

County Muscatine
City Muscatine

Address 3 Cherry Lane

Site Number 70-01106
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

1904

check if circa or estimated date

Other dates

1855

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 Jim Rudisill, Planning & CD Coordinator (R.L. McCarley, consultant)

organization Muscatine Historic Preservation Commission date December 19, 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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7. Narrative Description

This is a two-story, three-bay, side gable house with two rear additions. One is a two-story perpendicular gable-roof addition, creating a sort of cross-gable section, that extends towards the rear of the lot from the side gable's west end. The second rear addition is also two-story, but located in the "L" created between the side and rear gable-roof ell. The second addition is covered by a low-sloping shed roof coming off the rear gable's east elevation. The house sets on an elevated stone foundation, although the more recent two-story addition on the east elevation sets on a cement block foundation. The walls are frame, clad in aluminum. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. A two-stall garage is attached to the rear of the house. The lot slopes sharply down to the north.

The front elevation contains an enclosed front porch that extends across the entire width of the house's side gable. The porch is covered by a low hip roof. It includes an entry on the west wall that contains a flush-mounted, one-over-one-light combination metal storm door. The remaining openings on the porch contain no windows, but are covered by heavy plastic. One opening is located to the right of the entry, while six similar openings are located in the front of the porch. There are two openings on the porch's east wall, but the back opening has been covered by a wood panel. A row of three, equally spaced windows stretch across the second-story façade. Each window contains three-over-one-light, double-hung sashes.

The east elevation contains three openings in the original side gable. Two windows on the first story contain three-over-one-light sashes. One is centered in the front half of the gable end while the second is centered on the back half. A similar second-story window is centered in the upper gable. A two-story rear addition, which extends out from the east elevation, contains a group of three one-over-one-light, double-hung windows centered on the first-story of the addition's east wall. The second story openings include six one-over-one-light, double-hung windows on the east wall and a single similar window on the short extending wall. A shed roof covers the addition, which encloses the open area between the side and cross gable.

The west elevation contains a single centered one-over-one-light, double-hung window in the end wall of the side gable. Two other openings on each story are centered in the cross gable's west wall. Both contain one-over-one-light, double-hung windows that are aligned with each other. There are also several openings in the raised foundation of this elevation. A single casement window is centered in the west foundation end wall. An entry is also aligned with the two windows of the cross gable. The entry is a flush-mounted, one-over-one-light combination storm door. One pair of casement windows is located to the left of the entry. A set of wood steps also lead up to the west porch entry from the lower grade. The west elevation of the garage addition contains two overhead garage doors.

The rear elevation includes three windows on the north wall of the rear gable-roof ell addition. The single second-story window, which is centered in the upper gable, contains three-over-one-light sashes. Two first-story windows are also located in the end wall of the gable. A three-over-one-light, double-hung

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window is centered in the front half of the wall while a pair of one-by-one-light, casement windows is located in the back half. A group of three one-over-one-light, double-hung windows is located in the second story of the addition. A single one-over-one, double-hung window is centered on the first story. Two fixed sash windows are located in the north wall of the garage.

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

The 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.

Laborer Michael Fahey built a house on this lot (variously identified as 711 W. Fourth and 3 Cherry Lane) around 1855, according to city directory and ownership records. Fahey was an immigrant from Ireland, but it is unknown when he came to Muscatine. However, this appears to have been a small, one-story house. This house was significantly remodeled to a two-story house or demolished with a new house built after John and Elsie Martin purchased the property in 1904. Thus, the current appearance dates to this period rather than the earlier period. Martin was a dentist who first started practicing in Muscatine in 1891-92. He was one of four dentists in the community at that time. They lived at nearby 404 Broadway and appear to have used this property as rental. None of the individuals appear to have made any significant contribution to the history of Muscatine. No significant historical event is known to have occurred on the property. In addition, the house does not exhibit any significant architectural features and its integrity has been compromised by the installation of metal siding. Thus, the house does not appear to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B, or C.

However, the house does appear to be a contributing building in a potential "West Hill" neighborhood historic district. Fahey was an Irish immigrant who moved to America to better his life. Many Muscatine residents shared a similar story and neighborhoods of these individuals likely began to form in the late 1840s and early 1850s. Fahey helped establish that trend in the West Hill neighborhood. The Martin's significant remodel of the earlier house or construction of a new house on the property around 1904 signaled a period of improvements and changes in the neighborhood that assisted in the housing shortage of the period by providing quality rental housing. The house contributes both architecturally and historically to this potential historic district.

Michael Fahey may have built this house, based on property and city directory records. He did construct an early house on the lot between 1852 and 1855. Both Lot 1 and Lot 2 of Block 84 are now associated with this address, but the house is located only on Lot 2. Fahey acquired Lot 2 on November 18, 1851 from John Roach (Roche?) for \$55 (Book K, Page 160). The Fahey (var. sp.) family is listed at this location in city directories and census records. The 1856 city directory identifies Michael Fay on the "ss Fifth e Cherry", which would be the rear of the present location. Another Michael Fay, laborer, is also listed on the "es Spruce s Third." Since the Fay at Fifth and Cherry most closely matches the target property, it is assumed he is the property owner. The 1859 city directory also lists a misspelled Michael

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Fahey as living on the “es Cherry b Fourth and Fifth.” Other families along the 700 block of 4th Street were identified similarly in these directories. The 1860 census confirms the family’s presence, listed after other owners of properties in the 700 block of 4th Street. The 1860 census lists Michael “Fay” as a 30-year-old laborer with \$1,100 in real estate, and also listed several other members of the household. These included Eliza, 30, who is assumed to be his wife; Philip, 4; Mary, 2; Timothy, 22, Philipe, 8. Timothy is assumed to have been a brother. The 1870 census listed “Micheal Fayha” as a 50-year-old railroad laborer with \$400 in real estate. His household includes wife Elizabeth, 40; Phillip, 14; Lizzie, 8; Thomas, 6; Nellie, 4, and Joseph, 1. The 1874 birds-eye view of Muscatine shows a one-story side gable house on this lot. The 1870 census real estate value of \$400 would also suggest a house of this size. Thus, it is unknown if the current house incorporates this early house.

