

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 4 1980
DATE ENTERED	FEB 8 1980

**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

James F. Clarke House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

500 S. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

STATE

Iowa

VICINITY OF
CODE

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Grace M. Barwise

STREET & NUMBER

500 So. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 52556

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

HABS

DATE

1970

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clarke house is a two-story brick structure with two low-pitched gable roofs. The rectangular house measures 30' 4" x 72', with a single-story square projecting porch, approx. 18' x 18', on the south side. The house sits on a base formed by a band of concrete, and has a partial basement. The red-brown brick of the house is highlighted by the projecting bands of grey concrete that frame the casement windows, the dark painted cornice ends and bargeboards, as well as the grey-green of the roof. The second story porch at the intersection of the livingroom and main entrance (east end) is painted an ultramarine blue.

The main elevation is marked by a large arched window on the street level and a band of five casement windows above. The casement windows are ornamented with leaded glass, with the two end windows smaller than the remaining recessed windows. There is an attached garage on the west side. The arched window is repeated in the garage and in the stairway to the cellar.

The color scheme of the exterior is carried through in the interior to a fuller degree. The fireplace brick is a golden buff. Over the mantel the colors range from ultramarine blue to ivory and gold. Pilasters and pier capitals are painted blue. Furniture and room accents were designed specially for the house, and fit within the color scheme planned by the architect, Barry Byrne, and his interior consultant, artist Alfonso Ianelli.

The interior plan is formed by two interlocking rectangular wings, with only the projecting sunporch deviating from this tight plan. It has been described by Allen Brooks (p. 290), as a "bold and heavy example of massing with precise geometric shapes of broad, unbroken surfaces and crisp, clean, edges."

Alterations to the house include modest kitchen remodelling and the addition of central air conditioning. The bas relief placed above the fireplace was also removed by a subsequent owner.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1915-16 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Francis Barry Byrne

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Clarke house is a good example of the mature work of Francis Barry Byrne. It has been described as one of Byrne's best works, for its clean, geometric massing of interlocking rectangles, and for its simplicity and greater independence from the influence of the Prairie School.

Studying for 6 years in Frank Lloyd Wright's Oak Park Studio, Byrne received his Prairie School training between 1902 and 1908. In 1913 he assumed the practice of Walter Burley Griffin, and worked in the final stages of the development of Rock Crest/Rock Glen, a planned residential project in Mason City, Iowa. It is in the Page house, built by Griffin in 1912, that the seeds of the Clarke design are found.

The arched windows, reminiscent of Richardson's Romanesque motif, originate from the Page design. The intersecting one- and two-story sections also come from the earlier work. The plan from the Franke house, built in 1914 by Byrne, seems to have influenced the Clarke design.

The Clarke house plan grows out of the Prairie School idiom of open and flowing plans. The continuity of space is evident in the first floor plan. The living room, dining room and entrance hall share a single space subdivided by screen walls and the fireplace. Screen walls do not stretched the entire height of the rooms, but leave an open space at eye level in each room, further adding to the sense of continuity. This motif is most evident in the built-in bookcase in the living room and its relation to space in the dining room.

Byrne's forms are deeply rooted in the indigenous American forms of the Prairie School, as seen in his organic use of ornament. His integration of structural elements into the formal design stems from his Prairie School training. In his handling of decoration, however, Byrne moves away from the school of Wright by using simpler forms. Doors are simple flushed planes, and trim for the windows, doors and baseboards are plain and flat. Byrne's color scheme also deviates from earlier Prairie School projects and uses European De Stijl-like colors in favor of the natural earth tones popularized by Wright. Brooks (p. 328) sees Byrne's Clarke house design as moving away from the formal expressions of the Prairie School, although not from its ideals.

See continuation sheet

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James F. Clarke House, Fairfield, Jefferson County, Iowa

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8 1
10 PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary Description, cont.:
where an extension of the N line of Block 26 would intersect center of highway,
W on N line of Block 26 to beginning.

Significance, cont.:

Also interesting is the presence of an attached garage in such an early design. Dr. Clarke owned one of the first automobiles in Jefferson County. The garage is separated from an upstairs bedroom by a fireproof ceiling. Also innovative are the 4-foot-wide eaves, cut to form built-in gutters.

