

PH035094X

# DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 30 1976
DATE ENTERED	APR 11 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  
**\*\*** North River Stone Schoolhouse  
AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *N of Winterset off us 169*  
Douglas Twp., Sect. 2

CITY, TOWN Winterset

STATE Iowa

VICINITY OF

COUNTY CODE Madison

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT *5* Fifth

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input 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 Myles and Blair Young

STREET & NUMBER 73 W. Green St.

CITY, TOWN Winterset

STATE Iowa

VICINITY OF

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Madison Co. Court House

STREET & NUMBER City Square

CITY, TOWN Winterset

STATE Iowa

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The North River Stone Schoolhouse is a one-story rectangular building, 35' x 25', of coursed native limestone. The walls are 2 feet thick, and there is quoining on all corners. The east and west facades contain four windows each, capped with stone lintels. The doorway on the south facade is off-center to the right, and is similarly capped with a stone lintel. A central chimney surmounts the gable roof.

This one-room structure was renovated and restored during the period 1962-73, which included the pointing up of the building, new roof, ceiling, door and aluminum storm windows. The interior has been repainted, walls light gray, woodwork a darker shade of gray. These alterations have not destroyed the architectural integrity of the building. It is completely furnished as a usable schoolroom, and administered by the Madison County Historical Society

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD

PREHISTORIC  
 1400-1499  
 1500-1599  
 1600-1699  
 1700-1799  
 1800-1899  
 1900-

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  
 AGRICULTURE  
 ARCHITECTURE  
 ART  
 COMMERCE  
 COMMUNICATIONS

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING  
 CONSERVATION  
 ECONOMICS  
 EDUCATION  
 ENGINEERING  
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  
 INDUSTRY  
 INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
 LAW  
 LITERATURE  
 MILITARY  
 MUSIC  
 PHILOSOPHY  
 POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION  
 SCIENCE  
 SCULPTURE  
 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN  
 THEATER  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER (SPECIFY)

---

## SPECIFIC DATES

1874

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This structure was in continual use as a schoolhouse from its construction until 1945. It has been host to over 2500 visitors since being opened to the public in 1973, as a reminder of the educational heritage of rural Iowa.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Smith, Lloyd. Scenic Madison County. Winterset, Ia.: Joe Graham and Co., 1961.  
 School Records, County Superintendent's Office  
 Interview with Floyd Bennett

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

		2500			3700		
A	15	410250	4580360	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Henry C. Miller, Madison Co. Liaison Officer, Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION

Madison County Historical Society

DATE

10 April, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

515 W. Fremont St.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Winterset

STATE

Iowa

# 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Alvin B. Anderson*

TITLE

Director, Div. of Historic Preservation

DATE

4.22.76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF

*Key A. [Signature]*

DATE

4/11/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Charles [Signature]*

DATE

3.18.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Mickey Lutz

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	DEC 13 1976
DATE ENTERED	APR 11 1977

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

North River Stone Schoolhouse, Madison County, Iowa

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

Significance: (add: Architecture)

The North River Stone Schoolhouse is locally significant as a typical 19th-century Iowa rural school building. In design it is wholly characteristic: a small, box-like structure with gable roof, made of locally obtainable materials, in this case, limestone. The architectural feature which sets this school apart from others of its kind in the state is the quoining, which is exceedingly unusual, if not unique, in this type of building, and which suggests that its builder, stonemason David Harris, may have had training or experience beyond that of most builders of Iowa's rural schools. In 1875 this school was one of six, which were located at carefully-spaced intervals to allow equal access from all points in the township -- a distribution also typical of rural public educational facilities in Iowa. As many as five may still be in existence, although consolidation of rural schools has rendered all of them obsolete.

