

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 Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger), House

other names/site number Platner House; Camp House

Name of Multiple Property Listing Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon, Iowa

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

## 2. Location

street & number 601 1st Ave SW

☐

not for publication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

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		site
		structure
		object
2	0	<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

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/Limestone

walls: BRICK

roof: ASPHALT

other:

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

### 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.)

The Augustus and Elizabeth Bauman House is a two-story brick house with Early Republic stylistic influences located on the west side of 1st Avenue SE (IA Highway 1). The house was built circa 1854 for Augustus Bauman on a large piece of land that had been platted by Bauman and his wife Elizabeth as "Bauman's Addition" to the town of Mount Vernon. The house is built of locally-manufactured soft mud brick laid in a 5:1 common bond, with locally-quarried limestone for the foundation. Significant features include the brick lintels on the windows that consist of soldier courses capped with brick stretchers forming a peaked cap and the half-round windows/vents in the gable ends. These features are identical to those on the Albright House at 224 1st Street SW, which is known to have been built by Henry D. Albright, who along with his brother, William, operated an early brick yard and lime kiln in Mount Vernon. Therefore, it is likely that Albright was involved in the design and construction of the Bauman House as well. The style of the house is Early Republic, reflected in the five-rank fenestration and half-round vents in the gable ends. The setting of this stylish brick house on a large lot elevated above the street has always commanded attention from travelers, first along the Military Road and today along Highway 1. As such, the house has served as local landmark and still commands attention as a gateway to historic Mount Vernon because of its large size, elevated location, architectural style, and its excellent historic integrity. The property retains excellent to good historic integrity. The barn behind the house is a contributing building.

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.

**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**, and the seven aspects of integrity as it applies to the property in a **Statement of Integrity**.)

This two-story brick house with Early Republic stylistic influences is located on an elevation on the west side of 1st Avenue SE (IA Highway 1). This highway was historically part of the Military Road as it extended between Iowa City and Dubuque in the mid-19th century. The house was built circa 1854 for Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman as their home. The house faces east and was built on the summit of a rise that slopes sharply down to the east and north and slopes more gently down to the south and west. Large mature shade and pine trees surround the house. When the house was first built it was on a large piece of land that had been platted by Augustus and Elizabeth Bauman as "Bauman's Addition" to the town of Mount Vernon. Their land extended from Washington Street (aka 1st Avenue S) on the east, Palisades Road on the south, the line between Sections 9 and 10 to the west, and an irregular boundary on the north, which today is a half block south of 4th Street SW. The house was built on the southeast portion of this plat and for many years included all of the lots that fronted 1st Avenue up to a half-block south of 4th Street. In the modern era, the lots to the north were replatted and developed as the Washington Square condominiums. The property was further reduced recently when the lots to the west between the nominated property and 2nd Avenue SW was sold for the construction of the Mount Vernon Fire Department's new building. Despite these reductions, the property surrounding the subject house is still large and the yard areas expansive. The house still commands attention as a gateway to historic Mount Vernon because of its large size, elevated location, architectural style, and excellent historic integrity. The gabled barn behind the house was built in the mid-to-late 19th century and is considered a contributing building. This barn has been adapted for use as an automobile garage and shop in the modern era but is a notable example of an early outbuilding in Mount Vernon and is a property type that is becoming increasingly rare.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

The property is entered from 1st Avenue by a long curving driveway that extends around the rear of the house. To the northwest of the house is an outbuilding that currently houses a garage and shop but historically functioned as a small barn (Figure 1). The house is built of locally-manufactured soft mud brick and has a foundation built of locally-quarried limestone. The stone foundation exposed on the exterior consists of dressed blocks with dressed capstones. The walls of the house are constructed of bricks laid in a 5:1 common bond, or five courses of brick stretchers for every single course of brick headers. The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has a wide eave overhang, with a wide frieze board below but lack cornice returns. There are four brick chimneys rising from the roof slopes with two towards each gable end. The windows on the main body of the house all have wooden sills and brick lintels that consist of soldier courses capped with brick stretchers forming a peaked cap (Figure 2). These lintels are painted white. This type of distinctive lintel is identical to those on the Albright House at 224 1st Street SW, which was built by Henry D. Albright, who along with his brother, William, operated an early brick yard and lime kiln in Mount Vernon. The Albrights were responsible for the construction of many early brick buildings in town. This house also has half-round vents/windows in the gable ends similar to those on the Albright House. These links to the design of the Albright House suggest that the Albrights built this house as well. The style of the subject house is Early Republic, which is reflected in the five-rank fenestration and half-round vents in the gable ends.



**Figure 1. Bauman House and Barn looking WNW across 1st Street S (Highway 1).**  
Photograph taken May 4, 2018



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State



**Figure 2. Closer view of Bauman House façade and the distinctive brick lintels above the windows.**  
Photograph taken May 4, 2018.

### **Façade (East Side)<sup>1</sup>**

The front of the house exhibits five-rank fenestration consisting of a centered door on the first floor flanked by two single windows to either side and five single windows evenly spaced across the second story (see Figure 2). The windows are all 6/6 double-hung, wooden-sash windows and have functional wooden shutters. The windows appear to be original to the construction of the house. The front door has a six-pane transom and four-pane side lights in a deep wooden casement surrounding the door opening. The door is sheltered by an open porch that has a very low-pitched, front-gabled roof and is supported by two large square wooden columns that have cornice-molded imposts at the top and square wooden bases at the bottom. The columns are paneled. A historical photograph of this house published in 1948, but likely a much older photograph, shows the house without a front porch (Centennial Committee 1948; see Figure 7). A photograph taken in 1967 shows the house still without a front porch (see Figure 9). Therefore, the current front portico porch is a post-1967 addition to the façade. However, the style of the posts and the pitch of the roof do mimic the style of the original wooden pilasters that still flank the recessed doorway and the original peaked lintel above the door, which may also be intact (Figure 3). The area of this lintel is now covered by the flashing above the porch roof but the side view of the porch appears to show that it is still in place (see Figure 3). The porch floor is wooden and has a single, long wooden step down to the concrete sidewalk that extends to the east toward 1st Avenue. It leads to a concrete stairway that descends to the sidewalk that is parallel to 1st Avenue (see Figure 1).

