

# Iowa Site Inventory Form

State Historic Preservation Office

(July 2014)

State Inventory Number: 92-00804  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 Timothy and Recinda Widmer House

B) Other names: West side survey map #WS-144

• **Location**

A) Street address: 117 S. Avenue H

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

C) Legal Description:

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

Urban: Subdivision: Northwest Addition Block(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Lot(s): E 130' of Lot 26 exc. No170.95' and S 16.5 ft.

• **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		
—	Buildings <u>1</u>	—	Buildings
—	Sites <u>—</u>	—	Sites
—	Structures <u>—</u>	—	Structures
—	Objects <u>—</u>	—	Objects
—	<b>Total</b> <u>1</u>	—	<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

**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**

10C Rambler/Ranch

**B) Materials**

Foundation (visible exterior): 10B: Poured Concrete

walls (visible exterior): 03: Brick veneer

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*

2000  *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: March 16, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Iowa Site Inventory Form**  
**State Historic Preservation Office**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Site Number: 92-00804  
Related District Number: 92-00350

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<u>Timothy and Recinda Widmer House</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Name of Property	County
<u>117 S. Avenue H</u>	<u>Washington</u>
Address	City

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**Narrative Description**

This is a ranch house built into the hillside in 2000 on the west side of South Avenue H on a parcel of land that extends into Sunset Park from the 800 block of W. Main Street. The house faces south-southeast towards the core of Sunset Park, and the park superintendent for the city currently lives here. It sits on a poured concrete foundation, and is built into the hillside to the north-northwest. The lower portion of the walls on the rear and sides are earth bermed. The facade is clad with brick veneer, and the exposed portion of the remaining sides are clad in vinyl siding. The hip roof is covered with asphalt singles. The house has vinyl casement, vinyl sliding, and vinyl fixed windows. The attached three-car garage is reached via a concrete driveway from the intersection of W. Washington Street and S. Avenue H where they meet in Sunset Park.

The façade, the south elevation, consists of the main section of the house and the gable-roof garage on the left (west) end of the house that projects slightly forward from the main section. The main section of the house has paired tall single-light vinyl casement window at the left/west end. The entry is located to the right/east, and it has a steel door with a small window flanked by single-light sidelights. To the right of the entry, there is another pair of tall single-light vinyl casement windows. At the right/east end, there is a large picture window with a single-light fixed window in the center, and a single-light vinyl casement window on either side. The garage has a single-car aluminum garage door on the left/west, and an aluminum double-car garage door on the right/east. The garage gable faces south and is clad with vinyl siding. In the east facing wall where the garage projects past the façade, there is a steel entry door.

The east elevation has a retaining wall about a third of the distance from the façade toward the rear of the house. There is a pair of tall single-light vinyl casement window. Past the retaining wall, toward the right end of the house, there is a one-by-one-light vinyl sliding window.

The west elevation, the garage wall, has a one-by-one-light sliding window located toward the rear of the house.

The north elevation, the rear of the house, has four one-by-one-light sliding windows distributed fairly evenly across the back of the house. These windows are located just under the eaves, and the ground is about 2 to 3 feet below them.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Timothy and Recinda Widmer House is counted as non-contributing within the potential “west side” residential historic district in Washington. The period of significance for the historic district is anticipated to extend through 1969, and this house was completed in 2000 so it falls after this period.

The house is currently not 50 years old, the typical age for evaluating significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The house does not appear to have exceptional significance for individual listing prior to 50 years. It should be reevaluated for significance, particularly architectural significance, when it reaches 50 years old.

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Timothy and Recinda Widmer House	Washington
Name of Property	County
117 S. Avenue H	Washington
Address	City

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*History / research summary of property*

The property was historically part of the John Graham farm west of Washington, shown on the 1894 Atlas of Washington County map. The 1906 map of Washington shows that Mrs. Laura Graham owned this lot (Lot 26) on the west side of the street as well as a finger of land extending west to the south, and she owned Lot 25 on the east side of the street. The property transferred a couple times in the 1910s and 1920s, with Verice and Mary Beliel buying Lot 26 in 1928 and Lot 25 becoming part of Sunset Park in 1931. In 1935, they sold a strip of land along the south edge of their property to be part of Sunset Park, and the park further expanded west of their parcel. Thus, Lot 26 with the Beliel house on the north half ended up as an extension into the park.

