

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**SENT TO D.C.**

12-14-05

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name **Hull, William H., House**

other names/site number

**2. Location**

street & number **1517 Walnut**

\_\_\_\_ Not for publication

city or town **Murphysboro**

\_\_\_\_ vicinity

state **Illinois**

code **IL**

county **Jackson**

code **077**

zip code **62966**

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_ statewide  locally. ( \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

W. L. White /SHPO  
Signature of certifying official

12-13-2005  
Date

**Illinois Historic Preservation Agency**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

\_\_\_\_\_  
American Indian Tribe

Hull, William H., House  
Name of Property

Jackson County, Illinois  
County and State

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register ___ See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain):	_____	_____

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#### 5. Classification

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Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  1  </u>	buildings
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	sites
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	structures
<u>  0  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  1  </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

**Hull, William H., House**  
Name of Property

**Jackson County, Illinois**  
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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

**Domestic/single dwelling**

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

**Domestic/single dwelling**

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Italianate**

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation **Stone**

Roof **Asphalt**

Walls **Wood**

other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**See Continuation Sheets**

Hull, William H., House  
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### 8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

**Architecture**

Period of Significance **1887**

Significant Dates

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) **N/A**

Cultural Affiliation **N/A**

Architect/Builder **N/A**

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) **See Continuation Sheet**

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository **Jackson County Historical Society**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property **less than one acre**

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

1 16 293878 4182032 3 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**See Continuation Sheet**

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation-sheet.)

**See Continuation Sheet**

**Hull, William H., House**  
Name of Property

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County and State

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title **Vickie Devenport**

organization **Heritage Preservation and Education**

date **September 7, 2005**

street & number **440 Contentment Road**

telephone **618-549-5625**

city or town **Murphysboro** state **Illinois**

zip code **62958**

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:  
Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name **Russell Wright**

street & number **2043 Elm Street**

telephone **618-303-4302**

city or town **Murphysboro** state **Illinois**

zip code **62966**

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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**Description**

The William Hull House, located at 1517 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois, is a narrow two-story wood frame asymmetrical Italianate house built in 1888. The house fronts north and is located on Walnut Street, the main thoroughfare of Murphysboro. The unusual compound floor plan has a cross-hipped roof with wide eaves that are flared at the corners of the roof. There are decorative cornice brackets, side porches and two-story bay windows on the east and north facades. The first floor bay windows measure ten feet. The foundation is rough faced concrete block which replaced sandstone piers in the early 1900s. The house is wood frame with clapboard siding, and the interior walls are plaster and lathe. There is one central chimney and the cross-hipped roof which is covered with asphalt shingles. The interior of the house reflects the Italianate style of woodwork and plaster and contains a winding staircase. Large single and paired decorative eave brackets dominate the wide cornice, which has a repetitive rectangular molding pattern between the brackets. This same rectangular molding is repeated between the bay windows on the first and second stories of both the north and east facades. The windows in the house are narrow one-over-one panes, with a simple pediment crown. The house is one of several historic homes on this block on the west edge of Murphysboro's business district, and sits between a Queen Anne style house on the east and a brick Gothic Revival on the west. Hull house is one of only four Italianate homes left in Murphysboro, and is the only one remaining on Walnut Street. The house has a wrought iron fenced front yard facing the street, with a brick sidewalk from the street which wraps around the house to both the front side porch and the east side porch.

The north façade of the house protrudes asymmetrically from the main section of the house. A half hipped roof with flared corners tops the two-story four one-over-one bay windows that form the central focal point of the front facade. Paired decorative brackets adorn the wide cornice at the corners of the façade and the central bay window. The cornice contains the repetition of a rectangular molding inset pattern between brackets, which is consistent on the cornice surrounding the house. There are simple pediments above the windows of the first story, which echo the angles of the hipped roof on the second story. The windows in the house are original one-

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**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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over-one glass panes, with the exception of two smaller windows located on the second story, north and west facades.

The plane of the north façade is broken to the recessed single-story side porch. The porch is supported by the original wooden chamfered columns with a square base and cap. Original decorative brackets are located at the corners of the porch roof and there is a simple balustrade with turned spindles. The front door is a set of single pane glass and inset wood panel doors with a transom above. There is a simple wide frame surrounding the doorway with a pediment above the transom. The second story above the porch roof contains a single one-over-one window, which replaced the original window when a bathroom was installed on the second floor.

On the west façade, there are two one-over-one windows on the second story of differing sizes. The window on the north end of the west façade is smaller and replaced the original when a bathroom was added on the second floor. The other window on the second story is consistent with the other original windows in size. On the first story of the east façade there is a small door at the north end floor which leads to the basement and is not original. There is one additional one-over-one window on the first floor at the south end of the facade. Along the cornice there are five decorative single brackets evenly spaced, with a rectangular inset pattern between each one.

The rear façade faces south. There are three one-over-one windows on the second story of the south facade and five decorative brackets with a rectangular inset pattern continuing along the wide cornice. On the first story there are two one-over-one windows. According to the Sanborn map of 1897, a room was added to the south facade of the house which obscured the rear entrance to the house. It possibly served as a summer kitchen and could have provided an entry to the cellar area under the rear section of the house. This room contained a porch entry on the east façade.



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This room was removed during the 1940s and replaced with a porch addition which was constructed of pine lumber. This pine construction became termite ridden and deteriorated. In 1998, the current owner removed the decayed porch and replaced it with a single story gabled room. This non-contributing addition is 20' x 12.5', similar to the dimensions of the addition on the Sanborn map. It contains a side porch entrance on the east which was also present on the Sanborn map. This room contains a one-over-one window on the west façade and one on the south. The porch on the east contains a one-over-one window and a single pane glass and wood paneled door. The details of the porch echo the details of the front porch, with square beveled columns to support the roof. A ramp is in place instead of steps, and the balustrade contains square instead of decorative spindles. The one-over-one window in the first story of the south façade is present and visible under the porch roof. The integrity of the house has not been compromised by the porch addition and is not visible from the public view.