<sup>1</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.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

**Figure 3. Closer view of front porch looking SW.**

Note the peak of the flashing above the porch roof and the front door likely covering the original lintel visible in a historical photograph of this house.  
Photograph taken May 4, 2018.



### South Side

The south side of the house has two single windows on each floor evenly spaced and symmetrically aligned (Figure 4). The four windows are all 6/6 double-hung, wooden-sash windows and have the same brick lintels, wooden sills, and wooden shutters as on the façade. A half-round wooden vent is in the attic level of the gable peak.



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



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

### Rear (West Side)

Only the second story of the main body of the house is exposed on the exterior of the rear of the house (Figure 5). This side has three single windows across the second story as opposed to the five-rank fenestration seen on the façade. The rear windows are also 6/6 double-hung, wooden-sash windows with wooden sills and wooden shutters (although one is missing a shutter). However, the lintels are flat-topped brick soldier courses that are unpainted.

There is a one-story, front-gabled brick addition centered on the rear of the house, with a shed-roofed frame enclosed porch on the south side of the addition and against the main body of the house. The porch is clad with vertical board-and-batten siding and has 2/2 double-hung wooden-sash windows. The porch is reached by a set of stone steps leading up to a stone block stoop with concrete top to the door centered on the south side of the porch. There is a wooden railing around part of the porch with a railing along one side of the steps. The brick addition also has 2/2 double-hung, wooden-sash windows with wooden shutters. These windows have flat-topped brick soldier course lintels. One of the windows on the west gable end is set higher on the wall than the 2/2 window to the right and consists of paired casement windows having six fixed panes. This window has a brick sill instead of the wooden sills in the other windows. There is an identical casement window with shutters on the north side of the brick addition. The brick walls are laid in a 5:1 American bond like the main body of the house. The roof also has a wide eave overhang and frieze board under the eaves. The foundation is made of limestone like that of the house. There is another shed-roofed enclosed frame porch on the north side of the addition. This porch is also clad with board-and-batten siding and has a 2/2 double-hung window on the west side and a door on its north side. A concrete patio is along the north side of the porch and addition, with a low stone garden wall and arbor to the north.



Figure 5. Rear (west side) of Bauman House looking NNE. Photograph taken May 4, 2018.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

## North Side

This gable end of the house has two single windows symmetrically placed on the first and second stories (Figure 6). These windows are like those on the façade and south-side windows being 6/6 wooden-sash, double-hungs with functional shutters, wooden sills, and the peaked brick lintels painted white. This side also has a half-round opening in the attic level of the gable peak; however, on this side this opening is a sunburst window instead of a vent.



**Figure 6. North side of Bauman House looking South.** Photograph taken May 4, 2018.

A historical photograph of the Bauman House, taken at a time when 1st Avenue was a dirt road and the surroundings appeared to be more rural than urban, shows a one-story addition on the rear of the house that could be the existing rear addition, which has a frame porch enclosure on the north side similar to the one showing in the historical view (see Figures 7-8). The outbuilding shown in this view also appears to be the extant garage, which now has an addition on its north side. Of additional note in this view is the lack of a porch over the front entry confirming that the extant porch is not original. The age of the photograph is unknown; however, there are some clues that warrant further research. Specifically, 1st Avenue appears to be in the process of being lowered, with raw cuts visible along the slope. At present, a date for the road improvement project has not been found. It can be stated that this photograph was printed in the centennial book in 1948; however, it appears to be a much older photograph (Centennial Committee 1948). As noted above, a 1967 photograph of the house shows it still without a front porch; therefore, the extant porch was added after 1967 (see Figure 9).



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



**Figure 7. Historical photograph of the Bauman House looking West.** Note the lack of the front porch and the presence of the gabled barn. Photograph obtained from the Mount Vernon Historic Preservation Commission Archives, accessed December 2018.



**Figure 8. Similar view of photo in Figure 7 today of the Bauman House looking West.**  
Photo taken March 30, 2019.



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State



**Figure 9. Bauman House in 1967 looking WNW.** Note the absence of the portico front porch.

Photograph taken by Margaret Keyes; copy provided by the State Historical Society of Iowa Archives, Iowa City, Iowa from the Margaret N. Keyes Research Files.

## Interior

The interior of the house retains many historic features including the woodwork, paneled wainscoting, hardwood floors, wooden paneled doors, a wooden fireplace mantel with fluted pilasters, and the peaked lintel boards above the doors and windows (Figures 10 and 11). The front staircase has decorative cut panels extending along the side of the steps and a very distinctive rounded and curving bannister railing with both round newel posts and square balusters. There is wood-paneled wainscoting on the walls of the front hallway and extending up along the staircase wall. The front door is a distinctive wooden door that has three vertical panels extending the length of the door (see Figure 11).

