

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name William Sternberg Houseother names/site number Same

## 2. Location

street & number 1065 N. Waco☐ not for publicationcity, town Wichita☐ vicinitystate Kansas

code

KScounty Sedgwick

code

173zip code 67202

## 3. Classification

## Ownership of Property

☒ private☐ public-local☐ public-State☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

☒ building(s)☐ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object

## Number of Resources within Property

## Contributing

1

## Noncontributing

1 buildings       sites       structures       objects1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/ANumber of contributing resources previously  
listed in the National Register 0

## 4. 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Ramon Powers State Historic Preservation OfficerFebruary 26, 1989

Signature of certifying official

Date

Kansas State Historical Society

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☒ does not meet the National Register criteria: ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined eligible for the National  
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.☐ removed from the National Register.☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic: single dwelling

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: limestone  
walls Wood: weatherboard

roof Asphalt  
other Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The William Sternberg House (c. 1886-1887) is located at 1064 N. Waco in Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas (pop. 279,835). The two story, frame building sits on a rusticated limestone block foundation. A ridge hipped roof covers the main body of the building, five gables project from the building, providing the asymmetry essential for the Queen Anne style. The building has an eastern facade orientation and measures approximately forty-seven feet from north to south and fifty-six feet from east to west. The house sits on a four lot parcel at the southwest corner of N. Waco and 10th Street. A non-contributing but compatible frame garage (c. 1979) sits southwest of the house.

The main body of the house is sheathed with German lap siding. The course between the raised limestone foundation and the lap siding is sheathed with verticle flush siding. Fish scale shingling marks the panels between the first and second story windows on the projecting gables. Corner posts articulate the building's many angles. Four corbelled brick chimneys mark the building's three main elevations, the decorative brick flues of the chimneys are incorporated into the prominent gables on the facade and north elevations.

The primary fenestration employed on the house is a 1/1 double hung, rectangular window with a simple wooden surround. Smaller rectangular windows and quarter and whole fanlights fenestrate the various gables that define the roof. A tripartite, stained glass window fenestrates the stair landing on the north elevation. A dentilled, wooden entablature ornaments the roof lines, with rafter ends exposed underneath its eaves. The gables are marked with Eastlake inspired verge boards. Porches project from each of the three main elevations. Eastlake inspired, lathe turned posts and balusters support pent and gable roofs. The front porch spans almost the entire elevation and was substantially reconstructed using original materials from the other porches as models. The house is painted an olive green with light green trim. The chimneys are red. The original roof material was replaced with asphalt shingles. The exterior of the southwest corner of the house is still in need of repair and painting.

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The house is essentially a rectangle with various projecting bays which give it the appearance of asymmetry. The interior of the house maintains its original floor plan and architectural features. The original baseboards and window and door frames are made of gum wood. The stair case is walnut. During the years as a boarding house the woodwork was painted, partitions were installed, and original light fixtures and stained glass was removed. During the city ownership all but one of the four original mantels were removed from the house. The current owners stripped the wood, removed the partitions, and installed compatible light fixture and mantle replacements. The William Sternberg House maintains a high degree of interior and exterior integrity and stands as a rare extant example of Queen Anne residential architecture in Wichita.

## 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and

Development

Period of Significance

1886-1887

1886-1887

Significant Dates

1886-1887

1886-1887

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sternberg, William: Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The William Sternberg House (c. 1886-1887) is being nominated to the National Register under criteria A and C for its historical associations with the growth of Wichita during the boom period of 1886-1887 and for its architectural significance as a rare, extant Wichita example of a Queen Anne residence.

Wichita experienced a tremendous real estate boom in 1886 and 1887, due in part to the industrial subsidies offered by the city government. Between Spring, 1886 and Spring, 1887 one thousand, eight hundred and seventy-one new residences, one hundred commercial buildings, twenty-two factories, eleven hotels, and four hundred and thirty-six miscellaneous buildings were constructed in Wichita. In 1887 Bradstreet's Report listed Wichita third among those American cities that had experienced the greatest number of real estate transactions during the first five months of the year. Wichita's population soared to 40,000 people during the boom but by 1889 the city could no longer afford to subsidize industry and the population began to dwindle. The bust was foretold somewhat in Marshall Murdock's famous February, 1887 Wichita Daily Eagle editorial "Call a Halt", in which he criticized the outside additions craze, which had resulted in enough platted land to support a population of 300,000.