The east façade of the house contains the two-story four one-over-one bay window which has the same details as the bay on the north façade. A half hipped roof tops this bay section. Paired brackets are located on the cornice at each corner of the façade and at the corners of the central bay windows. The plane of this section of the east façade recedes four feet after the bay windows and the remaining section of the east façade contains two one-over-one windows.

The basement of the house appears to have been dug in three sections. The use of rough faced block was not common in Murphysboro until the early 1900s, but it was common to use sandstone piers as anchors for the foundation.<sup>1</sup> Sandstone piers are still visible for the Victorian house located on the corner of Walnut and 15<sup>th</sup>. It is probable that sandstone piers were used for the Hull home, and the block added at a later time. The area near the south end of the house is most likely the first section of the original basement, and could have served as the cellar, with access through a ground level door at the rear of the house. This portion of the basement foundation is brick. The entrance to the cellar basement and the window on the southwest would have been concealed by the addition of the porch in the 1897 Sanborn map. The foundation in the central section of the basement

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**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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has been reinforced with poured concrete, which probably reflects the next improvement made to the basement. The northernmost section of the basement foundation is block, which again indicates it was added later. The floor is concrete, and there are two main pillars centrally located that support the two by twelve floors joists. There are two small windows on the west and east walls at ground level.

The interior of the house has undergone some changes, but the structure of the rooms remains true to the original floor plan. There are three rooms on the first floor: the parlor, dining room and kitchen. A non-historic addition has been added to the south end of the house which replaced an addition that appears on 1897 Sanborn maps, and is not visible from the public view of the house. This addition has an office and bathroom.

The first floor opens into a foyer. On the right there is an open and winding staircase to the second floor and on the left, a door to the parlor. The door to the kitchen is located under the staircase in the center of the foyer. The woodwork on the first floor contains decorative molding and is painted, but remains intact and is consistent in the parlor and dining rooms.

The parlor contains the front facing bay windows on the north and two large windows on the east. The woodwork is intact and painted. The floors are oak tongue and groove, and a large doorway separates this room from the dining room to the south. There is evidence that pocket doors existed at one time, but are no longer present. A ceiling fan has been added to this room.

The dining room contains the east facing bay windows, a doorway and transom to the porch addition at the south end of the room and a door and transom into the kitchen on the west side of the room. The central chimney is not visible in this room and there is no evidence of a fireplace in any of the rooms. It is possible that

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wood stoves may have been used with the central chimney on the first and second floors since flue openings on the walls are present but have been covered over. A ceiling fan has been added to this room.

The west room on the first floor is the kitchen which has been changed over time. The floor in the kitchen is made of pine. It is unclear when the changes occurred, but perhaps coincided with the advent of running water and sewers in the early 1900s. The west wall contains one central window. Beneath the window is a large double porcelain sink and painted wooden cabinets are located on either side and above the sink. A counter is located on either side of the sink and each counter extends to the north and south wall, with cabinets below. There is a small door in the northwest corner of the room which contains steps to the basement, and the small doorway entrance on the west façade. This appears to have been added at a time when the basement was enlarged. On the south side of the kitchen is an original window and a door which leads onto the non-historic addition. A ceiling fan has been added to this room. A door on the south wall of the kitchen opens into the non-historic addition which contains a bathroom and an office.

The upstairs floor plan resembles the first floor plan, and has three main rooms. The staircase in the foyer leads to the second floor. At the top of the stairs to the left is a bathroom that was added at a unknown time. Both the north and west windows have been shortened to provide privacy. Originally, the staircase banister most probably curved around the landing and may have been used as a sitting room or sewing room.

On the east side of the second floor there are two bedrooms. Both bedrooms contain four one-over-one bay windows and there is a closet between the two rooms. The remaining room on the south west side was turned into a kitchen at the time the second floor was used as an apartment, during the 1950s. This room has a one-over-one window on both the south and east walls. The woodwork on the second floor is similar to the woodwork that is present in the kitchen, which appears to have been added at a later date. All of the rooms on the second floor are being rehabilitated at the present time.

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During the time the Hull family owned the home in absentia, the house was rented as a boarding house for young girls who came from the outlying rural areas to work in town. There was no indoor plumbing and according to the Sanborn map of 1897, there was an outhouse at the rear of the lot next to a small outbuilding. It is unclear when the plumbing was added, but by 1908 the town of Murphysboro had running water and a sewer system.<sup>ii</sup>

During the 1950s, the third owner of the house, the Smith family, added a concrete block structure at the rear of the house lot near the alley. This structure served as an apartment and garage. This non-historic structure is not visible from the front view of the house and does not inhibit the integrity of this Italianate. It has been repainted and continues to be used as an apartment.

There have been few changes to the exterior of the house, but at some time the clapboard exterior was covered over with asphalt siding. The current owner removed this siding in 1998 to expose the original clapboards, and found that only a few of the original pieces had significant damage which he replaced with matching cedar clapboards. The roof was replaced, and aluminum storm windows were removed. The front porch was reinforced underneath with treated lumber and the house was painted in a five-color paint scheme with two shades of yellow and gray, and one shade of maroon. Exterior gutters were installed.

There have been no changes to the basement, and the house has been rewired and brought up to the present code standards. On the second floor, a drop ceiling was removed and this floor is in the process of being restored.

There is one other change that occurred to the location of the house and is reflected in the address. The original address was 1519 Walnut, but by 1951 the city directory listed changes in many addresses. This house became 1517 Walnut.

