

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

State Inventory No. 70-01073 **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 William Nesselbush House
 other names/site number Field Site #: WH-168

2. Location

street & number 504 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) 51 Lot(s) E1/2 Lot 7 & W1'S 60' Lot 6

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:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Enter number of:	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____ buildings	<u>2</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____ sites	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____ structures	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____ objects	_____	_____ objects
	_____ 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>09A04 – Side Gabled Roof, Two Story (I-house)</u>	foundation <u>03 Brick (stuccoed)</u>
_____	walls <u>05E Metal - Aluminum</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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 504 W. 4th Street

Site Number 70-01073
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 1866 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 Jay Brady, Chair (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: _____

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William Nesselbush House
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7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story, three-bay, side-gabled, I- house with rear one-and-one-half-story section. The house sits on a concrete stucco brick foundation. The walls are frame, clad in aluminum siding. The gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles.

The house faces north. The enclosed front porch has a side entry through the east elevation. The front elevation of the porch has seven single-over-single-light double-hung windows between a brick column at each end of the porch. The porch roof hip with plain entablature and cornice. The porch was likely an open porch with the window enclosure added at a later date. The detailing suggests that the porch was added to the house in the early 20th century, perhaps replacing an earlier porch. The first story has two single-over-single-light double-hung windows, one on each side of the centered entry. The second story has three equally spaced single-over-single-light double-hung windows.

The east elevation has four sections. The front porch section has concrete steps leading to a side entry door to the front porch. The door is three-quarter glass with single-over-single-light double-hung window. The front section of the house is the two-story end gable section with vertically aligned single-over-single-light double-hung windows with wood sills. The windows are slightly offset towards the front of the house from the gable peak. The gable peak is plain with plain eaves and roof cornice. Two single light basement windows are visible. The middle section of the house, the first section behind the main section, is 1½ story with gable end facing the rear. The middle section has vertically aligned single-over-single-light double-hung windows with wood sills. The second story window is smaller than the first story window due to roof eave overhang. The rear section is a single story section with shed roof sloped to the rear and no windows in the east elevation.

The west elevation has four sections as well. The front porch section has a single-over-single-light double-hung window. The front (main) section of the house is the two-story end gable section with vertically aligned single-over-single-light double-hung windows with wood sills. The windows are slightly offset towards the front of the house from the gable peak. The gable peak is plain with plain eaves and roof cornice. Two single light basement windows are visible. The middle section of the house is 1½ story with gable end facing the rear. The middle section has vertically aligned single-over-single-light double-hung windows with wood sills. The second story window is smaller than the first story window due to roof eave overhang. The rear section is a single story section with roof sloped to the rear and no windows in the east elevation.

The rear elevation is an end gable form with a first story shed roof enclosed porch. The porch has two sections – the east section is larger and has a single-over-single light double-hung window adjacent to a modern steel half glass door with the light divided into nine lights. The smaller west portion has a large single-over-single-light double-hung window about center in the section. A concrete deck/walk runs the length of the porch. The second story has single-over-single light double-hung windows equally spaced.

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The end gable is plain with plain eaves. The Sanborn maps show that the two rear sections date back at least to 1899.

The garage is a c. 1919 two-story brick structure with sloped roof from north (front) to south. The roof is asphalt shingle. The front (north) elevation has four boarded up window openings with segmental brick arches and wood sills. The two lower openings are smaller than the two upper openings. The roof parapet is vertical wood siding with a plain roof cornice. The first story rear elevation has two overhung plastic doors that open to the alley. The doors are set in wood frames and are offset to the west of the elevation. There is a large stucco section above the doors spanning over both doors. Two single light windows with two-layer segmental brick arches and wood frames are set high in the first story elevation. The two second-story windows have been blocked in and have stucco/concrete finish. There is evidence of concrete mortar repair and covering in some areas of the brick. The roof has a vertically sided wood parapet from the top of the brick to the roof cornice. The east elevation has a second story window with two layer segmental arch that is paneled with wood boards. The first story of the elevation is party wall to the garage for 312 Spruce. The roof has a vertically sided wood parapet from the top of the brick to the roof cornice. The west elevation is plain brick with no openings and a vertically sided wood parapet from top of brick to the roof cornice.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The William Nesselbush 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.

