

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Shriver House

and/or common Thompson House

2. Location

Congressional District #19

street & number 117 East Third

not for publication

city, town Flora

vicinity of

state Illinois

code 012

courty Clay

code 025

3. Classification

Category

- district
- building(s)
- structure
- site
- object

Ownership

- public
 - private
 - both
- Public Acquisition**
- in process
 - being considered

Status

- occupied
 - unoccupied
 - work in progress
- Accessible**
- yes: restricted
 - yes: unrestricted
 - no

Present Use

- agriculture
 - commercial
 - educational
 - entertainment
 - government
 - industrial
 - military
- museum
 - park
 - private residence
 - religious
 - scientific
 - transportation
 - other:

4. Owner of Property

name Oscar F. Thompson and Olive R. Thompson

street & number P. O. Box 362

city, town Flora

vicinity of

state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk and Recorder

street & number Clay County Courthouse

city, town Louisville

state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Preservation: Opportunities for
title the Embarras Region has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date August, 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Embarras Regional Planning and Development Commission

city, town Olney

state Illinois

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Shriver House is an excellent example of the imaginative architectural design that is typical of Queen Anne style homes. It represents a whimsical array of gables, windows, and ornate woodwork. This is a two story structure, excluding the basement and attic. The exterior is white pine clapboard. The original windows are intact, as are the shutters which are hinged to permit them to be opened and closed. The roof has been replaced with a composition type of material; the year(s) of replacement is unknown.

The first floor of Shriver House, as shown in the attached blueprints, consists of a parlor, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, and central hallway. An ornate walnut staircase with spindle turned woodwork is located in this front hall. Fireplaces on the first floor are in the dining room, parlor, and sitting room. The mantle pieces, which are cherry in the parlor and sitting room and oak in the dining room, are intricately hand carved and have bevelled glass mirrors. All hearths are of the original decorative tile.

Four bedrooms, a bathroom, and a hall comprise the second floor of this picturesque home. The two larger bedrooms have fireplaces which, like the ones on the first floor, retain the decorative mantle pieces and tile which characterize this type of home. The bathroom remains equipped with the original brass and porcelain fixtures. The original ornate, brass hardware is still in use throughout the house.

Structurally, Shriver House typifies the work methods and materials characteristic of the era in which it was built. The massive front door is hand carved and has panels of etched glass inset. Doors throughout have transoms, and are the mortise and tenon type of construction. Other significant structural elements are the mortise and tenon cellar sash with wood dowels, the dovetailed joints in main beams, and the tube and knob electrical system. It must be noted that this electrical system is inadequate by present day standards and that planning does include its replacement. The original carriage house is situated behind this residence and retains the characteristics of this particular architectural style.

One of the most outstanding qualities of this home and the carriage house is the very few alterations or changes that have been made in them in the ninety years since their construction. The alterations which have been made over these years for the most part been based on making the house more habitable (e.g. the installation of a coal-burning furnace) and have not spoiled or diminished the distinguishing characteristics of this home. The following is a list of the alterations to this home as they are known to the present owners:

Enclosure of one back porch with the installation of a small half-bath in this newly created room. Date unknown.

Continued

3. 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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local historic

Specific dates 1893

Builder/Architect J.W. Gaddis

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built in 1893 in Flora, Illinois, Shriver House was designed by architect J.W. Gaddis. It is an excellent example of the restrained Queen Anne style home and of the materials and work methods that were characteristic of this time period. The significant architectural features are largely unaltered and many of the decorative elements remain intact despite the passage of nine decades. The five tiled fireplaces, ornate brass hardware, elaborate walnut staircase, intricately carved mantle pieces, and the original storm windows and shutters all contribute to the potential of this home to be restored to near original condition.

Shriver House has notable historic significance to the southern Illinois community in which it is located. Around the turn of the century, it housed students of Orchard City College (later Greenlaw college). While there are few other reminders that an institution of higher learning was ever in Flora, some of its former students are, today, among the more prominent citizens of this community. Additionally, some of the former occupants of this home made noteworthy contributions to the town of Flora. Joseph W. Thompson, who purchased Shriver House in 1928, is listed in the Illinois School Directory as Supervisor of Trades and Industrial Education in the 1930's and 1940's. It was his son Earl who had the bandstand in the park across the street built, dedicated to his father's memory.