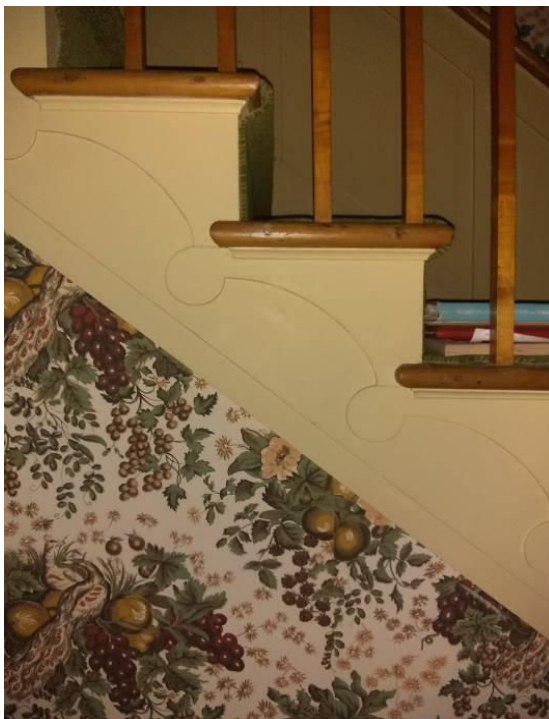
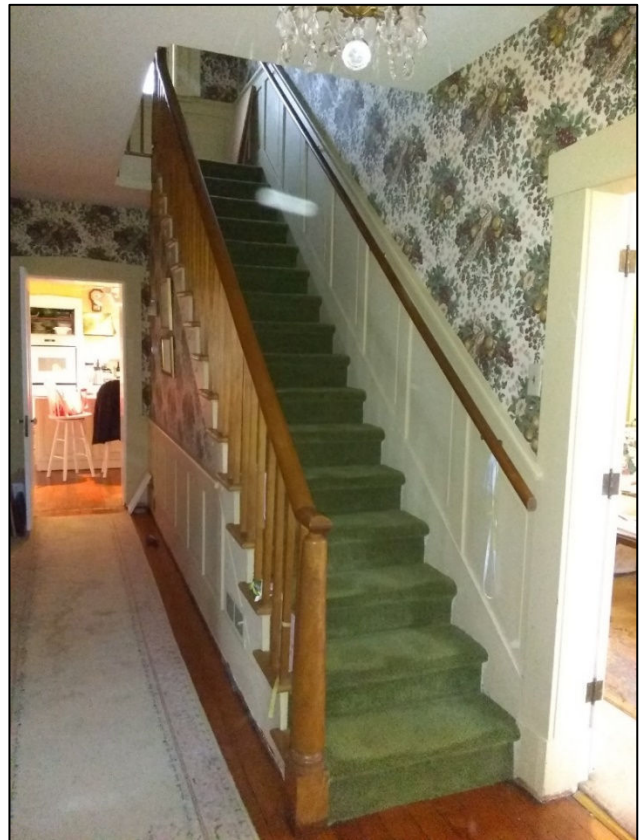


**Figure 10. Left: fireplace mantel in south front room; Right: North front room.**

Photographs taken by Caroline Kelly, December 2018 (left) and March 2019 (right).

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



**Figure 11. Interior photographs clockwise from upper left; front door from interior; front staircase; detail of paneling alongside of staircase; and detail of rounded and curving staircase balustrade on 2nd floor.**  
Photographs taken by Caroline Kelly, March 2019 (top) and December 2018 (bottom).



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

The interior floor plan shows a center hall containing the staircase to the second story along the north wall of the hall. The hall is flanked by two large rooms extending the full depth of the two-story section of the house. The room to the south has the fireplace centered on the south wall, with the room functioning as the dining room. The room to the north is the living room. Both rooms and the center hallway have doors that enter into the rear additions, which now contain the modern kitchen and bathroom in the rear brick addition, an enclosed porch on the south side of the kitchen and an enclosed mud room on the north side of the kitchen.

The interior floor plan of the second story showed the center hall and stairs occupying west half, with a bathroom added in the east half of the hallway, which was likely a full open hallway originally. Three bedrooms, one large bedroom on the north and two smaller bedrooms on the south, are entered from the hallway.

### **Barn/Garage (Contributing Building)**

The historical photograph of this property taken from across the highway and looking southwest towards the house shows a gabled building at this same location in basically the same form except for the side-gabled addition on the north side, which is an obvious later addition (see Figure 7). This photograph was published in the 1948 Mount Vernon centennial book but appears to be an older photograph taken at a time when this property was largely open and had few trees. The current owner has noted that the interior framing of the original portion of the barn exhibits the same type of axe-cut hewn beams as visible in the attic of the house suggesting that the barn is of 19<sup>th</sup>-century construction or was built of hewn beams salvaged from an older barn on the property. Either way, this small barn is of historic age and represents an increasingly rare survival of a support outbuilding to a historic home in Mount Vernon. In this case, the building likely originally functioned as a horse and carriage barn.

The original side-gabled portion of this 1.5-story building faces south and has a double-wide overhead garage door on the south side that is a modern modification (Figure 12). The side-gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a small hip-roofed cupola vent centered on the roof ridge. This cupola is also a later addition. The walls are clad with vertical board-and-batten siding that is fastened with wire nails suggesting later repairs or siding replacement after the 1890s but certainly is of historic age. The foundation is limestone. The interior of the building has hewn posts and beams with mortise-and-tenon joinery and sawn bracing (Figure 13)

There is a wooden staircase with wooden railing on the west gable end of the main building that leads up to a door in the gable peak and enters into what would have been the loft level (see Figure 12). The staircase is a later addition to this building. The east gable end has paired 1/1 wooden-sash windows centered on the wall, with a small rectangular single-pane, wooden-framed window in the gable peak. The historical photograph showed a single window centered on this gable end (see Figure 7). The south (front) side of the garage now has a modern overhead, double-wide door with an entry door to the right. Because the original outbuilding appears to have been built within the period of significance for this property, it is counted as a contributing building.

The addition on the north side is a single-story, gabled frame addition that has board-and-batten siding and a poured concrete foundation. This addition has a wide 8/8 wooden-sash window with non-functional shutters placed at the left side of the north wall.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



**Figure 12. Front and west side of barn/garage. Photograph taken March 23, 2019.**



**Figure 13. Details of barn/garage interior showing hewn posts and beams and sawn bracing.**  
Photographs taken by Caroline Kelly, March 2019.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

## Statement of Integrity

There have been no major modifications to this house and it retains excellent historic integrity on the exterior and interior. The front-gabled portico porch is a post-1967 addition to the front entry but appears to have had a low impact on the original front door surround (see Figure 8).<sup>2</sup> The rear addition to the house is of historic age. The barn retains fair integrity as it has been modified into a garage in the modern era, but its integrity is sufficient to be considered a contributing building.

As for seven aspects of historic integrity, this property retains excellent integrity in the aspects of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association and good integrity in the aspects of setting and feeling. The integrity of location is excellent because this house is built on its original site at the south edge of Mount Vernon on a prominent elevation that overlooks the historic Military Road (now 1st Avenue SE, aka Highway 1).

The excellent integrity of design is reflected in this comparatively intact Early Republic house that retains its historic architectural components including the five-rank fenestration, centered front door, side-gabled orientation, distinctive peaked brick lintels, half-round gable end window/vents, and 6/6 double-hung wooden-sash windows.

