NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Expires 10-31-87

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

received

date entered

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

103-3020-~~0012~~ 0134

historic Merritt Insley House and Outbuildings

and or common Same

2. Location

street & number 602 Seneca Street ___ not for publication

city, town Leavenworth ___ vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Leavenworth code 103

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name M/M Leo Bodde

street & number 602 Seneca Street

city, town Leavenworth ___ vicinity of Kansas state 66048

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Leavenworth County Courthouse

city, town Leavenworth state Kansas 66048

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Leavenworth Historic Resource Survey has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date 1986 ___ federal ___ state ___ county X local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society, 120 West Tenth

city, town Topeka state Kansas 66612

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

House - 103-3020-0015
Carriage House - 103-3020-0018
Outhouse - 103-3020-0021
Fence - 103-3020-0024
Brick Sidewalks - 103-3020-0029

The Merritt Insley House (ca. 1860, 1865-1866, 1883), the carriage house (ca. 1873), the outhouse (ca. 1865-1866), the cast iron fence (ca. 1865-1866), and the brick sidewalks (ca. 1880s) are located at 602 Seneca Street in Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas (pop 34,450). The complex is situated on a .41 acre tract two blocks north of Leavenworth's traditional and present central business district. The two-story, brick Italianate house stands on the southeast corner of the lot with a southern facade orientation. The one-story, wooden Carpenter Gothic carriage house stands northwest of the house. The one-story, brick outhouse stands directly north of the house. Both outbuildings have a southern facade orientation and abut the alley to their north. A cast iron fence and brick sidewalks border the property on its east and south sides, Fifth and Seneca Streets respectively. The western and northern property lines are bordered by a picket fence. An undeveloped lot abuts the western property line. The property maintains a high degree of architectural integrity, demonstrating few alterations.

The Merritt Insley House was constructed in two major phases, with the present two-story, brick rear wing completed in 1860. This unstylized component is ell shaped with an eastern facade orientation. The two-story, brick Italianate cube was added to the south wall of the ell's main leg in 1865 and 1866, rotating the main facade orientation from the east to the south. In 1883, a one-and-a-half-story, five-sided bay was added to the center of the cube's western wall. This projection houses a staircase. The cube measures approximately thirty-seven feet from the east to the west by thirty-seven feet from the north to the south. The ell measures approximately thirty-and-one-half feet from the north to the south by twenty-eight-and-one-half feet from the east to the west.

The three-bay, Italianate cube sits on a coursed limestone block foundation with a cut limestone watertable. Its truncated hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles; the house was originally roofed with wooden shingles. Large, wooden jigsawn brackets support the wide, overhanging eaves on all four sides of the cube. A dentilled cornice runs between the brackets. There are four interior chimney flues, one near each corner on the east and west walls, but only the northwest chimney remains. Photos of the house taken in the 1870s and 1890s show chimneys with corbelled pots in each of the four corners of the cube. The same photographs indicate that the brick body of both the Italiante cube and the original brick ell were painted a light grey with darker grey stone and wood trim. The building is now totally white.

The rear wing stands lower than the Italianate addition and its eastern wall is recessed from the addition. The wing sits on a limestone block foundation. A ridge-hipped roof covers its main leg, its two-story projection and one-story extension are gable roofed. These asphalt shingled roofs were once covered with wooden shingles. Large wooden brackets support the wide, overhanging roof eaves on the

main leg's east, north, and west elevations. These were added during the 1865-1866 construction. Brick chimneys with interior flues project from the mid-section of the northern wall and from the apex of the two-story gable. These chimney pots were once corbelled.

The building's southern elevation is comprised of the three-bay, equally spaced facade of the Italianate cube, the two southern sides of the one-and-a-half-story, five-sided bay which projects from the western wall, and the one-and-two-story gabled ell projections. The first level of the Italiante cube's facade is comprised of an arched double door with an ornate limestone surround in the western bay and two identical, 1/1 double hung, segmentally arched windows with limestone surrounds in the center and eastern bays. The second level is comprised of three equally spaced 1/1/1 triple hung, round arched windows with limestone surrounds. These fenestration units stand directly above the first level openings. The window surrounds are multiply moulded, with shouldered architraves at the top and bottom of the stiles. There is a drip stone under the corner of each sill and there are keystones in the center of each round arch. Photographs from the 1870s and 1890s show that the windows on the south and east elevations of the Italianate cube were 1/1 double hung. The segmental arches on the first level and the round arches on the second level have been filled in with metal or wooden units, squaring the arches out. The segmentally and round arched windows on the west and east sides of the cube are also filled in with metal or wooden units.

