NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name DAVID GOERZ HOUSE
other names/site number GOERZ HALL

2. Location

street & number 2512 N. COLLEGE AVENUE — N/A not for publication
city or town NORTH NEWTON — N/A vicinity
state KANSAS code KS county HARVEY code 079 zip code 67117

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this XX 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 XX meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide XX locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard D. Faubion Deputy SHPO — September 16, 2002
Signature of certifying official/Title — 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 for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is: — Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

____ 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):

DAVID GOERZ HOUSE
Name of Property

HARVEY COUNTY, KANSAS
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

X private
___ public-local
___ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

X building(s)
___ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category	*Subcategory*
DOMESTIC:	SINGLE DWELLING
EDUCATION:	EDUCATION RELATED

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category	*Subcategory*
EDUCATION:	EDUCATION RELATED

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: QUEEN ANNE

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	STONE: LIMESTONE
walls	WOOD: WEATHERBOARD
roof	WOOD: SHINGLE
other	

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

____ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
_X_ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
_X_ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
____ B removed from its original location.
____ C a birthplace or a grave.
____ D a cemetery.
____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
____ F a commemorative property.
____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past fifty years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1893 - 1910

Significant Dates

1893, 1908

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

DAVID GOERZ

Architect/Builder

ELBERT DUMONT

Cultural Affiliation

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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
_X_ University
___ Other

Name of repository:

BETHEL COLLEGE

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property LESS THAN ONE ACRE

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	645480	4214930			
2						

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	ANGELA HEGER AND KIM MANRING, PRESERVATION PLANNERS				
organization	NEWTON/NORTH NEWTON HISTORIC PRES. COMM.			Date	MARCH 2002
street & number	500 MAIN PLACE, SUITE 101			telephone	316-283-2560
city or town	NEWTON	state	KS	zip code	67114

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

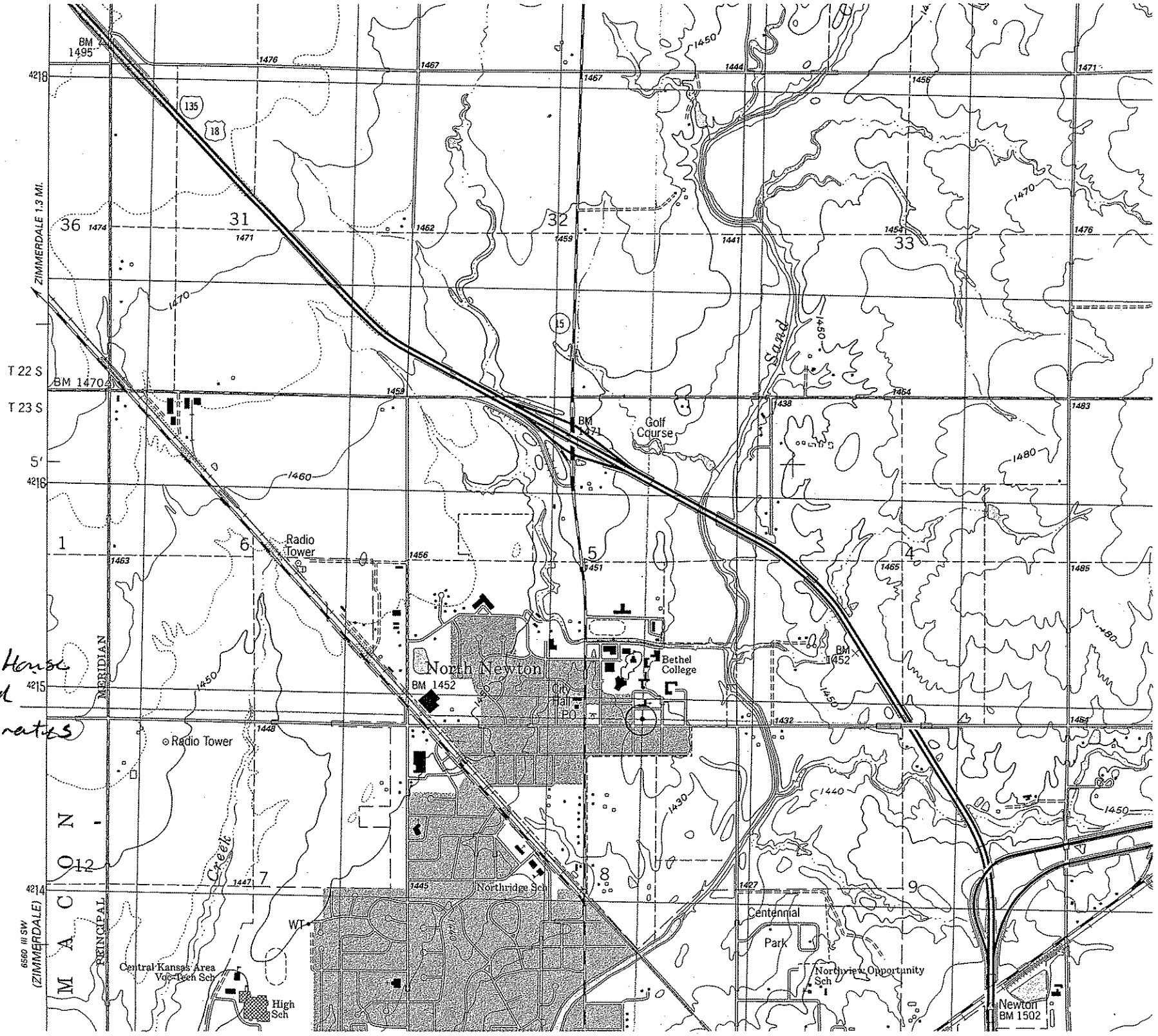
Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name	BETHEL COLLEGE				
street & number	300 E. 27TH STREET		telephone		
city or town	NORTH NEWTON	state	KS	zip code	67117

