According to the Hawarden Centennial, 1887-1987: One Hundred Years on the Right Track, his obituary in 1926, and the reminiscences of his grand-daughter in 1990, Charles M. Fleshman built the house in 1889 and his descendants continued to reside there until 1987. In terms of basic biographical information, Charles M. Fleshman was born in Wuertsburg [Wertsburg?], Bavaria, Germany, on April 7, 1864. Like many German immigrants in the latter part of the 19th century, he left his homeland to avoid military conscription and arrived at New York City at the age of 16 in 1880. He worked his way on the railroad coming first to Chicago and then to western Iowa. At Calliope he met Emma M. Fischer of Alcester, South Dakota, while she was working as a waitress in a hotel-cafe. After they married on December 3, 1885, he started a meat market in Calliope, but moved his operation and family to Hawarden in 1886 after the railroad by-passed Calliope in favor of Hawarden.

His first meat market in Hawarden was a one story wood frame false-front building built in 1886. He operated under the name, "Northwestern Meat Market" after his arrival in Hawarden in 1886. Fleshman built a new two story Classical Revival style commercial building in 1903 of red rusticated sandstone at 816 Central Avenue which is still standing with altered storefront and display windows. The 50 foot wide building has a dentilled and panelled frieze with four large irregularly-sized second story round arched windows with stone voussiors and keystones. The building also housed the Hawarden Post Office for some years. Both buildings served as the Fleshman Meat Market, which was well-known in northwestern Iowa, even after he took a partner, Lou Meeter in 1902 and changed the name of his business to Fleshman and Meeter Meat Market. The two men supplied fresh steaks and roasts to the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad and also operated a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

SIGNIFICANCE, CONT.

farm route which delivered fresh meat to the surrounding area and carried a full line of salted and fresh meat. In April, 1907, Charles Fleshman sold his interest in the meat market and became a cattle buyer, shipping cattle east to the Chicago market.¹⁰

Charles Fleshman also was involved in businesses related to the sale of meat and in the ice business in the days before refrigerated railroad cars. He bought hides and tallow. He erected a big ice house for his use which also supplied the local businesses with ice and supplied ice to a circus car passing south on the Milwaukee Road in June, 1888. Related to the meat business, he also owned and operated a slaughter house.¹¹

By all accounts, Charles Fleshman was a "community minded man," serving on the city council from March 25, 1901 until March 28, 1904,¹² donating his time as a member of the Library Board, when the new Carnegie Library was built and dedicated in 1903,¹³ and donating land where the present ball park is located at 8th Street and Avenue K not far from his home.¹⁴ According to his grand-daughter, Charleen Doty George, her grandfather, Charles M. Fleshman, was a "very progressive businessman and active in community affairs." His grand-daughter remembers that he loved baseball and sponsored a team, eventually donating the Hawarden Ball Park. He always had the latest invention and the Fleshman family was one of the first to have a radio in their home and a car.¹⁵ He died by being swept away in the Hawarden flood which inundated 250 homes and many businesses in September, 1926, while looking after his business properties. The local newspaper, The Hawarden Independent, noted that Charles Fleshman, the only fatality of the flood, was "a good citizen, a splendid neighbor."¹⁶

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7, 8 Page 8

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Sioux County Assessor's Records; The Hawarden Independent, March 21, 1889, p. 3 and May 9, 1889, p. 5.
- 2 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987: From Calliope to the Present. Le Mars Daily Sentinel, 1987, 463.
- 3 Charleen Doty George. Interview, September 16, 1990.
- 4 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 71.
- 5 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 157.
- 6 The Hawarden Independent, March 21, 1889, p. 3.
- 7 The Hawarden Independent, May 9, 1889, p. 5.
- 8 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 605; The Hawarden Independent, Sept. 23, 1926.
- 9 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 158.
- 10 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 158, 605.
- 11 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 431, 158).
- 12 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 88.
- 13 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 219.
- 14 Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 158.
- 15 Charleen Doty George. Interview, September 26, 1990.
- 16 The Hawarden Independent, Sept. 23, 1926; Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987, 88.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

9, 10 9

Section number _____ Page _____

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Abstract of Title of subject property. No. 3553. Lots 6 and 7, Block 10, Western Town Lot Company's First Addition, in the incorporated City of Hawarden, Iowa. Sioux Abstract Company: Orange City, Iowa.

County Assessor's card on subject property, Sioux County Courthouse.
Orange City, Iowa.

George, Charleen Doty [grand-daughter of Charles Fleshman]. Interview by Alice Harris, September 26, 1990.

Harris, Alice and Harlan. Reconnaissance Survey of Residences in Hawarden. March, 1992.

Hawarden, Iowa, 1887-1987: One Hundred Years on the Right Track. Le Mars: Daily Sentinel, 1987.

"Hawarden Swept by Flood." The Hawarden Independent, September 23, 1926.

Historic photographs from the Fleshman family, including carte de visite dated 1894 from Viola Fleshman Doty; post card (pre-1900); view of house dated August, 1929; and view of Fleshman Home "about 1897." In possession of owners, Harlan and Alice Harris, Hawarden, Iowa.

"Local Siftings." The Hawarden Independent, March 21, 1889, p. 3.

"Local Siftings." The Hawarden Independent, May 9, 1889, p. 5.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Hawarden, Iowa, 1899, 1909, 1914, 1926.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Lots 6 and 7, Block 10, Western Town Lot Company's First Addition, to the Incorporated City of Hawarden, Iowa.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

This nomination includes the legal lots and block which have been associated historically with the property.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

PHOTOGRAPHS
Section number _____ Page 10

Charles M. and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
Sioux County, Iowa

PHOTOGRAPHS:

SUBJECT: Charles and Emma M. Fischer Fleshman House
919 9th Street
Hawarden, Iowa

PHOTOGRAPHER: Kurt Bronkhorst, C. J. Photos
1018 Thunderbird Drive
Hawarden, Iowa

NEGATIVES LOCATION: State Historical Society of Iowa, State Historic
Preservation Office

PHOTO 1:

VIEW: South facade, looking northeast
DATE: September, 1990

PHOTO 2:

VIEW: South facade, looking northwest
DATE: September, 1990

PHOTO 3:

VIEW: East facade, looking west
DATE: September, 1990

PHOTO 4:

VIEW: West facade, looking southeast
DATE: March, 1992

PHOTO 5:

VIEW: North facade (left), looking southeast
DATE: March, 1992

