

2/15/72

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

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

For HCERS use only
received _____
date entered _____

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

1. Name

historic GALE, JUDGE JACOB, HOUSE

and/or common _____

2. Location

street & number 403 NE Jefferson Street N/A not for publication

city, town Peoria N/A vicinity of congressional district 18th

state Illinois code 012 county Peoria code 143

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Edmund A. Zosky (Jack A. Coney, contract seller)

street & number 4218 N. Sheridan (First National Bank Bldg.)

city, town Peoria N/A vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office

street & number Peoria County Courthouse

city, town Peoria state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Illinois Historic Landmarks
title Survey-Peoria County

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		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a single family detached dwelling of Greek Revival style built circa 1839-40. The structure is L-shaped, 40' across x 31' long 2 1/2 stories tall for the main block, and 16' across x 30' deep 2 stories in height for the rear wing and addition. The rear addition is roughly half (15') of the total depth of the L-shaped wing today.

The structure is constructed of pinkish brick laid in common bond throughout with 1/2" mortar joints, (now painted). The brick walls of the main block are 8-10" thick, being a double row or more of brick.

The roofline is a plain gable with one attic window on each side of the main block. The rear wing and addition gable roofline abuts the main block just at the cornice line. The original roof seems to have been seamed sheet metal, however, the roof in place may not be original and is today covered with rolled roofing. Only one heating vent pierces the roof of the main block today. The rear wing roofline is also a plain gable and a large chimney, (cement covered brick), separates the rear wing from the addition. There are no dormers.

The facade consists of 5 symmetrically placed bays. A modillion cornice and plain frieze extend across the front and rear. The cornice line stops where the rear wing roofline abuts the main block. The gable ends also contain this same cornice and plain frieze with corner returns.

The rectangular windows of the facade and sides of the main block are capped with stone lintels and have stone sills. The windows at the rear of the main block have brick lintels and stone or wood (replacements) sills as do the windows of the rear addition and wing.

The central doorway has a transom (covered over) and sidelights (open) and appears to be original excepting the door and glass. The rear doors, 3, are all replacement doors and have no merit.

A Greek Revival porch was added to the main facade and frames the central doorway. It was probably added between 1840-1860. The columns are fluted with Ionic capitals and bases (all of wood). The columns are paired with matching fluted Ionic pilasters framing the doorway. The capitals are composed of sections of wood rather than being carved from a single block. The columns are likewise pieced together from many segments. The pilasters, however, appear to be of solid pieces.

The sidewalk leading to the main entrance is slab limestone as are the 3 front entrance steps and the coping that runs across the front of the property, (originally topped by a decorative iron fence). The steps are carved, (recessed), and are laid one on top of another. The threshold of the entrance is also of stone. There are stone sections embedded in the ground at the rear of the yard that may also have been topped by a fence.

The rear addition has randomly placed brick arched windows and doorway but otherwise the brick color and size closely match the original structure. It is not known when this addition was added, the straight line in the brickwork between the rear addition and the rear wing is evidence of its later construction. There is a metal tie rod thru this addition between the first and second floor level. A large brick fireplace chimney pierces the roofline between the addition and the rear wing. It is covered with cement on the outside and is enclosed in the plaster wall in the interior. This rear wing probably served as the kitchen with the cooking fireplace. The later addition may have been added as pantry space with an additional bedroom upstairs.

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Description continued:

The window sash is still in place throughout most of the house but the glass is replacement, the original configuration probably being 6 over 6 panes, like the windows found in the attic level which may be original.

The interior floorplan has a central hallway with 2 rooms on either side of the hall. There are front and rear entrances to this hallway. A open staircase rises half the distance between the two floors, makes a full turn and then rises again. Most of the original balusters and the newell post remain but all are not in place. A simple flat cut out scroll runs under each stair and across the bottom of the second floor. An enclosed steeper stairs leads to the attic.

The plaster is over lath on the interior walls and directly on the brick on exterior walls. The lath is probably early machine made but appears to be fairly uniform in size. One of the first enterprises to develop in early Peoria was the saw mill.

No fireplaces remain in the main block nor is there any evidence that any existed. The rooms were probably heated by stoves, although no evidence of these remain either inside or at roof level.

The interior trim is a modified shoulder architrave moulding on the facade windows with a wooden panel insert below from sill to baseboard. The baseboard is approximately 8" wide ogee curved and probably pine, (painted). Nearly all of the trim remains. The trim of the rear wing and addition is more simplified and some is not original.

The floors are of wood, covered with 2" boards. Almost all are in sound condition.

No original hardware or lighting fixtures survive.

The attic level was finished off for additional space, (date unknown), and the walls and ceiling were papered. The roof rafters are roughly sawn and two double beams run parallel across the width of the main block and are supported by two brick piers on each side. The attic windows are intact, 6 over 6, and may be original. The attic level above the rear addition and the rear wing is unused space without the brick piers found in the main block.

The upstairs of the main block has the central hallway lighted by a facade window and a rear doorway, (probably cut when subdivided as apartment use). Two rooms are on either side of the hallway.

The rear wing arrangement is more irregular, random window and door placement. There is a basement below this rear wing and addition with an outside stairs.

The structure looks much as it did when it was constructed from the exterior, excepting the window replacement glass, and the interior is today subdivided with hollow walls that are to be removed. These alterations to the original fabric were added when the building served as a rooming house starting sometime around the first World War.

