

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**SENT TO D.C.**  
10-10-03

**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 **Steward, Lewis House**

other names/site number **The Homestead**

**2. Location**

street & number **611 East Main Street** \_\_\_\_\_ Not for publication

city or town **Plano** \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity

state **Illinois** code **IL** county **Kendall** code **093** zip code **60545**

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.)

*Walter G. ... / SHPO*  
Signature of certifying official

*10-8-03*  
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

Steward, Lewis House  
Name of Property

Kendall, 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<br><input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.                 | _____                   | _____          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the<br>National Register<br><input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet. | _____                   | _____          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the<br>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                              |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>1</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> buildings  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> sites      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> structures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> objects    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>1</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>0</u> Total      |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register **None**

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

**Steward, Lewis House**  
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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)  
**WORK IN PROGRESS**

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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 **CLAPBOARD**

other **WOOD**

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

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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**

**EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT**

**INDUSTRY**

Period of Significance **Criterion B: 1854 – 1896; Criterion C: 1854 – ca. 1875**

Significant Dates **1854; ca. 1860; ca: 1875**

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) **Steward, Lewis**

Cultural Affiliation **N/A**

Architect/Builder **Unknown**

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

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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 **Plano Public Library; Kendall County Historical Society;  
Private Library located within Lewis Steward House**

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### 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property 1.97

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

|   | Zone | Easting | Northing | Zone | Easting | Northing       |
|---|------|---------|----------|------|---------|----------------|
| 1 | 16   | 372593  | 4613518  | 3    | 16      | 372710 4613462 |
| 2 | 16   | 372674  | 4613548  | 4    | 16      | 372613 4613442 |

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

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**II. Form Prepared By**

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name/title **Alan Langguth/Michael Emerick, Architect**

organization **Langguth Design LTD.**

date **August, 2003**

street & number **603 East North Street**

telephone **630/552-4314**

city or town **Plano**

state **IL** zip code **60545**

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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 **Langguth Design LTD.**

street & number **603 East North Street**

telephone **630/552-4314**

city or town **Plano**

state **IL**

zip code **60545**

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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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**Steward, Lewis House**

**Site/Setting**

The Homestead, built by Lewis Steward in 1854, is located in Plano, Kendall County, Illinois. It was built as a single-family home in a developing rural community. The two-acre property comprises half of the city block bounded by Main Street to the south, East Street to the east, North Street to the north, and Oak Street to the west. The house faces south and occupies the east end of the block; the western property line is shared with two other properties and also the end of a city alley. There are four large vertical standing rectangular stone blocks that mark the corners of the property. There is an additional thirteen stone blocks that mark the junctions of the sidewalks and the junction of the driveways and the streets. The sidewalk blocks are vertical standing and the driveway markers are horizontal. These stone blocks contribute to the character of the homestead.

**General Description**

As one of the oldest existing residential buildings in Plano, the Lewis Steward House is an exceptional example of early Italianate architecture. The original configuration of the house has been documented by a drawing on an 1859 map of Kendall County (figure 1), showing its original centered gabled design concept prior to the addition of the upper level bedrooms and the rear ell and the construction of the east and west wings. These wings are documented in a late 1870s photograph showing the original front steps and east porch, as well as a circa 1910 photograph.

*Materials and Construction*

The Lewis Steward House is a one and one-half story wood frame Italianate home constructed on a raised stone garden-level basement. The original house foundation consists of large coursed stone blocks. The foundation under the rear ell, added circa 1860-1864, is comprised of field stones finished with cement and scored to resemble the original stone block pattern. The foundations under the east & west wings, added circa 1875, consist of stone piers between which are brick walls finished likewise with cement and scored to resemble the original stone block pattern.

The wood frame walls are finished with flush wood boards. The overall design concept, utilizing flush vertical and horizontal wood boards, suggests that the design intent was to imitate a

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masonry structure, possibly through the use of a sand paint finish. The low, multi-gabled roof of the original house and rear ell has wide projecting eaves and is finished with asphalt shingles. Several sections of the roof eaves have hanging gutters and downspouts. The later east and west wings have relatively flat roofs with built-in gutters exposed downspouts.

*Exterior: Principal Facade (South)*

The principal facade of the original section of the residence is symmetrical in design (the symmetry was reinforced with the addition of the east and west wings). The overall impression is of a facade that steps progressively back from the center entry pavilion, to the main wall of the original house, and then to the later wings.

Sitting on its tall raised basement, the front wall of this one and one-half story structure disguises the upper floor through the combination of the first (main) floor and second (upper) floor kneewalls in a single, vertical wall design. The three bay division of the front wall consists of a projecting center entry bay flanked by window bays. The center entry bay has a forward projecting one-story porch. Broad, modern concrete steps lead up to a small open porch, the roof of which is supported by two chamfered posts as well as two matching half posts on the wall. Above the posts are paired decorative console brackets. Smaller decorative modillions (scroll-shaped brackets) are spaced between the paired console brackets as part of the entablature design around the porch. In the late 1870s photograph (figure 2), the original wood steps have square base newels, a heavy railing, and turned balusters that sit on each step. The triangular area under these steps was enclosed by wood lattice. The wood railing and newels survive; however a lower rail has been added above the steps.

The center entry has a pair of tall, paneled doors over which there is a three light transom. The panels are trimmed on both sides of the doors with heavy moldings with scalloped corners. Over the vestibule is a projecting gable roof containing a slightly projecting boxed window with a large one-over-one double-hung window. (The drawing from an 1859 Kendall County map [figure 1] shows a small circular window in this gable, matching the design of the existing circular window in the north gable end detailing of the rear ell.) The vertical pilasters and recessed wall design begun at the first floor level continue up to the roof, where paired decorative console brackets support the broad roof overhang. The large window interrupts the raking cornice design following the gable.



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Simple pilasters formed from vertical, flush wood boards further divide the front facade into three bays. The wall surface of each side window bay is slightly recessed and is finished with flush horizontal wood boards. This recessed area is framed at the top with a corbel table of wood blocks in imitation of brick masonry corbelling. Supporting the wide roof overhang at the top of the vertical pilasters are highly decorative pairs of console brackets. Between the console brackets are decorative modillion blocks, providing an impression of exposed rafter ends. These brackets match those of the front porch and their use is continued in the gable end over the front porch.

Each of the window bays contains a tall two-over-four double-hung window. The flat board window frames utilize decorative shoulders and a raised center scroll. Small brackets are found below the sill. (This frame design is also used on the other first floor windows in the original section of the house.) There is a narrow balcony, the width of the side bay, on each side of the entry projection. These balconies were originally supported by large console brackets, but are currently supported by stone piers (originally the supports for the since demolished east porch). The balcony balustrades have corner pedestals and half engaged wall pedestals, with heavy top and bottom railings. The turned balusters from the original front step railing design have replaced the original band of joined circles, two pairs of which survive at the end of each balcony's balustrade.

The original house is now flanked to the east and west by ca. 1875 additions. The design of these wings generally follows the original Italianate design concept. The walls, while having a heavy horizontal emphasis, are divided into bays by engaged pilasters. The base of the wall, designed to continue the height of the front balconies through the use of a continuous heavy horizontal molding similar to the top rail of those balconies, is divided into sections by engaged pedestals for the upper engaged pilasters. Between each pedestal is a horizontal molded panel. Above the horizontal molding, the bays are alternately filled with flush wood planks and one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Finishing the upper wall is an elaborate entablature with decorative console brackets set above each pilaster. Dentil work, similar to that of the main house wall panels, is set between the brackets under the projecting roof eaves. The flat roofs over the wings incorporate concealed gutters.

The garden level windows generally consist of pairs of sliding sash, each with two vertical glass panes or single double-hung sash windows. In several windows, the sliding sash pairs have been replaced with a single four-pane sash in imitation of the sliding sash. Unusual is the projecting

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bay window of the original garden level dining room. This consists of three double-hung sash windows.

*Exterior: North (Rear) Elevation*

Unlike the symmetrical front elevation, the rear elevation is basically unsymmetrical. On the original house are two gable ends, one on the rear wall of the main original house block, the other at the end of a rear ell. Both gable ends continue the design treatment of the front facade, utilizing the corner pilasters to set off the recessed flush horizontal board wall surface. The corbel-like treatment at the top of each recessed panel follows the line of the roof gable, with decorative paired scroll work brackets over each pilaster as well as at the apex of the roof gable. Between these are modillion blocks. The rear ell gable end also retains the only surviving and handsomely detailed oculus window at the second floor level. This boldly spoked wheel window is subdivided into eight lobes.

The rear walls of the later wings match the detailing found on their front elevations with the exception that there are no windows. The rear wall of each wing has been divided into three bays. The center bay of the east wing disguises an internal fireplace. The chimney of this fireplace has been capped at roof level.

An unusual feature at the rear is the extension of the stone foundation wall of the ell beyond the width of the ell to incorporate the side porch. Originally open between grade and the porch floor, the east side has since been enclosed with masonry and faced with an imitation stone course finish that does not match the original stone foundation coursing. A lower hip roofed open carport has been added to the north end of the rear ell in 1958. It is open on three sides, with a partial low wall along the north and west sides.

*Exterior: East Elevation*

The east elevation consists of the later east wing (library) and the long side of the rear ell with its side porch. The east wing elevation matches the design of its front elevation and is divided into four bays, with windows in the first and third bays. A late 1870s photograph (figure 2) shows the east library elevation as having an elaborate open porch matching the design of the existing front entry porch. A broad wood stairway matching the original front stairway leads up to the

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porch. A later photograph (figure 3) shows this porch enclosed with glass panels. This alteration occurred while Steward occupied the house, for it was reported in the local newspaper:

“Lewis Steward is building a large conservatory on the east part of his dwelling home. Thomas Jefferson is doing the work”-- Kendall County Record, August 8, 1878.

The porch was removed in 1958 from the house due to deterioration. (The stone piers were reused as supports for the front balconies.)

Barely visible above the flat roof of the east wing are the two gable ends of the upper floor of the original house. The detailing of these gable ends matches the other roof gables. Each has projecting box windows with small brackets under the sill. The windows consist of one-over-one double-hung sash with a large center window and narrow windows on each side of the box projection. From the detail shown in the 1859 drawing, it can be assumed that the east gable ends originally contained oculus windows as shown in the west gable.

