



KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CENTER FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH

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Certification of State Register Listing

The Register of Historic Kansas Places includes all Kansas properties nominated to the National Register as well as lower threshold properties which are listed on the state register only.

Property Name: Martha A. Kiefer House

Address: 1310 Central, Harper, Kansas

County: Harper

Owner: Melissa J. Lehr and Stephen P. Godfrey

Address: 1310 Central, Harper, Kansas

National Register eligible _____

State Register eligible _____

This property was approved by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review for the Register of Historic Kansas Places on November 17, 1990.

I hereby certify that this property is listed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Bannon Powers
State Historic Preservation Officer

Nov. 20, 1990
Date

The Martha A. Kiefer House (c. 1906-1907) is located at 1310 Central in Harper, Harper County, Kansas (pop. 1,823). The property is being nominated to the National Register for its architectural significance as a Queen Anne house. The house sits on a prominent corner lot in Harper, a period carriage stands to the rear of the property and is included in this nomination. The property maintains a very high degree of integrity.

Martha A. Kiefer lived the house from 1907-1917. The house may also be significant for its historical association with the Kiefer family and if substantive information on this point can be developed this association will also be justified. In 1910 Kiefer's Ford Car Company was located in Harper, but further information about the family has not yet been identified.

The Martha A. Kiefer House is a two-story, frame house surmounted by a steeply pitched, cross gabled roof that has an eastern facade orientation. It sits on a rusticated stone foundation. The house is an example of a late variant of the Queen Anne style that is commonly referred to as the Princess Anne style. The distinction found in the angularity of the design. Large gables, finished with fishscale shingles, define each elevation. The body of the house is sheathed with narrow clapboards. A porch spans the facade, supported by classical columns and incorporating a rounded pergola at the southern end. The combination of the large roof gables, multiple sheathings, and rusticated stone foundation provide the building with a rich textural diversity. The interior of the house exhibits an irregular floorplan, period mantles and light fixtures, and classical newel post. The property was substantially restored in 1985-1987 by the current owners, Melissa Lehr and Stephen Godfrey.

Fred Stearman designed the Kiefer House. Stearman was Lloyd Stearman's father, Lloyd was the first president of the Stearman Aircraft Company, which later became Boeing Aircraft Company.