# Iowa Site Inventory

Office of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
East 12th & Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Site Number 76 N 28W - 2  
District Name Legacy In Stone TR  
Map Reference # 35

## Identification

1. Site Name North River School House  
2. Village/Town/City Vic. Winterset Township Douglas County Madison  
3. Street Address 4 Miles North on Highway 169; 1 1/2 Miles West  
4. Legal Location 76N 28W 2 SW 1/4 SE 1/4\*  
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel  
Rural: township range section 1/4 section of 1/4 section  
(Map 6)  
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 412,900 northing 4,583,770; Acreage less than one acre  
6. Owner(s) Name Miles Young III Blair Young, Vera Young Imogene Young  
7. Owner(s) Address 522 N. 6th Ave. Winterset IA 50273  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)  
8. Use: Present Museum Original School house

## Description

9. Date of Construction 1874 Architect/Builder David Harris  
10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling  industrial  other institutional  religious  
 multiple-family dwelling  educational  public  agricultural  
 commercial  
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other Native limestone  
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_  
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other \_\_\_\_\_  
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other \_\_\_\_\_

18. Map



19. Photo

Roll \_\_\_\_\_ Frame \_\_\_\_\_ View \_\_\_\_\_

\*Nomination boundary:

A circle, 150' diameter, with center point located at center point of building. Excludes outbuildings.

## **SIGNIFICANCE**

### **20. Architectural Significance**

—a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

—b. Contributing structure \_\_\_\_\_

Theme(s): Vernacular Architecture

Subtheme(s): Identified Master designer/builder: Harris; Function: Education

The North River Stone School House is an early and well preserved example of a vernacular one room school built of limestone. Although once there were at least 17 single cell stone school houses in Madison County, it is one of two extant buildings. It is the only extant one story single cell building with entrance at the side of the gable front. The most significant aspect of the building is that it is the only work attributed to the stone mason David Harris; thus it is key to these architectural comparisons which are the basis for identifying other buildings which Harris built. It is the key to understanding the stone building phenomena in the county. Notable features include those found in other Harris work including the design with entrance to the side of the gable front and protruding chamfered quoins.

The 23' x 33' one story gabled school with loft is constructed of finished cut and rubble limestone quarried a short distance east of the school. The south facade has a door at the right of the gable front. The east and west facades have four windows evenly spaced under the eaves. The north facade has a small window centered in the gable peak.

The south public facade is built of finished cut stone with exaggerated quarry face. Stonework is laid with two against one with broken bond within courses. Joints have been repointed. Quoins on the main facade are protruding and chamfered. The edges are is further cut away with draft lines so that the face of the stone protrudes. The face is tooled with a square ended implement. The facade has a protruding water table with axed texturing. The other facades are constructed of rubble with exaggerated quarry face. Stonework is laid with two against one bond between the quoins and the windows and is coursed between windows. Joints have been repointed. Quoins and jambs are finished cut stone with exaggerated quarry faced. Lintels and sills are dimension stone with axed texturing. The splayed windows are paneled with undecorated wood, and windows have four over four panes. The recessed door is paneled with a single wide board at the top and each side of the reveal. The transom has three panes. A very large flat finished cut stone forms a step and landing at the door. Overhanging eaves and verges are closed. There is coving where the soffit joins the wall, but no board against the stone. (Other stone buildings with this treatment have bargeboards.) The flue is centered in the gable ridge. Walls are plastered and there is vertical tongue and groove wainscoting to chair rail height.

This building is attributed to David Harris and evidences characteristics in common with other building in the county including side gable entrance, use of two against on broken bond and chamfered quoining.

### **21. Historical Significance**

—a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register

—b. Contributing Structure \_\_\_\_\_

Theme(s): Early Settlement

The building is one of at least 17 stone one room schools in the county. It was built in 1875 by David Harris.

Atlas of Madison Co., Iowa Philadelphia: Harrison & Warner, 1875

Davies, J. J. History and Business Directory of Madison Co., Ia. Des Moines: Mills and Co. Printers and Publishers, 1869.

Houlette, William D. "Madison County's Wonderful Stone Houses," The Iowan Vol. 2,  
No. 6 (August - September 1954) pp. 30 - 35.

National Register Nomination.

22.

