

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION  
as  
LANDMARK OR HISTORIC DISTRICT

PEORIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Pursuant to Article III, Sec. 9-8 of Ordinance No. 11,990, I submit the following:

- A. Name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s) of property proposed for designation:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Charles R. Traynor	701 Dr. M.L. King Jr Dr. Peoria, IL 61605
Joy E. Traynor	701 Dr. M.L. King Jr Dr. Peoria, IL 61605
City of Peoria	700 Block of Sheridan Cobblestone Road

- B. Legal description and common street address(es) of the property proposed for designation:

700 Block Dr. Martin Luther King Dr at  
700 Block of North Sheridan Road.  
TAX ID # 18-08-229-001  
TAX ID # 18-08-229-003  
TAX ID # 18-08-229-005

\*also see National Register of Historic  
Places - Inventory

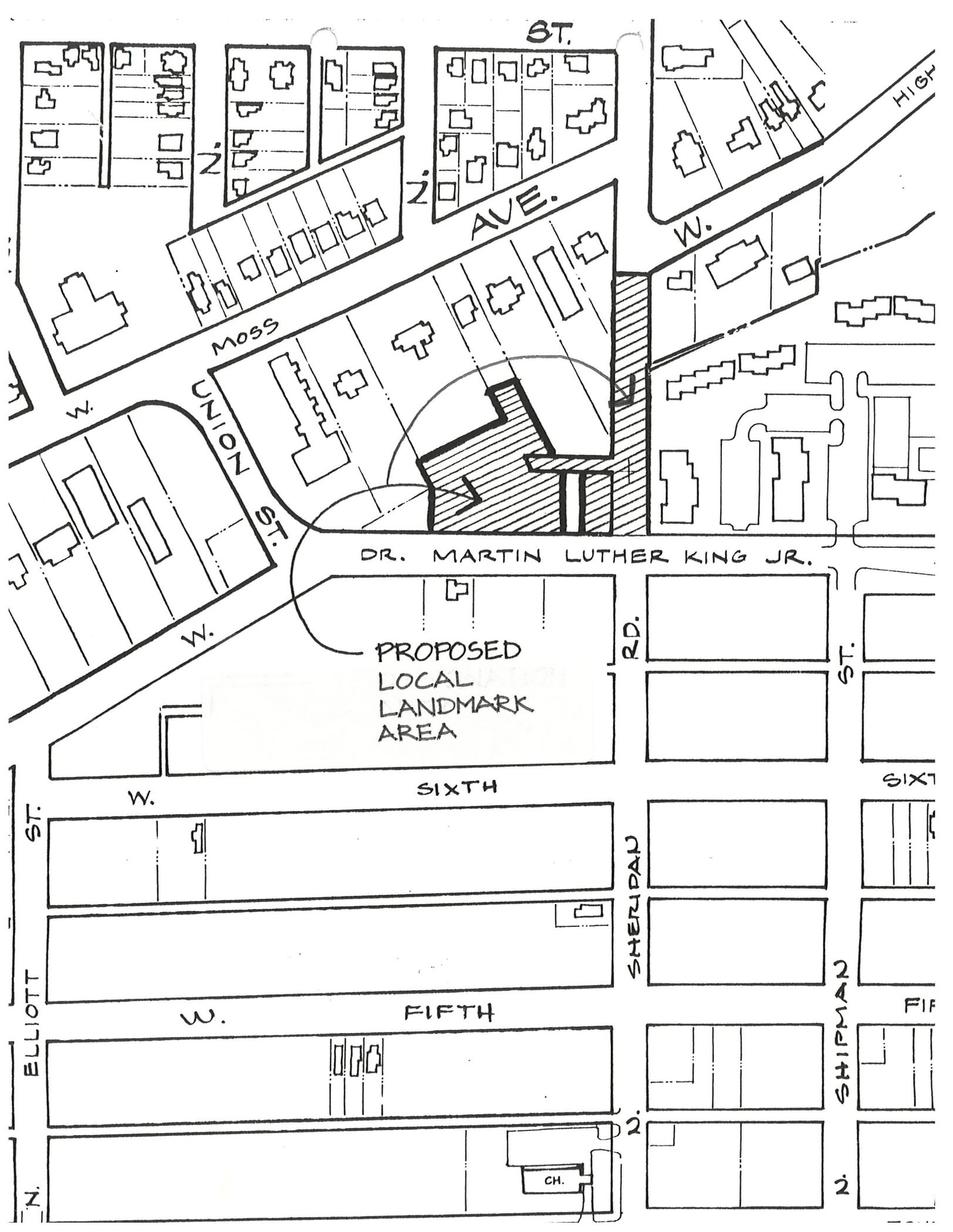
- C. A map delineating the boundaries and location of the property proposed for designation (attached).
- D.\* Written statement describing the property and setting forth reasons in support of the designation proposed (attached).