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**Statement of Significance**

The William H. Hull house, located at 1517 Walnut in Murphysboro, Illinois, is locally significant for Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as an excellent example of an asymmetrical Italianate house. The period of significance is 1887, the year the house was built. Italianate houses had been built as early as the 1830s in America, but the style became popular during the latter half of the nineteenth century, and eventually filtered into the rural landscapes of the Midwest during the 1870s and 1880s. The house belonged to William H. Hull, a prominent businessman and an active participant in the political and social life of Murphysboro. This home was built on a busy main artery of the town, and was a symbol of the success Mr. Hull was achieving as a successful entrepreneur. The William H. Hull house embodies many of the characteristics of the Italianate style that was built for narrow urban lots. It is also distinctive in its asymmetrical arrangement and two-story bay windows and recessed side porch. This clapboard frame house features Italianate details in its decorative brackets, wide eaves and cornices, side porches, two-story bay windows, double doors and a cross-hipped roof. This house was built on the west end of Walnut, the main thoroughfare, at a time when the community was thriving and the downtown district remained east of this neighborhood. It is one of the few remaining Italianate homes in Murphysboro, and though it has had several owners, its current owner has brought the home back to its original beauty.

The Italianate style began in England as part of the Picturesque movement and was popular in American architecture from 1840 to 1885.<sup>iii</sup> It was popularized by pattern books of the period, and as with most trends, it began in metropolitan areas and filtered into the rural regions sometimes after its popularity was waning in more populated places. Concepts for the style were loosely based on informal Italian farmhouses and villas, but Americans modified and embellished the Italian models to create their own version. More formal styles were modeled after Renaissance Revival houses and many were typically of masonry construction. An architectural blend developed of formal and vernacular styles to create the elements that appear in the Italianate style which dotted the American landscape. After the financial panic of 1873, there was a slump in building which led to a

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**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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decline in the number of houses being built, and subsequently in the popularity of the Italianate style. The Queen Anne style rose quickly to become a dominant architectural trend when the economy picked up and replaced the Italianate style.<sup>iv</sup>

According to Virginia and Lee McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses, there are several features which can identify an Italianate style. Some of the features associated with the Italianate style include widely overhanging eaves with decorative brackets which are sometimes paired, a low-pitched roof, two to three stories, tall and narrow windows which are sometimes paired, and arched, curved or rectangular window tops.

The McAlesters describe six principal subtypes of Italianate styles. These include the simple hipped roof, the centered gable, towered, front-gabled, the townhouse and the asymmetrical style. The simple hipped roof makes up one-third of Italianate houses, and is usually a square or rectangular box-shaped house with uninterrupted hipped roofs. In half of the remaining examples, the roof has a central cupola.

According to McAlester, about fifteen percent of Italianate houses are centered gable, having a front-facing centered gable which usually projects from a low-pitched or side-gabled roof. Another fifteen percent have a square tower that is located most often on the front façade or alongside it. After the Greek Revival style waned, many of these square houses were given Italianate detailing and this subtype is known as the front-gabled roof subtype. The Italianate town house is characterized by wide projecting cornices and brackets over a flat or low-pitched roof.

The asymmetrical style is the subtype after which the Hull house is designed. These houses are usually built by a compound-plan, meaning the roofs intersect over different sections of the house, and they are usually an L-shape, without towers. The roofs in this particular subtype are cross-hipped as is apparent in the Hull House.

"About twenty percent of Italianate houses are of this type."<sup>v</sup>

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The Illinois Historic Structures Survey of Murphysboro recorded the Italianate homes remaining during the 1970s. At the present time, the Hull House is one of only four remaining Italianate homes in Murphysboro and the only one with two-story bay windows located on two facades. It is one of two remaining asymmetrical Italianates which reflect integrity and the original details of the architecture. Since the Survey was completed in the 1970s, an Italianate on Elm was demolished and during the 1980s, an Italianate at 1013 Mulberry was demolished to make room for the new County Jail.

Of the remaining three homes, two Italianates are located on the same block of North 9<sup>th</sup> Street. One is an asymmetrical two-story brick Italianate home at 330 North 9<sup>th</sup> (listed as 328 North 9<sup>th</sup> in Historic Structures Survey) which has been remodeled into apartments and no longer retains its integrity. The other is a brick two-story asymmetrical Italianate at 411 North 9<sup>th</sup> which was built in 1880. This house sits atop a hill, and is partially hidden from view by the trees in the front yard. It retains many of the details of Italianate architecture with decorative brackets on a wide cornice, narrow hooded arched windows and a side porch on the front facade. There appear to be some changes to the front porch roofline. The fourth house is located at 112 North 15<sup>th</sup> and was built in the 1890s. It is presently covered in white wood siding and features a two-story tower at the northeast corner of the house, a simple hipped roof, a cupola and decorative cornice brackets.

The William Hull house represents a fine example of the Italianate style of architecture and the integrity of the house and its immediate surrounding has not been compromised. The house currently sits on a block with other houses constructed during the same time period, and the downtown businesses have moved closer to this neighborhood block. There is a business on the corner of the block at the present time, but there was also a large lumber yard present in the same location on the 1897 Sanborn map.

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Four families owned the house over its one hundred eighteen year history, and the current owner is Russell Wright. Jennie Hull owned the home until 1933, when she sold it to Joseph Daniel, who owned the home until 1944. Daniel sold the home to William and Frances Smith in 1944. It remained in the Smith family until its current owner bought the house in 1998.

**History**

William Henry Hull was born in Morristown, New Jersey, on November 28, 1848. His parents were John A. and Mary E. Hull. Hull was born into a newspaper publishing family. His grandfather, Samuel P. Hull, established a newspaper in Morristown, New Jersey, and later in New York City. William's father, John A. Hull, worked in the newspaper business throughout his lifetime, as a reporter, printer and editor. He established a paper in California during the Gold Rush in the late 1840s, and returned to Illinois in 1852, to continue newspaper work in Chicago and Springfield. In 1856, John Hull moved his family to DeSoto, Illinois, where he edited a local newspaper. In 1856, the family moved to Carbondale, Illinois, where he then established the Carbondale Times. William was seven at the time his father moved the family to Carbondale, where he completed elementary and high school.

William Hull eventually entered the newspaper business and in 1870, at the age of 22, he helped to establish the Daily Sun in Cairo, Illinois, with Mr. D. L. Davis. He left this position after six months and was appointed by Senator John A. Logan to a position with the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C., which he held for several years. Senator Logan was a significant political figure from Murphysboro who served as a legislator before the Civil War, during which he was the only volunteer general. After the Civil War he resumed his political career and ran as James G. Blaine's running mate in the 1884 Presidential election.

