

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Multiple Property Listing Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

street & number 600 1st Avenue S  not for publication

city or town Mount Vernon  vicinity

state Iowa county Linn zip code 52314

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: \_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria: X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

State Historical Society of Iowa  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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(Baker), House  
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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1	2	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
DOMESTIC/secondary structure  
COMMERCE/TRADE/business  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: gable-front-and-wing  
MID-19TH CENTURY  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE  
walls: BRICK  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: ASPHALT  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### **Narrative Description**

**Summary Paragraph** (Briefly describe the current, general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

This two-story gable-front-and-wing brick house is located on a large lot on a high elevation along the east side of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE (Iowa Highway 1), which was part of the early Military Road between Iowa City and Dubuque. The house is of vernacular design with Mid-19th Century stylistic influences. The locally manufactured brick walls are laid in a 7:1 common bond, and the foundation is built of locally-quarried limestone. The front-gabled section of the house was likely built first, probably by local builder Henry and/or William Albright using soft mud bricks made at Albright's brick yard. The house was then enlarged in 1866, when L.L. Pease acquired the property. Significant features include the combination of flat and segmental-arched windows that correspond to the c.1850s and 1866 stages of construction, respectively. One window on the second story rear has the distinctive U-shaped brick-corbeled lintel or drip mold that is seen on other buildings in Mount Vernon built by Henry Albright in the 1850s and points to a possible construction by Albright. Also of note are the three tall windows in the front room on the first floor of the c.1850s section of the house that also open as doors. An open front porch with shed roof extends across the length of the façade of the side-gabled wing. A brick kitchen addition on the rear dates to the 1866 enlargement. Two frame porch additions on the rear of the house are post 1960. Two noncontributing detached buildings (garage/shop and office) added in the mid-to-late twentieth century are located behind the house. The house retains excellent historic integrity on both the exterior and interior.

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**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

(Iowa SHPO Additional Instructions: After the main **Narrative Description**, discuss any physical alterations since the period of significance under the subheading **Alterations**, the seven aspects of integrity as it applies to the property in a **Statement of Integrity**, and any future plans for the property under the subheading **Future Plans**.)

This two-story gable-front-and-wing brick house is located on the east side of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE (Iowa Highway 1), which was part of the early Military Road between Iowa City and Dubuque. The house is a vernacular expression of the Mid-19th Century style and sits on a rise above and overlooking the old Military Road. The large irregular lot levels to the east where it extends to the parallel street, A Avenue SE. The house faces 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE, with the property entered by a driveway that extends off that avenue along the south side of the house and then all the way to the east where it intersects A Avenue. A concrete sidewalk extends west from the front door toward 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue where a long set of concrete steps descend the steep slope of the yard to the concrete sidewalk that parallels 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. A modern concrete sidewalk extends in a sinuous curving pattern from the rear porch over to the garage/shop, which is one of two detached outbuildings. The other was built for the small real estate office of Doris Pringle, who owned and occupied this property from 1944 until 1972. Both outbuildings are located behind the house. Tall shade trees are scattered across the parcel, with the lawn nicely landscaped with flowering plants, gardens, and shrubbery. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles; the brick walls are laid in a 7:1 common bond consisting of seven courses of stretchers for every single course of headers; and the foundation is built of locally-quarried limestone. The house retains excellent to good historic integrity. The two outbuildings are considered noncontributing because they were built outside of the period of significance.

The original section of this house is the two-story, front-gable that forms the south section of the house. This section was built in the 1850s, possibly the work of local builder and brick yard owners, Henry and William Albright. The house was then enlarged circa 1866 when L.L. Pease acquired the property from Joseph Downing (Town Lot Transfers). The house sits directly across 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue from another early historic brick house at 601 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE built in 1854-1857 for Augustus Bauman. The Bauman House and the front-gabled portion of the Pease House both have distinctive brick lintel designs that are seen on other buildings

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known to have been built by Henry D. Albright in Mount Vernon. A gap in the lot transfer records for this property from 1857-1866 makes the exact date of construction difficult to verify for this property.

### **Façade (West Side)<sup>i</sup>**

The original section of this house is the front-gabled section, the façade of which has two segmental-arched windows on the second story directly above two rectangular windows on the first story (Figure 1). The lower windows actually open as doorways with each 2/2 wooden frame being a single-piece door that opens into the dining room. While these doors are still operable, they currently function just as windows with exterior storm windows installed by the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. The presence of these “window/doors” further supports the assumption that this section of the house is older than the side-gabled addition and would have a front door or doors originally. The rest of the windows are 2/2 double-hung, wooden-sash windows and have stone sills; however, the lintels on the second-floor windows are brick segmental-arched soldier courses, while those on the first-floor windows are flat brick soldier courses. The marks around the lintels show that these windows originally had the distinctive corbeled-brick inverted U-shaped lintels seen on other houses built by Henry D. Albright in Mount Vernon in the mid-19th century. There is a single window on the west (rear) gable end of this ell that retains this original U-shaped design. A corbelled-brick chimney rises from the ridge of the roof of the front-gabled section.



**Figure 1. Façade of Pease House looking SE. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.**

<sup>i</sup> In this area of Mount Vernon, the streets are oriented on a southwest to northeast angle. Therefore, in this narrative, “east” is actually southeasterly, “north” is northeasterly, “west” is northwesterly, and “south” is southwesterly.”



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The side-gabled section has two windows on the second story that are set wide apart but are directly above the single window and the front door on the first story (see Figure 1). All of these openings are segmental-arched, with brick soldier-course lintels and stone sills. The windows are 2/2 double-hung, wooden-sash windows. The single-wide door has shutters to either side that may be functional as they are segmental-arched like the door opening. There is an open front porch across the length of the side gable sheltering both the door and the window on the first story. The porch has a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles and supported by square wooden posts. The porch floor is a concrete slab and is a single step above ground level. The door is a wood-paneled door with a large segmental-arched glass pane in the upper half and has a brass doorbell and hardware. It is covered with an older storm door that has 15 glass panes and a brass doorknob. As noted above, this section of the house is suspected to have been added circa 1866. This section had a brick chimney on the north end of the roof ridge that has since been removed.

### North Side

The north side is a single gable end of the circa 1866 addition that has two windows on the second story directly above identical windows on the first story (Figure 2). These windows are 2/2 double-hung, wooden-sash windows with segmental-arched brick soldier-course lintels and stone sills. The roofline has a moderate pitch and has a moderate eave overhang with a wide frieze board under the eaves. There is a filled-in single window at basement level that has a lintel of two rows of rowlock bricks in a segmental arch.



**Figure 2. North gable end of the Pease House looking SW. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.**

### Rear (East Side)

The rear of the house has symmetrical fenestration, with the gable end of the original section of the house having one window on the right side of the second story and the openings on the first story covered by a one-story porch addition (Figure 3). The window on the second story has the distinctive U-shaped brick-corbeled lintel or drip mold that is seen on other buildings in Mount Vernon built by Henry Albright in the mid-19th



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century (Figure 3). A second corbelled-brick chimney is on the rear of the front-gabled roofline. The side-gabled ell (the circa 1866 addition) has two windows on the first story directly below the two windows on the second story (Figure 4). These windows are 2/2 double-hung, wooden-sash windows with segmental-arched brick soldier-course lintels and limestone sills.

There are three one-story additions off the rear of the original front-gabled section of the house (see Figure 3). All three additions are covered by a large shed roof, with the addition next to the house being brick construction, the next addition east being an enclosed frame porch, and the larger addition off of that porch being an open porch of frame construction. The Assessor indicates a build date of 1964 for the frame porch addition during the Pringle family's ownership of this property. The open section of the porch has paired and single square posts and a decorative closed, paneled wooden railing. It has a modern stone slab foundation. The historic brick addition next to the house is the kitchen and has a stone foundation and brick walls laid in a 7:1 common bond like that of the main body of the house. The windows on the south side of the kitchen have segmental-arched lintels made of two rows of rowlock bricks and stone sills. These windows are 2/2 wooden-sash, double-hungs, with another kitchen window now a vinyl replacement window. The brick kitchen is an addition because there is a demarcation between the brick walls of the house and the walls of the porch, and the rows of bricks between the two are not in line with one another. Given the type of bricks used in its construction, it is suspected that the kitchen addition was added around the time that the house was enlarged circa 1866.



**Figure 3. Rear of the Pease House showing the U-shaped brick-corbelled lintel on the second story window (inset detail). View is looking NNW. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.**



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**Figure 4. Rear of Pease House looking WNW. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.**

The enclosed frame porch section abuts the brick wall of the kitchen addition where there is one window and two doors with segmental-arched lintels in the brick wall. The frame walls of the enclosed section have modern paired vinyl windows and a door that exits onto the open portion of the porch. The enclosed frame porch has outer walls with wood lap siding (see Figures 3 and 4).

### **South Side**

The south side features a three-sided, one-story bay window that has a hipped roof, wood-paneled siding, and tall narrow 1/1 wooden-sash windows (Figure 5). The bay window is to the right (east) on the first floor with a tall rectangular window to the left (west) side. The tall window is actually a window/door like the two on the front gable end of this section of the house. It has a flat brick soldier-course lintel and stone sill. However, the lintel over this window/door appears to have been U-shaped originally with the corbelling removed at a later date. There are two windows on the second story directly above the lower window/door and the bay window. The window on the upper left has a brick segmental-arched, soldier-course lintel and stone sill, while the window above the bay window is rectangular and has a flat brick soldier-course lintel and stone sill. The lintels over both windows appear to have been corbelled U-shaped lintels originally. The windows are 2/2 double-hung, wooden-sash windows. There are two basement-level windows with concrete window wells, one under the two-story section of the house and one under the kitchen addition. These windows appear to be early 20th century additions.