The round arched front doorway on the southern elevation is recessed. A classically inspired carved limestone door surround projects from the building's body. Heavily carved and panelled wooden double doors surmounted by a wooden architrave and round arched, etched glass transom fill the doorway space. The property's street number, "602", is etched into the center of the transom light. Floral and leafy patterns combined with a geometric pattern are etched around the number. The geometric motif, a linear design broken by circles, is repeated in various forms on the door and its surrounds. The doors are divided into two segments. The upper segment measures approximately two-thirds of the door's height and is comprised of a rectangular panel with half circle, projecting stiles which stand on and support multiply moulded base and architrave units. An arched panel projects from within this defined space. The lower segment is comprised of a narrow, applied piece of wood employing the geometric motif. Below this is a rectangular recessed panel and below that, an undecorated baseboard.

The doorway's round arch is broken by a scrolled keystone, which raises to "support" the architrave. Recessed spandrel panels flank the arch. This treatment merges with a multiply moulded, wooden surround for the doorway's immediate opening. The wooden architrave which separates the door from the transom employs the geometric motif.

The limestone surround is composed of stiles with an elliptical moulding whose center is broken by a recessed circle with multiple interior mouldings. The surround stands atop the watertable, which is incorporated into the surround's projection. Acanthus leaf consoles support the multiply moulded architrave. A limestone, fleur-de-lis ornament sits atop the architrave's center.

The two walls of the five-sided stairway projection have no fenestration. The bay has a bracketed cornice line and sits on a limestone block with a limestone watertable.

The one-and-two-story gabled wing that projects from the main leg of the ell is fenestrated with three, 6/6 double hung windows with wooden, louvered shutters. The two-story elevation has a window on each level, the one-story elevation has one window in its center.

The eastern elevation of the building is comprised of the four-bay, Italianate cube and the three-bay ell. Fenestration on the cube echoes the facade, with four segmentally arched windows on the first floor and four round arched window directly above these on the second floor. However, neither grouping has stiles. The fenestration arrangement employs a pair of windows in each corner and two pairs of windows grouped centrally.

The first level of the ell's eastern elevation is comprised of a door with three-quarterlength sidelights and a flat transom in the southern bay and a 2/2 double window with a limestone sill and a brick jack arch in the central and northern bays. The second level is comprised of a full length glass, double door in the southern bay and a 2/2 double hung window with a limestone sill and a brick jack arch in the central and northern bays. A one-story, flat roofed, wooden porch with columns, a dentilled cornice, and brackets spans the length of the facade, filling in the recessed space between the ell and the cube. An 1870s photograph shows that the porch had a balustrade.

Three major units comprise the building's northern elevation: the two-bay, two-story main leg of the ell to the east, the two-story, one-bay, gabled wing which projects from the main leg's west wall, and the one-story, one-bay, gabled wing which projects from the two-story wing's western wall. A double-penned, one-story, wooden porch spans the western half of the elevation. The fenestration treatments are 2/2 double hung windows with limestone sills and brick jack arches.

Three major units comprise the building's western elevation: the three-bay Italianate cube to the south, the ell's main leg which projects from the cube's northern wall, and the gabled wings which project from the main leg's west wall. The cube's elevation is divided into thirds; two, 2/1 double hung windows with limestone sills and brick jack arches pierce the first and second levels of the cube's northern third. A one-and-a-half story, five-sided bay projects from the cube's center. A 1/1 rectangular casement window with a limestone sill centrally pierces the bay's flat western plane. The southern third of the cube is unfenestrated. Two, 2/2 double hung windows with limestone sills and brick jack arches comprise the main leg's fenestration. One, 2/2 double hung window with a limestone sill and a brick jack arch comprise the fenestration on the one-story gable end wing. The two-story gable wing has no fenestration on the western elevation. A closed in wooden porch projects from the northern wall of the gable.