The excellent integrity of materials is reflected in the use of locally-manufactured reddish-orange soft bricks and locally-quarried dressed limestone blocks in the circa 1854 house and the rear one-story addition. The bricks were manufactured at William Albright's brick yard, with the stone obtained from the quarry near the brickyard, both of which were located in the southeast part of Mount Vernon.

The excellent integrity of workmanship appears to be an example of the brick making and construction skills of early builder Henry D. Albright and his brother William Albright. The distinctive elements of the circa 1854 house, specifically the corbelled brick peaked lintels and the half-round window/vents in the gable ends, are similar to those same features on the house that Henry Albright built for himself in 1853 at 224 1st Street SW in Mount Vernon. Therefore, it appears likely that the workmanship reflected in the Bauman House is that of Henry Albright.

The integrity of association is also excellent because this house was built for Augustus and Elizabeth Bauman, who platted this portion of Mount Vernon. It is also notable for its association with early brickmaker and builders, Henry and William Albright, who were responsible for many of the early brick buildings in Mount Vernon and on the Cornell College campus.

The integrity of setting is good because the property has been reduced in size from its original parcel but the house still sits on a large, expansive lot with a landscape lawn and mature pine and shade trees around the house. The elevated setting of this stylish brick house overlooking the historic Military Road (now Highway 1) still enhances the local status of this house as an informal gateway to historic Mount Vernon.

The integrity of feeling is good, with this house still imparting a sense of time and place, although the reduction of the land once historically associated with this house for the construction of modern condominiums to the north and the modern Mount Vernon Fire Station to the west have impacted somewhat the integrity of feeling. However, the house is built on an elevation that reduces the ability to see the modern buildings particularly from the entrance view along Highway 1 from the south.

<sup>2</sup> The last known historic photo taken in 1967 shows the house with no porch (see Figure 9), so the porch was added after 1967.  
Section 7 page 14



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

## 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.)

ARCHITECTURE

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

### Period of Significance

c.1854-1870

### Significant Dates

c.1854

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

### Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

### Architect/Builder

Albright, Henry D.

Albright, William D.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

## 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 Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman 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*. It 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 Bauman 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 Early Republic stylistic influences. The Bauman House meets these registration requirements under Criteria A and C of both 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, locally manufactured red-orange brick, and through the workmanship of the town's earliest masons. Built along the Military Road on land that would be platted in 1857 as Bauman's Addition, the house literally represents the early development of the town in its nascent years. The Bauman House dates from the founding of the community and retains sufficient integrity to be considered significant to understanding Mount Vernon's development. The period of significance for the Bauman House is c.1854 to 1870, from the year Augustus Bauman likely built the house on what would become Bauman's Addition, to the end of the period of significance for the "Military Road-era Buildings, Structures, and Objects, c.1840-70" context of the *Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon, Iowa* Multiple Property Submission.

## 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**.)

### **Criterion A: Historical Significance of the Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman House**

Under the registration requirements for Criterion A of the "Military Road-era Buildings, Structures, and Objects, c.1840-70" context, the Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman House is significant 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." According to the description 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.

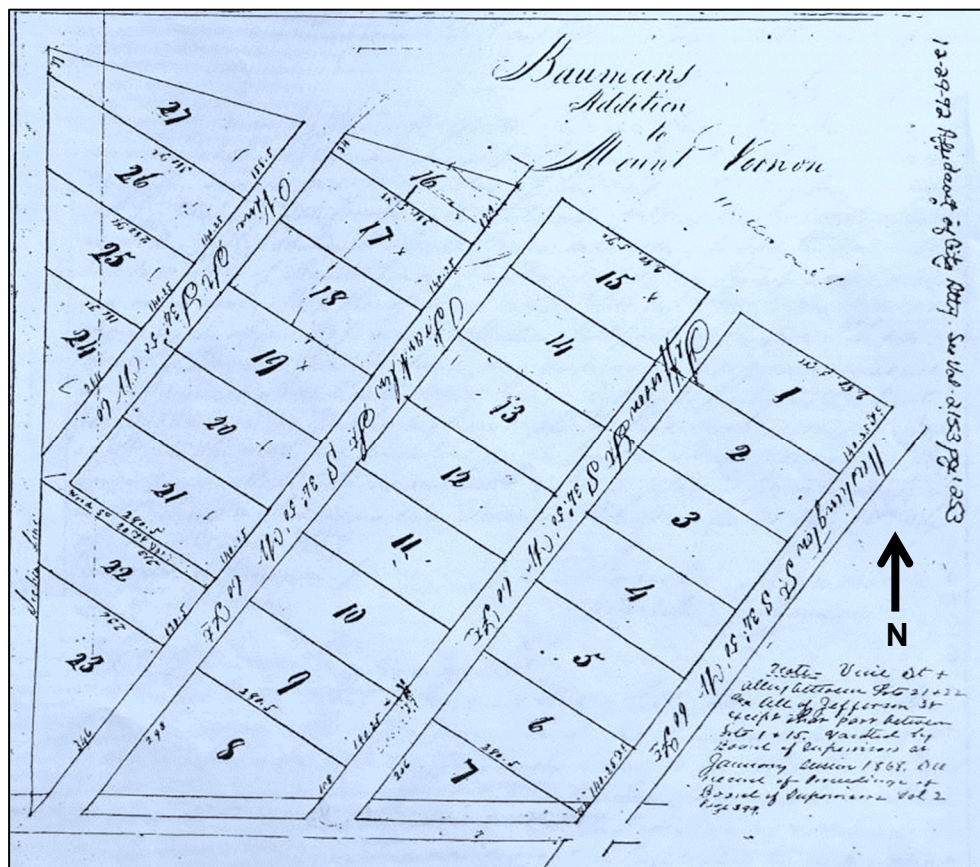
Surviving properties from this pivotal period in the history of the community are so rare that examples from prominent building types, such as houses, that retain sufficient integrity are considered significant to understanding Mount Vernon's development (Long 1991:F2).

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

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).

