**NAME**

HISTORIC: Cornell College/Mount Vernon Historic District

AND/OR COMMON:

**LOCATION**


CITY: Mount Vernon

CITY: Cedar Rapids

CITY: Linn County

CITY: Iowa

CITY: Linn County Courthouse

CITY: Cedar Rapids

CITY: Iowa

**CLASSIFICATION**

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**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME: See inventory sheets; multiple ownership

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY: Cedar Rapids

CITY: Iowa

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Linn County Courthouse

CITY: Cedar Rapids

CITY: Iowa

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE:

DATE:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

CITY: Cedar Rapids

CITY: Iowa
The Cornell College/Mount Vernon Historic District is composed of approximately 120 buildings and structures, and is located on the west side of Mount Vernon. The campus of Cornell College forms the heart of the district (and occupies about three-fourths of the land area). The majority of college buildings are arranged along and around the Mt. Vernon paha, a hill in the midst of a low and rather flat valley about 10 miles long. Framing the campus on the west, southeast and northeast are some 70 houses and related outbuildings that comprise the remainder of the district. They range in age from the 1850's to the present, and display a full sampling of midwestern domestic architectural forms, materials and styles, the latter including the Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Stick, Gothic and neoclassical revivals, and the craftsman.

The main "entrance" to the district is at the east end, at the intersection of S. 3rd Ave. and 1st Street. Here, two large stone churches, Presbyterian and Methodist, face one another like sentinels across 1st Street. They act as strong transitional elements between the commercial area to the east, and the college/residential area to the west.

Like the residential portion of the district, the Cornell campus contains buildings from the mid-19th century to the present, that illustrate the growth and development of this institution over time. The dominant visual element here is King Chapel, visible at several miles' distance from all the highways leading into Mount Vernon. The hill top is the focal point of the campus, with almost all structures located along the ridge. Campus buildings are scattered along a 5 block area and arranged at random about the hill top. One walk links the entire campus. All vehicular traffic is prohibited on the campus and only the main walk serves as a direct fire access. Three short streets permit fire equipment to serve the campus on the edges. The north slope of the hill is wooded as is a small portion of the western slope.

All of the structures are still being used for the same general purposes as at the time of their construction. Some houses are used as dormitories. An old hotel is being converted to apartments and a large house used as a clinic by a physician couple is now a funeral home. Another house is now faculty offices or used by administration.

All of the buildings are in good to excellent condition. Recent work by the college has taken account of the historical character of the buildings and efforts made to preserve that character. Private residences in the area are very well kept and only a few additions or modifications have been made to them. Owners are generally willing to retain the houses as built. Several small barns have been converted to garages and only a few new garages have been constructed.


**SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD**

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

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- X ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- 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**

c. 1850-present

**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Cornell College/Mount Vernon Historic District, with its mixture of institutional and residential architectural forms ranging from the 1850's to the present, offers an excellent look at the growth and change of a small academic community over time. The buildings within the district display a high degree of physical integrity, and represent a broad range of architectural forms, particularly those of the mid and late 19th century. Although the campus forms a discrete unit within the district, direct relationships exist between it and the residential areas. One relationship is, of course, proximity: the houses act as a "frame" around the tree-shaded expanses of the college. Another is a temporal and architectural relationship, in which the development of the college and its residential surroundings is graphically illustrated by the gradual change in architectural styles over time. There is also the opportunity to examine several examples of a particular style, and to observe the adaptation of that style to uses both residential and institutional (and, in one case, commercial). The best examples of this are the Greek Revival Old Sem (23), Fellows House (113) and Old Presbyterian Church (71); the Gothic Revival King Chapel (24), Methodist Church (52), Bowman Hall (25) and Boyd House (73); the Second Empire former Mount Vernon House hotel (54) and Hogel House (55); and, from the late 1930's, a house (69) and Armstrong Hall (5), which demonstrate the popularity of colonial revival forms long after they had ceased to be architecturally creative.

Another interesting relationship is that between the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches (52, 51) and King Chapel (24). All three are large ecclesiastical edifices of rockfaced limestone, with corner towers and consciously medieval characters. The first two act as very effective markers at the eastern entrance to the district. In this sense they are an "introduction" to a visual theme climaxed by King Chapel at the heart of the district. This district center also contains the most visually arresting arrangement--6 buildings ranged along the crest of the hill (20, 19, 22, 23 24, 25).

The boundaries of the district have been drawn to include the whole of the college, and the residential areas that are oriented, visually and historically, toward the campus. Buildings rated "A" are those that may be considered pivotal from an architectural, historical, and/or visual viewpoint. "B" structures are those which do not display outstanding qualities individually, but collectively contribute materially to the character of the district. Buildings rated "C" are all less than 50 years of age; it is understood that insufficient time has elapsed to provide a proper historical context for their evaluation. Most of these C buildings fall into three groups. One includes modern ranch houses, principally from the 1950's and 1960's (for example, 89-92). Another consists of college buildings (7,8,12) designed by Green and Co. of Cedar Rapids in the 1950's, perhaps best described as very late
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx 100 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Mount Vernon, Iowa

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A 1.5 631 1 2.5 4 4 2 3 0 0
B 1.5 631 0 7.0 4 4 2 3 0
C 1.5 630 8 2.0 4 4 2 0 8 0
D 1.5 630 2 1.0 4 4 2 3 9 0
E 1.5 630 2 0.0 4 4 2 9 9 0
F 1.5 630 7 2.0 4 4 2 9 4 0
G 1.5 630 2 0.0 4 4 2 9 9 0
H 1.5 630 7 2.0 4 4 2 9 4 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

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

STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE
--- | --- | --- | ---

FORM PREPARED BY

M.H. Bowers, Architectural Survey Coordinator

ORGANIZATION Division of Historic Preservation

DATE January 1980

STREET & NUMBER 26 E. Market Street

TELEPHONE 319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN Iowa City

STATE Iowa 52240

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE March 21, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPR OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7/18/80

ATTEST

DATE 7/14/80
Colonial Revival/Williamsburg vernacular. From an albeit limited perspective, in terms of time, these buildings do not appear to have much architectural distinction. However, they are in the principal stylistic tradition of Cornell College architecture, established in the 1850's with Old Sem, and carried through the 1930's in various revivalistic expressions of colonial and classical forms and details. The third group of C structures are college buildings from the 1960's and early 1970's (6, 9, 11, 15, 28, 29) designed by Harry Weese and Associates of Chicago. These are frankly modern, yet achieve a compatibility with the older buildings that is not always the case on college campuses. Four of these (9, 11, 28, 29) are dormitories, faced with brick and scaled to match surrounding buildings. #9 and 11 join with #10 in creating an interesting dormitory enclave on a promontory at the southwest edge of the campus. 28-29 are not linked visually with other campus buildings, as they are somewhat apart from them. The view of their strongly vertical facades marching down a hill on the western edge of the campus can be striking. #15, West Science Center, is the only one of the Weese buildings to consciously evoke the design traditions of an earlier time, principally through the use of a shallow-pitched gable roof and enormous slab lintels of stone.

In summary, the C structures of the district cannot simply be considered "intrusive", except, perhaps, on the grounds of age; rather, they stand as late elements in a continuum of architectural expression that is one of the chief characteristics of the Cornell College/Mount Vernon district.

The town of Mt. Vernon was platted in 1847, in an area where white settlers had arrived as early as 1836. The "town and gown" relationship was established only 6 years later, when the Iowa (Methodist) Conference Male and Female Seminary erected its first building (now "Old Sem", #23). In 1885, the institution was renamed Cornell College, and College Hall (#19) opened in 1857. The last major event of the 1850's was the coming of the Northwestern Railroad to Mt. Vernon in 1859.

The community's economy, established in the 1850's with such ventures as a sawmill, brick kilns, a wagon factory and a hotel (Guild Hotel, 1853, #54) expanded in the post-Civil War period to include tile and furniture factories and a pottery. Cornell contributed its share to the town's prosperity, as did the adjacent rich farmlands that supported cattle, hogs, and feed grains. As the town's first boom period (the 1850's) was reflected in the many brick houses built then (#113, 37), so a second period of growth (c. 1885-1900) resulted in a large number of sizeable frame residences (for example Rood House (#42), Albright House (#41), Stoner House (#43), and Benesh House (#66)) and additional college facilities (Bowman Hall (#25), King Chapel (#24)).
In the early decades of the 20th century, residential construction developed around the western end of the Cornell campus (heretofore most houses were built to the east and north), and resulted in the breaking-up of farms there.

The Depression years were not, relatively speaking, terribly hard on Mount Vernon and Cornell College. For one thing, the drouth and grasshoppers that plagued western Iowa did not seriously affect the Mt. Vernon area, so local crops remained good. Federal assistance programs created local jobs building the water tower (#48) and developing Palisades Park southwest of Cedar Rapids. In these years, surprisingly enough, Cornell College embarked upon a building program. During the 1930's were erected Pfeiffer (#10), Merner (#36), and Armstrong (#5) halls, additions were made to Bowman, and Old Sem was remodeled. These projects thus contributed substantially to the stability of Mount Vernon's economy in the years before World War II.

The 1950's and 1960's saw continued expansion of the Cornell campus to meet the post-war population boom. As in the 1930's (with William Jay Brown), the later projects were the work of single architectural firms: Green and Co. of Cedar Rapids in the 1950's, and Harry Weese and Associates for the last, 1960's, phase. Today the College continues to be an anchor of the local economy and a strong influence on the town's cultural life. Since World War II however, Cedar Rapids industries have employed many Mount Vernon residents, and town is gradually becoming a bedroom community for that large city. However, Mount Vernon retains to a strong degree a character of its own, amply illustrated in the Cornell College/Mount Vernon historic district.
Extensive research on college owned buildings has been done by members of the faculty and brought together in what is called "College Building File" (or B.R.F.) which is part of the College Archives. The File contains citations to Trustee Minutes, newspapers, recollections, and manuscripts.

Additional material used in the preparation of this nomination comes from the College Archives and includes special pictures files and issues of the college "annual" or yearbook. Microfilm copy of the various town newspapers from the 1860's forward are in the College Archives.

The City of Mt. Vernon has a Historical Committee which conducted a photographic survey of the town (1976) and maintains a collection of historic photographs in the City Hall.

In preparing the nomination a number of older citizens were interviewed. Mr. James McCutcheon served as the editor of the newspaper from 1923-67 and took over the paper from his father. He is a remarkable source. The area has a number of families who have written and oral material dating from 1845.

The following printed sources were used:


The History of One Hundred and Twenty-Five Years of Methodism in this Community: 1841-1966. First Methodist Church, Mt. Vernon, Iowa.


Keyes, Margaret N. "He Left His Legacy in Landmarks," The IOWAN, Winter, 1964.

Schultis, Gail Ann, "A Survey of the Brick Homes of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, Built Prior to 1900", unpublished manuscript on file at the Cornell College Library.

The following persons contributed substantially to the preparation of this nomination:

Professor Richard Thomas, Cornell College
Ms. Leslie Timbel, Cornell '79
Ms. Jo Anna Leggett, Cornell '79
J. Edward Sauter, architect, Mount Vernon

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Cornell College/Mount Vernon Historic District is an irregular area of land located on the west side of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, which may be roughly described as:

Beginning with (and including) the bridge at N. 10th Ave. over the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad line, then east along the south edge of the railroad right of way to the center line of N. 8th Ave., then south on N. 8th Ave., then east along N. 8th Street, then south along the rear property lines of properties on the east side of N. 8th Ave., (crossing N. 7th St. and N. 2nd St.) then southeast along rear property lines of properties on the north side of 1st St., to N. 3rd Avenue. Then SW down center line of N. 3rd Avenue to rear property line of the Mount Vernon United Methodist Church. Then NE along rear property lines of properties on the south side of 1st Street to center line of N. 4th Ave. Then southwest to intersection of N. 4th Avenue and S. 4th Street. The NW along S. 4th St., crossing S. 5th Ave., and then NW along center line of College Boulevard to Summit Ave., then NE along center line of Summit Ave. to a point on the street in line with the rear property line of 730 Summit Ave. Then west along rear property line of properties on the south side of Summit Ave. to the SW corner of the property at 101 10th Ave., then north to 1st Street, then E to N. 10th Ave., then north along 10th Ave to bridge at beginning.
NAME: Harlan House

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus

street and number

Mount Vernon, Linn

town or vicinity, county

URBAN: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

RURAL: twp-range-section-quarter-sec

DESCRIPTION: Roof: hip with one gable end South facing on SW corner; wave shingles in gable end; small window by semi-circular head; conical roofed 2nd story dormer over front porch with garland on frieze; pseudo balcony with ornate balustrade.

Walls: round shingles under eave on 2nd story; wide clapboard siding 2nd story, narrow clapboard on 1st floor; corner strip on 1st floor only.

Porch: dentil cornice with round columns, doubled at the outer edge of porch, shingled at wall.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Built by and residence of James Elliot Harlan, professor and president (1908-1914) of Cornell College

Well-sited vernacular house of large, somewhat awkward proportions.

SOURCES

B.R.F.
The Collegian, June, 1875.
Minutes of the Board of Trustees, Nov. 20, 1934.
NAME Collin House

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\{sec\}-\{sec\}

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Multiple residence

ARCH/BLDR C.H. Davis & Marsden Keyes

DATE(S) 1889 MAP REF

DESCRIPTION Roof: hips with semi circular dormer east side; two large brick ornate chimneys on south side and one large simple column brick chimney on north side.

Walls: clapboard siding with accented corner trim; denticulated cornice; palladian windows on south flanking center porch with ornate balustrade and large leaded glass with paint window (semi-circular) over palladian motif on 2nd floor over porch.