A deep open porch runs along the east side of the rear ell. The detailing of the posts, railings and balusters, and at the roof eaves, while similar, is simpler than that of the front porch. The chamfered posts sit in low plinths the height of the railing, which consists of turned balusters between heavy horizontal rails. The beam above the posts has slightly arched connections at each post and is embellished with a line of dentils. The porch has a hip roof with modern ogee gutters added. This porch is currently enclosed with a modern wood frame screen porch. A wide flight of modern concrete steps leads up to the center of the porch. The porch stairway railing consists of simple square pedestals at the base and heavy top and bottom rails without balusters. Another flight of stone steps between this and the main body of the house leads down to the garden level.

The east wall of the rear wing has a single door and window for the kitchen and a second door accessing a steep servant's staircase leading to the area over the kitchen. The kitchen door is a typical four-panel design, while the servant's stair door has two vertical panels. This latter door is set slightly higher in the wall and the original single step on the porch floor used to reach it has been removed. The kitchen window is a two-over-four double-hung sash design with a simpler rectangular frame treatment. There is a similar two-over-four double-hung sash window at the dining room end of the porch. The patching below the existing window sill and the pattern of the

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interior wood flooring indicate that this location was originally a door. Also visible at the end of the rear ell is the later open carport addition.

*Exterior: West Elevation*

Like the east elevation, the west elevation consists primarily of the added west wing (caretaker's apartment) and the long wall of the rear ell. The west wing exterior wall matches the design of the south (front) wall and has a one-over-one double-hung window in the center bay of the three bay wall.

Visible above the flat roof of the west wing are the two gable ends of the upper floor of the original house. The detailing of these gable ends matches the other roof gables. The front gable has a projecting box window with three one-over-one double-hung sash consisting of the wide center window and narrow windows on each side of the box projection. The slightly projecting box window in the rear gable has a single, wide one-over-one double-hung window with small brackets under the sill. It is probable that the rear gable was part of the ca. 1860-1864 alterations to the house as the detailing in the gable area is slightly different from that of the front gable.

Below the upper floor rear gable window is a pair of two-over-six double-hung windows (in the current dining room). This pair of windows is slightly off-center with the upper floor gable window (the window location may have been altered as a result of the added east wing). The frame design of these windows matches that of the front windows. Again matching the front window design is a single two-over-four double-hung window in the wall continuation for the rear ell. A vertical wood pilaster is located at the rear corner of the wing. The slightly recessed horizontal flush wood plank wall finish with the corbelled design below the roof overhang again matches the front wall design.

*House Plan*

The basic house plan consists of a main, nearly square block. This original block has a small center projection on the front (south) wall and a slight projection beyond the main block of the southwest room. A rear projecting ell, added ca. 1860-1864, is off of the northwest corner. To the east and west of the original section wings were added ca. 1875. The garden level and first floor plans of the main, original block are similar to early four-square plans, each floor being divided into four rooms. On the upper floor, the plan reverts to a center hall plan, with two

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rooms to each side. The center hall extends out into the projection over the first floor entry vestibule. The hallway appears to have been subdivided into the small room over the entry and a bathroom at the rear end of the hallway. An attic space (possible maid's quarters) is located above the rear kitchen ell. This attic space could be accessed separately by a steep staircase from the side porch of the ell.

*Interior: Garden Level*

Unusual to this house is the raised garden level basement and former garden level entry to the east side of the front porch. While the original exterior door has been removed and the steps filled in, this entrance originally led to a small vestibule under the main entrance and then to the original dining room. This door and steps were removed in 1958.

**Vestibule:** The garden entry vestibule has a terrazzo floor, a wood paneled wainscot and plaster walls. After the exterior door was removed, wood wainscot was patched in and a window was added above it. A wood rail with coat hooks is on the west wall and a wall niche is above the wainscot on the south wall. The niche is finished on the sides, top and rear wall with wood panels trimmed with a bead and reel molding. There is a wood crown molding at the ceiling, which is currently finished with modern acoustical tiles. The wood door leading from the vestibule to the dining room is similar in design to the main floor interior entry door. It has a large upper translucent glass pane, below which are two rows of three vertical panels and two horizontal panels (each the overall width of the three vertical panels). The interior wood appears to have retained its original dark varnished finish.

**Dining Room:** The original dining room has a terrazzo floor with a decorative banded border. It also has a vertical paneled wood wainscot above which are plaster walls and a heavy box cornice molding at the ceiling. The plaster wall panels above the wainscot have been decorated with painted murals by the previous owner of the property. The ceiling is finished with plaster. On the east wall is a built-in buffet, while there is a three window bay-type opening with one-over-one double-hung windows on the south wall. A door on the west wall leads to the **china storage** room under the west wing. With the exception of the built-in buffet, the interior wood has been refinished by the previous owner.

**Interior Stair:** The interior stairway from the main floor is located between the dining room and original kitchen. The steps are finished with alternating narrow strips of oak and walnut

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hardwood similar to the main floor. Modern wood paneling was installed in 1958 over the heavily damaged original wood-panel wainscot.

**Kitchen:** This room, now a secondary kitchen, has been heavily renovated as a modern kitchen. The kitchen floor is finished with sheet vinyl over concrete. Where kitchen cabinets do not exist, the walls are finished with a beaded wood board wainscot with plaster above. The kitchen ceiling is finished with 2' x 4' lay-in tiles. An arched double door on the east side of the kitchen leads to the laundry room.

**Laundry/Utility Room:** The laundry room has a concrete floor, plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling. The southwest corner of this room has the base of a brick chimney added for a central heating system. In the southeast corner is a storage nook with an arched opening. In the northeast corner is a rectangular masonry structure with a wood top that was possibly the original cistern.

**Servant's Room:** A door on the south wall of the laundry room leads to what was possibly a servant's room in the southeast corner of the main block. It has a sheet vinyl floor finish over a concrete floor, plaster walls and a plaster ceiling. There are two storage nooks on the west wall, to either side of the adjoining alcove for the dining room buffet.

**Rear Ell:** There are two doorways on the north wall of the secondary kitchen. The door to the left leads to a food pantry. The door to the right leads to the rear entry. The food pantry has a concrete floor, plaster walls and ceiling, and contains an old icebox built into the east wall. Beyond the rear entry is a storage area, originally a partially open work area under the rear ell. The rear entry and part of the storage area have a concrete floor, while the remainder of the storage area retains its original cobblestone flooring. The exterior walls of the storage area consist of exposed stone and the ceiling is unfinished. A wood screen wall with a door on the south was added in 1958 and separates the storage area from the open basement entry stairs.

**West Wing:** Under the west wing is a china storage room opening off the west wall of the dining room. The china storage room has a terrazzo floor and built in storage cabinet with drawers on the north wall. The south and east walls have a vertical panel wood wainscot with plaster walls above. Shelving and glass doors were added later above the wainscot and storage units on the west and north walls. A hallway along the north side leads to what was probably an additional servant's room. The hallway floor is sheet vinyl; the walls have been finished with modern wood

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paneling and the ceiling is finished with a modern acoustical tile lay-in ceiling. The servant's room has a sheet vinyl floor with walls finished with modern wood paneling and a 2' x 4' lay-in acoustical tile ceiling.

East Wing: Under the east wing are three rooms: a storage room and coal bin on the north side and a single large room on the south. The storage room has a sheet vinyl finish over the concrete floor and plastered walls and ceiling. The coal bin has a concrete floor and plaster walls and ceiling. The large room, originally the servant's dining and common room, has a wide plank pine wood floor, a beaded board wood wainscot and plaster walls and ceiling. Along the north wall is an original built-in wood cabinet.

Wine Cellar: The final and most unusual feature of the garden level is a single room below the west wing of the garden level. This room, accessed via a brick staircase under the main stair, has a brick floor, brick walls, and vaulted brick ceiling.

*Interior: Main Floor*

Entry Vestibule: The entry vestibule has a hardwood floor of alternating narrow strips of oak and walnut. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, and a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling. There are wood picture rails with coat hooks on both sidewalls. The interior side of the double entry doors continues the exterior panel design. Oak graining is visible beneath the modern paint finish. The wood baseboard has also been painted. The ceiling height in this room and the remainder of the main floor is 10'-0".

Waiting Room: The waiting room has a hardwood floor of alternating narrow strips of oak and walnut. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, and a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling. All interior wood trim, including the simple wood baseboards, has been painted. The interior door from the entry vestibule to the waiting room is set in a narrow recess and is similar in design to the garden level door of the original dining room directly below it. The major differences are its painted finish and the presence of a single horizontal panel at the base of the door, instead of two such panels on the dining room door. A tall, four panel door leads to the west wing (the original window location), while a wide cased opening leads to the parlor on the east. On the north wall is a staircase leading to the upper floor. The staircase has five steps up to a landing before it turns at a right angle leading up to the upper floor center hallway. The staircase railing has basket newels at its base with round

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balusters. These balusters are painted and continue up the staircase, three per step, under a massive beech wood handrail. The stair treads are maple with painted risers and stringer. A low, arched opening under the staircase leads to a small connecting hallway to the garden level stairs and the sitting room (current main floor dining room).

Parlor: The parlor in the southeast corner has a wood floor, again with alternating narrow strips of oak and walnut boards as well as a decorative wood inlay border of intersecting diamonds. Woods used in this border are oak, maple and cherry. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling, and all wood trim has been painted.

Sitting Room: The current dining room, in the northwest corner, was originally a sitting room. The room has a wood floor similar to the design of the parlor floor; however it has a different border design consisting of narrow boards set diagonally. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling, and all wood trim has been painted. It has a pair of double-hung sash windows on the west wall and a single double-hung window on the north wall opening to the rear porch. This window appears to originally have been a door due to evidence of infill patching below the window on the exterior and a change in the dining room wood floor pattern leading from the window back towards the waiting room, possibly indicating the removal of an interior hallway wall along the east side of this room.