The Sternberg House is located in an area of Wichita called Mid-town today, historically this area was known as Greiffenstein's Seventh Addition. In the 1897 Sanborn map of this area, which is the first year that the West Tenth and North Waco intersection where the Sternberg House is located is treated, shows a larger house on all corners but the southeast corner. In the 1880s and 1890s the area was considered a better neighborhood and was one of the first settled during the 1880s land boom. The neighborhood entered a transition period in the 1910s and 1920s as smaller homes were built as infill and as wealthier people began building in the College Hill area of the city.

☒ See continuation sheet

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The Sternberg House was built by William H. Sternberg (1831-1906) as his residence. Sternberg was a contractor and builder who had come to Wichita from his native New York State in 1877. In an 1888 biography of Sternberg the house is described as follows:

The residence of Mr. Sternberg, a handsome and costly structure, is beautifully located on a rise of ground commanding a fine view of its surroundings. Within and without it bears the evidence of refined tastes and ample means, and is universally admired by all who have the occasion to pass it.

-Portrait and Biographical Album of Sedgwick County, Kansas

Sternberg constructed the house as a model residence, in order to show prospective clients what he could do. Sternberg only lived in the house until 1890, which leads one to wonder if the residence wasn't speculative. Sternberg was responsible for more than one hundred residences, commercial and public buildings in Wichita. His house remains as one of the very few residences that he constructed, and as previously mentioned, one of the very few Queen Anne residences left in the city.

Sternberg sold the house to W.S. Corbett, a wholesale grocer, who resided there from 1891-1899. The house then passed quickly through the ownership of Z.R. Silsbec and then J.B. Blazer. Between 1902 and 1909 A.C. Jobes with the National Bank of Commerce owned the building. From 1910-1919 J.C. Mayall, a local hatter resided in the house. In 1920 the house became an apartment house and remained as such until 1974. In 1975 the Wichita Urban Renewal Agency purchased the asphalt sided house. Much of the woodwork had been painted and some partitions had been installed during its fifty-four years as an apartment house but underneath it all the house maintained a high degree of architectural integrity.

The agency sold the property to the current owners in 1978, and over the years the Deweys have rebuilt, repaired, and repainted and otherwise cared for the Sternberg House.

The Sternberg House is an example of the Queen Anne style. Its high hipped roof with lower cross gables comprises the most common Queen Anne house type found in this country. The irregular roof shape and dominant gables are hallmarks of this style. Queen Anne style houses avoid plain wall surfaces. The combination of the fishscale shingling with the clapboards, the projecting bays, windows, and gables, the patterned

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masonry chimneys, the full front porch, and the sunburst and incised gable panels all add textural diversity to the Sternberg House. Interior features which place the house firmly within the Queen Anne tradition include the stained glass windows, the irregular floorplan, the wide and generous staircase with a landing, the fanciful and period mantles, and the heavy balusters and newel post. All of these features combine to make this a Queen Anne residence that is unique to and at the same time representative of Wichita's residential architecture in the 1880s.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Andreas, A.T. History of the State of Kansas. (Chicago, 1883).

Chapman, Brothers. Portrait and Biographical Album of Sedgwick County, Kansas. (Chicago, 1888).

Kidd, Dan. William Sternberg House. (National Register nomination drafts, 1987, 1988).

Miner, H. Craig. "The Wichita Boom of 1886-1887," Business and Economic Report, V. XIV, N. 3, September, 1984.

Sanborn Maps of Wichita, Kansas - 1887, 1892, 1892, 1935.

Wichita City Directories, 1887-1920.

☒ See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository:

Kansas State Historical Society

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than 1 acre

UTM References

A 1 4 6 4 6 0 6 0 4 1 7 3 8 0 4  
Zone Easting Northing

C                                             

B                                               
Zone Easting Northing

D                                             

☐ See continuation sheet

## Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located on the E 105' of Lots 926, 928, 930, 932 in Greiffenstein's 7th Addition in Wichita, Kansas. The property is bounded to the east by N. Waco, to the north by 10th, and to the west and south by adjacent property lines.

☐ See continuation sheet

## Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel that is historically associated with the property. A non-contributing garage stands on the parcel.

☐ See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Hagedorn-Krass, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date March 30, 1989

street & number 120 W. 10th

telephone 913-296-5264

city or town Topeka

state Kansas

zip code 66612

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Wichita Daily Beacon, 25 August 1906.

Wichita Eagle, 26 August 1906.

Wood, L. Curtise, Dynamics of Faith: Wichita 1870-1897. (Wichita:  
Wichita State University, 1969).