The house is a configuration that is fairly common in Muscatine - two-story, three-bay, side-gabled, I-house with rear addition. This common, non-descript architecture along with loss of historic integrity due to replacement windows and aluminum siding, and porch enclosure appears to make this house ineligible for the National Register under Criteria C. The apparent builder of the home, William Nesselbush, was a laborer/logger in the lumber industry. The occupants have not been especially prominent individuals although Robert Baird was a Civil War veteran held in high regard. The home's plain social history and loss of historic integrity appears to make the house not eligible for the National Register. Thus, the William Nesselbush House does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

However, the William Nesselbush House does appear to be a contributing building in a potential "West Hill" neighborhood historic district. The home while having lost some historic integrity still contributes to the overall historic neighborhood and illustrates a working class home during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Willam Nesselbush purchased the east 1/2 of Lot 7, block 51 from Dide Williams & Husband for \$850 on September 13, 1866 (Book 2:469). While the price indicates some improvements on the lot, it slightly

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low for a house of this size, suggesting Nesselbush built the current house on the lot. William Nesselbush owned the property from 1866 until approximately 1887 when the property was transferred to Julia Nesselbush. The 1874 birds-eye view of Muscatine shows a side-gable house on this lot, though it is unclear if it is one or two stories. In 1866 William Nestlebush (Nesselbush) is listed as laborer living on the east side of Broadway west side of 2nd north of Front (this is how it is listed). In 1869 William Nestlebush (Nesselbush) is listed at the south side of 4th between Locust and Spruce. In 1874-75 and 1876-77, William Nesselbush is listed as laborer residing at the south side of 4th between Locust & Spruce. The family could not be found in the 1870 census, but William Nestlebush (Nesselbush) was listed as a 19-year-old laborer in the 1860 census, living in Muscatine with his mother and siblings. In 1877-78 William Nestlebush (Nesselbush) is listed as a logger residing at the south side of 4th, 2 west of Spruce. The 1880 Census lists William Nesselbush age 38 working at sawmill and living on Fourth Street. Also listed with him is Julia wife, 37, John, son, 13, Katie, daughter, 9, Ella, daughter, 7, Debby, daughter, 5, Joseph son, 4, and Mary, daughter 1. In 1883-86, and 1886-87, William Nestlebush (Nesselbush) is listed as head logger at Hersheys and residing at 504 W. 4th. No listing is found for Julia Nestlebush (Nesselbush) in 1889-1893 period.

After ownership was transferred to Julia Nesselbush, she appears to have begun renting out the property. Transfer books spell it as Nesselbush. Robert Baird was listed here in 1889-92 city directory, and he continued to live here after the property ownership was transferred to Sarah Kahn in 1893. She and her daughter Tillie lived next door at 502 W. 4th Street, and they continued to rent out this house at 504. Robert B. Baird, lumber inspector, is listed with Miss Margaret F. and Miss Sarah T. at 504 W. 4th in the 1889-92 City Directory and is shown as a lumber inspector at Huttigs. He was listed as residing at the south side of 5th East of Orange in 1879 and 1005 East 9th in 1887, and the 1870 Census listed R.B. Baird, age 30, bookkeeper, married to E.B. Baird, age 24 with two children – S.H., boy age 3, and M.F. girl, age 1. The 1897-98 directory has him as clerk and Sarah and Margaret as dressmakers. In 1900 Robert is living with wife Elizabeth H. and Miss Margaret and Miss Sarah, dressmakers, and a Miss E. Hudler at 504 W. 4th and he is the county inspector of weights and measures. The 1900 Census lists Robert Beard, county inspector, age 62, married for 37 years to Elizabeth H. age 56, and Margaret H. age 31 and Sara T. age 25- dressmakers as renting 504 W. 4th Street. By 1904 the Bairds had moved to 317 W. 4th. Robert Baird died on August 18, 1910. His obituary notes him as “the beloved commander of Shelby Norman Post and one of Muscatine’s most prominent soldiers and citizens”. Mr. Baird was born in Jeffersonville, Indiana on December 17, 1837. He came to Muscatine in 1859 and on August 19, 1852, he married to Elizabeth Hill. They had six children with three still alive: H George Baird, Margaret F., and Mrs. Sara B. Platt. He served in the Civil War. After his return from the army he was employed in office work, being bookkeeper for G.W. Dillaway for several years. He also traveled for the Chambers Lumber Company and later for the Huttig Manufacturing Company. He was a member of the Shelby Norman Post serving as post commander in 1909 and 1910. For several terms of the legislature, he was assistant clerk of the senate and held several other offices at the state house. (Obituary, 1910).