Bed Chamber: Off of the dining room, in the northeast corner, is a bedroom. This room has the same inlay border that is used in the parlor. Here there is a field pattern of an oak parquet wood floor set in a diagonal pattern. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling, and all wood trim has been painted. An unusual, surviving feature in this room is the window surround design on the north window. Here the surround incorporates a panel below the window between the sill and floor. As this was the only room not directly impacted by either the ell addition or the east and west wing additions, this detail was most likely eliminated where windows were either eliminated or changed to doors in the Waiting Room and Parlor, and by the slight relocation to an off-center position of the paired windows of the current dining room.

Rear Ell: The rear ell consists of a rectangular room that was originally the master bedroom and a side porch. In 1958 this bedroom was converted to a kitchen. The kitchen is essentially a



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single large room with modern storage areas constructed along the north end and an original small room in the southeast corner (which conceals the steep stairway from the open porch to the second floor). The floor is finished with 9" square linoleum tiles, while ceramic tile is used as a wainscot on the south and west walls. The remainder of the walls and the ceiling are finished with sheetrock over plaster, including a modern small crown molding that has been installed at the ceiling.

East Wing: The Library was added to the east side of the house ca. 1875. It has a hardwood floor design consisting of alternating narrow strips of oak and walnut boards. This stripe pattern continues as vertical strips carried 18" up the walls. Sheetrock has been installed over the original plaster walls and ceiling, and there is a modern small crown molding that has been installed at the ceiling. A fireplace with an internal chimneybreast is located in the center of the north wall. The white marble mantle design is typical of the period with its paneled sides and curving lintel with a carved oak leaf in the center. The firebox has been rebuilt and its surround is finished with grey marble. Wood shelving has been added to either side of the fireplace.

West Wing: The west wing was originally a single guest room added to the house ca. 1875. A closet and a full bath were added in 1958 along the north wall. The hardwood floor has an alternating oak and walnut pattern of narrow boards with a decorative border in oak, walnut, maple and cherry. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling, and all wood trim has been painted. The bathroom has a sheet vinyl floor and a ceramic tile wainscot with taller height tiles around the bathtub.

*Interior: Upper Floor*

The upper floor is in the original section of the house and in the ell addition. The exterior walls of the upper floor are knee-walls ranging from 4'-6" to 5'-0" in height. As a result, the bedroom ceilings generally consist of multiple slopes following the rooflines of the house. With the exception of the rooms over the rear ell, all of the second floor rooms have hardwood floors of varying designs, plaster (or sheetrock over plaster) walls and ceilings, and simple wood baseboards and door and window trim. All of the wood trim has been painted. Interior doors on the upper floor are generally four-panel. Several door frames have a lintel with a decorative cap molding and small dentil work. Most have plain wood lintels.

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Hallway: The current center hallway has a flat ceiling 8'-0" in height. Above the hallway is a slightly raised, flat-roofed section with ventilation louvers over the large exhaust fan located in the center of the hall ceiling. The hallway appears to have originally extended from the front to rear of the main house block. The north end is currently a bathroom, while the south end is a small bedroom. The hardwood floor, alternating strips of oak and walnut, run perpendicular to the length of the hallway and continues into the bathroom. Sheetrock has been installed over the plaster walls and ceiling, a modern small crown molding has been installed at the ceiling, and all wood trim has been painted. The staircase railing design continues at the top with basket newels and balusters made up of the round painted spindles. There is a quarter round cabinet finished with beaded board built into the northwest corner.

South Central Bedroom: This room is located at the south end of the hallway, extending over the first floor entry vestibule. The hardwood flooring pattern consists of a decorative oak border which surrounds a plain oak center. This room has plaster walls and ceiling as well as a small picture rail molding that is beneath the ceiling line.

Southeast Bedroom: The hardwood floor of this bedroom has a decorative border of walnut and oak boards and corner diamond patterns. The walls and ceilings are finished with plaster. The walls have been papered and a small picture rail molding is beneath the ceiling line. This room has a projecting box window with tall, narrow double-hung sidewall windows flanking a pair of double-hung windows. The simple wood baseboard has decorative round corner protectors at either side of the window box projection. A connecting doorway with the northeast bedroom closet has a single vertical panel and a late 19th century decorative cast iron latch lock.

Southwest and Northeast Bedrooms: These rooms are similarly finished with hardwood floors. The southwest bedroom floor has a field pattern of narrow walnut and oak boards with a wider board as a border, while the northeast bedroom floor has a border of wider boards in alternating woods with square bulls-eyes at the corners. Both bedrooms have painted plaster walls and ceilings with small picture rail moldings beneath the ceiling line as well as projecting box windows with round wood corner protection moldings.

Northwest Bedroom: This bedroom has a wide oak hardwood floor with an alternating walnut and oak board banded border. It has plaster walls and ceilings. The walls have been papered and a more substantial crown molding has been installed at the ceiling. The box window has a shallower projection, without windows on each side of the projection. The baseboards at the

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window projection have round decorative corner protectors slightly higher than the baseboard (matching those in the southeast bedroom).

Rear Ell: A two vertical panel door on the north wall of the northwest bedroom provides access to the attic space (original maid's quarters) over the rear ell. The space over the rear ell has been divided into a large room at the north end and two smaller rooms at the south. The southeast corner of the southeast rear ell room contains the steep servant's staircase from the side porch. There is a 2 x 4 post and rail with chamfered edges that serves as a second floor railing on one side of this staircase. The floors in the rear ell retain the original wide planks. Plaster walls and ceilings have been papered. At the north end of the large room is a circular window, approximately 3'-0" in diameter. The sash is hinged at one side and is fit with individual diamond-shaped panes of glass. It originally had a drop-down screen on the interior.

*Known or Suspected Additions and Alterations*

Circa 1860-1864

1. Rear ell added to the northwest of the main block of the house.
2. Circular gable end second floor windows on south, west and east sides replaced with projecting box windows and double-hung sash.
3. Addition of a second gable on the west elevation (for the northwest bedroom) with a shallower projecting box window.

Circa 1875

1. One story wings added to the east and west sides of the main block of the house.
2. Open porch on the east side of the east wing, basically matching the design of the front porch. Enclosed in glass in 1878.
3. China storage room and servant quarters added under the west wing.
4. Coal, storage and servants' common room added under the east wing.
5. Brick vaulted wine cellar added under the garden level of the west wing.
6. Decorative hardwood floors added over the original wider plank floors.
7. Wood wainscoting added in garden level vestibule and dining room. Concrete and terrazzo floors added.
8. Food pantry added under rear ell.
9. Closet probably added between northeast and southeast bedrooms from space taken out of the northeast bedroom.

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10. Base of main staircase altered to current configuration and closets added to first floor guest quarters and southwest bedroom.
11. Door from rear ell side porch into house replaced with a window and hallway removed.

Late 19<sup>th</sup> or Early 20<sup>th</sup> century (dates unknown)

1. Rear ell porch enclosed by screens.
2. Bathroom, south central bedroom, and semi-circular storage cabinet added at ends of second floor hallway.
3. Bookshelves added in library.

1958

1. Wood front and side porch steps replaced with concrete steps.
2. Balusters from stair railings used to replace the circle design in the front facade balconies.
3. East porch removed.
4. Original front garden level entry abandoned, door removed and stairs filled in.
5. Brackets supporting the front balconies removed and replaced with the stone piers from the east porch.
6. Kitchen installed on main level in the rear ell (original kitchen was in the garden level, along with the original dining room).
7. Bathroom added in west wing.
8. Sheetrock installed over original plaster walls and ceilings on main floor and second floor hallway.
9. Exhaust fan installed in ceiling of second floor hallway.
10. Carport added to the north of the rear ell.
11. Open east wall of rear ell basement level enclosed with brick and stone finish infill.

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*Statement of Significance*

**General / Integrity**

The Lewis Steward House is locally significant for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and qualifies for Criterion B for significant person, Lewis Steward, and Criterion C for architecture, as an excellent example of the Italianate Style. The period of significance ranges from 1854, when the original main block section of the house was built, the addition of the rear ell (circa 1860-1864) and the addition of the east and west wings and garden level changes in ca. 1875, until the death of Lewis Steward in 1896.

The exterior of the Lewis Steward House is basically the intact ca. 1875 exterior, with few alterations, most notably the removal of the east porch. Likewise the interior has undergone several minor modifications which have not been of a detriment to the architectural character of the house. The Lewis Steward House maintains excellent integrity for listing on the National Register.

**Architecture**

The Italianate Style, one of the several styles comprising the Romantic Movement in 19th century American architecture, was a major style from the 1850s to the 1880s (McAlester, p. 214). Its basis and characteristic features can be summarized as follows:

*An architectural style loosely based on that of rural Renaissance farmhouses in northern Italy; varies from picturesque villas with ornate detailing and asymmetrical massing to restrained and rigidly symmetrical town houses and commercial buildings; typical elements include multiple stories, bracketed cornices, low-pitched pyramidal roof, and narrow, hooded, framed or bracketed windows; often with a one-story front porch and occasionally with a square tower, bays, balustraded balconies... (Bucher, p. 252-253).*

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By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, pattern books were more widely used by builders and architects, and the Italianate style was well represented in these books. Asher Benjamin had published *The Practical House Carpenter* and *The Builders Guide* and Minard Lafever *The Modern Builders Guide* and *The Beauties of Modern Architecture*, helping to spread the Greek Revival movement through the country. However, these pattern books did not only present models based on Greek architecture, examples of Gothic and Italianate designs were also included. The Greek Revival and Italianate shared some major characteristics, including low-pitched roofs, engaged pilasters, cornices, and other forms of classical detailing. In the case of the Italianate, these forms are often less rigidly doctrinaire, more exaggerated, and combined with highly decorative brackets and moldings. Major proponents of the Italianate (or Italian Villa) style as well as the rural (country) Gothic style were Andrew Jackson Downing and A.J. Davis. Their writings and pattern books were published in the 1840s and 1850s and were very influential on the design of both city and rural residences.