In 1879, William Hull returned to southern Illinois and moved to Murphysboro, where he went to work as a journeyman printer for Gil J. Barr, proprietor of the Jackson County Era newspaper. Also in 1879, William



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married Ella M. Stearns. In late 1881, after Mr. Gill's death, William bought the newspaper from his widow and the paper flourished under his leadership.

In 1886, Hull purchased lots #5 and #6 in block seven of the John A. and Thomas M. Logan's Railroad Addition to the city of Murphysboro and began the construction of the house at 1517 Walnut. At the time Hull began building the Italianate home, Murphysboro was a booming southern Illinois town. Coal mining and the railroad accelerated the growth of the small town, which "reflected a national trend—a time of unprecedented urban growth across the rural sections of America."<sup>vi</sup> Murphysboro was an industrial town and the expanding economy attracted immigrants who came to work in the mines and other industries. There were milling companies, breweries, and two mining companies that produced "700,000 tons of coal annually."<sup>vii</sup> The Brown Shoe Company came to town and the downtown district contained numerous restaurants, saloons, drugstores and hotels. By the 1890s, the mule-powered Murphysboro Rapid Transit System transported customers the length of Walnut Street from 4<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>.

In 1892, Hull changed careers again, sold the newspaper and went into the dry goods and grocery business. Also in that year, William and Ella had a daughter, Jennie Mary, who was born on September 29, 1892. Hull became a successful merchant, who saw opportunities in the future for his town. By 1893, he worked to establish the first telephone company in Murphysboro. According to the City Council minutes of June 12, 1893, "W.H. Hull appeared before the Council and presented a petition asking for the privilege of erecting poles, stringing wires and so forth for the purpose of establishing a telephone exchange."<sup>viii</sup> In August, the ordinance passed and Hull began erecting poles and wires for the first telephone exchange in the city.

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**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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Hull's passion for civic responsibility was evident in his participation as the chief and foreman of the Egyptian Fire Company located at 1205 Walnut. In his role as foreman, Hull successfully worked to improve the fire department and acquire the tools and supplies necessary to upgrade the department. He wrote to the City Council requesting repair for the fire engine and supplies that were needed and his requests were granted by the Council in its June 12, 1893, meeting. Hull was also instrumental in assisting the city to acquire its first steam fire engine.

Hull also went back into the newspaper publishing business in 1893, organizing The Republican, which merged with the Jackson County Era in 1901. It was then known as the Republican-Era.

Along with his duties as fire chief, Hull was an organizer and director of the Jackson County Homestead and Loan Association, the Director of the Illinois Building and Loan Association, a Captain of the Jackson Camp No. 113 Sons of Veterans, and a member and secretary of the Republican Central Committee. Hull also served as a member of the State Newspaper Association and the Southern Illinois Newspaper Association.

Unfortunately, Hull was not able to enjoy his stature in the community for very long. In the late winter of 1902, William Hull contracted small pox and died on March 15, after many weeks of illness. Following this, his wife, Ella died in 1905 of complications related to appendicitis and she is buried next to her husband in the City Cemetery in Murphysboro. At the age of thirteen, their young daughter, Jennie, now an orphan, went to live with an aunt in Jackson, Tennessee, Jennie Marie Stearns, who became her guardian.<sup>ix</sup>

The house at 1517 Walnut was inherited by Jennie, along with other real estate. The Hull family home provided an annual rental value of \$636 in 1905-06.<sup>x</sup> By standards of the early 1900s, Jennie was well taken care of by the estate left her by her parents, William and Ella. Jennie continued her education while living with her aunt, and attended the Belmont College for Young Women in Nashville, Tennessee, during 1909-1910. She married Gordon Edwards Lennox in 1917 and moved to Oregon.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 13

**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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Jennie continued to own the family home until May 29, 1933, when she and her husband sold the property to Joseph and Benjamin Daniel. Jennie Hull Lennox died in 1966 in Clackamas County, Oregon. To date there have been four owners of the property. In 1944 it changed hands from the Daniel family to William and Frances Smith who owned the home for over fifty years. William died in 1977 and the house continued to be owned by the Smith heirs until it was sold in 1998 to the current owner, Russell Wright. Wright quickly began to painstakingly return the house to its original beauty, and the exterior work was completed in 1999. The house is now home to Joseph Redleggs Antiques shop. The William Hull house is a fine example of one of the few Italianate homes that remain in Murphysboro today.

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<sup>i</sup> Interview conducted with Mike Jones, historian and Director of the General John A. Logan Museum, on September 2, 2005.

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>iii</sup> McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991. Page 211.

<sup>iv</sup> Ibid, page 212.

<sup>v</sup> Ibid.

<sup>vi</sup> Jones, Michael P. and Robert Morefield and Clifton Swafford. Murphysboro, Illinois, 150 Years: A Pictorial History 1843-1993. Jackson County Historical Society: Murphysboro, 1993. Page 39.

<sup>vii</sup> Ibid, page 51.

<sup>viii</sup> City Council Minutes, August 14, 1893, Circuit Clerk's Office, Jackson County Court House.

<sup>ix</sup> Probate Records, Book E, page 81, April 5, 1905, Jackson County Court House.

<sup>x</sup> Ibid.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9,10 Page 14

**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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**Bibliography**

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City Council Minutes, August 14, 1893, Circuit Clerk's Office, Jackson County Court House.

The Independent. "Golden Anniversary Edition." October 16, 1923. Jackson County Historical Society.

Jones, Michael P., Robert Morefield and Clifton Swafford. Murphysboro, Illinois 150: A Pictorial History 1843-1993. Murphysboro, Illinois: Jackson County Historical Society, 1994.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

Personal Interview, September 7, 2005. Mike Jones, historian and Director of the General John A. Logan Museum.