Submitted by:

Charles R. Traynor  
701 ML King Dr.  
Address PEORIA

April 1, 91  
Date  
676-7951  
Phone

The Two Owners are in favor of this designation  
The City of Peoria is receiving the approval being nominated.  
61605



ST.

AVE.

HIGH

MOSS

UNION ST.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

PROPOSED LOCAL LANDMARK AREA

R.D.

ST.

SIXT

W.

SIXTH

ST.

SHERIDAN

W.

FIFTH

ELLIOTT

2 AMPS ST

FIF

N.

CH.

2

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Peoria Mineral Springs (Spring Hill)

and/or common Peoria Mineral Springs

2. Location

street & number 701 West Seventh Avenue not for publication

city, town Peoria vicinity of congressional district 43

state Illinois code 61603 012 county Peoria code 143

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Charles R. Traynor, Jr.  
Joy Elizabeth Traynor also City of Peoria - Cobblestone Road

street & number 701 West Seventh Avenue

city, town Peoria vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Peoria County Court House

street & number Main Street

city, town Peoria state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date August 1972  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Illinois Department of Conservation

city, town Springfield state Illinois

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Peoria Mineral Springs is located on a site on the hillside of Peoria's historic West Bluff. The cave-like barrel-vaulted brick reservoir, built about 1843, is concealed in the gentle slope of the hillside. The reservoir, built for Peoria's first water company, captures the flow of three individual springs. Heavy mineral deposits on the interior of the reservoir indicate the source of each of the springs. This area has also been the site of Indian campgrounds; artifacts can still be found near the reservoir.

Located about 200-250 feet east of the reservoir is the home built by Zealy Cross about 1843-45. Originally built as a simple square two-story brick structure, the house contains a first-floor room with a brick floor which was used for bottling spring water, with a kitchen-living area on the second floor with a loft above it. The house was enlarged twice before 1869; one wing was added to the south and another to the east. The architectural style of the house can be described as a simple severe Federal style, or Post-colonial.

Adjacent to the house on the east side is a cobblestone road, 18 feet wide and 450 feet long. The road runs from the crest of the bluff at High Street to the foot of the bluff at Seventh Avenue and Sheridan Road. This road was paved in 1886. The reason for using cobblestones at this late date may have been for traction on the steep incline of the road, and to break the flow of rain water coming off the bluff during storms. This road has been known as Spencer Street Hill for many years.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Health
		<input type="checkbox"/> Invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Since approximately 14,500 years ago when the last vestiges of the great ice sheets still lingered in Northeastern Illinois, a perpetual spring has been flowing at this site.

On February 20, 1843, five of the founding fathers of the City of Peoria; Charles Oakley, Norman Purple, William Moss, Augustus O. Garrett and Lester O. Hurlbert were granted a charter by Illinois Governor, Thomas Ford, to establish the first water supply for the City of Peoria. A cave-like brick reservoir was built into the hillside to contain the three springs at the source and pipes were laid to carry the water as far as Hancock Street, about two miles away. The springs were the primary water source for the City of Peoria for approximately 15 years. At that time another water source was established near the Illinois River to meet the increasing demand for water caused by Peoria's rapidly growing population. The overflow from the springs was used as a partial supply for Peoria's historic Goose Lake, located just below the bluff. The springs are still free-flowing to this day.

At the time the reservoir was built, Zealy Moss built a home for himself at this site. In addition to supplying the City with water through its system of pipes, water was bottled and sold on the site. The Moss home, still existant, contains the original bottling room. Other residents of the home were Lydia Moss Bradley, who later founded Bradley University, Bradley Hospital (later St. Francis) and donated Bradley Park to the City of Peoria.

Adjacent to the house, an 16 foot wide cobblestone road dating to 1886 stretches from Seventh Street to the crest of the bluff, a distance of 450 feet. This road is made of artistically selected and placed flagstones.