**Sources**

Prepared by: Roslea Johnson  
Organization: Des Moines Area Community College  
Address: Public & Human Services  
2006 Ankeny Blvd  
Ankeny, IA 50021  
Date: November 1986  
Telephone: (515) 964-6310

Property North River Stone Schoolhouse

Madison

State Iowa

Working Number 4.30.76.3256

77000537

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 1  
Maps 1

*WTA express incident*

**CONTROL**

*OK - pl  
5.7.76*

*#8 too brief to be meaningful - call for more than...  
(photo before restoration is also needed to judge changes during restoration)*

**HISTORIAN**

*Accept  
W.R. Lee  
10/22/76*

- More history - expand statement of significance
- Any changes during restoration

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

*Call for more information then accept*

*called 2-2-76  
sent need 2-16-76  
Accept 2-26-76*

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*Accept  
Cole  
2-21-77*

*Accept*  
**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

*Hunt  
for Murray  
3-18-77*

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered APR 11 1977

Federal Register Entry 5-3-77

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

North River Stone Schoolhouse  
Douglas Twp., Madison Co., Iowa  
Credit: John Bishop  
Negative at: Madison County Historical Soc.,  
Winterset, Iowa

Date: 1975

View: from southwest to northeast

*1 of 1 photo*

APR 30 1976

DOE  
APR 11 1977



WORTH BERRY SCHOOLHOUSE  
BUILT 1870  
DONATED BY WORTH BERRY  
TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BY WILLIAM BERRY  
IN 1910

Legacy In Stone: The Settlement Era  
of Madison County Thematic Resource  
Nomination, Madison County, Iowa.  
Site Name: North River School House  
Site Address: vic. Winterset  
Site Number: 76N 28W-2  
Photo Number: ~~76~~ 35A  
By: Frank Hunter  
Date: 1983  
View: NW



NORTH RIVER SANDSTONE  
MADE IN  
INDIANA  
NORTH RIVER SANDSTONE  
MADE IN  
INDIANA  
NORTH RIVER SANDSTONE  
MADE IN  
INDIANA  
APR. 19 1917

Legacy In Stone: The Settlement Era  
of Madison County Thematic Resource  
Nomination, Madison County, Iowa.

