

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

State Inventory No. 70-01058 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 Robert L. Thompson House
 other names/site number Field Site #: WH-143

2. Location

street & number 314 W. 4th 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) 53 Lot(s) W 28' Lot 9 & E 4' Lot 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 Enter number of: | If Eligible Property, enter number of: Contributing Noncontributing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | _____ buildings | <u>2</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>2</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>01A01: Domestic/ Single Residence</u> |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

7. Description

| | |
|--|---|
| Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) | Materials (Enter categories from instructions) |
| <u>05F: Late Victorian/Shingle Style</u> | foundation <u>03: Brick</u> |
| _____ | walls <u>02A: Weatherboard</u> |
| _____ | roof <u>08A: Asphalt shingles</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 Address 314 W. 4th Street Site Number 70-01058
City Muscatine District Number _____

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)

031: Neighborhood development _____

Significant Dates

Construction date 1902 check if circa or estimated date
Other dates _____

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

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 Diane Mayer Day, Commission Member (R.L. McCarley, consultant)

organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date 12/20/05

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: _____

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Robert L. Thompson House
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

314 W. 4th Street
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7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story, two-bay, Shingle style house that was built around 1890. The house sits on a brick foundation. The walls are frame, clad in weatherboard on the first story and wood shingles on the second story. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The roof has multiple levels and shapes. The eaves are narrow and undecorated.

The front (north) elevation consists of a projected gable-front section, with the entry recessed in the front of the side-gable section. The porch is narrow and extends along the side of this gable-front section back to the entry on the right side. It is lined with four wood columns and contains square pickets between the railings. On the west side of the porch, there are three of the columns that attach to the house. On the east side of the porch, there is only one column that attaches to the house. The roof of the front porch is flat. The porch leads to the single-door entry, which is setback from the front façade. There is a single one-over-one-light, double-hung window on the first story of the gable-front section. The window retains its original wood trim. On the corner of the first story is a chamfered corner with a one-over-one-light double-hung window. The second story of this house has a pair of one-over-one-light, double-hung windows with the same type of wood trim around the windows. Above the second story window is a small roof from the bottom of the front gable. The gable has a half round window that is centered. This window opening has two vents inserted in it. This window has wood trim and has a detail vertical wood piece that appears to hook into the top of this window. Also on the second story over the porch is a three light fixed window. Located on this elevation is also one basement window. It has three-over-three-lights and is a fixed window.

No historic photograph of this house has been located.

The east side of this residence is broken into three sections by the roof line: the side of the front gable, the area under the side cross gable, and the side of the back gable. The front section has a one-over-one-light double-hung window on the first story, and a one-over-one-light double-hung window on the second story. The cross gable section has two sets of windows. The oriel window is on the front portion, spanning the middle between the first and second stories. It has three one-over-one-light double-hung windows. The two-story bay window is on the rear portion of the middle cross gable section. It has three one-over-one-light double-hung windows on the first and second stories. The small shed-roof that spans the cross gable under the gable is supported by brackets. The gable has three windows. There is a single light fixed window on either side of a single hung one-over-one-light round top window. The section behind the cross gable section has one window with twenty lights or glass blocks on the first story and no windows on the second story.

The west side of this house is dominated by two side cross-gable sections, a large cross gable and a smaller front cross gable over a bay window. The side of the front gable section, in front of the cross gable sections, has a one-over-one-light double-hung window on the first story within the front porch. A one-over-one-light double-hung window is on the second story above the porch of this section. A one-

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over-one-light double-hung window is found on each story of the large cross gable section, in front of the projected smaller cross gable side section. A four light fixed window is also found in the peak of the gable of this larger section. The small cross gable section includes a bay window that is angled on the first story and square on the second story. This bay window has a single light rectangular window on the first story, with a one-over-one-light double-hung window on each side of the first story. The second story of the bay window has a center one-over-one-light double-hung window and a narrow one-over-one-light fixed window on each side. A small shed-roof also spans the bottom of this gable. The gable has another half round window with the same wood detail piece as seen on the front gable. The west elevation behind the cross gable section has three one-over-one-light double-hung window/s on the first story, and one one-over-one-light double-hung window/s on the second story.