The Beliel family continued to own Lot 26 until 1992. The south portion of the lot was transferred by the Beliel family to Phillip D. and Shirley A. Chorpening on May 8, 1992 with the assessor's note "vacant lot". About 18 months later, in September 1993, the Chorpenings purchased the remainder of the Beliel property at 105 S. Ave. H. The 1989 city directory lists Phillip, employee at Wilson Concrete, and Shirley, bookkeeper at Farmers Implement, living at 105 S. Avenue H. They continue to be listed at this address through the 1990s and in 2000. The assessor lists a construction date of 2000 for this house at 117 S. Avenue H on the south half of the lot. In 2001, their address is listed as 117 S. Avenue H, and Mr. Chorpening is self-employed. On May 1, 2002, the south portion of the property with the new house at 117 S. Avenue H was sold to Timothy and Recinda Widmer. The Chorpening's address returns to 105, and Timothy and Recinda Widmer, current residents, are listed at 117. Tim Widmer is the parks superintendent for the City of Washington.

**Bibliography**

*Atlas of Washington County, Iowa.* No publisher noted, 1894. In collection of Washington Public Library.

City/telephone directories. Washington Public Library. Various years, including 1894, 1903, 1908, 1910-11, 1917, 1932, 1934, 1935, 1938, 1941, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1967, 1969, 1972, and 1976.

Newspapers, including anniversary/celebration editions on microfilm and/or bound at Washington Public Library:

- Washington Gazette*, January 6, 1893
- Twentieth Anniversary Edition, *Evening Journal*, April 26, 1913
- Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition, *Evening Journal*, April 3, 1926
- Washington County Centennial Edition, *Evening Journal*, July 1936
- Souvenir Edition of Washington Centennial, *The Evening Journal*, August 1939
- Sixtieth Anniversary Edition, *The Washington Evening Journal*, February 27, 1953
- Bicentennial edition, *The Washington Evening Journal*, July 1, 1976
- Sesquicentennial edition, *The Washington Evening Journal*, April 13, 1989

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Timothy and Recinda Widmer House Washington  
Name of Property County  
117 S. Avenue H Washington  
Address City

Sanborn Map Company. *Washington, Iowa*. Fire insurance maps. 1885, 1892, 1897, 1902, 1909, 1917, 1931, 1943.

*Souvenir History of Washington, Iowa*. Washington, IA: Washington Evening Journal, June 23, 1989.

**Location map**



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

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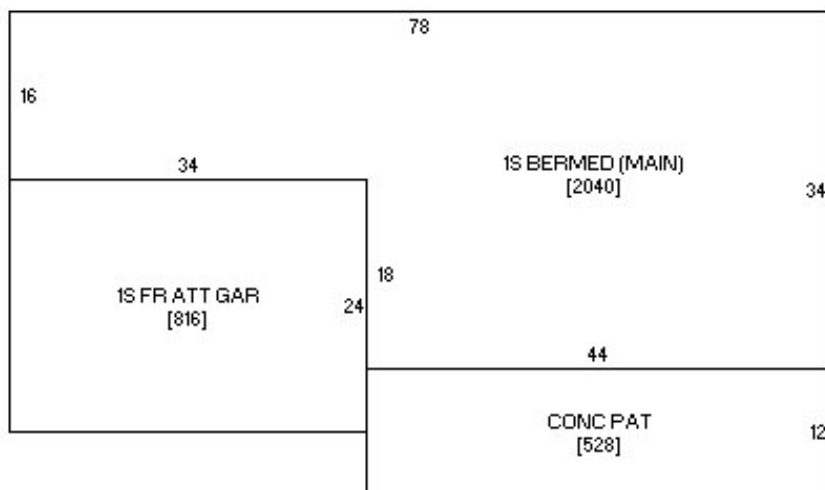
Timothy and Recinda Widmer House  
Name of Property

Washington  
County

117 S. Avenue H  
Address

Washington  
City

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



**Photo from assessor's website**



**Digital photographs**

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Timothy and Recinda Widmer House  
Name of Property

Washington  
County

117 S. Avenue H  
Address

Washington  
City



**Photograph 92-00804-001 - House, looking north (December 2014)**

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Timothy and Recinda Widmer House  
Name of Property

Washington  
County

117 S. Avenue H  
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**Photograph 92-00804-002 - House, looking southeast (December 2014)**