Site Name: North River School House

Site Address: vic. Winterset

Site Number: 76N 28W-2

Photo Number: 35B

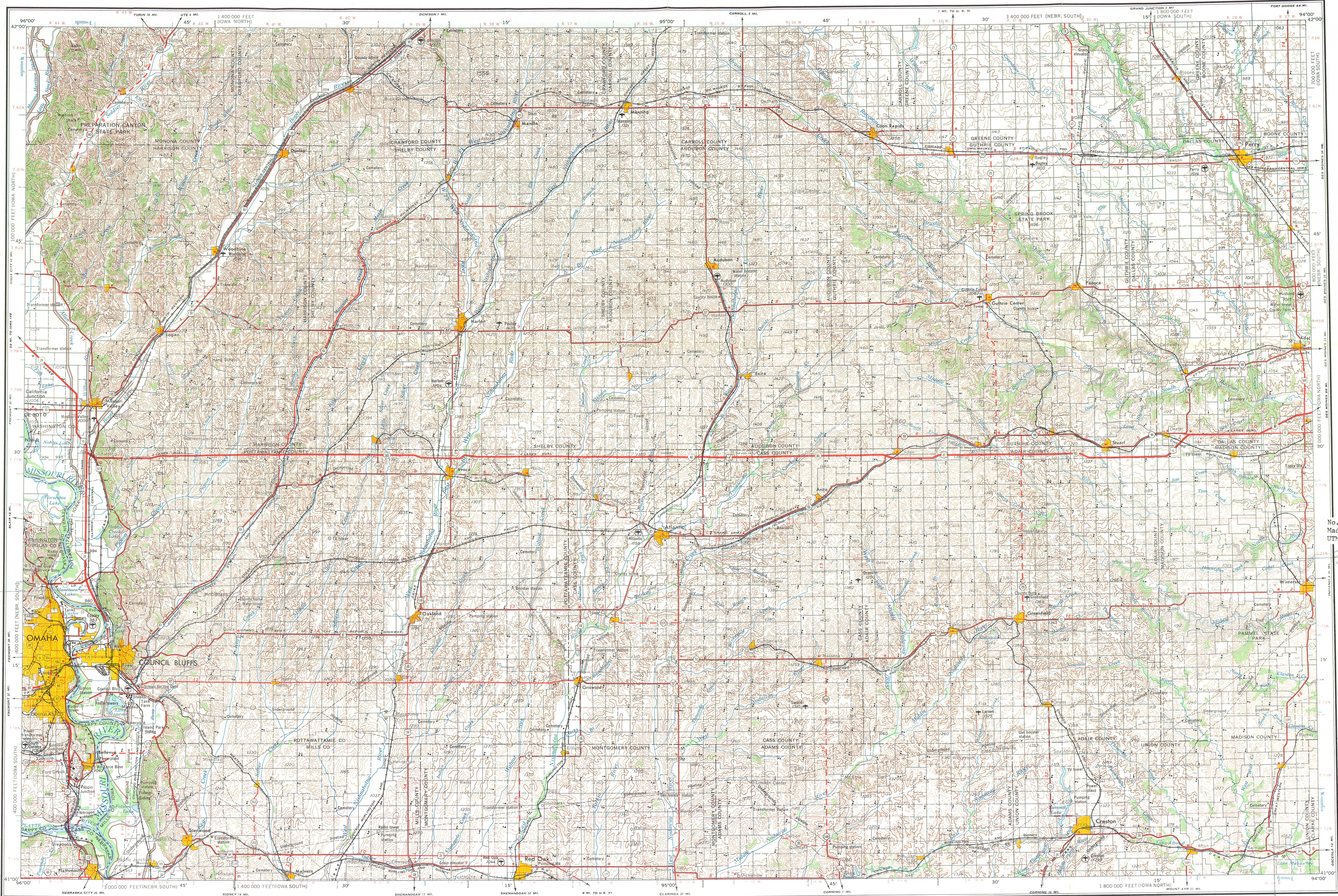
By: Frank Hunter

Date: 1983

View: NE



Legacy In Stone: The Settlement Era  
of Madison County Thematic Resource  
Nomination, Madison County, Iowa.  
Site Name: North River School House  
Site Address:  
Site Number: 76N28W-2  
Photo Number: ~~35A~~ 35C  
By: Roslea Johnson  
Date: December 1986  
View: Descriptive detail, showing  
tooling of chamfered quoins  
and watertable, view northeast



No. River Stone School  
 Madison County, Iowa  
 UTM: 15/410250/4580990  
 2500 5900



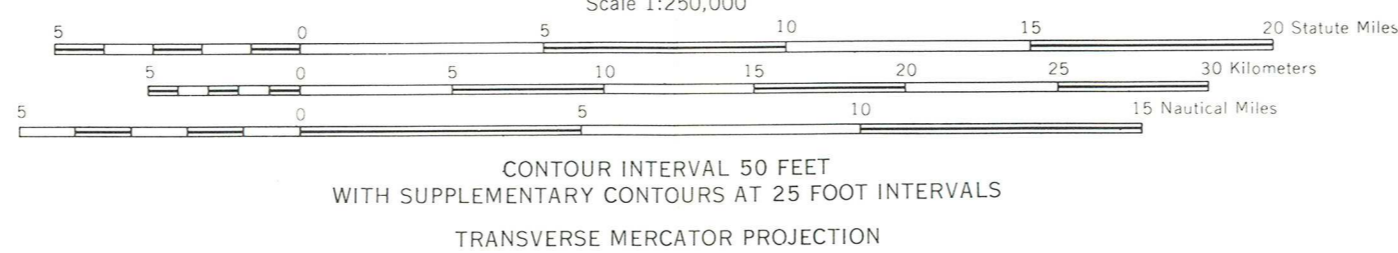
Prepared by the Army Map Service (AM), Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C. Compiled in 1953 by photogrammetric methods. Horizontal and vertical control by USGS, USC&S and USCE. Aerial photography 1949-50. Map field checked 1954. Limited revision by U.S. Geological Survey 1966.

**LEGEND**  
 ROAD DATA 1954 PARTIALLY REVISED 1966  
 Figures in red denote approximate distances in miles between stars

<b>POPULATED PLACES</b>	<b>ROADS</b>	<b>RAILROADS</b>	<b>LANDMARKS</b>
Over 500,000	Hard surface, heavy duty	Single track	School; Church; Other
100,000 to 500,000	More than two lanes wide	Double or Multiple	Horizontal control point
25,000 to 100,000	Two lanes wide; Federal route marker		Spot elevation in feet
5,000 to 25,000	Hard surface, medium duty		Marsh or swamp
1,000 to 5,000	More than two lanes wide		Intermittent or dry stream
Less than 1,000	Improved light duty		Power line
	Unimproved dirt		
	Trail		

