

Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation
Iowa State Historical Department
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

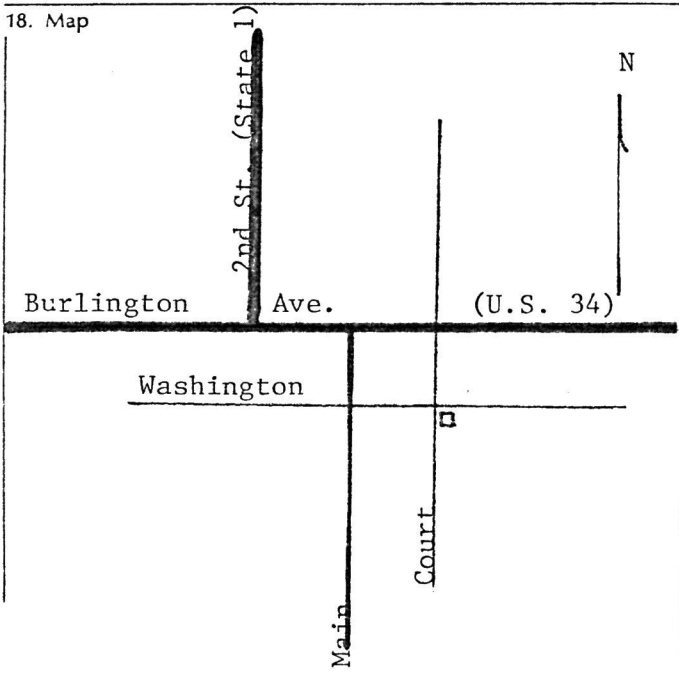
Site Number 51-012-005
District Name _____
Map Reference # _____

Identification

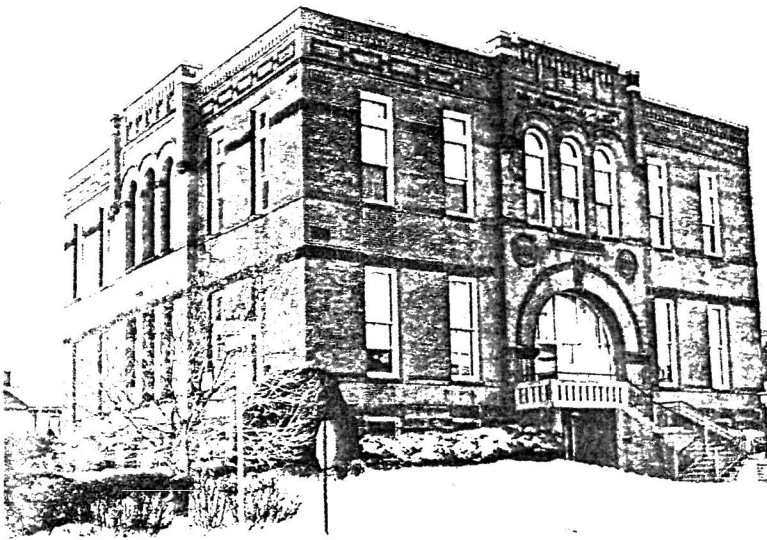
1. Site Name Fairfield Public Library
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township _____ County Jefferson
3. Street Address Court and Washington
4. Legal Location 012 Old Plat 18 Lots 7 & 8
Urban: Rural: subdivision township block range parcel section subparcel 1/4 section of 1/4 section
5. UTM Location: zone 15 easting 591500 northing 4540000; Acreage 2/
6. Owner(s) Name City of Fairfield
7. Owner(s) Address _____ Fairfield, Iowa 52556
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present library & museum Original library & museum

Description

9. Date of Construction 1892-93 ~~XXXXXX~~ Builder C. Stafford, Kansas City, Mo., contrac _____
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 with trim in stone and terracotta
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: Roof lower pavilion gables removed, second floor ceilings dropped (1930's); entrance-way drastically remodeled (c. 1965); first floor ceilings dropped.
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 _____



19. Photo Roll 167 Frame 17A View Looking NW



Significance

(Indicate sources of information for all statements)

19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The Fairfield Public Library is a good example of a public building in a planar Richardsonian Romanesque style. The architectural integrity of the building has been impaired by modifications to the roof and entranceway.

20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) Social/Humanitarian

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

b. Contributing structure

c. Not eligible/intrusion

The public library at Fairfield, built in 1892, was the first of a total of 101 Carnegie libraries built in Iowa. In the national context, it was the first Carnegie west of Pennsylvania, the fourth of over 1600 libraries endowed by Carnegie between 1889 and 1919, and one of only a few funded without attendant stipulations concerning use, public support, or design. Fairfield's library history begins in 1853, when a group of local men organized a library association. Housed in an assortment of buildings over 40 years, the library was funded by dues from members, and later from the using public at large. U.S. Senator James Wilson, of Fairfield, is credited locally with obtaining a library grant from Andrew Carnegie who in 1892 had only begun his building program (3 years before). Once housed in its new building, the Fairfield library remained under association control for 7 years. Community support through taxation was voted in 1899.

