

PH036149X

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| RECEIVED | MAY 17 1977 |
| DATE ENTERED | JUL 13 1977 |

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

Bix Beiderbecke House

Beiderbecke, Linn Bismarck (Bix), Home

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1934 Grand Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Iowa

VICINITY OF
CODE

COUNTY

Scott

CODE

163

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dan Newby

STREET & NUMBER

1934 Grand Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

STATE

Iowa

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder, Scott County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Davenport

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Beiderbecke house is a straightforward, late-Victorian frame dwelling, located in a residential neighborhood of similar vintage. It is set upon a terrace which rises about 5 feet from street level, and across from a small neighborhood park.

The house is 26' wide and 57' deep, with a basically rectangular plan. It has two brick chimneys above an irregular gabled roofline. A shed-roofed porch, supported by square, bracketted wooden posts, extends across the front. Above the north end of the porch at the second floor level is a small, semicircular turret-like porch with a conical roof, which is entered through the second-floor bedroom window. Another 5-sided projection with a conical roof extends from the north wall, and forms part of the stairwell to the second floor. On the south wall is a bay window, projecting from the dining room. Over the entrance to the front porch is a decorative wood pediment with two wooden columns on each side. Cornices and trim are also wood. To the rear (west) is a small, L-shaped addition (date unknown), enclosing a family room and back porch. Generally speaking, the exterior facades are unmodified, except for the application of painted, asbestos siding over clapboards.

The interior is divided by a central wall, into a living-dining area on the west and the entrance hall, stairwell, and kitchen on the east. On the second floor are three bedrooms and a bath. Hardwood and pine flooring, as well as stained pine woodwork (some with decorative carving) date from the original construction of the house. A fireplace in the entry hall features a decorative glazed tile surround topped by a plain, dark-stained wood mantle.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES built ca. 1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Leon Bismarck "Bix" Beiderbecke, a now-legendary cornet player and jazz composer and musician of the 1920's, was born in this house 10 March 1903. He lived here until September, 1921, when he left for Lake Forest Academy near Chicago and the beginning of his relatively brief, but important musical career in Chicago, New York, St. Louis, and elsewhere around the United States. From then until his death in 1931, he returned periodically to visit his parents. During one such visit, in December 1924-January 1925, it is believed that Beiderbecke composed "Davenport Blues" (recorded 26 January 1925).

"During the first part of his 10-year career, Bix Beiderbecke played or 'sat in' with most of the jazz bands then playing in Chicago, and on river boats and excursion boats on Lake Michigan. (During his entire career, whenever he was home, he played with bands in Davenport and the surrounding metropolitan area.) Later, he was a regular member of the Wolverines, Jean Goldkette's band led by Frank Trumbauer, and Paul Whiteman's orchestra. It was while he was playing with the Wolverines in 1924 that Beiderbecke cut his first record for the Gennett Recording Co, in Richmond, Indiana, which launched him on the 6½ prolific years of recording work that produced (aside from his own jazz compositions, "Davenport Blues," "In a Mist," "Candlelights," "Flashes", and "In the Dark") the only remaining material evidence of his enormous talent.

"Bix's grace, subtlety, and harmonic sophistication influenced his contemporaries in the jazz medium, such as Red Nichols, the Benson Orchestra of Chicago, cornetists Rex Stewart and Bobby Hackett, and Hoagy Carmichael, and have been influencing jazz musicians ever since. He established the basic principles for playing Dixieland in a new way that have endured to this day." ¹

¹"Biographical Information", compiled by Pat Miller, Scott County (Iowa) Historic Preservation Group, pp. 1-2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAY 17 1977

DATE ENTERED

JUL 13 1977

Bix Beiderbecke House, Davenport, Scott County, Iowa

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Avakian, George. The Bix Beiderbecke Story, Vol. II, "Bix and Tram", Columbia Records, CL 845 (record cover).

Billboard Magazine, March 5, 1977, p.65

Quad-City Times, July 27, 1975; February 27, 1977.

Davenport City Directories, 1890-1907.

Interviews by Pat Miller with Mr. and Mrs. Dan Newby (2 March 1977) and Don O'Dette (1 March 1977)

Bix Beiderbecke Room, Davenport Public Library.