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



David Goerz House
Newton Quad
UTM Coordinates
14 645480
4214930

Narrative Description

The David Goerz House (1893) is located at 2512 N. College Avenue in North Newton, Harvey County, Kansas. The 2 1/2-story Queen Anne home sits on a large lot on the northeast corner of College Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street and is part of the Bethel College campus. Neighboring buildings also have ties to the college. Leisy House, a foursquare built in 1915 for additional student housing, stands to the south. To the north is Bethel College Mennonite Church, and to the west and south are the homes of Bethel professors B.F. Welty (also converted for student housing) at 2505 N. College, and P.J. Wedel at 2427 N. College. However, none compare with the grandeur of the Goerz House.

Designed by Wichita architect Elbert Dumont, the house was the first private home built on the Bethel Campus. As originally built, the structure was somewhat different than it appears today. The entrance was located on the south façade, facing Twenty-fourth Street and the budding town of Newton. A more typical Queen Anne style porch, supported by Tuscan columns, wrapped around the south and east side of the home. The paint scheme for the columns added decorative detail.

In 1908, David Goerz moved the entrance from the south to its current location on the west side of the home. To accomplish this, the porch was extended to wrap around part of the west side as well, and a one over one double hung window was replaced with a smaller stained glass window. The front (west) sidewalks were added at this time, and the steps leading off the south side were removed.

Six years later, David Goerz passed away, and his son Rudolph and his family inhabited the home. In 1915, Rudolph Goerz remodeled the entrance once again by altering the porch to a more classical appearance. The painted Tuscan columns were replaced with grouped Doric columns. The porch entablature was changed from a Victorian fashion with small supporting brackets to a more Classical manner with a plain frieze and dentils. A slightly higher flat roof took the place of the previous deck roof on the porch, and a porte cochere was added to the south where the original steps had been. The back porch on the east was also enclosed at this time, and a sleeping porch added above.

In 1921 Bethel College purchased the home and has owned it since. Used for student housing, in 1935 dormer windows were added to the third floor to provide additional room and light. A kitchen was also added to the second floor during the 1930s, but this, as well as a metal fire escape, has since been removed.

Exterior:

The home is a wood frame structure with wood clapboard siding painted white, and rests on a limestone foundation. Decorative wood trim "outlines" the home and has been painted light gray, matching the wood surrounds of the windows. These surrounds mimic the classical order. The lintel has a slightly over hanging cornice above a plain frieze, supported then on either side of the window by "pilasters" that then terminate in the sill. The windows,

almost without exception, are one over one double hung. However, the windows in the limestone foundation, which extends up to the water table, are casement, generally with two panes. The wood shingled irregular roof, typical of the Queen Anne style, is hipped with lower cross gables and dormers. Decorative wood cresting can be found along several of the ridgelines. Although originally the home had double brick chimneys, a single brick chimney now rises from the middle of the roofline. Scrolled wooden brackets, painted a darker gray, adorn the second story eave, as well as the gables and dormers.