Porches: front porch supported by 2 pairs of columns of ionic order; south facing porch full length with simple balustrade and balcony. This porch elevated with lattice-work enclosing space below porch.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Built on lots purchased by Collin from the land originally purchased by Dr. W.F. King from a local farmer (Peter McDowell). Residence of Collin 1882-1932; thereafter, rented as faculty apartments.

Good example of Georgian Revival domestic architecture.

SOURCES
B.R.F.; Reminiscences of William Fletcher King, p. 257.
Mt. Vernon. April 12 1889, December 13 1889.
NAME Carriage Barn (house)

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE storage

ARCH/BLDR unknown

DATE(S) unknown

DESCRIPTION Essentially a square structure of 2 floors. Hip roof.
Interior shows marks of carriage and horse areas. Hay storage area on second floor.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Neutral Structure.

SOURCES
Extensive search of records and older citizens turned up no data.
NAME President's House (White House)

LOCATION Cornell College Campus

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel rural: twp-range-section-4sec-4sec

UTM

zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DESCRIPTION Roof: variety of roof forms; gable, hip, on uppermost mass hip roof cresting at peak of hip. Dormers all sides. Projecting dormers have multipaned windows and segmental arch head and roof with fan motif in end. Brackets under projecting roof are included at gable end. Walls: Clapboard siding with vertical trim at corners. Windows: most evident are the tall slender windows in pairs or trio with semi-circular heads and flanked by round topped shutter. Highly irregular in original design but accentuated because of addition, form includes a turret. Main porch supported by 2 pairs of columns with unidentified capitols-balustraded. Porch on SE corner has been incorporated into house and is balustraded. Two large sun porches on west (enclosed). There are 3 brick chimneys, two decorated with molded brick.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Oldest building on campus; built by and residence of William Hamilton, early trustee of Cornell College and local merchant and banker. (Hamilton's daughter married Lord Mayor of London—the became Lady Waterlow). 1863-4: King purchased house and land as part of a trade with farmer Peter McDowell. 1875: college bought it for president's residence—King continued living there, shared it with Flint from 1916-1921 when he died in the study. House has been the official presidential home since 1875.

House has developed a decidedly eclectic character since original construction, and cannot be said to display any particular style.

SOURCES

B.R.F.; Cornellian Nov. 21 1960.
Collegian. July 1875.
Reminiscences of WFK, pp. 255-257.
Minutes of Board of Trustees. June 22, 23 1875
June 22, 26, 1876. June 17 1908. Nov. 15 1921
Mount Vernon Hawkeye. May 3 1895.
NAME Carriage House

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\textsuperscript{\#}sec-\textsuperscript{\#}sec

UTM
zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa address

USE Garage

ARCH/BLDR probably Wm. Fletcher King

DATE(S) 1880's


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An unassuming little structure associated with President's house (#4).

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

Iowa State Historical Department
MAR 31 1980
SITE NUMBER: 57-030-004a

DISTRICT RATING: ☑ A ☑ B ☑ C

PHOTO *

VIEW

MAP REF

PHOTO # 1880's

RECORDER(S) DATE

SITE PLAN
NAME Armstrong Hall

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM
zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE houses dpts. music, art, theater & speech

ARCH/BLDR William J. Brown speech

DATE(S) 1938

DESCRIPTION
Two-story classroom building with symmetrical, 11-bay main facade dominated by giant tetra style portico. Outer walls faced with brick. Stone trim.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
one of 3 major buildings constructed during the Depression. Illustrative of the growth of midwest liberal arts colleges. Frank H. Armstrong, who spent his early years in Mount Vernon, became Chicago businessman-major donor.

The building carries on the tradition established with Old Sem. (#23) in use of classical elements in college architecture - a tradition followed up to the past decade. See also # 10, 26.

SOURCES
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN
NAME: The Commons

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon, Linn
town or vicinity, county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-1/2sec-1/2sec

UTM
zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE: dining and activity facility

ARCH/BLDG: Harry Weese & Associates

DESCRIPTION
A low modern building of irregular plan.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A distinctly modern building that maintains the relatively low profile and use of brick characteristic of Cornell's campus architecture. Chronologically intrusive.

SOURCES
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN
NAME: Ebersole Memoral Health Clinic

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon

town or vicinity
Linn

county

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-007

DISTRICT RATING:

Iowa State Historical Department
MAR 31 1980

OWNER: Cornell College

USE: health center, infirmary

ARCH/BLDR: Green & Co.,

DATE(S): 1955

DESCRIPTION:
A long, side-gable building facet with brick, with main entrance beneath wide front-gable projection.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Front gable pays lip service to classical theme of Cornell's campus architecture.
NAME Allee Meditation Chapel

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE small services & private meditation

ARCH/BLDR Green & Co.

DATE(S) 1957

DESCRIPTION
Small one-room chapel, with sides divided into three bays. Features tetra style portico and conical-roofed belltower.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Imitation Greek Revival.

SOURCES
B.R.F.
NAME  Dows Hall  

LOCATION  Cornell College Campus  
street and number  
Mount Vernon  Linn  
town or vicinity  county  
legal  
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel  
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec  

UTM  
zone  easting  northing  

ACREAGE  

DISTRICT NAME  

OWNER  Cornell College  
name  
Mount Vernon, Iowa  
address  

USE  Women's residence  

ARCH/BLDR  Harry Weese & Assoc.  

DATE(S)  1963  

DESCRIPTION  Intrusion, not Characteristic of district  
Contemporary residence hall of four stories, with exterior faced in brick. Overall horizontality of the form is balanced by strong vertical combinations of tall, narrow windows and advanced and recessed brick piers, which create the effect of overlapping planes.  

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  
Building utilizes traditional brick for exterior, thus bringing it at least partly into harmony with the overall character of the campus. Roof treatment is unfortunately suggestive of Mansard, and reduces the visual interest of the irregular wall surfaces. Building is too recent to be eligible for the Register, but cannot be considered a visual detractant. See also #11, 28, 29, and discussion under section 8 of the National Register form.  

SOURCES  
B.R.F.  

SITE PLAN  

RECORDER(S)  
DATE  

Iowa State Historical Department  
MAR 3 1 1980  
SITE NUMBER:  57-030-009  

DISTRICT RATING:  □ A  □ B  □ C
NAME: Pfeiffer Hall

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus
street and number:
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

LEGAL:
urban: subdist-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM: zone easting northing

ACREAGE:

DISTRICT NAME:

OWNER: Cornell College
name:
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address:

USE: Dormitory

ARCH/BLDR: William Jay Brown

DATE(S): 1930

DESCRIPTION:
Three-story, side-gable dormitory, with giant pilasters reaching to a shallow triangular pediment above the main entrance. Pedimented dormers feature engaged colonettes. Main entrance set set between engaged Doric columns supporting a full entablature. Exterior faced with red brick.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: one of 3 major buildings constructed during the Depression. Illustrative of the growth of midwest liberal arts colleges. Another example of Cornell's "college classical" architecture. See also #5, 26.

SOURCES:
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S): DATE: 
NAME Tarr Hall

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE men's dormitory

ARCH/BLDR Harry Weese & Assoc.

DESCRIPTION
See #9.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
See #9.

SOURCES
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

DATE(S) 1965 MAP REF

Iowa State Historical Department
MAR 31 1980
SITE NUMBER: 57-030-011
DESCRIPTION

Long, side-gable building with symmetrical 7-bay front. Lounge area (one-story) extends across front and features a center entrance beneath a shallow-roofed porch on square posts intended to resemble classical columns. Louvered cupola centered on roof ridge.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An undistinguished building suggestive of commercial "Williamsburg."

SOURCES

B.R.F.
NAME: Heating Plant

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec
UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE
DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address
USE: Heating facility

ARCH/BLDR: Mundie & Jensen/W. Al Furgus Co
DATE(S) 1916

DESCRIPTION: Rectangular, massive brick chimney at one end. Gable roof, gable end projects above roof with stone coping, windows: paired, double hung windows each side with 4/4 muntin pattern. Large semi-circular headed window in one gable end with slightly accented brick arch above. Window is divided into many segments with the semi-circular arch pattern repeated in the window trim. There is a large circular chimney at one gable end. Chimney serves boilers.

Building houses original and present central heating system for all major college buildings.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An odd little building exhibiting vaguely medieval influences. It is stylistically nonconforming, but cannot be considered intrusive.

SOURCES
CC Buildings and grounds.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) DATE
NAME The "Pest House" the Cottage, Black Student Center
LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
LEGAL
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-hsec

UTM
zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address
USE Student center for Blacks

ARCH/BLDR unknown

DATE(S) 1889

DESCRIPTION Plan is rectangular with front porch. Hip roof, porch roof extends from roof of main structure at lesser pitch. Horizontal clapboard siding with corner trim, windows are double hung 2/2 muntin pattern. Porch in front is supported by two square pilasters with wrought iron balustrade two sides.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Built as a result of scarlet fever epidemic to provide isolation; also quarantine house for flu epidemic in 1919.

SOURCES

B.R.F. Minutes of Board of Trustees. June 18, 1889.
NAME Merle S. West Science Center

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
    street and number
    Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
    name
    Mount Vernon, Iowa
    address

USE Science classroom structure

ARCH/BLDR Weese & Assoc./Loomis Bros.

DATE(S) 1976

DESCRIPTION
A three-story L-plan structure, faced with brick. Stone lintels and sills are featured at windows, which are of varying size and irregular, asymmetrical placement. Curious little ventilators on roof.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
This building presents a curious combination of contemporary architectural themes (walls as thin "skins", irregular arrangement of fenestration) and a vernacular masonry tradition of great age (the use of enormous stone slab lintels).

SOURCES
B.R.F.

DATE  

SITE PLAN
NAME:  House (Cornell Business Office)

LOCATION  303 S. 5th Ave.
  street and number
  Mount Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county

legal
  urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
  rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM
  zone  easting  northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER  Cornell College
  name
  Mount Vernon, Iowa
  address

USE  Business Office

ARCH/BLDG  unknown

DATE(S) 1860's (?)

DESCRIPTION  Two story rectangular brick with one story frame "T" addition
Symmetrical facade (one window has been blocked in). Simple gable roof on
two story portion, simple gable on "T" addition. Masonry walls on two
story portion; frame on addition with horizontal clapboard siding. Porch
is full width in front with hip roof, turned porch posts and simple balustrade
across front. Diagonal lattice work below porch floor. House is
painted white and is void of ornament except that on front porch.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  Popular vernacular style for Mount Vernon area made
of local brick

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDED(S)  DATE
NAME: House

LOCATION: 309 S. 5th Ave.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

LEGAL

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM

zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa address

USE: Residence

ARCH/BLDR: unknown

DESCRIPTION: 2 story rectangular with one story frame addition at one end. Balance of structure is masonry. Entrance on Narrow (gable) end, asymmetrical composition. Simple gable roof, both main form and addition. Windows are double hung 4/4/muntin pattern, segmental arch heads of two courses of brick, flush with face of wall. Small "bay" type window on south, simple cornice at top.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Good example of local mid-nineteenth century masonry construction.

SOURCES

Cornell archives and Business Office Records.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S)..................................DATE..................................
NAME C.C. Boarding Association
LOCATION (South Hall) Cornell Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec
UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE
DISTRICT NAME _________
OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address
USE classroom structure
ARCH/BLDR W.W. Sanborn

DESCRIPTION Rectangular plan with projection at entrance, full height 3 stories plus basement. Hip roof with gable over entrance mass. Large paired brackets at all outside corners. Walls are brick running bond, Accentuated outside corners. Brick dentils under soffit. Windows are double hung 9/2 muntin pattern. Double door entrance with fan window above (semicircular). Raised brick trim over segmental arched window on projection.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE building served as a men's dormitory at a time when many male students lived in boarding houses in town. Soon converted to classroom use.

A well-maintained example of institutional Italianate design.

SOURCES
B.R.F.
Minutes of Board of Trustees. June 18 1872,
June 13, 1916.
Collegian. Sept.1, Oct.1, Nov.1, Dec.1 1872,
Feb.1 1873.

SITE PLAN
NAME Old Main (College Hall)

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa address

USE Classroom and offices

ARCH/BLDER William Albright

DATE(S) 1857 PHOTO #

DESCRIPTION Rectangular plan. 3 stories with basement and attic. Gable roof with pent roof at gable end. Large cupola at peak housing bell. Large paired brackets at corners and piers. Brick walls with accentuated corners and piers. Brick lintels, flat with sloping top. Brick dentils under eave between piers. Entrances at center of each side, major entrances (east and west) recessed with segmental arched heads. All doors double. Original windows were paired, double hung. Newer windows are single double hung with 12/2 muntin pattern. Windows above entrances are two small double hung windows flanking one large double hung. Small window with segmental arch head in gable ends. Cupola is 8 sided with balustrade each side. Crossing members in lieu of balusters. Curvilinear form trim at fascia "dom" type roof topped with decorative lightning rod. Cupola sets on square base. Chimneys have been removed.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
College hall is the 2nd oldest academic building on campus; until its construction, Old Sem housed the entire college. Combines Greek Revival and Italiante elements, along with a rather fanciful open bell platform (cupola).

