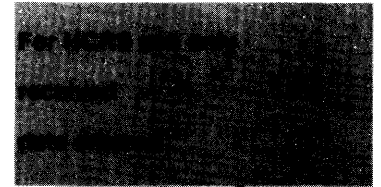


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



FEB 25 1982

1. Name

historic

E. J. Baird House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number NW Corner Jackson & Fremont Streets not for publication

city, town Millersburg vicinity of congressional district 1

state Iowa code 19 county Iowa code 095

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Belva M. Humphrey

street & number Jackson Street

city, town Millersburg vicinity of state Iowa

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office

street & number Iowa County Courthouse

city, town Marengo state Iowa

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Attractively sited on a large lot near the center of Millersburg, the E. J. Baird house is an outstanding local example of late Victorian "pattern book" architecture. When Baird erected this 2 1/2-story frame residence in 1888, he had all lumber, brick, fireplaces, and other materials shipped from Chicago, and most likely he had a "mail order architect" in that or some other city draw up house plans as well. In a purely architectural sense, this edifice combines elements of the Victorian Gothic, Eastlake, Queen Anne, and Shingle styles into a pleasing whole. Of wood frame construction, the house rests on brick foundations over a partially raised basement. Exterior walls are sheathed in wooden clapboards except on the projecting pavilion on the front facade, gable ends, and projecting bays where fish scale shingles are utilized. Window light arrangement varies, but all appear to be of the wood sash variety and set in rectangular surrounds. The structure is capped with a cross gabled roof sheathed in asbestos shingles.

This residence features a wide variety of exterior ornamentation like Victorian Gothic vergeboard trim on the gable ends of the roof and a Queen Anne style, two-story projecting bay capped with a pyramidal roof on its east side. Eastlake, however, is the predominant decorative influence and can be seen in the sunburst on the projecting front dormer; the large, carved, decorative brackets along the eaves of the house; and the lattice like base, spindle balustrades, and turned porch posts on the encircling porch. Additional decorative touches include three pairs of stained glass windows in the attic; a stained glass window with a triangular pediment over the fireplace; and paneled chimney stacks.

Inside, the house follows a side hall plan with a double parlor, bedroom, dining room, small office, utility room, bath, and kitchen on the first floor and four bedrooms and a storage room on the second floor. Much of the original fabric is still intact including a winding front stairway with intricately carved newel posts and carved oak balustrades; yellow pine woodwork with oak trim; double-doors between front rooms; a dining room door with its original etched glass; fireplaces with their original ceramic tile flooring; and brass door hardware.

The only major alteration to this house took place in 1979 when its kitchen and bath were enlarged and a garage was added. All this work took place at the rear of the structure and was completed in such a manner that it did little to detract from the overall effect of the house. The present owner and her family are committed to preserving the residence and restoring it where needed.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1882-Present **Builder/Architect** E.J. Baird

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The E. J. Baird Residence is not only the best preserve example of late Victorian "Pattern Book" housing standing in Millersburg, but it is a visual reminder of that town's most outstanding and influential citizen in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. At the time Baird built this house in 1882, he had amassed considerable wealth through his mercantile, banking, and farming interests, and for many years his residence was considered the most beautiful one in Iowa County. The principal source of Baird's wealth was a flourishing general store he operated in Millersburg, attracting trade from a wide area. Since the town had no bank, he acted as a banker as well, not only lending money but accepting it for safekeeping as well. Each night, he took all the money to his residence and put it in one of the bedrooms which he equipped with a special door which could be barricaded against intruders. Baird had considerable farming interests as well. By the time of his death, he owned well over 1,000 acres of land and several hundred head of cattle in addition to his mercantile and banking interests.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

PLEASE NOT VERIFY
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Millersburg

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u> <u>2</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u>	B					
	Zone	Easting		Northing			Zone	Easting	Northing		
C						D					
E						F					
G						H					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 46, 47, & 48 of the original town of Millersburg.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N.A.</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph J. Christian, Architectural Historian

organization Division of Historic Preservation date January 12, 1981

street & number 26 East Market Street telephone 353-6949/353-4186

city or town Iowa City state Iowa

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Adrian S. Anderson

title Director

date 12/10/81

For NCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register of Historic Places.

Adrian S. Anderson

Director of the National Register

date 2/25/82

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 5 - 1982

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE one

Dinwiddie, James C., History of Iowa County, Iowa and Its People, Volume I (Chicago: S. J. Clark Publishing Company, 1915).

History of Iowa County, Iowa (Des Moines: Union Historical Company, 1881).

Interviews with Mrs. Belva Humphrey (present owner) and Mrs. Ethel Grimm (Baird's granddaughter, summer 1979)