

# Iowa Site Inventory Form

State Historic Preservation Office

(July 2014)

State Inventory Number: 92-00796  New  Supplemental

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance (R&C) Number \_\_\_\_\_

Non-extant Year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Read the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions carefully, to ensure accuracy and completeness before completing this form. The instructions are available on our website: <http://www.iowahistory.org/historic-preservation/statewide-inventory-and-collections/iowa-site-inventory-form.html>*

## • Property Name

A) Historic name Edward J. and Anna Harmeier House

B) Other names: West side survey map #WS-136

## • Location

A) Street address: 726 W Main Street

B) City or town: Washington ( Vicinity) County Washington

C) Legal Description:

Rural: Township Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Township No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Range No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter: \_\_\_\_\_ of Quarter: \_\_\_\_\_

Urban: Subdivision: Western Addition Block(s): 7 Lot(s): Lot 6 and W 50' of Lot 7

## • Classification

A) Property category: *Check only one*

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

B) Number of Resources (within property)

If eligible property, enter number of:		If non-eligible property, enter number of:	
Contributing	Noncontributing		
<u>2</u>	Buildings	—	Buildings
—	Sites	—	Sites
—	Structures	—	Structures
—	Objects	—	Objects
<u>2</u>	<b>Total</b>	—	<b>Total</b>

C) For properties listed in the National Register:

National Register status:  Listed  De-listed  NHL  NPS DOE

D) For properties within a historic district:

- Property contributes to a National Register or local certified historic district.
- Property contributes to a potential historic district, based on professional historic/architectural survey and evaluation.
- Property *does not* contribute to the historic district in which it is located.

Historic district name: West side residential historic district Historic district site inventory number: 92-00350

Name of related project report or multiple property study, if applicable:

MPD Title

Historical Architectural Data Base #

Architectural and Historical Survey of the "west side" residential neighborhood in Washington 92-013

• **Function or Use** *Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

A) Historic functions

01A01: Domestic / residence

01C05: Domestic / garage

B) Current functions

01A01: Domestic / residence

01C05: Domestic / garage

• **Description** *Enter categories (codes and terms) from the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions*

A) Architectural Classification

07E02: Craftsman

B) Materials

Foundation (visible exterior): 10A: Concrete block

walls (visible exterior): 02 Wood: weatherboard

Roof: 08A: Asphalt shingles

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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

● **Statement of Significance**

**A) Applicable National Register Criteria:** *Mark your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria*  
 Criterion A: Property is associated with significant events.  Yes  No  More research recommended  
 Criterion B: Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.  Yes  No  More Research Recommended  
 Criterion C: Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.  Yes  No  More Research Recommended  
 Criterion D: Property yields significant information in archeology/history.  Yes  No  More Research Recommended

**B) Special criteria considerations:** *Mark any special considerations; leave blank if none*  
 A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.  E A reconstructed building, object, or structure.  
 B Removed from its original location.  F A commemorative property.  
 C A birthplace or grave.  G Less than 50 years of age or  
 D A cemetery achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**C) Areas of Significance**  
*Enter categories from instructions*  
Community planning and development

**D) Period(s) of significance**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**E) Significant dates**  
*Construction date*  
1916  *check if circa or estimated date*  
*Other dates, including renovations*

**F) Significant person**  
*Complete if Criterion B is marked above*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**G) Cultural affiliation**  
*Complete if Criterion D is marked above*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**H) Architect/Builder**  
*Architect*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Builder/contractor*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**I) Narrative statement of significance**  **SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED**

● **Bibliography**  *See continuation sheet for the list of research sources used in preparing this form*  
 ● **Geographic Data** *Optional UTM references*  *See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments*

**UTM References (OPTIONAL)**

Zone	Easting	Northing	NAD	Zone	Easting	Northing	NAD
1				2			
3				4			

● **Form Preparation**

Name and Title: Mary Patterson - volunteer Rebecca Lawin McCarley, consultant Date: April 22, 2015  
 Organization/firm: Washington Historic Preservation Commission E-mail: -  
 Street address: City Hall, 215 E. Washington St Telephone: 319-653-6584  
 City or Town: Washington State: Iowa Zip code: 52353

● **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION** *Submit the following items with the completed form*

- A) For all properties, attach the following, as specified in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions:**  
 1. **Map** of property's location within the community.  
 2. **Glossy color 4x6 photos labeled** on back with property/building name, address, date taken, view shown, and unique photo number.  
 3. **Photo key showing each photo number on a map and/or floor plan, using arrows next to each photo number to indicate the location and directional view of each photograph.**  
 4. **Site plan** of buildings/structures on site, identifying boundaries, public roads, and building/structure footprints.  
**B) For State Historic Tax Credit Part 1 Applications, historic districts and farmsteads, and barns:**  
*See lists of special requirements and attachments in the Iowa Site Inventory Form Instructions.*

**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line**  
*The SHPO has reviewed the Site Inventory and concurs 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SHPO authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Related District Number: 92-00350