SOURCES
Carnegie Library Building
(Chemistry building)

NAME: Carnegie Library Building

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus
street and number:
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity: county

legal:
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-lsec-lsec

DESCRIPTION: Basically rectangular with projecting full ht. mass at entry. Large un-roofed porch on south. Two stories plus basement. Brick walls with quoins at corners and around the entire projecting entrance mass. Projecting limestone cornice near top of structure; brick parapet above cornice with limestone cap. Horizontal limestone banding at main floorline. Window pattern is two small vertical windows flanking a single middle window. Ground floor windows are taller than second floor windows and are double hung. Lintels are brick with a keystone of projecting brick. Bricks angle away from center (jack arch lintel). Entrance is highly ornate. Semi-circular arch with brick in radiating pattern. Window lintels are in crossing diagonal pattern. Large brackets support projection above door. Ornamentation: large stone ornament centered over door at roof parapet above door. Also stone ornaments under cornice each side of door.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Representative of Carnegie Library era; gift to town and college. Placement on east of campus-accessibility to town. 1st building on campus to be constructed with interior steel frames.

SOURCES: B.R.F.

view: photo
photo #: MAP REF

DATE(S): 1905

SITE PLAN

Iowa State Historical Department

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-020

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S): DATE: 
NAME Spears Fountain

LOCATION Cornell College Campus

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec

UTM

zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE Decorative fountain

ARCH/BLDR Unknown (doner: Armstrong Spear)

DATE(S) 1906

MAP REF

DESCRIPTION "On a circular stone plinth rising some 8 inches above the great circle of cement pavement stands a hexagonal block of solid granit which serves as a base for a bronze fountain piece designed with 3 dolphins. The side of granite block are ornamented in strong relief with six chubby infants in happy dance bearing up a fruit garland that passes in festoons around the block." C.C. Bulletin November 1, 1906

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A campus curiosity for many years.

SOURCES

B.R.F.
C.C. Bulletin Nov.1 1906.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Law Memorial Building of Geology and Biology

LOCATION Cornell College Campus

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn town or vicinity county

legal

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-lsec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa address

USE classroom

VIEW PHOTO #

ARCH/BLDR Miller, Fullenwider, Dowling(A) DATE(S) 1925 MAP REF

Loomis brothers-contractor

DESCRIPTION Rectangular with slight offsets. Three stories. Entrance is offset, producing asymmetrical effect. Hip roof. Walls are brick with stone banding near lower floor window heads; at 3rd story window sill, and at top of building. Stone foundation. Modillians under eave. Projecting stone pilasters flank north entrance. Stone porch or balustrade above main floor entrance. Three windows on 2nd level have an arched motif above windows (north exposure). Windows are double hung on all floors. Single lower level and second level, paired in several areas on third level, Stone lintel lower level, brick lintel with stone keystone second and 3rd levels, various muntin patterns 9/2 predominating windows above entrance are two small units flanking a larger unit. Ornament: Doric stone columns flank entrance with balustraded stone porch above. Decorative stone emblem above 2nd story windows. Stone lintel above 3rd story window.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Only major building built in the 1920's (illustrative of unique growth-history of Cornell-despite national trends toward expansion; Law only major campus building constructed in 1920's).

SOURCES

B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) DATE

NAME  The Seminary Building "Old Sem"

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county

district rating: 0 B C

UTM
zone  easting northing

OWNER  Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE  houses administration offices

ARCH/BLDR  B-William & H.T. Albright and R.J. Harbert

DESCRIPTION Basic structure rectangular, three story with two story "L" addition (2 story) and other small frame additions. Gable roof on two and three story portions. Walls are brick, flat except at frieze where there are some projections. Gable end is stucco with the eave returned onto gable end. The frieze line continues across the gable end. Windows are all double hung except semi-circular window in gable ends. Double hung windows with 6/6 or 6/2 muntin pattern. Brick lintels with slight projection all floors. Entrance has small gable roof porch over it. Major alterations include: enlarged in 1869 by 30 feet addition to south wing; mansard added. (creating 4th floor) in 1892-outside stairway removed from north facade in 1906 - main entrance was the on ground floor - 2 windows cut into west wall on 3rd floor; in 1924, fire destroyed all but walls-when rebuilt, mansard not included-North entrance door now protected by outside vestibule. Original bldg. had 9 chimneys (4N, 4S)-series of chimney modifications between 1892 and 1924-after fire, removed. 1958-9 renovation for administrative offices. Exterior form after '24 fire was essentially retained. Extensive documentation of interior structural arrangement and window and chimney modifications is available

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Housed entire college until 1857 and has served as the historical symbol of Cornell College; it is the oldest campus structure that has been continually used since its construction. A chastely simple Greek Revival building that has been lovingly rehabilitated for continued service to the college.

SOURCES
B.R.F.
History of Linn County, 1878.
Cornellian, Sept. 19 1892, Sept. 22 1906.
Minutes of Board of Trustees. June 18 1887.

RECORD(S)  DATE

SITE PLAN
**NAME**  King Memorial Chapel  

**LOCATION**  Cornell College Campus  street and number  Mount Vernon  Linn  town or vicinity  county  

**legal**  
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel  
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec  

**UTM**  
zone  easting northing  

**DISTRICT NAME**  

**OWNER**  Cornell College  name  Mount Vernon, Iowa  address  

**USE**  Aditorium, classrooms, offices  

**ARCH/BLDG**  Cass Chapman/George Haldstock  

**VIEW**  

**DATE(S)** 1876-1876  

**DESCRIPTION**  Cruciform-plan structure of undressed yellow dolomite limestone, laid in a random ashlar pattern. The structure is marked by 3 towers. One is square-sided, with louvered, pointed-arched openings on each side; the four-sided spire bears four clocks and a mansard spire topped by a decorative iron railing. Another is round, in four sections divided by stringcourses. The lower 3 sections are pierced by pointed-arched lights, the fourth by circular windows. The round spire is surmounted by a molded tin pinnacle. A 3rd tower at the rear is square-based and also pierced by pointed-arched lights Windows throughout the bldg. exhibit tracery and are filled w/stained glass, including the fanlight over the front entrance. 2 of 3 chimneys have pressed tin decorative pinnacles above the flue opening. Gabled roof is covered in composition shingle. The interior has undergone extensive alteration. Exterior changes have been limited to the removal of decorative wrought-iron from the roof ridge, replacement of main entrance doors, removal of a flagpole and the original slate roof, and the addition of a spiral fire escape.  

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**: King chapel has served as a cultural center for C.C., Mt. Vernon & a rather wide geographic area. The 19th Century Iowa Colleges were part of a movement to spread culture among the people. Cornell played a role in this effort, offering lectures, concerts, and performances which were open to the public. Some of those appearing at King Chapel over the years were William Howard Taft, Amelia Earhart, Carl Sandburg, Frank Lloyd Wright, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Walter Gieseking. As a house of worship, the chapel has never been the home of a formal and established congregation. Religious services were originally required as part of the educational experience provided by the college, and in later years the building has served as a worship place for meetings of the Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church and for special meetings of other denominations.  

**SOURCES**  

**SITE PLAN**  

**RECORDER(S)**  

**DATE**
NAME _______ The Rock

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Students paint it & move it periodically!!

ARCH/BLDR ___________________________ DATE(S)

DESCRIPTION Brought to campus from Palisades Park in 1889 by class of 1889. 5,000 lbs. of granite

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A campus institution and traditional source of entertainment for students.

SOURCES
B.R.F.

RECORD(S) _______________ DATE _______________

SITE PLAN
NAME Bowman Hall

LOCATION Cornell College Campus  
street and number  
Mount Vernon Linn  
town or vicinity county

LEGAL  
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel  
rural: twp-range-section-sec-tsec

UTM  
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College  
name  
Mount Vernon, Iowa  
address

USE Women's residence hall

ARCH/Bldr Cass Chapman

DATE(S) 1885

DESCRIPTION ELL shaped with rectangular projection and tower at outside corner, small projection at entry, and small projection at west end. Three stories plus basement and attic. Gable roof with many dormers. Gable ends over entrance projection and west end projection. Some dormers have jérkinhead roof penetrated with chimneys. Peak of roof at the intersection of ell legs is topped with cresting. The hip roof on the corner tower is also topped with cresting. Walls are brick, with projecting pilasters between the large dormers. The base or basement walls are limestone with segmental arches over large openings. The bricks project in a dentil like form under the eaves. The predominant window is double hung with segmental arch head. The 3rd floor tower windows are gothic, the large dormer windows flanking the chimneys are ½ circular. On triangular dormer has triangular window and the windows over the entry are varied with a gothic window on the gable end. The gable end has a decorative wood peak with dentils under the eave. **

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE One of three buildings in district executed by Cass Chapman. A massive Gothic Revival edifice of typical high Victorian complexity. Its fortress-like appearance was well-suited to its purpose of housing (and protecting?) young women students in the late 19th century.

** Original porch is gone. Existing porch has masonry piers and limestone sides. Chimneys have been simplified but exist at each major dormer.

SOURCES

NAME  Merner Hall

LOCATION  Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county

legal:
urban?subdiv=block=parcel=subparcel
rural: twp-range=section=sec=sec

UTM  
zone  easting  northing

ACREAGE  

DISTRICT NAME  

OWNER  Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE  Dormitory (coed)

ARCH/BLDR  William Jay Brown

DESCRIPTION
A two-story, T-plan building. Exterior walls faced with brick. Off-center entrance has fanlight, and is set beneath a columned porch. Roof dormers have paired sash windows beneath triangular pediments. Round keystone brick arches above first story windows are bricked-in above the impost level.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  One of 3 major buildings constructed during the Depression. Illustrative of the growth of midwest liberal arts colleges. (See also #5, 10).

SOURCES
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN
NAME: Olin Hall

LOCATION: Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal
urban: subdly-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE: Men's dormitory

ARCH/BLDR: Green & Co.

DESCRIPTION
Three-story, side-gable building on high windowed basement. A slightly projecting three-bay center frontispiece is topped with a triangular pediment. Shed dormers added at roof edge.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A very half-hearted attempt to carry on prevailing architectural motifs of campus.

SOURCES
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) DATE
NAME      Pauley Hall

LOCATION  Cornell College Campus
          street and number
          Mount Vernon     Linn
          town or vicinity county
legal
          urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
          rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER    Cornell College
          name
          Mount Vernon, Iowa
          address

USE     Women's residence hall

ARCH/BLDR  Harry Weese & Assoc.

DESCRIPTION

See # 9, 11.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See # 9, 11.

SOURCES

B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

SITE NUMBER:  57-030-028   MAR 3 1 1980

DISTRICT RATING:  □ A □ B □ C

VIEW     PHOTO #   DATE(S)   MAP REF

ACREAGE  zone easting northing

RECORDER(S)        DATE
NAME Rorem Hall

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-tsec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE men's academic residence

ARCH/BLDR Harry Weese & Assoc.

DESCRIPTION
See #9, 11.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
See #9, 11.

SOURCES
B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-029 MAR 3 1 1980

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

VIEW PHOTO #

DATE(S) 1966 MAP REF

RECORDER(S) DATE
NAME  Ash Field

LOCATION  Cornell College Campus
  street and number
  Mount Vernon  Linn
  town or vicinity  county

legal
  urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
  rural: twp-range-section-4sec-4sec

UTM
  zone  easting  northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER  Cornell College
  name
  Mount Vernon, Iowa
  address

USE  Sports and picnic area

ARCH/BLDR  N/A - Purchased 1891 from Rueben Ash

DATE(S)

PHOTO #

MAP REF

DESCRIPTION  Background structure, concrete bleachers built in 1921 builder unknown. Extensive park area devoted to athletic field, field houses, and picnic area. Concrete bleachers and press box (some 20 rows of seats—wooden)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
An integral and noticeable element of the landscape, particularly when viewed from almost anywhere on the west side of the main campus. Acts as a transitional element between the dense residential and campus areas and the open farmland to the north.

SOURCES
Cornell Building Files
College Bulletin. May 15, 1922.
NAME Field House

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Physical Education/gym facility

ARCH/BLDR Green & Co.

DESCRIPTION Intrusion—not typical of district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An undistinguished, utilitarian building.

SOURCES

B.R.F.

SITE PLAN

RECORER(S) _______________ DATE _______________
NAME Alumni Gymnasium

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

LEGAL
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-tsec-lsec

UTM zone easting northing

ACCREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE P.E. & Gymnasium facility

ARCH/Bldr Grant Miller

DATE(S) 1909

DESCRIPTION Rectangle with 2 projecting, full height mass (basement, entries, parapet). Hip roof, terracotta, tin ridge protector. Walls are brick with quoins style corners. Limestone horizontal banding at 1st floor and below eave line and on parapet. Windows: 1st floor--2 pane in rectangle frame set in full arch of brick with keystone, 2nd floor 2 pane in rectangle frame with limestone and sills-jack arch lintel, 3rd floor--single pane skylight, no windows on north facade 1st and 2nd floors. Entrance mass highly ornate brick arch with radiating pattern, 2nd floor window is leaded glass, limestone sill, jack arch. Original roof included skylights--replaced by composition shingles in 1959.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE One of the first indoor pools in state. Illustrative of early concept of separate phy. ed. facilities. Unusually early indoor track. Exterior bears comparison with the Cornell/ Mount Vernon Public Library (#20).

SOURCES
B.R.F. Cornellian
Mount Vernon Record.

SITE PLAN
NAME Psychology House Or Lyttle House

LOCATION 802 1st St. W. Mount Vernon Linn
street and number
town or vicinity county

legal urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Psychology building

ARCH/BLDR

DATE(S) 1884

DESCRIPTION Plan is "T" shape, two stories with asymmetrical entrance and one story bay on east side. Roof is hip, walls brick, running bond with plain frieze at top under projection eave. Limestone foundation wall. Windows are double hung with stone lintels (pointed or sloping tops) and sills. Entrance door flanked with sidelights at side with transom above. All porches removed except front porch. Front porch has hip roof supported by square decorative pilasters. (no balustrade). Chimneys have been removed. Alterations: Door bricked in on east bay about 1937. Addition to north (rear) in 1965—wood frame.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE George Lyttle moved to Mt. Vernon in 1883 and little is known about the family. The house is a well-kept example of Mt. Vernon's late 19th-century domestic architecture.