Property Beiderbecke, Leon Bismarck (Bix), House
~~Bix Beiderbecke House~~

7700554
scott

State Iowa Working Number 5.17.77.791

TECHNICAL

Photos /
Maps /

CONTROL

OK pl
5.19.77

Important jazz musician
satisfactory #8

HISTORIAN

Accept
Franklin
7.12.77

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
LEBOUCHE
7/13/77

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory
Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
WB
7-13-77

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

[Signature]
7/13/77
JUL 13 1977

National Register Write-up
Federal Register Entry 9.6.77

Send-back
Re-submit

Entered

INT:2106-74



*Country of the ... East ...
1934 Grand Ave., ...*

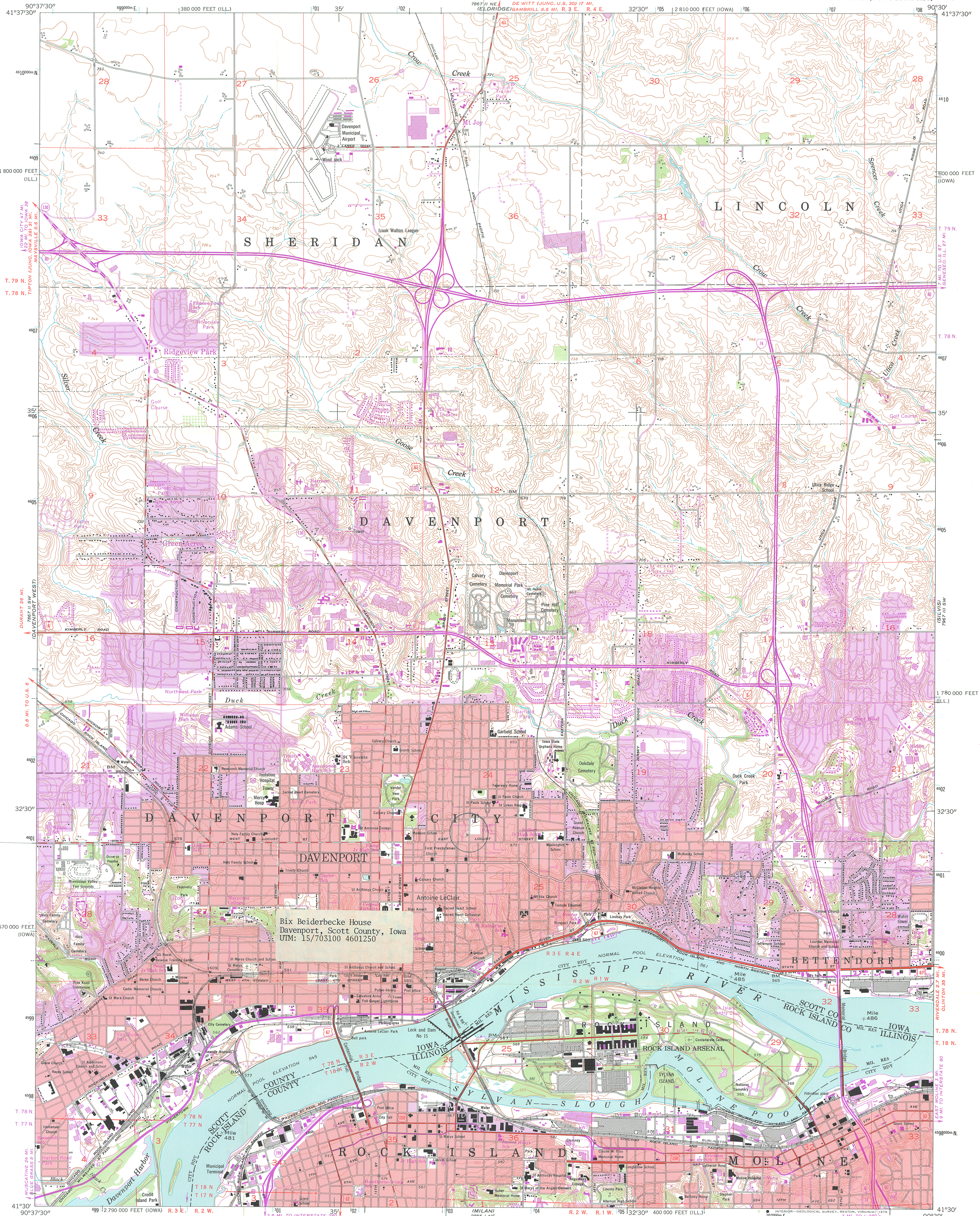
*Photo of house at 1934 Grand Ave., Bettendorf,
Iowa, Big River ... taken ...*

Bix Beiderbecke House
Davenport, Scott County, Iowa
Credit: Pat Miller, 1718 Middle
Road, Bettendorf, Ia.
Neg. at: Same Date: 1975
View: looking northwest

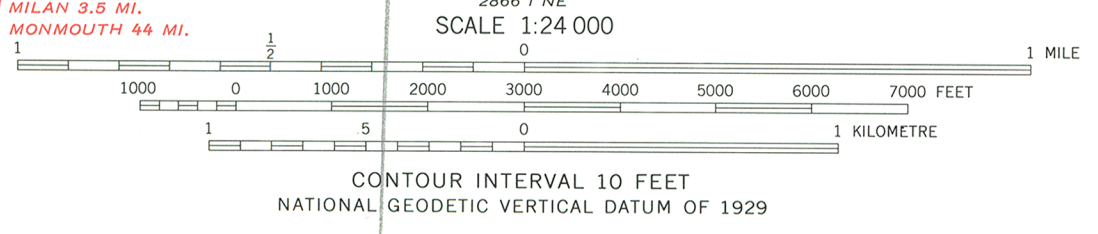
JUL 13 1977

MAY 17 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Bix Beiderbecke House
Davenport, Scott County, Iowa
UTM: 15703100 4601250



