

WASHINGTON 1/82

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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 ANDREW WEISEL HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 312 North Second Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town St. Charles N/A vicinity of congressional district 13th

state Illinois code 012 county code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Glenn Craft

street & number 312 North Second Avenue

city, town St. Charles N/A vicinity of state Illinois 60174

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kane County Government Center

street & number South Batavia Avenue

city, town Geneva state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title NONE has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The two story red brick Greek Revival Cottage has one story riverstone wing at the rear (east) elevation. All windows and doors have stone lintels and sills. Foundation and basement walls are of riverstone. False stone siding was removed from the exterior and the original stone and brick has been brush cleaned, tuck-pointed, and silicone sealed. The front (west) entry has been restored using the original sidelights and transom. A modern flush front door has been replaced with a paneled door. The Victorian glazed doors in the riverstone section were there at the time of purchase by the present owner. The south porch was enclosed by a stud-frame board and batten wall before purchase by the present owner. This space is now a small Library and Bathroom. All window and exterior door locations are original. The east window in the one story portion was enlarged. The wood fascias and trim are original, and were repaired as necessary.

The original second floor consisted of a hall and three bedrooms. Original floors were six inch pine boards which at some time were covered with three inch wide oak flooring. One bedroom was converted to a bathroom. The original simple recessed window trim and door frames as well as the plastered walls and ceilings have been painted white.

The first floor originally consisted of a stair hall and three rooms in the two story section and a kitchen and recessed porch in the one story stone section. The partitions between the hallway and front parlor and between the downstairs bedroom and dining room were removed before purchase by owner. The stairway including newel post, spindles, and handrail is original. Original pine floors were covered with three inch oak flooring. The first floor hand planed and pegged two panel doors as well as the recessed door and window trim are original. All of the trim, doors, plastered walls and ceilings have been painted white.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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 1853-55 Builder/Architect Andrew Weisel

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Andrew Weisel House is one of the few Greek Revival style homes of the 1850's remaining in St. Charles. Its small scale and combination brick and river stone construction sets it apart from other similarly styled homes in St. Charles. It also represents a significant example of the work of a local craftsman/builder.

In 1833 the Indians in Northern Illinois were defeated in the Blackhawk War. After their banishment, the first settlers from the East arrived in the Fox River Valley. A village grew up around a dam and sawmill and was christened Charleston, after the owners' hometown in Vermont. The first town plat was recorded in 1837. The original town was bounded by the Fox River on the west, 6th Avenue on the east, Indiana on the south, and Pearl on the north. Because another Charleston had been established earlier in Southern Illinois and had priority, the village was renamed St. Charles in 1839. Surrounded by rich dairy farms, St. Charles prospered as a business and commercial center, and became the most important town in the county.

Andrew Weisel (born 1822 in Germany) was a mason by trade. He arrived in St. Charles in 1846. It is assumed, although not documented, that he was in the employ of William Beith, a prominent and prolific mason/builder of residential and commercial buildings in the Fox River Valley from 1843 to 1865. Weisel married Isabella Beith, William's sister, and in 1853 built his house. It was on a crest of a hill overlooking the river, in the original town of Charlestown, now St. Charles. Weisel lived there until 1867 when he purchased a farm on the west side of the river.

Besides being a fine example of the simple masonry structures found in the Fox River Valley, the Weisel House is an important part of the fabric of the oldest part of St. Charles

9. Major Bibliographical References

Land abstracts, Kane County Recorder's office, Geneva, Illinois
St. Charles City Directory-1855
St. Charles, Illinois-1854 birdseye view drawing, St. Charles Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1

Quadrangle name Geneva

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

16	3	9	1	2	30	46	41	1	2	0
Zone	Easting		Northing							

B

Zone	Easting		Northing							

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification That part of lots 3 and 4 of Block 33 of the original Town of St. Charles, lying Southerly of the right of way of the Chicago Great Western Railway Co., in the City of St. Charles, Kane County, Il.

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

state Not applicable code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Glenn Craft

organization

date March 1981

street & number 312 N. Second Avenue

B/312-787-1302

telephone H/312-377-9052

city or town St. Charles

state Illinois

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state 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 David K...

title Dwight, cell. Dest. of Geneva date 1/4/82

For HCRS 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