David Goerz designed the landscaping for the house, and originally the west yard had 12 trees planted in a semi-circle to represent the 12 apostles.[1] Today a semi-circular walkway remains on the west lawn, arching from one end of the lot to the other from College Avenue. At the top of the arch are the steps leading to the front door on the west façade.

West Elevation
The west elevation is five bays wide. The northern most bay is a single story addition with a hipped roof. The second bay is very simple with one window each on the first and second floor. Formed by a front cross gable that projects out a few feet, the third bay has a small window in the third level gable end and a much larger window on the other two floors. All are one over one double hung. Projecting out from the third bay and running along the remaining two bays is the 1915 porch. The Doric columns of the porch are fluted down to the railing, and then are cylindrical, ending in a base that rests on the wood plank flooring. The wooden railing is very plain with rectangular balusters. A small stained glass window in the second floor forms the fourth bay at the north end of the porch. Before the 1915 changes, this window was a full size one over one. The southern most bay starts in the third level with a gabled dormer window that was added when the home was used as a dormitory by Bethel College. The rest of the bay consists of a window on the second floor and the projecting entryway on the first.

North Elevation
The north elevation begins on the east side with a cross section of the enclosed porch that runs two stories. The band of windows at both levels begins on this façade and wraps around the east and the south of the porch. This addition abuts the first bay of the original house which has one, one over one window on the first and second floors. It mirrors the westernmost bay of this façade. The middle bay of the original house is very large, jutting out from the rest of the structure under a cross gable. The second and third levels each have a centered window, while the first level consists of the one story addition. This addition has a hipped roof, and two windows- one centered horizontally and one on the west end. The wood cresting is easily visible from this view, as are the scrolled brackets in the gabled end and the second story eave.

East Elevation
The most complex of the facades, the east elevation has five irregular bays. The southernmost begins at the third level in an added gable dormer with double windows that are centered over the first and second bays. This dormer does not have the scrolled brackets decorative. The first and second levels of this section each have a one over one window. Projecting from the first level is the 1915 porch that then wraps around to the south. A wooden stairway

and railing lead off the porch here into the east lawn. The second bay is composed of a bay window that runs two stories and projects slightly. Each story has a band of three, one over one windows. Originally the third bay started in a third level cross gable and continued down to windows in the second story and a porch on the first. The porch has since been enclosed through the second story and each level has a band of five openings. The second floor is all windows, and the bottom floor is a door in the center with two windows one either side. Unlike the rest of the house, which is limestone, the foundation for this porch is brick, and the roof is almost flat. A set of cement steps with no railing leads from this porch. The fourth bay consists of one window each on the first and second floors, the first floor window being somewhat smaller and off center. The final bay is a single door that begins at ground level rather than above the water table in the one story addition on the north.

South Elevation
The wrap around porch and porte cochere dominates this façade. On the east end is a third level cross gable with centered window. The first and second levels also have one window each in this bay. A second bay on the west has two windows on the second floor centered over a single one on the first. The porte cochere is truly an extension of the porch. Although it has no railing, the Doric columns are fluted down to where one would be. The entablature also matches with dentils in the cornice and plain bands in the frieze. Centered on this elevation are steps leading down from the porch to a drive.

Interior:

The interior of the home has also gone through some changes. However, a restoration effort in 1993 has returned most of the original look. Ten-inch baseboards run throughout the house, and many of the rooms feature crown molding. Door and window surrounds mirror those on the exterior with a slightly overhanging cornice above a frieze.

Main Level
Entryway: The present entry into the Goerz House is located on the south end of the west façade. A pair of wood panel doors with sidelights opens into a vestibule approximately four feet deep. A second set of doors with sidelights then opens into the foyer.

Foyer: In the foyer one gets the first sense of the grandeur of the home. The main staircase is located to the immediate left upon entering, and the ten foot ceilings outlined with crown molding, coupled with the ten inch baseboards, welcomes the visitor in style. Although believed to be painted at one time[2], the woodwork is now a natural stain. The floorboards are oak and run continuously north and south through the foyer into the dining room to the north. Through a set of French doors on the east wall, directly across from the entryway, one can enter the living room.