The Romantic Movement, also referred to as the 'Picturesque' movement, was described in *The Dictionary of Building Preservation* as being:

*A reaction to the dominant Classical Revival style architecture, beginning in the late 18c; popular motifs included landscapes with irregular planting beds...and asymmetrical buildings in the Gothic Revival, Italianate, and Second Empire styles: not well established in North America until the second quarter of the 19c (Bucher, p.335).*

In the 1860s the Italianate had become the most fashionable style in America, challenging both the Gothic Revival and exceptionally popular Greek Revival styles. Authors Massey and Maxwell, in *House Styles in America*, refer to this style as 'Italian' and divide it into three broad sub-types: Villa, Renaissance Revival, and Italianate.

*Villas were intended to evoke the farmhouses and manors of the Italian countryside. The term included both the asymmetrical Italian Villa, with its prominent tower, and the Tuscan Villa, a square building with deep, bracketed eave (Massey, p. 85).*

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It is the Tuscan Villa to which the Lewis Steward House basically owes its general design concept, with its extremely symmetrical box shape, heavily bracketed cornices, and low-pitched roof with wide overhanging eaves and a center gable.

The Renaissance Revival style was based on the formal Italian *palazzos* and is generally an urban residential form, and more particularly a choice for public buildings. According to Massey and Maxwell, the Italianate houses were the most common form of the Italian style, often occurring on many vernacular residential forms simply with the addition of the fashionable Italianate details such as scroll-work brackets, decorative window and door hoods and trim, and highly decorative porches (Massey, p. 89).

These three sub-types are also characterized by the use of a wide variety of materials ranging from stone to wood, in a manner that would imitate stone through the embellishment of flat surfaces through the use of stucco, penciling or scoring to resemble masonry blocks (Massey, p. 91). Window characteristics include large one-over-one double-hung sash; bay and oriel windows; windows shielded by flat-topped, rounded, or pediment-shaped hoods; and others framed with wide, flat, scrolled trim. Porches are a nearly universal feature, especially smaller entrance porches. The porch was often treated as the focal point of the facade. Typical were square or chamfered (beveled edge) porch support posts; bracketed tops rather than capitals; and double front doors (Massey, p. 92-95). Brackets and modillions continued to be used against a fascia board and various moldings under the broad over-hanging roof eaves.

The Lewis Steward House exhibits many of these typical Italianate features, including a prominent front porch, a low-pitched roof with wide eaves, paired decorative console brackets, and tall windows with decorative shouldered architrave surrounds. It also utilizes simple engaged pilasters with recessed wall planes topped by wooden dentils.

Other writers also divided the Italianate style into three sub-styles. In *Victorian Architecture of Iowa* author William Plymat Jr. lists three categories of Italianate: Italian Villa, Tuscan Villa, and Palladian Style/Renaissance Revival. Plymat defines Italian Villa as *rambling asymmetrical pile with roofs of various heights around a tall square tower*, Tuscan Villa as *cubical symmetry and formal composition in shape*, and Palladian Style/Renaissance Revival as *sharing Palladian principles; defined by overhanging roof cornices and rows of projected window moldings*.

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Plymat goes on to state *the elements of Italian and Tuscan labels were used interchangeably in America.*

The Lewis Steward House was built as an Italian county cottage reminiscent of the rural Tuscan Villas, as defined by Massey and Maxwell, and the later additions remained true to that style. While Massey and Maxwell base their Italianate subtypes on Italian examples, the Virginia and Lee McAlester, in their architectural style guide *A Field Guide to American Houses*, define six subtypes by roof shape and building massing. These subtypes include: (1) the simple hipped roof on a square or rectangular box, (2) the centered gable on both simple and compound plans, (3) asymmetrical with a usually L-shaped compound plan, (4) a square tower centered on or placed at the angle of an L-shaped plan, (5) the front-gabled roof over a simple rectangular box, and (6) the town house with wide, projecting cornices concealing a low-pitched roof behind (McAlester, p. 211). The Steward House is a classic centered-gable subtype with its rather small front gable projecting from the low-pitched main roof. This center gable is also further emphasized by the slight forward extension of the center entry hall.

### **Local Architectural Comparisons**

A comparison of the Lewis Steward House to several Italianate single-family houses that are scattered within the City of Plano was performed. While of the Italianate style the comparison buildings are of a more typical Simple Hipped Roof subtype being two-story, square box-shaped with simple hipped roofs and the common horizontal wood clapboard siding. These comparisons date back to the 1860s-1870s. One of the comparison houses has a central cupola. None of the comparison buildings were of the flush wood siding with multi-gabled roof and none of them are one-and-a-half stories.

### **Lewis Steward**

Lewis Steward was among Plano's most prominent residents. He contributed so much to its development that "...Plano has often been called 'The Child of Lewis Steward's Creation'."<sup>1</sup> From the mid to late 1800s, Steward established the town's water supply and roads, brought the major transportation hub of a railroad, founded the first local bank and telephone company,

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<sup>1</sup> Vernon Derry, *Plano Illinois, Birthplace of the harvester*. Aurora, Illinois: Kelmscott Press, 1954.



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established several local businesses and ran several thousand acres of farm. He assisted in the development and manufacture of the Marsh Harvester, an industry that was instrumental in the growth of the community. In addition to his business achievements, Steward was a well-known philanthropist and donated his time, money, and land to aid in the betterment of the community. H.L. Boies, the editor of the *Sycamore Times* who, along with Governor Beveridge and Senator Marsh, met with Steward in 1873, provided the following account of Steward:

Our visit was in acceptance of the invitation of Mr. Lewis Steward, the life of the village of Plano, and one of the remarkable men of this state. He is a lawyer, farmer, miller, manufacturer, tanner, merchant, grain dealer, cheese maker and projector of the Plano Stock Breeding Association. He has all these branches of business in active operation directly under his eye. He drives them all with his characteristic energy and profit. Yet he has abundant leisure to make his home the seat of an enlarged hospitality and to take an active interest in projected railroads, new towns and manufactories. He has the brain of a philosopher and the energy of a steam engine. His handsome house gleams like a Grecian temple out of the shades of the grove on the outskirts of the village and on the banks of Big Rock Creek.<sup>2</sup>

Lewis Steward was born on November 20, 1824, in Wayne County, Pennsylvania. He was the oldest of Marcus and Ursula Steward's nine children. In 1838, when Steward was 13, the family moved to Little Rock Township, Kendall County, Illinois. His father purchased a homestead and soon established saw and grist mills on the nearby Big Rock Creek. Marcus was a farmer by trade, and Lewis helped him in the fields as well as with the operation of the mills, while completing most of his studies at home. Lewis later became a farmer and began shipping his grain to Chicago by way of the railroad.

### **Development of Plano**

Around 1853, Lewis Steward made his first major contribution to the future town of Plano. Surveyors from the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad had come to the Village of Little Rock, located four miles north of his farm. Knowing a transportation hub would be a sure starter for a town (and realizing how easy it would be to transport his farm products to Chicago with a

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<sup>2</sup> "A Visit to Plano in 1873". *Kendall County Record*, August 21, 1873. Edited and compiled by Elmer Dickson.

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railroad right there), he convinced the builders to put the tracks near his homestead, giving the railroad the right-of-way through his land at no cost. This marked the beginning of Steward's lifelong involvement with the company. "Whenever Lewis Steward wished to go someplace he simply informed the management of the Burlington and they would send a special engine and car to Plano for his use."<sup>3</sup>

Around the new railroad, Steward laid out the town of Plano, named at the suggestion of his brother-in-law, John Hollister. "Plano" is the Spanish word for "plain." The town was established on February 28, 1853.

Steward recognized that, in order for Plano to flourish, the city would need adequate roads, water supplies, and utilities. He created the first "road drag" in 1860, going against public opinion and putting gravel on the roads. He allowed anyone to take gravel from his farm for public highways. In 1888, Steward secured the town's water supply when he sold his water system, consisting of a pump and appliances, and water mains, and the land with a spring-fed well, to the city for \$2,700. The water system supplied the city with drinking water for many years. An article about the history of the city's water supply, which appeared in the August 23, 1954 edition of the *Kendall County News*, reported that the city still used the well for drinking water. Steward also established the city's first telephone company and owned the first electric light company.

### **Manufacturing, Industry, and Commerce**

In 1862, Steward spurred what became Plano's claim to fame and a boon to the farming industry. That year, brothers C.W. and W.W. Marsh approached Steward about investing in a harvesting machine they invented. The machine broke down during the demonstration, but Steward saw a future for the harvester. Together they improved the machine, and within a year they were able to establish the Plano Harvester Works and manufacture harvesters under the name of Steward and Marsb. The harvester was a success. In the *History of Kendall County, Illinois* (1877), Reverend E.W. Hicks wrote:

The credit must ever remain with Kendall county of giving to the world the best harvester ever invented - one with which three men can do the same work it

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<sup>3</sup> Steward Jr., Dr. Marsh. "The Life and Times of Lewis Steward." *Newsletter*, Kendall County Historical Society, September 1980. Volume 9, No. 3

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formerly required eight men to do. The old-fashioned harvest time has lost its magnitude and takes its place in the year with other ordinary employments.<sup>4</sup>

“As the inventor of the harvester states, ‘...to Lewis Steward belongs the credit for the development of the reaper.’”<sup>5</sup> In 1864 the Harvester Works produced 100 harvesters; in 1869, 700; and in 1876, 10,000. In 1875, William Deering of Portland, Maine invested in the business. In 1880, Steward decided to leave the company so he could spend more time farming. Deering bought and moved it to North Chicago, forming the International Harvester Company. Steward continued farming more than 5,000 acres of land and began a stock breeding association.

Steward was also actively involved in the growth of Plano’s commercial district. He established several town businesses. In 1864 he built a tannery, and in 1876 he opened a boot and shoe factory, with most of the leather supplied by his tannery. He also owned a flour and feed mill and owned and operated the city’s first bank.