6559 IV SW  
(MAIZE)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

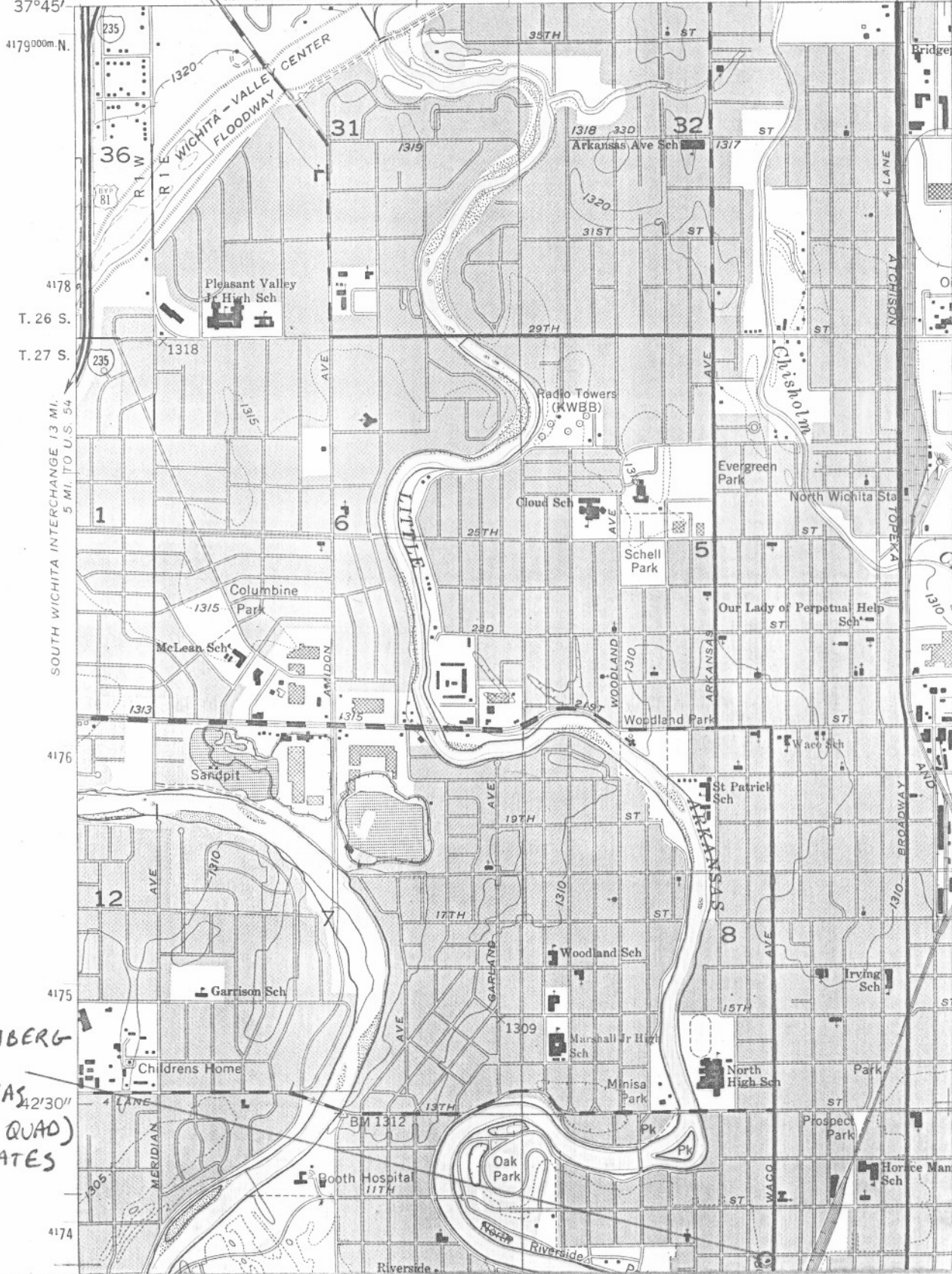
HUTCHINSON 51 MI.  
MAIZE (VIA KANS. 96) 8 MI.

645000m E.

NEWTON 21 MI.  
WICHITA HEIGHTS 2.2 MI.

97°22'30"  
37°45'

4179000m N.



WILLIAM STERNBERG  
HOUSE  
WICHITA, KANSAS  
(WICHITA EAST QUAD)  
UTM COORDINATES  
14 646060  
4173804