The rear (south) elevation consists of a screened in back porch with vinyl door and windows. The roof of the porch has asphalt shingles. Two second-story openings are located above the screen porch. The left opening contains a regular-resized, one-over-one-light, double-hung window that is just to the left of the wall's center. A smaller one-over-one-light, double-hung window is located on the southeast side of the house close to the small overhang. Again in the gable-end, there is a half round window that has two vents inserted into this opening. The same wood decorative piece is attached to the top of this window.

The one car garage has a stucco exterior and an asphalt roof. County records indicate this building was constructed in 1920, which would indicate it is the same garage as shown on the 1928 Sanborn map. The backyard is fenced in with treated wood. The front of the house has a treated wood fence that has been shaped to resemble a picket fence. There is also a window box hanging from the front window on the first story of this residence.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The Robert L. Thompson 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.

Robert L. Thompson appears to have constructed a small house around 1891, and then expanded or built a larger house between 1899 and 1905. The current two-story appearance dates to this c.1902 period. He was the brother of William L (who built a house around the same time next door at 312) and Theron (who built a house around the same time at 405 W. 3rd adjacent to their parents' house). Their father Robert T. Thompson died on February 1, 1890, which may have spurred the sons' construction. Robert L. Thompson does not appear to have made any significant impact on the history of Muscatine. No significant event is known to have occurred on the property. Although the house retains much of its integrity and the shingle-style is not a design commonly found in the neighborhood, its features are not distinctive enough to qualify it for individual significance. Thus, the Robert L. Thompson House does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

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However, the Thompson House does appear to be a contributing building in a potential "West Hill" neighborhood historic district. This Shingle Style home has been well preserved with little to no change to its exterior for one hundred years. There are not a large number of this style in the neighborhood and when it was constructed it would have generated increased interest and curiosity in the area. The construction would have boosted interest and likely led to more construction and growth in the neighborhood. The house is a contributing property to an historic district because it holds the character and charm of a past era.

Theron Thompson bought all of Lot 9 plus the E 4' of Lot 10 on October 11, 1890 from Joseph Bilkey for \$1600 (Book of Lots 14: pg. 482). This price suggests that improvements were on the lot at the time, but it is unknown if there were one or two houses, or if they were the current houses. It is possible that Bilkey built them prior to selling, but more likely that Thompson built them after purchasing. Robert T. Thompson died on February 1, 1890, and he was father to Theron, Barbara Ella, Robert L., and William L. (Richman 1911, Vol. 2: 153). Robert L. Thompson married Carrie, the sister of Theron's wife Nellie, on November 20, 1890. Robert L. Thompson purchased the W ½ Lot 9 and E 4' Lot 10 of Block 53 from brother Theron Thompson for \$1.00 on November 30, 1891 (Lots Book 24: 72). He continued to own the property until 1919. The 1899 Sanborn map shows an earlier one-story house on this site, and the 1905 Sanborn map shows a two-story house with the current footprint. It is possible that the earlier house was incorporated to some degree into the two-story house, but the current appearance dates to the two-story construction. Robert L. Thompson and his wife Carrie are listed as the first owner/occupant of this one-story residence in the 1893-94 Muscatine City Directory. His brother William lived next door (312) in a house that he built around 1891 also. According to the 1911 biographical sketch for Theron Thompson, his wife Nellie and Carrie Thompson were sisters. William Lewis Thompson died in New Mexico in 1906 (History of Muscatine, 1911, page 153, 572). Robert L. Thompson was listed in the 1893-94 city directory as being an employee of Thompson Cycle Company. He continued to live at 314 W. Fourth through 1911. Thompson had several different occupations throughout the time he and his wife lived in this house. Robert was listed as being employed in the books, wallpaper, and stationery business in the 1899 through 1904 Muscatine City Directory. He was a bookkeeper in 1907, and the manager of the savings department of the Hershey State Bank. The 1900 census listed Robert L. Thompson as a 32-year-old stationary dealer living here with his 31-year-old wife Carrie. They had been married for nine years and had no children. Robert L. Thompson, 45 (?) and his wife Carrie, 42 (?), are listed as the owners/residents of 314 W. Fourth in the 1910 census. Robert Thompson's occupation was noted as manager of the State Bank. They are at an unnumbered address on W. Third (assumed to be 407 W. Third because of the recorded adjacent addresses) in the 1920 census. An aunt, Ella Mitchell, is also recorded there. In the 1910 census, Ella Mitchell, was recorded living at 407 W. Third with her niece, Ella Thompson. While his brothers William L and Theron, of Thompson Brothers Hardware, are listed in Richman's 1911 biographies, Robert L. was not listed. Robert L. Thompson passed away on March 12, 1928.