The Bauman House was built c.1854, the year the Baumans moved to Mount Vernon. The house was built along the Military Road on land that would be platted in 1857 as Bauman's Addition, and thus literally represents the early development of the town in its nascent years (Figure 14).



Source: Town Lot Deeds, Volume 3, Recorder's Office, Jean Oxley Linn County Public Service Center, Cedar Rapids.



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

Augustus Bauman was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1816. He moved to Ohio while still a young man and there married Elizabeth Huntsberger, also a Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, native. The Baumans had eight children, but only four survived to adulthood. The family migrated to Iowa in 1854 and settled in Mount Vernon, where Augustus Bauman was immediately successful in the mercantile and real estate business (Chapman Brothers, 1887:606; Iowa State Census 1856; *Lisbon Sun*, November 20, 1891). According to the 1887 biographical history of Linn County:

[Augustus Bauman] was a man of means, and purchased land adjacent to the village, laying out a part of it in town lots. He made an additional purchase, devoted it to the same purposes, and it was afterward known as Bauman's Addition to Mt. Vernon. He was interested in all the improvements going on about him, and materially assisted in the same. He remained here until death, which occurred Nov. 2, 1857 (Chapman Brothers 1887:606).

The construction of the Baumans' residence in Mount Vernon coincided with the peak of the brickmaking and contracting business of Henry D. and William D. Albright, pioneer masons from near Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. As such, the Bauman House was almost certainly built by the Albright brothers soon after the Bauman family arrived in Mount Vernon in 1854.

After Augustus Bauman's death in 1857, Elizabeth Bauman remarried the following year to William Hess. The house and considerable property languished in probate from 1861 to 1864 as the eldest child, Simon H. Bauman, graduated from Cornell College and was married (Chapman Brothers 1887:607; Linn County, Iowa, Probate Case Files, 1840-1924). The house and property were finally sold to David and Amanda (Downing) Platner in 1864. The Platners had moved to Mount Vernon from Cedar County. David Platner, a New York native, was, as his obituary reported, "a speculator of and participator in all the changes this country has undergone from a prairie wilderness, to an energetic, wide awake, prosperous community. . ." Platner held several offices in city government, including being elected mayor in 1875, and he served "for years" as sheriff. The Platners lived in the house until David Platner's sudden death in 1883. His wife moved to Des Moines to live with her daughter, Mary (Platner) Akers, and died there in 1906 (Western Historical Co 1878:561; *Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 16, 1883; *Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, May 4, 1906; *Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, August 10, 1933).

The house was purchased from the Platners' estate by the Platners' daughter and son-in-law, George and Emma (Platner) Camp, who took possession of the house in 1912 (*Lisbon Herald*, November 7, 1912). By the time the Camps celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary in 1929, they had "done much remodeling" and had "one of the most comfortable and modern homes located in Mount Vernon." It is likely that the front porch was added by the Platners, with interior remodeling likely the majority of their efforts as kitchen and bathroom updates were probably needed by the 1920s. The *Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald* continued:

The place consists of twenty acres inside the corporate limits of Mount Vernon from which many Mount Vernon people have been supplied with delicious fruit and vegetables for Mr. Camp raises only the best of products. His orchard and trees about the place have all been planted by him and with the help of Mrs. Camp in summer their [yards] are beautiful with all kinds of flowers and shrubs. They have both taken much pride in their home, of which one can see when one looks at the well kept grounds (*Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, November 7, 1929).

In 1942, after Emma Camp passed away, the estate held a closing out sale of the Camps' household effects. As the local newspaper reported, the sale

drew the largest crowd which has attended a household goods sale in this vicinity in years. Cars were parked from Main street to the Camp residence and on south on No. 261 to the lane of the old slaughter

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

house, and west on the Palisades road to the west farm. Antique buyers were here from Cedar Rapids, Iowa City and Davenport (*Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, August 27, 1942).

Eldred E. "Al" and Norma S. Morrissey, the first owners outside the Platner-Camp family, purchased the house in 1943 (*Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, March 18, 1943). The Morrisseys were still living there when Al Morrissey died in 1978.

**Criterion C: Architectural Significance of the Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman House**

Under the registration requirements for Criterion C of the "Military Road-era Buildings, Structures, and Objects, c.1840-70" context, the Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger) Bauman House is a property "that display[s] vernacular building techniques and traditional building materials, such as locally produced brick and locally quarried stone" (Long 1991:F2). The Bauman House is a good representative example of the Military Road era brick housing type in Mount Vernon. According to the registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property Document "Historic Resources of Mt. Vernon, Iowa,"

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 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 Bauman 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 Early Republic 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.

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).

The Bauman House is a two-story, side-gabled vernacular house with Early Republic stylistic influences built c.1854, not long after the Baumans arrived in Mount Vernon. Its foundation is locally quarried limestone and its exterior walls are the deep reddish-orange locally-produced brick that is the hallmark of Mount Vernon's Military Road era 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>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The Pennsylvania Dutch, also known as Pennsylvania Germans, are descendants of early German immigrants to Pennsylvania.  
Section 8 page 19

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

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 Baumans were from Lancaster County, and the house was almost certainly built by Henry D. and William D. Albright, brothers who 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 the possibility of contracting work, and for the next few years they worked as brickmakers and builders for early settlers. They are specifically known to have built Old Sem (1853) and College Hall (1856) at Cornell College and the house in which Henry and his wife Juliana would reside for most of the rest of their lives at 224 1st Street SW. 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).

As with other houses of this antebellum period, the brick of the Bauman House is set in the Common Bond pattern, in which every fifth row is turned to form a tie between two rows of brick in a brick wall, creating a double wall. The double wall strengthened and supported the structure in addition to providing insulation and fire protection. William Albright 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 and east of the Bauman property. He may also have made some of the bricks on site using a temporary kiln, a common practice.

The Bauman House has been a landmark in Mount Vernon since it was built. In 1931, when George and Emma (Platner) Camp celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, the *Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald* gave a description not only of the happy event but also the Camps' beloved residence:

It consists of twenty acres and joins the south edge of Mount Vernon and is one of the town's most attractive and home-like spots. The house is surrounded by large trees, beautiful shrubbery and flowers and a lovely large orchard extends to the south (*Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, October 29, 1931).