Probate Records, Book E, page 81, April 5, 1905, Jackson County Court House.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Lot numbers Five and Six, except 4 feet off the East side of said Lot 6, in Block Number Seven, in John A. & Thomas M. Logan's Rail Road Addition to the City of Murphysboro as shown by the recorded Plat thereof in Book "B" or 7 Miscellaneous, at Page 80, in the Recorder's Office of Jackson County, Illinois.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the property that encompasses the house, and non-contributing structure behind the house that is associated with the William H. Hull House.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section **Photographs** Page **15**

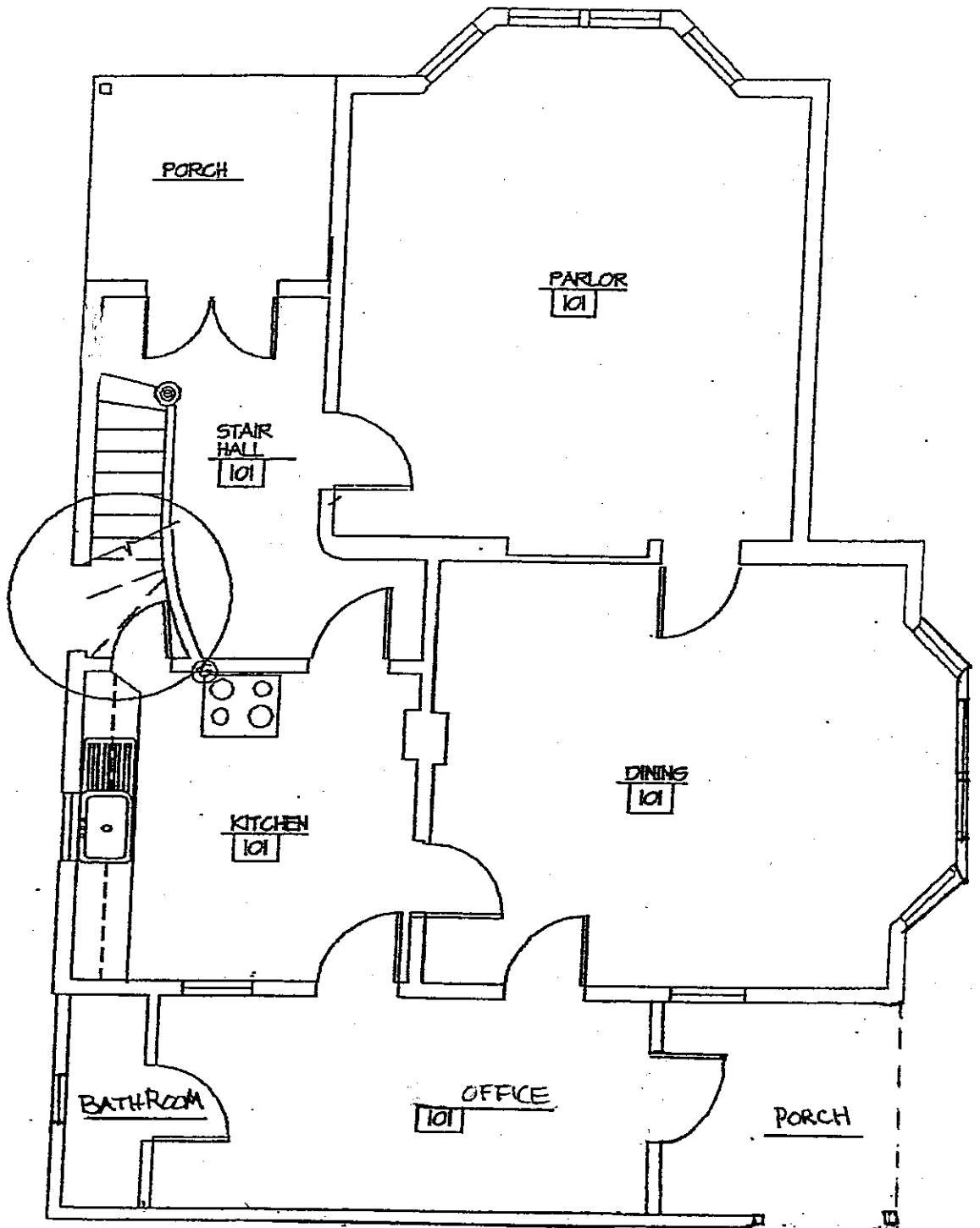
**Hull, William H., House, Jackson County, Illinois**

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William H. Hull House  
Jackson County  
Illinois  
2005

Vickie Devenport, photographer and negatives/original digital images.