SOURCES

The Cornellian. October, 1884.
NAME House (INTRUSION)

LOCATION 724 8th Ave. N. street and number Mount Vernon Linn town or vicinity county
legal Ash Park Add., Block 8, lot 4
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-1sec-1sec

UTM ________ ACREAGE ________
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Allen Griffith name 724 8th Ave. N.
Mount Vernon, Iowa address

USE Residence

ARCH/BLDR

DESCRIPTION INTRUSION—not typical of district
Modern ranch-style house.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE NONE

SOURCES
Allen Griffith, owner.

RECORer(s) ___________________ DATE ___________________
NAME: House

LOCATION: 718 8th Ave. N. Mount Vernon, Linn

town or vicinity: Mount Vernon

county: Linn

street and number: 718 8th Ave. N.

legal: Ash Park Add., Block 8, Lot 3

owners: Ash Park Add., Block 8, Lot 3

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

DISTRICT NAME:

OWNER: Paul Maaske

name: Paul Maaske

address: 718 8th Ave. N., Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: Professor Harlan Betts

DATE(S): 1912

VIEW: residence

PHOTO #: 1

DESCRIPTION: Rectangular plan, two story with dormer and small porches. Hip roof on main structure and porches. Shed type roof on dormer. Stucco on all walls except sides of dormer which are shakes. Windows are double hung, usually in pairs. 3/1 muntin pattern. West facade has two groups of 3 windows with a fixed glass panel above each and divisions at the top of the top sash. Porches—The entrance is covered by a projecting roof supported (aesthetic only) by two brackets, one each side. The porch roof form continues to the south over one of the groupings of three windows.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Earliest known stucco house in town, background structure to district

SOURCES: Paul Maaske, owner.
**NAME**  Elmer Moots House

**LOCATION**  710 8th Ave. N., Mount Vernon, Linn County

**LEGAL**  Ash Park Add., Block 8 Lots 1 & 2

**DESCRIPTION**  Ell shaped with small extension at one of gable ends (One story). Main house 1½ or 2 stories. Gable roof with gable dormer. Wood shingles (?) Walls are irregular undressed limestone. Windows-casement and double hung, in groups of two or three (except dormer). Stone, jack arch lintels small double door onto balcony on second level east gable end. Double door to south wing extension. Entrance recessed from corner of house with large semi-circular arches on each side of corner. Limestone planter to south of entrance. Limestone walk and steps to entry from west.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  One of the first houses that had a garage incorporated into house. Elmer Moots was a math prof., and civil engineer.

The house is a local representative of the "picturesque revivals" of medieval residential forms that were popular after World War I. The random projection of stone blocks from the exterior wall surface gives a highly textured appearance.

**SOURCES**  Owner and Alan DuVal.

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**SITE PLAN**  

---
NAME  Reuben Ash House

LOCATION  702 8th Ave. N.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal Ash Park Add. Block 8 Homestead
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

DESCRIPTION  "T" shape plan, gable roof with dormer in south wing, limestone sills and lintels on 1st and 2nd floors. Walls are of local brick ½ running bond. Entrance porch extended to wing, supported by columns, is an early 20th century feature. Doorway features multi-light transom and sidelights, and is framed by simple pilasters and cornice.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  Reuben Ash was one of the earliest settlers in county as well as town. Farmer and benefactor.

The house is a good example of Iowa's mid-19th century domestic architecture, in which the Greek Revival is given vernacular expression.

SOURCES
Cent. History.

SITE PLAN
NAME Barn/Garage

LOCATION 702 8th Ave. N
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Ash Park Add. Block 8
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Claude Harrison
name
702 8th Ave. N., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE garage & storage

ARCH/Bldr Theodore Stinger


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE one of the last barns for horses etc. before coming of auto

SOURCES

Interview with property owner who has cor-
respondance with the Stinger family
about the structure (May 10, 1979).

SITE PLAN
NAME Platner House (Music Practice)

LOCATION Cornell College Campus
  street and number
  Mount Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county
legal
  Bowman 2nd Add., Block 2, Lots 7 & 8
  subdiv: block: parcel: subparcel
  urban: twp: range: sec: site
  rural: twp: range: sec: site

OWNERS Cornell College
  name
  Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE  Music practice house

ARCH/BLDR Marsden Keyes/Charles Davis

VIEW

MAP REF

ACREAGE

DESCRIPTION Irregular plan, high mass with 3 styles of windows. Wood siding, decorative siding. Entry mass 2 story porch, one porch 2nd floor east, two (1st & 2nd floor) west facade. Characteristic of Queen Anne style (Neo Jacobean). Limestone foundation, tin roof and ridge cresting.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Platner was local hardware dealer and operated stone quarry.

This richly-textured late Victorian house preserves nearly all of the elaborate ornamentation characteristic of its type and period. The effect is lessened, however, by the flat white paint; the earlier polychrome exterior treatment was far more successful in bringing out the wealth of detail.

SOURCES

Towan (Fall 1971). Keyes, Margaret. "He Left a Legacy in Landmarks."
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Wade House (Admissions)

LOCATION 701 1st St. W.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman 2nd Add., Block 2, Lots 5 & 6

urban: subdiv-block-parcel

rural: twp-range-section

UTM ___ ___ ___ ACREAGE ___ ___ ___

ZONE easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa address

USE Admissions house

ARCH/BLDR William McIntyre

VIEW PHOTO #

DATE(S) 1884 MAP REF

DESCRIPTION Limestone foundation, wood frame; irregular plan, roof intersecting gables & turret. Three gable ends; gothic double windows on 2nd floor & full bargeboard.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This late-Victorian house has a strong vertical emphasis appropriate to the period. Note details such as verge boards, decorative window surrounds, and dog-tooth molding applied to roof fascia at bay window, porch, and tower pentroof.

SOURCES
Cornellian. June 1884, July 1889.
Hawkeye. August 15 1884, October 24 1884,
January 10 1890, July 26 1889.

SITE PLAN

RECORD(S) DATE
NAME Albright House

LOCATION 617 1st St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal Bowman 2nd Add., Block 6 lot 7 & 8
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ssec

DESCRIPTION Limestone foundation, irregular plan, walls regular and decorative shingles on porch entry 2nd & 3rd floors--1st floor brick walls. Roof is basic gamble with hip form over 2 floor massing with 5 sides. Chimney is cut limestone and molded design brick placed in essentially a plain brick stack.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A typical late 19th-century residential form.

SOURCES
B.R.F. Grace Albright.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Rood House

LOCATION 607 1st Street W
street and number  
Mt. Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county
legal Bowman's 2nd Add., Block 6, Lots 5&6
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-ssec

DISTRICT NAME

ACREAGE

ZONE easting northing

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE women’s dormitory

ARCH/BLDR Marsden Keyes

DATE(S) 1884 (Rood)

DESCRIPTION

The property collectively known as Rood House is an L-shaped group of three former residences, two of which were moved (1936, 1954) from their original locations on Linden Terrace and connected to the main (Rood) house by two-story frame hyphens. All three houses are two stories, of frame construction. The two Linden Terrace houses (known as East and North Houses) are turn of the century vernacular, combining late Queen Anne and Colonial Revival details. Most noteworthy feature of East House is the polygonal corner tower. The main house, or Rood House proper, is older (1884) and in the Stick Style, although the flat white paint tends to obscure the many details remaining.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rood House itself is the district's only example of the Stick Style. Significant features are the vertical and diagonal stickwork, decorative bargeboarding, well-preserved main entrance porch and rectangular corner tower with steeply pitched flared roof. Rood house was built as a residence for Civil War Colonel H.H. Rood. Rood was a local merchant and secretary to the Cornell Board of Trustees for 47 years. The house was later used as a social center. It was purchased by the Cornell class of 1894 and presented to the college in 1919.

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) ___________________ DATE ___________________
NAME Stoner House

LOCATION 527 1st St. W.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowmans 2nd Add. Block 7 lot 1 south

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM

ACREAGE

zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon address

USE multiple residence

ARCH/BLDR Dr. A.C. Fenney

DATE(S) 1902

PHOTO #

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Typical turn-of-the-century residence Diamond-pattern shingling enriches the exterior.

SOURCES

Abstract ($15,000 lean 1902)

Edgar Gillette, CC class of 1908.
LOCATION 519 1st St. W.
street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman 2nd Add., Block 7, Lot 2 South
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-1sec-1sec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR August Gerdes

DESCRIPTION cement block, wood, INTRUSION—not typical of district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

Dr. Gene Hiriman, CC student at time of construction; now professor of geology.

SITE PLAN

RECORDED(S) DATE
NAME  Kettleson House

LOCATION  515 2st St. W.
街名 and number
Mount Vernon  Linn

town or vicinity  county

legal  Bowman's 2nd Add., Block 7, Lot 3

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-4sec-4sec

UTM  zone  easting  northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER  Christy Winebrenner

name

515 1st St. W., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

address

USE  residence

ARCH/BLDR

DESCRIPTION  "T" shape, 2 storys with one story addition to rear and one story garage on west. One story bay with 4 sides 1/2 octagon at ent of east wing. Entry asymmetrical. Gable roof on main mass and one story addition to rear (north) hip roof on porch. Walls-horizontal wood siding "C" type ship lap corner trim. One story continuous porch on south and east supported by square columns and curved brackets. Ornamant: bay window eave supported by brackest. Applied ornament above windows. "Stick" motif in gable ends. Curved ornament at bottom of gable end barge board. Windows double hung. Ground floor, south wing windows go to floor. 2/2/ muntin other windows. Double garage added to front & west 1969, closed window on 1st floor east side, south of bay 1969, patio attached to NE corner

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Typical late-19th century residence. Porch roof, replaced in 1969 to conform with that of the garage, is too "heavy" in appearance to blend properly with the main house.

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S)  DATE
NAME: Old Knox Grill

LOCATION: 503 1st St. W.

Legal: Young's 2nd Add., Lot 8

Ownership: Charles Willits

Owner Address: 503 1st St. W., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

Use: Student rooming and apartments

Arch/Bldr: Unknown

Description: Rectangular plan, gable, jerkin head, hip dormers (3). House is the result of enlargements of a much smaller house on the site as of 1906. Rear addition (north) 1917. Enlargement of main block, addition of third floor, front porch and stucco 1922. Composition shingling and siding 1946.

Statement of Significance: Provided for social and food needs of students and faculty for over 20 years. Shows adaptive use of a home.

Sources:
The Royal Purple (college annual) for 1921 and 1922 (Pictures show house being changed and completed). Interviews: Mr. James McCutcheon, newspaper editor for 40 years, May 1979. Mr. James Young, local merchant for 50 years, May 1979.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Conoco Station

LOCATION 419 1st St. W.

street and number

Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Young's Add., Block 2 lots 6 & 7

town or vicinity county

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
	rural: twp-range-section-lsec-tsec

UTM

disturbance and orientation

ACREAGE

disturbance and orientation

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Mrs. D.C. Sterns

name

213 1st Ave. N., Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE Gas station

USE

VIEW

PHOTO #

ARCH/BLDR Lloyd McCutcheon for James McCutcheon

DATE(S) 1914

DATE

MAP REF

DESCRIPTION Trusses and joices span entire building and very heavy to hold up the printing equipment on 1st floor. Windows made by the builder and entire placement of windows are designed to allow as much light as possible into the printing area (no interior support posts to allow maximum flexibility of equipment placement) Only hollow tile building in this area. Large door to basement on west side is to allow for large rolls of paper to be moved into the basement for storage and use. Originally the bldg. housed the printing office of Mt. Vernon Record.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Home of weekly newspaper 1914-1930, the Mt. Vernon Record.

SOURCES

Interviews and pictures furnished by James McCutcheon, son of builder and grandson of contractor. James was editor and publisher from 1924-66.
NAME Memorial Park (watertower and pump house)

LOCATION 400 1st St. W.

street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Young's Add. Lots 3,4,10,12 and 14.
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-lsec

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER City of Mount Vernon

name
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE city park

ARCH/BLDR

DESCRIPTION Water tower-1939, pump house-1939

INTRUSION—not typical of district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Federally assisted community improvement project (watertower) in Depression. Local bank loaned much of the capital to the city as a witness of new faith in economy of the area.

SOURCES
Mt. Vernon City Council Minutes, June 1937.
NAME Altoona Hall

LOCATION 325 1st St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal Orig. Town: Block 9 lots 5/Young's#
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcell
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

DESCRIPTION rectangular plan with wall elevation over entrance, Roof: flat with short parapet, Walls: yellow brick, entrance mass distinguished by large roman arch window and extended projection above regular wall level. Decorative brick banding between 1st and 2nd floors and above 3rd floor to parapet. Originally a hotel

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Second structure in town built as hotel. Anticipated business with the opening of the interurban in 1915.

* addition, Lots 2 & 2

SOURCES
B.R.F.
Cornellian, September 20 1902.
Mt. Vernon Record, March 20 1903, July 29 1904.
Royal Purple, 1935-1948.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Presbyterian Parish House

LOCATION 310 1st St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Orig. Town, Block 7 Lot 4
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER First Presbyterian Church
name 1st St. West & 3rd Ave.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE religious offices and education fac.

ARCH/BLDR unknown

DESCRIPTION two story "L" shape with additions, gable roof, 2 porches on front (south) side (not enclosed) Walls are horizontal siding with corner trim clapboard siding in V pattern in gable end. An Addition on NE corner to connect parish house to church (passage way constructed between two buildings.