The 1913 Muscatine City Directory lists the residence as being vacant. The 1916 city directory lists Reverend Webster Hakes and his wife, Maude, as living in this home. Reverend Hakes is listed as being the rector at Trinity Episcopal Church. Beginning in the 1919 Muscatine City Directory, Charles Cadle is

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living here with his wife, Harriet, and son, Cornelius. Charles Cadle is listed as being retired and Cornelius is identified as being a traveling mechanical instructor for Edison Phonograph Company.

Charles Cadle purchased the home from Robert L. Thompson on June 2, 1919 (Lots Book 53:167). The 1921 city directory states that Charles is still a resident in this home and that Cornelius is now married to Sarah and is now employed as a jeweler. Charles Cadle sold the property to Cornelius Cadle on 11/9/1922 (Lots Book 61:79). The 1923-34 Muscatine City Directory identifies only Cornelius and Sarah living at this address. Mr. Cadle is listed as being the proprietor of the Jewelry Store. The 1927 city directory lists Mr. Cadle as being retired.

Cadle sold the residence to Ernest Moore on October 10, 1927 (Lots Book 70:204). Ernest Moore is listed as the new owner/occupant of this residence beginning in the 1929 Muscatine City Directory. He was married to Ethel and is an agent with Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. They continue to live in this home through 1943. Mr. Moore was employed by same company the entire time he lived at this address. He was listed as being an agent for Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York in the 1929-1934 city directories but in the 1936-37 Muscatine City Directory, he is listed as a district manager.

Mr. Moore sold the home to Leonard Beatty on 6/27/1944 (Lots Book 110:206). The 1946 Muscatine City Directory lists Leonard and Nellie Beatty as living in this residence. Mr. Beatty is identified as being a salesman for the Addleman Agency. Mr. and Mrs. Beatty are listed as the owner/occupants through the 1954 Muscatine City Directory.

The 1956 Muscatine City Directory identifies Henry and Sandra Tack as the owner/occupants of this residence. Mr. Tack is listed as a chiropodist. Mr. and Mrs. Tack continued to live in this home through the 1961 Muscatine City Directory. The Beattys sold the house to Henry Tack on 8/30/1965 (Lots Book 220:283).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Census Records, United States Census Bureau, 1900, 1910, 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.

Richman, Irving B. *History of Muscatine County, Iowa, Vol. II, Biographical*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1911, Pages 153 & 572.

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

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Site Number 70-01058

Related District Number _____

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Robert L. Thompson House
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Muscatine
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Sanborn Map Company, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1907, 1912, 1919, 1928. Accessed online at: Sanborn.umi.com.

Location Map



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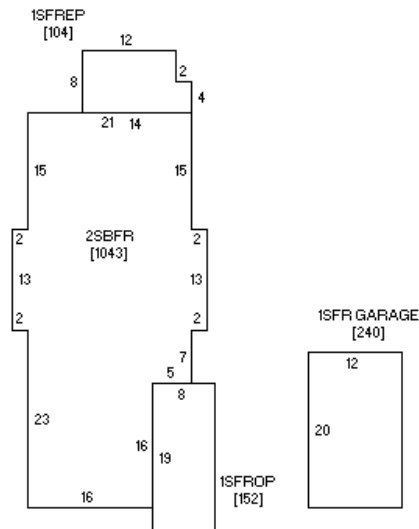
Robert L. Thompson House
Name of Property

Muscatine
County

314 W. 4th Street
Address

Muscatine
City

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



(front - 4th Street)

Photograph of building (digital image)