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**Figure 5. South side of Pease House looking NE. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.**

## Interior

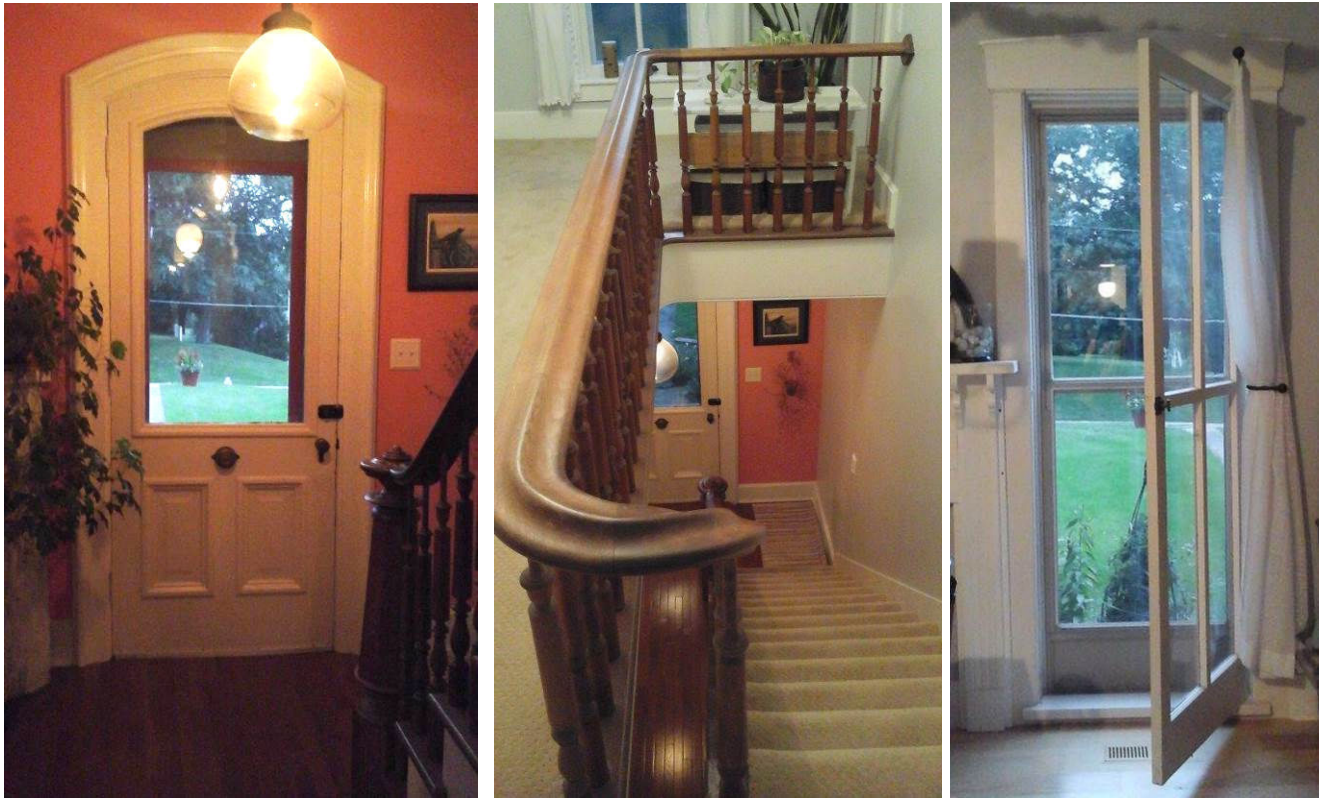
Notable original interior features include: the walnut staircase that has a carved, curved railing and turned balusters and octagonal newel post; wood-paneled doors and brass and porcelain hardware; molded door and window surrounds, including some distinctive segmental-arched doorways; peaked wooden lintel boards above the windows; wooden baseboards with curving top and shoe moldings; and wide hardwood floors (Figures 6-8). The interior wood-paneled doors include both four-paneled and long two-paneled doors. The exterior doors have two panels below glass panes, with the front door having a single glass pane with a segmental-arched top and one of the rear doors from the brick kitchen addition have two long rectangular panes of glass above the wood panels. The rear door in the kitchen has two horizontal and one vertical panel below two vertical panes of glass.

The wooden mantle over the cast iron fireplace is not original to the house and was added by the current owners. The structure of the original brick fireplace is extant behind this fireplace but was in poor condition (Machele Pelkey, personal communication, March 2019). The second mantlepiece in the dining room is also not original and is simply a decorative piece. The interior of the house has many steps up and down into different rooms of the house supporting the conclusion that the house was built in sections. The roofline of the side-gabled ell extends above the roof ridge of the front-gabled section. Had both ells been built at the same time, one might have expected the rooflines to intersect at the same level.

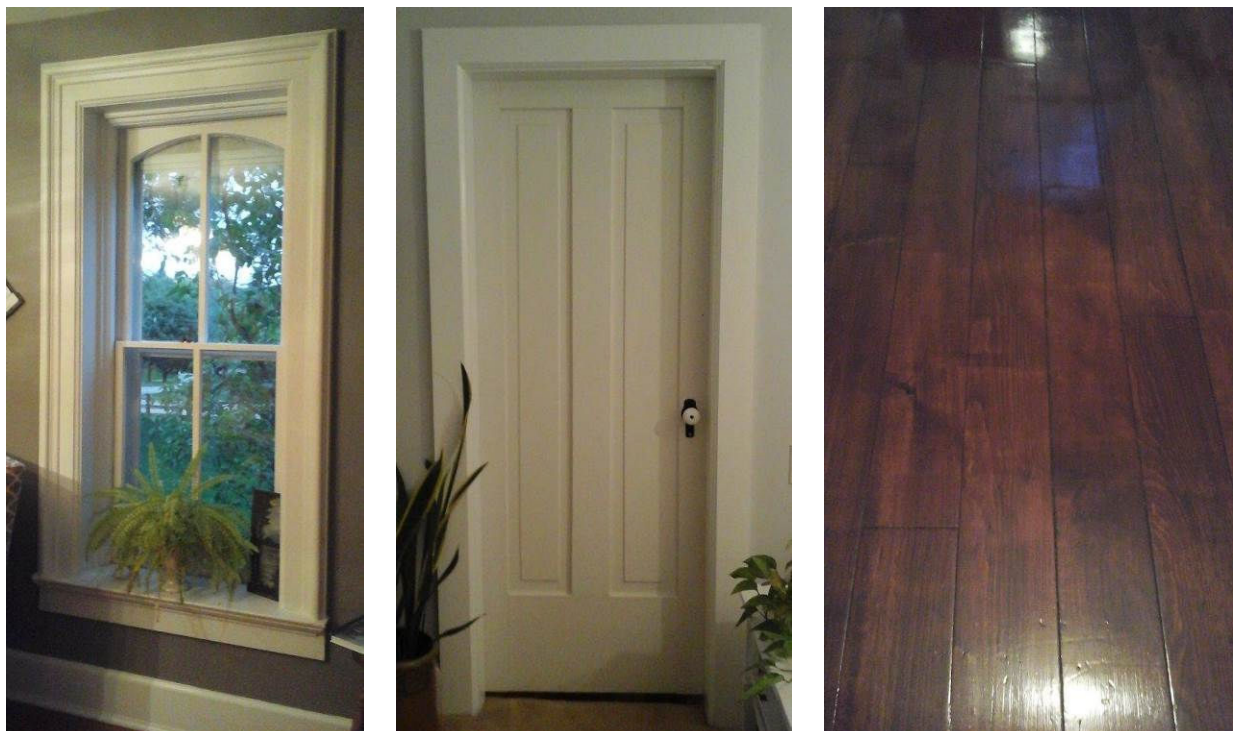


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**Figure 6. Interior views of the Pease House. Left to right: interior of front door showing newel post of front stair to right; staircase looking from the second-floor landing to the front door; one of the window/doors in the front-gabled section of the house with the door opened. Photographs taken September 2018.**

