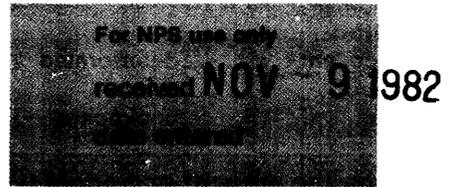


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic Henn Mansion

and/or common Ewing Hall (since 1912)

2. Location

street & number _____, Maharishi International University Campus not for publication

city, town Fairfield vicinity of _____ congressional district _____

state Iowa code 19 county Jefferson code 101

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

4. Owner of Property

name Maharishi International University

street & number same as above

city, town Fairfield vicinity of _____ state Iowa

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse, Registry of Deeds

street & number _____

city, town Fairfield state Iowa 52556

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Area 15 Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Iowa SHPO

city, town Des Moines state Iowa

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Red brick, 2-story main block with 5-bay front, hipped roof with belvedere. 2-story, gable roofed ell at rear. Stone sills and lintels, stone foundation, wooden cornice, recessed, wooden Doric columns flank door; central hall plan. Original porch is non-extant.

The Henn Mansion is a very good, basically unaltered, example of a vernacular Greek Revival residence. The simplicity of the design is typical of the period. The use of a belvedere and hipped roof treatment in the Greek Revival style is unusual. The use of Greek Revival style details in the 1850s reflects the lingering appeal of this earlier style in Iowa.

The restrained use of the style's decorative elements -- the recessed wooden columns and cornice -- sets this structure apart from others in the community and establishes it as a fine residence.

Loss of a small front door porch (evident in an early image) lessens the impact of the Greek Revival style. The scale of the building is substantial.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1857-1865, 1875 **Builder/Architect** Bernhart Henn

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Bernhart Henn, an ex-New Yorker, became Clerk of the U.S. Land Office in Burlington under Augustus Dodge (1838). From 1844 to 1848, Henn served as Registrar of the U.S. Land Office in Fairfield. The Iowa Democratic Convention nominated Henn for First District Congressman in 1850. Henn was elected and served in the U.S. House of Representatives 1851-53. He built his dream house in 1857-58 for his retirement. "The panic of 1857 almost wiped out the Henn fortune, however, and when Bernhart Henn died in 1865 the house, with 40 acres surrounding it, was sold."##

Salaried employment conferred advantage in pioneer economy. In the 1840s barter was the norm in Iowa; gold and silver were uncommon and held for emergencies. By the same token, government service (such as Henn's) paid regularly and in cash. Hear what Judge Charles Mason's nephew wrote of the territorial Chief Justice in the 1840s:

Uncle Charles...is in a fair way to get rich. Four hundred and fifty dollars once in three months, and that too in the hard bonus is no small matter, and is sufficient, it strikes me, to make any man laugh.

(In Earle D. Ross; Iowa Agriculture; p 22).

Bonus (government notes, gold, or silver was required for purchase of government land, a prime source of investment and speculation.

The Henn Mansion in Fairfield illustrates an early financial success in a pioneer economy before wealth shifted from the public to the private sector. The mansion also calls attention to the political leadership of southeastern Iowa in the pre-CivilWar period and to the theme "Education", as it was the birthplace of Parson College in 1875.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Fairfield North

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	5	8	5	9	2	0	4	5	4	0	9	3	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Within Block 15, Centennial Addition to the City of Fairfield, 462' south from service access road (east west access of Fourth Street) to campus sidewalk. From center of Henn Mansion east 125', from same

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries west 125', from same to form a rectangle.

state Iowa code 19 county Jefferson code 101

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa SHPO date October 27, 1982

street & number Historical Building telephone _____
East 12th and Grand Ave.

city or town Des Moines state Iowa 50319

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Adrian A. Anderson

title Executive Director Iowa State Historical Dept date November 1, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

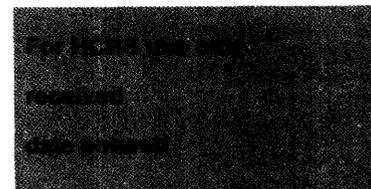
Alton Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 1/11/83

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

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

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



Continuation sheet Bibliography Item number 9. Page 1.