Although there is no substantial evidence that the years around the time that Shriver house was built reflect any significant growth or a "boom period," several homes, a church, and the library were built in this time period. A number of the homes and buildings constructed around the turn of the century in Flora have been identified as worthy of historical preservation in Historical Preservation: Opportunities for the Embarras Region. Shriver House is noted as such in this publication. In the main, many of the older homes of Flora which may have, at one time, been worthy of preserving have been substantially renovated (e.g. vinyl siding applied) and, thus, their historical value has been greatly diminished.

Restoration and preservation of this home and the carriage house which is located behind it, as planned by the present owners, offer an invaluable contribution toward safeguarding one example of an architectural style that is of historical significance and toward preserving some part of the cultural heritage of the larger community of which it is a part.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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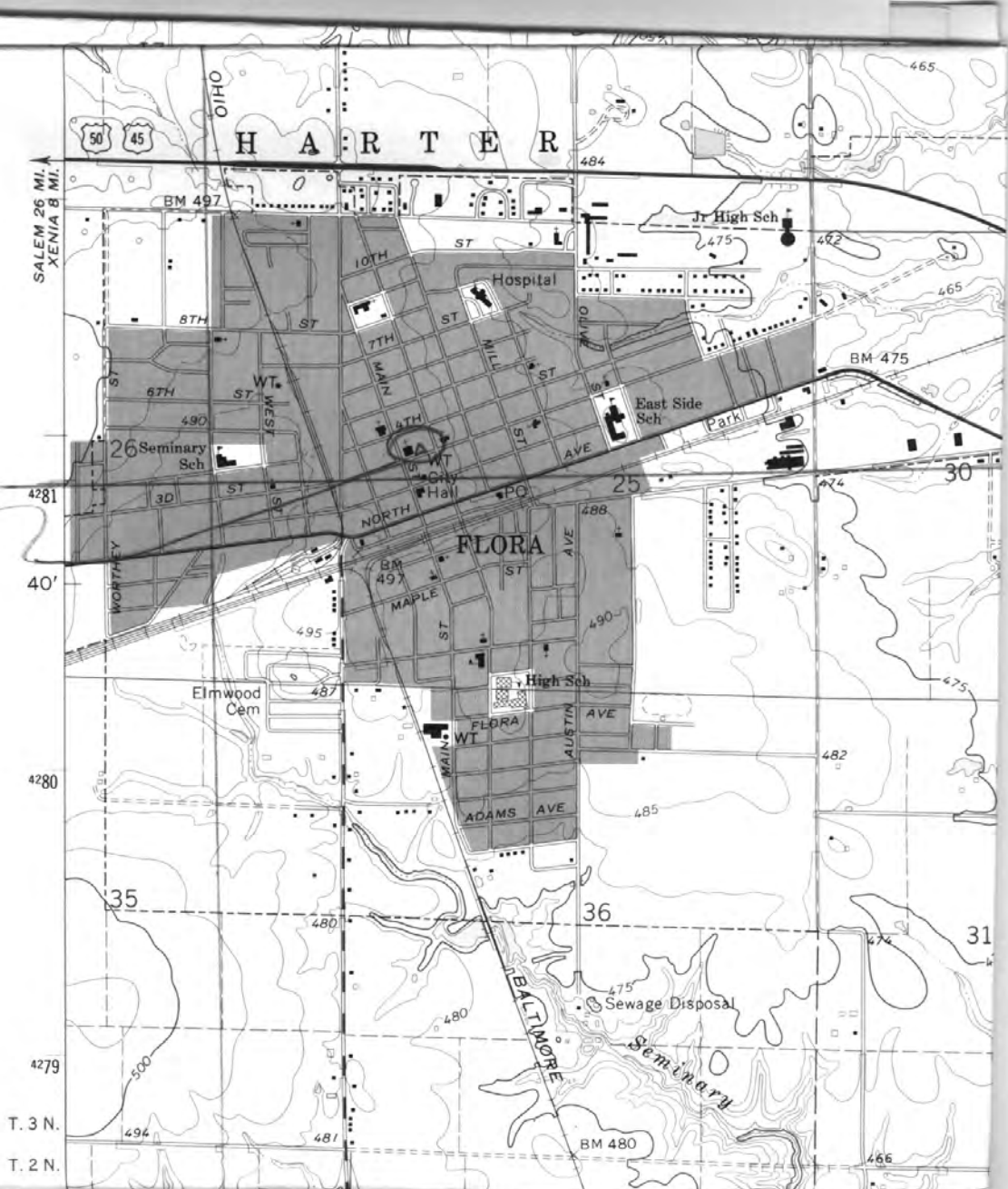
IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places during the week beginning May 8, 1983 and ending May 14, 1983. For further information call (202) 272-3504.