By 1877 Steward had amassed a fortune of over \$250,000 – more than \$4.7 million in today’s dollars – and succeeded in grounding Plano’s business community, as indicated in the *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and Kendall County* (1914): “His business interests were successfully managed because of his sound judgment, his unfaltering enterprise and his progressiveness, and his efforts were ever a factor in the material progress of the community as well as in his own advancement.”<sup>6</sup>

### **Public Service**

Steward may have become interested in politics after his 1873 meeting with Governor Beveridge, Senator Marsh and H.L. Boies. He invited them to Plano to petition the governor to bring a suit against the CB&Q Railroad Company. At that time, it cost 26 cents to transport a hundred pounds of iron from Pittsburgh to Chicago -- a distance of 500 miles -- and that same iron from Chicago to Plano, a distance of 50 miles, was costing 23 cents.

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<sup>4</sup> Hicks, Rev. E.W., *History of Kendall County Illinois*, Aurora, Illinois: Knickerbocker & Hodder, 1877, pgs. 294-296

<sup>5</sup> *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Kendall County*, Volume II, Chicago: Munsell Publishing Co., 1914:Pg. 1059.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, pg. 1060.

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Steward did have an interest in law for he was admitted to the bar, although he never practiced. In 1876 he ran as the Democratic and Granger candidate for Governor of Illinois. Although he lost the race, he cut the usual Republican majority of around 40,000 votes to a mere 5,000. In 1891, Steward was elected as the Democratic representative to the 52<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Congress and served a two-year term.

**Philanthropy**

Steward worked through the 1880s to help establish local churches. He gave them land and helped with construction costs. He displayed no preference to denomination – in 1881 he helped establish a Baptist church, a Lutheran church in 1884, as well as a Catholic church. He also provided the people of Plano with entertainment and recreation, by providing them with Steward's Park and Steward's Opera House. Once a year Steward loaded boys and girls under age 15 into six or 10 wagons and took them to the circus.

Lewis Steward died on August 27, 1896, at his homestead on Plano's Main Street. He was 71 years old. Upon his death, the *Kendall County News* (August 27, 1896) provided the following announcement:

“The News will issue in connection with next weeks paper, bearing date of September 10, 1896, and present to every subscriber, a carefully compiled sketch of the life and career of Plano's illustrious citizen, the late Lewis Steward, together with a full account of the funeral. It will be neatly printed in pamphlet form, containing an excellent half tone of Mr. Steward and the intention being to make it a commemorative souvenir that his friends may preserve.”

**Lewis Steward Homestead**

The Lewis Steward House, often referred to as “The Homestead,” is the building most closely associated with Steward and his accomplishments in Plano. He resided in this house during the time he made his contributions to the growth and development of the community, pursued his agricultural interests, and served as a state representative. There is one extant building in Plano

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that dates to the city's glorious farm implement building years, but it is not known whether it was built for the Steward & Marsh business or the succession of firms that followed. There are three other buildings related to that industry, but they were built later and are believed to have been associated with the Plano Harvester Works company. All of these buildings currently are used by different industries and are no longer associated with farm implements. The Steward Bank building is still downtown on Main Street, but the façade has been altered and it is no longer a bank.

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**Steward, Lewis House**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

That part of the Southeast of Section 22, Township 37 North, Range 6 East of the Third Principal Meridian described as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the west line of East Street and the north line of Main Street in the City of Plano; thence westerly along said north line of Main Street 330 feet to the southeast corner of Block 9 of said City of Plano; thence northerly at right angles 260 feet to the south line of North Street; thence easterly on said south line of North Street 330 feet to the west line of East Street; thence southerly along said west line of East Street 260 feet to the point of the beginning, all in Kendall County, Illinois.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary encompasses the two-acre property, enclosed by the four large stone block corner boundary markers that surround the house, and that is historically associated with the Lewis Steward House and that maintains the historic integrity of the Homestead.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Section Additional Documentation Page Figures/Photographs Steward, Lewis House

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Illustrations

- Figure 1: Photo taken of 1859 drawing on a Kendall County map, enlarged, original size approximately 2-1/2" h. X 3" l.
- Figure 2: Historic photo, c1880, original size approx. 7-1/2" h. X 9-1/2" l., "Verstergaard, Plano, Ill." stamped on mat, original photo at 611 E. Main St. Plano, IL
- Figure 3: Historic photo postcard, c1910, C.R. Childs, photographer, enlarged, original size approximately 3-1/2" h. X 5-1/2" l., titled "Mayor's Residence, Plano, IL" #9304 original postcard at 611 E. Main St. Plano, IL
- Figure 4: Drawing from booklet, Landmarks of Northern Illinois, 1947, enlarged, original size approximately 1" h. X 2" l., titled "The Homestead", original booklet at 611 E. Main St. Plano, IL

[Note the items above were scanned into a computer and then printed with an inkjet printer.]

- Figure 5: Garden Level plan, c1880  
Figure 6: Main Floor plan, c1880  
Figure 7: Upstairs plan, c1880  
Figure 8: Garden Level plan, c1958  
Figure 9: Main Floor plan, c1958  
Figure 10: Upstairs plan, c1958

Current Photos:

Photos by Alan Langguth, taken November 2002, negatives located at 603 E. North St. Plano, IL

1. Front facade, camera looking northwest
2. West facade, camera looking southeast
3. Rear facade, camera looking south
4. Front Entry Vestibule, camera looking south
5. Waiting Room, camera looking northwest from entry vestibule
6. Staircase from Main Floor to Upstairs, camera looking northeast
7. Library, camera looking northeast
8. Library Floor and Wainscot, camera looking southwest
9. Floor Detail and Threshold between Parlor and Waiting Room, camera looking west
10. Bedroom (off Dining Room) Floor Detail, camera looking southeast
11. Bedroom (West Wing) Floor Detail, camera looking southeast
12. Dining Room Floor Detail, camera looking southwest
13. Servant's Staircase from Upstairs to Porch (west of Kitchen), camera looking east
14. Garden Level Dining Room, camera looking southeast
15. Garden Level Dining Room Floor Detail, camera looking west
16. Icebox, Garden Level Pantry, camera looking northeast