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

### ***Archaeological Assessment***

The potential for any prehistoric or historic archaeological remains within the property boundary was not assessed as part of the present National Register nomination. However, the property retains a large open expanse of yard area on all sides of the historic house indicating a good potential for intact archaeological evidence of earlier features associated with the house, such as a well, cistern, privies, and other outbuildings. Also, the extensive area to the south and southwest of the house was historically used as an orchard.

### ***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***

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Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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"Obituary: W.H. Platner," *Mount Vernon Hawkeye-Record and Lisbon Herald*, August 10, 1933.

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"Sudden Death of David Platner," *Mount Vernon Hawk-Eye*, November 16, 1883.

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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

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark  
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 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**

**Acreeage of Property** less than one acre

(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>41.918254</u>	<u>-91.421216</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

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

The irregular boundary of this property is shown on the accompanying map entitled "Site Plan Map showing NRHP Boundary of the Bauman House as the black dashed outline" (Figure 14).

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

The NRHP boundary of the Bauman House encompasses that portion of the original property that contains the house and barn and the surrounding yards areas associated historically with the house.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	Jennifer A. Price, Ph.D./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



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), 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 15. Location map of the Bauman House (red dot).**  
Aerial map obtained from ExpertGPS Pro mapping software, 2018.



Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State



**Figure 16. Local Location Map of the Bauman House.**  
Map obtained from Linn County Iowa GIS, December 2018.

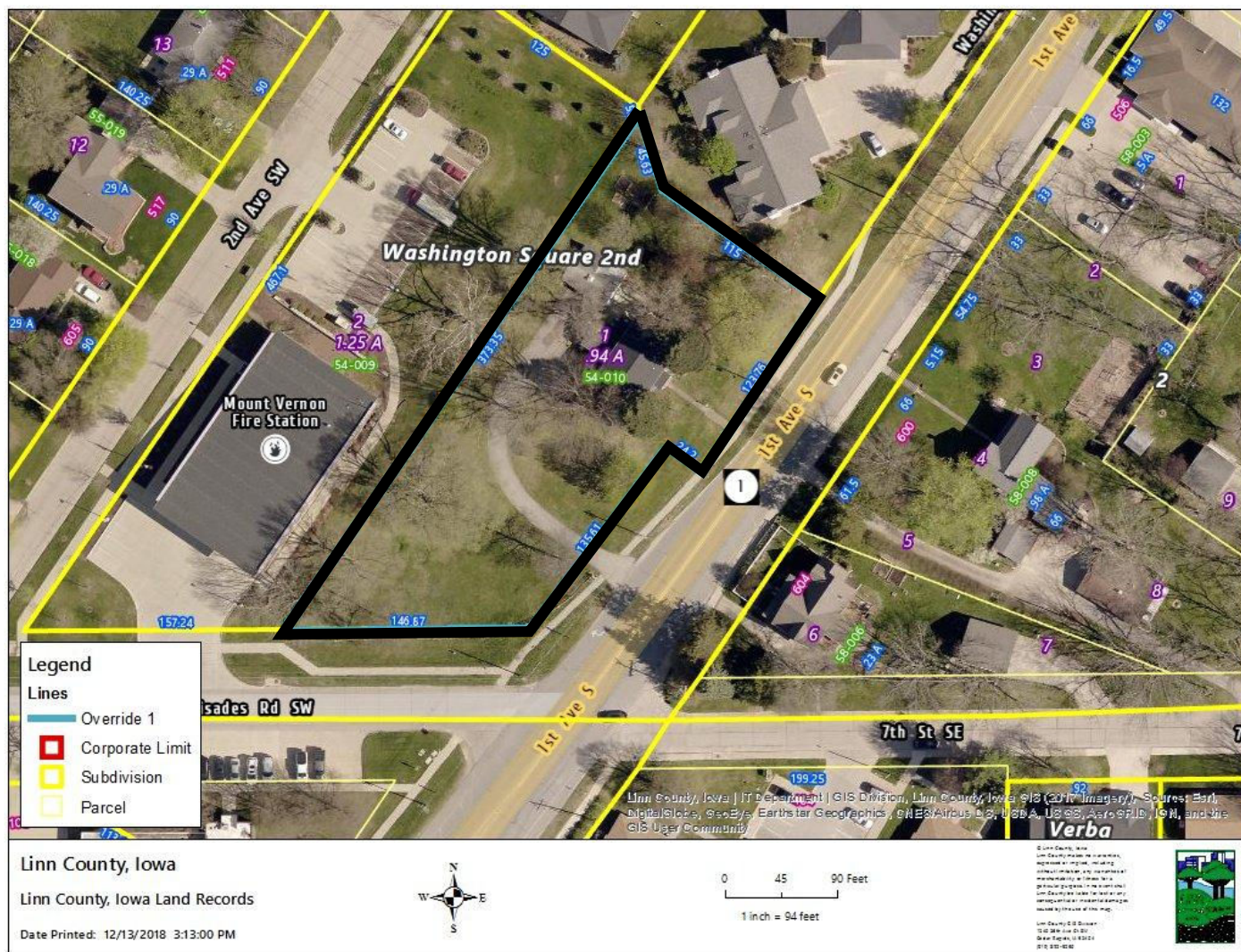


Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa

County and State



**Figure 17. Site Plan Map showing NRHP Boundary of the Bauman House as the black outline.**  
Map obtained from Linn County Iowa GIS, December 2018.