The floorplan of the Merritt Insley House is assymetrically comprised of rectangular spaces. The cube has five spaces on each floor. A front hallway with a vestibule entry and staircase stands in the southwestern corner of the cube's first level. A dining room stands behind it to the north. Two parlours comprise the first floor's eastern section. A bathroom stands in the center of the cube. On the second level, four bedrooms stand in each corner around an ell shaped hall. The wing abuts the cube along its hall, which runs the length of the wing from east to west. There are two entrances from the hall into the cube on each floor. The wing is divided into five main spaces on the first level and four spaces on the second level. A dining room, kitchen, and laundry abut the hall to the north and a study abuts the hall to the west on the first level. Two bedrooms divided by a bath abut the hall to the north on the second level.

The interior features of the Merritt Insley House exhibit Italianate and Eastlake design characteristics. The three-level, walnut staircase which stands in the western wall of the cube's front hall exhibits heavy Eastlake carving. A brass lamp with three glass globes sits atop the northern newel post. Until recently, a stained glass window showing a woman holding a lamp in her left hand and a horn in her right hand and wearing a star on her forehead stood in the landing window space. It was removed to protect it from possible wind damage. The two mahogany, arched and panelled double doors which lead from the vestibule into the front hall exhibit floral and geometric patterned etched glass in the two arched lights and in the fanlight. The marble fireplace surround in each of the two parlours and the cast iron fireplace surround in the wing's dining room have multiply moulded, arched center openings. Initially they accomodated coal. Large mirrors with carved walnut frames stand atop these mantles. The window surrounds in the cube are almost floor length and exhibit multiple mouldings with shouldered architraves. These surrounds contrast against the shorter, multiply moulded window surrounds in the wing. Door types in the house are panelled, hinged and sliding. Walnut baseboards with multiple mouldings are employed in both the cube and the wing. The wing's walnut staircase is straight, a brass lamp with a glass globe sits atop its newel post. The chandeliers which hang from the ceilings of the wing's dining room and the cube's parlours are brass and glass. All of the lighting fixtures were converted from gas to electric in the late Nineteenth Century.

The two-story, board and batten, ridge hipped roof cariage house has a southern facade orientation. Its asphalt shingled roof was orginally covered with wooden shingles. It measures thirty feet from the east to the west and twenty-six feet from the north to the south. Its three-bay facade is composed of a center, four panelled door flanked by two, 2/2 double hung windows on the first level. Small, pent roofed wooden canopies supported by wooden brackets shelter the windows and door. This treatment is shown in an 1895 photograph of the carriage house. A 2/2 double hung lancet window with a projecting, multiply moulded surround around its upper half pierces the wall above the door. A gable, with a pendant dropping from its vertex, further delineates the lancet window. Four wooden brackets support the overhanging eaves at the corners and below the gable. A fascia board runs beneath the roof on all elevations.

A pent roofed shed extends from the structure's western wall. Its southern elevation is comprised of two, four panelled doors separated by a thin strip of wood. The right triangled, tympanum area above the doors is made of a wooden jigsawn board employing a geometric repetition of a circle flanked by arrow heads. This design increases in size proportional to the height of the triangle.

The west elevation of the carriage house is comprised of the shed's wall surmounted by a short upper story, which contains a center, shuttered window. A wooden bracket supports the roof eaves in each corner. The northern elevation is comprised of the three-bay carriage house and the two-bay shed. The three-bay unit is comprised of a plank, double door with strap hinges in the center flanked by two windows of unequal size and surmounted by a shuttered window. A wooden bracket supports the overhanging eaves in each corner. The east elevation has no appointments.

An 1895 photograph of the carriage house shows the structure painted a double tone, likely a light grey body and a darker grey trim. The photograph also shows a chimney rising from the west roof slope and a finial ornament at the intersection of the gable and the hipped; these elements are non-extant. Additionally the photograph indicates that the shed did not have doors on the southern elevation and was attached to a row of stables. The stables ran from north to south and measured approximately thirty-eight feet by ten feet. The stables no longer stand.