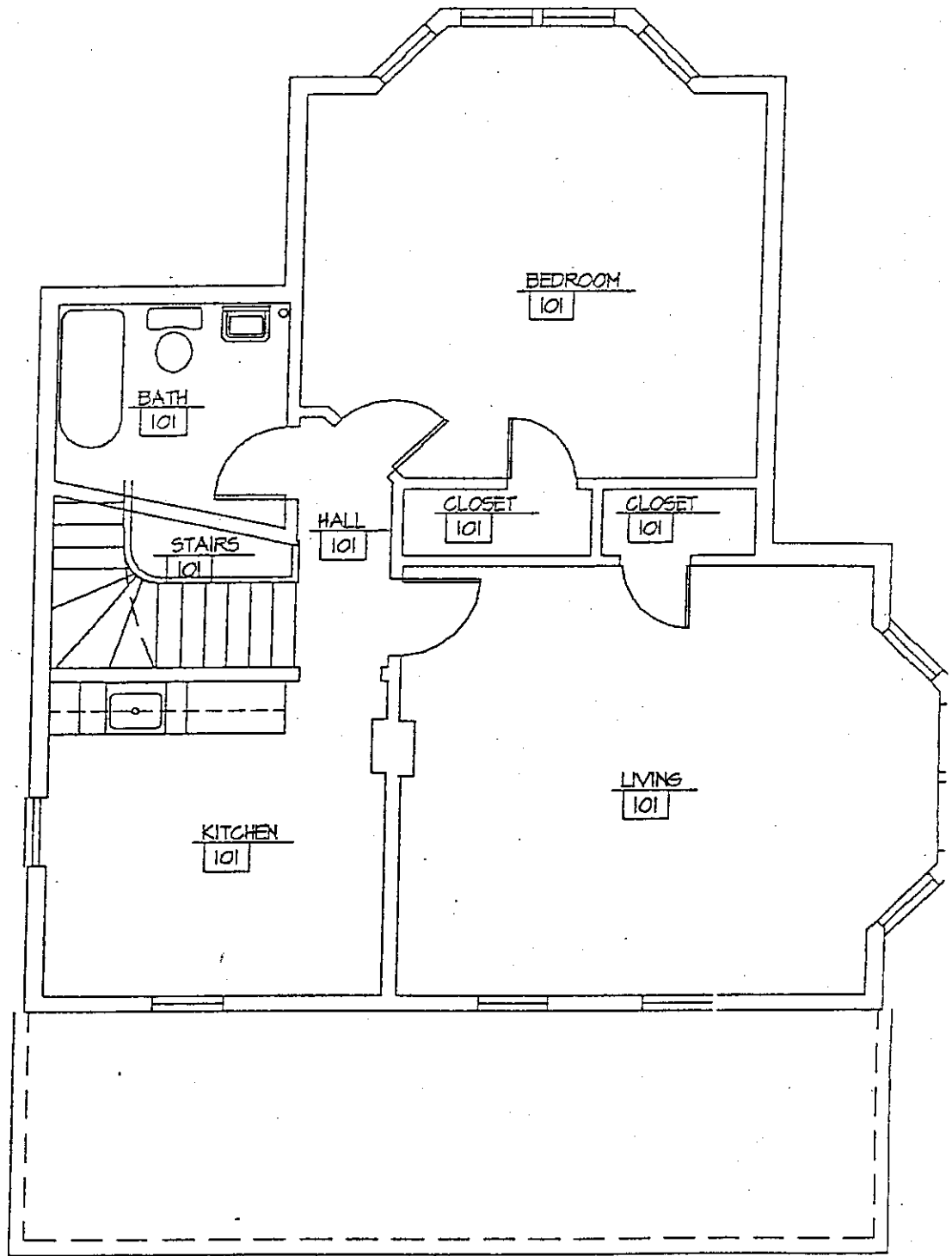
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull1	Front facade
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull2	Neighborhood view
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull3	Neighborhood view
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull4	Front facade
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull5	Roof detail
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull6	Roof detail
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull7	Front and side facade
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull8	Porch detail
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull9	Front entry
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull10	Side elevation showing door
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull11	Rear elevation showing addition
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull12	Rear elevation showing addition
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull13	Rear elevation showing addition
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull14	Non-contributing garage/apartment
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull15	Non-contributing garage/apartment
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull16	Non-contributing garage/apartment
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull17	Rear with addition
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull18	Rear with addition
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull19	Rear with addition
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull20	Side elevation
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull21	Side elevation
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull22	Front and side facade
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull23	Interior stairs
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull24	Interior parlor
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull25	Interior dining room
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull26	Interior parlor
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull27	Kitchen
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull28	Upstairs room
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull29	Upstairs room
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull30	Upstairs room
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull31	Upstairs floor detail
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull32	Upstairs
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull33	Upstairs
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull34	Stairs
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull35	Office
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull36	Bathroom
IL_JacksonCounty_Hull37	Exterior facade



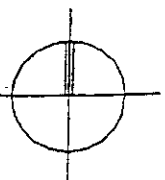
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



William H. Hull House  
 Jackson County FL



# SECOND FLOOR PLAN

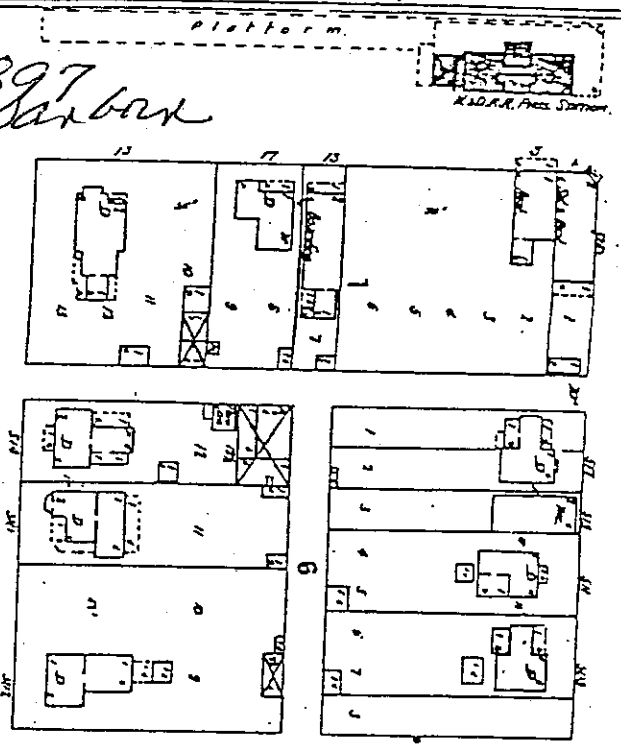
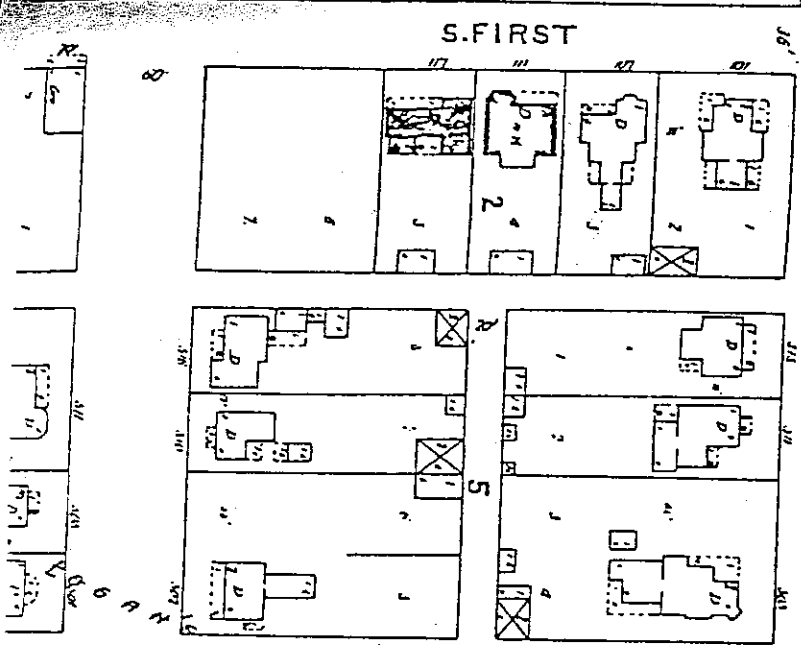