Illinois area mapped by the Geological Survey
Iowa area mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and
Mississippi River Commission
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Entire map revised and field checked by AMS 1953
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Iowa coordinate system,
south zone, and Illinois coordinate system, west zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey
from aerial photographs taken 1970 and 1975. This information
not field checked

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240,
AND STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty
- Medium-duty
- Light-duty
- Unimproved dirt

U. S. Route **State Route**

Interstate Route

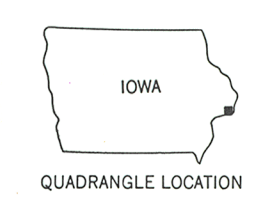
DAVENPORT EAST, IOWA-ILL.
N4130-W9030/7.5

1953
PHOTOREVISED 1970 AND 1975
AMS 7867 II SE-SERIES V876

RECEIVED
MAY 17 1977
NATIONAL REGISTER

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



JUL 13 1977

STATE HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ADRIAN D. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

Date: 4 May 1977

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240



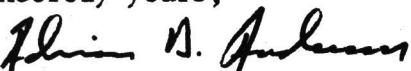
Subject: Bix Beiderbecke House

Davenport, Scott County, Iowa

Dear Sir:

The property listed above has received approval from Iowa's National Register Nominations Review Committee, and is now submitted to your office for consideration for the National Register of Historic Places. Procedures used by this office to meet requirements pertaining to public notification and comment have been approved by, and are on file in, your office.

Sincerely yours,


Adrian D. Anderson
Historic Preservation Officer

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **IOWA**

Date Entered **JUL 13 1977**

Name

Location

Beiderbecke, Leon Bismarck (Bix),
House

Davenport
Scott County

Paradise Farm

Bellevue vicinity
Jackson County

Also Notified

Hon. Dick Clark
Hon. John C. Culver
Hon. James A. S. Leach
Hon. Michael T. Blouin

Regional Director, Midwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Adrian Anderson
Director, Iowa State Historical
Department
Division of Historic Preservation
26 East Market St.
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Beiderbecke, Leon Bismarck (Bix), House ② OTHER NAMES: _____ ③ date of entry: JUL 13 1977 ④ county code: 163

⑤ LOCATION street & number 1934 Grand Ave. city / town Davenport vicinity of _____ state IA county Scott ⑥ NPS REGION: MW

⑦ OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name) _____ ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR: _____

⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL ⑩ FUNDED? YES NO ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT _____ ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION STATE FEDERAL _____ if state who prepared form? _____

⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME _____ ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME _____ ⑮ ACRES less than one LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION deteriorated altered original site excellent ruins unaltered moved good unexposed reconstructed unknown fair unexcavated excavated ⑰ features: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 NOT INTACT-0 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 UNKNOWN-5 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-7 NOT APPLICABLE-8 NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS YES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access Unknown ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE YES NO ⑳ SAVED? YES ㉑ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

㉒ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 COMMERCE-6 ENGINEERING-11 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 POLITICS/GOVT.-21 RECREATION-28 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 COMMUNICATIONS-7 ENTERTAINMENT-26 LAW-16 RELIGION-22 SETTLEMENT-29 AGRICULTURE-3 CONSERVATION-8 EXPLORATION-12 LITERATURE-17 SCIENCE-23 URBAN PLANNING-31 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 HEALTH-27 MILITARY-18 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____ ART-5 EDUCATION-10 INDUSTRY-13 MUSIC-19 SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 TRANSPORTATION-25 PHILOSOPHY-20 ㉓ CLAIMS: explain 'first' 'oldest' 'only'

㉔ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Residence CURRENTLY: Residence ㉕ dates of initial construction: 1895 major alterations: _____ historic events: Residence 1903-1924 ㉖ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION _____

㉗ architectural style(s): Residence Late Victorian ㉘ architect: _____ ㉙ master builder: _____ ㉚ engineer: _____

㉛ landscape architect / garden designer: _____ ㉜ interior decorator: _____ ㉝ artist: _____ ㉞ artisan: _____ ㉟ builder/contractor: _____

㊱ NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: Bix Beiderbecke ~~House~~ 1903 - 1931 EVENTS: _____ INSTITUTIONAL: _____

㊲ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP Residence of legendary jazz musician and composer Bix Beiderbecke
Frame, rectangular, 2 story, gables, porch, 2nd story, low with conical roof, side bay

reviewers initials LB date 7.12.77