United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

1. Name

historic Havens-Page House

and/or common 101 Building

2. Location

street & number 101 N. 39th Street

city, town Omaha

N/A vicinity of congressional district Second

state Nebraska code 31 county Douglas code 55

3. Classification

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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<tr>
<td>site</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>work in progress</td>
<td>X educational</td>
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<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td>N/A in process</td>
<td>X yes: restricted</td>
<td>X entertainment</td>
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Accessible

| X yes: restricted | X yes: unrestricted | X no |
| military | |

4. Owner of Property

name Robert C. and Marilyn S. Hansen

street & number 5113 Western Avenue

city, town Omaha

N/A vicinity of state Nebraska 68132

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Douglas County Register of Deeds

street & number Douglas County Courthouse, 1819 Farnam Street

city, town Omaha

state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Omaha Buildings Survey

has this property been determined eligible? X yes __ no

date On-going

federal state county local

depository for survey records Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission

city, town Omaha

state Nebraska
7. Description

The Havens-Page house is an exceptional example of the ubiquitous, two and a half story square-type house with eclectic derivation; enlivened with a bay window, two story wing, irregular wrap-around porch, and gabled dormers — all constructed of stone. It is notably designed in the Second Renaissance Revival style.

The Havens-Page house is a smooth-faced, coursed masonry structure; rectangular (37' x 42') in shape with rear wing. The house is two and one-half stories over a raised basement and has projecting bays at the southeast corner and the center of the east elevation. The roof is a truncated hip with flat deck, penetrated by four gabled dormers, two on the east, one on the south, and one on the west. The encircling porch has a rusticated base continuing into rusticated column pedestals with balustrade between. Tuscan columns and entablature with rusticated bed moulding support the roof porch. The main roof emerges from a modillioned cornice above bands of dentils and egg and dart moulding. Second floor windows are double-hung with a cornice above shouldered architrave surrounding trim containing a rosette motif. First floor and basement windows, including small openings in the porch base have no surrounding trim and, with the exception of the windows opening onto the porch, are spanned by a lintel scored to appear as a voissed flat arch. The gables of the south and west facing dormers are richly embellished, employing a coquillage with a rusticated surround within a swan's neck pediment above a modillioned cornice. The window in the west dormer is in three parts, all with double-hung sash. The remaining three dormers have one double-hung window each. The upper sash of many of the double-hung windows is divided into diamond shape lights. One rectangular chimney extends from each of the north, east and west walls and is capped by a simple fascia and cornice. An architrave with rosette motif surrounds the main entry, which is spanned by a cornice supported by consoles. The main door repeats the swan's neck pediment of the gabled dormers over a single light.

The interior is a side hall plan with open well stairway with turned balusters; tiled entry with fireplace featuring shouldered architrave surround, mantel supported by consoles and decorative cast firescreen. The living room fireplace features dentils and marble surround; egg and dart motif over doors and windows, and dentilled ceiling moulding in living and dining room. The dining room features an ornamental pressed pattern ceiling. Throughout are brass and bronze light fixtures and oak strip floors.
The Havens-Page house is a fine example of the Second Renaissance Revival style. In Nebraska the form evolved and gained considerable popularity, particularly after the turn of the century through the 1920's. In its history the house has been associated with two prominent local businessmen. T. C. Havens, a local entrepreneur, engaged in the coal business and was active in the local growth and development of the city of Omaha. Walter T. Page, who occupied the house later, was manager of the American Smelting and Refining Company. Designed by local architect F. A. Henninger, the house remains an exemplary example of the style and grace associated with the development of Omaha's finer neighborhoods in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Several elite neighborhoods have emerged in Omaha at various times throughout the city's process of expansion. These neighborhoods usually developed as suburban or exurban centers, whose inhabitants usually tended to be those Omahans who were wealthy enough to move beyond the noise and congestion of the city. Neighborhoods of this nature usually developed on the western fringe of the growing city, and quite often were located on choice, hilltop locations. A notable example is the West Farnam-Cathedral area.

The West Farnam district developed quickly in the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, becoming a showcase of unique residences enjoyed by some of Omaha's most successful and influential citizens. The district's rapid growth was made possible in part by the construction of streetcar lines in the last decades of the nineteenth century, allowing easy access to downtown Omaha. Though the West Farnam area, like most other districts in Omaha, was dealt a considerable blow by the depression in the 1890's, recovery was rapid and construction again boomed by the turn of the century.