Background structure to district -

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is a common late 19th-early 20th century residential type: the chevron pattern in the front gable and the spindles of the west porch add interest.

SOURCES

Interview with Willard Palmer, Clerk of the Session of the Church when additions to building were made and new parsonage was constructed at another location, May 22, 1979.

SITE PLAN

RECORER(S)______________________ DATE

______

MAR 31 1980

57-030-050

DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION, IOWA STATE HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT

DISTRICT RATING: □ A √ B □ C

VIEW PHOTO # DATE(S) unknown MAP REF

photo photo

photo

photo
NAME: First Presbyterian Church

LOCATION: 1st St. W. and 3rd Ave.

DISTRICT NAME: Mount Vernon

OWNER: First Presbyterian Church

USE: Church

DESCRIPTION: Basically rectangular shape with asymmetrical tower massing at entrance (SE corner) slight projection of mass at center of east wall and at SW corner. Gable roof over main mass extending in N-S direction. Gable roof over entrance mass and projection on SW corner. Hip roof over entrance mass (bell tower) with ornament at peak. Walls are undressed limestone with dressed stone around all doors and window. Horizontal band of dressed stone at main floor line. Wood shingles at upper portion of gable on main mass and small mass and SW corner. Small pent roof at lower end of shingles portion. Semi-circular arched openings into bell tower. Other openings with stone lintel. Entrance tower has trio of windows, two high, with stone lintel between. All glass is stained glass. Large undressed limestone chimney at north end. Romanesque Style.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
This church and the Methodist Church opposite (#52) guard the eastern entrance to the district. Their size and massing contribute to their evaluation as pivotal structures.

SOURCES:
A Centennial History of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, 1947 (by local committee).
NAME Mount Vernon United Meth. Church

LOCATION 304 1st St. W.

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-052

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

VIEW PHOTO #

ARCH/Bldr George Cramer/John R. Gier

DATE(S) 1900

DESCRIPTION Rectangular plan. Two stories plus basement except in nave (one story). Four story square tower NE corner; two story square tower NW corner. Towers do not project. Intersecting gables with hip roof on towers. Small gable roof projection on east side near south end. Walls are of undressed stone (limestone) Banding of vertical undressed stone on north facade below large window, and at the frieze line of the towers and main structure. The corners of the towers are buttressed. Gothic arched stained glass windows at gable ends (N., E., & W.,) arches over openings to upper portion of bell tower. Openings all sided of tower. All other windows have simple stone lintels except tower windows which are irregularly grouped and more vertical that other windows with semi-circular arches. Ornament: cross atop bell tower.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Church is outgrowth of work of early Methodist circuit riders Congregation and pastor (George Bowman) provided the leadership for founding of Cornell College.

See statement for #51. These two churches firmly establish the eastern entrance to the district, and act also as transitional elements between the commercial center and the district.

SOURCES

RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Methodist Parsonage

LOCATION 312 1st St. W.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add., Lot 2
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\textit{tsec}-\textit{sec}

UTM ___________ ACREAGE ___________
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church

name 304 1st St. W.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE Pastor's residence

ARCH/BLDR unknown

DESCRIPTION "L" shaped with entry massing above the eave and projected from wall face. Walls are brick, banding between floors-frieze cut to cap windows on 2nd floor. Entry massing: gothic arch in doorway set in essential rectangle form. Deep recessed small windows either side of door and in attic. Hip roof with one dormer.

Background structure to district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A large structure of vaguely Gothic inspiration. The pointed arch at the entrance repeats a prominent feature of the Methodist church on the east (#52).

SOURCES

First Methodist Church, Mt. Vernon, Iowa 1841-1966.

SITE PLAN

RECORD(S)___________ DATE___________
NAME Garage

LOCATION rear of 312 1st St. W.
   Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add. Block--Lot 2
   urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
   rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM ___________ ACREAGE ___________
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church
   name 312 1st St. W.
   Mt. Vernon, Iowa
   address

USE Garage

ARCH/BLDR unknown

DESCRIPTION
Small garage, of wood frame and construction and covered with shiplap siding.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
This unobtrusive structure displays the roof shape and projecting rafter ends of the Craftsman style, and diamond shingles in the gable end more appropriate in a late-Victorian house.

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) DATE
NAME: Guild Hall (Mt. Vernon House)

LOCATION: 328 1st St. W

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal: Bowman's Addition Lot 3

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM
zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Roy Bowman

name 508 W. 10th Ave. St.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE: men's residence hall

ARCH/BLDR: E. Bowman

DATE(S): 1853

PHOTO #

MAP REF


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: First hotel in area; prior to railroad housed civic and artist dignitaries (i.e. William Taft, Lilian Russell). This building size and corner location contribute to its status as a pivotal structure in the district. Its long role in the commercial history of Mt. Vernon is another important factor.

SOURCES
B.R.F.
Centennial History of Mt. Vernon.
Collegian. October and November 1874.
Mt. Vernon Record. June 4 1907, August 31 1915, August 8 1916.
Cornellian. September 13 and September 29 1915, September 15 1920.

SITE PLAN
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME Dr. Hogel House/Morgan's Funeral Home

LOCATION 400 1st Street W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Addition lot 4
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM ___________ ACREAGE ________
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Jack Morgan
name 400 1st Street W.
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Funeral Home

ARCH/BLDR Thomas Clark

DATE(S) 1867-87 (2) MAP REF

DESCRIPTION Irregular plan, 3 story, mansard roof (flat), brick walls, brackets, raised brick hoods over windows. Two story bay (6 sides) on east facing wood brackets and pent roof-8 dormer windows in mansard. Original porches removed, replaced with pseudo-Colonial Revival elements. Chimney above polygonal bay (east side) removed. Brick has been painted dark red.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Home, office and clinic of Dr. Kate Mason Hogel and husband Dr. George Hogel. She graduated from Cornell in 1882 and is earliest woman physician in the area.

Despite loss of some detail (most notably the richly-ornamented front porch), this house remains a well-kept example of Second Empire residential architecture.

SOURCES
Abstract of Property. Interviews with Mr. James McCutcheon, newspaper editor for 40 years.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME: Stearns Apartments

LOCATION: 410 1st St. W., Mt. Vernon, Linn county

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-056

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

OWNER: Bruce H. Scott

USE: residence

ARCH/Bldr: unknown

DESCRIPTION: Rectangular two story with basement & attic in gable roof. Small one story bay on gable (west) end. (3 sided bay). Gable roof with gable form over entrance. The entire house is symmetrical except for the bay on the west. The front porch has a peaked or gable roof with the gable end open. The eave is returned and supported by pairs of square columns. Hip roof form over bay window. Walls: horizontal clapboard siding with corner trim. Windows: simple double hung, symmetrically placed in front facade. Double door entrance with full width transom above. Small square window in gable of entrance. Alterations: front entrance changed by removing double porch (vertical) date unknown; aluminum siding in 1978, and barge boards removed. Back (south) porches enclosed into house for apartments (1910)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An undistinguished, but not intrusive, late 19th century house.

SOURCES


Interview with Mrs. D.C. Stearns who owned the property 1940-79, May 24, 1979.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME: Garage

LOCATION: rear of 400 1st St. W.
street and number: Mount Vernon

town or vicinity: Linn

county: Mount Vernon, Linn

district: RATING: QA QD

LEGAL: Bowmen's add. Lot 5

URBAN: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel.

RURAL: twp-range-section-lsec-lsec

ZONE/EASTING/NORTHING:

ACREAGE:

DISTRICT NAME:

OWNER: Bruce H. Scott
name: 721 7th Ave. N.

address: Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314

USE: garage

ARCH/BLDR: unknown

DATE(S): 1940's

PHOTO #:

DESCRIPTION:

DESCRIPTION: INTRUSION—not typical of district, rectangular plan with jerkinhead roof. Horizontal wood siding "C" ship lap pattern.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

Interview with Mrs. D.C. Stearns who owned the house from 1940-79, May 24, 1979.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S): __________________ DATE: ________
NAME: Strite House

LOCATION: 420 1st St. W., Mount Vernon, Linn County, legal: Bowman's add., Lot 6

DESCRIPTION: Basically rectangular plan with gable roofed projection on east with bay window at end of gable projection, and large two story porch on south and east. Gable roof except porches. Asphalt shingles. Walls: stucco. Pilasters supporting porch are wood with relief panels. Half timber motif on east projecting gable end. Windows are double hung except bay which has large fixed glass w/multiple panes. Windows occasionally paired. Ornament—no special ornament. Alteration: 1923: North end of house was extended north about 10 feet and 2 story screen porches across north facade added small addition of 2 stories to N.W. corner bring the outer west wall flush with earlier bay. Entire house stuccoed.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Residence of Charles Strite (1923-26) inventor of the toastmaster. Builder Leigh was a large landowner, pioneer & farmer.

SOURCES:
Mt. Vernon Hawkeye, August 22 1890, May 3 1895.
NAME Garage

LOCATION behind 420 1st St. W. M
street and number Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add. Lot 6 urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-lsec-lsec

UTM

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Donald Lester
name 420 1st St. W.
address Mt. Vernon, Iowa

USE Garage

ARCH/BLDR Charles Strite-bldr. (for his cars)

DESCRIPTION rectangular plan, one story, with hip roof. Exposed rafter ends. Stuccoed walls. Entire south wall sliding wood doors with two six paned windows in each and exposed door bracing door are wood.

background structure to district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S)________________ DATE________________
NAME       Theodore Stinger House
LOCATION  424 1st St. W.
           Mount Vernon  Linn
legal      Bowman's Add. Lot 7
           urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
           rural: twp-range-section-parcel
          __________ ACREAGE __________
          zone easting northing
DISTRICT NAME
OWNER      Mrs. L.C. West
           124 1st St. W.
           Mount Vernon, Iowa
USE        residence
ARCH/BLDR  Theodore Stinger
DATE(S)    1922
SOURCE(S)  Mrs. Arlo Stinger (daughter-in-law of Theodore Stinger, builder).
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Straightforward example of the Craftsman style.

SOURCES
Mrs. Arlo Stinger (daughter-in-law of Theodore Stinger, builder).
NAME: House

LOCATION: 419 S. 2nd St. W.

street and number

Mount Vernon

Linn

town or vicinity

county

LEGAL: Bowman's Addition Lot 10

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-4sec-sec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Dr. Elmer C. Prall

name: 419 S. 2nd St. W.

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: M. B. Wain

DATE(S): 1922

PHOTO #

MAP REF

DESCRIPTION: Irregular plan, asymmetrical. Several projections and bays differing in shape and height. Jerkinhead roof over main 2½ story mass with one eave lower than other. Shed roofed dormer on largest roof form. Eave return at bottom of large roof. Shed roof addition on north. Entire roof of rectangular red tile. Exposed rafter ends. Walls are dark brick main material contrasted with stucco/half timber with horizontal siding on dormer (probably not original siding). Windows are of great variety. Front with easements in groups of 3 or 4. Soldier course lintel over wide casements on main floor. Segmental arch over 3 casements on second floor. Pair of fixed windows in two faced dormer over entry. Double hung windows, singular or paired with segmental brick arches over pairs in other faces. Porch is heavy timber porch form at front door. Not roofed, supported by a pair of large brackets each side.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A highly eclectic house of Craftsman tradition.

SOURCES

Elmer Prall, owner.

James McCutcheon, Mount Vernon Hawkeye editor 1925-1970.

SITE PLAN
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME  DeBray House  Thomas House

LOCATION  413 S. 2nd St. W.
           street and number
           Mount Vernon  Linn
           town or vicinity  county

LEGAL  Bowman's Add. Lot 11
        urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
        rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM  zone  easting  northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER  Robert Kupfer
        name  413 S. 2nd St. W.
        address  Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE  residence

ARCH/BLDR  unknown; possibly DeBray

DATE(S)  ca. 1900

DESCRIPTION  Highly irregular, asymmetrical plan with several projecting bays and forms. Main structure is hip roof with gable roof over south facing 3 story projecting mass. Semi-conical roof form over semi-circular projection on the east. Roof is painted slate shingles. A variety of materials and textures create the walls. Brick 1st story on east and half of west. Wood shingles, square bottom on north skirt bottemed projection. Fish scale shingles on 2nd floor. Trim boards at corner, and fascia. Skirt around entire house at 2nd floor line. Double hung windows throughout, singular or in pairs. Three in row under large projecting south mass. Windows with semi-circular heads on 3rd level of south mass. Porches are all enclosed. Ornamentation: cloverleaf motif under 2nd floor skirt above windows on south facing 3 story mass. Wood panel type wall below same windows. Alterations: Front porch (2nd & 1st floors) enclosed 1910-1920; (note: shingling on 2nd floor enclosure replicates that of original house). Enclosed porches on east side-1925, large room added on the north side-1973.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although somewhat altered, this house retains the asymmetrical composition and textured wall surfaces characteristic of American Queen Anne residential architecture.

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S)  DATE
NAME Metal House (Quonset Hut?)

LOCATION behind 413 S. 2nd St.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add. Lot 11
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Robert Kupfer
name 413 S. 2nd St.
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address

USE

ARCH/BLDR George Brown

DESCRIPTION Intrusion—not typical of district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES
George Brown, builder.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) ________________ DATE ________________
NAME: House

LOCATION: 115 S. 4th Ave. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal Bowman's Add., Lots 12 & 13
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: James McCutcheon
name 115 S. 4th Ave. W.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDG: Merle Burge, Leo Kirkpatrick

DESCRIPTION: Intrusion—not typical of district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Typical 1950's ranch house form.