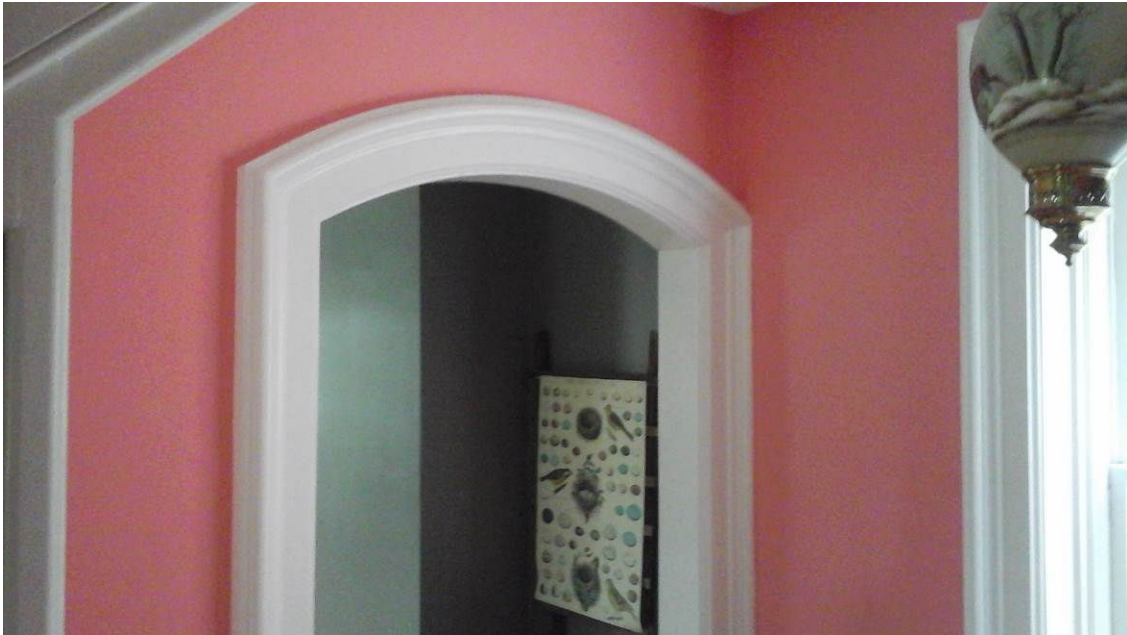


**Figure 7. Interior views of the Pease House. Left to right: window with flat molded surround; two-paneled wooden door with plain surround; wide plank hardwood flooring. Photographs taken September 2018.**



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**Figure 8. Interior views of the Pease House. Top: example of interior moldings including segmental arch over interior doorway. Bottom doors into the kitchen addition on the rear of the house. These doors are underneath the later frame enclosed porch addition. Photographs taken September 2018.**

The front door enters into a hallway that extends the width of the side-gabled ell of the house. The staircase to the second floor is along the north (left) side of the hall. Two doors in the hallway enter into the dining room to the south in the original section of the house, with a third door entering into the living room in the side-gabled addition to the house. The brick kitchen addition is entered through a doorway in the east wall of the dining room. The enclosed frame porch addition is entered from a door in the east wall of the kitchen, with the door into a modern bathroom in the northeast corner of the porch and stairs down to the basement along the south wall of the porch.



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The second-floor hall also runs the width of the side-gabled addition, with one bedroom and one bathroom accessed from the hall in the north half of the addition and two bedrooms accessed from the hall in the original section of the house.

### Garage/Shop (Noncontributing Building)

This one-story frame building was built circa 1965 according to the Assessor, although the aerial from circa 1970 does not clearly show this building then in place. The 1980s aerial confirms that it was in place by that time (Linn County GIS Portal, 2018). It has a low-pitched, front-gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles (Figure 9). The walls have wood lap siding, with the foundation a concrete slab. The east half of the building has a door to the left and a modern 6/1 window to the right on the east gable end. The west gable end has a modern overhead garage door to the right and an entry door to the left side.



Figure 9. Garage/shop building looking NW. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.

### Office (Noncontributing Building)

This small-scale, one-story side-gabled building has a shed-roofed porch overhang supported by wrought-iron posts and a concrete slab foundation (Figure 10). According to the Assessor, this building was built in 1964, with the circa 1970 aerial confirming that it was in place by that time. Doris Pringle had a real estate business from 1943 until 1982, when she fully retired. For over 20 years she had been the only real estate broker in Mount Vernon and was the town's first female mayor (Obituary, *Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun*, 02/23/1984). She had this building built as her office. The roof is low-pitched and covered with asphalt shingles. The east side has a door to the left and a modern 1/1 window to the right. The siding consists of wide boards with narrower corner boards. This small building is just off the southeast corner of the house and is on the side of the concrete parking area between this building and the garage/shop building to the east. It is being used as a reflexology studio by current owner, Machele Pelkey.

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**Figure 10. Office looking NNW. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.**

The yard around the house at 600 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue is landscaped with many features of note including: antique light posts, wooden arbors, curving stacked-stone walls, fenced raised-bed gardens, and other amenities, most of which have been added by the current owners. There are two small garden and tool sheds in the side yard that are not historic in age. These buildings are small in scale and are not included in the resource count.

The property abstract noted that in 1943, the State Highway Commission was buying a strip of ground for widening what is now Highway 1. The transaction noted that a "standard dry stone tree wall" was to be built at the property line and semi-circling the pine trees. It also noted "all trees in parkway, a small juniper near entrance, two apple trees in the SW corner of the orchard, and all shrubs are to be removed" (Property abstract in possession of Floyd and Machele Pelkey). The dry-stone tree wall, if built, has not survived.

### **Statement of Integrity**

This house retains excellent historic integrity on both the exterior and interior in all seven aspects of integrity but most importantly in the aspects of design, materials, workmanship, location, and association. The property also retains good integrity in the aspects of setting and feeling.

This house retains integrity of location being located on its original site overlooking what historically was the Military Road. It retains integrity of design as a well-preserved early brick house built initially as a front gable, reflecting some influence from the Mid-19th Century styles, but a vernacular expression of that style. The house was enlarged also an early date doubling its size and built in the same vernacular design.

The house retains integrity of materials being built of locally-manufactured bricks and locally-quarried limestone and featuring the use of bricks in the distinctive corbelled U-shaped lintels seen on the original two-story front-gabled section of the house and the segmental-arched lintels of the two-story side-gabled addition.

The integrity of the workmanship is reflected in the masonry built in part by Henry D. and William Albright local builders and brick makers in the mid-19th century in Mount Vernon. Skilled carpentry is also evidenced on the interior woodwork and construction.



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The house retains integrity of association as a mid-19th century house built along the Military Road, in part by an early physician in the community and Mount Vernon' first mayor, Dr. Pease.

The house retains good integrity of setting, with this house located on an oversized and irregular parcel elevated above the old Military Road (now Highway 1). The original parcel was larger than its current configuration; however, this remains a comparatively large parcel with expansive yards to the front, north side, and back yard, which extends all the way to A Avenue. The yard is landscaped with walkways, stone walls, flowerbeds, and shrubbery and has a variety of mature shade trees. There are some modern houses and buildings in the neighborhood to the north, south, and east of this property but the large size of this lot and its mature landscaping helps to screen some of this modern construction from the view of this historic property.

Integrity of feeling is also good for this property, which retains a strong sense of time and place of a prominent early brick home in Mount Vernon. This house, and the Bauman House across the street to the west both serve as informal gateways to historic Mount Vernon.

Modifications have been limited, with the house notably retaining all but a few of its original windows, has unpainted masonry, and intact interior woodwork and other details. The main discernible modifications have been the replacement posts and concrete floor on the front porch on the façade and the large frame porch addition on the rear. Otherwise the brick portions of the house, including the kitchen addition, appear to retain excellent integrity.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

circa 1866-1870

**Significant Dates**

circa 1866

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation** (if applicable)

**Architect/Builder**



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### Statement of Significance

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker) Pease House is locally significant and eligible for listing under the “Military Road-era Buildings, Structures, and Objects, c.1840-70” context and the “Mt. Vernon Local Brick Buildings, c.1840-93” context of the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission, *Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon, Iowa*. The Pease House is significant under Criterion A of the Military Road-era context as a property “that illustrate[s] the effect the Military Road had on Mount Vernon settlement and is directly associated with important events of the period” and under Criterion C of that context as a property “that displays vernacular building techniques and traditional building materials, such as locally produced brick and locally quarried stone.” The Pease House is also significant under Criteria A and C of the “Mt. Vernon Local Brick Building” context as a property that has “associations with settlement patterns,” and “that contribute[s] markedly to the distinctive architectural character of Mount Vernon” through its “wall covering of locally produced brick” and its Mid-19th Century stylistic influences. The Pease House meets these registration requirements under both Criteria A and C of both historic contexts through its association with the Military Road and its role in the settlement of Mount Vernon, through its display of local building traditions and materials, namely locally-quarried limestone and locally-manufactured red-orange brick, and through the workmanship of the town’s early masons. The front-gabled section of this brick house may have been built first by someone else, with the side-gabled wing an addition made when Pease purchased the property in 1866, or shortly thereafter. If so, the front-gabled section of the house is suspected to have been built in the 1850s by the Albright brothers, who had an early brickyard and built a number of early brick buildings in Mount Vernon. The side-gabled wing was also built using locally-quarried stone and bricks made at the G.W. Robinson brickyard (c.1865-1893), which was Mount Vernon’s main brick and lime manufacturer during that time period. Despite the uncertainty of its construction date, it has always been identified locally as having been built for Dr. Luther L. Pease, prominent physician and first mayor of Mount Vernon, who purchased this property in 1866.<sup>2</sup> The Pease House, then, represents Mount Vernon’s local brick housing in both the early and waning years of the Military Road era (c.1840-1870). The period of significance for the Pease House is circa 1866 to 1870, from the year Luther L. Pease purchased the property and enlarged the house to the end of the “Military Road-era Buildings, Structures, and Objects, c.1840-70” context of the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Submission, *Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon, Iowa*.

This property is one of a group of 11 historic brick houses in Mount Vernon being nominated under the *Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon, Iowa* Multiple Property Submission in 2019.