The district holds many unique buildings of the era, and one exemplary structure exists at 101 North 39th Street. Designed in the Second Renaissance Revival style as a single family residence, it was constructed in 1900 for Thomas Collins Havens. The cost of the house was $7,700, and was designed by architect F. A. Henninger with John Harte as the builder.

Havens came to Omaha from Ohio in 1872 and was employed by the Union Pacific Railroad as a ticket agent. By 1886 he entered the business world by establishing the Havens and Rhodes Coal Company, which two years later became the Thomas C. Havens Coal Company. His tremendous success continued as his company merged with one owned by Victor White, the result being the Havens-White Coal Company, of which T. C. Havens was president.
In addition to his role in the coal business, Havens was a member of the Omaha Commercial Club, as well as serving as Secretary and Treasurer of the F. E. Sanborn Company. Sanborn was a major producer of livestock feed in the Omaha area under the title of the Standard Stock Food Company.

Havens' stay in his new home at 101 North 39th was cut short when he died suddenly in September, 1908. His widow sold the house to yet another prominent Omaha businessman, Walter T. Page, in 1909. Page, the son of a Confederate General who served with distinction in the Civil War, had come to Omaha from Virginia in 1885 as an assayer and chemist for the American Smelting and Refining Company. Through a series of promotions, Page eventually assumed the position as manager of the company. He occupied the house at 101 North 39th from 1910 to 1920.

The house has since been converted to commercial use, and is presently occupied by an interior design company. The Havens–Page house has been designated a Landmark under the City of Omaha's Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance.

Designed in the Second Renaissance Revival style, the house type is the most important of Nebraska's early vernacular forms, having developed from Georgian and Italianate forms and enjoying popularity from the 1860's through the 1920's. The genesis of the form in Nebraska was via the Italianate style, many based upon Georgian central-hall floor plans. Following the Italianate, the house form gained considerable popularity across the state, primarily as a vernacular product. With the turn of the century, the form gained increased prominence, and was built in several excellent versions of Neo-Classical Revival (cf. Dr. A. O. Thomas house by Berlinghof, Kearney, Buffalo County, NRHP; the J. C. Robinson house at Waterloo, Douglas County, NRHP; and the L. F. Gottschalk house in Columbus, Platte County, NRHP), and countless vernacular renditions of the style. The form remained in vogue through the multifarious period revivals of the 1920's.

The Havens–Page house is important not only for its representation of the type, but also its stylistic associations. In its Second Renaissance Revival styling, the house alludes to the stylistic precedents of the original, centric, secular structures of the Italian Renaissance.
Frederick A. Henninger, the architect, was born in 1865 to a German immigrant family which had settled in Albia, Iowa, received his formal training at the Chicago Art Institute where he was described as a "natural born artist." After attending the Institute for two years, Henninger moved to Lincoln, Nebraska and worked for a local architect by the name of Gray. In the early 1890's he relocated to Omaha and sought employment as a laborer in the Union Pacific Shops. By 1895, Henninger had established himself as an architect with the F. C. Ledebrink office and in the following year purchased the business from Ledebrink.

F. A. Henninger remained an active Omaha architect until his retirement in 1937, at which time the firm was taken over by his son, F. A. Henninger, Jr. The firm's activities encompassed the entire spectrum of the built environment and during its most active period, the F. A. Henninger office designed "a house a day."

Major Omaha structures designed by Henninger include the Securities Building (16th and Farnam), the U.S. National Bank Building (16th and Farnam), the Grain Exchange (19th and Harney), the Farm Credit Building (19th and Douglas), the West Farnam Apartments (3817 Dewey Avenue) and the residences of Edgar Morsman (38th and Jackson), Casper Yost Offutt (109 North 54th Street), E. L. Stone (3722 Pacific) and O. H. Barmettler (622 North 38th Street).
9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Omaha North, Nebr.-Iowa

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

UMT References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 14, 15 and 16 Crescent Park Addition to the City of Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska, includes all historically related property.

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

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11. Form Prepared By

Lynn Meyer, Preservation Administrator; and edited by
Bob Puschendorf, State Historic Preservation Office

Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission

Nebraska State Historical Society date: June, 1982

1819 Farnam
1500 R Street
Omaha
Lincoln

telephone 402/471-3850

state Nebraska

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national [ ] state [x] local [ ]

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature: [Signature]

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date: 8/23/82

For HCRA use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: 

date

Chief of Registration

Omaha City Directories.

Omaha World Herald. September 30, 1908.


Sylvester, Ben F. West Farnam Story.