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Edward J. and Anna Harmeier House  
Name of Property

Washington  
County

726 W. Main Street  
Address

Washington  
City

**Narrative Description**

This is a two story frame Craftsman house built around 1916 on the north side of W. Main Street. The house sits on a rusticated concrete block foundation, and it is clad with narrow wood weatherboard on the first story and with wood shingles on the second story. The house retains several additional features of the Craftsman style, including the full porch with wood columns on rusticated concrete block piers, wide eaves, clipped side gable roof, exposed rafter tails, triangular eave brackets, and clipped gable front dormer. The windows are wood, with wood surrounds, and aluminum storm / screens. Two historic chimneys remain part of the house, one on the east elevation, and the other near the center of the house. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A historic single car frame garage is located northwest of the house.

The façade faces W. Main St to the south. A typical Craftsman porch with a shed roof spans the façade. It has pairs of square tapered wood columns sitting on wide rusticated concrete block piers, with a set of three columns on each pier at the two corners. Square wood railing spans between the piers. The porch has wood steps and a wood porch floor. A stepped concrete block wall is found on either side of the steps. The sides of the shed roof gables are clad with wood shingles, and the verge boards on the ends of the roof are cut with a notch. The front entry protrudes slightly, and it has a historic wood door with nine-light window. To the left/west of the entry is square bay window with a pair of one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with wood storm windows. On the right/east of the entry, there is a wide one-over-one-light double-hung wood window, also with a wood storm window. The second story has a one over one light double hung vinyl window above each of the first story windows. Centered on the roof, there is a shingle-clad clipped gable roof dormer with a set of three small one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with wood screens. The verge boards on the gable edge are cut with a notch to match those on the porch and side eaves of the house.

The east elevation is divided into two sections by a centrally located partially engaged exterior brick chimney. To the left/south of the chimney, nearer the street, there is a wide one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen. Above it, on the second story, there is a narrower one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen. To the right of the chimney on the first story there is a wide one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen. Above it, on the second story, is a narrower one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen. At attic level, there are two smaller one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen, one on each side of the chimney. There are four triangular eave braces along the edge of the roof, and the vergeboard has a cut notch at the end. There are also two four-light wood basement windows, one below each of the first story windows.

The west elevation is divided into two sections. The right/south/front half nearer the street has a group of three wood windows on the first story. The left and right hand windows are one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen, and between them is a fixed wood window with a much higher sill and an aluminum storm window. The left/north/rear half of the first story has a one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen which has a somewhat higher sill than is typical for this house. The second

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story has three windows. To the left/north and right/south sides, they are one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screens. Between them is a smaller one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround, an aluminum storm / screen, and a somewhat higher sill than is typical for this house. It is slightly offset to left/north of center. At the attic level there are two small one-over-one-light double-hung wood windows with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screens. There are four triangular wood brackets along the edge of the roof, and two one by one vinyl sliding basement windows, one under each of the first story window sections.

The north elevation, the rear of the house, has three sections. The left/east section on the first story has a wide single-light fixed rectangular wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm window. Above it, on the second story, there is a one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen. The center section has a ground level entry with a wood door with a single fixed light in the upper half of the door and an aluminum storm / screen door. There is shed roof with asphalt shingles above the door, supported by triangular brackets. There is a horizontal support from side gable to side gable, and the gable ends are filled with wood bead board. Exposed rafter tails are found under the eave. Above this entry, between the first and second stories, there is a one-over-one-light double-hung wood window with wood surround and an aluminum storm / screen. The third/west section has a small one-story shed-roof rear addition which sits on a concrete block foundation, is clad with wood weatherboard, and has a shed roof with asphalt shingles. There are two small one by one light sliding vinyl window on the east side of the addition, and a matching pair of one by one light sliding vinyl windows on the west side of the addition. The addition does not appear on the 1931 or 1943 Sanborn maps.

The gable-front garage facing W. Main Street has a concrete driveway along the west side of the house. The 1917 Sanborn map shows no garage, and then a square garage is indicated on the 1931 and 1943 Sanborn maps. The current garage is roughly double the size of this garage, and it appears that a south addition was built on to the original garage. The north half appears then to be the original garage, with the south half nearest the house/street as the later addition. The addition is complementary to the original garage, though does not duplicate the features exactly. The original section of the garage sits on a stone pier foundation, and is clad with wood V-groove siding applied horizontally to the lower half of the building, and wood shingles on the top half of the garage. The clipped front gable roof is visible on the north end, and it is covered with asphalt shingles and supported by four triangular wood braces. The ends of the verge boards have a decorative cut at their lower ends which matches the house as well. The south half of the garage has wood siding on the full wall. Exposed rafter tails extend over the side eaves to match the original section. The south gable, however, is not clipped and the eave is significantly smaller than on the north end and without any adornment. The south elevation has a single-car aluminum garage door located left of the center. The west elevation has two single-light fixed wood windows evenly distributed on the wall. The east elevation has two four-light fixed wood windows, also evenly distributed on the wall, and at the far left, closest to the house, there is a wood entry door with a window in the upper half of the door. The north elevation, the rear of the garage, has no fenestration.