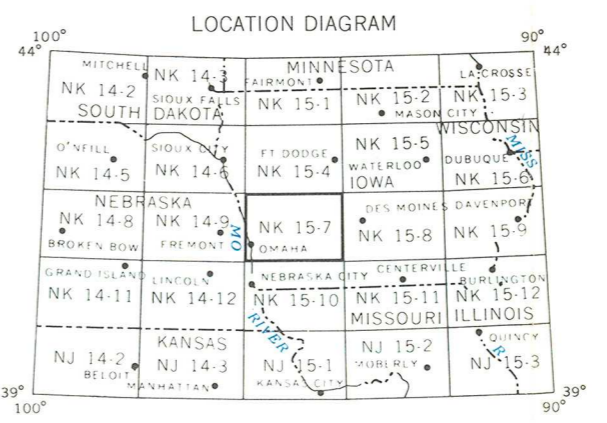
**BOUNDARIES**  
 International  
 State  
 County  
 Park or reservation

**Other Symbols:**  
 Landplane airport  
 Landing area  
 Seaplane airport  
 Seaplane anchorage  
 Woods/brushwood  
 Approximate road alignment



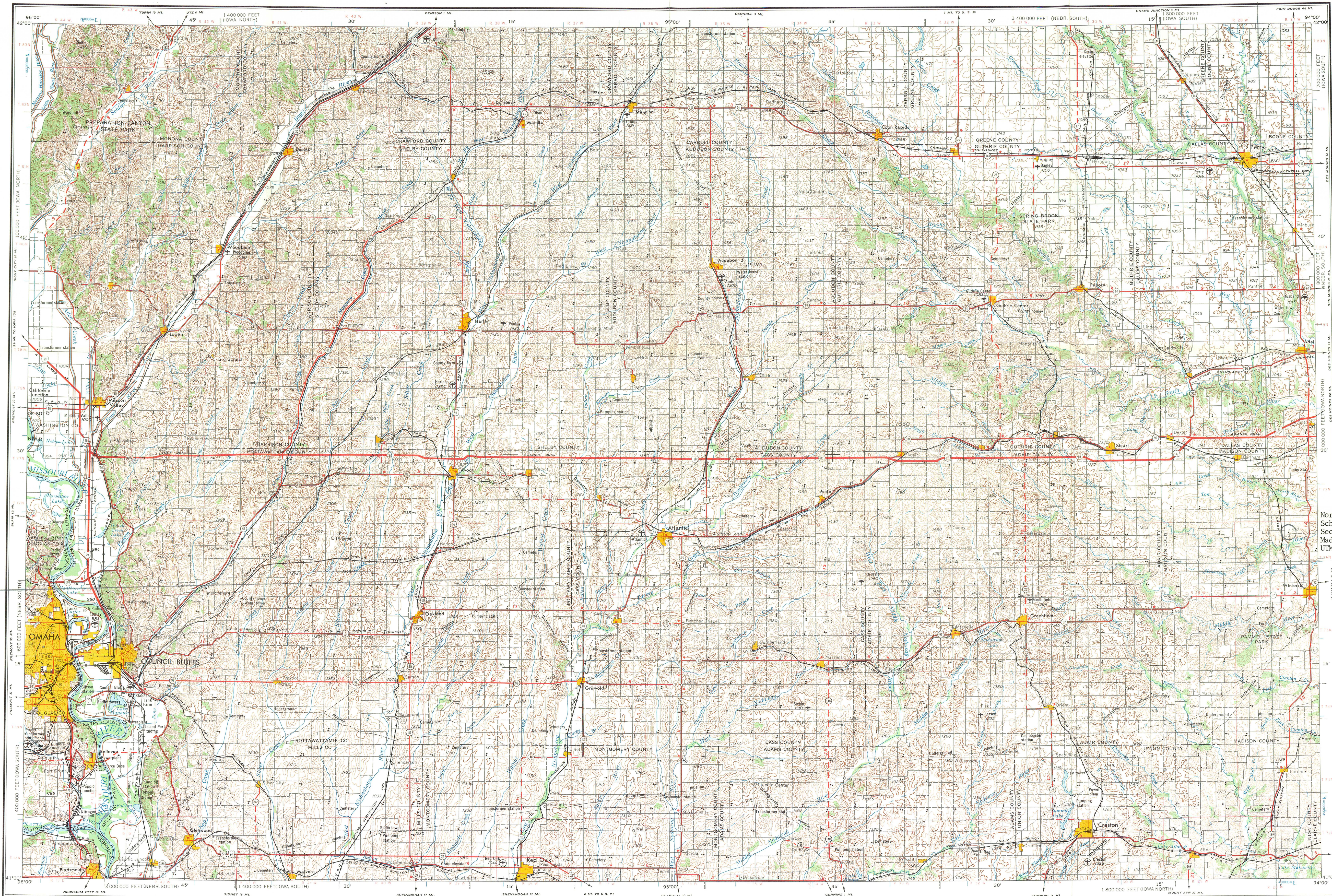
1985 MAGNETIC DECLINATION FROM TRUE NORTH FOR THIS SHEET VARIES FROM 8M° (150 MILS) EASTERLY FOR THE CENTER OF THE WEST EDGE TO 7°00' (120 MILS) EASTERLY FOR THE CENTER OF THE EAST EDGE.

