

Melson House
56 River Heights Drive
Mason City
Cerro Gordo County
Iowa

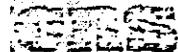
HABS No. IA-95

HABS,
IOWA,
17-MASCIT,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243



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NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING RECORDS
 HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| STATE IOWA | | COUNTY CERRO GORDO | TOWN OR VICINITY MASON CITY |
| HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Melson House | | | HABS NO. IA-95 |
| SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE | | | |
| COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 56 River Heights Drive | | | |
| DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1912-13 | | ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Walter Burley Griffen | |
| SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Designed by W. B. Griffen, a notable mid-West architect, the house was built for Joshua G. Melson, one of four partners who developed Rock Crest-Rock Glen subdivision. | | | |
| STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Prarie style | | | |
| MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Rubble limestone with concrete mullions and decorative keystones. | | | |
| SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Approximately 37' x 61', the two story dwelling with basement is built on a hillside and contains an open plan at the first floor. | | | |
| EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The Melson House is dramatically sited on limestone bluff in Rock Crest-Rock Glen subdivision planned by Griffen to harmonize with landscape along Willow Creek. It contains a hipped roof, grouped windows and corner piers and decorative cut keystones. | | | |
| INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Unknown. | | | |
| MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES | | | |
| PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Excellent, private residence. | | | |
| OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE | | | |
| SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Shank, Wesley I., <u>The Iowa Catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey</u> , University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, 1979. | | | |
| COMPILER, AFFILIATION | | | DATE 8/1/80 |