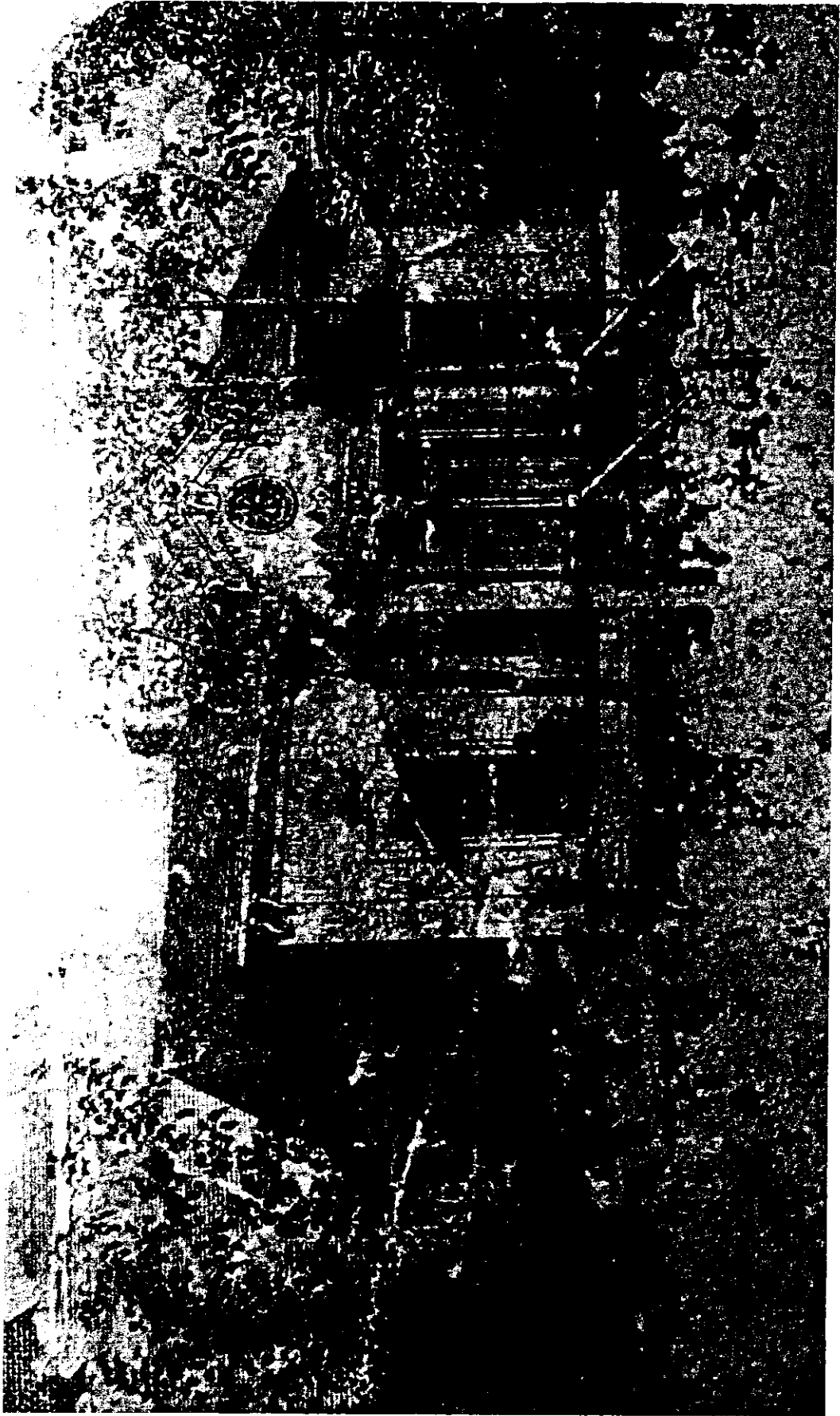


Figure 1

Lewis Steward House

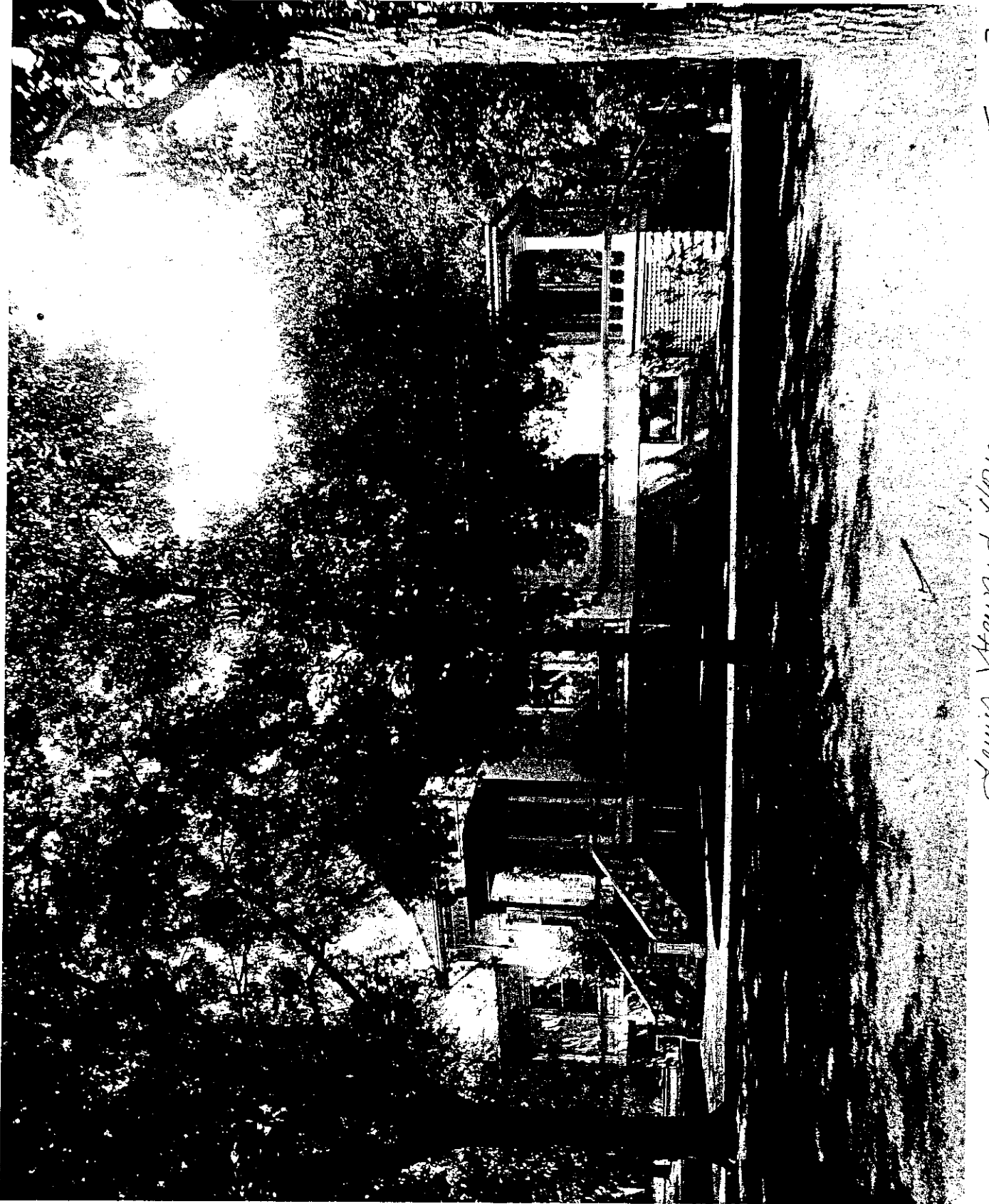


Figure 2

Lewis Steward House



Figure 3

Lewis Howard House

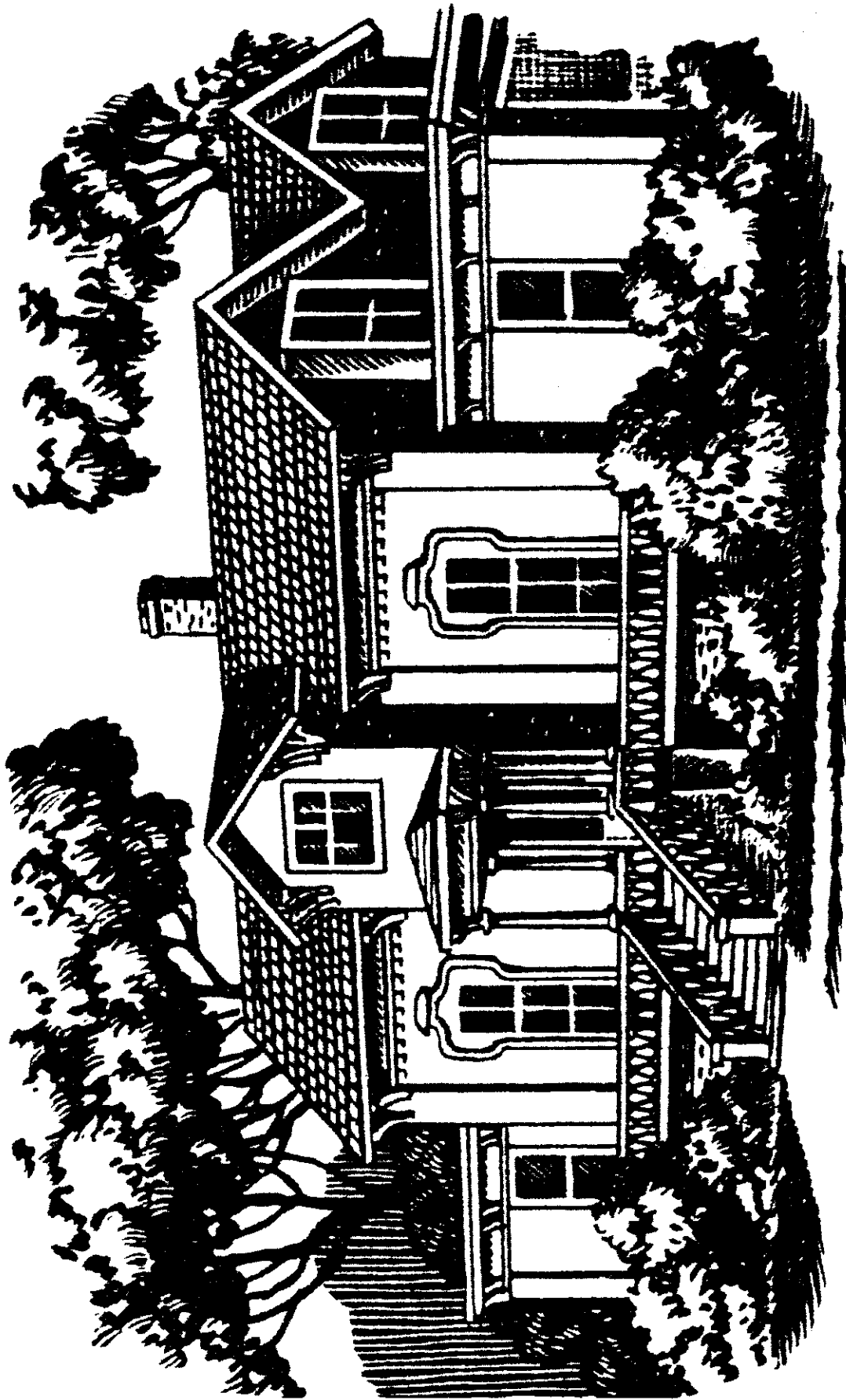
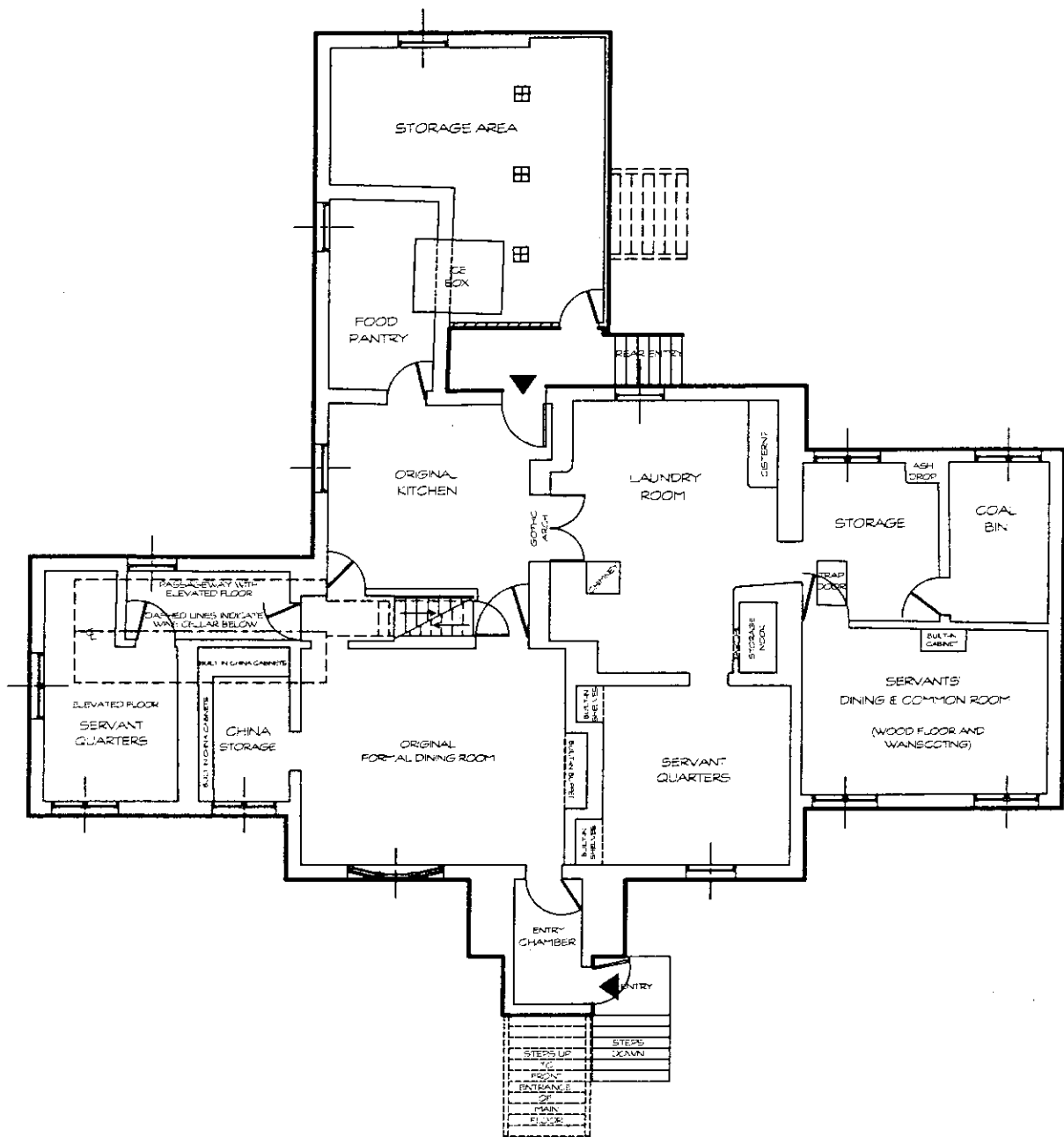