Legal and newspaper

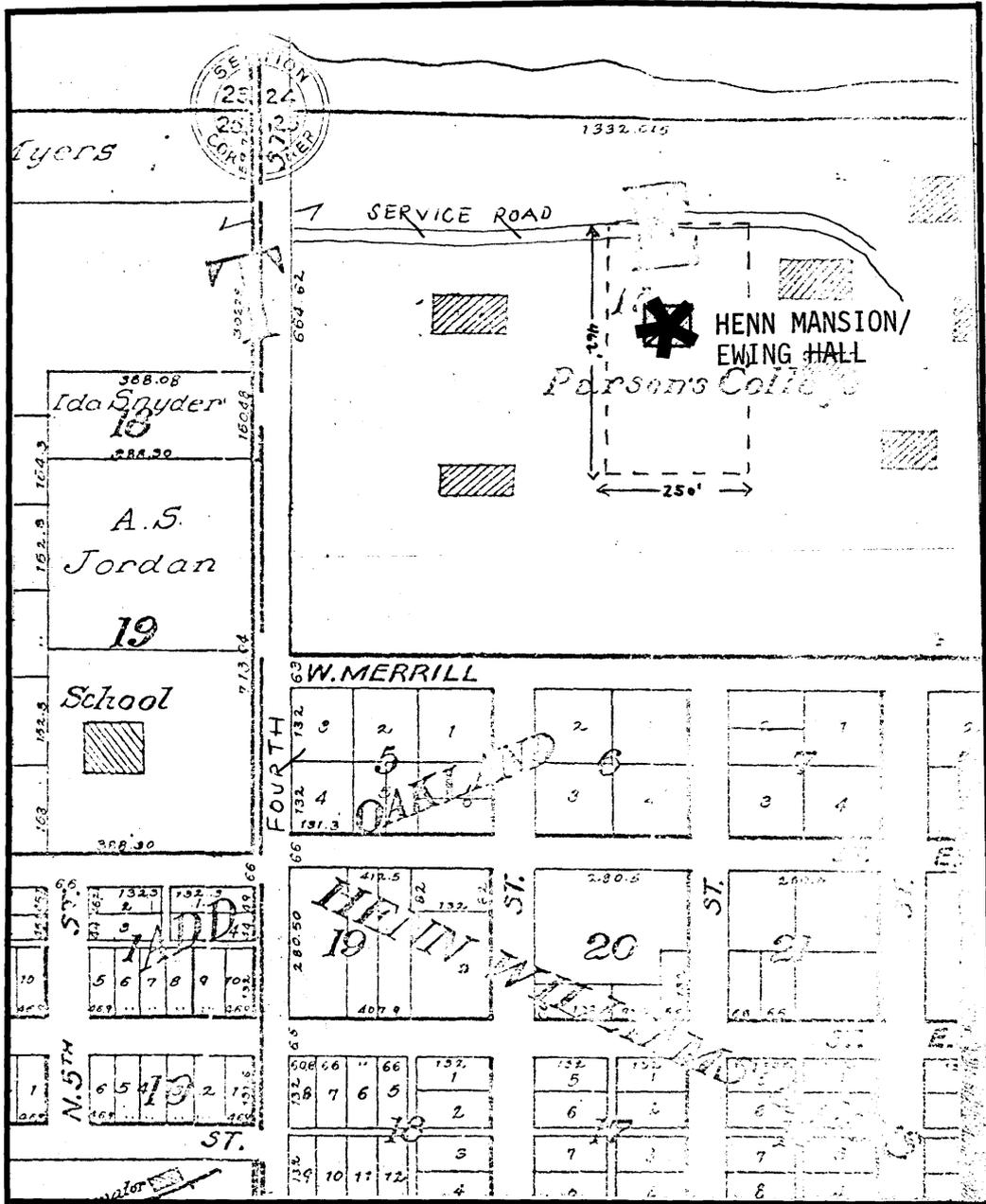
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 "Henn House;" Fairfield Journal; 19 January 1912; p 4 c 1.
 "New Home of Dr. Parsons Fine;" Lockridge Herald; 26 January 1912; p 1 c 2.
 ##"Ewing Hall;" Fairfield Ledger; 27 August 1928; p 8 (includes photo) .
 "Death of Mrs. Bernhart Henn;" Fairfield Tribune; 14 August 1895; p 2 c 4.

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APPENDIX I

Property Location Map



Henn Mansion/Ewing Hall Campus of MIU
Fairfield, IA

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page



Undated historical photo.