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### Narrative Statement of Significance

 (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

(Iowa SHPO Additional Instructions: For properties not nominated under Criterion D, include a statement about whether any archaeological remains within or beyond the footprint of the property were assessed as part of this nomination under the subheading **Archaeological Assessment**.)

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<sup>2</sup> While the Mount Vernon centennial book stated under the heading of “1855” that “Dr. Pease came in with a drug store on the south side of the street” and that he “built a brick house still standing on the right side of the road entering the town from the south” under the heading of “1855,” the town lot transfers for this property show that L.L. Pease did not purchase this property until 1866 (Centennial Committee 1948:24). The Centennial Book is further incorrect on the year that Pease settled in Mount Vernon, because in 1855 he was a resident of Fort Dodge and remained there during the Civil War as stated in his obituary and supported by other records. The 1878 Linn County history book claimed that the “first drug store was established in 1855, by a Mr. Pierce, in the frame building owned by Dr. Pease,” but this statement does not clearly indicate when Dr. Pease owned the building (1855 or 1878?) (Western Historical Company 1878:560). The latter seems more likely given Pease’s residence history in Mount Vernon.

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**Criterion A: Historical Significance of the Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker) Pease House**

Under the registration requirements for Criterion A of the “Military Road-era, c.1840-70” context, the Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker) Pease House is a property “that illustrate[s] the effect the Military Road had on Mount Vernon settlement and is directly associated with important events of the period” (Long 1991:F2). According to the description of the significance of this property type:

Significant properties call attention to the establishment of the Military Road and illustrate the effect the route had on settlement in the Mount Vernon area. The Military Road was a key ingredient in fostering area settlement. Significant examples reveal an important architectural period and building tradition in Mount Vernon. Through their use of local building materials, these resources show how early settlers took advantage of natural resources to provide shelter during the Military Road era. They also represent the effects of a specific period of local efforts to capitalize on the presence of a major transportation route, the Military Road. Finally, significant properties illustrate a specific and influential period, the early settlement of Mount Vernon. In short, they date from the founding of the community.

Surviving properties from this pivotal period in the history of the community are so rare that examples from prominent building types, such as houses, that retain sufficient integrity are considered significant to understanding Mount Vernon's development (Long 1991:F2).

Under the registration requirements for Criterion A of the “Mt. Vernon Local Brick Building, c.1840-93” context, the Pease House is also a property that has “associations with settlement patterns” although the primary significance for this context is under Criterion C (Long 1991:F4). According to the description of the significance of this property type:

Although their significance is primarily architectural, many examples also call attention to the early settlement period of Mount Vernon. Their construction is associated with the establishment of the Military Road around 1840 and they illustrate the effect the route had on settlement in the Mount Vernon area (Long 1991:F3-F4).

Built at the intersection of the Military Road and the Cedar Rapids Road at the south edge of town, the Pease House is associated with the Military Road and its role in the settlement of Mount Vernon, illustrates local brick housing during the early and waning years of the Military Road era, and served as the home of Dr. Luther L. Pease, prominent physician and first mayor of Mount Vernon during this influential period.

Luther L. Pease was born in Massachusetts in 1814. Not much more than that is known of his early life, including where he studied medicine, but he immigrated to Iowa sometime in the early 1850s, visited Fort Dodge in 1854, “the year of its organization,” and became a permanent resident of that town in 1855. During his residence there, “he filled most the prominent positions of the city and county, always with honor to himself, and constituency” (*Fort Dodge Times*, June 27, 1884). In 1861, he married Susette E. Baker, a New York native, in Cleveland, Ohio, where the Baker family had moved that year (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 25, 1920). Too old for military service when the Civil War began, Dr. Pease remained in Fort Dodge for the duration:

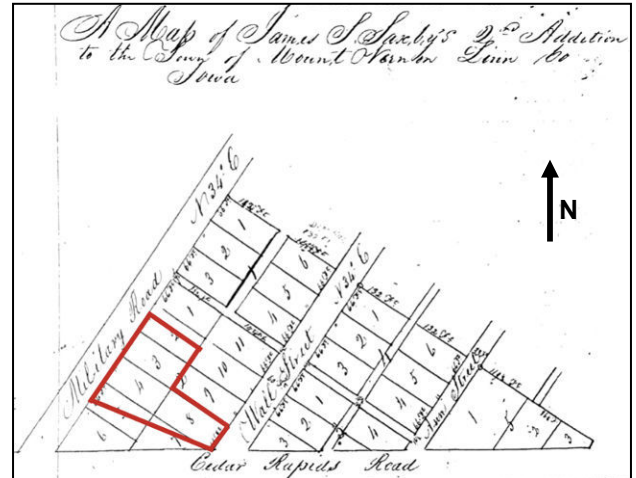
During the war of the rebellion when the country was almost depleted of physicians, by reason of their being called into the army . . . the doctor remained at his post in Fort Dodge, administering to the wives and children of the soldiers then absent in war (*Fort Dodge Times*, June 27, 1884).

After the war, Pease gave up the practice of medicine and left Fort Dodge for good. For the rest of his life, according to a friend, Pease “had no desire to practice his profession as a physician, and only consented to do so, among his most intimate friends, who would consent to employ no other, when his services could be obtained” (*Fort Dodge Times*, June 27, 1884). Luther and Susette Pease relocated to Mount Vernon in late 1865 (*Iowa North West*, November 7, 1865). As parents of one child (and eventually five, four of whom survived to adulthood), the Peases were likely attracted to the town’s Cornell College and shared the

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community's abolitionist, temperance, and prohibition-minded reputation (US Census 1870, 1880; *Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 25, 1920).<sup>3</sup> The Peases purchased a property in Saxby's 2nd Addition to Mount Vernon, and either built, or more likely enlarged an existing brick house at the junction of the Military Road and the Cedar Rapids Road at the south edge of town (Figure 11).



**Figure 11. Plat of Saxby's Second Addition to Mount Vernon, 1857, showing approximate current property boundary of Pease House in Block 2. The house sits mainly on Lot 4 and was located at the junction of the Military Road and Cedar Rapids Road, surely one of the busiest corners in town.**  
Source: Linn County Recorder's Office, Cedar Rapids

Mount Vernon immediately embraced their new resident, Dr. Luther L. Pease, and appointed him postmaster in 1867, a little over a year after his arrival. In 1869, after the town voted to incorporate, Mount Vernon residents elected Dr. Pease, head of a "full ticket of prohibition temperance," to be its first mayor (*U.S., Appointments of U.S. Postmasters, 1832-1971*; Centennial Committee 1947:63). Remembering Mayor Pease in 1922, M.E. Hinkley recalled he "was a physician of skill and high character, trusted and admired by all" (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, September 7, 1922). After one term as mayor, Pease served as councilman, and for many years was the Justice of the Peace and known familiarly as Squire Pease.

Luther L. Pease died in 1884 at the age of 70. The year prior to his death, Susette Pease sold the house and property to widow Lydia Ward, who lived in the house until 1891 (*Fort Dodge Times*, June 27, 1884; Lot Transfer Book 2, Linn County Auditor). In 1925, when daughter Elizabeth "Birdie" Pease returned to Mount Vernon for a visit, the *Mount Vernon and Lisbon Hawkeye Herald* noted that her former parental home, the Pease House, "was for many years in the earlier days of the town one of its representative homes" (*Mount Vernon and Lisbon Hawkeye Herald*, June 11, 1925).

The town lot transfers indicate that Pease purchased this property from Joseph Downing in 1866. Unfortunately, there is a gap in the town lot transfers between 1857, when Saxby's Second Addition to Mount Vernon was platted and the 1866 transfer to Pease from Downing.<sup>4</sup> The only Joseph Downing that can be found in the census data for this area lived in nearby Cedar County from at least 1856 until his death in 1891. He was a farmer who lived in Linn Township of that county near Mechanicsville. If he was the Downing who sold the subject property to Pease in 1866, then his ownership of this property appears to have been as an investment more so than as his residence.

The town lot transfers for this property show the next owners as Sarah Ellen (Burge) Miller and Fred Park from 1891-1908. The 1900 federal census listed Ellen "S." and Frank Miller (husband and wife) and Louisa and Fred W. Park (mother and son) living in the same house on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Mount Vernon, with Louisa or Louise Park listed as the owner. In 1900, Frank Miller was working as a day laborer, with Louise Park listed as a piano "agent," and Fred as a printer. It is known that Sarah "Ellen" Burge Miller and Louise Burge Park were sisters,

<sup>3</sup> During a run for State Senate in 1859, Pease was accused by the Democratic newspaper, *Fort Dodge Sentinel*, of being an "out-and-out Abolitionist, who desires the colored race placed on an equality with the white man" (*Fort Dodge Sentinel*, October 8, 1859).

<sup>4</sup> The current owner's property abstract is only updated from 1919, and an original abstract has not been located.



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with Fred W. Park being Ellen's nephew. When Ellen died in Kossuth County, Iowa, in 1931, Fred Park of Algona, Iowa, was the informant for her death certificate. Louise died in 1901 in Mount Vernon. Fred Park and "Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller" were all listed in the 1901 Mount Vernon City Directory at "601 S 1<sup>st</sup> Ave," which is the subject property. Fred married Katharine Hunter in 1907 in Mount Vernon, but in the 1907 city directory there was no listing for Fred Park, with the Millers then living at 623 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue S. The occupants of 601 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue S in 1907 was the family of Dr. George A. Carson. Therefore, sometime between 1901 and 1907, the Carson family had taken up residence in the subject house (Family tree and death records accessed at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com), 2019; 1909 and 1907 Mount Vernon City Directories).

