

Site Inventory Form
State Historical Society of Iowa
 (December 1, 1999)

State Inventory No. 70-00208 New Supplemental
 Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) 70-01005
 Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing
 Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries
 National Register Status: (any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE
 Review & Compliance No. _____
 Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name Sarah M. Johnson House
 other names/site number Field Site #: WH-45

2. Location

street & number 218 W. 3rd Street
 city or town Muscatine vicinity, county Muscatine
 Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____ Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____
 (If Urban) Subdivision Original Town Block(s) 35 Lot(s) 10

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [Skip this Section]

4. National Park Service Certification [Skip this Section]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property		
	If Non-Eligible Property	If Eligible Property, enter number of:	
	Enter number of:	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	_____ buildings	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____ sites	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____ structures	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____ objects	_____	_____ objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____ Total	<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).
 Title _____ Historical Architectural Data Base Number _____

A Historical and Architectural Survey of the "West Hill" neighborhood, Muscatine, Iowa 70-016

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>01A01: Domestic / Single residence</u>	<u>01B01: Domestic/ Multiple Dwelling</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
<u>07E: Early 20th Century / Bungalow</u>	foundation <u>10A: Concrete Block</u>
_____	walls <u>06: Stucco</u>
_____	roof <u>08A: Asphalt / Shingle</u>
_____	other _____

Narrative Description (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	A	Property is associated with significant events.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	B	Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	C	Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> More Research Recommended	D	Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Muscatine
City Muscatine

Address 218 W. 3rd Street

Site Number 70-00208
District Number 70-01005

Criteria Considerations

- 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)

31: Other – neighborhood development

Significant Dates

Construction date

1914

check if circa or estimated date

Other dates

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Doctor D.P. Johnson Jr.

Architect/Builder

Architect

Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1			2		
3			4		

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christine Conley, volunteer (R.L. McCarley, consultant)

organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date November 30, 2005

street & number 215 Sycamore telephone 563-264-1550

city or town Muscatine state IA zip code 52761

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet # _____ Frame/slot # _____ Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____ Frame/slot # _____ Date Taken _____
Roll/slide sheet # _____ Frame/slot # _____ Date Taken _____

- See continuation sheet or attached **photo & slide catalog sheet** for list of photo roll or slide entries.
- Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or non-contributing status)
- Barn:**
 - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
 - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
 - A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility: Yes No More Research Recommended
 This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

Evaluated by (name/title): _____ Date: _____

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 3

Sarah M. Johnson House
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

218 W. 3rd Street
Address

Muscatine
City

7. Narrative Description

This is a 1 ½- story, 2-bay, frame bungalow house. The house sits on a concrete foundation. The walls are clad in stucco. The combination front gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. It appears that this house has some original windows left. Although built as a single-family house it has been turned into a two-family home. Sanborn maps show that most of the rambling rear sections and varied side elevations are original. The 1919 Sanborn map is the first map this house is indicated on, however upon careful inspection of a c.1914 picture of 216 W. 3rd Street this house can be seen off to the side of this neighboring home. In 1928, the rear section on the east side was added. It replaced an open porch with this section but another porch was built with this section.

The front (north) elevation has a covered porch across the entire front. It has three square wooden posts to support the asphalt-shingled hip roof. There are 5 concrete steps with wood railings on both sides leading up to a concrete porch floor. The single door entry has a wood door. It appears that there is a narrow strip of window with a mail slot next to the front door on the left side. There is a one-over-one-light double-hung original window on the first story. The double one-over-one-light double-hung replacement aluminum windows are centered in the stucco front gable of the ½ story.

The west elevation has a 45-degree corner in the first story that contains a one-over-one-light double-hung window. The house continues back approximately 10 feet, another single one-over-one-light double-hung window is centered in this section, it then turns another 45-degree angle out (approx 5 feet deep), which has a single one-over-one-light double-hung window in the 45-degree section. The house continues to extend back approximately 7 feet where there is another single one-over-one-light double-hung window centered in it. Another 45-degree angle comes out, again approximately 5 feet with a single one-over-one-light double-hung window in this angle. A cross gable section projects out behind this point, near the rear of the elevation. A single one-over-one-light double-hung window is located on the north end of this section. Another 45-degree turn out that contains a single entry metal door can be found on this section. The door has 9 glass panes in the top half of the door. The house then continues back and on the first story of this section there is a single one-over-one-light double-hung window. A small roof projects out over this section over the door and is supported on the left side with a wood bracket. There is a final 45-degree angle projecting back toward the house on this elevation and it also contains a single one-over-one-light double-hung window. The second story has a two single one-over-one-light double-hung windows side by side centered in the gable.

On the east elevation there is a 45-degree corner just on the side of the front porch is has a one-over-one-light double-hung window. It continues back approximately 10 feet then comes out at another 45-degree angle with another one-over-one-light double-hung window. The house continues to go back around 8 feet with two one-over-one-light double-hung windows centered on this section. This elevation then juts out about 2 feet and then goes back approximately 5 feet, there is a single one-over-one-light double-hung window in this section and then it turns another 45-degrees with yet another single one-

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 4

Sarah M. Johnson House

Muscatine

Name of Property

County

218 W. 3rd Street

Muscatine

Address

City

over-one-light double-hung window. There is a gable with a single one-over-one light double hung window in the peak.

The rear (south) elevation has a single story back section of the home approximately a third of the width with a flat roof and no windows. Next to the back section is a small single light fixed window and a one-over-one double hung window on the first story. The gable has two different length one-over-one-light double-hung windows centered in it. To the left is a small, one-over-one-light double-hung window and to the right is a small single light fixed window. There is also an enclosed porch on the rear elevation. This porch has three one-over-one-light double-hung windows side by side. There are five wooden steps up to this single door entry with metal pipe railings. The 1946 Sanborn map shows the rear section of this house as a separate unit, with an address of 213 Pine Street.