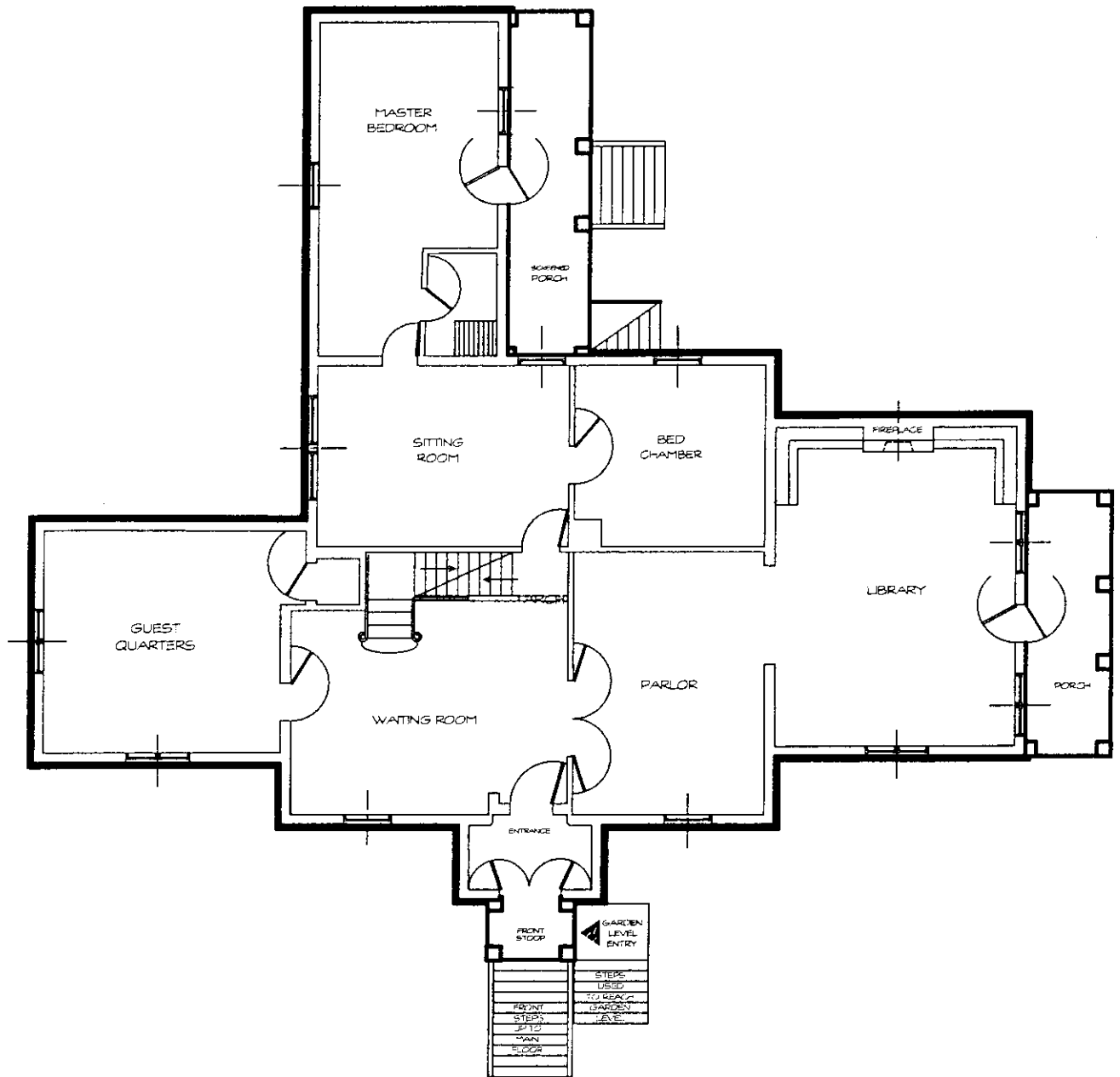
Figure 4

*James Steward House*



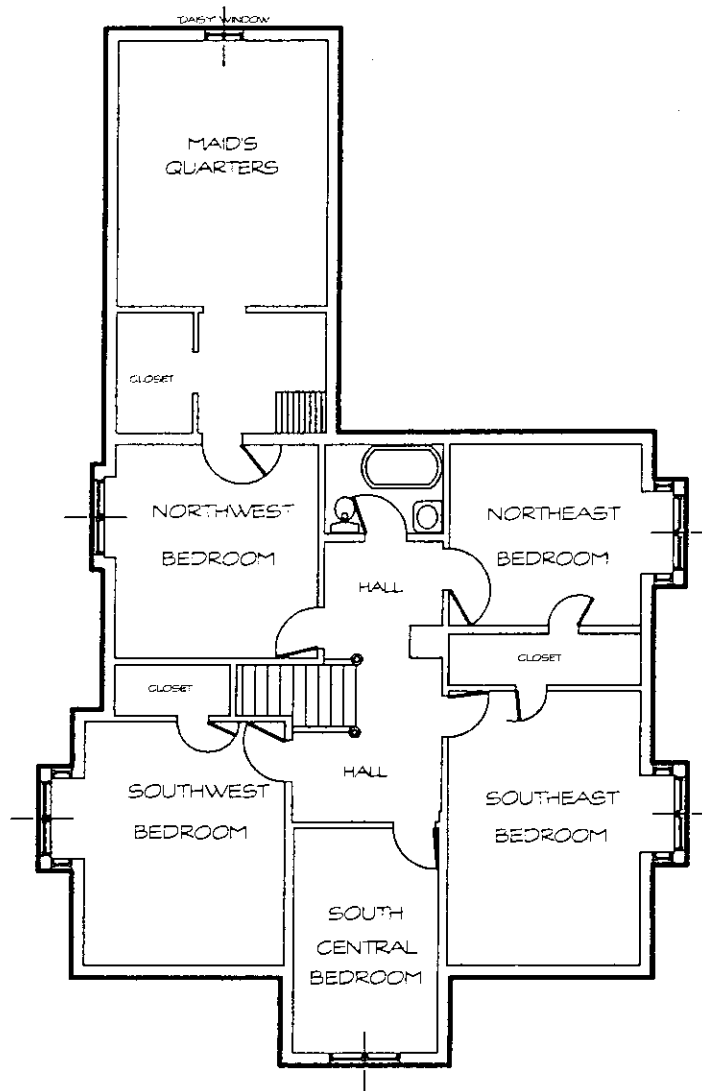
LANGGUTH DESIGN: HISTORIC STEWARD MANSION PROJECT: GARDEN LEVEL PLAN  
 CIRCA 1880