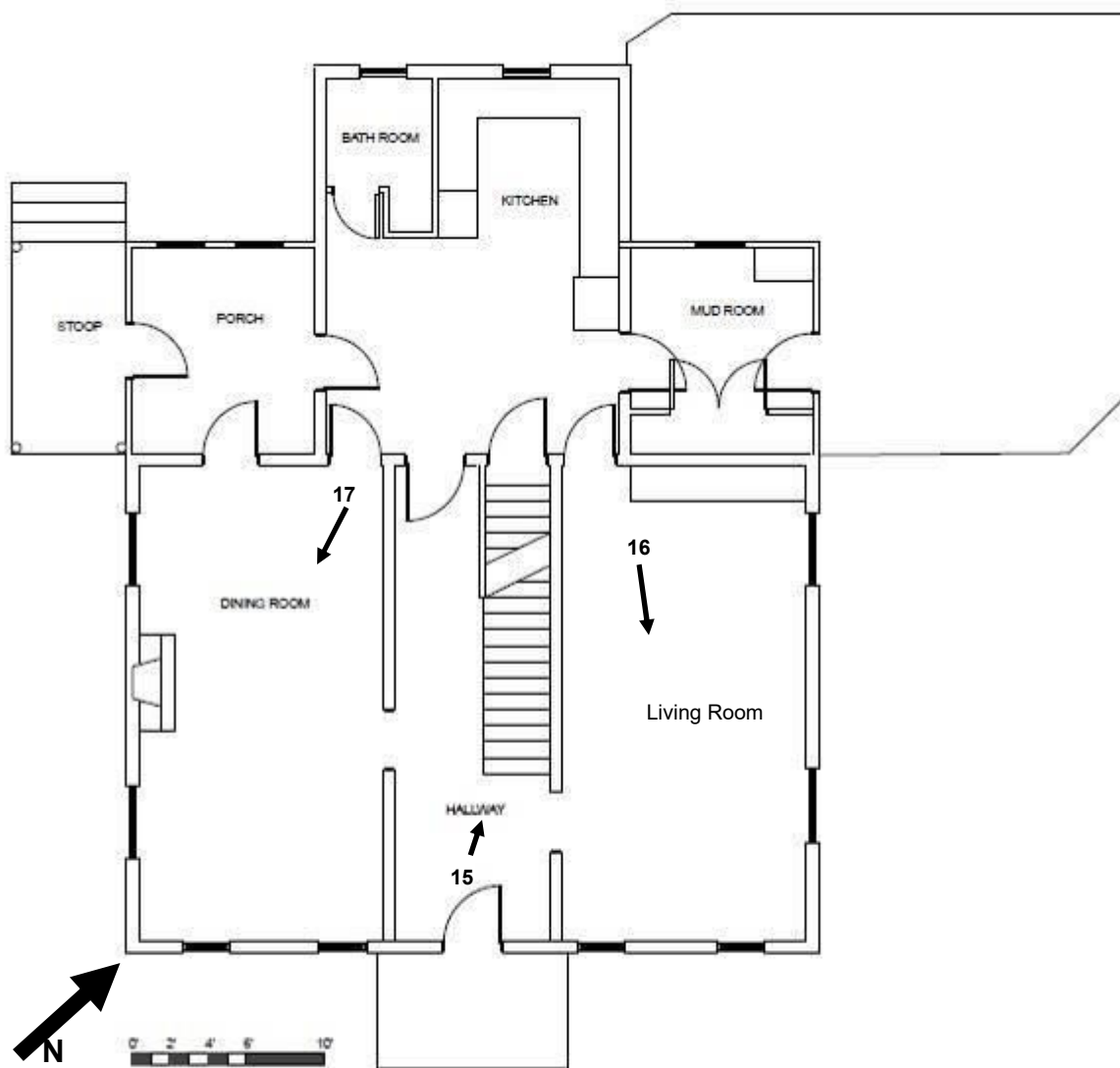
County and State





Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State

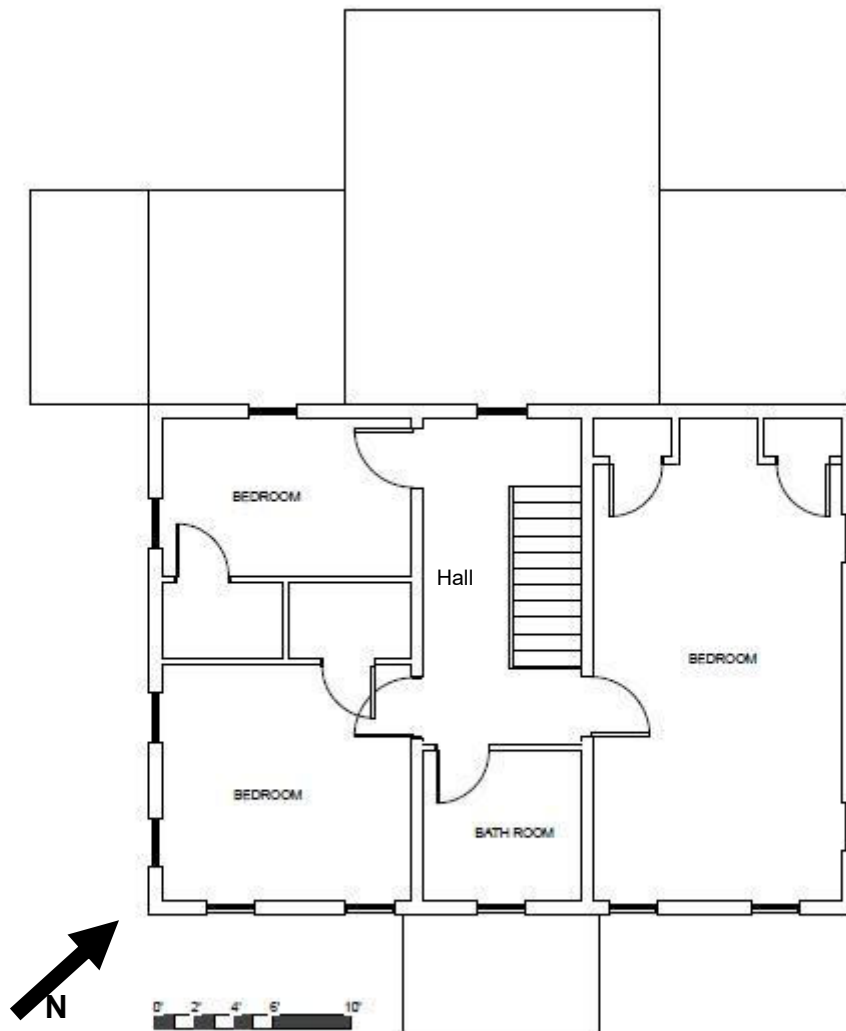


601 1st Ave SW - MAIN FLOOR

Figure 18. Main Floor Plan and Direction of Photos 15-17  
Drawn by Ed Sauter, MVHPC