Living Room: Originally planned as two rooms- a sitting room and a parlor, the living room runs the length of the foyer and can also be entered from the west through a swinging door in the dining room. This room has beamed

ceilings and wood floors. At the north side of the east wall in the bay window is a window seat, and to the north of that is a built in bookcase. The north wall features a brick fireplace with monochromatic detailing and a tile hearth. A swinging door to the east of the fireplace leads into the kitchen.

Kitchen: A modern renovation, the kitchen has no crown molding, but does have baseboards to match the rest of the house. New cabinets line the walls, but the door and window surrounds also match the other rooms. The east wall holds the door to the enclosed porch, and the north wall has doorways leading to a secondary stair, a small guest bath, and the laundry room. A doorway on the west wall leads into the dining room.

Porch: The enclosed porch has a painted wood floor and a bead board ceiling.

Laundry Room: This room is part of the one story addition on the north of the house. The basement stairs lead off from the east side of this room, with a door leading outside located at the landing.

Bathroom: This additional bath has been carved out of other rooms. It has modern fixtures and finishes.

Dining Room: The dining room also features a beam ceiling, and a recessed arch on the east wall. The arch, which at one time may have held a gas fireplace,[3] now is filled with a buffet table and cabinets. Doors on the north and south of the arch lead into the kitchen and living room respectively. On the north wall are a pair of French doors that lead into a small study.

Study: Shown on the original plans as a pantry, this small room was once used as a sewing room and now as an office. There are built-in shelves in the northeast corner that match the shelves in the living room.

Second Level
The stairway deposits the visitor facing east in the second level hallway which runs north and south. A bathroom is located to the north, and bedrooms to the east and south.

Southwest Bedroom: Called the Den, this room is the smallest of the bedrooms. It features a stenciled border painted just below the ceiling, and is the only bedroom on this level without its own bath.

Southeast Bedroom: The Master suite, this room has the bay window and an attached bath.

Bathroom: Remodeled by Bethel College, this room has a tile floor and serves as the "public bath" for this floor.

Northeast Bedroom: This room is ell shaped with an added bath cutting out the two legs. The entrance to the sun porch is on the east wall.

Sun Porch: Located directly over the first story enclosed porch, this room has wood flooring and a board and batten ceiling pattern.

Northwest Bedroom: Originally the maid's room, this bedroom also has its own bath. The secondary stairs to the first level are located outside this room.

Third Level
The stairs to the third level are located in the second level hallway. This floor is currently being remodeled. Originally one open room, it was divided into several smaller ones during the time the home was used as a dormitory.

Basement: The basement is unfinished, with the walls being plaster over the limestone foundation. The floors are cement. The heating and air conditioning units are housed here.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The David Goerz house meets Criteria B and C for listing on the National Register in that it is associated with David Goerz, a person who is significant to the history of Bethel College, Newton, and the surrounding area, and because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of Queen Anne architecture and was designed by architect Elbert Dumont.

The Queen Anne style was popular in the United States from about 1880-1910. The pre-dominant feature of Queen Anne homes is an asymmetrical variation of plan and texture. This is accomplished through steeply pitched hipped roof with asymmetrical lower cross gables, bay windows and wall projections, and patterned shingles. Goerz House fits this characteristic in that each of the four facades has a lower cross gable, and the front and rear facades have a wall projection and bay window respectively. Originally, the home had fish scale shingles in the gable ends, but these have since been removed.

The porch of a Queen Anne home is also distinctive. They always cover the front entrance area and often extend along one or both sides of the house. Originally the Goerz House porch fit the Spindlework subtype of Queen Annes, but the current porch fits the Free Classic subtype. This subtype was popular after 1890 and features classical columns commonly grouped in units of two or three, and cornice-line dentils.[4]

Given the time period, this was the obvious style to choose when Elbert Dumont (1847-1904) designed the home for Reverend David and Helene Goerz in 1893. Dumont was a well known Wichita architect who moved to Wichita in 1883 and from that time until his death in 1904 was "a prominent architect and had made the plans for a number of the best buildings in Wichita and southern Kansas."[5] Along with his partner, C.W. Terry, Dumont designed the Carey House Hotel (NRHP) just east of downtown Wichita, and the W.K. Carlisle House (Local Register Property) on North Emporia. On his own, Dumont designed the St. Mark Catholic Church in Colwich (NRHP) and as stated in his obituary, "many of the city's (Wichita) handsomest buildings are the result of his architectural taste."[6] The end result has left a fine structure, but one can only guess how Dumont's "architectural taste" met with Goerz's more simple Mennonite values.