21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

- Welty, Susan F. A Fair Field. Detroit: Harlo Press, 1975. pp.75-102.
- DHPFIR, S. Klingensmith, 1979.
- DHPLSQ-1, James Rubis, Director.

Prepared by S. Klingensmith

Date August, 1980

Address 617 N. Cayuga, Ithaca, NY

Telephone 607 273-5684

Organization _____

For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

1. Office Information Sources on this Property

County Resource File

Windshield Survey

National Register

Grants-In-Aid: _____

Determination of Eligibility

Review and Compliance Project: _____

Other _____

Other _____

Other _____

2. Subject Traces

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

3. Photo Images 167/17A-24A

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 10

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Public Library Buildings in Iowa Thematic Resources
State Iowa

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 11. Council Bluff Free Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Ret
Attest _____
- 12. Drake Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Ret
Attest _____
- 13. Eldon Carnegie Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Ret
Attest _____
- 14. Eldora Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Linda McClelland 5/23/83
Attest _____
- 15. Emmetsburg Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Linda McClelland 5/23/83
Attest _____
- 16. Ericson Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Linda McClelland 5/23/83
Attest _____
- 17. Estherville Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Ret
Attest _____
- 18. Fairfield Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Linda McClelland 5/23/83
Attest _____
- 19. Forest City Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Beth Grosvenor 4/5/84
Attest _____
- 20. Free Public Library *Substantive Review* Keeper Ret
Attest _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Fairfield Public Library (Public Library
Buildings in Iowa TR)
Jefferson County
IOWA

Working No. 4/8/83
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84
Date Due: 5/5/83 - 5/23/83
Action: ACCEPT 5/23/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Significant as 1st of many
large libraries in Iowa*

no acreage = 1 A

Recom./Criteria Accept A
Reviewer L. McMillan
Discipline A. Hist
Date 5/23/83
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
| | Public Acquisition | Accessible | |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

| Condition | Check one | Check one |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unsound | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

local architectural context has not been addressed.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Geographic name _____