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092



**SECTIONIZED TOWNSHIP**

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36



North River Stone  
 Schoolhouse.  
 Sec 2 Douglas Twp.  
 Madison County, Iowa  
 UTM 15/41Q25074580360

Prepared by the Army Map Service (AM), Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C. Compiled in 1953 by photogrammetric methods. Horizontal and vertical control by USGS, USC&GS and USCE. Aerial photography 1949-50. Map field checked 1954. Limited revision by U.S. Geological Survey 1966.

100,000-foot grids based on Iowa coordinate system, south and north zones and Nebraska coordinate system, south zone.  
 10,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue.

**ROAD DATA 1954**  
 Figures in red denote approximate distances in miles between stars

**LEGEND PARTIALLY REVISED 1966**

**POPULATED PLACES**  
 Over 500,000  
 100,000 to 500,000  
 25,000 to 100,000  
 5,000 to 25,000  
 1,000 to 5,000  
 Less than 1,000

**ROADS**  
 Hard surface, heavy duty  
 More than two lanes wide  
 Two lanes wide; Federal route marker  
 Hard surface, medium duty  
 More than two lanes wide  
 Two lanes wide; State, Interstate route markers  
 Improved light duty  
 Unimproved dirt  
 Trail

**RAILROADS**  
 Single track  
 Double or Multiple track  
 Standard gauge  
 Narrow gauge  
 Landplane airport  
 Landing area  
 Seaplane airport  
 Seaplane anchorage  
 Park or reservation

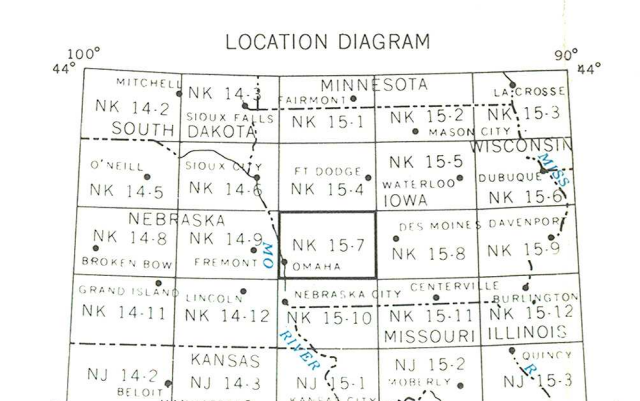
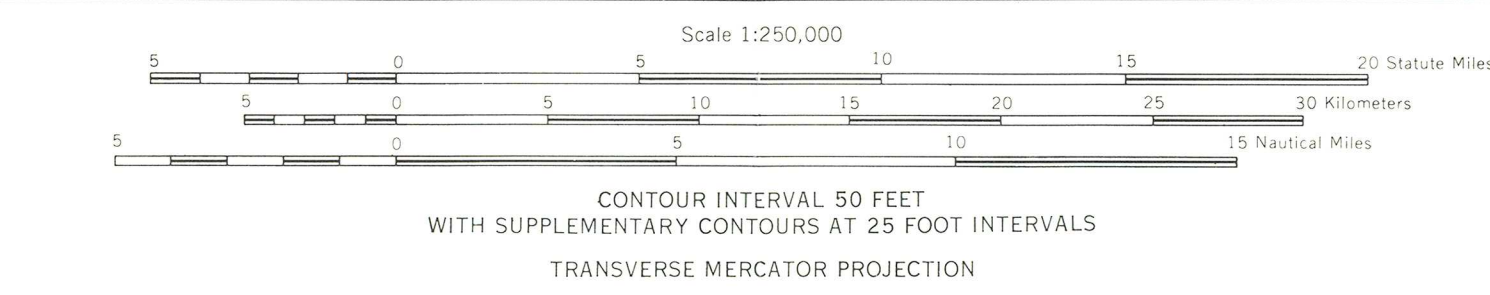
**BOUNDARIES**  
 International  
 State  
 County  
 Township or range line  
 Land grant boundary