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House  
Name of Property

Linn County, Iowa  
County and State



601 1st Ave SW - UPPER FLOOR

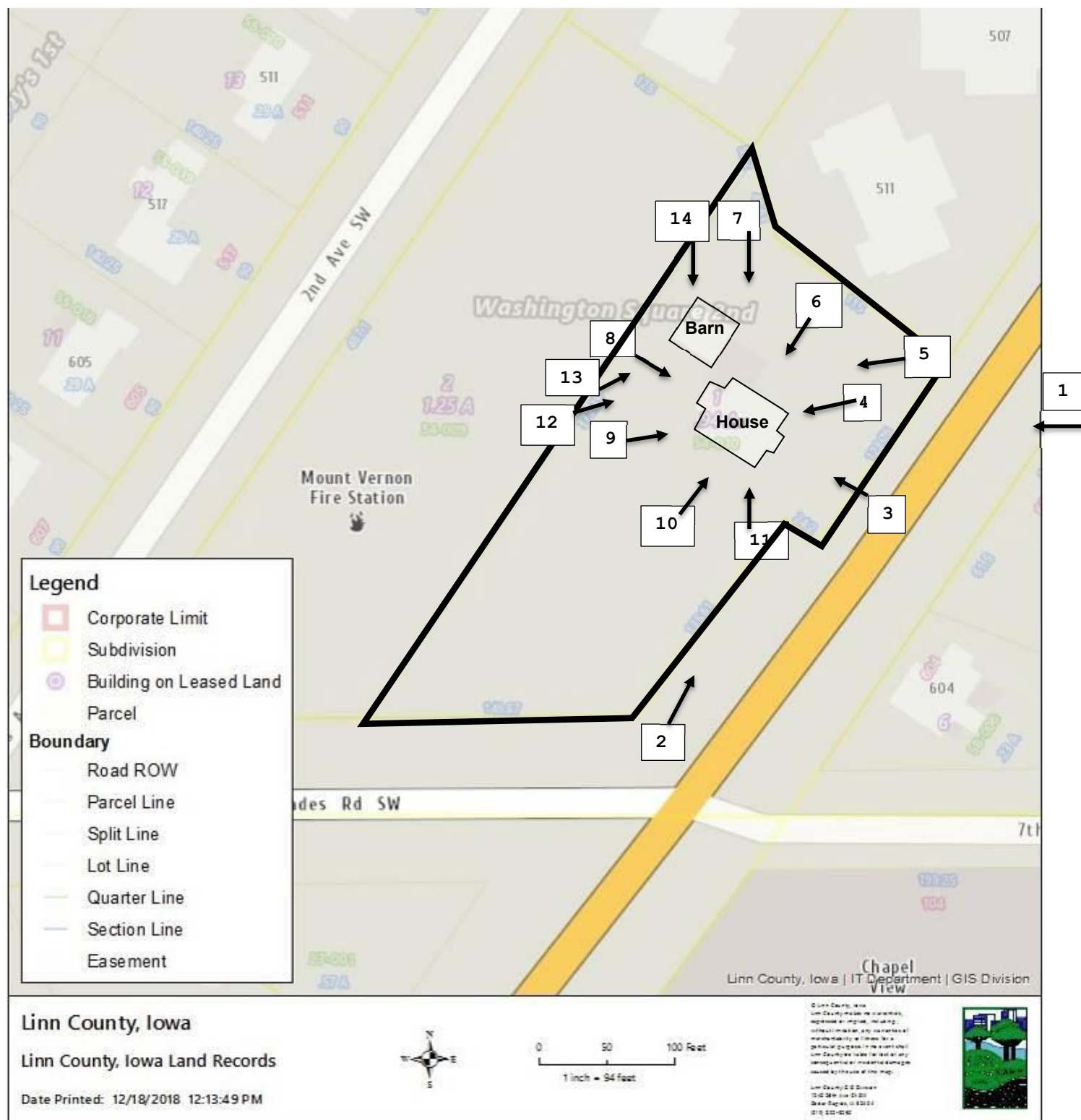
**Figure 19. Upper Floor Plan**  
Drawn by Ed Sauter, MVHPC

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

County and State



**Figure 20. Site Plan Map showing photograph directions of photos 1-14.**  
Map obtained from Linn County Iowa GIS, December 2018.

Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth  
(Huntsberger), House

Linn County, Iowa

Name of Property

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

<b>Name of Property:</b>	Bauman, Augustus and Elizabeth (Huntsberger), House		
<b>City or Vicinity:</b>	Mount Vernon		
<b>County:</b>	Linn County	<b>State:</b>	IA
<b>Photographer:</b>	Leah D. Rogers and Caroline Kelly		
<b>Date Photographed:</b>	March 30, 2019 (Photos 1-14) and March 2019 (Photos 15-17)		

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

Photo 1 of 17: General view of Bauman House looking West  
Photo 2 of 17: General view of Bauman House looking NNE  
Photo 3 of 17: Facade of Bauman House looking WNW  
Photo 4 of 17: Façade and north side of Bauman House looking WSW  
Photo 5 of 17: North side of house looking WSW towards barn/garage  
Photo 6 of 17: North side of Bauman House looking SW  
Photo 7 of 17: General view from North end of property looking South  
Photo 8 of 17: Rear of Bauman House looking ESE  
Photo 9 of 17: Rear and south side of Bauman House looking ENE  
Photo 10 of 17: South side of Bauman House looking NE  
Photo 11 of 17: South side and façade of Bauman House looking North  
Photo 12 of 17: General view of barn/garage (left) and rear of Bauman House (right) looking NE  
Photo 13 of 17: Façade of barn/garage looking NE  
Photo 14 of 17: Rear and west side of barn/garage and rear addition looking South  
Photo 15 of 17: Interior of front hall and staircase looking NNW  
Photo 16 of 17: Interior of north front room on first floor looking SSE  
Photo 17 of 17: Interior of south front room on first floor looking South

**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.