Elbert Dumont was a well known Wichita architect who moved to Wichita in 1883 and from that time until his death in 1904 was "a prominent architect and had made the plans for a number of the best buildings in Wichita and southern Kansas."[7] Along with his partner, C.W. Terry, Dumont designed the Carey House Hotel (NRHP) just east of downtown Wichita, and the W.K. Carlisle House (Local Register Property) on North Emporia. On his own, Dumont designed the St. Mark Catholic Church in Colwich (NRHP) and, as stated in his obituary, "many of the city's (Wichita) handsomest buildings are the result of his architectural taste."[8] The end result has left a fine structure, but one can only guess how Dumont's "architectural taste" met with Goerz's more simple Mennonite values.

David Goerz was born in Berdjansk, Russia in June 1849. Thus began the life of a man devoted to the Mennonite people. Goerz was to become instrumental in the immigration and settling of Mennonites in Kansas, and in their

proper education. The founding and continuation of Bethel College became his most treasured legacy, and without a doubt, the college owes much of what it is today to this man.

During David's 18th year he began teaching in Berdjansk as a private tutor, and in the same year he was baptized, an experience that he described as "wonderful." He married Helene Riesen in June 1870. In 1872, David's friend, Bernhard Warkentin, went to visit North America. In Bernhard's correspondence to David, he would describe the people that he met, the prairie states and what those who might want to settle there could expect. David would spend much time copying these letters, giving them to those people that were seriously thinking of moving to the new country.[9]

In November 1873, David and Helene Goerz arrived in New York and proceeded to Summerfield, Ill. David taught in a Mennonite school there. In 1875, they moved with a group of Summerfield Mennonites to Kansas and settled in Halstead, where he served as editor of *Zur Heimath* (A newspaper that catered to the Mennonite community.), manager of the Western Publishing House, and secretary to the Mennonite Board of Guardians- the American Mennonite agency set up to aid the newly immigrated Mennonites from Russia.[10] David served as agent and secretary of this board for 16 years.[11]

In 1877, David was instrumental in organizing the Mennonite Teacher's Conference of Kansas, which led to the organization of the Kansas Conference that later became the Western District Conference.[12] During this time, he was in the midst of the discussion among Kansas Mennonites regarding the possibility of a new school. He was elected in 1878, along with six others, to plan for the proposed school. After considerable planning and discussion for a "continuation school," the Emmental School opened its doors for one year in the Alexanderwohl community in Marion County. Upon the closing of Emmental School, Goerz was a central figure in the organizing of the Halstead College Association.[13] The Halstead College Association was incorporated on 5 May 1883, with Bernhard Warkentin as president and Goerz as secretary.[14] On 16 September 1883, Halstead Seminary was dedicated. Visitors gathered for morning services at the Mennonite church in Halstead and after the Sunday school session, Goerz spoke on behalf of the building committee, taking as his text Psalm 127:1; "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it."[15] The support of Halstead Seminary was sometimes uncertain, and when the congregations of the Kansas Conference failed to raise the budget, Goerz dreamed of collecting an endowment fund which would make the school more self-supporting. At the very time the Kansas Mennonites were struggling with the financial problems of the Seminary, an offer came from "The Newton College Association" to locate a Mennonite college in Newton. A special session of the Conference was called on 27 April 1887, to consider the offer.[16] The request from the Newton Association was "to build and maintain a first-class college in Newton."[17]

At the conference, Goerz, Warkentin and J.J. Krehbiel were given the tasks of accepting the Newton offer and forming an association. They set to work immediately and by 23 May 1887, a charter was filed with the Secretary of State of Kansas. The charter became operative on the date of its being filed. Goerz served as secretary on

Bethel's first board of directors and was the primary fundraiser on Bethel's behalf.