**LANDMARKS**  
 School; Church; Other  
 Spot elevation in feet  
 Marsh or swamp  
 Intermittent or dry stream  
 Power line

**RAILROADS**  
 Sun Valley  
 Grand Coulee

**RAILROADS**  
 Sun Valley  
 Grand Coulee

**RAILROADS**  
 Sun Valley  
 Grand Coulee



**SECTIONIZED TOWNSHIP**

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

TO TOWNSHIP OR RANGE LINE  
 LAND GRANT BOUNDARY



STATE HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA  
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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ADRIAN D. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

Date: 21 April 1976

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

Dear Mr. Murtagh:

Having received approval by Iowa's State Nominations Review Committee,  
please find enclosed completed National Register nomination forms  
for the following historic property:

North River Stone Schoolhouse, Douglas Twp., Sect. 2, Madison County, Iowa

This is submitted for review by your staff in accordance with procedures  
for entering properties in the National Register of Historic Places.

Attached is a copy of the procedures used by this Division to meet  
requirements pertaining to public notification and comment as requested  
by the National Park Service.

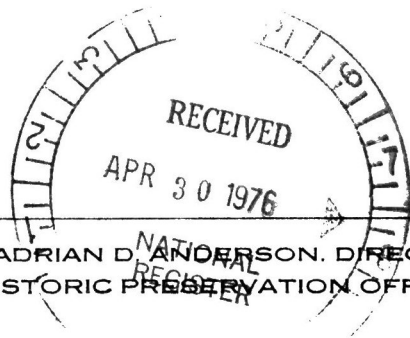
Sincerely,



Adrian D. Anderson, Director



STATE HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA  
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION



ADRIAN D. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

SUBJECT: Procedures Concerning Nominations of Historic Properties to the National Register of Historic Places.

1. Nomination forms submitted to Division.
2. Division staff edits nomination forms to prepare them for consideration at quarterly meetings of State Nomination Review Committee.
3. Public notification of meeting in paper of greatest circulation (Des Moines Register) 10 days prior to meeting. Property owners notified of meeting date and opportunity to comment approximately 10 days prior to meeting date. Copies of nomination forms forwarded to Review Committee members approximately 10 days prior to scheduled quarterly meeting date.
4. Nomination Review Committee reviews nominations and comments received, and recommends approval or rejection of nominations. Property owners notified of Committee's decision and given an opportunity to comment (20 days).
5. Twenty days after notification of owner concerning the Committee's decision, the State Historic Preservation Officer shall sign nomination forms for State and transmit them to the National Register of Historic Places.
6. N.R. staff review nominations and approves or rejects; federal register will publish notification and opportunity for comment.
7. National Register will notify State Historic Preservation Officer of its decision, and SHPO will notify Board and Property owner and person nominating the property.

12-2-76

TELEPHONE REPORT

3:30

1. CALL  TO:  FROM (Name)

Marty Bowers

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Iowa

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Questions on North River Stone Schoolhouse

- More history, expand statement of significance

-  
No changes during restoration

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

MJL

Winterset, Iowa  
February 25, 1977

*response put 3/23/77*

Mr. William Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
Department of Interior  
National Park Service  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: H34-880 (North River <sup>stone</sup> School-House, Madison Co, Iowa) *5/26/76*

Dear Sir:

In response to your letter dated Feb. 17, 1977, the following are comments on the above mentioned property in light of the National Register "Criteria for Evaluation":

1. The building is significant to the area in the use of stone which underlies much of the farm land in the county.
2. Artisans of over 100 years ago were such that the building stands as true today as when built in 1874.
3. The building demonstrates the early effort to provide education in the rural areas of Iowa.
4. Method of construction included quarrying and hewing stone secured approximately one-half mile from the site.
5. Since restoration was completed in 1973, over 5000 people have visited the building (persons from 23 states and 9 foreign countries). The school was featured in an early Iowa education program at the State Farm Bureau meeting in December of 1974.
6. The building stands as a monument to early settlers of Iowa in their endeavor to enhance the progress of their communities.