USIT Reference _____

Please provide address

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

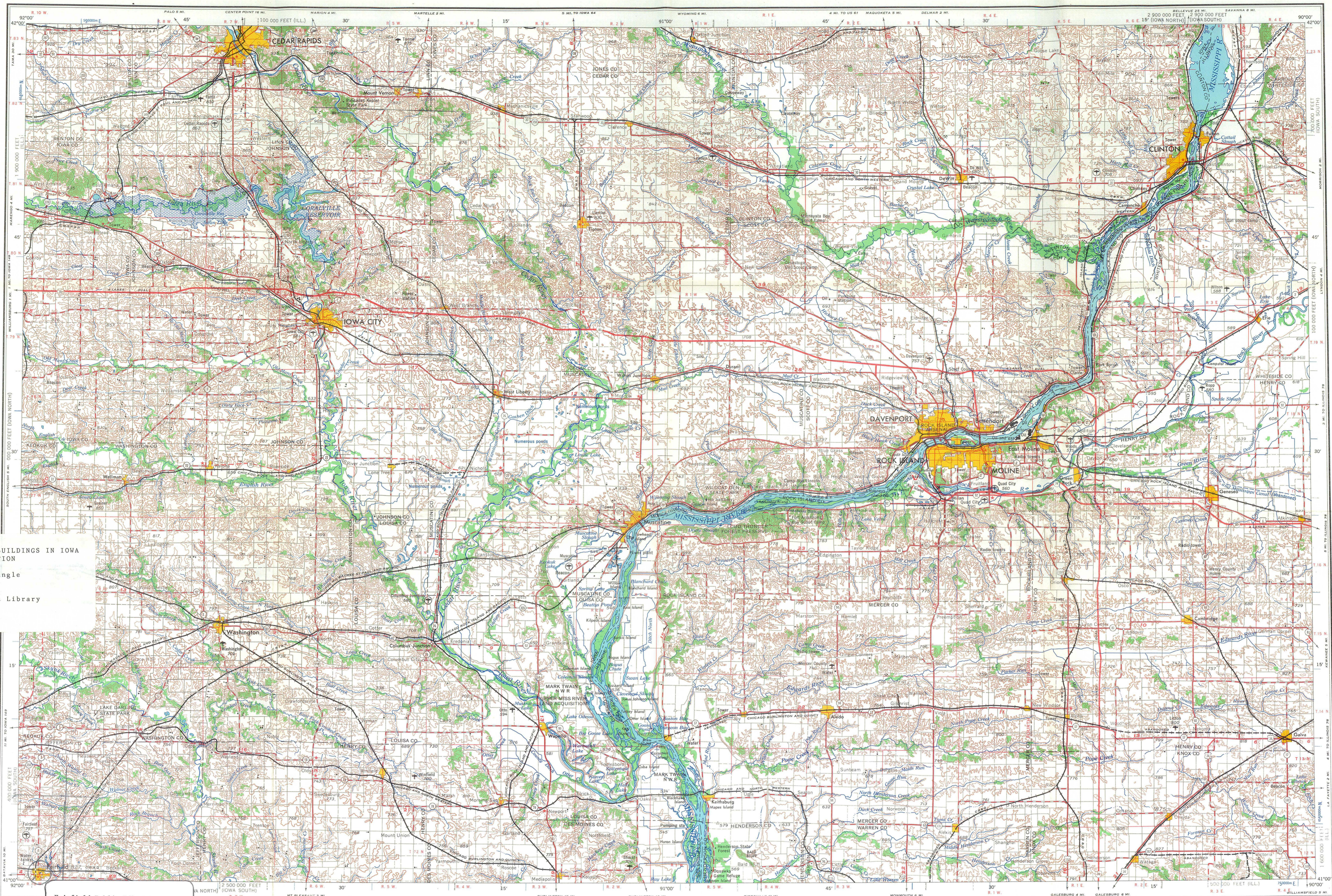


COURT

SITE NAME: Fairfield Public Library
ADDRESS: Court & Washington
TOWN: Fairfield, Iowa 52556

PHOTO CREDIT: Samuel J. Klingensmith
NEGATIVE LOCATED AT: 617 N. Cayuga
DATE: 2/19/78 Ithaca, NY 14850

VIEW: Looking NW



PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDINGS IN IOWA
 THEMATIC NOMINATION
 USGS NK series
 Davenport Quadrangle
 Zone 15
 Fairfield Public Library

Fairfield Public Library
 Fairfield, Jefferson County, Iowa

UTM 15/591500 4540000

Prepared by the Army
 Army, Washington, D.C.
 and from United States
 1923-53. Planimetric
 Horizontal and vertical
 checked 1958. Limits
 100,000-foot grids in
 zones and Illinois coordinate
 system, west zone
 10,000-meter Universal Mercator
 grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue

LEGEND
 ROAD DATA 1958 PARTIALLY REVISED 1967
 Figures in red denote approximate distances in miles between stars

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

RAILROADS
 Standard gauge
 Narrow gauge
 Boundaries
 International
 State
 County
 Park or reservation

ROADS
 Hard surface, heavy duty
 More than two lanes wide
 Hand surface, medium duty
 More than two lanes wide
 Two lanes wide, State, interstate route markers
 Improved light duty
 Unimproved dirt
 Trail

LANDMARKS
 School, Church, Other, . . .
 Horizontal control point
 Spot elevation in feet
 Marsh or swamp
 Intermittent or dry stream
 Power line

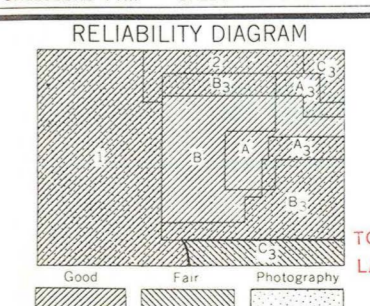
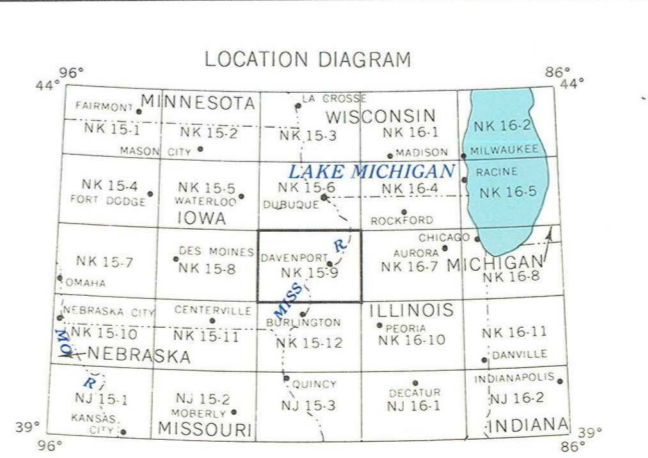
APPROXIMATE ROAD ALIGNMENT

Scale 1:250,000
 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 Statute Miles
 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 Kilometers
 0 5 10 15 Nautical Miles

CONTOUR INTERVAL 50 FEET
 WITH SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOURS AT 25 FOOT INTERVALS
 TRANSVERSE MERCATOR PROJECTION

1965 MAGNETIC DECLINATION FROM TRUE NORTH FOR THIS SHEET VARIES FROM 55° 100 MILES EASTERLY
 FOR THE CENTER OF THE WEST EDGE TO 47° 170 MILES EASTERLY FOR THE CENTER OF THE EAST EDGE

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20542



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 |

TOWNSHIP OR RANGE LINE
 LAND GRANT BOUNDARY