*William H. Hull House  
Jackson County, IL*

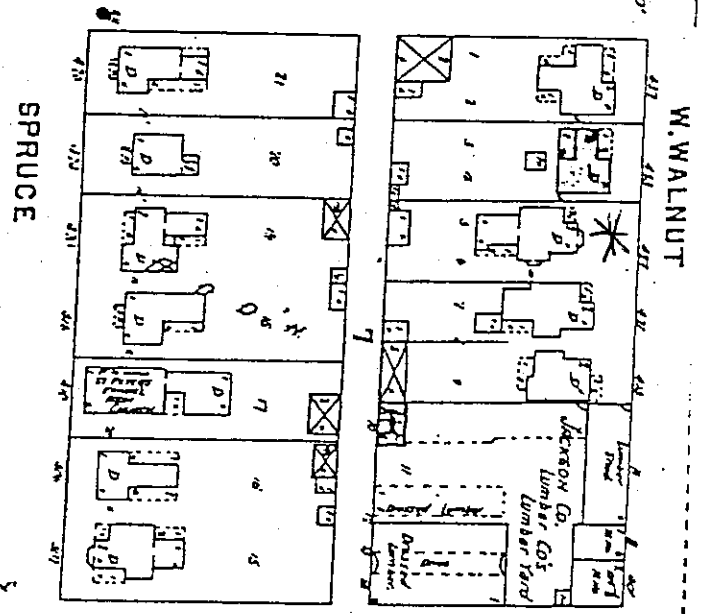
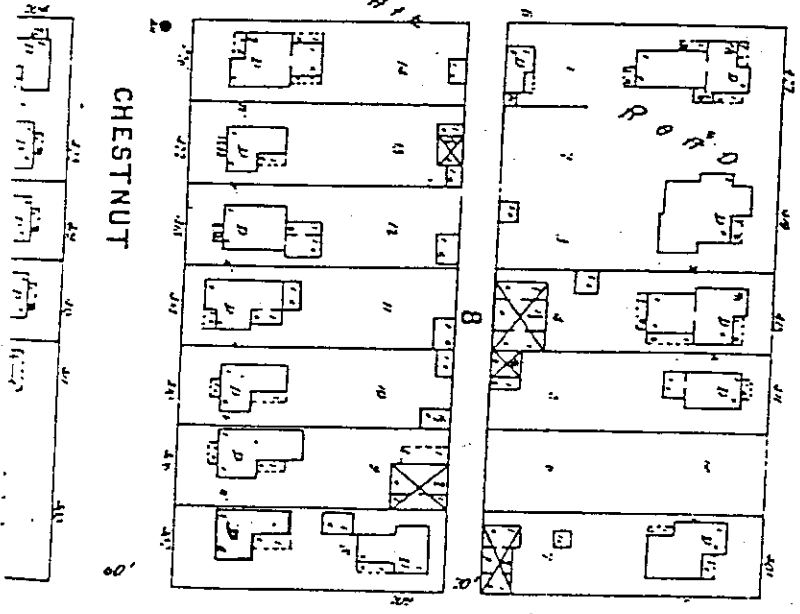
William H. Heel  
House  
Jackson County Ill



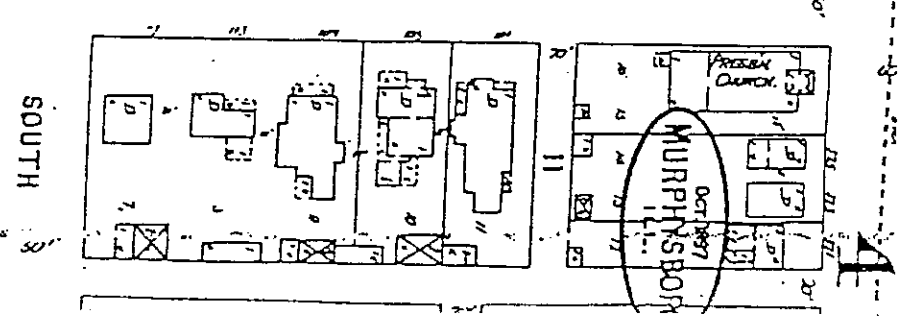
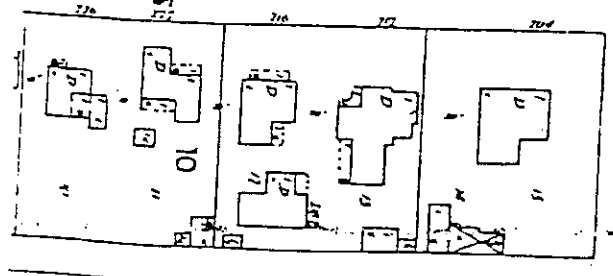
1897  
Saw box