Larry Flannery bought the property from Sarah and Tillie Kahn on March 23, 1904 (Book of Lots 31:742). Lawrence P. Flannery and wife Mary moved to 504 W. 4th by 1904 and would continue living here until 1946. L.P. was the Flannery in Hinkel & Flannery Grocers located at 114 W. 2nd. The 1900 census lists

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Lawrence P. Flannery, renting at 809 2nd Street, age 35, married 10 years and working as a delivery clerk for a grocery; wife Mary, age 32, married 10 years; Michael, son, age 9; and Lawrence, son, age 5. Michael W. is listed as boarding at this location in 1908. The 1910 census indicates lists Lawrence Flannery, age 42 and working as a grocery merchant. Mary A Flannery, his wife, was age 40 and had two children. Also listed were Michael W., son, age 20, working as a grocery delivery boy, and Lawrence C., son, age 15. All were of Irish descent and were born in Iowa. Lawrence is listed as owning the property. In 1911, L.P., Mary, Lawrence C. and Michael W. were living here. Michael W. was working at Hinkel & Flannery. In 1913 Lawrence C. was clerking at Roach and Musser and living at 504 W. 4th. In 1916 Lawrence C. was a bookkeeper at the German-American Savings Bank. In 1919, Michael W. and wife Myrtle were living at 604 Linn Street, and Lawrence C. was living at 504 W. 4th and working as a stockman with Horst & Son. The 1920 census lists Lawrence P., 56, grocery merchant; Mary, 51, wife; Lawrence, Jr., 25, Stockkeeper; and Marie, 24, daughter-in-law at 504 W. 4th. In 1921, Lawrence C. and wife Lillian Marie were living at 317 E. 2nd, 2nd floor and Lawrence was a cashier at Barry Co. Lawrence P. Flannery continued to be associated with Hinkel & Flannery Grocers through the 1920s and 1930s. In 1934, Michael W., Myrtle, and son, Lawrence W., student, were living at 807 Roscoe. By 1943, L.P. Flannery was no longer involved with Hinkel & Flannery. Lawrence P. Flannery died in 1945 after his wife passed on in 1944 (St. Mary's Cemetery Records).

In 1946, Michael W., wife Myrtle, Mary E. Steno at Carver Pump, and Lawrence W. rodman at Stanley Engineering Co. were back at 504 W. 4th. In 1949, Catherine E. Flannery was listed with the family at 504 and was working at the Telephone Company. Mary E. had become office secretary at McKee Feed and Grain and Lawrence W. was working at Grain Processing Corporation. By 1952 Lawrence W. had moved out of town. Michael W., Myrtle, Catherine E., and Mary E. would continue to live at 504 through 1959. By 1961, Michael W. had died and his widow Myrtle, and Catherine and Mary continued to live at 504.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Census Records, United States Census Bureau, 1870, 1880, 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.

"Robert B. Baird Has Passed Away – Commander of Shelby Norman Post Died Last Night", Obituary, *Muscatine Journal*, August 19, 1910, P 2.

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
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Site Number 70-01073
Related District Number 70-01005

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St. Mary's Cemetery Records (accessed at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~iamuscat/cemetery/stmarys.htm>)

Location Map



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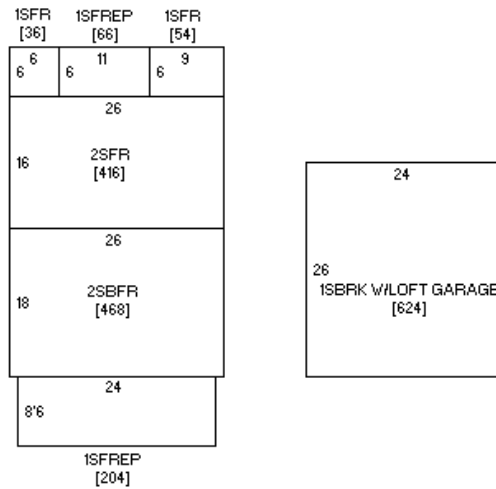
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Plans of buildings on site (from assessor's office)



(front – W. 4th Street)

Photograph of building (digital image)