Since the building and surrounding area were restored by the Madison County Historical Society, the Society wishes to continue maintenance at their own expense. As a result no money for such is requested.

It is sincerely hoped that the building is sufficiently significant to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Respectfully submitted by owners,

*Myles Young*  
Myles Young

*Blair Young*  
Blair Young

Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE LISTED **MAR 1 1977**

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ (LISTED)

DISTRICT OF \_\_\_\_\_

DIL. C. N. M. N. \_\_\_\_\_

INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE IOWA

Date Entered APR 11 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Coralville Union Ecclesiastical Church	Coralville Johnson County
Ambrose Hall	Davenport Scott County
Allamakee County Courthouse	Waukon Allamakee County
Rath, Johann Christian Frederick, House	Dubuque Dubuque County
Line Springs Mill Complex	Line Springs Howard County
Maish House	Des Moines Polk County
North River Stone Schoolhouse	Winterset vicinity Madison County
Carnegie Library	Sheldon O'Brien County
Sioux County Courthouse	Orange City Sioux County

Also Notified

Hon. Dick Clark	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John C. Culver	Mr. Adrian Anderson
Hon. James A. S. Leach	Director, State Historical Department
Hon. Michael T. Blouin	Division of Historic Preservation
Hon. Charles E. Grassley	B-13 MacLean Hall
Hon. Neal Smith	Iowa City, Iowa 52242
Hon. Thomas R. Harkin	
Hon. Berkley W. Bedell	
Regional Director, Midwest Region	

# NR Data Sheet

DATE: 10/22/76  
Reviewer INITIALS: WRL

NR

DOE APR 11 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: North River Stone School house

OTHER NAMES:

## LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER ~~Douglas Trwp. Sect 2~~ N of Winters et off U.S. 169  
CITY, TOWN Winters et vic. X CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 5<sup>th</sup>  
STATE Iowa VICINITY OF COUNTY code  
Madison

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline) FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):  
NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST  
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

## FEATURES:

INTERIOR EXTERIOR ENVIRONS  
- Substantially intact-1 - Substantially intact-2 - Substantially intact-3  
- unknown - 4 - unknown - 5 - unknown - 6  
- not applicable - 7 - not applicable - 8 - Not applicable - 9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT DETERIORATED UNALTERED ORIGINAL SITE  
GOOD RUINS ALTERED MOVED  
FAIR UNEXPOSED Reconstructed Unknown  
Unexcavated Excavated

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO  
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO  
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO ?

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)  
then - school  
now - museum

## SIGNIFICANCE:

- \_ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- \_ CONSERVATION
- \_ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- \_ RELIGION
- \_ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- \_ ECONOMICS
- \_ LAW/Gov't/politics
- \_ SCIENCE
- \_ AGRICULTURE
- \_ EDUCATION
- \_ LITERATURE
- \_ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- \_ ARCHITECTURE
- \_ ENGINEERING
- \_ MILITARY
- \_ SETTLEMENT
- \_ ART
- \_ EXPLORATION
- \_ MUSIC
- \_ TRANSPORTATION
- \_ COMMERCE
- \_ INDUSTRY
- \_ PHILOSOPHY
- \_ OTHER (SPECIFY)
- \_ COMMUNICATIONS
- \_ INVENTION
- \_ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- \_ URBAN & COMMUN PLANNING

## Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor: David Harris

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1874

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: 1962-73, restored

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) less than 1

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

1 story stone, gable roof, corner quoins, ~~and~~ single central chimney, rectangular.

Stone, 1-story, rectangular, gabled roof, central chimney, off-center gable end entrance, quoins. Typical AmC Iowa rural schoolhouse.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

This structure was used as a school house from 1874 until 1945. It is representative of the many ~~rural~~ small rural schoolhouses which once existed in the state. Since 1973 it has been opened as a museum.