SOURCES

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-064 MAR 31 1980

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

VIEW PHOTO #

DATE(S) 1953 MAP REF

RECORD(S) DATE

SITE PLAN
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME: House

LOCATION: 205 4th Ave. S.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal: Bowman's Add. Block-Lot 18 and Hall*
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec sec

UTM ______ ______ ACREAGE ______
zeastings northings

DISTRICT NAME: 

OWNER: Gaillard Beranek
name: 205 4th Ave. S.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address: 

USE: Residence

ARCH/BLDR: Beranek of Bruse Const. (M.V.)

DATE(S): 1955

DESCRIPTION: Intrusion-not typical of district
*Addition, Block 6 Lot 8

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Typical suburban ranch house.

SOURCES: Owner.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S): _________________ DATE: _______________
NAME Benesh House

LOCATION 406 S. 2nd St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add. Lot 19 and Halls first
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-quad

UTM _______ ACREAGE _______
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Wayne Rife

name 406 S. 2nd St. W.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR Benesh

DATE(S) 1883-90

DESCRIPTION Irregular massing and plan. (Ell shape with several porches and projection;
Asymmetrical plan. Multiple roof forms. Hip and gable on main massing with gable roofed
dormers. Asphalt shingles. Limestone foundation wall, horizontal clapboard siding main
floor. Small slant between 2st and second floor. Second floor starts with clapboard
siding, switches to fish scale shingles and back to clapboard siding to bottom of gable.
Gable end has random length, square bottom, wood shingles as does the dormer gable.
Windows are double hung. Usually singular but paired on front. Front porch fills in El
shape. Supported with square columns with capital and base. Circular motif on architrave.
Small 2nd story porch over part of main floor porch. Simple rail with square balusters.
Large chimney on west side, steps out at top, brick.

background structure to district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Well-preserved turn of the century residence.

SOURCES

James McCutcheon, Mt. Vernon Hawkeye editor 1925-60.
Abstract.
Mr. Frank Benesh (son of builder).
NAME: barn, carriage house

LOCATION: behind 406 S. 2nd St. W., street and number
Mount Vernon          Linn
town or vicinity      county
legal   Halls 1st Add., Block 6 Lot 8
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\$sec-\$sec

DESCRIPTION: Rectangular two story, gable roof, board-and-batten walls, no windows, sliding wood door on north, double hinged door on west.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This relic of the pre-automobile era is typical of its type. Such structures are still found throughout Iowa.

SOURCES

James McCutcheon, Mt. Vernon Hawkeye editor, 1925-60.

RECORD(S) DATE

SITE PLAN
NAME Brackett House

LOCATION S 5th Ave. & S. 2nd St.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add., Lots 20 & 21
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcels
rural: twp-range-section-sec-

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell college

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

district rating: QA

town or vicinity

legal

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell college

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

district rating: QA

town or vicinity

legal

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell college

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

DESCRIPTION Rectangular plan with 2 large 2 story rectangular porches at each end. Symmetrical about all facades 2 story. Gable roof. Horizontal clapboard siding with large full height (2 story) relief wood pilasters between porches and main portion of house and at outside corners. Small capital. Main house, full height casement windows (french doors) with four paneled transom above, opening onto wrought iron balconies (windows symmetrical). 2 casements above main entry. Main entrance with classical porch. (Architrave, frieze, denticulated cornice; and large round columns. Door is flanked by multipainted sidelights with transom above, wrought iron balconies ornate with boat shape pattern. Porches with combination (alum) windows. Clapboard siding between pilasters except 2nd story of long dimension which an ornate rail with vertical balusters and diamond pattern infill in 3 locations. Door is in the center of each porch. Other ornament-lattice work encloses space under porches. Large brick chimney on south Steps out towards top.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Widow of builder, Clara, stayed in the house; she married Armstrong Spear, a Philadelphia banker who commuted from Philadelphia to Mt. Vernon. The 1914-19 remodelling "updated" a fairly traditional 19th century house form to conform with the then-popular Colonial Revival style.

SOURCES

RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME ____________ House (Pinecrest) ____________

LOCATION 415 S. 3rd St. W. ______
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
location or vicinity county
legal Halls 1st Add. Block 6 Lot 6 and *
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM _______ _______ ACREAGE _______
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME ________________________

OWNER Elizabeth Issacs ____________
name 415 S. 3rd St. W. ______
Mount Vernon, Iowa
address ____________________________

USE Residence. ____________

ARCH/BLDR Rev. S.V. Williams/Lawrence Current

DESCRIPTION Intrusion—not typical of district

*Bowmans Add., Lot 24

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

House demonstrates continuing popularity of the Colonial Revival style well into the mid-20th century.

SOURCES

Elizabeth Issacs, owner.
Cedar Rapids Gazette. 1949.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) ______________________ DATE ____________
NAME Garage

LOCATION behind 415 S. 3rd St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Bowman's Add. Lot 24
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\*tsec-\*sect

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Elizabeth Issacs
name 415 S. 3rd St. W.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE single car garage

ARCH/BLDR Rev. S.V. Williams

DESCRIPTION intrusion-not typical of district

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES
Elizabeth Issacs, owner.

SITE PLAN

RECORDERS(S) DATE
NAME Garage

LOCATION rear of 413 S. 3rd St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

district rating: QA Linn

legal Hall's 1st Add. Block 6 Lot 5
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-1sec-1sec

utm zone easting northing

acreage

district name

owner Kenneth Litts
name 413 S. 3rd St. W.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

use garage

arch/bldr unknown

description 2 cars enter from south and one from west at northwest corner

statement of significance

An undistinguished, but unobtrusive, utilitarian structure.

sources

site plan

recorder(s) date
NAME: Boyd House - Pinky's Palace

LOCATION: 405 W. 3rd St. W.

street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
Hall's 1st Add., Block 6, Lot 1
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Denver Dillard

name 405 S. 3rd St. W.

address Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: Cass Chapman/Wm. Brackett & Marsden Key

DATE(S): 1877


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: One of three structures in district by Cass Chapman, and an interesting example of a vernacular Gothic Revival. Significant features include the richly-decorative verandah and Gothic windows in the tower and gable ends. Rusticated stone belt coursing counteracts the overall verticality of the house.

SOURCES
B.R.F. Collegian, July 13 1877.
| **NAME** | Garage |
| **LOCATION** | 405 S. 3rd St. W. |
| **street and number** | Mount Vernon, Linn |
| **town or vicinity** | county |
| **legal** | Hall's 1st Add., Block 6, Lot 1 |
| **urban** | subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel |
| **rural** | twp-range-section-\textsuperscript{1}sec-\textsuperscript{2}sec |
| **UTM** | zone easting northing |
| **DISTRICT NAME** | |
| **OWNER** | Denver Dillard |
| **name** | 405 S. 3rd St. W. Mount Vernon, Iowa |
| **address** | |
| **USE** | Garage |
| **ARCH/BLDR** | Denver Dillard |
| **DATE(S)** | 1977 |
| **DESCRIPTION** | intrusion-not characteristic of district |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**SOURCES**

**SITE PLAN**

**SITE NUMBER:** 57-030-074 **MAR 3 1 1980**

**DISTRICT RATING:** □ A □ B □ C
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME        House

LOCATION
906 Summit Ave.

street and number

Mount Vernon             Linn

town or vicinity       county

legal
Boulevard Add. Block C, Lot 11

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-¼sec-1/4sec

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER
Charles Cochran

name 906 Summit Ave.

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE
residence

ARCH/BLDR S.W. Tinger

DESCRIPTION
Bungalow, 1 ½ story, gable roof, exposed rafters & projecting roofs, protruding brackets; wood shingle walls, exposed basement walls are brick; large porch on front (north) and west facade, small side and rear porches.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Example of the Craftsman bungalow form.

SOURCES

Abstract
Charles Cochran, owner.

SITE PLAN

SITE NUMBER:  57-030-075  MAR 31 1980

DISTRICT RATING:  □ A  □ B  □ C
NAME: House

LOCATION: 824 Summit Ave.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal: Boulevard Add Block C, Lot 12
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-§sec-§sec

UTM: zone _____ ACREAGE _____
easting northing

DISTRICT NAME: ________________

OWNER: William Debbins
name 824 Summit Ave.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE: residence
ARCH/BLDR: knox

DESCRIPTION: rectangular plan; gable roof, dormer on front with broken pediment on cornice return; walls are aluminum sided; Porches: one front & one rear partially enclosed, front included in main roof, back is separate roof (attached)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A common house type. Wide aluminum siding has obliterated much of the original character, but the form and massing are compatible with other houses of its general type in the district.

SOURCES
Joe Meade, Cornell College Class of 1914. Abstract.
NAME: House

LOCATION: 818 Summit Ave.
Street and number:
Mount Vernon, Linn
Town or vicinity:
County:

Legal:

818 S. Summit Ave.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

Owner:
Francis Pray

Address:

Use:
Rooming house

Arch/BLDR:

Date(s):
1913-14

Description:
2 story rectangular plan, gable roof, 1st & 2nd floor windows 6/1 muntins on 1st floor symmetrical, 2nd floor side hung single sash windows-8 muntins, wood shingle walls

Statement of Significance:
served for several years (1914-18) as rooming house for women students. Built for Mary Lorraine MacLeod, Cornell class of 92, a dean of women and director of Physical Training for Women.

Sources:
Francis Pray, owner.
Royal Purple, 1910-1915.
NAME

LOCATION 812 Summit Ave.,
street and number
Mount Vernon

LOCATION: 57-030-078
MAR 31 1990

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

LEGAL
Boulevard Add., Bock C.lot 14

UTM
zone

OWNER Mrs. Peggy Ehrmann

name 812 Summit Ave.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE Resting Home

ARCH/BLDR Josselyn & Taylor/

DATE(S) 1903-4

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Bishop Nicholson (United Methodist Church) lived in house upon retirement in 1930's.

This turn of the century house is noteworthy chiefly for its variously-textured wall surfaces, which display shingling, two widths of clapboarding and a shingled "frieze". The transition nature of its form is accentuated by the combination of Victorian era brackets and a Colonial Revival verandah.

SOURCES
Examination of original and 1932 plans of the house and interview with the current owner, May 23, 1979.
NAME: Ristine House

LOCATION: 808 Summit Ave.
- street and number: Mount Vernon
- town or vicinity: Linn
- county: Linn

legal: Boulevard Add. Block 9, lot 15
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-lsec-lsec

ACREAGE: zone easting northing

OWNER: Dr. Thomas Rogers
- name: 808 Summit Ave.
- address: Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: Edward Ransom Ristine

DESCRIPTION:
A one-story side-gable frame house, situated on sloping ground resulting in a raised basement at the rear. 12/12 double-hung sash windows in simple surrounds topped by narrow cornices. The main entrance is located in a projecting center pavilion. Pavilion and main roof cornices have partial returns. Exterior is sheathed with narrow clapboards. Exterior chimney on west side.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A nicely-kept, simple house.

SOURCES
Dr. T. Rogers, owner.
Abstract.
NAME Rigby House

LOCATION 730 Summit Ave.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Boulevard Add. Block 6 Lot 16

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UDM

ACREAGE
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornell College

name

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR Rigby

DATE(S) 1908

DESCRIPTION Massing & plan: 2 story, rectangular, 2nd floor dormer essential features on front facade (north). Roof: Basically gable with gambrel effect on front facing of dormer, cornice return or broken pediment on east & west facades. Walls: Lap board 1st floor, wood shingle 2nd floor, decorative shingle on gable ends (attic). Dormer: full pediment with ornament on the face, sitting porch with double square columns at corners, balustrade, wood shingle sloping walls, resting gable effect. Porch: embrace front and east facing, 5 square posts & balustrade (copied on dormer)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Well-kept turn of the century residence.

SOURCES

Abstract.
Joe Meade, Class of 1914.
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

Iowa State Historical Department

NAME: House

LOCATION: MacGregor Lane
street and number
Mount Vernon, Linn

town or vicinity, county

LEGAL: Turkey Stauffer Add. Lot 13
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-tsect-ssect

UTM: zone easting northing

ACREAGE:

DISTRICT NAME:

OWNER: Mrs. J.B. MacGregor
name: MacGregor Lane
Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: MacGregors

DESCRIPTION: single story ranch, 2 bedroom

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Common ranch house.

SOURCES
Mrs. J.B. MacGregor, owner.

SITE PLAN

RECORD(S):

DATE:

MAP REF:

PHOTO #:

VIEW:

DATE(S): 1964

MA

RECORDER(S):

MAR 31 1980

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-081

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C
NAME House

LOCATION 9th Ave. S.
   street and number
   Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Turkle Stouffer Add., Lot 11
   urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
   rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM
   zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Howard Lane
   name 9th Ave. S.
   Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR William Hayslett

DATE(S) 1869

DESCRIPTION Irregular plan and massing. Asymmetrical. Gable roof form predominates. Shed or hip type roof over porches. Horizontal clapboard siding with corner trim. Windows are double hung 6/1 or 2/2 muntin pattern. Windows singular, paired; threes on 2nd story front facade. Original operable wood shutters on some windows. Front and side porches with simple balustrade. Porches supported by square columns with wide capital and additional trim 2'- below capital. Curved brackets on side porch

Alterations: addition on S and SE corner; SE corner enclosed in main structure, Housing kitchen - 2nd floor bedroom and small study constructed in modified S. wind and SE add.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Popular style of 1850's & 60's. One of four remaining wood frame-style illustrations.

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) DATE
House

Iowa State Historical Department

NAME: House

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-083

LOCATION: 116 10th Ave. S., Mount Vernon, Linn

town or vicinity: Mount Vernon

county: Linn

legal: Turkle Stauffer Add., Lots 9 & 10, urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

OWNER: David Lyon

name: 116 10th Ave. S., Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: R.R. Mayberry/Charles Maybauer

DATE(S): 1916


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

House is a vernacular adaptation of the symmetrical Georgian Revival. Projecting rafter ends suggest Craftsman influence. Wall shingling enhances horizontal effect.