The Carson family connection was noted in 1967 by Margaret Keyes, who compiled historical and architectural information about the notable houses in Mount Vernon in 1967. She photographed and labeled what by then was 600 1st Avenue S, as "First owner - 'Carson home'" (Margaret N. Keyes Research Files, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City) (Figure 12). While the town lot transfers do not reflect an early Carson association with this house, there are newspaper items that suggest that there was such an association. For example, in 1906, Mrs. M.C. Hughes was noted in the *Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye* on February 23, 1906, as leasing the Carson's home on First Street, while "Dr. and Mrs. James Carson will move back to the home place on South First Avenue." It is known that Dr. George A. and Laura Carson were living in this house with their daughter, Mildred, and his widowed mother, Isabella Carson, after his father Dr. James Carson died in 1906 (1907 Mount Vernon City Directory). Therefore, if they were noted as moving "back the home place" in 1906, then they must have had an earlier association with the subject house. The Carsons were associated with this property until circa 1925 when the now-widowed Laura Carson was advertising its sale in the local newspaper (Figure 13). But it was not until 1927 that C.N. Warren was noted as having purchased "the Mrs. Laura Carson residence property on First avenue south," with Laura then living in San Diego, California (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, June 9, 1927). Other sources such as the city directories and the public sale notice from 1925 place the Carson family in this house and as owners by at least 1925. But to further cloud the Carson ownership question, the federal census records for George Carson in Mount Vernon list him as the owner in 1910 but as a renter in 1920, with both listings for the subject property.

**Figure 12. Pease House in 1967, when the house was owned by Don and Doris Pringle. Photograph was taken by Margaret N. Keyes, who labeled this photo as "First owner - Carson home" and "Present owner 1967 - Mrs. Don Pringle" and "Interview with Roy Bowman."**  
Source: Margaret N. Keyes Research Files, State Historical Society of Iowa-Iowa City.<sup>5</sup>

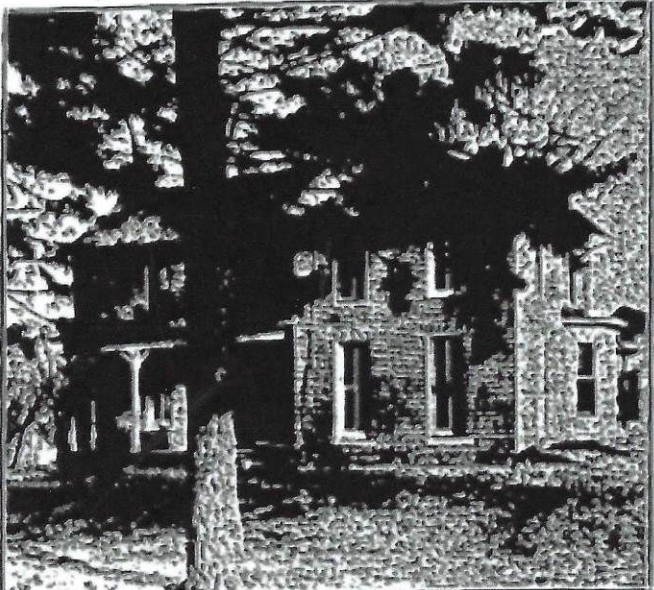


<sup>5</sup> Margaret Keyes' notes on this house indicated that she had interviewed "Roy Bowman" for information on this property, and in 1967, then-owner Doris Pringle would likely have had possession of an original abstract where the transactions prior to 1866 might have been listed. As an aside, Dr. James Carson was found guilty of violating the temperance laws in Mount Vernon in 1874 when liquors were seized from his drugstore but by the time of his death was considered a patriarch of the town and a "noble doctor of the old school" (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, June 12, 1874, December 21, 1906).

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**PUBLIC SALE**  
OF  
**Real Estate and Community Property**  
Having located in California, I will sell at Public Auction my desirable home property, 614 First Avenue South, in Mount Vernon, Iowa,  
**Saturday, March 14th**  
Sale to commence at 1:00 o'clock.  
This Substantial Eight-Room Modern Home



is in the south part of town on the main thoroughfare known as the Military road. It is beautifully located on the hill and fronts on a large lawn that supports many stately pines and native trees; the balance of the eight lots is given over to garden, shrubbery and fruit, such as apples, berries and cherries.

This house is well and substantially constructed of brick, is in good repair, has a No. 1 hot water heating plant, electric lights, city and soft water. The house is nicely arranged; the first floor comprises three extra large, well-lighted rooms and kitchen, a large reception hall from which a grand old-fashioned open stairway leads to the second floor of four pleasant rooms and bath. The entire house is newly decorated and ready for occupancy. To see it is to appreciate it. If looking for a home or an investment BUY THIS. The easy terms makes it cost you little more, each year, than rent.

**FURNITURE, ETC.**  
One wool fiber 8x10 rug, center table, National sewing machine in good condition, mirror, kitchen table, refrigerator, commode, chairs, washing machine, wringer and board, gasoline flat iron, dining table and chairs, alarm clock, sideboard, Taylor baby nursery bed, child's walker, hammock, bread mixer, waterpower washing machine, swing, vacuum sweeper, oil stove, incubators, one 140, and one 200, X-Ray incubators good as new.

**MISCELLANEOUS**—Double barrel shot gun, pair roller skates, pair men's new rubbers, saw, shovel, axe, lastern, coat hangers, Trio bantam chickens, John Deere Corn Planter and 120 rods wire, one thousand cement building blocks.

If you have anything for sale, bring it along.  
**TERMS STATED SALE DAY**  
**MRS. LAURA C. CARSON**  
**REALTY OWNER**

Figure 13. Public sale notice for Laura Carson's house in 1925. Source: *Mount Vernon Hawkeye Herald*, March 5, 1925. Note that in the 1925 photograph, the two first-story window/doors on the front-gabled end did not yet have the exterior storm doors that were in place by 1967 (see Figure 12).

Adding further evidence to an earlier Dr. James Carson association is the obituary of Mrs. L.L. Pease, which stated that "Mrs. Pease was the head of one of [Mount Vernon's] representative, invaluable families. The [Pease] home was established on the south edge of town, the place more recently and still known as the *Dr. James Carson* home" (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 25, 1920; emphasis added). Physician, James Carson, lived and practiced in Mount Vernon in the late 19th century. His wife's obituary in 1920 noted that her husband had completed "his medical course at Keokuk;" they then settled in Mount Vernon in 1859 where "ever since that time a Carson home has been maintained here;" however, she also noted that the family resided "for many years at the central location on the corner now occupied by the Drs. Wolfe" (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, May 6, 1920). [This location is not the subject house.] His obituary in 1906 stated that he came to Mount Vernon in 1858 (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, December 21, 1906). James Carson was listed in the 1860 federal census as a physician in Mount Vernon, with his household including his wife "Isabelle" and John W., their son. They would have a second son, George A., who also became a physician, and continued to be listed in Mount Vernon in the state and federal censuses into the 20th century. James Carson died in 1906.

The 1925 sale notice includes a photograph of the subject house removing any doubt that members of the Carson family actually owned this property in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (see Figure 13). This is confirmed by the 1907 Mount Vernon City Directory, which listed "Carson, Dr. and Mrs. G.A., Mildred, Mrs. James Carson, 601



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1<sup>st</sup> ave s.” (1907 Mount Vernon City Directory). Further confirmation of their association with this property comes from Isabella Carson’s obituary, which stated that she died in 1920 “at the residence of her son, Dr. George A. Carson, where she had passed her declining years of eighty-nine” (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, May 6, 1920). Her obituary also stated that after her husband died in 1906 that she “made her home with her son, Dr. George A. Carson.”

George Carson died in 1923 and his obituary noted that he and his wife, Laura, had been in the process of changing their residence to “an apartment over the interurban depot” where he died suddenly and unexpectedly (*Mount Vernon and Lisbon Hawkeye Herald*, July 26, 1923). The Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929, listed George Albert Carson as having received his license in Iowa in 1890 and one in Coalmont, Colorado in 1922. He had earned his medical degree at the Rush Medical College in Chicago. The licensing in Colorado suggests that he may not have been in residence in Mount Vernon around 1922. There was mention in the 1922 news item about the visit to Mount Vernon by Birdie and Belle Pease, daughters of Dr. and Mrs. L.L. Pease, that the brick home that the Pease family had occupied (i.e., the subject house) was “now the home of Professor Herrick,” likely as a renter in the absence of the Carsons (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, June 29, 1922). While Laura Carson was advertising the property for sale two years after George Carson’s death, a final sale was not made until 1927 by which time Laura had moved to California.