State, County, Vicinity, Property, Address, (date listed)

- COLORADO, Delta County, Austin vicinity, Ferganchick Orchard Rock Art Site, (05/09/83)
COLORADO, Denver County, Denver, McCourt, Peter, House, 1471 High St. (05/09/83)
COLORADO, Jefferson County, Arvada, Russell-Graves House, 5605 Yukon St. (05/09/83)
COLORADO, Otero County, LaJunta, Rourke, Eugene, House, 619 Carson St. (05/09/83)
COLORADO, Routt County, Oak Creek vicinity, Foidel Canyon School, NW of Oak Creek (05/09/83)
- FLORIDA, Escambia County, Pensacola, North Hill Preservation District, Roughly bounded by Blount, Palafox, Wright, Belmont, Reus, and DeVilliers Sts. (05/09/83)
FLORIDA, Manatee County, Bradenton, Braden Castle Park Historic District, Roughly bounded by the Manatee and Braden Rivers, Ponce DeLeon St. and Pelot Ave. (05/09/83)
- GEORGIA, Fulton County, Atlanta, Butler Street Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, 23 Butler St., SE. (05/09/83)
- ILLINOIS, Bureau County, Princeton, Greenwood Cottage, 543 E. Penn St. (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, Champaign County, Champaign, Vriner's Cottage, 101 Main St. (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, Clay County, Flora, Shriver House, 117 E. 3rd St. (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, Cook County, Cicero, Morton, J. Sterling, High School Building, Auditorium, 2423 S. Austin Blvd. (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, Madison County, Edwardsville, St. Louis Street Historic District, 603-1306 St. Louis St. (some exclusions) (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, Madison County, Edwardsville, Weir, John, House, 715 N. Main St. (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, Mercer County, Keithsburg, Commercial House, 4th and Main St. (05/09/83)
ILLINOIS, St. Clair County, Belleville vicinity, Knobeloch-Seibert Farm, Off IL 177 (05/09/83)
- INDIANA, Clark County, Jeffersonville, Grisamore House, 111-113 W. Chestnut St. (05/09/83)
INDIANA, Floyd County, New Albany, Mansion Row Historic District, Main St. between State and 10th Sts. and Market St. between 7th and 11th Sts. (05/09/83)
INDIANA, Marion County, Indianapolis, Byram-Middleton House, 1828 N. Illinois St. (05/09/83)
INDIANA, Marion County, Indianapolis, Marott's Shoes Building, 18-20 E. Washington St. (05/09/83)
- KANSAS, Labette County, Chetopa vicinity, Harmon Site, (05/09/83)
- KENTUCKY, Mason County, Mays Lick vicinity, Fox Farm, (05/09/83)
- MAINE, Somerset County, North Anson, Temples Historic District, Madison Ave. (05/12/83)
- MARYLAND, Baltimore (Independent City), Eutaw-Madison Apartment House Historic District, 2502 and 2525 Eutaw Pl., and 2601 Madison Ave. (05/12/83)
MARYLAND, Baltimore County, Glencoe, Glencoe, 1314 Glencoe Rd. (05/09/83)
MARYLAND, Queen Annes County, Stevensville, Cray House, Cockey's Lane (05/09/83)
- MICHIGAN, Ottawa County, Holland, Holland Historic District, 11th, 12th, 13th Sts., and Washington, Maple, and Pine Aves. (05/12/83)

SHRIVER
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