SOURCES

David Lyon, owner.
NAME Al's 66 Station

LOCATION 1st St. W./10th Ave. W.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Turkle Stauffer's Add., Lots 7 & 8
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-îsec-îsec

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Nordsrom Oil Co.

name 1400 6th St. SW.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

address

USE gas station

ARCH/BLDR Nordstrom Oil Co.

DESCRIPTION INTRUSION

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

Al Onstott, leasee.
NAME: House

LOCATION: 1204 1st St. W.

street and number

Mount Vernon

Linn
town or vicinity

county

legal

Turkle Stauffer's Add. Lot 6

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-1sec-1sec

UTM

zone

ACREAGE

easting

northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Robert Campagna

name

1204 1st St. W.

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: unknown

DESCRIPTION: rectangular plan, symmetrical about the facade, large full length porch across facade. Gable roof large shed roof dormer with three windows on facade side. Windows double hung in pairs or trios-6/1 muntins. Walls-wood shingles, including dormer. Porch - front porch supported by two large pilasters at corners. Screened in. Balustrade with sawn wood balusters.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Typical Craftsman cottage.

SOURCES

Robert Campagna, owner.
NAME: House

LOCATION: 1126 1st St. N.
street and number
Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal: Turkle Stauffer's Add. Lot 3
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM: _________________________ ACREAGE: ______
zoning easting northing

DISTRICT NAME: _______________________

OWNER: James Gunn
name: 1126 1st St. N.
Mount Vernon, Iowa

address: _______________________

USE: residence

ARCH/BLDR: Alvin W. Bruch

DESCRIPTION:
1/2-story, front gable cottage, with long side presented to the street. Shed-roofed dormer. East porch added 1960; porches on north and west, 1958.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
This house is in the Craftsman idiom, but is not very representative.

SOURCES:
Abstract.
Postcard picture of house with following statement: '"The house is about done" sent by Alvin Bruck, postmarked 1930.
Interview with owner.
Name: Sheley House

Location: 1124 10th St. W.
Street and number: Mount Vernon, Linn
Town or vicinity: county

Legal: Turkle Stauffers Add. Lot 2
Urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
Rural: twp-range-section-sec-

UTM: zone easting northing

Acreage: ___________

District rating: ☑ B ☐ A ☐ C

District name: _________

Owner: James Gunn
Name: 126 1st St. W.
Address: Mount Vernon, Iowa

Use: residence

Arch/Bldr: G.E. Siggins

Date(s): 1919-1923

Description:
Rectangular with rectangular porch on front, symmetrical. Gable roof. Horizontal clapboard siding, very narrow pattern. Vertical board & batten in gable end of porch. Windows-double hung. Porch supported at corners with two large pilasters sheathed in narrow clapboards and tapering towards the top.

Background structure to district

Statement of significance:
Example of the Craftsman bungalow.

Sources:
Abstract.
Interview with Harry Sisser of Lisbon, Ca. (rented house in 1923-25).
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME ____________________________
Baldwin House

LOCATION 1024 1st St. W.
street and number
Mount Vernom

town or vicinity county
legal Turkel & Stauffer's Add. Lot 1
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME _______

OWNER Cornell College
name
Mount Vernom, Iowa

address

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR DATE(S) 1905-10


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
A typical example of turn-of-the-century residential architecture, combining the massing, verticality and exterior wall treatment of the Queen Anne with a colonial-style porch.

SOURCES
Abstract of property.
Interview with James McCutcheon (local newspaper editor for 40 years), May 11 1979.
NAME  House

LOCATION  616 8th Ave. N.
  street and number
  Mount Vernon  Linn  town or vicinity  county

legal  Ash Park Add., Block 1, Lots 4 & 5
  urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
  rural: twp-range-section-quarter

UTM  ACREAGE
  zone  easting  northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER  Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Hendricks
  name  616 8th Ave. N.
  Mount Vernon, Iowa  address

USE  residence

ARCH/BLDR  Merle Burge-contractor

DESCRIPTION  INTRUSION, rectangle with living area to north and bedrooms above garage on the south.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Typical ranch house.

SOURCES

Interview with contractor Merle Burge and with current owner, May 4, 1979.

SITE PLAN

RECORD(S)  DATE
NAME  

House

LOCATION 610 8th Ave. N.

street and number Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Ash Park Add., Block 1, Lot 3
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel rural: twp-range-section-trsec-rsec

UTM ___________ ACREAGE _______
zoning easting northing

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Mrs. Albion King

name % 610 8th Ave. N.

Mount Vernon, Iowa

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR

DESCRIPTION

One bedroom frame house. Symmetrical, 3-bay front, side gable orientation. Garage on the north is not attached to the house.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This little "colonial" cottage is basically a neutral element in the district.

SOURCES

Interview with Mrs. Albion King, second wife of builder on May 24, 1977.

SITE PLAN
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME House

LOCATION 606 8th Ave. N.

street and number

Mount Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Ash Park Add., Block 1, lot 2

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-1/2sec-1/2sec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Mrs. Stella Mae Easker

name 606 8th Ave. N.

Mount Vernon, Iowa

address

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR

DESCRIPTION simple woodframe 1½ story with breeze-way to two car garage.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This "colonial" house is a neutral structure in the district.

SOURCES


SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) ____________ DATE ____________
RESOURCE INVENTORY FORM

NAME: House

LOCATION: 112 8th Ave. S.
Street and number: 8th Ave.
Town or vicinity: Mount Vernon
County: Linn
Legal description: Bowman's 2nd Add., Block 2, Lot 1

UTM: Zone ______, Easting ______, Northing ______

ACREAGE: ______

DISTRICT NAME: ______

OWNER: Jeff Kelly

USE: Residence

ARCH/BLDR: Dale Larson-bldr.

DATE(S): 1959

DESCRIPTION: InTRUSION, rectangle with 2 car garage on east

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Proportions quite out-of-scale in relation to nearby structures. Corner location enhances its intrusive quality.

SOURCES:
Interview with Dale Larson and current owner (Jeff Kelly), May 25 1979.

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S): _______ DATE: _______
NAME: Old Highway Railroad Bridge

LOCATION: 10th Street North

street and number

Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

DESCRIPTION: The bridge is 62' long with 18' approaches, it is a half through or Pony truss, lattice form. Abutments are now of concrete and appear to be fairly recent. The steel shell is flat while wooden deck is bowed; wood planks of deck are bolted to the steel frame. The main span rests on wood trestle piers.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The street in which bridge is located was the route of the original U.S. Highway #30—the Lincoln Highway. The bridge date from the period before the highway was designated a U.S. road and spans the period of use as the Lincoln Highway (1925-1955). One of the few reminders left of the highway and one of few overhead bridges built on the Chicago Northwestern in eastern Iowa.

SOURCES:

Interview with James McCutcheon, 79 year old resident since birth.

Interview and inspection by Dr. James Hippen, Luther College, Decorah, Iowa.

RECORDER(S): Richard Thomas DATE: 1/80
NAME   R.S. Tallman House

LOCATION  103 10th Ave.

street and number

Mt. Vernon   Linn

town or vicinity   county

legal  N part of Lot 5

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-4sec-4sec

DISTRICT NAME   

OWNER   Tom & Judy Lass

name

103 10th Ave., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

address

USE  Private residence

ARCH/BLDR   

DESCRIPTION  Two & one-half story frame house with large porch. Little ornamentation. Brick foundation to porch (east & south sides), limestone foundation under house. Irregular roof and mass, "fish scale" shingle on attic dormers. Some window changes.

Garage built ca. 1920's-30's. Wood frame structure with hip roof, exposed rafter ends, and has cement footings. It was added on to make room for longer cars.

Both structures are in good condition

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Nicely-kept pre-WWI vernacular house

SOURCES

RECORDER(S)  Richard Thomas

DATE  January, 1980
NAME  Martin Rigby House

LOCATION  109 10th Ave. S.
       street and number
       Mt. Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county

legal Lot 6, IRR Sur. SW\% NE\% Sec 9-8 3-5
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\%sec-\%sec

UTM

zone  ___________ ACREAGE  ___________

DISTRICT NAME  ___________

OWNER  Leoral Evans

USE  Private residence

ARCH/BLDR  ___________

DESCRIPTION  House is of irregular massing. Clapboard siding with fishscale siding on bay end dormers at the attic level. There is a Queen Anne window on the northeast corner, second floor. The house sits on a limestone foundation. The rear (west) porch has been enclosed and a small addition added--date unknown, but probably in the 1950's).

There is a multiple use shed or garage on the property of frame construction with a sloping roof or single plane. Building could have been a horse barn or chicken house at one time.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Well-preserved example of its type.

SOURCES

Abstract.
Interview with Mr. Jay Fordyce, childhood neighbor of Rigby's.

RECORDER(S)  Richard Thomas  DATE  Jan. 1980
NAME Martin Rigby Shed

LOCATION 109 10th Ave. S.
street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Lot 6 Irreg. Survey SW½ NE½ Sec. 9-8 3-5
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-½sec-½sec

UTM
zone easting northing

ACREAGE ___

DISTRICT NAME Cornell College/Mt. Vernon

OWNER Leoral Evans
name
115 N. 3rd St. E., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

USE shed

ARCH/BLDR

DESCRIPTION This multiple use shed or garage is of frame construction with a sloping roof or single plane. Building could have been a horse barn or chicken house at one time.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Utilitarian structure associated with #97.

SOURCES

RECORDER(S) Richard Thomas DATE Jan. 1980

SITE PLAN
**NAME**

**LOCATION** 117 10th Ave. S.  
Mt. Vernon  
Linn  

**street and number**  
**town or vicinity** Mt. Vernon  
**county** Linn  

**legal** Parts of lots 5 & 6. Irreg. Survey*  
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel  
**rural:** twp-range-section-4sec-4sec  
*SW1/4 NE1/4 Sec 9-82-5  

**DISTRICT NAME**  

**OWNER** Cornell College  
Mt. Vernon, Iowa  

**ADDRESS**  

**USE** residential  

**ARCH/BLDR** Harold Kruse-builder  

**DESCRIPTION** one story ranch-attached garage, hip roof, board & batten siding, cement footings, house of frame construction  

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  
Basic ranch house.  

**SOURCES**  

**RECORD(S)** Richard Thomas  
Jan. 1980  

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Iowa State Historical Department  
SITE NUMBER: 57-030-099  

**DISTRICT RATING:** □ A □ B □ C  

**DATE(S)** 1954  

**VIEW**  

**PHOTO #**  

**MAP REF**  

**SITE PLAN**
NAME  Hetland House
LOCATION  213 10th Ave. S.
           Mt. Vernon  Linn
           street and number
           town or vicinity  county
DISTRICT NAME ______________________
LEGAL parts of lots 5 & 6, Irreg Survey SWNE*
            urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
            rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec
            *sec. 9-82-5
            UTM zone  easting  northing
            ACREAGE ___
            DISTRICT NAME ______________________
OWNER  Edith & Mel Hetland
       213 10th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
       name
       address
USE  residential
ARCH/Bldr  Harold Kruse-builder
DATE(S)  1952
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
This is basically a neutral structure.

DESCRIPTION  Typical post war 1½ story bungalow with attached carport. Gable roof; asymmetrical opening. In good condition.

SOURCES
Interview with owners.
Interview with builder, Harold Kruse.

RECORDER(S)  Richard Thomas  DATE  January 1980
NAME  C.F. Littell House (Artman House #2)

LOCATION  215 10th Ave.
street and number
Mt. Vernon  Linn
town or vicinity  county

legal  Lot 21, Irreg. Survey, Mt. Vernon
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\$sec-\$sec

utm  
zone  easting  northing

ACREAGE  

DISTRICT NAME  

OWNER  Ms. Margo McKay
name
215 10th Ave., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE  Residence

ARCH/BLDR  Charles Artman

DATE(S)  1919-22

DESCRIPTION

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
This is the second house built by Charles Artman, on a portion of the land he had used as a small farmstead (#101-106) from 1900 to 1931.

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S)  DATE
NAME _______ Chicken House _________

LOCATION 215 10th Ave., street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Lot 21, Irreg. Survey, Mt. Vernon
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-sec-sec

UTM ____________ ACREAGE ____________
zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME __________________________

OWNER _______ Margo McKay _______
name
215 10th Ave., Mt. Vernon
address

USE _______ Private residence _______

ARCH/BLDCAtributed to Charles Artman

DESCRIPTION
A small shed-roofed structure with wide shiplap siding. Originally built as a chicken house. Now the residence of a Cornell College faculty member.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Outbuilding associated with Artman farmstead (# 101-106).

SOURCES

SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S) _______ DATE _______
NAME C.F. Littell Barn

LOCATION 210 10th Ave.
          Mt. Vernon
          Linn
          town or vicinity
          county

LEGAL Lot 21 Irreg. Survey-Mt. Vernon
        urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
        rural: twp-range-section-tsec-ssec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME Cornell College/Mt. Vernon

OWNER Ms. Margo MacKay
        name
        210 10th Ave., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
        address

USE Barn & storage

ARCH/BLDR Charles Artman

DESCRIPTION Barn is of wood construction, gable roof, cement footings. Has lap siding. Barn is in good condition.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE The Rev. Charles Artman built the house & out-buildings cutting up his adjacent large lot. He lived next door at 219-10th Ave. while building the house. Artman was a retired Methodist minister who also built the 219 10th Ave. house.