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<u>Edward J. and Anna Harmeier House</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>726 W. Main Street</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Address	City

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**Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Edward J. and Anna Harmeier House appears to contribute architecturally and historically to the potential "west side" residential historic district in Washington. The house was built in 1916 during the significant development of the neighborhood in the early 20th century by lawyer Edward J. Harmeier. It reflects the development of the neighborhood in this period by prominent residents. Additionally the house retains several characteristics features of the Craftsman style and original elements, including the wood siding, wood windows, full porch with wood columns on rusticated concrete block piers, wide eaves, clipped side gable roof, exposed rafter tails, triangular eave brackets, and clipped gable front dormer. The original garage was designed to match the features of the house, and it remains intact, with a south addition. Both buildings are counted as contributing in the potential historic district.

Further research would be required to fully evaluate the individual eligibility of this house for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria B or C. Additional research would need to be completed on Edward Harmeier to assess eligibility under Criterion B. The architecture of the house is outstanding, and further assessment of the interior would be needed to full evaluate eligibility under Criterion C. It appears to stand out among other Craftsman houses in Washington, but further contextual research would also need to be completed on this style in Washington.

*History / research summary of property (chronological order, by owner/period):*

The property currently consists of Lot 6 and the west 50 feet of Lot 7. These two parcels were purchased at two different times by Edward J. Harmeier, a Washington lawyer. Lot 6 was acquired from Mattie F. Turner on March 6, 1916, and the west 50 feet of Lot 7 was purchased on February 6, 1917 from Owen O. Hayes and wife, owners of Lots 7 and 8. The house sits centered within Lot 6, so the additional land to the east on Lot 7 simply provided a larger yard. The 1917 Sanborn map, published in January of that year, shows the house as 720 W. Main, and without a garage. The 1917 county directory lists Ed J. Harmeier, farm loans over Lemley's grocery, living at 722 W. Main (this house). The family also included Anna Harmeier, a musician. The 1920 census identifies the family as Ed J. Harmeier, head of the household and home owner, age 43, and his wife Anna, age 37. He lists his profession as lawyer. The 1920 census also lists Mrs. Josephine Harmeier, age 78, living with John and Matilda Marie, her daughter, at 627 W. Main. The 1926 telephone directory lists E.J. Harmeier at 726 W. Main. In the 1930 census, the family at this address consists of Edward J. Harmeier, home owner, age 53, and his wife Anna M., age 47, and again, his profession is lawyer. The house is valued at \$6,000. The 1935 city directory lists Ed J. Haremeier, lawyer, with an office at 201 ½ W. Washington, living at 726 W. Main. By 1940, the census lists only Anna Harmeier, head of household, age 58 and a widow. She continues to appear in city directories and telephone directories through 1958.

The E.J. Harmeier estate transferred the property to Adam and Celia Gosieski on February 6, 1962. The estate, with Ralph Hayes as trustee, then transferred the property to Adam and Celia Gosieski on May 25, 1962. It was sold on February 28, 1963 to Alfred and Erma Fritz. The 1964 city directory lists Alfred J Fritz, teacher at Washington Jr. High, and his wife Jean, a teacher at Cotter, Iowa, and their children Alfred Jr., age 9 and Michael, age 4 living in the house. The Fritz family continues to be listed

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in city directories and telephone directories through 1992 when the property was sold to Gary and Virginia McCurdy.

### **Bibliography**

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*History of Washington County, Iowa*. Des Moines, IA: Union Historical Co., 1880.

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*Washington Gazette*, January 6, 1893

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**Location map**



*2009 aerial photograph (Washington County) – line indicates survey/research area boundary*

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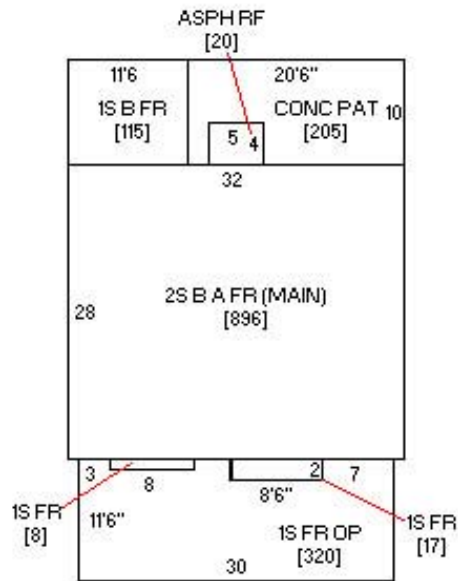
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**Building plan (from assessor's website)**



**Photo from assessor's website**





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**Digital photographs**



**Photograph 92-00796-001 - House, looking northeast (December 2014)**

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**Photograph 92-00796-002 - House, looking northeast (December 2014)**



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**Photograph 92-00796-003 - Garage, looking southeast (December 2014)**