S. SECOND



S. BLANCHARD



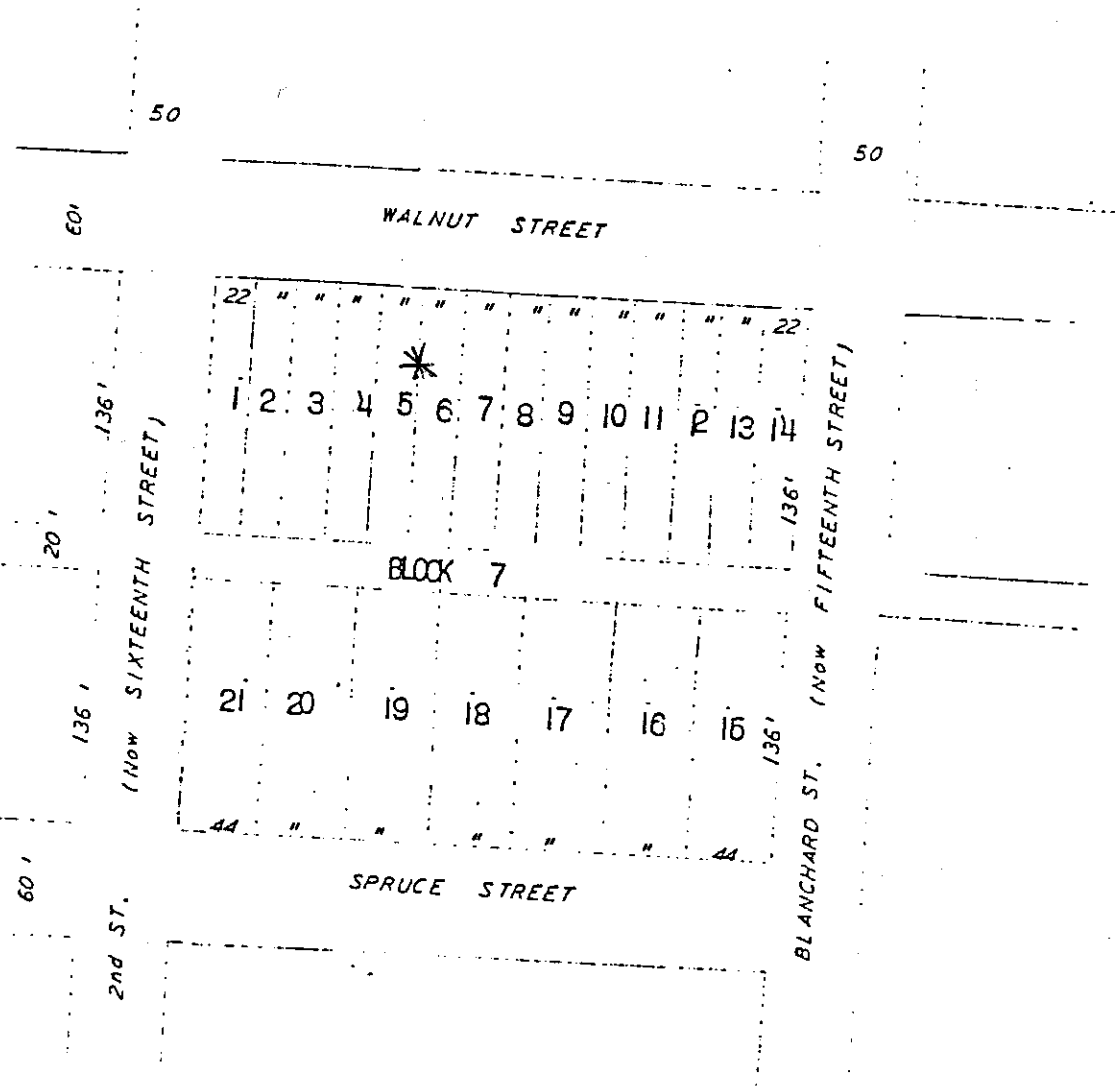
MURPHYS BOX  
OCT 1897



T. M. and J. A. LOGAN'S RAILROAD ADDITION

TO

THE CITY OF MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS



FILED JULY 21, 1873  
BOOK "B" of 7 MISC. Page 80

*William H. Hull House  
Jackson County, Ill*

Chicago, 05001609,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

ILLINOIS, GRUNDY COUNTY,  
Morris Downtown Commercial Historic District,  
Liberty St., roughly bounded by the RR, Illinois St., Fulton and Wauponsee  
Sts. and Franklin,  
Morris, 05001603,  
LISTED, 1/31/06

ILLINOIS, HENRY COUNTY,  
Kewanee Hotel,  
125 N. Chestnut,  
Kewanee, 05001605,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

X ILLINOIS, JACKSON COUNTY,  
Hull, William H., House,  
1517 Walnut,  
Murphysboro, 05001602,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

ILLINOIS, WARREN COUNTY,  
Monmouth Courthouse Commercial Historic District,  
Roughly bounded by Archer, Ave., First St., Second Ave. and A St.,  
Monmouth, 05001604,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

MASSACHUSETTS, NORFOLK COUNTY,  
West Roxbury Parkway, Metropolitan Park System of Greater Boston,  
West Roxbury Parkway, Bellevue Hill, E. Border, W. Border Rds.,  
Brookline, 05001528,  
LISTED, 1/19/06  
(Metropolitan Park System of Greater Boston MPS)

MISSOURI, CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY,  
Jackson Uptown Commercial Historic District,  
Roughly bounded by Court, Main, Missouri and High Sts.,  
Jackson, 05001562,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

MISSOURI, JACKSON COUNTY,  
Park Manor Historic District,  
910 Ward Pkwy, 920 Ward Pkwy. and 4826 Roanoke Pkwy,  
Kansas City, 05001610,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

NEW JERSEY, BERGEN COUNTY,  
Presbyterian Church of Norwood,  
701 Broadway,  
Norwood Borough, 05001567,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

NEW JERSEY, HUDSON COUNTY,  
First Baptist Church,  
901-907 Bloomfield St.,  
Hoboken, 05001570,  
LISTED, 2/01/06

NEW JERSEY, HUNTERDON COUNTY,  
Eversole, Charles, House,