The one-story brick hipped roof outhouse has a southern facade orientation. Its asphalt shingled roof was originally covered with wooden shingles. The dimensions of the outhouse are nineteen feet from the east to the west and twelve feet from the north to the south. The hipped roof has wide overhanging eaves and a fascia board. The outhouse's southern elevation is comprised of an arched door on the west side and a 9/6 double hung window on the east with a brick jack arch above it. The west elevation has a small, highly placed, single paned window with a jack arch above it on the southern side. The northern elevation faces the alley. Its elevation is comprised of center, wooden double doors that are hinged. The east elevation has no appointments. The interior space has been altered and is used for storage. The original layout provided for two interior privies, one for men and one for women and children. Trays below the floor caught the waste. These were coated with lime and emptied once a week out the alley door into the "honey wagon."

The cast iron fence that surrounds the property on the east and south sides is comprised of spikes between the turned, floral and vegetal patterned posts that mark the corners and sidewalk entries to the property. The decoration atop the gates is scrolled, fleur-de-lis inspired. The fence stands on a limestone block base.

Two additional structures stood on the property in the late Nineteenth Century. A six-sided, wooden gazebo stood just west of the cube's projecting stair bay. The gazebo appears in an 1890 photograph of the property. In 1882, a fountain was erected on the northeast corner of the property. Neither structure remains standing.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	X commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates ca. 1860–1883 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Merritt Insley House (ca. 1860, 1865-1866, 1883), the carriage house (ca. 1873), the outhouse (ca. 1865-1866), the cast iron fence (ca. 1865-1866), and the brick sidewalks (ca. 1880s) are being nominated to the National Register under criteria B and C for their historical association with Merritt Hitt Insley (1830-1909) and for their architectural significance. Insley was an entrepreneur and financier active in the Leavenworth (est. 1854) business community from his arrival in the late 1850s until the early 1890s. The Merritt Insley complex reflects the growth and prosperity of Leavenworth's first three decades; the Italianate house, the Carpenter Gothic carriage house, and the cast iron fence reflect nationally contemporary building and ornament designs. The complex maintains a high degree of historical and architectural integrity.

Insley, a native of Indiana, arrived in Leavenworth in 1857 or 1858. In 1866, Insley purchased the nominated property from John Kerr, a Leavenworth banker associated with Scott, Kerr and Company, for $20,000. Kerr had purchased the property in 1863 from the Levi Graybill estate for $1,500. At that time, only the two-story, brick, rear wing had been constructed. Kerr added the three-bay Italianate front, the decorative detailing, the outhouse, and the cast iron fence. Insley and his family lived in the residence until 1894, when financial difficulties forced the property's sale. Insley's association with the property spans the height of his productive career and the height of Leavenworth's economic boom.

Insley's initial Leavenworth business pursuit involved hotels, an affiliation which he pursued until at least 1861. In 1861, he accepted an appointment as Captain and Assistant Quarter Master in the United States Volunteer Army, stationed at Fort Leavenworth. In 1863, he resigned this post and accepted a commensurate appointment in the United States Regular Army, stationed at Fort Scott. He was honorably discharged from the army at the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865 and maintained an active relationship with various fraternal military organizations throughout his life.

Upon his return to Leavenworth, Insley pursued a variety of business interests. He was involved with a freighting and shipping company from 1865 until 1870 and was a managing editor of the Leavenworth Conservative from 1865 until 1868, a newspaper which later merged with D. R. Anthony's Leavenworth Times.

Between 1867 and 1872, Insley established the banking house of Insley, Shire and Company with Daniel Shire and E. F. Kellogg. The bank prospered during the 1870s and 1880s, benefitting from the local discovery of coal in 1869, its exploitation in the 1870s, and the industrial growth and railroad expansion which occurred in Leavenworth during the 1880s. Insley, Shire and Company merged with the First National Bank of Leavenworth in 1887. Reasons for the consolidation are not clear, nor is it clear whether Insley maintained any position within the First National Bank following the merger. Insley's son, Harry E. Insley, served as the bookkeeper for Insley, Shire and Company following Shire's death in 1882 until the 1887 consolidation.