Charles Neal Warren and his wife Elizabeth owned and occupied this property from 1927 until Elizabeth’s death in 1935, after which C.N. went to live elsewhere with his children. C.N. was listed at this address in the 1932 Mount Vernon Telephone Directory. The 1930 Federal population census listed Charles N. Warren, his wife “Lizzie” D., and daughters Helen L. Warren and Irene A. Dubois then living in the house at 601 First Avenue South. Also in residence were Irene’s children Betty and Richard Dubois. Charles’ occupation was listed as proprietor of a poultry farm, with Helen a public schoolteacher and Irene working as a “saleslady” in a general store. It is uncertain whether Charles’ poultry farm was on the property or on a rural piece of land but this large parcel could have accommodated such an enterprise. Elizabeth Sturges Warren died in 1935, with Charles passing in 1943. As noted above, after 1935 Charles was not living in the subject house, which is confirmed by the 1940 Census, the 1940 Mount Vernon Telephone Directory, and his 1943 obituary (*Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, September 2, 1943). He died in a hospital in Cedar Rapids but was brought back to Mount Vernon to be buried alongside his wife.

It appears that Warren retained ownership of this property after 1935, and the house may have been rented out during that time. It is known that Don O. and Doris L. Pringle purchased the subject house on contract from 1945 to 1955, becoming full owners from 1955 to 1972 when Doris Pringle became sole owner following Don’s death. They were followed by Gerald R. and Muriel J. Edleman (1972-1998); Edward L. and Kimberly Gravell (1998-2002); Wesley T. and Charisse C. Reynolds (2002-2013); and current owners Floyde G. and Machele G. Pelkey from 2013 to the present day.

### **Criterion C: Architecture of the Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker) Pease House**

Under the registration requirements for Criterion C of the “Military Road-era Buildings, Structures, and Objects, c.1840-70” context, the Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker) Pease House is a property “that displays vernacular building techniques and traditional building materials, such as locally produced brick and locally quarried stone” (Long 1991:F2). The Pease House is in fact a good representative example of the Military Road-era brick housing type in Mount Vernon, according to the description of the significance of this property type:

The houses for this property type are built of deep red-orange local brick. Rooflines vary and include gable-side (the dominant shape), gable-front, crossed-gable, upright-and-wing, mansard, and hipped. Later examples are more likely to be hipped and early examples tend to be gabled. Most are two-story. Foundations are of locally quarried limestone (generally rubble or roughly dressed). Some lintels and sills



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are also stone. Brick is sometimes used decoratively for cornices, cornice returns, and more elaborate lintels. With the earliest examples, the use of brick with simple details and form results in a simplicity that contributes markedly to the charm of the community. Good representative examples are: 113 and 201 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N, 417 A Ave S, 224 1st St SW, 600 and 601 1st Ave S. Stylistic influences include Greek Revival, the principal influence), Italianate, and Gothic Revival. The earliest examples often exhibit no strong stylistic influence but have a Federal stylistic simplicity and arrangement (Long 1991:F3).

The Pease House is also significant under Criterion C of the "Mt. Vernon Local Brick Buildings, c.1840-93" context as a property "that contribute[s] markedly to the distinctive architectural character of Mount Vernon" through its "wall covering of locally produced brick" and its Mid-19th Century stylistic influences. According to the description of the significance of the Local Brick Building property type:

Buildings of locally produced brick and stone are a key visual element defining the nature and character of Mount Vernon, and their primary area of significance is architectural. Because of the key visual importance of this property type, most examples from the period c. 1840-1893 which retain their integrity are likely to be significant (Long 1991:F3-F4).

The Pease House is a two-story, gable-front-and-wing vernacular house built, or more likely greatly enlarged in 1866. The rounded brick lintels and 2/2 double hung windows give it a generalized late-nineteenth-century style. Its foundation is locally quarried limestone and its exterior walls are the deep red-orange locally produced brick that is the hallmark of Mount Vernon's local brick housing. As Janet Dumbaugh observed in her survey of brick buildings in Mount Vernon in 1978, the early pioneers of Mount Vernon "depended on craftsmen to build their new dwellings, which usually reflected styles of homes from communities left behind." Not only were an "unusually high number of brick homes" built during the Military Road era, Dumbaugh notes, but also "a high proportion of settlers were from the Lancaster, Pennsylvania area" (Dumbaugh 1980:2).<sup>6</sup>

The Lancaster area is world famous for its brick domestic and barn architecture. The [Pennsylvania] Dutch settlers in the early 1700s were ingenious in putting to use the native lime and muddy soils needed to make bricks. These same resources were available in the Mt. Vernon locale. Clay was easily extracted from the sides of the hills, limestone was plentiful, and the Cedar River banks supplied the sand. . . The craftsmen of Mt. Vernon probably did not use pattern books and most certainly were not guided by city codes. They brought their skills and ideas with them and were limited to repeating the same designs with little variation until perhaps ten years later. These men usually built double brick walls with the bricks laid lengthwise in two parallel rows joined by crosswise bricks in various patterns. . . . Because of the resources available to make the bricks and the talented craftsmen from Pennsylvania it was natural and fortunate that Mt. Vernon should reflect this heritage (Dumbaugh 1980:2; 4).

The front-gable portion of the house may have been built by one or both of the Albright brothers, Henry D. and William D. The Albright brothers were born and grew up near Hanover, Pennsylvania, which is near Lancaster. They arrived together in Mount Vernon in June 1852, attracted by the founding of Cornell College, and for the next few years they worked as brickmakers and builders for early settlers, but are specifically known to have built Old Sem and College Hall at Cornell College and the house in which Henry and his wife Juliana would reside for most of the rest of their lives. According to Dumbaugh, all three buildings feature similarities:

All are basically rectangular, with the entrance centrally located on the long side, and windows placed symmetrically beside the door on each side and in the same position on the second or more stories. It is still domestic architecture that has been adapted in the case of the college buildings, for another purpose.

The Home and College Buildings share another feature that seems to be quite a common feature in this era of vernacular design and that is the inverted square U of raised brick forming the lintel and extending a short way down the side of the window. . . . Another common design is the use of a semi-circular window or vent at the gable (Dumbaugh 1980:5).

<sup>6</sup> The Pennsylvania Dutch, also known as Pennsylvania Germans, are descendants of early German immigrants to Pennsylvania.  
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The front-gable portion of the Pease House shows a similar vernacular Mid-19th Century influence with what appear to have been brick inverted square U-shaped lintels, all of which have been rebuilt with rounded lintels, except one on the second-story rear. The ghost square lintels are still apparent, especially above the second-floor façade windows.

William Albright would have supplied the needed building material – bricks and lime – at his brickyard at the bottom of the ridge on land just northwest of Mount Vernon cemetery. He may also have made some of the bricks on site using a temporary kiln, a common practice. This house was just west of Albright's brickyard.

If the Pease House began as an Albright-built house, it was then greatly enlarged in 1866 when Pease purchased the property. Although the builder remains unknown, the bricks for the Pease House almost certainly came from G.W. Robinson's brickyard. George W. Robinson, a brickmaker by trade, came to Mount Vernon right after the end of the Civil War, the same time Dr. Luther Pease moved to the town from Fort Dodge. By 1869, Robinson was manufacturing bricks and lime at the same location as the Albright brothers had a decade earlier. After a storm damaged the brickyard, the *Linn County Hawkeye* provided a glimpse of Robinson's brickyard in its first years of operation:

The storm on last Saturday, was very damaging, destroying some four to five thousand green brick for Mr. G. W. Robinson. But at the rapid rate which Mr. R. makes brick, and good weather, the kiln will not be delayed much. He turns out some seven thousand per day. We also learn that there has been some one hundred and thirty five thousand brick shipped to Clarence [Cedar Co], from this yard this spring. The brick made here, has a good reputation at home and abroad (*Linn County Hawkeye*, June 18, 1869).

Robinson's brick was undoubtedly used to enlarge the Pease House and was used to build many of Mount Vernon's brick houses and other buildings. By 1875, Robinson had "a double lime kiln turning out 7,000 bushels annually" and "a brick yard making each year 200,000 brick" (*Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 12, 1875).

### ***Archaeological Assessment***

The potential for any prehistoric or historic archaeological remains within the property boundary was not evaluated as part of the present National Register nomination. However, given the large open spaces of the front, north side, and rear yard areas of this parcel, there is good potential for intact archaeological features such as a well, cisterns, privies, and other nonextant outbuildings.

### ***Acknowledgements***

The completion of this nomination was made possible by the assistance of members of the Mt. Vernon Historic Preservation Commission, who compiled the floor plans, conducted on-site photography, conducted historic research, and reviewed the various drafts of the nomination. The property owners also assisted with the compilation of floor plans, photography, and historical materials and reviewed the draft versions of the nomination. The City of Mt. Vernon provided support for the project and cash match towards the grant.

### ***Disclaimer***

The activity that is the subject of the National Register nomination has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

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Washington, D.C. 20204



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- Telephone Directory Mount Vernon January 1940*, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. Accessed at [www.mvhpc.org](http://www.mvhpc.org), 2019.
- The Mount Vernon City Directory*, compiled by J.F. Lewis, August 1901. Accessed at [www.mvhpc.org](http://www.mvhpc.org), 2019.
- "The Obituary Record - Mrs. L.L. Pease," *Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 25, 1920.
- "The Obituary Record - Dr. George A. Carson," *Mount Vernon and Lisbon Hawkeye Herald*, July 26, 1923.
- U.S., Appointments of U.S. Postmasters, 1832-1971*. Obtained from Ancestry.com – 12/2018.
- U.S. Federal Census, 1860, 1870, 1880. Obtained from Ancestry.com – 12/2018.
- Western Historical Company. *History of Linn County, Iowa*. Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1878.