There is one other building on the rear of the lot which is neither architecturally or historically significant, as can be determined from present condition, (may have been a carriage house or storage building). It is omitted from the application. (see revised boundaries).

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input 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 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa 1839-40 Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This early Peoria home is significant because of its architectural style, rarity, age and prominence of one of its owners. It was built within five years after the downtown grid of Peoria was completed and streets established. It is probably the oldest single family dwelling remaining in the Original Town.* It is a fine example of Greek Revival architecture and still retains its original design, which is recognizable even with the addition of the Greek Revival porch. This home was owned by Judge Jacob Gale who contributed much to the social and business climate of early Peoria. He was a local businessman who later became an attorney, then served as a public servant. He was twice elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, served as Circuit Judge, was elected Mayor of Peoria for 1848-9 and 1864-5, sat on the city council, was Superintendant of public schools from 1857-61 and 1866-70. In 1858 he was a candidate for Congress on the Buchanan ticket. He later returned to business and became Secretary of the Peoria Light, Gas and Coke Co. His avocation was history and his particular interest was in Fort Creve Coeur. No other home of this period remains in Peoria in as good as condition as this home.

*The term, Original Town, refers only to the area of land designated by the courthouse plat books, the areas adjacent to the central business district being designated as Additions to the city of Peoria. The Gale house sits just inside of the irregular boundaries of the Original Town. Within these boundaries, there are four possible structures that may be older, but none were single family homes, rather storefronts with upstairs living quarters. The area outside the Original Town, i.e. the city limits of today, may contain structures of comparable age. One possibility is the Judge Flanagan house on the East Bluff, 1837, but the claim is in my estimation unfounded since the records are not clear on the property and the house, a central gable, is stylistically later than the Gale House.

Condition _____
 deteriorated
 deteriorated
 original site
 Check one _____

9. Major Bibliographical References

see attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1/2 acre
Quadrangle name Peoria East

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A

1	6	2	8	1	5	4	0	4	5	0	8	0	4	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Pt NE1/4 988 Original Town of Peoria, 58.5' on Jefferson x 133' DP Comg.
57' from Jackson: Pt Lots 8-9, Block 24

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

state None code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joseph Heine and Lou Ann Spyles

organization none date January 28, 1981

street & number 5332 Stephen Drive telephone 691-2401

city or town Peoria state Illinois

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 [Signature]

title Director, Ill. Dept. of Conservation date 4/13/81

For HCERS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register date
Keeper of the National Register date
Attest: Chief of Registration

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Major Bibliographical References:

Confirmation of date: 1838-44

Works Progress Administration File, Judge Jacob Gale, subject,
Peoria Public Library Reference Desk, p. 99 footnote.
date recorded 1838.

Reference for above: Peoria Star, October 22, 1900, Gale Obituary
verified by Miss Sue Bartlett, Nov. 1937.

Oakford, A. W., The Peoria Story, Volume II, p. 110.
date recorded 1840.

East, Ernest, Abraham Lincoln Sees Peoria, Peoria, Ill. 1939, p. 9
date recorded ante 1844.

Drown, S. DeWitt, The Peoria Directory for 1844, facsimile reprint 1978,
p. 69.

Bibliography:

Ballance, Charles, History of Peoria, pg. 72, 89, 90, 215, 245.

Bateman, Newton, Editor, Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois,
and

McCulloch, David History of Peoria County, Volume II, pg. 95, 116, 154,
212, 252, 253, 254, 289, 399, and 193.

Biographical Encyclopedia of Illinois of the 19th Century, Philadelphia,
Galaxy Publishing Co. 1875, p. 355.

History of Peoria County Illinois, Chicago, Johnson and Company, 1880.

Portrait Bibliographical Album of Peoria County Illinois, Chicago,
Biographical Publishing Co. 1890, p. 685.

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

P-H-27

SURVEY USE ONLY

201317

5-4

- Archeology
- Architecture
- History

1. Name of Site: Judge Jacob Gale Home
Common

2. Location:

Street and Number Township Section
403 N.E. Jefferson
City or Town Zip Code Range 1/4 Section
Peoria
County
Peoria

3. Classification:

Category (check one)

- District
- Site
- Building
- Structure

Integrity (check one)

- Altered
- Unaltered

Position (check one)

- Moved
- Original Site

4. Ownership:

- Private
- Public

Status (check one)

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

- Yes - Restricted - Unrestricted - No

Present Use (check one or more)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Park
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific
- Transportation
- Other (specify)

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name

Phone Number

Street and Number

City or Town

State

County

Zip Code

6. Description:

Condition

Excellent - Good - Fair - Deteriorated - Ruins - Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? Yes No

7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- Archeological Site (pre-Columbian)
- Archeological Site (post-Columbian to 1673)
- French Influence (1673-1780)
- Illinois Frontier (1780-1818)
- Illinois Early (1818-1850)
- Illinois Middle (1850-1900)
- Illinois Late (1900-Present)
- Famous People (Give names and dates)

HOMES OF PROMINENT PEOPLE



8. Specific Date:

Areas of Significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (prehistoric) | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)
Use additional sheets if necessary.

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: Mrs. L. Eslinger Date: Aug 9, 1872

Organization: _____

Street and Number: 145 Putnam

City or Town: E. Georgia County: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the " Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly diduct from the Survey 's task.

Bibliography:

Roberston, Robert, Of Whales and Men, New York, Allfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

No additional information available. This site is principally architectural.