Insley's personal investments appear to have been very much linked to the booming and development of Leavenworth. In the late 1870s and the early 1880s. Insley served as the treasurer for such local companies as the Missouri Valley Bridge Company, the Leavenworth City and Fort Leavenworth Waterworks, and the Leavenworth Gas and Light Company, the latter of which he was also the president of. In 1879, Insley donated a downtown lot for an opera house, the building was completed by 1881. In 1882, Insley, along with three other business partners, purchased the Leavenworth Sugar Company.

In 1888, the year following Insley, Shire and Company's sale to the First National Bank, the Leavenworth City Directory did not include banking among Insley's professional affiliations although he was listed as the treasurer for the Leavenworth City and Fort Leavenworth Waterworks, the Leavenworth Cattle Company, and the Riverside Coal Company. The 1889 directory indicates that Insley had established a real estate, loan, and brokerage business with Frederick M. Guion, this affiliation continued through the early 1890s. By 1890, Insley was also operating a brickyard at the Soldiers Home in Leavenworth, which produced some 30,000 bricks daily.

The Insleys sold their property at 602 Seneca Street in 1894 to Dr. William Walters and moved to a more modest residence at 615 Miami Street. In less than a year, the Insleys moved again, to 321 Pottawatomie Street, where Insley died in 1909. Insley's obituary in the Leavenworth Times notes that "...until a few years ago Captain Insley was truly a factor in the industrial life of this city...".

Dr. Walters practiced medicine and resided at 602 Seneca Street until his death in 1912. In 1920, his heirs sold the property to David and Amelia Henckes. The property remained in the Henckes family and has been the residence of Francis Henckes Bodde and her husband Leo Bodde since 1963.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .41 acre

Quadrangle name Leavenworth

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	334560	4353100
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property is a rectangular, .41 acre tract comprised of Lots 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 of Block 77 in Leavenworth, Kansas. It is bounded to the south by Seneca Street, to the east by Fifth Street to the north by an alley, and to the west by adjacent property lines.

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

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Martha Gray Hagedorn, Architectural Historian		
organization	Kansas State Historical Society	date	August 17, 1986
street & number	120 West Tenth	telephone	913 296-5264
city or town	Topeka	state	Kansas 66612

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date August 26, 1986

For NPS 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

Bibliography

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

Branton, Mrs. W. C. Personal photographs of the Merritt Insley Property, 1870-1895.

Leavenworth City Directories, 1858-1910.

Leavenworth County Deeds: 1854, 1858, 1863, 1894, 1920.

Leavenworth Times; 3 July 1879, 3 July 1882, 12 July 1882, 6 March 1909.

Leavenworth Water Permit #123.

Letham, Jonathon. Historical and Descriptive Review of Kansas. (Topeka: J. Letham, 1890).

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Journal of the Proceedings, Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting. (Philadelphia: 1909).

Winder, Mary Jo. "Merritt Insley House." (National Register nomination draft, 1985).

Merritt Insley Property
Leavenworth, Kansas
UTM Coordinates
15/334560/4353100
LEAVENWORTH
MISSOURI
KANSAS
Corral
Creek
Patton Jr High Sch
Waterworks
Riverfront Park
Boat Ramp
Centennial Bridge
Mud
Lake
Stillings
NORTH WESTERN
NORTHERN
Lincoln Sch
North Broadway Sch
Jefferson Park
St Josephs Sch
City Hall
Immaculate High Sch
Wollman Park
Courthouse
East Jr High Sch
Wilson Sch
Harnett Sch
Cushing Hospital
Third Avenue Sch
Hawthorne Park
Co Convalescent Infirmary
Sew Disp
Pilot Knob
High Sch
METROPOLITAN
PAWNEE
KIOWA
OTTAWA
OSAGE
SHAWNEE
CHEROKEE
SPRUCE
PENNSYLVANIA
REES
THORNTON
LINN
BROADWAY
GRANT
GRAND
MADISC
FRANKLIN
10TH
9TH
4TH
2D
5TH
13TH
R 22 E
R 23 E
R 36 W
R 35 W
T 8 S
T 9 S
14 MI. TO MO. 45
KANSAS CITY (VIA MO. 45) 27 MI.
(PLATTE CITY)
7062 IV SE