SOURCES

RECORDERS Richard Thomas  DATE Jan. 1980
NAME Penn DairyFarm House (Artman House #1)

LOCATION 210 qoth Ave. S.________________________________________
street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
town or vicinity county
legal Lot 7 Irreg. Survey Mt. Vernon urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section- 4csec- i sec

ACREAGE ____________________________

DISTRICT NAME ___________________________________________

OWNER Cornelia Penn
name
800 College Blvd. Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE residence

ARCH/BLDR Rev. Charles Artman

DATE(S) ca. 1900-10 MAP REF __________

DESCRIPTION 2 story frame house with front 3 story tower. Irregular massing, limestone and hollow tile foundation. Clapboard siding. Enclosed sun porch--foundation and addition--late 1920's are among the alterations to the house.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE The Rev. Artman, retired Methodist minister built the house and out-buildings before 1910 and planted the orchard. In 1919-23 he built the house next door, (215 10th Ave. #101) sold the original house to Walter Penn. The Penn's added a small dairy operation for several years and maintained the orchard to the present. The house is used as a rooming house for College students.

SOURCES __________________________________________

RECORDER(S) Richard Thomas DATE Jan. 1980

SITE PLAN
NAME Penn Dairy Farm shed

LOCATION 219 10th Ave. S.
street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

LEGAL Lot 7, Irreg Survey-Mt. Vernon
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\(\frac{1}{2}\text{sec}\)-\(\frac{1}{2}\text{sec}\)

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Cornelia Penn
name
800 College Blvd., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE shed

ARCH/BLDR Rev. Charles Artman

DESCRIPTION Small one story shed. Gable roof, cement footings.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

RECORDER(S) Richard Thomas DATE Jan. 1980

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-105 MAR 31 1980

DISTRICT RATING: O A O B O C

VIEW PHOTO # DATE(S) before 1910 MAP REF

PHOTO

MAP REF

SITE PLAN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
NAME Lawrence Hunter House

LOCATION 317 10th Ave. S.
street and number Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Lot 8 Irreg. Survey-Mt. Vernon
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER Gen Meers
name
317 10th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Private Residence

ARCH/BLDR Laurence Hunter

DESCRIPTION Built by Hunter's son. Two Story brick bungalow. Alterations include an enclosed back porch on the west side (ca. 1950's)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Of interest chiefly in that it was described as "incorporating many new ideas of construction," according to an area newspaper at the time. Most clearly noted were the "new silent type" windows, with "built-in weatherstrip" that operated by springs rather than sash weights.

SOURCES
Newspaper article, Cedar Rapids Gazette, undated as to day, 1936.
Interview with owner.

RECORDER(S) Richard Thomas DATE Jan. 1980
NAME: Hunter Shed

LOCATION: 317 10th Ave. S.
street and number: Mt. Vernon

town or vicinity: Linn

legal: Lot 8 Irreg. Survey-Mt. Vernon
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-\text{\text{-sec}-sec}

UTM: zone ___________ easting ___________ northing

ACREAGE: ___________

DISTRICT NAME: ______________

OWNER: Gen Meers

USE: shed

ARCH/Bldr: Hunter

DESCRIPTION:
A one-room wooden shed with shallow, curved roof.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Outbuilding associated with #107, and may predate the house.

SOURCES

RECORDER(S): Richard Thomas

DATE: January 1980
NAME Charles R. Keyes House

LOCATION 323 10th Ave. S.
  street and number
  Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal N ½ of lot 9 Irreg. Survey-Mt. Vernon
  urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
  rural: twp-range-section-ksec-lsec

UIM ____________________________ ACREAGE ____________________________
  zone easting northing

DISTRICT NAME ____________________________

OWNER Ms. Martha Jo Ennis
  name
  323 10th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
  address

USE ________________ private residence ________________

ARCH/Bldr Ben Davis & Charles Heller-builders
  R.R. Mayberry-Architect

DESCRIPTION Three story house, symmetrical, gable roof, exposed rafter ends, cement sills, exterior
  walls are brick.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Built by Charles R. Keyes, faculty member of Cornell College. In addition to his duties
  as a Professor of German he served as Iowa's first State Archaeologist and was primary
  force behind the establishment of Effigy Mounds as a National Monument.

SOURCES ____________________________________________________________

RECORD(S) Richard Thomas __________ DATE ______ Jan. 1980 __________

SITE PLAN
NAME Charles R. Keyes Garage

LOCATION 323 10th Ave. St.

street and number

Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal N ½ of Lot 9 Irreg. Survey

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-½sec-½sec

UTM zone _______ easting _______

northing _______ ACREAGE _______

DISTRICT NAME ___________________________

OWNER Ms. Martha Jo Ennis

name

323 10th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

address

USE Garage

ARCH/BLDR local contractor

DESCRIPTION Intrusion

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES

RECORDER(S) Richard Thomas

DATE Jan. 1980

SITE PLAN
**NAME**  Albert Franklin Johnson House

**LOCATION**  101 10th Ave.

- **street and number**
- **Mount Vernon** Linn
- **town or vicinity** county

**legal** S ½ of lot 9 Irreg. Survey

- **urban:** subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
- **rural:** twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

**UTM**

- **zone**
- **easting**
- **northing**

**ACREAGE**

**DISTRICT NAME**

**OWNER**  Wm. Pringle

- **name**
- **101 10th Ave., Mt. Vernon, Iowa**

**USE**  Residence

**ARCH/BLDR**  Albert Franklin Johnson

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Cement block and frame construction, 2 story to conform to slope of ground--small single story addition on rear (west); asymmetrical. Remodeled about 1969--wood siding over masonry.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Only house built like it in 1940 when very few homes were built in the area. Albert F. Johnson was theater professor at Cornell College at the time. Home of Glen Cunningham (1940-43) who set world indoor track record for the 1 mile run at 4'44" in early 1930's. Athletic director at Cornell College (1939-43).

**SOURCES**

- Interview with present owner, William Pringle.
- Cornell College Archives.
- Faculty Record file.

**RECORER(S) Richard Thomas**  **DATE January 1980**
NAME: Albert Franklin Johnson Shed

LOCATION: 101 10th Ave., Mt. Vernon, Linn County

LEGAL: S. 1/2 of lot 9 Irreg. Survey

DESCRIPTION: One story, gable roof, in good condition

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Unobtrusive utilitarian structure.

SOURCES

RECORDER(S): Richard Thomas
DATE: Jan. 1980
NAME Stephen N. Fellows House

LOCATION 402 S. 3rd St. W.
street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

legal Hall Addition Block 7 Lot 1-N½
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-4sec-4sec

DISTRICT RATING: ☑ A ☑ B ☑ C

ACREAGE ______
ZONE ______

DISTRICT NAME ______________

OWNER Mr. L. W. Lent

USE Residence

ARCH/BLDR Stephen N. Fellows

DATE(S) 1861-63

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Stephen N. Fellows was one of original faculty members of Cornell College and brother of the first principal of the academy, 1st professor mathematics and science and 1st librarian, and 2nd president.

The house is a very well-kept, somewhat picturesque example of vernacular Greek Revival. Significant features include the fine entrance and shallow triangular pediments over the windows. The projecting bay is a little too large for the house, and lessens the overall character of simplicity.

SOURCES
Abstract to the property in possession of owner.
Newspaper found in the walls of the house dated 1863.
College records concerning Stephen Fellows and his marriage in 1861.

SITE PLAN

RECORDERS Richard Thomas
DATE Jan. 1980
NAME: Van Etten House

LOCATION: 408 S. 3rd St. W.
street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county
legal: Hall Add, Block 7 lot 2
urban: subdivl-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-kscc-kscc

UTM zone easting northing
ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME

OWNER: Bernard Windfred Van Etten
name
408 S. 3rd St. W., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE: Residence

ARCH/BLDR: Bernard Van Etten

DATE(S): 1937

DESCRIPTION
Site is sloped. Two full stories in back, one in front (street side), floor of bedrooms higher than ground outside. Stone City Stone exterior walls, wood-native, custom built windows and casings. Mr. Van Etten hand finished interior woodwork. All walls except kitchen are paneled, all handbade paneling, one inch thick made by Ben Van Etten. Gable roof, garage incorporated into house east side, sun deck off 1st floor behind the garage. Asymmetrical design.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SOURCES
Interview with Bernard and Winnifred Van Etten.
Archives, Cornell College.

RECORDERS: Richard Thomas DATE Jan. 1980

SITE PLAN
NAME

LOCATION 418 S. 3rd St. W.

street and number

Mt. Vernon

Linn
town or vicinity

Mt. Vernon

county

legal Hall add. Lots 7 & 8 Block 7

urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel

rural: twp-range-section-4tsec-4sec

UTM

zone

ACREAGE

district rating

DISTRICT NAME Cornell College/Mt. Vernon

OWNER Dwight Miller

name

418 S. 3rd St. W., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

address

USE Residence

ARCH/BLDR Ehrol Miller

DATE(S) completed 1943

DESCRIPTION The house is of wood construction with limestone veneer. The owner was his own contractor and worked part time on this house. Stone City Stone was used for the veneer. The house has a gable roof with three dormers on the north side and 3 dormers on the south side. Asymmetrical in plan (3 floors as house in on deep slope--2 floors on street (north) side and 3 floors evident on the south side. There is a sun porch (solarium) on 1st floor on the northeast corner. Windows on the front of the house have 8/8 muntins. There have not been any alterations.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "rustic" appearance of this house is influenced by the use of limestone obtained from the quarries of Stone City, about 20 miles NW of Mt. Vernon.

SOURCES

Interview with Dwight Miller, brother of builder.

RECORPER(S) Richard Thomas

DATE Jan. 1980
NAME McKune House

LOCATION 314 5th Ave. S.
street and number
Mt. Vernon Linn
town or vicinity county

LEGAL Hall Add. Block 7, Lots 6 & 5
urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
rural: twp-range-section-ksec-ksec

UTM zone easting northing

ACREAGE

DISTRICT NAME Cornell College/Mt. Vernon

OWNER Ron Jamison
name
314 5th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
address

USE Residence

ARCH/Bldr Marsden Keyes, carpenter

DESCRIPTION House is of wood construction on a brick foundation. It is a two-story house with asbestos siding, hip roof, bracketed overhang and still has its original front porch. There is an addition to the rear, date unknown, and a south side porch was removed, date unknown. Symmetrical in design.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
The form, massing, and bracketed eaves of this house suggest the vernacular Italianate (of which this would be rather late example). Asbestos siding has significantly altered the house's character.

SOURCES
Interview with Warren McKune, life-long resident of the town (78 years old) and former owner (until 1977).

RECORER(S) Richard Thomas DATE Jan. 1980
NAME: Jordan House

LOCATION: 311 4th Ave. S.
- Street and number
- Mt. Vernon
- Location
- Linn
- Montana or vicinity
- Hall Add.
- Rural: twp-range-section
- Urban: subdiv-block-parcel-subparcel
- ½ of lot 1, block 7

LEGAL: 7-030-118

DISTRICT RATING: QA QB

SITE PLAN

OWNER: Mrs. Howard Schnittjer
- Name
- 311 4th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa
- Address
- Residence

USE: Residence

ARCH/BLDR: Bernard Van Etten & Errol Miller

DESCRIPTION: Exterior walls are of clapboard and brick. Brick basement walls and entry with a recessed front door. Gable roof with 3 dormers-two on the front (east) and one on the north elevation. Small bay window on the north elevation, 1st floor only. Large single panel window (front) east side. Asymmetrical design.

An outside stairway was added when the upstairs was turned into an apartment (1949).

Background structure.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A well-kept, eclectic "cottage".

SOURCES

Interview with Mrs. Schnittjer.
Interview with Bernard Van Etten, builder.

RECORD(S): Richard Thomas

DATE: Jan. 1980

STATE NUMBER: 57-030-118

MAR 31 1980
NAME: Marsden Keyes House

LOCATION: 315 4th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Linn County

LEGAL: Hall Add. Block 7, lots 3 & 4

UTM: Zone 16, Easting 582607, Northing 4509302

ACREAGE: ____________

DISTRICT NAME: Cornell College/Mt. Vernon

OWNER: Walter Seiler

ADDRESS: 315 4th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

USE: Residence

ARCH/Bldr: Marsden Keyes-Local builder

DATE(S): ca. 1895

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Marsden Keyes was local master builder, all of his known buildings in Mt. Vernon are in this nomination as is the home of his son, Charles R. Keyes.

SOURCES:

Interview with Mrs. Seiler.


SITE PLAN

RECORDER(S): Richard Thomas DATE: Jan. 1980
NAME: Marsden Keyes Garage

LOCATION: 315 4th Ave. S.

street and number: Mt. Vernon

town or vicinity: Linn

county: __________

SITE NUMBER: 57-030-120

DISTRICT RATING: □ A □ B □ C

LOCATION: 315 4th Ave. S., Mt. Vernon, Iowa

ADDRESS: __________

LEGAL: Hall Add. Block 7 lot 4

UTM: __________

ACREAGE: __________

ZONE: __________

EASTING: __________

NORTHING: __________

DISTRICT NAME: Cornell College/Mt. Vernon

OWNER: Walter Seiler

NAME: __________

ADDRESS: __________

USE: Garage

ARCH/BLDR: unknown

DATE(S): unknown

PHOTO #: __________

MAP REF: __________

DESCRIPTION: Of wood frame construction, in fair condition. Vertical board siding, corrugated tin roof.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Associated as outbuilding with #119.

SOURCES

RECORDER(S): Richard Thomas

DATE: Jan. 1980

SITE PLAN

Iowa State Historical Department

MAR 31 1980