Other Springs have existed along Peoria's East Bluff (in the vicinity of Glen Oak Park and Springdale Cemetary). However, these springs stopped flowing years ago. Peoria Mineral Springs is our last link in this area with these pre-historic water sources.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UMT References

A 

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 Zone Easting Northing

B 

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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

North side - 700 block Seventh Avenue (see continuation sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles R. Treyner, Jr., President

organization Peoria Mineral Springs, Inc. date October 16, 1980

street & number 701 West Seventh Avenue telephone (309) 676-7951

city or town Peoria state Illinois 61605

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *David Kenney*

title *Director* date *1/2/81*

For HCRS use only  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
*National Register* date *March 5, 1982*

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet

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A brick, two story, I-shaped house built into the side of a hill at the corner of Seventh Street and Spencer Street Hill, approximately 250 feet from a 14,500 year old mineral spring. There is an entry into the house on the lower level on all sides except the back, which has an entry into the upper level. On circumventing the house from the oval-glassed front door one sees there is nothing remaining of a former front porch and balcony, but a bricked sidewalk takes one around the East side of the house through a hill-side covered with vinea minor and ancient pine trees and a brick-walled fern garden. Coming up the narrow stairs to the upper level there is a bricked patio and small fish pond. One can see the narrow road leading from Spencer Street Hill to the opening of the spring. The locked reservoir door is visible from here. There is a fenced area in the back yard. Coming around to the west side there is a steep drop, retained with flagstone to the lower level and the bottling room door. This was a loading area where in the last century water was dispatched. The narrow-steep drive exists to the street below and one is again at the point of beginning.

In describing the house itself:

The south facade is divided into two sections, formed by an 'L' addition on the East side. The western portion of the house with a north-south axis is a combination of Post & Federal styles in its massing and fenestration. The ground floor features three window bays of simple construction with wooden lintels and sills. The second story of this portion of the house features just two windows, above the first and third windows on the first floor. Construction of these windows are the same as the first floor. The attic gable contains one smaller window unit devised from two small casement windows. Wooden trim of the barge board and cornice are simple and plain with a minimum of ornamental trim capping the barge board.

The Eastern addition on an east-west axis is set back from the front of the western portion of the house by approximately 15 feet. The entry is located on the first floor of this wing, close to the juncture of the original portion of the house. There is one window on the first floor of this portion of the house, approximately six feet to the east (or right) of the entry. There are two windows on the second floor, above the entry and first floor windows. These windows are of simple construction with wood lintels and sills. The massing of this portion of the building is balanced but asymmetrical.

The Western facade of the building features a solid brick wall running from the south corner 1 1/2 feet north. The first floor features one window, of leaded glass and a door-way. This door and window provide access and a light source for the bottling room. A portion of the hillside was excavated and faced with brick retaining walls to provide a loading area for product disbursement.

The second floor on the west side features a ribbon of three casement windows over the first floor entry to the bottling room. Eight to ten feet north of the casement windows is a larger double hung window of simple construction (original interior wood sill still remains). A large brick chimney has been added to the North-west corner of the house.

The eastern facade of the 'EL' features two windows, one on each floor, placed along the center of the facade. Window construction is simple with wood lintels and sills. Treatment of the gable at this end of the house is simple wood construction, just like the southern gable.

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The northern facade, just as the southern facade is broken into two parts with an East-west axis and one part (the oldest portion of the house) along a north-south axis.

The northern side of the east-west wing is a solid brick wall, two stories high, broken by one casement window on the second floor near the juncture of the wing with the original porch of the house.

A portion of the hillside has been excavated behind this 'EL' of the house to form a sunken court or fern garden. This court also provides access to the original kitchen which is built partially into the hillside.

A porch at the second level on the eastern side of the north-south portion of the house provides access to the current kitchen, originally living and sleeping areas. Original trim and elements of the porch are being restored and will be placed at a later date.

The extreme northern facade of the house is one story with a gable. This originally just had one window in the upper left side of the gable to provide light to a loft area. With removal of the fireplace chimney in the basement kitchen a window was added at the first floor level in the center of the wall on the northern facade.

The area behind or to the north of the house is used as garden area, providing a rustic setting and featuring many spruce and fir trees.

The floor plan of the house is 'T' shaped. The ground floor contains from north to south, the original kitchen area, the bottling area and a bedroom. The stem of the 'T' contains a bedroom, an entry hall and another bedroom as the eastern end of the stem. The first floor contains from north to south the current kitchen, dining room and living room. The living room features a marble mantle brought from the John C. Proctor home. (The Proctors were an old, well known, philanthropic family in Peoria) The stem of the 'T' on this floor contains a bedroom, stairhall and another bedroom, directly corresponding to the room arrangement on the ground floor.

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Peoria 1880, Johnson  
W.P.A. File Collection - Bradley University  
Spooner Library of the Peoria Historical Society  
Peoria Journal Star  
The Observer  
The West Bluff Word