Historically, there was also a house at the rear of this lot, facing Pine Street (211). There currently are not other buildings on the site.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Sarah M. Johnson House does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C. However, it does appear to be a contributing building in a potential "West Hill" neighborhood historic district.

Sarah M. Johnson (Dr. D.P. Johnson's widow), her daughter Vivian, and son Dr. D. Powell Johnson built this house and lived here after the senior Dr. Johnson's death in 1900. Dr. D. Powell Johnson, Jr. was noted for his studies of medicine in Vienna and his experiments with radium, he continued his experiments with radium here in Muscatine, which were kept under guard at Bellvue Hospital. Although this is a great example of a bungalow style house, the updates made to make this a two family house and the various sized replacement windows, it does not appear to be an outstanding example of the bungalow style house. Thus, the Johnson House does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

However, the Johnson House does appear to be a contributing building in a potential "West Hill" neighborhood historic district. It reflects the neighborhood development of this area in the early 20th century. Even with the inconsistent sized windows and the updates made to make this house a two family house it still maintains many of the bungalow characteristics. The house contributes historically and architecturally to this potential historic district.

On May 9, 1900, Sarah Johnson purchased the land, described as Lot 10, block 35 from Dr. D.P. Johnson, Jr. (Deed book, 39; page 391). Vivian Johnson bought Lot 10, Block 35 from Sarah Johnson (widow) on May 21, 1907; (Book of Lots 41 pg. 89). The house is not depicted on the 1912 Sanborn, but a 1914 photograph of the Johnson's house at 216 W. 3rd Street shows the east side of this house. The first time they are shown in the city directory here is in 1916, where Mrs. Sarah M. Johnson, widow of Dr.

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Page 5

Sarah M. Johnson House

Muscatine

Name of Property

County

218 W. 3rd Street

Muscatine

Address

City

D. P. Johnson, and her son D. Powell Johnson, physician and surgeon are listed as the residents. The younger Dr. D.P. Johnson studied medicine in Vienna and was well known for his experimentation with radium, which he kept under guard at Bellevue Hospital. Bellevue Hospital located at 205 Cherry Street is also a part of the West Hill Survey. Mrs. Johnson and her children continue to reside here until 1921. The 1920 census information shows that Sarah M. Johnson and her two adult children, D. Powell and Vivian, reside at 218 W. 3rd St.

Chester Allen Richard and Hazel M. Richard bought the N 89' of lot 10 block 35 from Vivian Johnson (single) on October 16, 1920; (Book of lots 56: pg.464). In 1921 Chester Richards and Hazel Mayes are listed as the residents. Chester is identified as proprietor of C.E. Richards & Sons. C.E. Richards & Sons had a meat market at 213 W. 2nd Street and a wholesale meats location at Washington and CRI & Pry Tracks (E.9th St). Chester is listed as the resident at this house through 1949. In the 1940-41 city directory it is indicated that Chester and Ruth Richards now reside as husband and wife along with George T. and Mabel Nicola. George was identified as a manager of Western Hereford Exchange Inc. In 1943, it is indicated that Chester and Ruth Richards along with Kenneth S. Wilson now live here. Kenneth is identified as a defense worker at RI arsenal.

Dorothy Mohnsen bought the N 89' of lot 10 block 35 from Chester Allen Richard on March 24, 1952; (Book of lots 145: pg. 137). The 1952 city directory shows Mrs. Dorothy Mohnsen (widow of Elmer R.) and Lucille Mohnsen, a credit reporter as the residents of this address. In 1958 Lucille is listed as the sole resident and identified as working at Stanley Engineers as head secretary. She continues to live here through at least 1959.

9. Major Bibliographical References

A Stroll Through Old Muscatine. The Historic Homes Study Group, second edition, 1998

Census Records, United States Census Bureau, 1920.

City Directories, Muscatine. Various publishers, 1856-1959. Available as the Musser Public Library.

Deed/Abstract Records, Recorder's Office, Muscatine County Courthouse, Muscatine, Iowa.

OG-3617," 1934. Historic Photograph, Oscar Grossheim Photograph Collection, Musser Public Library, Muscatine, Iowa.

Sanborn Map Company. "Muscatine, Iowa," Sanborn fire insurance maps. Pelham, NY:

Sanborn Map Company, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1907, 1912, 1919, 1928. Accessed online at: Sanborn.umi.com.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs
State Historical Society of Iowa
Iowa Site Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

Site Number 70-00208
Related District Number 70-01005

Page 6

Sarah M. Johnson House
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

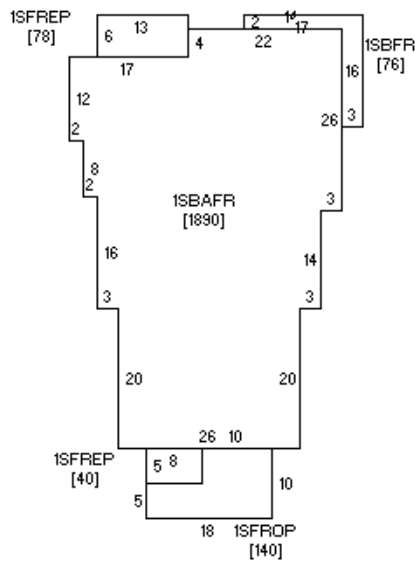
218 W. 3rd Street
Address

Muscatine
City

Location Map



Plans of buildings on site (from assessor's office)



(front – W. 3rd Street)

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Site Number 70-00208

Related District Number 70-01005

Page 7

Sarah M. Johnson House
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

218 W. 3rd Street
Address

Muscatine
City

Photograph of building (digital image)