The 1877-78 city directory lists Michael Fahay on the north side of 4th Street, southwest of Broadway. Immigrant laborers were common throughout Muscatine during the last half of the 19th century. City directories show Fahey formed a partnership with blacksmith John Mackey around 1877. After Mackey died in 1881, Fahey continued to be listed as a blacksmith through the 1886-87 city directory. He died in 1890. There were 12 blacksmith shops listed in the 1877-78 directory, about the time the two men formed their partnership. The 1886-87 and 1889-92 directories both list Michael Fahey at 711 W. Fourth (now 3 Cherry Lane). The directories also list Nellie, Joe, Lizzie and Thomas at that site. The two men are both identified as clerks at G.W. Dillaways and the women are dressmakers. Michael died on January 2, 1890, at around 70 years of age, leaving two sons and two daughters (Muscatine Journal, 1890, page 3). After Michael Fahey died, his family continued to live in the house. City directories from 1889-92 to 1891-93 listed Lizzie Fahey and Nellie Fahey, both dressmakers, at the address. No one is listed as a resident in the 1895-96 and 1897-98 directories. Tim Carroll, a laborer, is listed as the resident in the 1899-1900 directory. The 1900 census listed John H., Jr. and Helen Neibert as renters. Their occupations were not recorded. No evidence has been found to suggest that the Fahay family built a later house or enlarged the one-story side-gable house pictured on the 1874 birds-eye view.

J.T. Martin bought Lot 2 of the property, which includes the house site, from Nellie and Charles Morey and Philip Fahey on June 1, 1904 (Book 34, Page 540). Based on names, it is assumed these individuals would be Michael’s children. John Martin was a dentist who was living at 404 Broadway with his wife Elsie, also a practicing dentist, when they bought the Fahey property. At this time, the house underwent significant renovation, or the earlier house was demolished and this house built. The three-over-single-light windows found on the first and second stories of the house suggest possible new construction. They might have also constructed one or more of the rear additions, as well as the front porch, at this time. The 1904 directory listed David F. and Phoebe Eutsler as the residents, though it is unclear if they lived here after Martin bought the property. The property was vacant in the 1907 directory, which may have indicated a period of construction. The Martins lived in their primary residence at nearby 404 Broadway through this period, and they appear to have acquired this property as a rental. However, the Martins were actually listed at 711 W. Fourth in the 1908-09 city directory. Perhaps they moved there while renovation or other work was completed on their residence at 404 Broadway.

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Chas and Maggie Henderson are listed as residents in the 1911 directory, apparently renting from Martin. There was either no 711 W. Fourth listed, or it was vacant between the 1913 city directory and the 1927 edition. No similar or corresponding address on Cherry, or some other year could be located. It is also possible that something happened to the earlier house during this period, resulting in subsequent new construction. However, the series of rear additions suggest an older core rather than unified construction in this period. It is assumed that while listings could not be identified in the address index of the city directories that the Martins continued to rent the property through this period while living at 404 Broadway. The 1928 Sanborn map shows the two-story side gable house with a rear section representing the two main rear additions, including the portion that extends beyond the main east elevation. From the 1929 to the 1934 directories, Mrs. Jennie Nietzel was listed here. Prior to this time, Nietzel and her husband John were recorded at 613 W. Fourth, her mother's residence. Nietzel was a traveling salesman.

On August 1, 1935, Alfred Meyer bought Lots 1 and 2, Block 84 from John T. and Elsie Martin (Book 82, Page 205). Meyer, a button cutter, is listed as a resident in the house with his wife Mary from the 1936-37 to the 1941-42 directory. The 1943 directory lists the property as vacant.

Harold E. and Helen E. Figg purchased the house on May 1, 1945 (Book 111, Page 196). Figg was the owner and manager of Figg Tire and Battery Shop. They are only listed as residents in the 1946 directory.

The Figgs sold the property on March 1, 1946 to Edna Riggs. She and her husband Harold were also only listed as the tenants in one directory, 1949. He was a trucker. However, Robert and Ruth Reynolds were also listed as residents at 711 W. Fourth in that directory. Reynolds was the superintendent of the Barry Pulley Plant.

The property was again sold on May 18, 1951 to Gordon A. and Betty J. Rogers (Book 138, Page 476). Rogers was the laboratory supervisor at General Hospital. They are listed as the residents in the 1952 to 1958 directories. They sold the property on April 16, 1973 to George W. Edkin (Book 261, Page 321).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Census Records, United States Census Bureau, 1860, 1870, 1900, 1910

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

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

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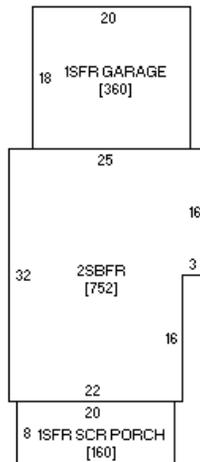
House
Name of Property

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



(front – W. 4th Street)

Photograph of building (digital image)