In July and August 1888, Goerz made a trip to the eastern United States to create interest in the Kansas venture. The purpose of that visit was three-fold: 1) to visit Mennonite congregations in the East to create a personal interest in Bethel College; 2) to invite visitors from the East to the cornerstone laying; and; 3) to obtain concessions from railroads for the occasion of the cornerstone laying. In this last effort he was favored by the fact that two District Conferences - the Kansas Conference and the Western District Conference, had scheduled their meetings in Kansas and Iowa respectively to occur within ten days of the date of the cornerstone laying. On this trip alone he secured memberships in the Corporation to the amount of over $10,000, and within two months after the subscription lists had been opened, more than one-half of the $50,000 required for the endowment fund had been subscribed.

Difficulties were experienced in the effort to secure rates on railroads. However, half rates were secured over several railroads with stopover privileges which enabled purchases of tickets to attend all three meetings mentioned. Goerz played up the slogan "Three Occasions in One" to good advantage.[18]

The Bethel College cornerstone was laid on 12 October 1888. It was celebrated with an elaborate program. There were an estimated 2,500 people in attendance. During this event, people had the opportunity to contribute to Bethel College. At the end of the day, the contributions totaled to over $5,000.[19] The depression set in and there was a standstill of 5 years before the building of Bethel College was completed. The building was dedicated on 20 September 1893.[20] Goerz served as the first business manager until ill health overtook him in 1910.[21]

When the need for a girls' dormitory became acute, Goerz spoke to Peter Jensen, well-known in governmental circles, and urged him to write Andrew Carnegie. Jensen wrote Carnegie and received a reply that held little promise of a gift. Goerz would not give up and insisted on further negotiations. Goerz's persistence, through Jensen, finally brought a gift of $10,000 for the dormitory later known as Carnegie Hall.[22]

David Goerz built his home, now known as Goerz Hall, in 1893. When the home was built it was used as the primary residence of Goerz and his family. Five years after being built, Goerz listed the cash value of the house at $5,000 and the assessed value at $1,000. He insured the structure for $2,500 with Mennonite Mutual Insurance.[23]

Goerz had organized the Mennonite Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the protection of early pioneers exposed to devastating prairie fires. This company later became the Midland Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Newton, Kansas and in 1967 merged with the Farm Bureau Mutual Ins. Co., Manhattan, Kansas.[24]

In 1897 Goerz became pastor of the Bethel College Mennonite Church. During the years that David Goerz was active in both the ministry and in promotion of the new college, he was pioneering in yet another cause. Goerz had

early developed an interest in home and foreign missions. He read many articles and reports on deaconess work and how it would fit in with home missions. The more he read the more interested he became. Goerz acted upon his interest. In 1900, Miss Frieda Kaufman made application to Goerz to be accepted as a student of Bethel College, preparatory to entering the deaconess profession. The Bethel College board of directors incorporated Bethel Deaconess and Hospital Society on 13 March 13 1903, as a branch of the Bethel College Corporation.[25] Its stated purpose was to meet the increasing physical needs of the people in this new country and to provide young women with a new avenue of church service through the female deaconate. Three decades later, Sister Frieda wrote that Goerz was not concerned "with establishing professional nursing as a vocation among the Mennonites. He wanted young women to serve in varied labors of love under the auspices of and in connection with the church - to give the world a definite Christian testimony both in service and in calling." On 17 March 1905, a resolution was passed: "That the board is of the opinion that the Bethel Deaconess Foundation and Hospital Society should take over active operations in this matter in view of its incorporation and in accordance with the aims and purposes stated in its charter."[26] Bethel Hospital merged with Axtell Hospital in the 1990s and then became what is now known as Newton Medical Center, located at 600 Medical Center Drive.

David Goerz continued to serve Bethel College until 1910, when ill health overtook him. That year he visited Palestine and on his return retired to Colorado and later to California in the hopes of improving his health. Upon his death, David Goerz called his son Rudolph Goerz to his side and asked, "You willdo for our Bethel what you can, won't you?" On being reassured by Rudolph that he would do what he could, David Goerz smiled and breathed his last, passing away on 7 May 1914, in Upland, California.[27]

On Tuesday, 12 May 1914, the *Evening Kansan Republican* printed the following obituary:

> Founded Three Institutions - Rev. David Goerz' life was one of constant achievement. The memorial address by Reverend Kliewer was a most eloquent one, in which he told briefly of the life of the great worker, Rev. Goerz, and of some of his achievements in his work for the good of his fellow churchmen, the Mennonite people, in settling in this country, his work in founding the college and Bethel hospital, and the Mennonite Mutual Insurance Co., and his faithful laboring for the maintenance of these institutions.[28]