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

\_\_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office

\_\_\_\_\_ Other State agency

\_\_\_\_\_ Federal agency

\_\_\_\_\_ Local government

\_\_\_\_\_ University

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.918098</u>	<u>-91.420450</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated property is a parcel defined as parts of Lots 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 and south half of Lot 2, Block 2, and part of Lot 9, Block 2, in Saxby's Second Addition to Mount Vernon located at on the south side of 1st Avenue SE, second house north of the intersection with 7th Street SE. The property is L-shaped, with the legal location given by the Assessor specifically as: "Saxbys 2nd Lots 3, 4, 8 & S1/2 Lot 2 & Pt Lot 9 lying South of a lane being 5.15' N of most westerly corner Lot 3 & 11.25' N of most southerly corner Lot 9 and the part of lots 5 and 7 lying northerly of a lane 61.5' south of most northerly corner Lot 5 and 80.25' south of most easterly corner Lot 8 except Highway Block 2."

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker) Pease House at 600 1st Avenue SE in Mount Vernon, Linn County, Iowa.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Jennifer A. Price, PhD/Consultant and Leah D. Rogers, Volunteer date March 1, 2020  
organization Price Preservation Research telephone (319) 594-9513  
street & number P.O. Box 5201 email jenniferprice1311@icloud.com  
city or town Coralville state IA zip code 52241

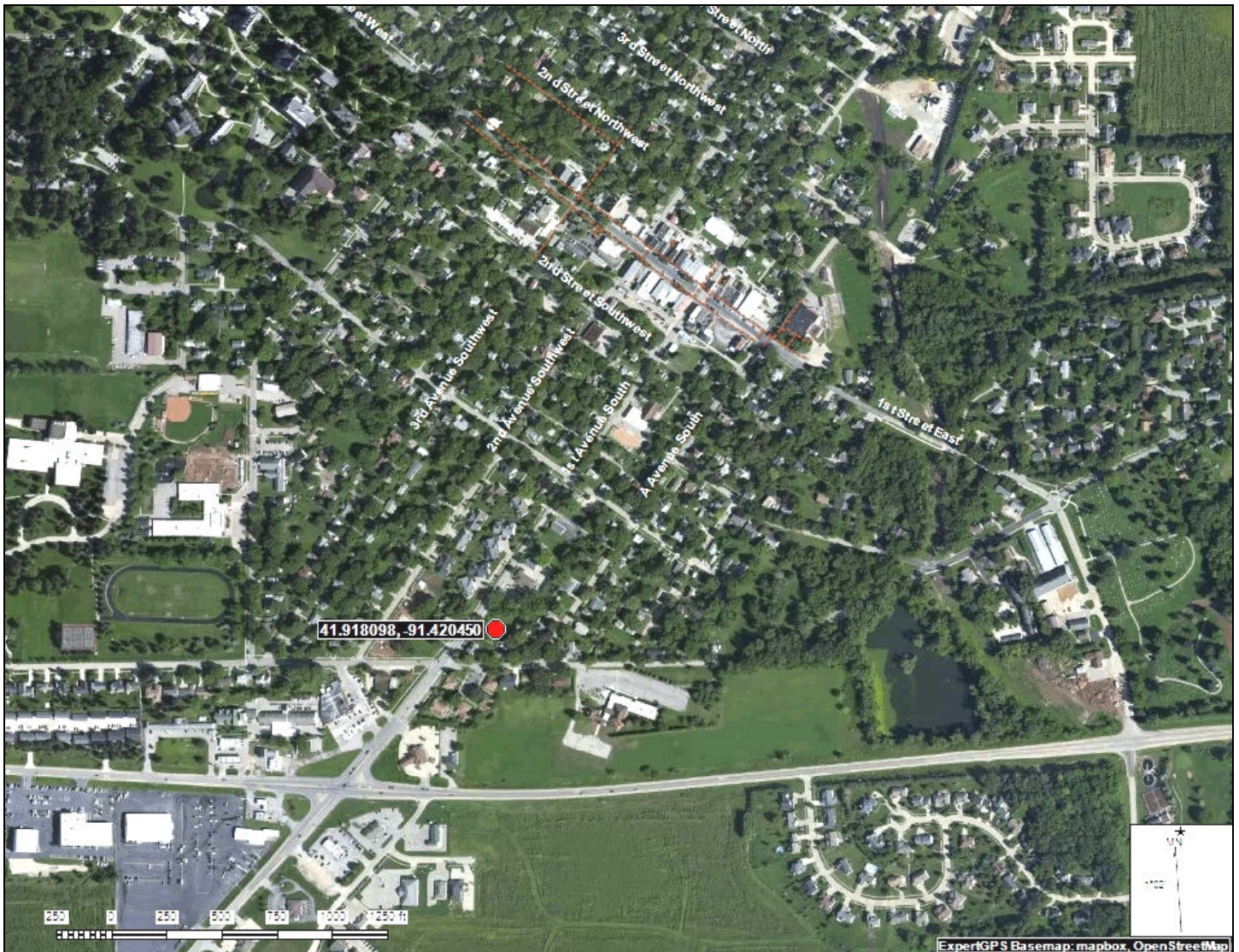
Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).



**Figure 14. GIS Location Map.**  
Aerial map obtained from ExpertGPS Pro Mapping Software, 2018.







Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

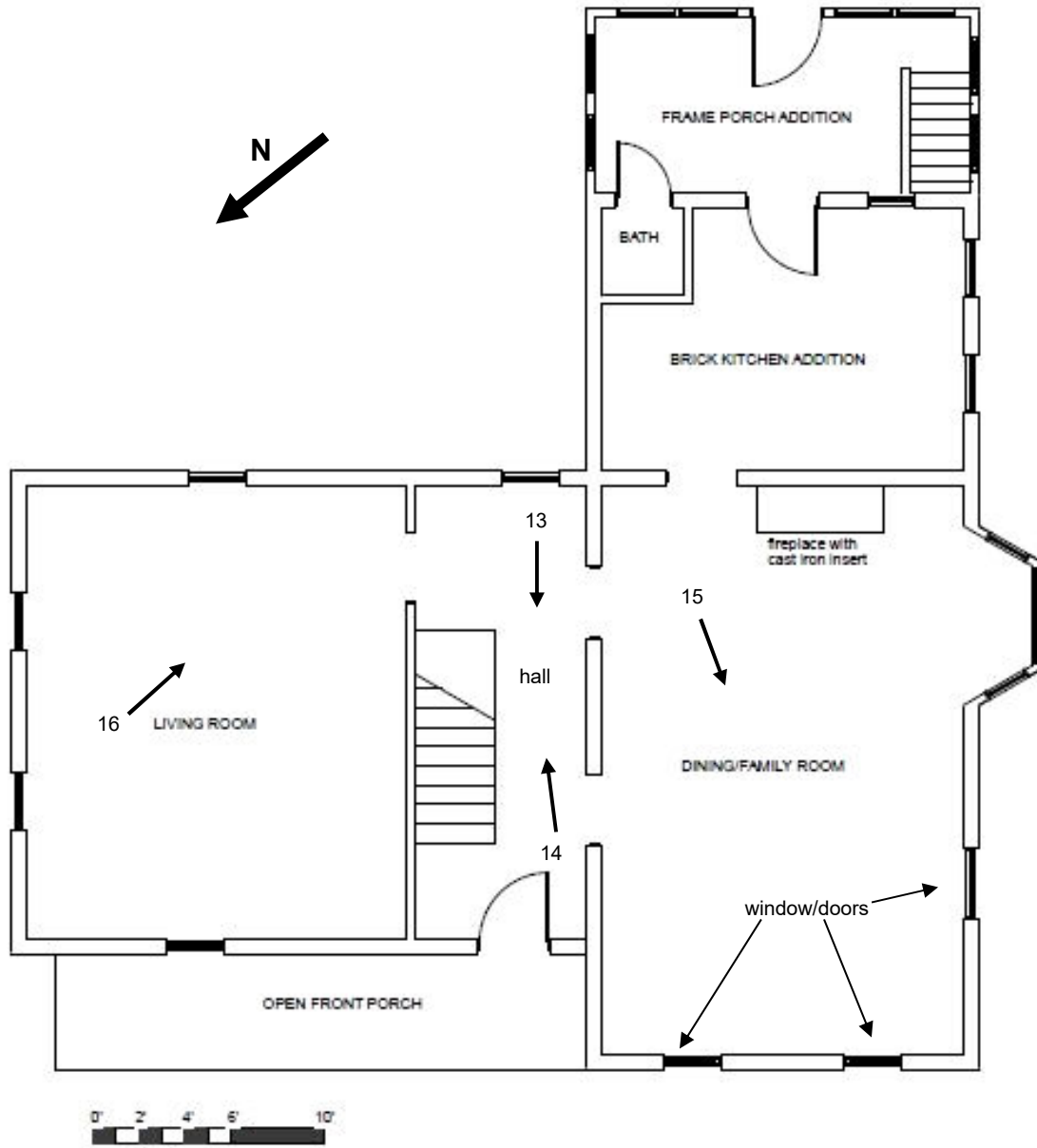
Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



**Figure 16. Site Plan Map showing NRHP Boundary of Robinson House.**  
Aerial obtained from Linn County Iowa GIS website.  
(white dashed outline = NRHP nomination boundary)

Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



### 600 1st Ave SE - MAIN FLOOR

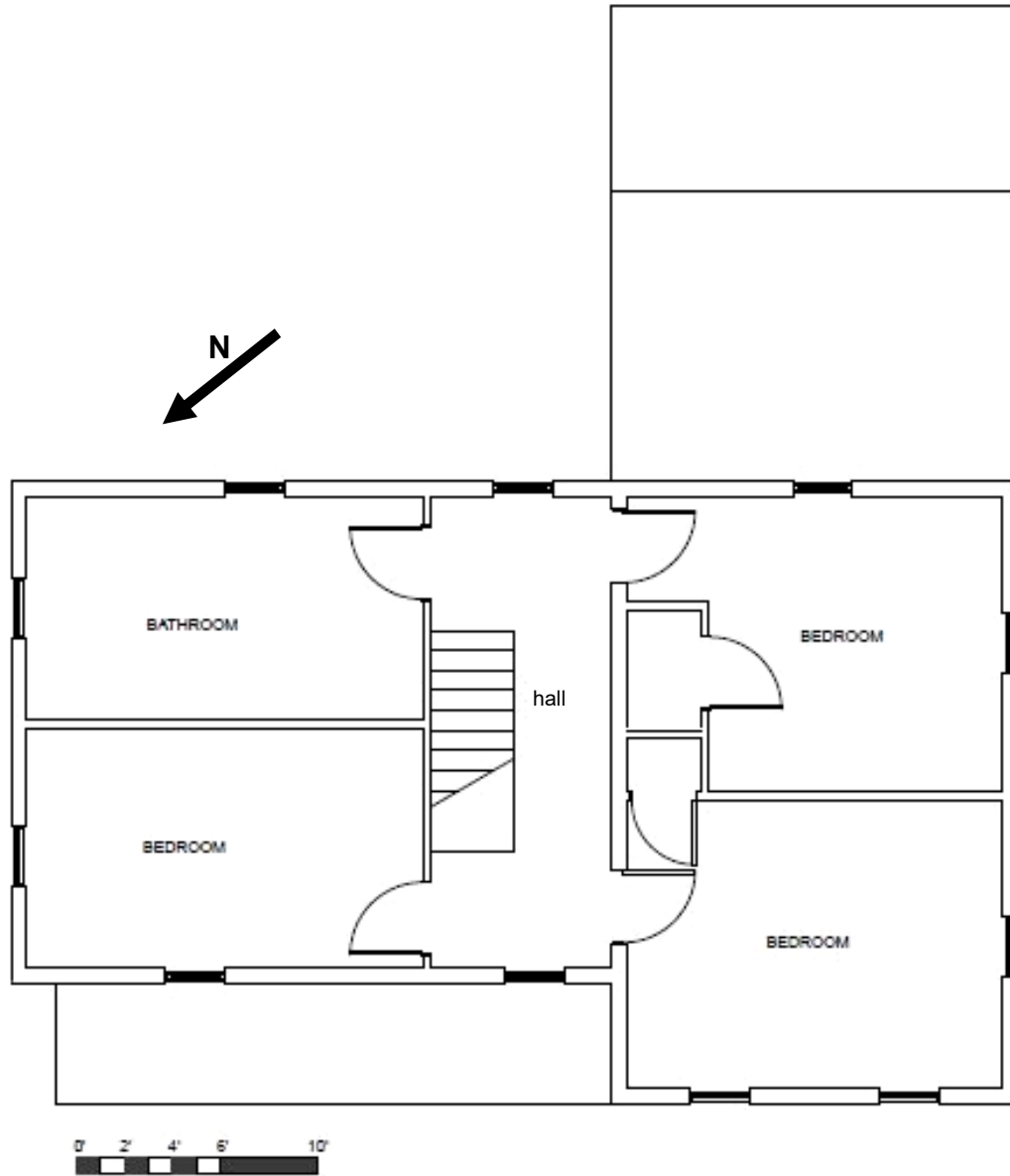
**Figure 17. Main Floor Plan and direction of photographs #13-16**

Drawn by Ed Sauter, Mount Vernon, Iowa



Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



600 1st Ave SE - UPPER FLOOR

**Figure 18. Upper Floor Plan**

Drawn by Ed Sauter, Mount Vernon, Iowa

Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

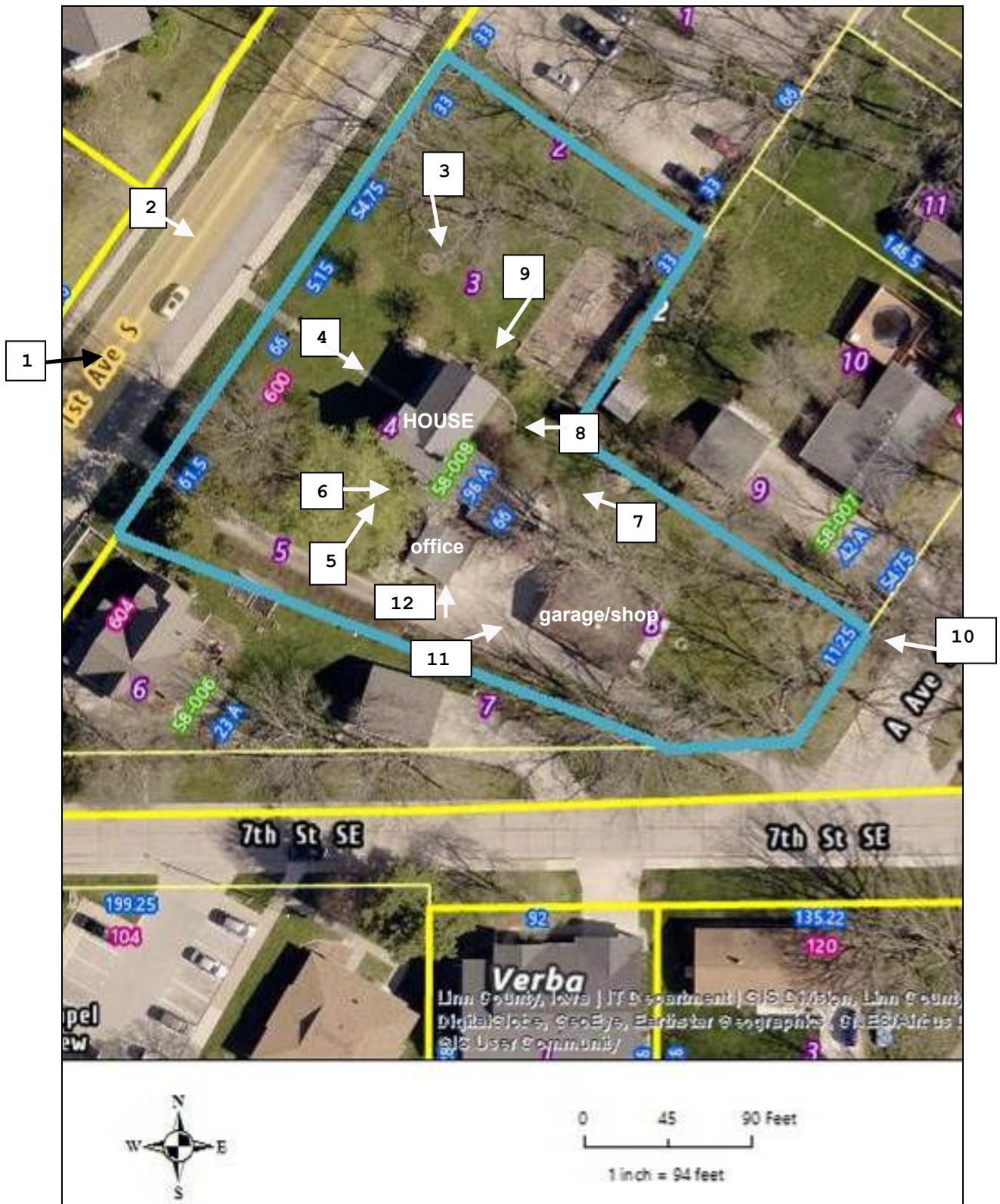


Figure 19. Site Plan Map showing direction of photographs.  
Aerial obtained from Linn County Iowa GIS website.

Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

**Name of Property:** Pease, Dr. Luther L. and Susette E. (Baker), House  
**City or Vicinity:** Mount Vernon  
**County:** Linn County **State:** IA  
**Photographer:** Leah D. Rogers  
**Date Photographed:** May 4, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 16: General view of the Pease House looking to the ENE from 1st Avenue South
- Photo 2 of 16: Façade of Pease House looking ESE
- Photo 3 of 16: Façade and north side of Pease House looking SSE
- Photo 4 of 16: Façade of Pease House looking ESE
- Photo 5 of 16: South side of Pease House looking NNE
- Photo 6 of 16: South side and rear additions of Pease House looking East
- Photo 7 of 16: Rear of Pease House looking WNW
- Photo 8 of 16: Rear and north side of Pease House looking West
- Photo 9 of 16: North side of Pease House looking SW
- Photo 10 of 16: General view of Pease House looking WNW from 2nd Avenue SE
- Photo 11 of 16: Garage/shop looking NE
- Photo 12 of 16: Office looking North
- Photo 13 of 16: Interior of hallway looking NW towards front door with stairs to the right
- Photo 14 of 16: Interior of hallway looking East with stairs to the left
- Photo 15 of 16: Interior of dining/family room looking West towards window/doors
- Photo 16 of 16: Interior of living room looking SSE

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.