Property Clarke - James F House

80001453

State Mo - Jefferson

Working Number 1-4-80 36

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 36

Maps 1

HISTORIAN

*Locally significant example
by a locally significant architect who
was trained in Frank Lloyd Wright's Oak Park Studio.*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*accept
Braham
2.4.80*

- Significant structure for its Prairie School origins.

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*accept
Braham
2.4.80*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered EEB 8 1980

Federal Register Entry 2-3-81

Re-submit _____



James F. Clarke House
500 S. Main, Fairfield,
Jefferson Co. Iowa

Credit: Rich Keller

Date: 1974

JAN 4 1980

Neg. at: Fairfield Ledger

View: south and east elevations

FEB 8 1980

1 of 3

South of house



James F. Clarke House
500 S. Main, Fairfield,
Jefferson Co. Iowa

Credit: Rich Keller

Date: 1974

Neg. at: Fairfield Ledger

View: north & east elevations

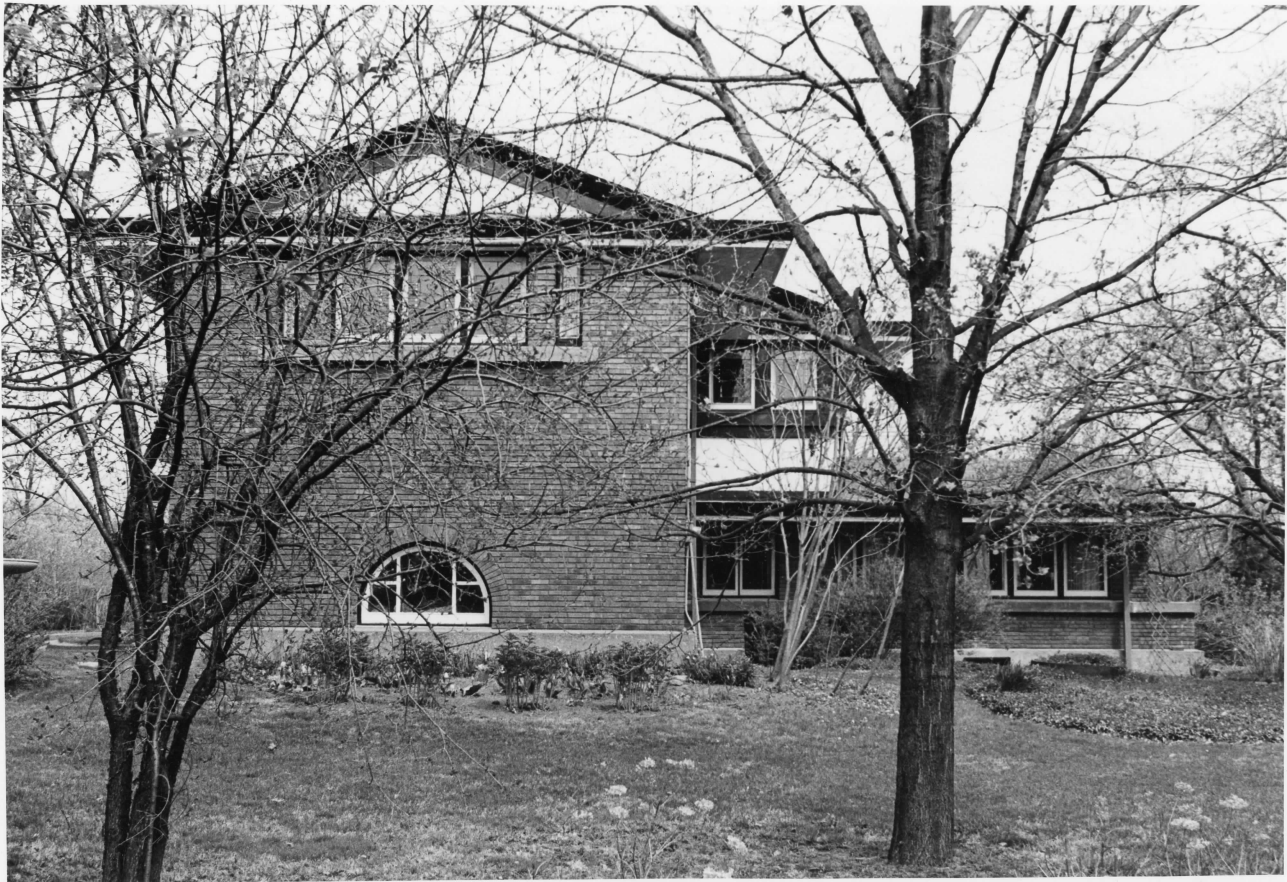
2 of 3

FEB

8 1980

JAN 4 1980

House



James F. Clarke House
500 S. Main, Fairfield,
Jefferson Co., Iowa

Credit: Rich Keller
Date: 1974

Neg. at: Fairfield Ledger
View: west elevation

House
FEB 8 1980

JAN 4 1980

3 of 3



James F. Clarke House
500 Main Street
Fairfield, Jefferson Co.-Iowa 52556

Credit: Dan Buttery

JAN 4 1980

Date: Fall 1979

Neg At: Buttery, 1104 Liberty Drive, Fairfield

VIEW: South & East elevations

FEB 8 1980



James F. Clarke House
500 Main Street
Fairfield, Jefferson Co. - Iowa

Credit: Dan Buttery

Date: Fall 1979

Neg At: Buttery, 1104 Liberty Drive, Fairfield

VIEW: South & East elevations

FEB 8 1980
JAN 4 1980



James F. Clarke House
500 Main Street
Fairfield, Jefferson Co., Iowa

Credit: Dan Buttery

JAN 4 1980

Date: Fall 1979

Neg At: Buttery, 1104 Liberty Drive, Fairfield.