Figure 5



LANGGUTH DESIGN: HISTORIC STEWARD MANSION PROJECT: MAIN FLOOR PLAN  
 CIRCA 1880s

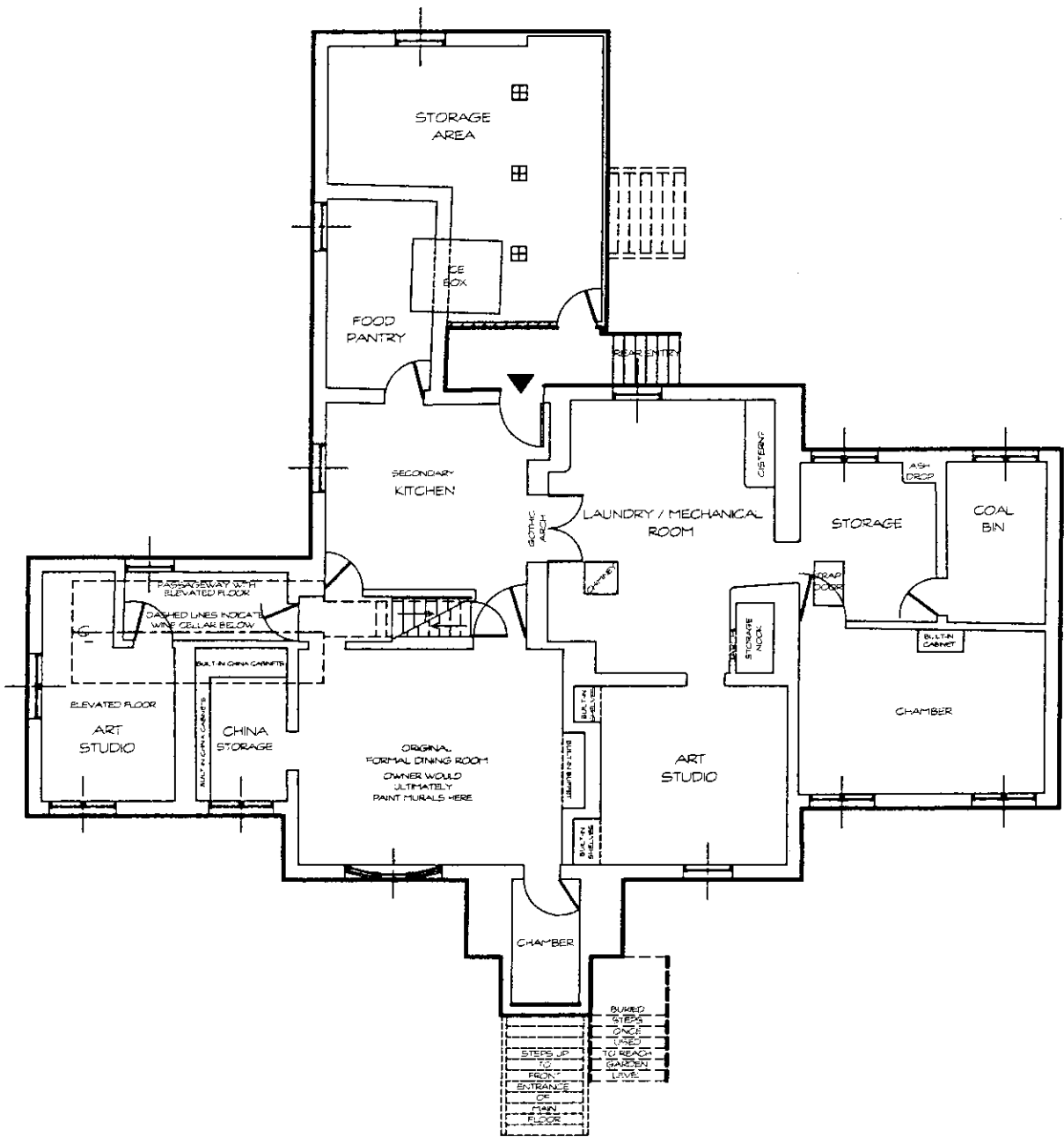
Figure 6



LANGGUTH DESIGN: HISTORIC STEWARD MANSION PROJECT: UPSTAIRS PLAN  
CIRCA 1880's

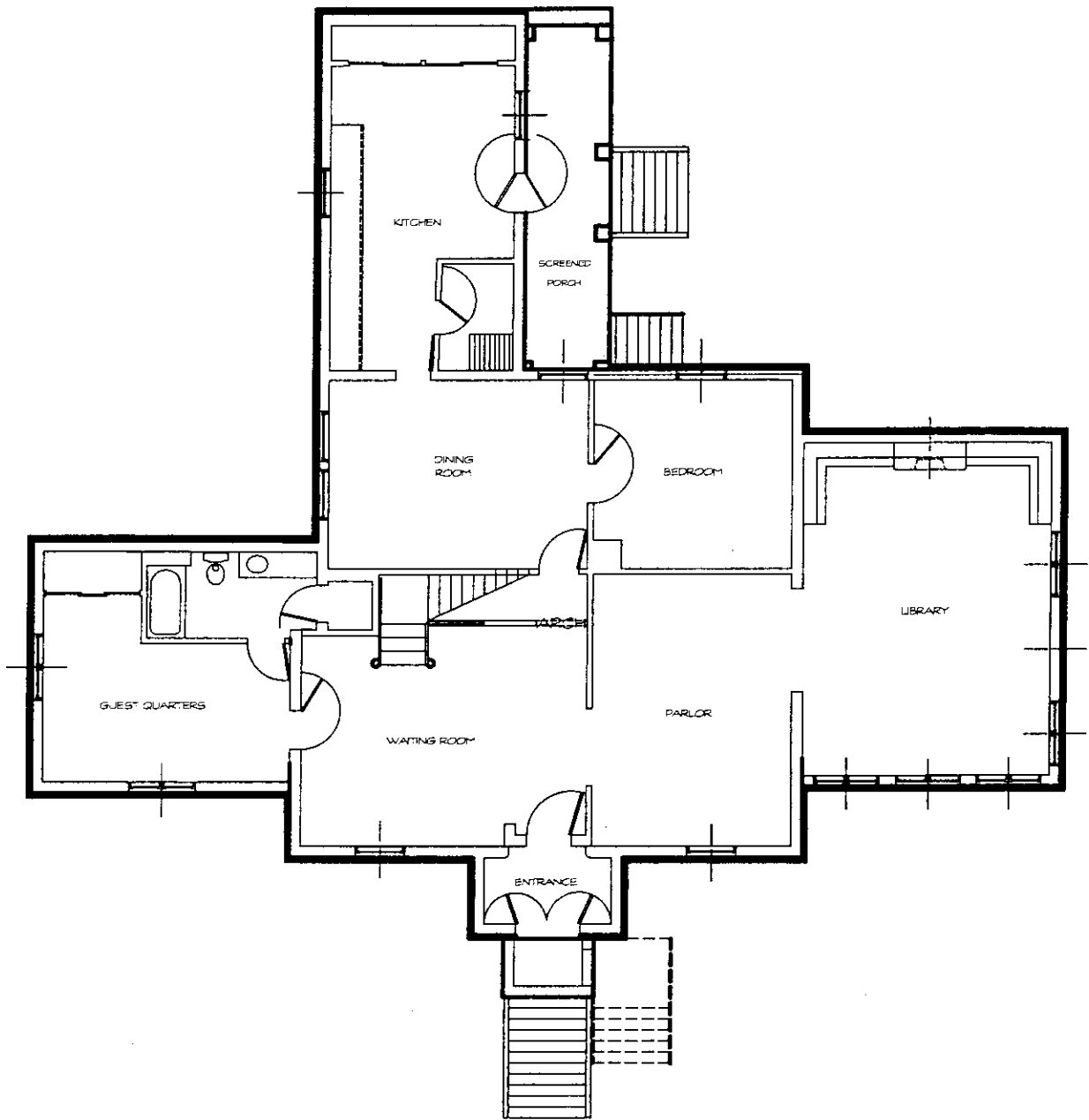
Figure 7





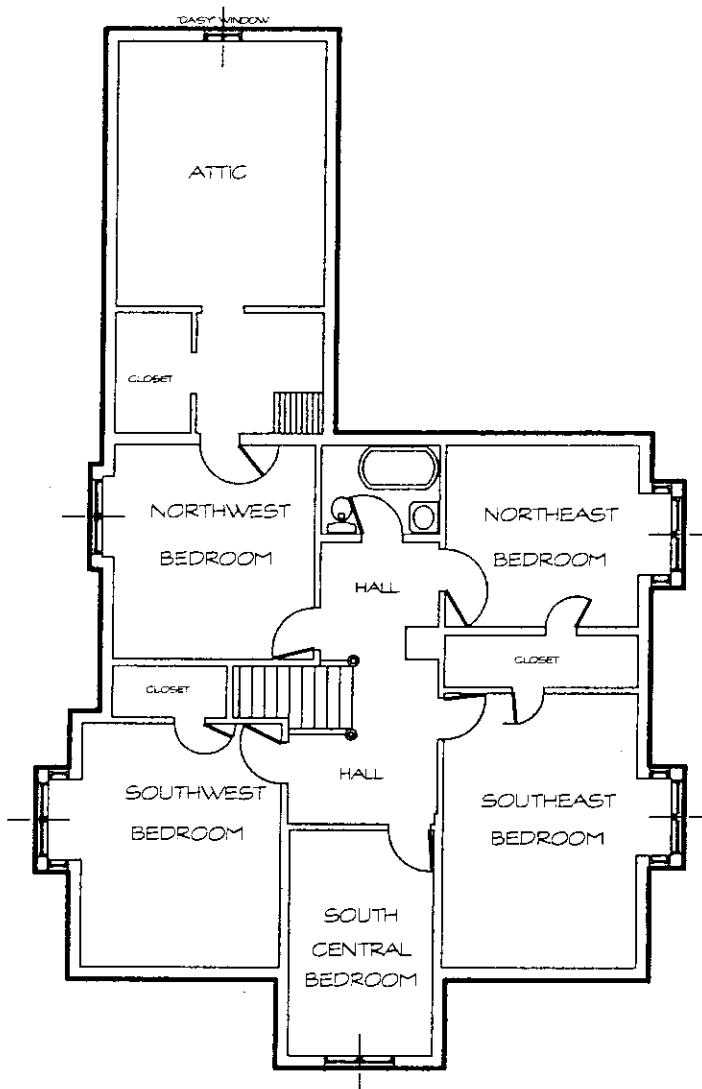
LANGGUTH DESIGN: HISTORIC STEWARD MANSION PROJECT: GARDEN LEVEL PLAN  
 CIRCA 1958

Figure 8



LANGGUTH DESIGN: HISTORIC STEWARD MANSION PROJECT MAIN FLOOR  
CIRCA 1958

Figure 9



LANGGUTH DESIGN: HISTORIC STEWARD MANSION PROJECT: UPSTAIRS PLAN  
CIRCA 1958

Figure 10

LISTED, 7/02/03

AMERICAN SAMOA, MANU'A DISTRICT,  
Faga Village Site,  
Address Restricted,  
Fitiuta vicinity, 99001228,  
LISTED, 11/13/03

ARIZONA, MOHAVE COUNTY,  
Peach Springs Trading Post,  
863 W AZ 66,  
Peach Springs, 03001196,  
LISTED, 11/21/03

ARIZONA, MOHAVE COUNTY,  
Schoolhouse at Truxton Canyon Training School,  
AZ 66,  
Valentine, 03001197,  
LISTED, 11/21/03

Technical Correction:  
DELAWARE, NEW CASTLE COUNTY,  
New Castle Court House  
211 Delaware Street,  
New Castle, 72000285,  
DESIGNATED NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK, 07/31/03

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY,  
Virginia Theater,  
203 W. Park Ave.,  
Champaign, 03001201,  
LISTED, 11/28/03

ILLINOIS, COOK COUNTY,  
Des Plaines Theater,  
1476 Miner St.,  
Des Plaines, 03001198,  
DETERMINED ELIGIBLE, 11/28/03

ILLINOIS, DE WITT COUNTY,  
Magill House,  
100 N. Center St.,  
Clinton, 03001202,  
LISTED, 11/28/03

ILLINOIS, HENRY COUNTY,  
Atkinson Hall,  
108 W. Main St.,  
Genesco, 03001203,  
LISTED, 11/28/03

ILLINOIS, KANE COUNTY,  
Riverbank Laboratories,  
1512 Batavia Ave.,  
Geneva, 03001204,  
LISTED, 11/28/03

ILLINOIS, KENDALL COUNTY,  
Steward, Lewis, House,  
611 E. Main St.,  
Plano, 03001200,  
LISTED, 11/28/03

ILLINOIS, LIVINGSTON COUNTY,