The last paragraph in Edmund Kaufman's *General Conference Pioneers, David Goerz,* states: Today this outstanding man lives on in countless ways because of his concern for immigrant pioneers, church cooperation, missions and relief, the pastoral ministry, higher education, publishing, hospital work, and music. He broke new ground among American Mennonites in helping to found institutions and organizations that are still flourishing today. The General Conference Mennonite Church has been greatly blessed by this one man's creative Christian life.[29]

The home continued to serve the Mennonite people even after David's death. Rudolph Goerz and his family had moved into the home during his father's illness. Rudolph and his wife were active entertainers and supporters of

Bethel College. Frequently, students from the college would be invited over for a meal. At the same time, Bethel College was growing. Student housing was becoming a problem. Rudolph offered the property to Bethel College in 1921. The property was valued at $15,500, but Rudolph offered the home to the College for $10,500. In large part for sentimental reasons, the money was raised and the home became the property of Bethel College. One writer noted "there was so much of the history of Bethel College wrapped up with the home of Rev. David Goerz that it would have seemed wrong not to have it as part of the campus proper."[30]

The official dedication of Goerz Hall (as the college now called the home) occurred on Founder's Day, 12 October 1921. The ceremonies were held on the front lawn and were in honor of the three men who had been influential in the founding of Bethel College: David Goerz; Bernard Warkentin, and J.J. Krehbiel. After several brief speeches Goerz Hall "was thrown open to visitors" and the day closed with a picnic on the lawn.[31]

While used mainly as a dormitory until 1963, Goerz Hall was also used by students as a place to study, and as the College infirmary. The first floor also served as faculty housing, and the voice instructor of Bethel College from 1921-1923, J.O. Kesselring, lived in the home. Kesselring wrote the play *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and it is believed he fashioned the window seat in that play after the one in the living room of Goerz Hall.

In 1963, the Western District Conference moved their offices into the first floor of the home. In 1976, the building was leased entirely to the Western District Conference. At this time the third floor was sub-leased and the second floor was reserved for overnight guests of the Conference. In 1988, the Conference moved their offices to Main Street in North Newton. During its centennial year, the home was restored, and has since been used as a guesthouse for the college. For almost 110 years, Goerz House has stood as a testament to a man and the Mennonite community he loved so well.

Endnotes

1. Kristine Smucker, "Goerz Hall: A History," (Research Paper for Bethel College History Department, 1992), 3.
2. Ibid, 6.
3. Ibid, 5.
4. Virginia and Lee McAlester, "A Field Guide to American Hosues," (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), 263-68
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. *Wichita Eagle and Beacon*, 10 November, 6.
8. Ibid.
9. Edmund G. Kaufman, *General Conference Mennonite Pioneers* (North Newton: Bethel College, 1973), 148.
10. *Mennonite Encyclopedia*, volume II, 536.
11. Kaufman, 149.
12. *Mennonite Encyclopedia*, volume II, 536.
13. *The Newton Kansan*, 6 October 1987, 8B.
14. Peter J. Wedel, *The Story of Bethel College* (North Newton; The Mennonite Press, 1954), 25-26.
15. Ibid, 28.
16. Kaufman, 150.
17. Wedel, 28.
18. Ibid, 57.
19. Ibid, 62.
20. Kaufman, 151.
21. Ibid, 152-154.
22. Ibid.
23. Smucker, 2.
24. Kaufman, 150.
25. Wedel, 162.
26. Ibid., 162-63
27. Kaufman, 154.
28. *Evening Kansan Republican,* 12 May 1914, obituary of Rev. David Goerz.
29. Kaufman, 154.
30. Ibid, 8-9.
31. Ibid.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property stands on Lot G 8, Block 1, Goerz addition, North Newton. The property sits on the northeast corner of College Avenue and Twenty-fourth Street and is part of the Bethel College campus. Neighboring buildings also have ties to the college. Leisy House, a foursquare built in 1915 for additional student housing, stands to the south. To the north is Bethel College Mennonite Church, and to the west and south are the homes of Bethel professors B.F. Welty (also converted for student housing) at 2505 N. College, and P.J. Wedel at 2427 N. College.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries identified for the nominated property are historically associated with it.