View: South elevation

FEB 8 1980



James F. Clarke House
500 Main Street
Fairfield, Jefferson Co., Iowa

Credit: Dan Buttery

FEB 8 1980

Date: Fall 1979

Neg At: Buttery, 1104 Liberty Drive, Fairfield

JAN 4 1980

View: North & East Elevations



James F. Clarke House
500 Main Street
Fairfield, Jefferson Co.-Iowa

Credit: Dan Buttery

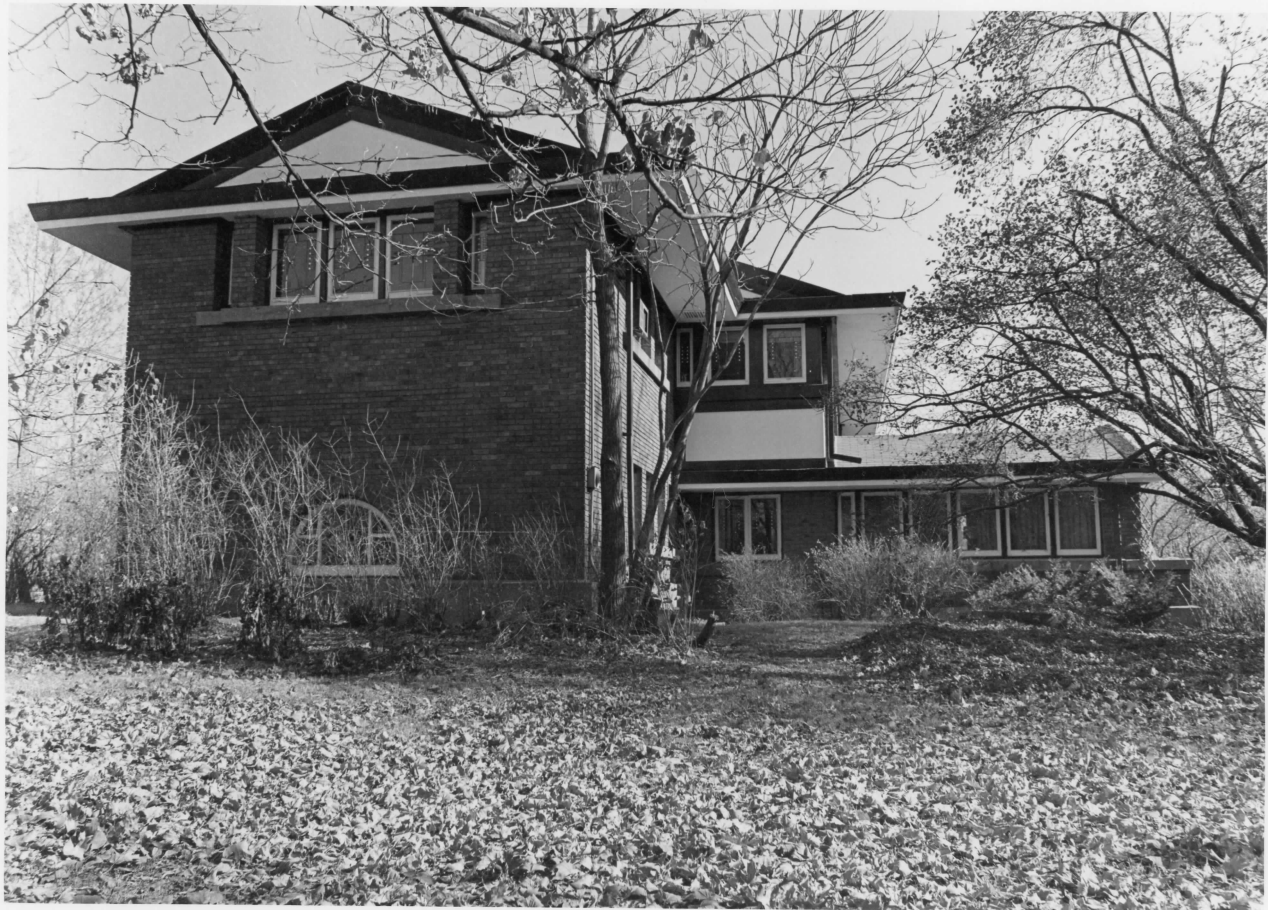
JAN 4 1980

Date: Fall 1979

Neg At: Buttery, 1104 Liberty Drive, Fairfield

VIEW: North elevation

FEB 8 1980



James F. Clarke House
500 Main Street
Fairfield, Jefferson Co., Iowa

Credit: Dan Buttery

0861 7 NVC

Date: Fall 1979

Neg At: Buttery, 1104 Liberty Drive, Fairfield

VIEW: West & South Elevations

FEB 8 1980

7 +
THE FAIRFIELD DAILY LEDGER

ESTABLISHED 1849

A Consolidation Of The Ledger And Journal

FAIRFIELD, IOWA 52556

IA

DAVID A. SCOLATTI, PUBLISHER

DEAN GABBERT, MANAGING EDITOR
BYRON KIMBLE, CIRCULATION MANAGER

February 4, 1980

Carol D. Shull
Acting Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Pension Bldg., 440 G Street, N. W.
Washington D. C. 20243 (Attn: NOM)

RE: Clarke, James F. House

Dear Ms. Shull:

Mrs. Grace Barwise is very pleased to learn that her property (James F. Clarke House) is being considered for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Mrs. Barwise, a long-time friend, has asked me to reply to your letter of Jan. 8, 1980. She has impaired vision, making it difficult for her to write. She wanted you to know that she has compiled considerable historical information about the house, including the original blueprints. You are probably aware that her home was recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1974 because of its architecture. The structure, incidentally, is in an excellent state of repair.

If further information about the house is needed, Mrs. Barwise would be very happy to supply it.

Very truly yours

Dean Gabbert
Dean Gabbert, Editor

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE: FEB 8 1979

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC PLACES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

EXHIBIT 1047 1979

THE EVANSFIELD DAVID TROSKER

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

IOWA

STATE

FEB 8 1980

Date Entered

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Clarke, James F., House	Fairfield Jefferson County
St. Mary of the Assumption Church	Fort Madison Lee County
St. Mary's Church and Rectory	Iowa City Johnson County
Honey Creek Friends' Meetinghouse	New Providence Hardin County
Dodge, Ruth Anne, Memorial	Council Bluffs Pottawattamie County

Also Notified

Honorable Roger W. Jepsen

Honorable John C. Culver
Honorable Jim Leach
Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Honorable Thomas R. Harkin

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Adrian Anderson
Director, Iowa State Historical
Department
Division of Historic Preservation
26 East Market Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

NR Byers/bjr 2/12/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.